

North Hainault Allotment Holders Association & Protection Society Ltd

Members' Newsletter

November 2018

31b Tomswood Hill, Barkingside, Essex IG6 2HL
website: nhaha.org.uk

Social Calendar for the New Season

Our new Social Events Team is planning a number of events for the coming year including a Plant Sale in May, the Big Lunch in June and a Family Picnic in August. We are also looking into the possibility of having a Barbecue and would welcome ideas for other events.

You're Invited to our Annual General Meeting

17 November 2018
14.00 - 16.30

This is the time to:

- ☞ find out how your Association has been managed
- ☞ ask questions
- ☞ make suggestions
- ☞ meet and greet new members
- ☞ celebrate the successes of the last season

*Refreshments will be provided
Please make time to join us.*

Photo Competition entries will be on display and there will be a variety of gardening books for sale too.

TRADING HUTS OPEN Sundays 10am to 12 noon

The new seed catalogues are in the shops.

We will soon be ordering supplies so if you would like to order any special seeds or other items come in and see us. Or drop us an email.



Bonfires!

Although we are allowed to have bonfires on our sites between 1st October and 30th April ... it says in our rules that they must not be a nuisance to either other plot-holders or our neighbours. It also says that burning of materials such as plastic and rubber is prohibited.

The above photo was taken by one of our neighbours at Tomswood Hill. They made a complaint to the council and it was forwarded to us. We have been asked to tell plot-holders to **only burn dry vegetation** and **not to burn wet green matter** or anything that produces large amounts of smoke.

Apart from being unpleasant for anyone in their vicinity, bonfires are bad for the environment and should be avoided. Please try to find more friendly ways of getting rid of waste.

Q: Why have the rents increased?

A: Because our water bills have been very much higher over the last few years

Photo Competition Reminder

Thank you to the plot-holders who have already submitted photos BUT ... We have not had enough entries yet ... so if you have any good photos that you have either taken at the allotment or of things that you have grown at the allotment please send them to Aleks.

Burglars...



On Wednesday 19th September there was a break-in at New North Road Allotments. The metal storage container had the hinges cut through and the trimmers and hedge trimmer that we use to maintain our site, plus a number of smaller items were taken. It's not the first time we have been broken into, but it hasn't happened for some time and came as something of a shock. We are very disappointed that no-one actually reported the noise and activity of this break-in. Also ... at Tomswood Hill on Sunday 30th September we discovered one of our picnic tables had been stolen from the communal garden.

We will be taking steps to make our sites more secure but cannot do it alone. Please be vigilant and, if you see or hear something suspicious – **report it.**



...and Thieves

During this year a number of plot-holders have reported produce being stolen and it has come to our attention that some of these thefts have been carried out by people who have keys to the sites.

Everyone is responsible for keeping the sites safe and secure for legitimate plot-holders use and not for ex plot-holders or anyone who takes a fancy to equipment or produce that isn't theirs.

People jumping over the gates and fences and ex plot-holders using keys to come onto our sites have no right to be there, they are trespassing and should be challenged.

Likewise, if you see a plot-holder removing crops or tools from someone else's plot, please don't assume they have permission, challenge them and report all incidents to a committee member as soon as possible.

If you have a camera phone – take a photo.

Meanwhile...this is the time to be tidying up your allotment and preparing the ground for next season.

Contact your Committee

Emails: tomswood_stewards@nhaha.org.uk
new_north_stewards@nhaha.org.uk