



The Pat Canning Wildlife Hedge

Thank you to all the volunteers who planted whips to create a wildlife hedge on the Peabody Boundary in late January. Over 150 whips of native hedgerow were planted consisting of: *Acer campestre*, *Cornus alba*, *Corylus avellana*, *Malus sylvestris*, *Crataegus monogyna* and *Viburnum opulus*.



AGM 2023

This year's AGM will be taking place on 18th April in the *Rosendale Community Hall, Peabody Estate, London, SE24 9DR* for a start at 6.45pm, everyone is welcome to attend.

Our current treasurer is standing down and we really need someone to step forward to take on this essential role. Nomination forms are in the shop and community room and or please contact the secretary.

We welcome anyone who wants to get involved and help the committee run the site so please send motions and your nomination forms to the secretary by 8th April secretary.rosendaleallotments@btconnect.com

New Working Groups

At this AGM, the committee are proposing to set up two working groups for this coming year:

1. A Financial Working Group to help us manage our finances more strategically
2. A Flooding Working Group to find ways to capture water run-off. If you have expertise and or enthusiasm for either of these groups, please contact the chair.rosendaleallotments@btconnect.com

Volunteer Coordinator

We are looking for a volunteer co-ordinator to oversee and lead on volunteer days and projects. We would like to be able to offer through this role, once a month; green gyms which support and enhance the role of the site officer, café openings, tool hire and path improvements for example. If you are interested in the role please contact the chair.rosendaleallotments@btconnect.com

Water safety, water tanks and ponds

There has been growing concern and a 'near miss' serious accident in the past experienced by a two-year-old on site involving deep water. Using the Gun-Site allotments as a model Firas and Keith have devised grills that can cover the tanks. We are piloting these on six tanks until July. Please provide feedback on these to us. Please can you ensure that all children are closely supervised while on site. Ideally ponds should be sited in the centre of any plot and covered with a grill or a surrounding barrier.

Peabody Gate Openings

Requests to open the Peabody Gate are increasing and not sustainable for staff or volunteers.

Background: The gate was originally allowed by the Peabody Estate in 2002 (the threshold is on Peabody land) for emergency access **only**, i.e. a ABLOY key and lock used only by all the emergency services. Over time the keys and locks have changed and essentially this means the gate no longer acts as emergency exit as emergency services cannot now access the site as they don't have our current key. We are now using the gate for skips, manure and woodchip deliveries and organised opening times which is not what was originally allowed by the estate.

Going forward, the committee propose to meet with the Peabody Estate to ask permission for the current use and plot holder general access. By meeting we do jeopardise the current usage and essentially should review having this gate just for emergency access for H&S reasons. We are exploring converting the lower main gate to be able to be accessible by the emergency services instead.

In the interim please could you kindly stick to the designated opening times as advertised below.

Human Faeces behind sheds

Our contractors, staff and volunteers have all come across human faeces on site, particularly behind sheds that are more hidden away and or near to fence boundaries. This is obviously extremely unpleasant and unhygienic for anyone to have to deal with. Please use the toilet at the bottom of the site near to the main entrance.

A big thank you to John, our site officer, Marco our admin assistant, Pauline, Firas, Keith, Gillie, Lesley and Virginia, Roy and all our volunteers who help us manage the site.

Useful links and reminders

Peabody Gate opening times: to bring in/remove larger heavier items. The gate is opened 10am to 12pm on the 1st and 2nd Saturdays each month and the 3rd Thursday. If you want to bring in / remove heavier items on other dates, there is a £10.00 fee for special openings.

Facebook: The Rosendale group is just for our plot holders and sharers. To join, go to Rosendale Allotment Association and click the 'Join Group' button.

Dung Ho! Is a WhatsApp group to let RAA members know when manure has been delivered to the Peabody Gate. Deliveries are unpredictable so the idea is that whoever spots the delivery first lets others know about it through the app. If you would like to join this group, please reply to this newsletter email. Please note the group is purely for manure delivery info only! Link to invite

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/EfSOTfqTa7UIRvpv3uK8qz>

Allotment Management: Members' enquiries and site issues can be passed to the relevant committee officer via info.rosendaleallotments@btconnect.com or

telephone 020 8761 6116 or come in and talk to Marco on: Monday 12-3pm, Wednesday 9am–1pm, Friday 10am–1pm. These days and hours can vary if the room is booked out for an external hire, so please call ahead.



Dung Ho