



Allerton Allotments Society (AAS)

Newsletter (23) October 2026

Big Shed Winter Opening Times

The Big Shed opening times will change on **1st November** to just Sundays from 10 – 12pm. The stove will be on to warm you up (provided Dave has found something to burn!) and the kettle will be on for a cuppa. All are welcome.

Don't forget to order your fruit bushes, onion sets and seeds through the Kings catalogue allotment seed scheme. Catalogues and order forms in Big Shed. They are much cheaper and a percentage of the collective order comes back to AAS funds. Orders with payment (you can pay by card if you wish) for autumn delivery of soft fruit bushes need to be returned to the Big Shed by 25th October and seed orders by 2nd November.

Jobs for October

Mulch fruit and veg beds – Add organic matter like compost or well-rotted manure to protect soil structure.

Prepare beds for winter crops – Dig in green manure or compost to enrich the soil for next spring.

Tidy paths and borders – Remove weeds, rake leaves, and edge paths.

Clear spent crops – Remove any remaining summer vegetables and compost healthy plant material. This prevents pests from overwintering.

Sowing - October is still a great month for hardy, cool-weather crops that will either mature before winter or overwinter for early spring harvests: Spinach, Winter lettuce and Rocket, Broad beans, Garlic, Spring Onions, Kale, Pak Choi, Mustard Greens and Land Cress.

Inspect structures - Secure loose greenhouse panels, shed roofing, netting and other structures before autumn winds arrive. Check and re-stain (if necessary) your fruit cage, shed and other structures to make sure they are sound.

Lots more information on the National Allotment Association website.

[October Allotment Checklist](#) | [National Allotment Society](#)

Rules for having a Fire on your Plot

You may remember that the rules for fires on site were updated last year by Liverpool City Council. So here is a reminder:



- FIRES are only allowed from **1st November to 15th March**.

- They must not cause annoyance to any of the local householders or any other plot holders.
- You must keep a close check on the fire and not leave it unattended.
- No plastics, tyres or any other hazardous materials including painted wood are to be burnt on site.
- Fires must be kept small and burnt in a 90 litre bin or incinerator.
- Waste must not be brought from home.
- Fires are not permitted on plots 3, 4 and 5.
- A member of the committee can at any time ask a tenant to extinguish their bonfire.
- Sites are routinely monitored for compliance with The Environmental Protection Act 1990, failure to comply could result in a ban on burning for the whole site.

Allotment Trip to RHS Bridgewater



A big thank you to Kevin (Parr) for organising the trip to RHS Bridgewater in Salford. We were able to use some of the free tickets we got as part of our Allotment Association membership of the RHS. Everyone had a great day and the weather was lovely (in the end!) Thank you to Kevin and to Carol (plot 66) for the lovely photos.

Next Year on your Plot.

It's that time of year when you look back and review how you have got on this growing season. What's done well and what hasn't? What have you learnt this Summer? What will you do differently next year?

- ☀ Change the way you water?
- ☀ Mulch more to retain moisture?
- ☀ Add shade for vulnerable crops?
- ☀ Try no-dig or change how you care for your soil?
- ☀ Grow different crops or varieties?
- ☀ Change what – or when – you plant?

Updates

You may notice some new signage around the site.

Arriving for sale in the Big Shed in next week or so Organic Alpaca manure in approx. 20KG bags at £4 per bag. We will let you know when it has arrived.

Boost your soil's health this winter with premium, **100% organic alpaca manure**, the ultimate secret weapon for your allotment. Unlike other livestock manures, alpaca poo is a "cold" fertilizer, meaning it can be applied directly to your beds without the risk of burning your plants or roots. It is naturally high in nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium, providing a slow-release nutrient boost that will feed your soil all winter long while improving its structure for spring planting. Best of all, alpacas digest their food so efficiently that their manure contains virtually no weed seeds, saving you hours of weeding next season.

Returning by popular demand in November Horse manure on sale by the wheelbarrow details to follow.

AAS Annual General Meeting

Date: 11.10.26 Starting at 11.00 prompt Venue: Ambergate Guide Hut L19 9AU

Please do your best to come to this meeting – it's the best way you can support our allotment site, have your say, be part of the community and give the Committee a mandate to act on your behalf. It is also our main event to celebrate plot holder achievements. We hope that all full members (the person who signed your agreement) will attend. If you are on a probation agreement you are welcome to attend but unfortunately you cannot have a vote.

Agenda

1. Welcome from chairperson and apologies (Dave Byers)
2. Approval of last year's minutes (displayed on main noticed board and attached to this email)
3. Matters arising
 - a. Asset of community value
 - b. Defib
4. Field secretary report (Fiona Cowell)
5. Trading secretary report (Denis Hendrick)
6. Treasurers report and accounts (Paul Davitt)
7. Site security (Dave Byers)
8. Questions submitted in writing for discussion (abridged)
 - a) Would it be possible to keep the path borders clear and vegetation cut back on pathway from Allerton Road to Big Shed? (JL plot 28)
 - b) What is the percentage peat free vs peat-based compost sales from Big Shed? (JL plot 28)
 - c) What are the committee doing to ensure trees are kept below the allowed 7ft? (KS Plot 21)
9. Presentation of prizes
10. Election of new committee
11. Closure of meeting

We now have over 100 plot holders therefore only members can attend the AGM and must sign in on arrival.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES

www.allerton-allotments.com