



June Newsletter

AGM 2023

Thank you to all those who attended this year's AGM held in April. Approximately 55 people attended. The draft minutes will be available in the community building and will be approved at next year's AGM. A number of sub working groups were approved to undertake work and projects: a Financial Working Group, a Flooding Working Group and a Sustainability Working Group.

The Sustainability Working Group

Did you know that the allotment site and the area including the Peabody Woods has the biggest number of hedgehogs in London and as a result we were recently added by Lambeth Council to a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation? A working group has been set up to encourage the use of practices that benefit the ecology and biodiversity of the allotment environment. Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday 20th June at 6.30pm in the community building**. Please come along if you are interested in finding out more or have ideas about taking care of our plots in a nature enhancing way. Companion planting can help create a rich, diverse polyculture to encourage a healthy ecosystem in balance with nature. Companion plants can attract pollinators and provide forage for insects as well as helping with pest control by distracting them with scent or colourful petals. For more information about any of this please look at the website

<https://www.rosendaleallotments.co.uk/about-4>

We really need your HELP to run Rosendale Allotments and you can volunteer in a number of different ways, as follows:

Treasurer

Our current treasurer stood down at the AGM and currently we don't have a replacement. This is an essential role and constitutionally we are obliged to fill this position. If no one comes forward we will have to buy in this service which is likely to be expensive and will further increase plot rents in October. If anyone could take on this role, please email 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 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 this role please contact chair.rosendaleallotments@btconnect.com.

Shop Volunteers

Sue and Lance do a brilliant job running the shop but they do need regular volunteers to help keep the shop open on Saturdays and Sundays during the growing season. Please contact stores to join the team stores.rosendaleallotments@btconnect.com.

Tree Management

To manage and coordinate our annual tree survey, maintenance works and assisting and advising plot holders on managing their fruit trees. Please contact chair.rosendaleallotments@btconnect.com.

Staff Line Management

We have three part-time members of staff. We need a line manager who is experienced in this area to meet the staff regularly, coordinate their work, organise payroll etc. and report back to the committee on their work. Please contact

chair.rosendaleallotments@btconnect.com.

Health and Safety

We have a health and safety policy and associated risk assessments but these need to be kept up to date and improved. Ideally we need someone who is IOSH trained and is experienced in this line of work. Please contact chair.rosendaleallotments@btconnect.com.

Community Building - Roof

The community building needs repairing. We have had a survey and a quote from the company who originally built the building. The quote is in excess of a staggering **£20,000** to repair the whole roof. To undertake due diligence, we need to get at least two other quotes. If someone has experience in leading on this type of project, i.e. to manage the specification, quotes and the repairs please contact

chair.rosendaleallotments@btconnect.com.

Site Surveys

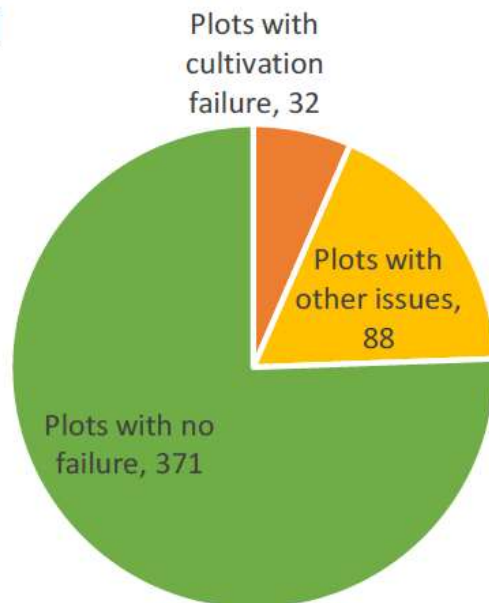
To improve the standard of plots, the site and in line with our lease agreement the membership have increased the number of surveys for this year. The spring survey took place in April/May. Please see a summary of the survey results below.

