

A.W.S.L.G. TRADING CENTRE NEWS
ADDISCOMBE, WOODSIDE & SHIRLEY LEISURE GARDENS LTD
GLENTHORNE AVENUE, CROYDON. CR0 7EZ.
www.awslg.org.uk

Annual Rents

Newsletter

OCTOBER 2020

Rents will be collected on the following dates:

Saturday	10th October
Sunday	11th October
Saturday	17th October
Sunday	18th October
Saturday	24th October
Sunday	25th October
Saturday	31st October

Rent Collection will take place outside the hall under the marquee from 10.00am to 12.00 noon.

These are unprecedented times for all, so the Committee has carefully discussed the best way to organize collection of annual rents with regard for everyone's safety.

There is no change from last year. Annual Rent will be £74 for a 10 rod plot, £37 for a 5 rod plot and pro rata. **Payment may be made by card, cheque, or, in exceptional circumstances, cash.** Please note payments up to £45 are contactless, higher sums will require your pin number. Please observe Covid 19 precautions by wearing a face covering; we will provide hand sanitiser, and a distanced queuing system will be in place.

Of course, we would like to see you, but if you feel unsafe, someone else may bring your payment.

Otherwise, **you may put a cheque in one of our postboxes (main gate/office), or send a cheque to:**

AWSLG
c/o 49 Barnfield Avenue,
Croydon CR0 8SF

Please ensure cheques are made payable to AWSLG Ltd and that you write your name and plot number on the reverse. Please include details of any changes e.g. email/phone number/address, so we can update our records. A receipt can be sent if you include an sae, otherwise they may be collected from the Office on Saturday mornings in November.

NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE

Mike Roche, a committee member has kindly taken on the role as Plot Co-ordinator. This will include all matters involving the letting of plots and aiding the Ground Steward with plot inspections. We are very grateful to Mike as his efforts will also reduce the work of the secretary.

Thanks to Cath Hawkes for all her hard work during her time as Secretary. Tricia Pelican has kindly stepped in and volunteered to act as Committee Minute Secretary and co-ordinate matters related to the committee. Many thanks to Tricia.

Thanks to David Lay for his sterling efforts to improve our site, the community area around the canteen, office and trading hut has been cleaned and tidied, along with many other smaller jobs tackled as well.

Thanks to everyone's generosity the Macmillan Cancer Care coffee morning raised £500, well done to all who supported the event with special thanks to Beth Holmes and Victoria for organising it; the cakes were delicious. Please note the canteen will now open from 10am to 12 noon.

Please join us for the **autumn working party weekend October 24th and 25th**. Meet outside the Canteen at 9.00am to help tidy up and make our site ready for winter. We should finish about 12 noon. No contribution too small, everybody welcome.

Bonfires are permitted from the 1st October but please do not start them before 4pm, this will change to 2pm when British Summer Time ends, the clocks go back on Sunday 25th October. Do try to minimise the smoke from your bonfire by only burning dry, combustible material, never leave a fire unattended, not even smouldering ashes. Be mindful of sparks flying if your neighbours have polytunnels nearby as these can cause damage. We have had complaints in the past about nuisance from excess smoke, the last thing we want is a total ban from the council.

GARLIC ON SALE NOW

Solent Wight And Picardy Wight: selling fast!

The spring flowering bulbs are also selling well but we still have stocks of full size and mini narcissi .e.g Tête-à-tête, and colourful tulips available plus some crocuses and alliums.

TRADING CENTRE OPENING TIMES : SATURDAY & SUNDAY 10.30AM TO 12.15PM
CANTEEN 10AM TO 12 NOON

JOBS TO DO IN OCTOBER

VEGETABLE CARE:

Harvest pumpkins, squashes and marrows when ripe. Leave them in the sun, or in a greenhouse or garage, to let the skins harden and dry off, before storing them in a cool, dry, dark place.

Continue to lift carrots and beetroot, plus any remaining potatoes still in the ground. Only store healthy, intact roots. Parsnips should be left in, as they taste better once touched by the frost.

Pick the last of the remaining runner beans. Any old, stringy ones are better composted than eaten.

Dig up outdoor tomato plants and hang them upside-down in the greenhouse to allow the fruits to ripen. Green tomatoes make good chutney.

Sow overwintering broad beans. Covering the trench with **fleece** or cloches will provide insulation against the cold, as well as protection from pigeons.

Carrots and peas can still be sown in cold frames.

Plant out spring cabbages if not already done. Remember to net them for protection from pigeons. Various **bird netting** is available in the warehouse.

Finish planting **autumn onion sets** for a crop in early to mid-summer next year. Garlic can still be planted in free-draining soil but be careful if the weather has turned too wet. Otherwise it can be started in containers or modules, and planted out when more mature.

Green manures can still be sown, Grazing Rye is one of the best for overwintering, with deep penetrative roots that break up heavy soil. Slugs and snails can damage early growth. Dig in during early spring.

October is a good time to start winter digging as the approaching cold weather may help to improve the soil structure by breaking down large clumps into crumbly particles. If you have a bad back, don't dig but try and clear as many weeds as possible, spread manure or compost over the surface of the earth, the worms will do the work of incorporating it by taking it down into the soil, this will keep your soil fertile.

Observe good, basic hygiene rules by removing all plant debris from your plots to reduce the spread and the overwintering of disease and pests.

Remove yellowing leaves on brussels sprouts and cabbages to prevent grey mould from becoming troublesome.

Refrain from composting diseased material such as tomatoes affected by blight because the temperatures in domestic compost bins may not be sufficient to kill pests and diseases. Burning the waste, burying it deeply or placing it in the green waste collection are recommended alternative methods.

FRUIT CARE:

New trees can be planted as soon as the autumn weather sets in. The soil will still be quite warm in early October, even if the weather is cool, and the roots of new plants will benefit from this. This is particularly important for peaches and nectarines. Other fruit trees may have a higher tolerance of cold at the roots, and can be planted later in the dormant season.

Prune out any dead, dying or diseased shoots on apple and pear trees that are affected by canker or other problems that can continue to worsen over the winter. Collect fallen apples and pears affected with brown rot. Do not compost. Pick off any affected fruit that remains on the tree otherwise the fruits become mummified and form a source of infection for next year.

Apply **grease bands** to fruit trees and stakes thus protecting them against female winter moths and other pests.

Take cuttings of currants and gooseberries and dig up rooted layers of blackberries and hybrid berries.

Autumn is also a good time to mulch under fruit trees and bushes with either garden compost, woodchip or bark chippings. Chippings will help keep weeds down while garden compost will improve soil structure and fertility.

ESSENTIAL MAINTENANCE

Now is a good time to tend to greenhouses and polytunnels. Even if you don't think the glass or plastic needs cleaning, do it anyway and you will be amazed by the results because this has the added advantage of increasing the light levels during the winter months. With fewer crops occupying the space, it's easier to have a tidy up and repair any damage before the harsh winter months can make things worse. If you have planted winter crops then reduce ventilation and watering to reflect falling temperatures.