# North Hainault Allotment Holders Association & Protection Society Ltd Members Newsletter

February 2016

## Remains of Old Tomswood Trading Hut

It is quite a while now since the trading hut at Tomswood was burnt down by vandals. The foundations have not yet been removed and the area has now been cordoned off to prevent anyone injuring themselves on possibly hazardous debris beneath the weeds. The site will be cleared fairly soon and there are plans to turn the area into a new garden and seating area for all plot holders to use.

## **Trading Huts**

Both Trading Huts will be re-opening on Sunday 7th February 2016. Seed potatoes, onion sets and a variety of seeds will be available.

## Volunteer Helpers Needed

Can you lend a hand?

Many of the jobs on our two sites are done by volunteers. Additional help is always needed. Can you spare a couple of hours now and again ... to help in the shops, cut the grass, maintain the garden plots, clear some rubbish, trim some overgrown bushes, fix a broken fence, make a noticeboard .... let us know if you can help make our allotments better places for everyone to enjoy.



Do you know anyone who would like an allotment? We have a few vacant/neglected plots on both sites that need some loving care.

## Have you any ideas for improvements to our allotments?



#### Reminder...



Each plot must have its number prominently in the centre of the front of the plot.

## **Communication**

You can get in touch with plot stewards by email:

tomswood\_stewards@nhaha.org.uk new\_north\_stewards@nhaha.org.uk

In order to improve communication we are collecting email addresses. If we do not already have yours, please let us have it via one of the above addresses.

## Slow Worms



Despite their name and appearance, slow-worms are neither worms nor snakes, but are in fact lizards - they're given away by their ability to shed their tails and blink with their eyelids. They are often found in mature gardens and allotments, where they like hunting around the compost heap. Like other reptiles, slow-worms hibernate, usually from October to March. They are harmless and are a protected species, so if you come across them treat them with care.

## Website:

## nhaha.org.uk

The potato varieties that are for sale in the shops can be found on the website. Now is the time for chitting (see below left) so don't wait ... shops open from Sunday 7th

## Water, Water Everywhere

The tanks that supply the water on our sites are supplied by pipes that run along the front of the plots, just under the surface. If you accidentally damage a pipe, please report to us immediately. As our water is metered, any leaks increase our water bills unnecessarily. Please also inform us of any leaks you spot anywhere on site.

### New Noticeboards

Carpenter or DIY enthusiast needed to make one or two new noticeboards.

Something like this:



#### RUBBISH

Please do not leave rubbish anywhere around the site. We will let you know when the next skip is due. Meanwhile, please dispose of your rubbish sensibly.

Next Newsletter: April 2016.

