

May 2017

Quite a few new members have begun their allotment experience. Are you new to this experience or are you a seasoned grower?

This edition will help you with tips about seedlings and quick turnaround crops to get you started with swift results to pique your interest.



Allotments, what's the benefit?

Your allotment is a source of food, grown with the surety of it's origin. You pay over the asking price in the shops for this quality product. There is a physical demand on you of course, but this expense is returned by the benefits of both physical work and the mental and self-satisfaction of the cycle of planting, nurturing and harvesting. It's an educational experience, encouraging community groups in particular and best of all, is a social experience which draws on the life experiences of the many varied backgrounds of all who take part. So let's get growing and enjoy the benefits!



Did you know?

Chit - cause (a potato) to sprout by placing it in a cool light place, from dialect chit 'a shoot, sprout'

Simply plant a piece of the sprouting potato. Within 2 weeks, green shoots should emerge. After 3 months or so, new potatoes will develop.

May Seed Sowing

BEETROOT – ever delicious beetroot can be sown through to the end of July. It needs plenty of water and sun. The water we can take care of, the sun however, well that's wishful thinking perhaps. Sow seed now and harvest from June on.

CARROTS – sow this staple food from March to July and harvest throughout summer and autumn.



May 2017

Honeybees into Mill Lane.

The legendary Phil Lynnot sang with some conviction, "The Boys are Back in Town". Well this time, it is the turn of the girls.....yes, the girls (honeybees) have arrived in town. Mill Lane allotments to be precise.



At the request of Cllr. Liona O'Toole and with the assistance of SDCC a small hive of honeybees have been positioned and are already busy (as only a bee can be) pollinating plants and foraging for nectar and pollen in the vicinity.



Mill Lane Allotment Site

Hopefully, the growers and the honeybees will be able to live in reasonable, if not perfect harmony while creating a mutually beneficial environment.

Chris Merrigan Beekeeper.

South Dublin Allotment Association NEWS

2nd Annual Open Day - You are all invited to consider participation in this year's Open Day which is provisionally scheduled for the last week in July 2017. Never too early to prepare!

Green Bay - The first designated Green Bay in Friarstown has been installed and is most welcome. Only green waste, (biodegradable, i.e. grass/plant cuttings) is permitted here & all holders are required to respect the rules.

Laugh a Little

Q: What do you call a grumpy and short-tempered gardener?

A: A Snap Dragon.

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit;
Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad

We'll be back in July'17, send us your news!

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