SPRING 2023 Results	1) Survey issues	2) Cultivation fails	3) Total fails	4) % of plots with failures	5) % of total plots
Cultivation	0	32	32	26.7%	6.5%
Paths	39	15	54	45.0%	11.0%
Plot numbers	23	16	39	32.5%	7.9%
Hedges and Fences	10	4	14	11.7%	2.9%
Trees	15	4	19	15.8%	3.9%
Sheds or Greenhouse	19	6	25	20.8%	5.1%
Ponds	4	5	9	7.5%	1.8%
	110	82	192		

Total number of plots	491
Number of plots with Cultivation failure	32
Number of plots with 75% cultivation but with issues	88
Number of plots with no issues	371

- 1) Survey Issues - contains analysis of all survey forms where cultivation is 75%
- 2) Cultivation fails - contains analysis of all survey forms where cultivation is below 75% i.e. a cultivation fail
- 3) Total fails - analysis of all survey forms where there is one or more failure
- 4) % plots with failure - shows % of the number of surveys recorded with one or more criteria fail as proportion of the failed surveys
- 5) % of total plots - shows the % failures by criteria as a proportion of the total plot numbers

Spring 2023 Survey results overall



- Plots with cultivation failure
- Plots with other issues
- Plots with no failure

Chart shows the proportions of plots with no issues, cultivation failures and those with other issues

