

## ALLOTMENT EVENTS THROUGH THE YEAR

### NOT LOST THE PLOT – our Heritage Lottery Project

This was a huge project which absorbed many of us through most of last year. A copy of the beautiful booklet and fabulous film have been sent to the British Library and to Knighton Library for future reference. The Heritage Lottery stressed that the project should be digital, and thanks to our website - [www.queensroadallotments.wordpress.com](http://www.queensroadallotments.wordpress.com) anyone in the world is able to read the booklet, find out more about our heritage, watch the seasonal videos and hear people past and present through our recordings. We have had 3788 hits on the site in 3 months with the highest number in any one day being 121

Our celebration event, held at the end of October, was attended by over a hundred people, including allotmentees, local councillors and representatives from the University and Heritage Lottery.

We have stressed the importance of the allotments for future generations and hope that this project will have long-term benefits in raising their profile. We have a booking to show the film and share the stories during 'Art Beat', - the Clarendon Park Festival in June. The projector will be available to members of Friends of Queens Road Allotments and community groups

***This project would not have been possible without the hard work and support of all the individuals involved – many thanks to them all.***

The BBQ in June was very well attended and we were entertained and enlivened by a fantastic puppet show – many thanks to all performers and puppet makers

An Open Day in August was popular with about 40 visitors attending

Working parties were held in Spring and Autumn enabling 5 new families to come off the waiting list which currently has 33 people on it. Many thanks to the volunteers who give up their time and lend a hand at working parties to help to clear overgrown plots.



### **Growing Together - a Community Project – Progress to date**

*Growing Together is aimed at supporting people with a Personal Budget, in particular, but not exclusively, people with learning disabilities, to work as part of a team which grows and cultivates vegetables and herbs and develops new skills.*

Our previous application for lottery funding was unfortunately declined but only on a technicality which meant we didn't qualify for funding. This has now been rectified and we have re-submitted our bid which will take a further few weeks to be re-assessed. We anticipate a decision towards the end of May.

Our intentions to start the project remain. We don't want you to think the project has fallen by the wayside because no physical work has started.

We have been given use of the wooden double garage on path D and intend to renovate this with a view to using this as an office / store / wet weather working area. *NB We are aware that other plot holders use this for water collection and are happy for this to continue.*

**For more info about this project please speak to Heather Cross or contact Laura Newcombe or Rick Hall, via Heather.**

### **Ongoing Developments**

We hope to continue with Apple identification on the site and encourage people to plant more fruit trees.

*Dee Yorke - May 2014*