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# WSAA Newsletter

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April 2024



## Welcome to April and the beginning of a new season on the allotments

We hope you're having a productive start to your growing season. Hopefully you've been able to catch some good weather in between the rain and cold to make a start on your gardening and allotment work.

The committee is pleased to announce Kim Archer has stepped in as our temporary Chair. Kim has been a WSAA member since 2018 and has served on the committee since 2019. She brings experience from her time at the allotments as well as Director level experience in the Civil Service, Chair of a Multi Academies Trust and has run her own business.

We extend a warm welcome to Johanna Hayward, Tara Welch, and Adam Veroczki who have joined the committee, taking lead roles for Inspections (re: compliance), the Trading Hut Shop and allotment Maintenance, respectively.

A big thank you to Sean Elliott and David Wigmore who have stepped down from the committee this year - much appreciation for your years of service.

We'd also like to take this opportunity to thank Allison Swan for her years of service as Chair. Allison has dedicated countless hours and boundless energy to leading the committee through the years including the difficult Covid lockdown periods. Allison, though you'll remain on the committee and fulfil the role of Deputy Treasurer, we want to recognise and thank you sincerely for all your efforts in service to the association and our members as committee Chair.

Unfortunately, we will be unable to hold the EGM to finalise our 2022/2023 accounts within the 6 weeks agreed during the AGM. Our sincerest apologies for the delay but we have only recently received some of the information and documents required to complete our reconciliation. We will continue to keep you informed of progress and when we are ready to hold the EGM for membership review and acceptance,

*The Committee*

### Dates to remember:

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Next Work Party  
Sat, 27 April

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Rubbish Collection  
Sat, 27 April

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Annual Show  
Sat, 14 September

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## Annual Show

We are very pleased to announce that the Annual Show will return this year on Saturday, September 14th, 2024! Mark your calendars and start working those green thumbs. We can use all the help we can get with organising, so if you'd like to volunteer to help make this event a hit, reach out to Brenda: mobile 07880 595 870; email [bjjules54@gmail.com](mailto:bjjules54@gmail.com)

## Maintenance Updates



### Work Party

Our next work party is coming up on Saturday, the 27th of April. This time we'll be focusing on burning, borders and assisting the rubbish collection. We'll meet at 10am at the Trading Hut.



### Rubbish Collection

Rubbish collection scheduled for Saturday, the 27th of April. Please bring your large rubbish to the public path ends of your field if you'd like it to be collected. Anything that can be composted, taken home for disposal or burned should not be put out for our rubbish collection.

## Water is on

Water at the allotments is on for your gardening needs. As usual, follow courtesy, consideration and conservation standards when using water on your plots and please report if you experience any issues related to the water and/or taps.

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## Sycamore Sprouts



Sycamore Seedlings



Look out for Sycamore seedlings! This time of year, Sycamore seedlings are a real problem as they come up everywhere. Over time, they can grow into very large trees, but luckily, they are very easy to pull out when newly germinated. If left a few months, they can be difficult to remove and extremely difficult after a year or two. Remember, it's also a part of your responsibility as a member not to allow non-fruit trees to grow on your plot.



Mature Sycamore

## Compliance Reminders

Please be mindful of any nuisance you might cause to neighbours with your activity on your plot (e.g. guest behaviour, loud music).

Only one car per plot allowed due to limited parking spaces. This is to ensure members are afforded spaces and access to allotments as priority.

If you are looking to make any changes to fencing, borders or hedging, please contact the committee ([info@whetstonestrayallotments.co.uk](mailto:info@whetstonestrayallotments.co.uk)) with your proposed updates. The committee will review and advise if you can go ahead.

## Inspections

Inspections are around the corner in May! Please ensure your plots are in compliance with cultivation standards. Some guidance for ensuring you are meeting requirements and are prepared to pass inspection to follow.

*Thank you for reading!*

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