



KASHS Newsletter

September 2024

Welcome to the Autumn Edition of the KASHS Newsletter!

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FEVA Open Day - A Resounding Success!



This year's FEVA Open Day was nothing short of spectacular! Despite the scorching heat, our dedicated volunteers pulled off an incredible event that delighted visitors and showcased our allotments in their full glory. A huge thank you to everyone who worked tirelessly in the weeks leading up to the event and on the day itself, to ensure that plots were immaculate and visitors felt welcome.

Our primary goal was to raise funds for KASHS and thanks to the overwhelming support, we surpassed our expectations. Key changes made a significant impact, including relocating the produce stall to the



entrance, which increased visibility and sales. A dedicated team led by Sue Snow, with help from Jan Neale and Sarah Helm, did a stellar job of securing top prices for our donated goodies – cakes, jams, chutneys, vegetables and flowers.



A special shoutout to Dave Bolton and his family for running the new tombola, which offered fantastic prizes, drawing lots of excitement and a bit of a frenzy for that Harry Potter hat, with one visitor buying £30 of tickets in their quest to secure it!

We were thrilled to also host Knaresborough Forest Park, Yorkshire Rotters and Chris Powell's second-hand garden tool stall, which



raised over £200 for the Prickly Pigs hedgehog charity, and many more who added variety to the day.



Resurrected Bites:

Continuing support

A big thank you to John and Sian Evans for leading the Resurrected Bites collections and to John Whitehead and Dave Bolton for growing wonderful produce on our Resurrected Bites plot.

Your donations are making a real difference and we hope to keep this going through the winter. Your continued generosity is greatly appreciated.



Feva (cont.) A heartfelt thank you to Clare Robinson and the Community Stars team for providing refreshing drinks and tasty treats on such a hot day and to Caroline Simms for her creative vegetable animal carving, which the children loved.



Michael Cook's ceramics and Maggie Boyd's efforts with the raffle tickets, in aid of Harrogate and District Allotment Federation (HDAF) and petition for Knaresborough Market, were all enjoyed by visitors.



Thanks to the generosity of everyone involved, the produce stall raised £380, the Tombola brought in £130, making a total of £510, which will really help with our ongoing costs.

While fundraising is a component of FEVA, the day is more about building community and supporting good causes, which this year's event certainly achieved.



Rent Increase:

What you need to know

Our new Treasurer, Stewart Housecroft, has been carefully examining our finances. We need to ensure that KASHS has enough money to cover our bills and can cope with an unexpected emergency.

Last year we spent more than usual, as we had to cover the shortfall in funds for the new toilet. In addition to this, all our bills went up; water, insurance, affiliations to local and national associations. We also spent money on tools and equipment.

We made the mistake last year of not putting up our rent and, as a result, we have been short of money this summer. At our last committee meeting we made the decision to increase rents by 12% and the standard charge has by £2, to £12. On average, this means you will be paying about £6 more than last year. Some with larger plots can expect to pay a little more.

We recognise that for some members this increase may present a challenge. The last thing we want to happen is for someone in challenging financial circumstances to have to give up their allotment, so if you need some consideration regarding payment, please contact Kirsty or Rob. Please be assured of our absolute discretion.



Tenancy Renewal:

A friendly reminder

We greatly appreciate those of you who have already informed us of your plans not to renew your tenancy or to reduce your plot size. With a waiting list of 52 people, it's crucial for us to manage this process smoothly.

If you're finding your plot too much to handle, or it's simply not bringing you joy, please get in touch. Once you receive your rent renewal notice, please make your payment promptly to avoid unnecessary follow-ups.

Save the Date



Working Party: Hedge Cutting

Our main hedge needs its winter trim and we're calling on all KASHS members to lend a hand on

Saturday, 28th September @ 8.30 am

We've lost some of our regular volunteers, so your participation would be greatly appreciated. Even if you can't join at the start time, your help at any point during the morning will really make a difference.

We're also on the lookout for additional hedge cutters, so if you have one, please bring it along.

We always need extra hands for our regular Friday working party. If you're available to help on Friday mornings, please contact Robs Snow, so your name can be added to the email group.



