

The FHS Grapevine

Newsletter of the Finchley Horticultural Society

Winter 2012

The Year Ahead

We have now received draft lease documents for Gordon Road and Nethercourt Avenue and look forward to running these allotment sites under self-management in 2013. We will be pressing the Council to finalise the leases and issue the Brent Way documents as soon as possible. Before handover we are asking the Council to repair fences, clear dead trees and mend the roadway but this is not yet agreed. A new Tenants Agreement and Handbook will be produced in the New Year to reflect the new leases. Standing on our own feet will mean more work for the Society. All ploholders will need to help out to make self-management a success. Watch out for work parties and jobs to be done, large and small – and please volunteer!

2013 will see the finish of our Raised Beds Project. We now have a fine new hut, currently being painted. An irrigation system is due to be installed. A couple of beds are vacant so let us know if of any physically disabled gardener who may want to take one on.

A busy programme of events and outings is planned. All Members will receive a handy card listing the Society's activities for 2013.

**We wish you all good
gardening, great harvest,
beautiful flowers and
wonderful weather for 2013!**



FHS Events

Christmas Social



**Sunday 16th December 2012,
11am-1pm in the Green Room,
Gordon Road Allotments**

Come along for an end of year celebration to enjoy mulled wine and mince pies with fellow FHS Members and ploholders.

Trading Hut

The Hut will re-open next March under new management. Helen Skelton has now taken over managing the trading hut from Beverley Perkins, who has left us for the delights of gardening in Devon. Bev and Dave Bromley who gave sterling service to the Society will be sorely missed. Our thanks and best wishes to them both.

Rents and Subscriptions

Due 1st January 2013

You will shortly be receiving reminders and invoices to pay for membership and plots. Membership and rent stay at the same level as 2012, but the service charge for water, electricity, mower fuel and other services increases by £2 per pole. Prompt payment would be appreciated. If you wish to give up your plot, would prefer a smaller patch or more land please get in touch with June Brookes as soon as possible. We have a waiting list of hopeful ploholders!

**Advance Notice: Annual General Meeting
Thursday 21st March 2013, 7.30pm
Avenue House, East End Road, Finchley**

The Finchley Horticultural Society

1 Princes Avenue, Finchley, London N3 2DA

For all Finchley gardeners and for ploholders at Gordon Road and Nethercourt Avenue.

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Next Newsletter: Spring Issue - March 2013

Member of
Barnet Federation
of Allotment and
Horticultural Societies



Remember you can get a 10% discount off seeds and plants at Finchley Nurseries Garden Centre if you are an FHS Member

Coming Attractions

Celebrating in 2013

It will be a special year for

The Royal Horticultural Society



100 YEARS
RHS CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW

The British Ecological Society's 100th birthday



15th June to 4th August 2013 and, International Congress of Ecology with exhibition from 18th – 23rd August at London's ExCel Centre.

Big Garden Birdwatch

26th and 27th January 2013

Spend an hour watching the birds in your garden to record the highest number of each bird species seen (not flying over) at any one time. Be part of a nationwide census to find out which birds visit our gardens, which ones are the most common and which ones are increasing/declining.



This is the world's largest wildlife survey. For more information and to submit your results contact: www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch

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