



## **Canalside Community Food**

a community supported agriculture scheme

newsl e t t e r

no. 1, Monday 19 February 2007

- First work day a success
- Primary veg area now ready for planting
- The first seeds have been sown!
- Canalside gets good publicity in local press
- Vegetable shares going fast!

Our first work day on Saturday 17 February was a great success. Huge thanks to everybody that turned out to help with the not-so-glamorous job of muck spreading! Our initial aim for the day was to get some rabbit fencing up around the first vegetable area, but due to the fence posts not being delivered, we changed plans and opted for getting the manure spread instead. We had about 35 people (adults and kids alike) all in all, and got the manure spread over the proposed area, plus we also managed to get a small stretch of fencing done as well. It was really great to be able to put faces to names at last and to see people working on the land was really exciting.

As you can see in the picture on the right, we have now been able to



plough this first veg area, so it is now ready and waiting for potatoes, onions, leeks, spring greens and broad beans to be planted.

The growers have been over to Ryton Organic Gardens for a couple of days seed planting now. We are very fortunate in that Garden Organic have allowed us to use some of their heated greenhouse space in order for us to raise our first seedlings. This is an enormous help to us as it allows us to get ahead with seed sowing while the outside temperatures are still too low for outdoor planting.

Below is a list of things that have been planted so far, with some of the more interesting named varieties in brackets:

Spring onions	Tomatoes (Purple beefsteak, see picture above)
Broad beans	Cucumbers
Leeks	Chillies (Ring o Fire)
Cabbages (Pixie)	Aubergines (Black Beauty)
Lettuce (Delight, Paris Island)	Peppers (Fiesta)

We've had some great publicity recently for the project. Not only did we have our own feature article (alongside Gaia) in the Courier's February Choices magazine, but we are also regularly mentioned in Jenny Sansom's bi-monthly *Green Column*, also in the Courier. We've already had some good responses from this coverage, which is great, and we're hoping to have another publicity push in the coming months when there will be more to see up and running on the land.

**Orders for veg shares are now going fairly quickly, so if you would like to take up a share for this first season, I would encourage you to send in your Veg Share Subscription form a.s.a.p. (along with your Membership form, if you are not already a Member). You should have copies of these forms already, but they are also available to download from our website.**

**Please remember that in order for this first season to be a success, we need a minimum of 70 veg share**

**members, so keep spreading the word and get your  
friends to sign up too!**



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