

Masterclasses at Moor green Allotments 2020

Our program of Masterclasses will recommence in March and will as far as possible be on the 2nd Saturday of the month.

We gather together from 10.00am in the clubhouse/pavilion for tea/coffee and informal conversation before a 10.30 start.

A typical morning has 2 parts. The advertised topic of the day, which will include practical demonstration and site walk as weather permits; and an open Q&A/discussion time. The opening conversations will often determine the sequence at any given meeting.

A monthly actions guide will be available, and sharing of experience is encouraged.

We expect both experienced and novice ploholders to be at these meetings, including regulars. Presenters are confident that there will be practical benefits for all who attend.

The RHS Magazine 'The Garden' & 'Which Gardening' are used as references for best current practice.

Proposed Program

14th March: Winter pruning established/neglected Apples & Pears. I have permission of a ploholder to use their trees for a worked example. We will also visit the trees grafted in 2019.

11th April: Your Soil & How to Manage It. We had a lot of interest last year in "No Dig" gardening. We will continue to explore the benefits and difficulties of the practice. Annual & Perennial weeds, seed beds & soil temperature.

9th May: Fruit Trees & Bushes. Chiefly but not exclusively Apples & Pears. Actions to take before during and after flowering. Pollination, Pests & Diseases.

13th June: Your Soil & How to Manage It. Watering as it affects different plants. Weeds, waste & composting. Continuity & rotation.

11th July: Q&A Open meeting

August: No Meeting

12th September: Harvesting & Preserving. Jams & Pickles. Bring & exchange recipes using unusual ingredients.

10th October: Final meeting of the year. Winter work. Site hygiene & Bonfires. Triumphs and disappointments. Record keeping & Planning.