Spring 2023 Survey results breakdown

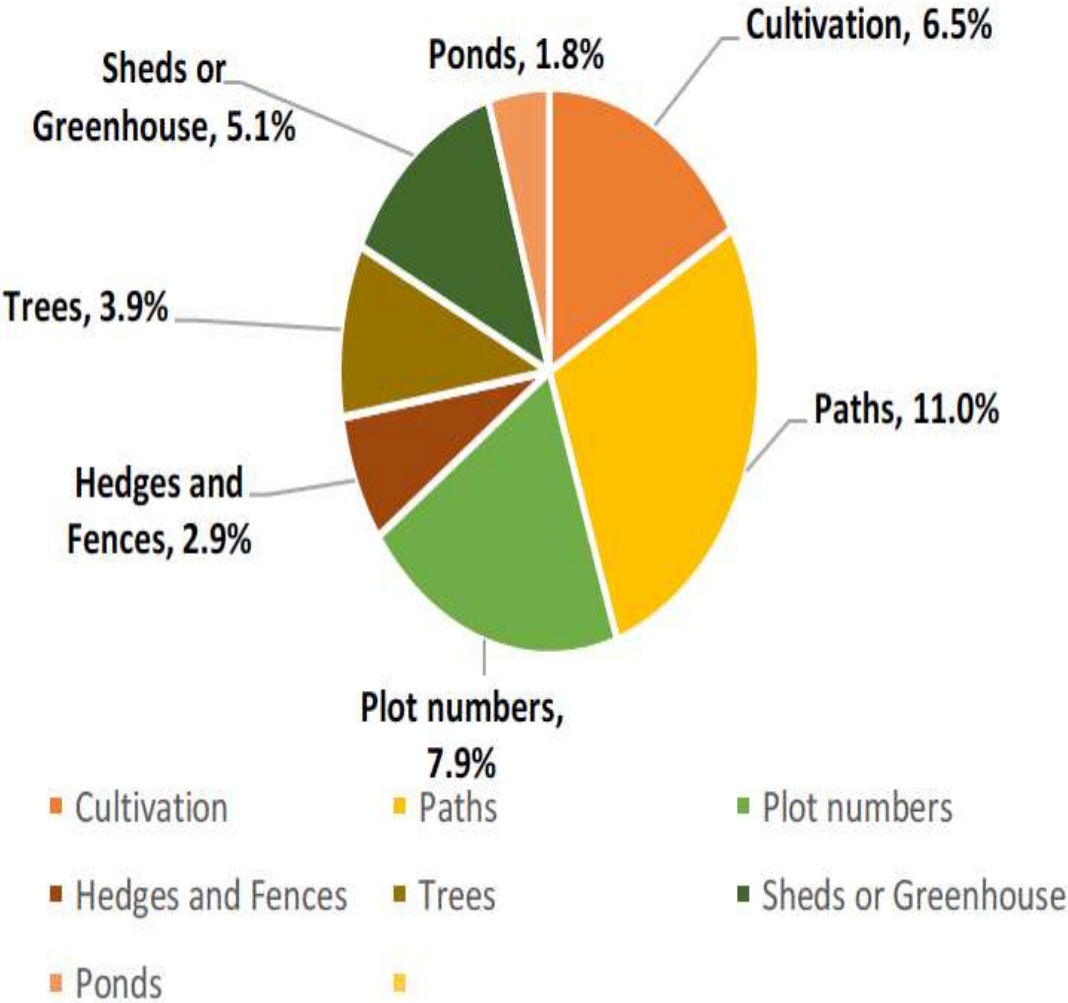


Chart shows the proportion of the survey criteria fails with the % of plots in terms of the total plot numbers. NB the % do not add up to 100% as some plots have multiple failures. E.g. 11% of all plots have path issues, 6.5% of all plots have failed cultivation.

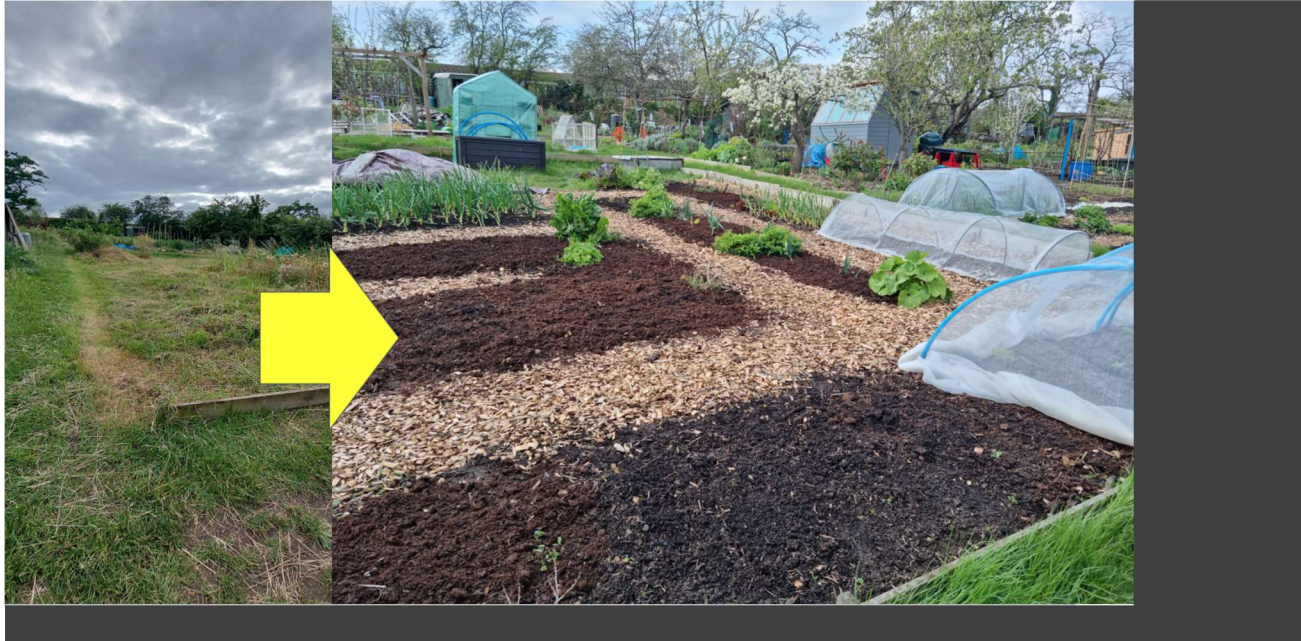
The next survey is taking place from **June 15th to the end of July**. This will be followed by an autumn survey from September until the end of October.



2 ½ months!

Before and after - some of the wonderful transformations by new ploholders!





