



Newsletter March 2024

AGM 2024

This year's AGM will be taking place on Tuesday 23rd April in the Rosendale Community Hall, Peabody Estate, London, SE24 9DR for a start at 6.45pm, everyone is welcome to attend.

Our current **chairman** is standing down and we really need someone to step forward to take on this essential role. Election for key roles takes place at the first committee meeting after the AGM. Nomination forms are in the shop and community room and or please contact the secretary.

secretary.rosendaleallotments@btconnect.com

We would also welcome volunteers to take on essential roles that don't require being a committee member. We need help with the following:

1. Line Management of three part - time staff
2. Site Management, the site is large and we need someone to oversee site issues, trees, paths, boundaries, resident enquires, filming requests etc.
3. H&S, reviewing and updating risk assessments
4. Managing volunteer/green gym activities
5. Fundraising
6. Newsletters
7. Community building roof repair (this is urgent)

Flooding Working Group

At the last AGM, it was agreed to set up a Flooding Working Group to find ways to capture water run-off and flooding and involving the Rosendale residents who are affected. Due to the current committees' work load this has not yet been set up. If you have expertise and or enthusiasm and or are a Rosendale resident, please contact the chairman

chair.rosendaleallotments@btconnect.com

Chit Chat Café

Pek will be serving soup and fresh baked bread on **Sunday 3rd and 20th March** for anyone who wants to come and 'chit chat' with her about the upcoming **Spring Survey (15th March to 30th April)**.



Skips

In order to organise rubbish removal we need ten volunteers to supervise hiring and managing a skip over one long weekend ideally before the spring survey. We have a budget for two of these this year (£1,200). In the past we have spent as much as £4,000 a year and they haven't been used as efficiently as they could have been. Below are some of the main issues:

- Skips are not filled in a space efficient way.
- Skips being overfilled which incurred an additional charge.
- Prohibited items being placed in skips which then incur an additional charge. We have had to remove pieces of asbestos bonded cement and tyres as well as incurring £108 additional charge for a small fridge.
- Outsiders using the skips on the forecourt to dump their own rubbish.
- Too much organic matter which should be composted

If volunteers don't come forward this will not be able to go ahead, please email Pek if you can help Raamembership@gmail.com

Biodiversity Mapping for Rosendale Allotments

Why not have a go at formally identifying wildflowers, beetles and butterflies, maybe even a newt, slow worm or grass snake on your plot with a flora and fauna identification App. We could pool your finds and gradually get a better picture of what is living at the Rosendale allotments this year. There are several Apps but the one easy to install and use is iNaturalist by iNaturalist.org an independent nonprofit US organisation and supported by the [Biodiversity Network Trust in the UK](#). You can download for free from your phone App store. Set up an account and take a clear photo of what you'd like to ID and upload. If you allow your location then the species is more easily ID'd and any same species distribution will show up on a map of the world, local area, and your approx location at the Rosendale allotment. Your ID'd organism is then pinned to the map too. The better/clearer the detail in the photo the more accurate the identification. Spring is a good time to do this as many species emerge from winter. If your species is very confidently ID'd by the App the count is added to their database - so contributing to a bit of science too.

Useful links and reminders

Losing the Plot!

This is a WhatsApp chat group for RAA members and sharers who want to share and discuss all sorts of gardening matters, including handy tips, seed swaps and allotment 'get togethers'. If you would like to join the link is

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/H4SuDDyRvcF8jMVoPppVs0>

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.

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. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/6387643762>

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. <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.