

## Our Website

Kingsway Allotments Association maintains a website which includes a growing gallery of photos of activities over the years. There is a special members' area which gives access to minutes of meetings and other information related to members.

Register on the website for access to the members' area:  
[www.kingswayallotments.org.uk](http://www.kingswayallotments.org.uk)

## Social Events

From time to time the Association arranges various Social Events to which all are invited. Notification of dates and times will be circulated to all by E-mail once they have been agreed by a full meeting of the Association.

Events through the year include:

- ✿ Annual BBQ—Plant & seed Swap—usually held in early summer.
- ✿ Site Open day— all neighbouring residents and the general public are invited to the once a year event held in the Summer.
- ✿ Christmas Social — held a week or two before Christmas hosted by a member of the Association in their own home.

## Committee Members of the Kingsway Allotment Association

*Elected at the AGM — November 2013*

Jules Miller (Chair)	Plot 27	Helen Rae	Plot 26
Marie Heywood (Joint Secretary)	Plot 3	Sue Wilcox	Plot 17
Ben Hayes (Joint Secretary)	Plot 25	Peter & Roberta Robinson	Plots 20/21
Simon Brown	Plot 22	Mary Webster	Plot 16
Laurie Peaker	Plot 13		

## Kingsway Allotment Association

# Plotolders' Information....

*Your membership.....*

**2013 — 2014 Year**



Dear Simon Brown

**PLOT NUMBER : 22**

This information sheet has been produced for the benefit of all Plotolders of the Kingsway Allotments to provide useful information to tenants.

We also intend it to spread awareness of the Association and hopefully encourage greater involvement from plotholders in the running of the colony.

Please let any Officer of the Committee to find out how you might be able to help and let us know of any information to include in future editions.....

## Kingsway Allotments are self managed !

On 5<sup>th</sup> May 2014 the Kingsway Allotments Association formally signed the lease drawn up between Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWaC) and the Kingsway Allotments Association for the land which provides the allotment plots for everyone on the Kingsway Allotments site.

From that date, instead of the Council, the Kingsway Allotments Association is now responsible for Kingsway Allotments. This means that the Association is involved in all aspects of managing the site.

We now handle everything from collecting plot rentals to keeping a waiting list for vacant plots, allocating spare plots as they become available. We pay the water bills and we make sure the site is managed properly and fairly for all plotholders and neighbours.

This means a lot of work for the committee and a small group of hard-working volunteers.

We hope all plotholders will think carefully how they might be able to make their contribution to making the Colony one to be proud of.... Whether it is by helping with grass-cutting, doing odd maintenance jobs, even helping to organise events— perhaps even helping on the Committee to decide upon issues as they arise

... please do approach one of the officers listed in this leaflet to find out how you can help!

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## Thank You!

Thank you paying the rental for your plot on the Kingsway Allotment Colony. Rental of your plot includes membership of the Kingsway Allotments Association (£5 per year) . Full plots are £50 p.a. and half plots are £25 p.a.

All keyholders (who are not registered plotters or spouses/partners) are required to pay their annual membership of the Association of £5.

Your plot rental fee, which includes membership of the Association, goes towards paying for the limited costs of running the allotment site.

This includes Public Liability Insurance, water costs, maintenance of equipment and costs of maintaining the common areas of the allotment site (mowing etc.) and carrying out repairs/maintaining security.

The Association is run by an elected Committee who each undertake roles on a voluntary basis that help to maintain the smooth running of the Association. We are always keen to involve others in the Committee—if you would like to help please contact one of the Officers named below.

## Officers of the Association

The Association is democratically run and tries to involve the membership as far as is possible in any decisions that are made on behalf of the colony at general meetings to which all are invited.

Notice of meetings (usually held in the winter months) are posted at each entrance to the allotment site and members are e-mailed as a reminder. If you let the Secretary have your up-to-date e-mail address it helps to keep you informed on what's going on the colony without incurring costs to the Association. There are a number of Officers who are elected each year at the AGM to ensure the business of the Association is conducted properly — These Officers are listed below .....

<b>The Officers (2013-2014) :</b>		Telephone	E-mail
Chair:	Jules Miller	Tel. 381511	jules.miller@mac.com
Joint Secretaries:	Maria Heywood	Tel. 311410	maria.heywood@virgin.net
	Ben Hayes	Tel. 389030	benhayes@sky.com
Treasurer & Memberships	Simon Brown	Tel. 403960	simonwbrown@phonecoop.coop



## Chester Freegle

If you are looking for something in particular to improve your allotment plot you can often get hold of what you may need free of charge via Chester Freegle. e.g. pallets, paving slabs, old bricks, greenhouses, sheds etc....

