

# barnet allotment federation

## NEWS & NOTES – September 2015

Please send any page contributions, news or events for News and Notes and/or the Federation website to [barnetallotmentfederation@gmail.com](mailto:barnetallotmentfederation@gmail.com)

### Barnet contacts

You are reminded that Oluwatoyin Adeleye-Abiodun, who has been our primary contact at Barnet council through much of the transition to self-management and afterwards, is leaving at the end of September when her contract comes to an end. After that, Tracy Sawyer is likely to look after the council's residual interest in allotments until Jenny Warren returns from maternity leave around the end of the year.

So that enquiries continue to be dealt with when Oluwatoyin has left, she has asked that henceforth, all correspondence should be sent to [parks@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:parks@barnet.gov.uk) with a copy to her. This will ensure that correspondence is logged, allocated, monitored and responded to in a timely fashion and that the remaining issues continue to be addressed by the Greenspaces team.

### Horticultural show

The annual horticultural show took place on August 22 at Rathbone allotments. Our thanks to Rathbone for hosting the event. A report on the show and a list of the prizewinners together with a selection of photographs are on the website at <http://www.barnetallotments.org.uk/hortishow.php>.

### Break-ins and arson

Both East Finchley and Glebelands report recent break-ins and at the former a shed was also burnt down. This pattern of break-in and arson but with nothing being stolen is reminiscent of the behaviour of a local gang of youths that in recent years have attacked other sites. They were known to the police who were keen to hear about any other cases - particularly involving arson - so that they could build up a pattern of evidence.

At Glebelands the gang is reckoned to be a group of 3 or 4 youths who cycle around the area causing trouble. The police took an interest and have provided reference (CAD) numbers used to log the calls and record the information, including the location.

Societies should be watchful and report any more instances to the police, so as to help them establish whether there is a new pattern. Anything societies can do to help the police to nail the perpetrators would be valuable. In the event of an incident, please contact Gill Saunders at Glebelands, by email to [saundersgil@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:saundersgil@hotmail.co.uk), who can provide the earlier CAD numbers and the details of the CID officer who dealt with their case.

### North London Waste deliveries

If North London Waste has visited your site to assess the accessibility of its lorries for deliveries of compost, please let us know and tell us the outcome by email to [chair@barnetallotments.org.uk](mailto:chair@barnetallotments.org.uk).

### Disposal of asbestos

While Barnet is required to remove asbestos in the buildings that it formerly owned on the sites, for example trading huts, the council is not obliged to remove asbestos from tenants' plots or elsewhere on sites. One society has recently asked the Federation whether it can advise on arranging disposal but we were not able to add much to the advice given in the paper on our website written by Andrew Brown at <http://barnetallotments.org.uk/files/selfmanagement/Asbestos%20Advice%20FINAL.doc>.

If any society has recent experience of asbestos disposal that they could share with us, please let us know by email to [chair@barnetallotments.org.uk](mailto:chair@barnetallotments.org.uk) and we will put the information on our website.

**Contact details** are on the website at <http://www.barnetallotments.org.uk/contacts.php>