

**Cripley Meadow Allotment Association  
Newsletter January 2019**

**Happy New Year to all members**



**Our first Working Party for 2019 is on Sunday January 13.** As usual we meet at the shed at 10.30am. We will be filling a few potholes and, as always, clearing and covering plots. This is one of the last opportunities for you to do your working party commitment for the 2018/19 membership year. If the WP is not done a WP donation in lieu will be included on your 2019/20 invoice.

Willow pollarding is continuing on the South Field and there is some more work for Sylva Trees team to do on Cripley Island. The OCC tree team will do some more work in Badger land where more large willows have cracked. This land is not almost inaccessible as they leave the cut trees on the ground, making it impossible to get through safely.

Like many other local associations, our new allotment lease is due in 2021 and we are in negotiation with landowner Oxford City Council via our local allotment federation (ODFAA). We will need to decide whether to keep badger land in our lease ... it is now way past being reclaimed as allotment land, its designated purpose.

Some willow logs are being banked up on the Fiddler's Stream path - please do not take. Remember willow is not allowed to grow on plots as it is so invasive. Please do not use willow on plots for structures or beds - it will easily root if the bark is in contact with the ground.

**These are remaining important dates before our new membership year begins, after our AGM on March 11th**

Committee meetings  
Weds 9<sup>th</sup> Jan, 6<sup>th</sup> Feb, 6<sup>th</sup> March  
Working parties  
13<sup>th</sup> Jan, 10<sup>th</sup> Feb, 10<sup>th</sup> March  
Oxclean 3<sup>rd</sup> March

**January 6th 10.30am - 1.30pm  
Pennard Plants at West Oxford  
Community Centre  
ODFAA's Oxford Potato Fair  
Botley Road,  
Oxford OX2 0BT**

There will be over 90 varieties of tubers to choose from and buy, alongside lots of seeds and plant stuffs. The day is organised by Oxford & District Federation of Allotment Associations and has FREE ENTRY. The Community Centre has a good cafe for refreshments. Pennard Plants is a company based in a Victorian Walled Garden, in the heart of rural Somerset, which grows and sells one of the largest selections of Edible Plants, Heritage and Heirloom Seeds, Fruit and Herb plants to be found in the UK

**AGM Monday Mar 11th 2019 - Note  
different time from previous years**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019  
at 8pm**

**St Barnabas School Hall  
Hart Street, Oxford OX2 6BN**

Drinks and nibbles will be available from  
7:30pm

**A note about the site fire bin (by the shed). It is for use by members but please burn your stuff straight away if the weather is in accordance with [OCC rules](#). Please do not dump weeds and other stuff which can be composted and do not pile up if already over the height of the corrugated sides as others then have to dismantle it to burn. Eventually we may have a storage bin for wood to be burnt. There is an incinerator here for use by members for small burning jobs. Always make sure all material is DRY and follow the code.**

I am using my mulched and covered carrots, beetroot and celeriac as well as stored potatoes and onions. Lots of brassicas and leeks are being picked and the chard keeps refreshing itself. I have been clearing out a herbaceous border which has bind weed (happens to all perennial planting eventually) and am looking forward to whatever 2019 weather might bring to challenge and delight us. See our website for more [January jobs](#).

All the best, Wendy