The aim of Freegle is to save useable stuff from going into landfill and develop positive and local community spirit along the way. Joining is free !!  
— go to .....

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ChesterFreegle/>

## Grass Cutting Rota 2014

It is up to the Association to ensure the pathways are kept mown during the growing season to allow easy access for all. The Mower which is kept in the secure shed on Plot 29 was primarily purchased with this in mind.

Each year, a weekly rota is set up for volunteers who undertake to mow all the access paths at some time during the week in question.

The table below show who has volunteered when to mow the paths—Thank you to all!

And if you are able to mow on one of the blank weeks — please do!

DATE (WEEK STARTING)	NAME	PLOT NUMBER	DATE (WEEK STARTING)	NAME	PLOT NUMBER
May 5	Kelvin Heywood	Plot 3	July 28	Roberta & Peter Robinson	Plot 20/21
May 12	Jeff Formstone	Plot 11	Aug. 4	Cyril Langman	Plot 14
May 19	Ben Hayes	Plot 25	Aug. 11	Ken Wynn	Plot 23
May 26	Tony Flynn	Plot 18	Aug.18	Bob Jones	Plot 19
June 2	Robin Sunflower	Plot 4a	Aug. 25	Dave Kynaston	Plot 28
June 9	Stewart Norton	Plot 5	Sept. 1	Steve Hogg	Plot 2A
June 16	Bob Jones	Plot 19	Sept. 8	Peter & Mary Webster	Plot 16
June 23	Kevin Oates	Plot 1	Sept.15	Liz & Ray Lloyd	Plot 9
June 30	Ann & Roy Keeble	Plot 6	Sept.22	Laurie Peaker	Plot 13
July 7	Jules Miller	Plot 27	Sept.29		
July 14	Simon Brown	Plot 22	Oct. 6	Ben Hayes	Plot 25
July 21	Dave Fletcher	Plot 8	Oct.20	Russell Sheldrick	Plot 15
			Nov. 3		

## A few of the Site Rules!

When signing the lease for their plot with the Association, plotheolders undertake to follow the rules which are set out in the lease document.

The full lease document with all of the rules included can be seen on the Kingsway Allotments Association website:

[www.kingswayallotments.org.uk](http://www.kingswayallotments.org.uk)

However a few of the key rules of the Colony are listed below for your information.

- To keep the plot clean and safe, free from weeds, pests and diseases.
- To maintain the plot in a good state of cultivation and fertility and in good condition.
- Not to assign, underlet or part with possession of the said plot or any part thereof without permission of the committee.
- Not cause any nuisance or annoyance to any other tenant
- Not to keep livestock nor any other birds or animals on the plot. The tenant is only allowed to keep hens and/or rabbits having first obtained written permission from the Association. Conditions for keeping livestock must comply with animal welfare legislation. Conditions for keeping bees on the plot are in Appendix 1 of the lease
- Water capturing equipment should be attached to structures on plots (such as sheds, greenhouses etc.) to harvest rain water.
- Hosepipes must only be used for filling water containers/butts and under no circumstances must be used for directly watering a plot
- To secure and lock the entrance gate to the allotment site and to secure and lock containers and communal buildings.
- To notify the secretary of the Association of any change in address within 14 days after such a change has occurred.
- Not to park any vehicles on the track of the allotment areas except for the purpose of loading or unloading.
- All sheds and structures are to be maintained and in a reasonable and safe condition. Any property of the plotheolder is their responsibility

### CWaCC Contacts



The Allotment Site falls within **Newton Ward**—CWaC Councillors for the ward are:

**Tom Parry**, 100, Upton Grange, Upton, Chester CH2 1BG

Phone: 01244 389153— Email: [tom.parry@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:tom.parry@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

**Adrian Walmsley**, 4 Ambleside, Plas Newton, Chester, CH2 2PU

Phone: 01244 340949 ; Mobile: 07710 583513

Email: [adrian.walmsley@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:adrian.walmsley@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

### Plot Inspectors

In order to provide an impartial way to determine whether any plots are becoming too overgrown and to encourage the relevant plotheolder to take action to improve their plot if unsatisfactory, the Committee has appointed two volunteers to make periodic inspections of all plots on the Colony. They will inform plotheolders of the need to make some improvement should it be required.

