

May 2009

Dear Tenant,

ALLOTMENT WATCH SMARTWATER PROPERTY PROTECTION DAY

We have received notification from Sussex Police that it is their intention to hold another **Allotment Watch SmartWater Property Protection day on Sunday 14th June between 11.30am and 12.30pm at the Gravits Lane allotments**. This is a free service, recognised nationally and items are registered on a national database. Please try to attend so that you can register your gardening equipment and take steps to protect your property in the event of theft.

HOW DOES SMARTWATER WORK?

SmartWater is a Police Approved Forensic Property Marking Solution that is similar in concept to DNA. The solution is simply painted onto any item of property and left for a few minutes to dry, each bottle contains a unique chemical DNA "barcode" that is registered on a secure database to the owner of the items marked.

Studies have shown that the most powerful deterrent for any criminal is the thought that they might get caught.

Thieves simply cannot risk handling stolen goods coded with SmartWater because 'forensic profiling' means they can be linked directly to the crime... often long after the event. Stronger and more accurate than DNA itself, SmartWater deters criminals because they know that they will be arrested and convicted.

Just code your possessions with SmartWater and your unique formula enables them to be forensically identified.

By displaying the SmartWater warning labels you will let criminals know that your property is protected. It's as simple as that!

RENTAL INCREASE FOR 2009-2010

I am pleased to advise you that at the Allotments Sub-Committee meeting last week, Councillors agreed not to increase the rents for 2009-2010. The annual rental will therefore remain the same as in 2008-2009 and rental reminders will be sent out in early September for payment by 1st October 2009.

VOTING PROCESS - MOST IMPROVED PLOT - ORIGINAL AND RE-ESTABLISHED AREAS

As you will recall, last year it was decided that the voting forms to enable tenants to vote for the Most Improved Plot are sent out too late in the season, and this makes it difficult to judge the plots.

As a result, the Sub-Committee agreed that voting forms should go out earlier. This seemed to work quite well last year and helped increase the level of votes that the Council received. This practice will be repeated again this year. A voting form for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place for the Most Improved Plot - Original and Re-established areas is therefore enclosed for your use. The closing date for entries will be 1st October and forms need to be returned to Bognor Regis Town Council at anytime between now and October 1st. Tenants' representatives will also have extra copies in case anyone mislays their form. Please show your support for the hard work your fellow tenants have put into their plots and vote.

YOUNG ACHIEVERS AWARDS

The Young Achievers Awards will again be presented this year at the Allotment Holders A.G.M. If your children or grandchildren have helped you tending your plot and you would like them to receive a certificate for their hard work on the allotments, please let us know. Please supply the name and age of your nominee, as well as a reason why they deserve a certificate and we can arrange for one to be presented to them.

RE-ESTABLISHED SITE PADLOCKS

It has been reported to me that several allotment holders have been experiencing problems with the padlocks on the gates to the Re-established allotment site. As a result replacement padlocks have been supplied so hopefully this should resolve the problem. Please let me know if any further problems occur.

All that remains for me to say is I hope you all have a fruitful growing season and please remember to use your vote for the Most Improved Plot.

Yours faithfully,

Glenna Frost
Deputy Town Clerk