

barnet allotment federation

NEWS & NOTES – JUNE 2014

Please send any page contributions, news or events for News and Notes and/or the Federation website to barnetalotmentfederation@gmail.com

Annual Allotment Return for Barnet Council: You are reminded that our new leases require us to send an annual return to Barnet Council. A copy of the form to be completed is included as a schedule to our leases. This is the only thing our lease requires us to do routinely for the Council. It enables the Council to reasonably see that it is fulfilling its statutory allotment duty through your activities. It is possible that the Council would not ask you for this form or not notice if you didn't return it. Nevertheless you are recommended to do it every year and on time so as to not supply the Council with an excuse to challenge your management of the site at some future date. It should be sent by July 1 to Ms Jenny Warren, Head of Parks, Street Cleansing & Grounds Maintenance, London Borough of Barnet, North London Business Park, Oakleigh Road South, London, N11 1NP

Horticultural Show: The reinstated show will take place under the auspices of the BAF and the guiding hand of Stella Winskells-Moore over the weekend of August 15-17 in the Rathbone pavilion, but its success will depend on there being enough volunteers to help Stella. Some members offered their services at the last Federation meeting but more are needed. Please let Stella know - winskells@dsl.pipex.com – if you or any of your members are able to help.

Allotment Plot and Site Competition: It's competition time again. We are looking for the best kept plot and allotment site in the Borough. In this the first year of self management, it is an opportunity for us to compete together in a friendly competition between Federation members and allotment holders. There are cash prizes and other trophies to be won. Stella circulated the schedules and application forms to societies on May 16 and they will be available from our website. You can also ask her to email them to you. She is also on the lookout for people to serve as judges – training will be provided!

National Allotments Week 2014: Once again, during NAW 2014, the National Allotment Society will be encouraging allotment sites across England and Wales to "open their gates to celebrate the enduring nature of the allotment movement and hold a party for their plot-holders and the wider community". Further details can be found at <http://www.nsalg.org.uk/news-events-campaigns/national-allotments-week/>. If your society is planning to open its gates then the NAS can provide posters – contact them at natsoc@nsalg.org.uk.

GROW London is a garden fair that is to be held for the first time on June 20-22 at the lower fairground site on Hampstead Heath. Full information on the fair and the exhibitors is available on the website growlondon.com where you can also purchase tickets. The organisers have very kindly provided a code which members of the Federation's societies may use to obtain a discount of 50% on the advance booking price, when booking online. It is BarnetAllotments (one word, case sensitive) and should be available from June 3rd. Please publicise this to the members of your societies.

Allotment Garden website: From time to time we come across websites relating to allotments that we think might interest you. One such is <http://www.allotment-garden.org/index.php>. Among other features are monthly guides to growing fruit and vegetables. If you know of other websites that you think we should publicise, please let us know.