

# Fairfield Allotment Holders Association

## Newsletter 7

Since we last went to press we've been told of the **death of Stan Arkwright**, who chaired the Allotments Association for many years. We offer our sympathy and condolences to Stan's family and many friends.

The **Autumn seed catalogues** from Kings have arrived, so it must be time to start planning next year's crops. Those of you who were on the plots last year will remember that for the first time we were members of the National Association of Allotment & Leisure Gardeners, and this is one of the benefits - cheap seeds from Kings. Plus we get very necessary insurance cover as well.

If you look at the prices you'll see discounts of up to 40% and some things are even cheaper. The other advantage is because we're ordering in bulk, you'll have no postage and packing to pay - just a standard fee to facilitate the Association's individual packing costs and distribution. There are **organic seeds** in there too, so you need look no further to maintain your green credentials.

If you want to order seed through the scheme, fill out the order form at the back of the booklet as instructed and return it along with your payment to either John Lambert or John Weedy (addresses below). Add £1.80 administration fee (the extra 80p is for Kings to pack each members order separately which will help speed distribution of the order when it arrives), and pay by either cash or cheque at the time of ordering.

If you're paying by cheque make it payable to **Fairfield Allotment Association**.

## **Please place all orders by 31<sup>st</sup> October at the latest!!**

This is what you do:

1. Choose your seeds and sundries
2. Fill out the order form
3. Keep the rest of the booklet for your records
4. To the total add £1.80 for the association administration and separate packing
5. Deliver the form & payment by 31 October
6. Wait for us to tell you when your order has arrived.

Send your order to *either*

John Weedy  
10 Sibsey Street  
Lancaster  
LA1 5DF

*or*

John Lambert  
6 Carr House Lane  
Lancaster  
LA1 1SW

Many of you will be aware of just how popular these plots are, and the newer you are to them, the more you'll be aware of it because of the length of time you've waited to get one. Well, negotiations are at an early stage with the council about **expanding the area** run by the association, thus enabling more plots, and a shorter waiting list. Whether it will come to anything or not remains to be seen, but the effort's being made. Work still to be done includes:-

- drawing up a more detailed plan of the proposals
- Council cabinet report to approve any changes
- Planning Permission for change of use
- raise funds for the works (Allotment Association - part of the City Council Allotment budget could be used to draw in the funding if necessary)
- tender for the works

If plans are eventually made everyone from the association will be invited to comment if interested. Your editor notices on the action plan the line 'raise funds for the works', and wonders what this entails. More research needed before the next edition of the newsletter, he thinks. Watch this space!

John Weedy reports back as follows from the **Fairfield Fun Day**:

'Fairfield Funday was a success with bunches of Sweet Peas being the big seller. We sold about 25 bunches at 50p, thanks to the generosity of John and Emma, and we could have sold 60 bunches or more. We hope more people will donate flowers and fresh vegetables, etc and that maybe more people will sign up to do an hour on the stall. I am thinking about suggesting Fairfield Fun Day might have a mini flower and vegetable display table/s with an entrance fee and prizes for the winners.' Ideas and volunteers for next year will be gratefully received for this important fundraiser.

There's been a further spate of **vandalism** on the plots. The police won't see this as significant, (a) unless it's reported to them, and (b) unless you get a log number. If we want to be seen as a significant problem worth doing something about, i.e. putting scarce resources into, then we need to be able to list the incidents & give the police back their own reference numbers. In the meantime please lock the gates when you leave, whether there are other people on the plots or not. In fact, this protects those who are still there. Relevant police phone numbers are: 01524 596514 & 07815861624 (Community) and if there's no answer, 01524 63333(Station).

**PLEASE RETURN ALL SEED ORDERS**  
**AND PAYMENTS BY 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER**