

# barnet allotment federation

## NEWS & NOTES – June 2016

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)

### Committee co-option

Angela Davey, who has a plot at Whetstone Stray, has accepted an invitation to join the committee as a co-opted member.

### Meeting with Barnet

There will be a further meeting between Federation officers and Barnet Greenspaces on July 13, intended primarily to discuss outstanding issues relating to Barnet's commitment to undertake specific works under the terms of the societies' leases. We believe that the majority of these have now been resolved, but if there are any matters that your society would like us to raise at the meeting, please let Richard King know - [richardking101@aol.com](mailto:richardking101@aol.com).

### Rules for incorporated societies

Following our decision, reported in April's News and Notes, to give priority to the development of model rules for those societies that wished to become incorporated as a company limited by guarantee, we expect to be able to publish them together with comprehensive guidance notes later this month.

### Annual survey

The Federation's annual survey was circulated to societies on March 3, with a closing date for returning it of April 22. It was followed by reminders on April 11 and 19, and subsequently individual societies have been further reminded. At the time of writing we are still waiting for returns from five societies.

### Plot and site competitions

The 2016 competition will be held in July. The timetable is as follows

- Deadline for submission of entries - Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July
- Preliminary judging - Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July
- Final judging - Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July
- Prize giving buffet and social - Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October

Further details and competition entry forms were sent to society secretaries in May, but may also be downloaded from the website at [www.barnetallotments.org.uk/siteandplotcomp](http://www.barnetallotments.org.uk/siteandplotcomp).

### Fire safety workshop

The speaker's handouts from the workshop on fire safety that formed part of the meeting on April 18 have been scanned and put on the website. Follow the link to them at [barnetallotments.org.uk/workshop](http://barnetallotments.org.uk/workshop)

### Speakers' Panel

In the last Notes and News, we said that to make it easier to deal with enquiries in the future, we were considering producing a central register of allotment society members who would be interested in giving such talks. To date there have been no offers, so we are asking again if you or any of your members would be willing to be included in the register and, if so, to please send names and contact details to [chair@barnetallotments.org.uk](mailto:chair@barnetallotments.org.uk), together with topics on which they could speak.

### Visits to other sites

We are grateful to East Barnet Allotments and Gardens Association and Friern Barnet Central Allotment Holders Associations for hosting visits to their sites, at Cat Hill and Hatley Close, by committee members from other societies on May 7 and 15. The feedback was that the visits were

enjoyed and appreciated, and that useful experiences and information were exchanged, so we hoping to organise further visits later in the year. If your society would be interested in hosting a visit, please email the BAF Vice Chair ([vicechair@barnetalotments.org.uk](mailto:vicechair@barnetalotments.org.uk)).

### **Visit to West Dean Gardens**

Finchley Horticultural Society is organising a visit to West Dean Gardens near Chichester in West Sussex and have opened up the invitation to all allotment holders in Barnet. West Dean consists of restored kitchen gardens and 13 working Victorian glasshouses. There is an opulent Edwardian 300 foot long pergola, a beautiful sunken garden, acres of parkland and the 49 acre St Roche's arboretum. To round off the trip there is a restaurant and shop

The date is **Saturday 2nd July** and the cost, to include return transport in a luxury coach (with loo) and entry fee, is £32.00 per person. The journey each way is about hours. There are still some places available so, if you are interested, please email Judy Woollett at [judywoollett@hotmail.com](mailto:judywoollett@hotmail.com)

### **Open day at Brook Farm**

Brook Farm Allotments are holding an Open Day on **Saturday 16 July 2016** from 11am until 4pm at South Field, with limited tours on North Field. BBQ, plant sales and Trading Hut sales will be available. All are welcome.

### **All About Allotments website**

We have recently heard of the All About Allotments website - [allaboutallotments.co.uk](http://allaboutallotments.co.uk). The site provides a single location from which you can access hundreds of websites offering information about allotments, allotment associations, grow your own, fruit, vegetables & flowers. We have added a link to it from our website.

### **OLIO**

We have been asked by OLIO to publicise their website/app which may be used for sharing surplus food, in particular allotment produce. Information about it may be found at [olioex.com](http://olioex.com).

### **Publicising your society's events**

You are reminded that you can advertise your society's events on the website – for information on how to do this, see [barnetalotments.org.uk/announcements](http://barnetalotments.org.uk/announcements).

**Contact details** for the Federation are on the website at [barnetalotments.org.uk/contacts](http://barnetalotments.org.uk/contacts)

**Previous issues** of Notes and News are available on the website at [barnetalotments.org.uk/notes](http://barnetalotments.org.uk/notes)