

Godstone Allotment Association

Newsletter

Welcome to the first newsletter from the Godstone Allotment Association (GAA). We would like to give you the background of how our association was formed, and our aims & objectives.

Formation:

The GAA was formed on 31 August 2021 to enhance the working relationship with the Godstone Parish Council (GPC) and has gone from 'strength to strength' with well-supported monthly meetings and great camaraderie between plot holders.

Current Committee Members:

Chairman - John Hale / Vice Chair - Suzanna Zizek

Secretary - Kim Prime / Treasurer - Jeff King / Seed Secretary - Dave Prime

All plot holders automatically become members of the GAA as part of the GPC's Tenancy Agreement.

We urge all plot holders to become members of The National Allotment Society with a yearly fee of £3 per person. The membership gives Third Party Public Liability Insurance which is a requirement of the GPC Tenancy Agreement, a good discount off Kings Seeds and a wealth of gardening information on their website.

Our Aims:

- promote the interests of all members in their allotment activities and to take joint action on behalf of our members
- maintain good communication with members
- work with the Godstone Parish Council (GPC) and maintain a good working relationship with them as landlords of the allotment site
- ensure our members uphold the GPC Tenancy Agreement
- arrange social events & visits
- create a friendly and welcoming environment for both existing and new plot holders

Achievements to date:

- active WhatsApp group for friendly chats, gardening tips and general info
- working GAA Agreement alongside the GPC's Tenancy Agreement - updated on a yearly basis
- well-attended monthly meetings
- annual bonfire for non-compostable waste
- working party to erect chain link fence to establish GPC boundary between the back of Salisbury Road houses and allotment site
- clear up & reconfiguration of the compost area - currently an on-going project
- working parties to tidy up the allotments
- health & safety procedures between the GAA & GPC
- first aid kit & accident book placed on site
- new notice board erected

- purchase of a strimmer for plot holders to use for a nominal fee

Objectives for ongoing projects:

- close liaison with the GPC to facilitate and assist, where feasible, works required to bring much needed water to site
- remeasure all plots to compile accurate plan of plot sizes
- re-establish pathways & level
- complete the works required for a newly constructed compost area with informative signage on what can/ can't be composted
- arrange the annual bonfire for non-compostable materials, with careful consideration of our surrounding neighbours

Growing Season at the allotments:



Going forward our newsletters will be less formal with association updates, seasonal gardening tips, recipes from produce grown, updates from the National Allotment Society and other relevant info.

We currently have a couple of plots available. If interested in joining our friendly association and would love to grow your own produce, whether a novice or established gardener, please contact: GodstoneAllotments@outlook.com