

BRIAR ROAD ALLOTMENT HOLDER'S ASSOCIATION

Dear Plot Holders,

Just when we thought Spring was on the way, winter comes back with a vengeance! Fingers crossed Spring weather will be back soon.

It was great to see so many of you at our seed event last Sunday. There are still some seeds left which are in a box on the table in the communal hut – We're keen that they don't go to waste, so please help yourselves – no payment necessary.

Some updates:

WOODY WASTE COLLECTION: A quick reminder that our woody waste is due to be collected on Wednesday 15th March. You can add your woody waste to the pile on Plot 35 before then, but not after that date please. Just to reiterate, please make sure the pile only contains woody waste – the pile's pretty big already and the council may refuse to take it if it contains domestic waste or general rubbish.

RATS: We've been made aware of several rat issues on site and the council pest controller will be coming shortly to trap and dispose of as many as possible (as we're lucky to have so much wildlife on site including hedgehogs, poison won't be used). If you think you have a rat problem on your plot, could you please let us know as soon as possible so that we can pass the details on to the pest controller.

ACCESSIBLE PLOT PROJECT: Once the woody waste has been collected, and hopefully with the weather improving, we're finally hoping to finish the work on the paths on Plot 35. We're expecting delivery of the materials for the paths during the last week of March, and we'll need as many volunteers as possible to help shift it to the plot. We'll be in touch again nearer the time, but if you could spare an hour or two, we'd be incredibly grateful. If you don't fancy shifting gravel, there's bound to be a few more jobs you could help with.

COUNCIL PLOT INSPECTIONS: The council allotment officer has started formal plot inspections and will be on site again later in April. If you think you're going to struggle maintaining your plot this year, please let a member of the council allotment team or the committee know as soon as possible.

PLANT SALE / SPRING FAIR: We're planning to hold a Spring Fair in May on site to include a plant, produce and tool sale as well as refreshments. We'll have more details nearer the time but would be grateful for any spare plants or good condition tools you might have. Perhaps put in a couple of extra seeds when you're getting your planting underway!

MANURE: We've been made aware that Walnut Tree Allotments (Riverside Drive/Ham Street, Ham) currently has an oversupply of rotted horse manure and is looking to pass on a good quantity to others. If anyone would like some, at no charge, please contact David Metherell usentyou@yahoo.co.uk or Ian Hyde ian@mdsfg.com. The allotments are very close to Ham House, so a bit of a trek and you would need to supply and fill your own bags from the bays.

PORTALOO UPDATE: Just to let you know that the portable toilet has been thoroughly cleaned and we should now be on a regular cleaning schedule – please let us know of any issues in the future. There are also toilets at the Kneller Gardens café.

Thanks as always for your continued support and we hope to see you on site soon.

Kind Regards

BRAHA Committee

Website - <https://e-voice.org.uk/braha/>