Bonfire Night

Mark your calendars for our bonfire on

Saturday, 2nd November!

To minimize any disturbances to our neighbours, we plan to hold it at night. Last year's wet autumn made the bonfire tricky, so please start collecting suitable materials like wood and sunflower stalks early and allow them to dry out. Please keep the items on your plot for now and we'll let you know where to place them for the bonfire, nearer the time .

Apple Day.:Join us for juicing!

*We're bringing back Apple Day on
Saturday, 5th October!*

With a promising apple crop this year, it's the perfect time to dust off the apple press and enjoy some community juicing. It's a great opportunity to come together, share tips and make some delicious apple juice.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Visitor Alert:

Stay vigilant

Recently, there have been reports of a man sleeping in the toilet and in several sheds on site. Although he leaves when asked, he has caused some damage, including breaking the toilet lock. We're working closely with the local PCSO and police to address the situation. In the meantime, please report his presence or any suspicious behaviour to Rob immediately. If you feel uncomfortable or threatened, please do not approach, simply move to a safer location and contact the authorities, if necessary.

Toilet Repairs

We now have the toilet working much better after the company, Sheepshed, replaced the leaky pipe with a new system.

Unfortunately, now it's fixed, we're planning to close it! When the site water supply is turned off, we will put a padlock on the toilet door. The reason for this is that we really do need to stop people sleeping in it. It is not expected to be well used over winter and there will be no water for the basin.; however, if you want to use it over the winter period, we can provide you with a key, if you are happy to cover the cost of the key cutting.

Please contact a member of the committee.

Huge thanks to Ifon, Viv and Mike for keeping the area clean and tidy and to Rob Snow, who has the unenviable task of emptying the toilet.

When it is full.



Council Meeting: Site Inspection

On Monday 9th September, the site was inspected by Angela Pulman, the Clerk to Knaresborough Town Council and Councillor Shan Oakes.

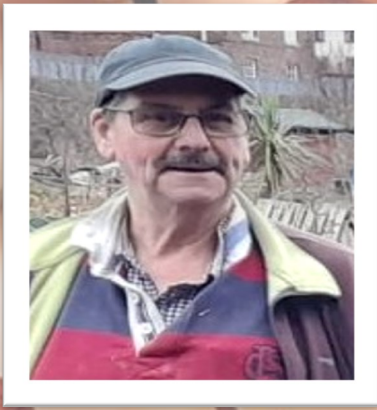
The tour was given by Kirsty and Rob, who explained how the money returned from the rent had been used to improve the site.

The visitors were impressed by the upgrades and especially by how plot holders have embraced eco-friendly growing practices, which align with the council's new ecology policy.

It's great to hear that the efforts made at the site are not only recognised, but also appreciated by the council.



Meet Your Committee



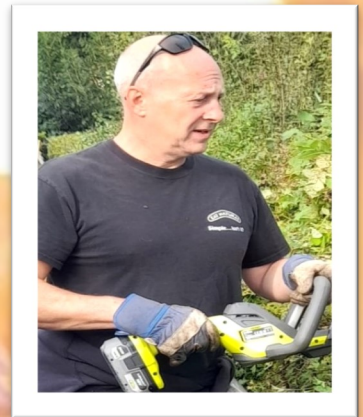
Neil Crossley
Site Manager



Kirsty Woodford
Secretary



Rob Snow
Chair



Stewart Housecroft
Treasurer



Elsa Wiehe
Shop Manager



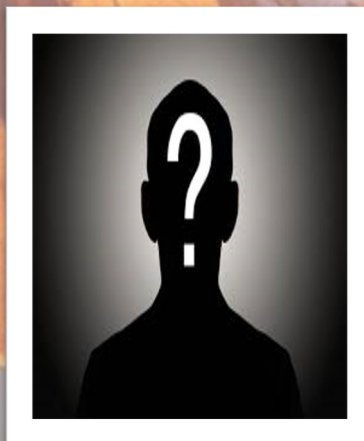
Martin Atkinson
Membership Secretary



Dave Bolton



Maggie Boyd
HADF Rep



Tracey Kayne

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