

Little Chester allotment Association



LCAA NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026

1-7th June is **National Volunteers Week**, and provides an opportunity to thank our tenants (not on the committee) who regularly volunteer to help in various ways:

- ★ Michael Kinton, Jo Flannigan , Irene Armstrong & Teresa Thom – toilet block cleaning
- ★ Jamie Martin & Flora, Teresa Thom & Irene Armstrong – Trading Post
- ★ Ian and Cath Hardy – repairing garden furniture and ornaments, noticeboards
- ★ Nigel Booth – repairing Trading Post roof
- ★ Andy Downing – repairs in toilet block & community room following damage caused by break-ins
- ★ The mystery gardener responsible for the lovely flower planting beneath the noticeboard on the corner!

Thank you all!



We are always grateful for offers of help and support from tenants.

Tenancy Agreement & Rules

All tenants sign a Tenancy Agreement when they take on a plot. This Agreement is a mutual understanding or arrangement regarding rights and obligations of both parties and inevitably means that there are rules for everyone to follow.

Unfortunately, there has been an increasing number of instances where these rules are being broken. This impacts everyone on site. Specifically, our concerns are about the following rules:

- Speeding – we have an established and well sign-posted speed limit of **5mph**. This is for everyone's safety – please abide by it. Please inform visiting friends too.
- Dogs – your Tenancy Agreement clearly states that dogs are welcome on site but **MUST** be on a lead at all times.
- Rubbish – if your rubbish cannot be composted you **must** take it home with you or to your recycling centre. Skips are for the Maintenance Team **ONLY**; there are no bins on site other than in the toilet block and community room.
- Dumping on other plots – this is related to Rubbish above. *You* are responsible for any rubbish on your plot and must deal with it as stated above – you **MUST NOT** dump it on someone else's plot – even if that plot is vacant.
- Plot numbers – it is **essential** that you clearly display your plot number on your plot. Without this we cannot guarantee safe delivery of manure orders etc. Plot inspections are harder and slower without numbers, and we would hate to get plots muddled.

We thank you for your co-operation in these matters.

'Bad' weeds

We all have them: bind weed, mare's tail, couch grass. These are weeds with long roots that can break as we remove the weed and leave enough in the soil to regrow. They're a nightmare! But they can be turned to good use on the plot. When removed, whichever way you do it, those leaves, stems and roots can be 'drowned' in water and left to 'stew' for a few weeks, then strained and poured as liquid feed on your crops. The drowned and dead plant matter can then be put on your compost. Nettles can also be used in this way.

Brambles? Thistles? Chop up the growing parts (stems & leaves) and compost. If you dig out the roots take them home for the brown bin.

Open Day and Plant Sale

Despite the forecast, the weather stayed on our side, and we had a very good day! There was lots happening all over the site and the committee would like to thank all the tenants who stepped up to help on the day:

- ★ Irene Armstrong
- ★ Becky Dean
- ★ Tom Dean
- ★ Jo Flannigan
- ★ Nanouschka Lister
- ★ Svetlana Lock
- ★ Dawn Martin
- ★ The Thom family

Apologies if I have missed anyone – and thank you anyway!

We also received donations of cakes and raffle prizes from some of our tenants.

We made a total of **£1,276.11** which goes into our general funds to pay for additional events throughout the year. Thank you for your support.

Scarecrow Competition

There was an Adult class and a Children's class for this. The scarecrows were judged on the day and the winners were:

Adults – The Brannan's Plot 43

Children – Ruby Goff Plot 71a and Benny Huszak Plot 12

National Allotment Week – 10th – 17th August: 'Grow to Learn'

Preparations are already underway for this. We are planning events throughout the week, and as previously, the week will culminate in a BBQ and Family Fuddle to which all tenants and their families are invited. For the Family Fuddle we invite you to bring along a family favourite dish that we can all share. Savoury or sweet – both are welcome!

New Policy

A Complaints Procedure policy and Complaint Form have been added to the Policies section on the website. We sincerely hope that the procedure and form do not need to be used but they are provided for you should the need arise.

LCAA Committee