

WINTER SEASON 2020/2021

# MIRALGA NEWS

## WILDLIFE, COVID-19, REMINDERS, TIPS & NEWS



MRALGA

### From our Chair...

MARIA MOON

Happy New Year fellow allotmenters!!

I would like to welcome all new tenants to our site and hope you enjoy working your plots as much as other tenants do. I know times are difficult with this Covid Pandemic, but I see through it all that's plots are flourishing. Well done to all tenants. Please keep it up but stay safe!

We are sorry for the inconvenience of the site shop being closed at this time, but you can understand we are trying to keep everyone safe. We do hope to reopen soon, with a strict covid secure rules.

For those that are not aware, you are still allowed to go to your allotment to work as it is outdoor exercise.

Please do not mix with other households on site.

Happy Digging and Stay Safe

*Maria*



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020

### ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE TRUSTEES

This Year's AGM was due to take place in November. Due to the restrictions imposed by Covid-19 and the ongoing uncertainty around it we have postponed the AGM.

The current *proposed* date is  
**Saturday 22<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2021.**

We are making plans to make the AGM Covid-19 Secure and plan to hold this AGM outside in the marquee.

We will keep members informed of any changes or updates



MRALGA – Photo Credit – Unknown photographer

## Volunteering with MRALGA

### DAVID OSBORN

Our allotments and allotment site have been a stress reliever for all of us over the last year. The trustees continue to do their best to maintain the site and keep everyone safe.

We are a band of few, so we are appealing for your help.

Can you spare an hour or two per month to help with maintenance tasks around site?

There are several jobs around site that we need assistance with.

**Vermin Control** around site has been brilliantly done by Carol for the last few years. The site is one of the largest in the UK and she needs some help! If you can assist her please contact us via the site mobile 07564 646137 or by email [admin@mralga.org.uk](mailto:admin@mralga.org.uk). Your details will be given to Carol who will be happy to discuss the role with you and will welcome the much-appreciated support.

**Site security and tidiness.** Are you able to walk round the site perimeter checking for damaged fencing or litter picking? We need volunteers who are willing to help with site security and keeping the site rubbish free. Please contact us via email if you can help.

### Fire Wardens

Do you have experience in monitoring fires and bonfires? Or are you willing to learn? Each month we have a weekend of bonfires on site. Are you able to help us monitor fires making sure they are not left unattended, unsafe, or burning plastics etc?

**Shop volunteers** are needed. If you are able to help in the shop please contact us and have a chat.

**Event Assistants,** Once events are up and running again a lot of assistance is needed to make sure they run smoothly and to plan. Please contact Bekah via Facebook or [Events@mralga.org.uk](mailto:Events@mralga.org.uk). She will be happy to have you on the team.

**Plant sale volunteers,** a lot of work goes on behind the scenes preparing for plant sales. If you would like to assist in plant preparation please speak to David Osborn or email us at [admin@mralga.org.uk](mailto:admin@mralga.org.uk)

**Site Maintenance/Labour.** Dave Moon is coordinator for on site maintenance and needs your help. Can you help repair tracks, with plumbing, water preservation and tool maintenance and repair. Have a chat with Dave or email us.

Every bit helps 😊



## Dates for the Diary, Reminders and Tips

### SEED AND POTATO ORDERS

These are expected at the end of January. Pre-Orders will be prepared, and you will be informed when these can be picked up safely.

Potatoes, onions, garlic, and other seeds will be bagged up safely and available through the Trading hut when we can safely accommodate this.

### KILL YOUR SPEED!

The whole site is 5MPH. Please take care and slow down!  
The tracks have been damaged by the weather so please take care.

## Events 2021 Provisional Dates

### Plant Sale

Saturday & Sunday  
15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> May

### AGM

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

### Annual Show

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September

All events are subject to government guidelines.

### RHS TIPS for JANUARY

Recycle your Christmas tree by shredding it for mulch

Clean pots and greenhouses ready for spring

Dig over any vacant plots that have not been dug already

Inspect stored tubers of *Dahlia*, *Begonia* and *Canna* for rots or drying out

Prune apple and pear trees

Start forcing rhubarb

Plan your vegetable crop rotations for the coming season

Make a polythene shelter for outdoor peaches and nectarines, to protect against peach leaf curl

## PLOT NEWS

**DAVID OSBORN**  
**VICE CHAIR & PLOT COORDINATOR**

The site is now nearly full. There are a few plots available, but these will be allocated from the waiting list soon.

We thank you all for the way rents were paid by yourselves in good time and for the donations which will certainly help this us in the coming year. We also thank you for your positive remarks and comments regarding how the rent payment room was set out, particularly where personal safety during the pandemic is concerned.

We are about to start further work on the site tracks to repair damaged areas which has not been helped by the wet weather. As we do not have the assistance of community payback, during this lockdown period, this will be done by trustees and volunteers. We would ask you to limit the number of journeys around site that you do in vehicles.

*David*

## Our fight against crime

**MARK MOORE**  
**SECURITY & MAINTENANCE**

Allotments have always been targets for vandalism and theft. This has increased during the COVID-19 crisis. We are working on several measures to deter, prevent or catch the people responsible for this.

Regular perimeter checks are made to repair any damaged fencing. CCTV cameras have been installed at various points on site and all are monitored.

Please remember to close and lock the gate when coming into and leaving the site.

We ask that you continue to be vigilant and report any incidents to trustees and the police.

Thanks for all your help keeping our site safe and secure as possible.

### Trading Hut

The trading hut will remain closed until we can safely open under current Covid Guidelines.

Please remember we are only allowed to trade with members, and you may be asked to show your membership card

### Covid 19

We continue to keep the site operating under Covid guidelines and ask that you continue to social distance, wash hands regularly and follow on site instructions when using communal areas and on your plots

### Community Payback

The payback team will be off site for the foreseeable future due to Covid-19. If you can volunteer on site during this time, please contact us.

### Events

#### EVENTS WILL BE BACK

If you wish to join the events team please come and see me (Bekah, Plot 272) or email at [Events@mralga.org](mailto:Events@mralga.org) or visit our events page on Facebook @MRALGAEVENTS

### Bonfires

Please see the 2021 bonfire calendar below and around site.



07564 649137



admin@mralga.org



@MRALGAEVENTS



mralga.org

# Bonfire Calendar 2021

## PERMITTED WEEKENDS FOR BONFIRES 2021

ONLY THE 1<sup>ST</sup> FULL WEEKEND EACH MONTH FOR BONFIRES  
BONFIRES ARE NOT PERMITTED AT ANY OTHER TIME

### JANUARY

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### FEBRUARY

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

### MARCH

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

### APRIL

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

### MAY

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

### JUNE

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

### JULY

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

### AUGUST

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

### SEPTEMBER

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

### OCTOBER

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### NOVEMBER

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

### DECEMBER

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## **FIRES MUST BE FULLY EXTINGUISHED BEFORE LEAVING THE SITE**

Please be aware that on occasion it is necessary to cancel a bonfire weekend.

This can be due to adverse weather or events.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

