

West Byfleet Allotments Newsletter

Issue 3, June 2011

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What to do with your excess produce.

All of us at some time or another have had a crop that overwhelms. Other than passing excess to friends and neighbours several people have mentioned that there should be a mechanism for dealing with this. Here are a few:

1. Sunday Trading hut bring and buy
2. Donations to local care homes.
3. Public open market with sales split between a local charity and plot-holder/allotment fund.
4. Just leaving your excess by the Trading Hut as a help yourself stall/ honesty box mechanism.
5. A stall at one of the local horticultural shows.

What do you think? Email your thoughts to: info@wballotments.org.uk

Summer Shows – Enter Your Prize Veg

Have you ever considered entering your veg in a horticultural show? You may be surprised at how easy it is, the fun you get and it's not that hard to knock some of the regular winners off their perches either.

West Byfleet Allotments support both the **Pyrford and Wisley Flower Show** - Sat 9th July 2011 (www.pyrfordflowershow.org.uk) and the **Byfleet Parish Day Horticultural Show** – Sat 16th July 2011.

Why not think about entering - after all, a show isn't a show without entries.

Slowworms



Our intrepid Committee member cum amateur reporter, Jane Weiz, took pictures of slow worms found on Gary and Pauline's plot on 24th May using her mobile phone camera... She reports that they are clearly beneficial to plot-holders since one regurgitated a slug before her very eyes.

Slow-worms are a protected species, and should be left to breed and definitely to feed. Although natural inhabitants to the allotments their numbers were boosted some years back when the McClarens site was being excavated. A conservation group relocated slow-worms from the building site to WB Allotments.

Sheerwater Scouts Make Weeds Part of History

As part of their community badge, Sheerwater Scouts turned up with forks spades, trowels and (of course) shears for an allotment evening.

Twenty one scouts with energy and enthusiasm to spare helped clear a weed ridden plot for a grateful plot-holder.

The photo show them at the end of the hours dig having cleared away weeds that were over a metre high. See the [photo gallery](#) for scouts in action.

Well done and thanks everyone!

Road Etiquette

This may seem like a strange topic since we do not really have much "road" in our allotment. What road we do have is single track and there have been at least one instance of tempers raised in consequence of "way" not been given when one party at least thought it should have.

A plea for common sense and politeness rather than rules and road signs should be the governing principles here. In other words if you are not sure, give way.

Web Site News and Photo Gallery

The allotments web site has a [news page](#) and a photo gallery. Do visit regularly as new articles and photos go up as things happen. Also send in your news/photos to add to the site.

Should we also have a suggestions / comment / forum area? Would you actively contribute to it?

www.wballotments.org.uk