

Newsletter of the Harthill Allotments Association

Spring Issue April 2015

SPRING AT LAST

Potatoes chitting, onions being planted, beans sprouting - yes it's Spring at last, when Harthill seems to come back to life. It seems that some people haven't yet got the message that we have been taken off the list of sites being considered for development and are hesitating before applying for a plot. So let everyone know that *Harthill is open for business* and if someone wants a plot they can apply to *hhallotments@hotmail.co.uk*. They might get a plot sooner than they thought.

We got under way for the new growing season with a welcome delivery of manure (thanks to George for arranging it). For various reasons, when we get these deliveries, the manure has to be cleared quickly, so thanks to everyone for pitching in. This is a valuable resource and we'll let everyone know when we get another delivery. The Committee is planning to make the bay for the manure a bit more permanent by using the pallets now on site.

Wanted - axe heads and pottery!

Remember that odd looking piece of pottery you found last year when you were planting your potatoes? Well, it, and all sorts of other things we turn up could be a piece of the area's history. The Reader Dig at Calderstones is looking for items that have been long buried but might be of interest. They could be unglazed pottery from the old Hart Hill Mansion (demolished in the 30's, with hardly any photos) or even polished or worked stones that could be old axe heads or arrow heads. Well, you never know. If you find anything that could be interesting, plot holder Fran Carleton wants to see them. So could you leave any finds in the box Fran has put in the shed? Please leave your plot number with it. The plan is to put some of the stuff that is found in the area on show with an improved display for the Calder Stones.

And another thing......

Work continues on the plans for a *compost toilet*. still identifying funds and a site.

Is your bin in the hut clearly marked? If not, please put your name on it as soon as possible (note to editor - do your own as well!). If they don't get identified soon there's a risk they'll be moved as we've no way of telling which may belong to former tenants.

If you use the communal tools please treat them properly. A spade has recently been broken, clearly having been used as some sort of lever. Use tools for their appropriate purpose, please.

And as usual.....please remember to: Scramble the locks

Scramble the locks Keep paths clear Compost weeds Park carefully Keep ponds safe.