



### Welcome to New Members

As a new plot-holder you may be feeling excited, but at the same time daunted by how much you need to do to get your 'new' allotment in shape. If you haven't been given the Information for New Members please ask for a copy. You will also find advice on our website and plenty of information online. Sometimes there is too much information and it is hard to know which advice to follow.

The best way is to take it easy ... don't expect to get everything done immediately. Look around the site and make friends with experienced plot-holders, ask questions, take advice and enjoy your time on your plot.

### WINTER JOBS

- > Define borders
- > Remove weeds
- > Prune trees & bushes
- > Tidy & fix shed/tool box
- > Wash pots & trays
- > Make leaf mould
- > Plan for next year
- > Tidy up paths
- > Clear away rubbish
- > Plant fruits
- > Clean & sharpen tools
- > Protect winter crops
- > Improve the soil
- > AND ...

## Keep Digging

### Trading Huts

10 a.m. – 12 noon

Last day of trading before the winter break:

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2016

Seed potatoes and onion sets will be ordered during the winter break and on sale from 5<sup>th</sup> February 2017 when the shops re-open. **Buy early** to avoid disappointment. Due to the very small demand for shallots, there will be a limited number available in the Tomswood Hut only.

### Annual General Meeting

14:00 – 16:00 on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2016

The Stockade (Scout Hut)

David's Way, Hainault, IG6 3BQ

Meet your committee members

Find out what has been going on

Ask questions

Make suggestions

Add your vote to the photo competition

**Refreshments Available**

### BOOK LIST FOR CHRISTMAS



- \* The RHS Allotment Handbook
- \* Allotment Gardening for Dummies – Sven Wombwell
- \* The Perfect Plot, Starting an Allotment from Scratch
- \* The Allotment Month by Month – Alan Buckingham
- \* Practical Allotment Gardening – Caroline Foley
- \* The Allotment Planner – Matthew Appleby
- \* The Allotment Almanac – Terry Walton
- \* The Allotment Book – Andi Clevely
- \* The Vegetable & Herb Expert – Dr D.G. Hessayon
- \* Allotment Gardening: An Organic Guide for Beginners

### Can you Help?

Our allotment sites rely on volunteers to maintain communal areas and provide services such as grass cutting. Members of the Management Committee do much of this work, but they really need additional help in order for everything to get done.....

- > **Repairing/installing water tanks & pipes**
- > **Filling in potholes**
- > **Creating the new communal garden plot at Tomswood**
- > **Maintaining the garden at New North Road**
- > **Providing grass/weed cutting service to plot holders**
- > **Clearing neglected areas**

Please get in touch if you can spare some time to help with any of the above.

### Contact the Committee

Email: [tomswood\\_stewards@nhaha.org.uk](mailto:tomswood_stewards@nhaha.org.uk)

[new\\_north\\_stewards@nhaha.org.uk](mailto:new_north_stewards@nhaha.org.uk)

Mail: 31b Tomswood Hill, Barkingside, Essex IG6 2HL

Website: [nhaha.org.uk](http://nhaha.org.uk)

AND [nnr-allotments.org.uk](http://nnr-allotments.org.uk)

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### SAVING SEEDS

Some seeds are much easier to save than others. To save peas and beans leave some pods to mature fully on the plants. Once the pods have died off and gone brown and dry, simply remove the seeds from the pods, clean up and store. Seeds from marrows and squash can be removed from the fruit, cleaned and dried. Peppers can also be collected in the same way. Sweet corn kernels should be removed from the cobs once they have dried. So long as seeds are fully dried before storage, they will keep for up to 15 years!