

Old Lane Allotment Association Newsletter No.8 Sept. 17

News

In the last month there were 235 visitors to our website, www.oldlanelotss.com, with 4,608 views.

1. **AGM 2nd October from 7pm. South Leeds Conservative Club** Please bring

money or cheques to pay plot fees.

2. Also if you want to order & pay for seed potatoes for 2018 please bring King's seed order and payment.

4. Anyone who hasn't got a Kings seed catalogue & order form contact Mark Burton plot 14.

5. We have plots available and if any plot holders knows of anyone wanting to rent a plot see Mark Burton plot 14 or Tony Paine plot 38. We have currently no names on our waiting list for plots.

6. Anyone wishing to be involved with the committee or help with some duties in running the site there is a form in the toilet area for people to put there names down.

Closing date 29/9/2017 and details will be discussed at AGM.

7. A thank you to plot holders for numbering there plots as per last newsletter.

Of Mice and Men

A big thank you to the local Beeston & Holbeck ward councillors who have kindly given us £100 for our site The money is from a council fund called "Members Improvements in the Community and the Environment" (MICE) scheme.

History of Allotments part 2

1st World War

By 1914 there were somewhere between 450,000 and 600,000 allotments in England, and although the 1907 Smallholdings and Allotments Act had forced local authorities into providing allotments, there was still some resistance. That resistance soon faded as the severity of

the impact that Germany's blockades had on food supplies came into realisation. There was then a serious move to increase the number of allotments, and local authorities were given powers to turn any derelict land into allotments. By 1917 there were over 1.5 million allotments in England.

After the war, demand for allotments was still high, and returning servicemen joined the waiting lists for plots. Unfortunately much of the land that was requisitioned for the war (50,000 acres) was returned to its original purpose – often recreational land and the interest in allotments began to decline.

Measures were taken to protect plotholders and some were offered compensation to vacate their plots, and by 1929 there were less than 1M plots left.