



Newsletter – August 2009

A very enjoyable “big lunch”!

Despite the rain, we estimated that around 60 people came along to the Big Lunch in all. We had a lovely selection of home made dishes, including salads, breads and cakes and some fantastic stir fries etc were made from the veg brought along on the day. The “bunny” burgers, pigeon dish and beetroot risotto, were extremely popular! If you missed out this year, don’t worry, we hope to do something along the same lines next summer or even perhaps in the autumn, when we can make some scrummy pumpkin soups etc. Watch this space.

Many thanks are also due to the 1st Chalfont St Giles Scout Group for their generous support of the Big Lunch with the loan of their fire shelters and cooking equipment.

Monies raised have gone into the BLAA bank account.

Auditor Needed ; Regarding the BLAA accounts, we are seeking the voluntary services of a former or active Financial Director or Accountant, for an hour or so to audit our annual accounts. If there is anyone who is prepared to help, please contact Andrew Ilsley, our treasurer, or any member of the committee

Village Show – 5th September

On our stall, we are now looking for volunteers from within BLAA to help with preparation and to help on the day (hour-long slots to man the stall would be really helpful) If you are able to help please let one of the committee members know or email us via our website www.backlaneallotmentsassociation.org.uk

As many of you will be aware the theme for this year’s show is “Space”! On the second sheet, please see what we plan to do this time,



BLAA Stall for the Village Show;

1. Run a “name the scarecrow” competition.
2. Bag up produce from the allotments and seek donations for the bags.
3. Hold a “make an alien out of veg” competition.
4. Display a few photos from around the allotments and ...
5. ...generally promote the allotments and seek new tenants.

We will therefore be looking for good veg to ‘sell’ from the stall and would ask you all to donate any excess fruit and veg you may have. If you do have some produce to spare, then please bring it down to the allotments on the afternoon/evening of Friday 4th September, between 4pm and 7pm, which will give us time to put everything together for the show but still ensure that produce, is fresh. Can you please let us know whether or not your veg is organically grown.

For the ‘make an alien’ competition, we particularly would like “odd” shaped veg, for the children (and adults perhaps) to mould into visitors from outer space. If any of you have spare arts and crafts bits and pieces such as pipe cleaners and sticky bits then please also bring these down to the allotments on the Friday afternoon/evening.

We hope that as many of you as possible will be able to participate in the village show in one way or another and look forward to hearing from you. If you don’t have the committee contacts, then use the BLAA website. We are taking part in the show again with a view to promoting and improving the allotment site for everybody and would encourage your involvement so that we can all benefit in the long run. Many thanks.

Whilst we support the show, they support us in their Allotment Class competitions as noted below.



Show Allotment Classes;

We can report that the judging for the allotment classes in the Chalfont St Giles Show has now been completed.

All members of BLAA were automatically entered in the allotment classes, and after 3 hours walking around the plots and much deliberation by the judge, the results were decided. However the prize-winners will need to wait until results are declared at the Village Show on 5th September.

Site Access Gates.

Users of the upper and lower gates will have seen that the gates have been re-located through liaison between BLAA and the Parish Council, to allow cars to wait off-road whilst the gates are opened and closed.

The central gate has been operating well in this way for the last year, and we would encourage all tenants to close these new gates after entry or exit, to deter casual visitors or those with nuisance in mind.

AGM

.. and finally, don't forget to have our AGM date of 13th October in your diary.