Site Staff and Allotment Management

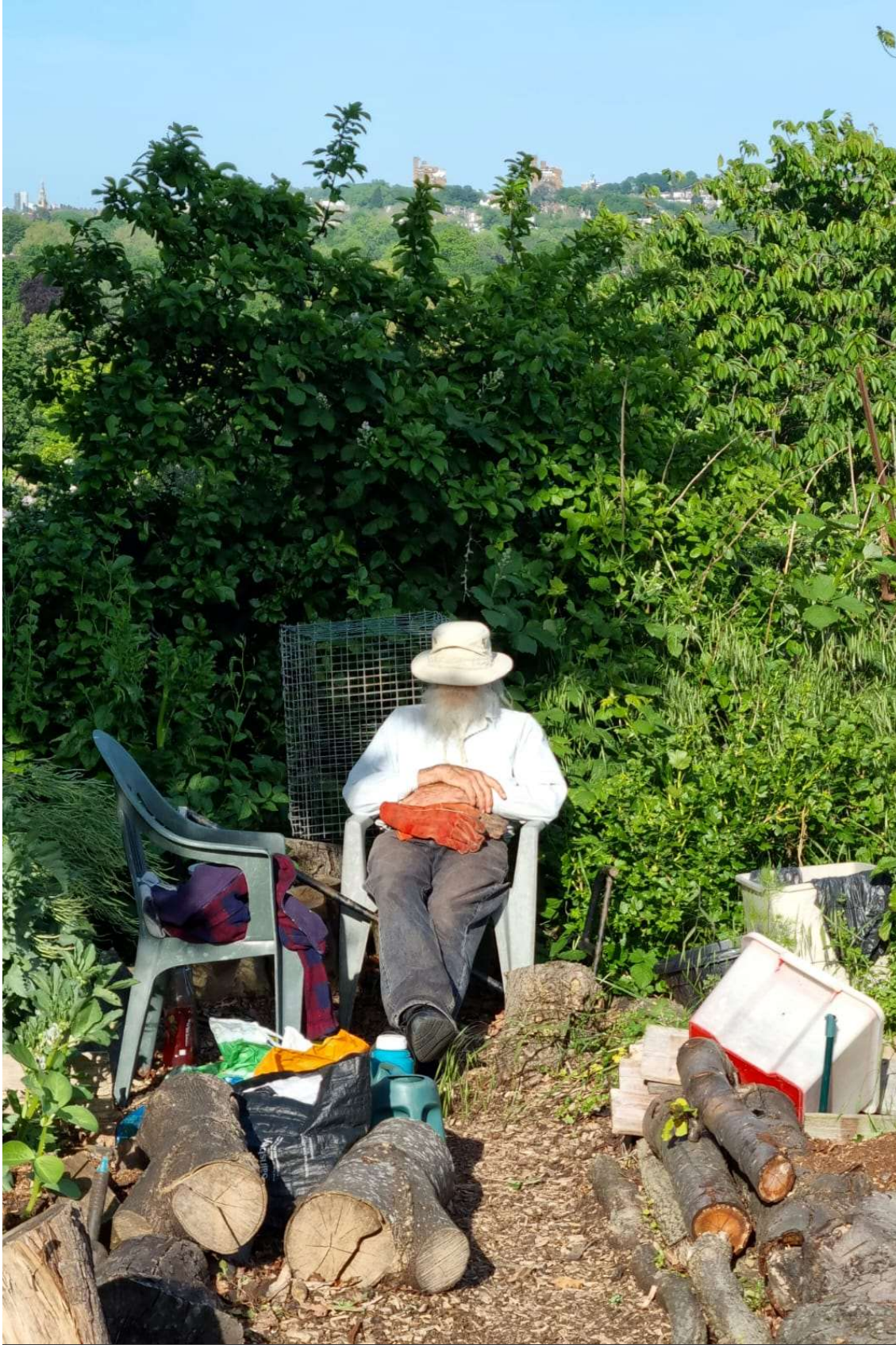
A big welcome to Marco Camara, who has joined the site team as a Site Officer for six hours a week working on **Thursday and Friday afternoons**. He will be strimming the main paths, assisting with preparing new plots for letting, path repairs and hedge cutting. John Blackhurst continues to work 18 hours a week, Thursday, Friday and alternate Saturdays. Marco Barella, our Admin Officer, works Monday 12-3pm, Wednesday 9am–1pm, Friday 10am–1pm. These days and hours can vary if the community room is booked out for an external hire, so please call ahead, 020 8761 6116. Members' enquiries and site issues can be passed to the relevant committee officer via info.rosendaleallotments@btconnect.com.

Useful links and reminders

Peabody Gate opening times: to bring in/remove larger heavier items. The gate is open 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.

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!



Chillaxing! A well earned break!