



## Newsletter - June 2009

It's a busy time at the allotments and here is a timely note of the allotment classes for this year's show.

- Best kept allotment
- Most interesting allotment
- Best novice allotment

All members of BLAA will be automatically entered for the competition, so there is no need to enter individually. The judging will take place earlier this year, between 26<sup>th</sup> July and 8<sup>th</sup> August. Members are encouraged to enter the general horticultural classes too!

## Use of water at the allotments

For those of you who do not already know, our water supply to the allotments is metered. It is therefore important that all of us use the water sensibly and with this in mind. Many of us do use hoses, which is acceptable but please be mindful that other tenants may be waiting to use the taps too etc. **Sprinklers are not to be used please under any circumstances at the allotments.**

The Committee will keep an eye on water costs and any increase in costs may need to be reflected in next year's rents. We would encourage all of you to harvest rain water as best you can in order to keep our overall costs as low as possible.

A gentle reminder too please that all allotment holders must ensure their plots are suitably maintained (weed free etc.)

# BLAA

BACK LANE ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION



## **Application for grant to Chiltern District Council**

In April the Committee submitted an application for a grant to the District Council. If we are successful, any grant monies received will be put towards, notice boards for each of the entrances, improving the gates and security at the site and plot clearances, in particular. We should hear in July as to whether or not we have been successful in our application and will of course let you know the outcome.

## **Up coming events**

### **The Big Lunch – 19<sup>th</sup> July**

Following the success of our get together in May, we have decided that BLAA will take part in the Eden Project's "Big Lunch", which is to take place on Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> July. The idea of the Big Lunch is to promote "growing your own" and community spirit. We will therefore be holding the event at the allotments. There will be a BBQ with locally supplied sausages etc and tenants, friends and families will be asked to bring along salads and other dishes for all to share. We will also be looking for tenants to bring along tables, chairs and umbrellas amongst other things. If we have any tenants with musical or artistic talents then they would be very welcome to come along and entertain us!

In order that we can plan for numbers and make the Big Lunch a success would you please let us know whether you will be coming? We will then co-ordinate dishes/food and other tasks. If you are interested in helping to arrange the Big Lunch then we would be really pleased to hear from you too.

More to follow and in the meantime if you would like to know more about the Big Lunch, please check out the following websites.

[www.edenproject.com](http://www.edenproject.com)

[www.thebiglunch.com](http://www.thebiglunch.com)

# BLAA

**BACK LANE ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION**



## **Chalfont St Giles Village Show – 5<sup>th</sup> September**

As many of you will already be aware the show this year will be held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September.

BLAA will have a stall at the show again this year but we want it to be bigger and better than last year. We plan to sell allotment grown fruit and veg this year and so will be calling on all of you to come forward with goodies (any money taken to go into our funds).

We'd like to run a competition or two perhaps and also encourage new members to join. A lot of effort is needed to run the stall and therefore we are looking for volunteers to help in the run up to the show and on the day please. If you have any ideas for the stall and are willing to help then again please contact us as soon as possible.

## **AGM – 13<sup>th</sup> October**

This year's AGM will be held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October in the Reading Room and probably at 7pm. We'll be announcing the winners of the sunflower and pumpkin growing competitions don't forget! We hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us to discuss the achievements of the last year and future plans.

## **Recruitment to the Committee**

So that we can keep the momentum going with our plans to improve and promote the allotments we will be looking for new members to join the Committee. We currently meet every second Tuesday of the month for about 2 hours. Committee members are responsible for various projects and ongoing issues, such as the maintenance of the site, tenants and promotion. We will be looking for a new secretary in particular. If you are interested in becoming a Committee member or indeed can help out with anything at all then please don't be slow in coming forward. (Elections to the Committee will take place at the AGM.)