



# NADCAA

Newton Abbot & District Co-Operative Allotment Association

## AUGUST NEWSLETTER 2021

**Hedgehog rescue at Decoy.** Chrystal found a one in distress and took it to the hedgehog 'hospital, where it recovered and is now back into Decoy.



**Bacon Buttie Event**, enjoyed at Decoy, organised by Jane. Yummy cakes provided by Teresa, Asta, Meryl and Jane. Mike was the Chef. Picture left of Asta's cake (decorated with wild strawberries and flowers) taken by Alan who helped organise things on the day.

**CURCUBITACIN TOXIN.** This can be caused when seeds are contaminated by cross pollination with wild plants, and other stresses such as lack of adequate water are some of the factors, that are believed to cause increased cucurbitacin in squash, pumpkins, courgettes, and cucumbers. If any plant tastes bitter spit it out and rinse your mouth out as it can have a really devastating effect. [Poisonous courgette warning](#) | [Gardening advice A-Z](#) | [Brighton & Hove Allotment Federation \(bhaf.org.uk\)](#)

**Coach Road Wildlife/social area.** From Jackie - The sheds are up - one side for storage and the other for social events and the pond has been dug. There is still lots to do. Help is needed from weeding to path/slab laying & planting. Join us on August 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> at 10am. Tea and cakes will be provided.



**Decoy Shop - Price increases are coming!!** Firstly, Fry and I would like to say a big thank you to all the shop volunteers who have helped keep the shop open during these trying times, your help and time is really valued. More volunteers are welcome, especially from the other allotment fields, just a couple of hours a month is all we ask.

Although Covid restrictions have been lifted, we ask that you still consider and respect others when at the shop. We have been restocking the shop as products become available to us, but please be aware that all supplies are going up in price at a ridiculous rate e.g., bamboo canes will be up in price by 65 %, timber by 20 % compost by 15-20 %. We currently have a good selection of composts, canes, and wood at this year's competitive prices, so we strongly recommend stocking up now!! **Kevin and Fry**



**Butterfly watch.** Let us know what butterflies you see in 15 minutes on your plot at. [info@nadcaa.org.uk](mailto:info@nadcaa.org.uk) or before August 8th on <http://bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org>.

**Allotment Tips:** 1. As you harvest summer crops, spread phacelia or green manure. It reduces weed growth and the flowers are good for pollinating insects. Cut down and leave lying on top of the soil before it goes to seed. Cover with membrane for the winter to trap the carbon in the soil. Studies show that 30% to 50% of the original carbon in soil has been lost into the atmosphere. To keep the soil fertile, we all need to take better care of it. Tim. 2. Rob Pike. Oops. Rob reminded me that you need to leave an inch above the soil when using beer traps to stop other beneficial insects diving in. Any other tips let me know. Meryl Basham. **Date to note A.G.M September 18<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm at the Recreational Trust, Newton Abbot**