

ALSAGER GARDENS ASSOCIATION

BULLETIN No 6 To All Members

08 June 2020

General Update - Be Safe and Keep Safe!

Dear Member

We hope you are remaining well and safe at this most difficult time. The government have now announced an easing of the lockdown measures for the clinically vulnerable and for those shielding from coronavirus and have relaxed social distancing measures which will be good news for those that have been in isolation for such a long time.

Given the easement the AGA Committee have reviewed what we are able to do as an association and have agreed that

The Trading Hut will be open for one morning a month for the remaining part of the season during 2020.

Members will need to conform with government advice on social distancing and are advised to wear disposable gloves and face masks.

To assist with good practice, you are asked to email your order to Adrian Ford no later than the Friday before the Sunday opening. Adrian can then prepare the order in advance for your collection on the day, during the opening times. Payment for the order can be made on the day by cash or cheque.

When attending the hut only one person will be allowed inside at a time. A queue will need to be formed outside of the hut practicing social distancing keeping 2 metres apart. You need to be prepared for any bad weather - if it is raining the above will still be applied – *no more than one person will be allowed inside the hut at any one time.*

People staffing the Hut will be wearing disposable gloves and face masks, avoiding contact with you, and keeping at a safe distance.

Remember - Email you order to Adrian Ford at adrian_ford62@hotmail.com

TRADING HUT OPENING TIMES

10.30am – 11.30pm

LAST Sunday in the Month

Sunday 28 June

Sunday 26 July

Sunday 30th August

Sunday 27 September

Sunday 25 October

Order to be emailed to Adrian Ford at

adrian_ford62@hotmail.com

For New Price List

Go to

www.alsagergardensassociation.org.uk

The Hut will be staffed by Adrian and Judith Ford along with one other committee member. The 2020 Hut Rota is no longer applicable.

We hope that in 2021 we can revert to our usual weekly opening. Details will be published in January 2021.

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Our Plant Day held on Saturday

23rd May 10.30am -2.30pm was a

real success!



Thank You!

A Big "Thank You" goes out to all who supplied plants and attended the event...and a huge "Thank You" to all our volunteers who assisted on the day.

It took lots of pre planning and discussion, plenty of patience and a bit of trial and error. The outcome was a well organised event which was well attended and successful. The Trading Hut opened for 4 hours during which time we had many members restocking their gardening and allotment supplies.

On the day we took £300 in plants sales and over £300 in Hut Trading. The success of this has led to our decision to open the Trading hut for one hour per month. (See earlier article)

Trading Hut Now Open on the
LAST Sunday in the Month

10.30am – 11.30am



Our Annual Show

Our 68th Flower, Vegetable & Home-craft Show which was to be held on **Saturday 5th September 2020** is now cancelled.

We are sorry that we have had to cancel but given the current government requirements and the difficulty this places on all bodies to provide a safe environment, we are not able to go ahead with this year's show.

We look forward to welcoming everybody back next year.



A Message from United Utilities

"It's a challenging time for everyone right now as all are focussed on looking after ourselves, our loved ones and our communities.

Life for everyone has changed so much and, as we enter the 10th week in lock down, the way we are using water has changed a lot too. Many families are now at home all week and water plays a critical role in combating coronavirus through more hand washing and cleaning. Along with the hot dry weather, the reopening of many businesses and the use of water in gardens, we are using far more water than normal.

Here in the North West we have been working around the clock to make sure that we keep water flowing for your business. Since lock down our fantastic key workers have delivered an extra 4.6 billion litres of water to support all our communities through this unprecedented time.

The challenge we're facing is that in some places water is being used in homes and gardens faster than we can physically get the water down our pipes to your homes and businesses.

We aren't alone in this in the North West, the same high demand is being experienced across the country. "

"Our key workers continue to work tirelessly to ensure there is enough water for everyone but in these unprecedented times we are asking for your help in reducing demand for water. "

General Update - Be Safe and Keep Safe!

So - How Can We Help?

We are asking our members and allotmenters to do what they can to save water.

We have had a very dry spell for a good number of weeks so the temptation at the allotment is to get the hose pipe out and water – water – water! This is evidenced by the very high-water meter readings that have just been taken.

We are all thankful that the weather has changed somewhat, and we now have a good quantity of rain. No doubt on some plots they have temporary flooding – feast or famine comes to mind!

However we hope to soon have a return to more sunny and drier weather with a mix of rain thrown in! So it is appropriate to remind everyone that we need to.....

..... Water Wisely on our Allotments

Tenants on our allotments should use watering cans and are expected to use water sparingly and responsibly.

Thousands of litres of water can be wasted every day particularly during the summer months. Remember, hosepipes and sprinklers use more water in one hour than a family of four will use in a day so please try to limit their use as much as possible. Restricting any watering during warmer weather to early or later in the day will help ensure water is not being lost to evaporation.

Only water early in the morning or the evening

- Soak the soil not the foliage
- Water the roots of the plant and concentrate the watering to once or twice a week, as opposed to giving your plants frequent light showers, otherwise you'll encourage the roots of the plant to seek water near the surface of the soil, as opposed to deep down in the earth.
- Only water those crops that need it and at the right stage of development
- Water plants thoroughly in rotation, rather than distributing water widely and thinly.
- Gardeners who use mulch or dig in lots of organic materials and keep the weeds down will not have as much need to water.

But it is not just our allotments that can do their bit to help with conserving our water – everyone of us has a role to play.

If you want to help to do more and for water saving tips, please visit

<https://www.unitedutilities.com/help-and-support/save-water/>

In the meantime – Be Safe and Keep Safe!

The AGA Executive Committee