



A warm welcome...

Penwortham Holme West Allotments is the largest single allotment site in the Preston City Council area, it contains approx 160 allotments and this will gradually increase in the near future with the current legislation from Preston City Council and the Governments determination to encourage the use of allotments.

Interest has certainly increased with a large waiting list and to encourage this one third of the Plot Holders are members of the National Allotment Association with new members encouraged to join when they obtain their Plot.

The Association have a dedicated number of people who serve at Committee level and most members are committed to improving and maintaining the Allotment Site.



To this end numerous initiatives have been put into place to help the Allotments increase security and a much nicer place for themselves and families to enjoy life to the full and to take exercise and eat healthier with their own crops and sharing a community spirit.

These initiatives include holding Work Days (to help clear certain areas), Meetings with the Police Crime Prevention (to help combat vandalism which most allotments suffer from) this also lead to a Police Marking Day in which Community Officers attended and marked Plot Holders equipment and got to know each other, Plant Days (where plants can be swapped or bought) and also raffles to help raise funds.



Improved fencing

A major Initiative was the raising of Funds to erect a 425 metre Security Fence along one side of the allotments. These funds have been raised with some extremely hard work by our Fund Raising Manager and help to erect the fencing was achieved with talks with the Community Payback Organisation (Lancashire Probation Services) and this project is very close to completion with just a few metres to be erected.

Further discussions with the Community Payback revealed that they are willing to help with other projects, i.e. Path Clearance, Plot Clearing for the Senior Citizens and Disabled members and I am sure the Committee will take up some of these options in the future.





Heritage Orchard

Another major Initiative was to create a Heritage Orchard and Wild Flower meadow on a piece of waste land unsuitable for allotments. This is well under way with clearance of the land and funds obtained for the purchase of the trees and permission given by Preston CC. This again was using the Community Payback and holding work days has got us into a position to get the trees in this year with a little more work. It should see a waste land turned into communal use and a pleasant area just to sit and relax (maybe after a little light work in maintenance).

On the actual site 28 new plot holders have been welcomed in this current year with approx. 8 sites remaining at the present time. These plot holders are given help and advice (with a booklet containing various items, enclosed with this introduction), encouragement to use our website (www.prestonallotments.co.uk) and its many links to other information.

At our allotment site we encourage and indeed need a good spirit because of its size in trying to keep its appearance and practical uses as a good place to meet other members of the various communities that have plots on this site and enjoy the current amenities and future ones that we are sure will develop with the aid of groups including Community Payback, Wildlife Trust, Preston City Council, Lancashire County Council, Lancashire Police Force and many Local Groups with Grant Aids and helpful advice.

Recycling and Composting

In fact another recent development has been with Lancashire CC who are willing to supply the Allotments with all their recollected compost bins and deliver to site with an expected 30 in the next couple of weeks. These will be offered to all plot holders and when we have enough on this site we shall offer them to all other sites in Preston.



We hope you enjoy your visit and take back good thoughts of us. Please find enclosed a map of the allotments showing new tenants and current projects, along with an information booklet which I distribute to new tenants.

David Green

Site Supervisor and Committee Member

