

# DATS

## Spring 2021 Allotments News letter

Welcome to everyone and to a New Season on the Allotments. Hopefully this year will see the end of the majority of Covid restrictions and we will be able to get back to normal life.

So back to moaning about the weather, too hot, too cold, too dry, too wet, not to mention the weeds and slugs and of course the dreaded pigeons.

Due to the ongoing restrictions, we are not able to hold an AGM again this year. Never the less, we still have to conduct the business of the Society.

To start we are not able to elect the committee in the normal way, so again this year myself, Keith and Norma are happy to continue as Chairman, Treasurer, and Secretary. Please complete the attached form and confirm you are happy to continue this arrangement. However, if there are any members who wish to become part of the running of the club, we are more than happy to accept their help and will co-opt them onto the committee.

Keith has now finalised the annual accounts and I present them herewith.

DATS Annual Accounts to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021		
Receipts		
<b>B/Fwd. Bank Balance 31-03-2020</b>		<b>£460.30</b>
Membership Fees 30 Members		£430.00
Potatoes and Onions		£141.25
	Total	£1031.55
Expenditure		
Hand sanitizer		£16.48
NASLAG Membership x30		£90.00
Magazines x 8		£80.00
Website renewal 2019		£14.39
Public Liability Insurance		£232.81
Potatoes and Onions		£141.25
Website renewal 2020/ 2021		£26.25
<b>Bank Balance C/Fwd. 31-03-2021</b>		<b>£430.37</b>
	Total	£1031.55

Again, please confirm your acceptance of these accounts on the attached form.

It is now time to renew the subscriptions for the membership of DATS. As outlined in my Autumn New Letter the subs for this year will remain the same as previously.

Membership per Plot                    £13.00

Membership with Magazine    £20.00

( This includes 4 issues of the Allotment Magazine )

In addition, for new members there is an additional joining fee of £5.00

### **Ways to pay.**

1. Keith will be at the Pea Pod on Sat 17<sup>th</sup> April from 11am – 12 noon to collect payments in either cash or cheque (made payable to DATS)
2. By leaving a cheque in the envelope in the Pea Pod toilet.
3. By BACS payment as follows

A/c : Ditton Allotments Tenancy Society

Sort Code: 20 54 11

A/c No: 63046567

Please use your Surname and Plot Number reference.

4. By handing your payment and completed form to any of the committee members either at the allotment or delivering to their home.

### **Working Parties.**

This year we will need some help with maintenance of the DATS assets and there are a number of jobs to be done.

1. Pea Pod to be repainted
2. Benches and Planters to be painted
3. Summer House shelter to be repainted and a general tidy around the area.

We will arrange working parties after the 17<sup>th</sup> May lockdown easing.

### **Pea Pod General**

As you know we have left the Pea Pod toilet unlocked during the last year of lockdown however we now feel that the time has come to reinstate the locking of the toilet utilising the keys on the key safe adjacent to the toilet door.

This will commence from April 12<sup>th</sup> and the key code remains the same as previously. Should any member need a reminder of the code then please ask a committee member.

As you are aware sanitizer, wipes and rubber gloves are available, however this year we have provided a basic First Aid Kit for general usage should it be necessary and this will also be situated in the toilet.

The generator which is available for all members to use will remain in the main Pea Pod. (Key in the key safe)

### **Competition**

After asking for suggestions for this year's competition we received a number of suggestions and have selected the following.

**3 heaviest onions** (no roots or soil and with a max stem of 2") to be weighed together at an arranged weigh-in towards the end of August, and hopefully we can combine this with some sort of social event.

Date to be finalised nearer the time.

### **Seed and Plant Swap.**

We will continue with the practise of leaving spare plants or seeds on the green table in the summer house.

These are available for members to take for free or add to, if they have a surplus. There is a tin there for seeds.

As previously requested, if possible, please leave a note to confirm the variety of the plants left.

### **BBQ's and Socials**

We really hope that we will be able to have some BBQ's and gatherings after the general easing of the lockdown on 21<sup>st</sup> June. It should be safe to do so by then and we will be outside. We will monitor the government guidance and advise as soon as we can of the suggested dates.

Please complete the attached form and return with your subs, or alternatively there will be an online version on the website.

I look forward to seeing you all at the allotments during the coming year

Regards. Mike Hawksworth ( Chairman DATS )

# DATS – Questionnaire Spring 2021

Please complete the following questionnaire and return with your subs payment

<b>Name</b>		<b>Tel:</b>	
<b>email</b>		<b>Plot Number</b>	

<b>My subs for the year 2021/22</b>	<b>Please tick as appropriate</b>
Standard Membership £13.00	
Membership with Magazine £20.00	
New Member Joining Fee £5.00	
I have paid the above subs by BACS transfer	
I enclose my cheque or cash	

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
I am happy for existing committee to continue		
I approve of the accounts for 2020/21		
I am able to help with working parties		

Please print this form and hand in or send with your subs payment. There is an online form to complete if you prefer or if you are sending a BACS payment.