



Newsletter No 9 Summer 2012

Officially Open for Growing!



The Chair of the Kelsick Trust cutting the ribbon (OK, the shears didn't work and it took a second go with a pruning knife...)

The official opening of the Kelsick Allotments site on 30th June was a great success: lots of plot holders came, and lots of our funders and visitors too. There was a chance to look round the plots and have a bite to eat. There were a couple of short speeches, a ribbon was cut and an oak tree planted. There was a piece in the paper (with pictures) and there's a short video on You Tube. Thank you to all who helped, and all who came. Thank you once again to the organisations that have helped with funding. And thank you to the weather for holding off in this wet, wet summer.



Plot holders and guests scoff at the opening

AGM

Now we're past the longest day it's time to start thinking about the autumn: which means time to put the date for the Association AGM in your diary. It'll be on Monday 15th October at the Parish Centre at 7pm. It's an important date in the Association calendar as we choose the committee who run things and decide on plot rents and policies for the next year. It's a chance to ask questions and help decide what happens over the next year. We will be needing a new secretary: let us know if you'd be interested in standing. We'll be talking about what's gone (and grown) well this year, and what hasn't done so well. And we'll be talking about what sort of structures (like sheds and greenhouses) we might be able to put on our plots. So come along and join in....

Gardenshare offer

We have been offered the use of a gardenshare in the Skelwith area. Whilst it's not been used this year, the ground has previously been cultivated for many years and is an absolutely lovely little spot. If you're interested in finding out more, please give Pete a ring on 015394 33858 or email

amblesideallotments@googlemail.com



The bed method of growing demonstrated

Cyberplots

If the weather's too wet for gardening and you're stuck in front of a computer screen we can be found at <http://www.amblesideallotments.org.uk/>and on facebookand there are a couple of videos on Youtube (just search under Ambleside Allotments).

Get in touch

We now have 26 ploholders growing their own food in the area- but we're sure that there are more people who would like a plot. If you are one of those people, get in touch and make sure we know about you. If you join you will have priority on the waiting list when something comes up- there may well be some plots on offer in the autumn. If you're someone who has some land we could use, get in touch too: whether it's a site for rent, a garden share or even land for sale we'd be interested in talking to you.



The London Chard (and Gherkin)

Some things to be doing soon

- Sowing lettuces to overwinter (I find Valdor works really well sown in August, then transplanted and kept under glass (old windows) for an early spring crop.
- Sowing oriental mustards and chicories such as raddichio to overwinter.
- Ordering garlic to be planted in October.
- Sowing sweet pea seeds indoors in late September. Keep on a sunny window sill over the winter.
- This year I shall sow Aquadulce Claudia broad beans under glass in November, keep them under glass and hope they give me an early crop.

Thank You!

The Kelsick plots have benefitted from a number of organisations who have helped us with funding/ provided items:

- Lake District National Park Authority Sustainable Development Fund
- Lakes Parish Council
- Cumbria Community Foundation
- Lakeland Limited
- The Woodland Trust
- Cumbria County Council Neighbourhood Forum
- An anonymous donor
- And most recently, Windermere and Ambleside Lions

Who are we?

Ambleside Allotment Association was formed by local people in 2009 to campaign for allotment provision in the Ambleside area. You can email us on amblesideallotments@googlemail.com or visit our website

<http://www.amblesideallotments.org.uk>