The two volunteers who have agreed to carry out this role are:

**Jeff Formstone** (Plot 11) and **Helen Rae** (Plot 26)

Should your plot be identified as requiring attention you are asked to take action to remedy the situation as soon as practicable. If there is a genuine cause for an overgrown plot the Committee will be understanding and in certain cases may arrange for volunteers to carry out basic tidying as may be required — of course, with the consent of the plotheolder.

The Association reserves the right to suspend/terminate the lease of any plotheolder who does not take appropriate remedial action to tidy up their plot.

### Site security

**Please remember to lock the entrance gate padlock behind you when entering or leaving the site to maintain maximum security for all.**

Keys to the gates will be issued to all plotheolders on payment of a £20 returnable deposit. Additional keys can be ordered at £10 each from the Treasurer.

**NOTE:** The keys are a high security type which cannot be copied except through an account held by the association with a specialist locksmith.

## A Brief history of the Association

### 2003 —

Association formed.

### 2004 —

Funds raised to install security gates at entrances. Entrance tracks surfaced with tarmac road scrapings by volunteers from the Association.

### 2005 —

Communal plot (Plot 29) negotiated from the Council—funds raised for installation of raised beds, pavilion and polytunnel.

### 2006 —

Shed erected, raised beds installed and polytunnel installed, all through volunteer effort. Borehole commissioned and drainage pond project completed resulting in improved drainage of site.

### 2007 —

First Manure delivery organised for members.

### 2008 —

First annual Soil Improver delivery organised.

### 2010 —

NGS Open Day—members of the public invited to view allotment site.

### 2011 —

Large Tipper Wheelbarrow, Generator and mower purchased through funds raised. Metal shed purchased and installed to house equipment. First leaf delivery organised.

### 2012 —

NGS Open Day—members of the public invited to view allotment site.

### 2014 —

The Association signs agreement with Cheshire West and Chester Council to take over full management of the site.

## The Association

*The Kingsway Allotment Association was set up in 2003 to promote the best interests of plotholders on the Kingsway Allotment Colony and to provide a collective voice for the colony to relevant outside bodies.*

*The Association exists to promote the growing of vegetables, fruit and flowers and the sharing of knowledge and skills to that end.*

*The Association is keen to encourage the formation of community organisations representing the interests of other allotment colonies locally and also to help ensure the adequate provision of allotments across the Borough.*

*The Association is a member of the Cheshire West Federation of Allotment Associations as well as the National Association of Allotment and Leisure Gardens and the National Allotments Council.*

### Most recent accounts (2012 –2013)

Total Income	£615.13
Total Expenditure	£1,014.85
Total funds held as at 05/11/13	£752.70

*More detailed accounts for the Association are available from the Treasurer*

## Facilities provided by the Association

Since it was formed in 2003 the Association has developed a number of facilities for the benefit of plot holders.....

### Polytunnel (Plot 29) —

this is available for Association members to use—make sure the pots/plants you put in are labelled with your name.

### Pavilion shelter (Plot 29) -

access is via a key kept hanging in the metal equipment shed — key to the metal shed is available via a combination lock 'minisafe' to the right side of the pavilion. The number combination is available to members from one of the Association Officers.

### Powered Mower (Plot 29 ) -

See an Officer of the Association for details on how to make use of the equipment. This is used to mow the main paths on a rota basis by volunteers.

**NOTE: The Mower may not to be taken off the site unless for essential maintenance**

### Large tipper wheel barrow for large loads—

kept beside or behind the Polytunnel on Plot 29.

**NOTE: Association equipment not to be taken off the site**

Raised beds for use by Newton Primary School Gardening Club as a learning resource on Plot 29. Children come into the site under supervision during term-times.

### Soil Improver —

Through liaison with the Council, the Association usually arranges for an annual bulk delivery (around 20 tons) of soil improver— financial contributions are required for transport costs and help is required to transport compost to individual plots from Kingsway West.

### Leaves —

By arrangement with a landscape maintenance contractor who works on the Countess of Chester Hospital Site, bulk deliveries of leaves can be arranged every autumn for turning into valuable leaf mould (ready after approx. 12 months).

### Free Manure —

you can pick up free manure from a small local stables — trailer needed or bring your own bags. Contact Simon Brown for details (treasurer).

It is occasionally possible to arrange bulk deliveries of manure from local farmers although access to the site can be problematic due to narrow entrances— speak to an Officer of the Association for further details.

### Occasional rubbish Skip—

In the past, once a year, the Council used to arrange for a bulk waste skip to be placed near the Kingsway West entrance of the allotment site for disposal of non compostable waste from the site. Whilst the Council no longer will pay for this, the Association could arrange this if members feel the need for it and agree to the allocation of the necessary funds.