







Canalside Community Food

a community supported agriculture scheme



n e w s l e t t e r

no. 4, Thursday 28 June 2007

-  Battling with the weather (still!)
-  Promoting Canalside at the Peace Festival
-  First social event a success
-  First shares harvested, collected and eaten!

Well, I'm sure it can't have escaped anyone's notice that we've been having some pretty severe weather over the last couple of weeks! The downpour on Thursday 14th June was unbelievable (we estimated to get about 3 inches of rain in 4 hours) and, as such, did cause some damage to some of the vegetable area. The rain poured in rivers down our new farm track, washing away the half completed parking area and carrying on through several vegetable beds. Luckily most of these were not yet planted up, but we did unfortunately lose the majority of our squash crop. The growers have actually been able to replant the whole crop (in a different area), but we are now dependent on some good weather to produce a healthy crop. So, fingers crossed for a long, hot summer!



We spent the weekend after the floods at the Leamington Peace Festival promoting the project, to great success. Against all odds, the sun was shining and we had a really positive response from people passing by, with a number of new members signing up for veg shares on the spot. We even managed to make a bit of extra money for the project by selling some leftover plants, which was an added bonus.



Saturday 23rd June saw in our first social event, in celebration of the Summer Solstice on 21st June. Again, the forecast was not good, but apart from a bit of rain for an hour or so, we were amazingly lucky with the weather, and by 7 o'clock it had cleared up into a beautiful evening with some lovely sun shining down on our small group around the bonfire. Many thanks to all of you who were able to come - special thanks to those of you who were able to help with some well needed weeding, and to those of you who brought cakes, biscuits, chocolate, sweets and whatever other lovely delights!



We weren't expecting a huge turnout, but (including children and dogs) we had enough people to make a party out of it, and what with some salads made with produce picked fresh that day, a BBQ to cook our sausages on, a fire to sit around, and Chris and his guitar to get people singing some songs, we were away. |

The 23rd June also saw our first full veg shares being harvested and quite a few members came to collect their first bags of freshly picked veg. Many thanks to everyone for their patience in waiting for some of the veg to arrive! Included in this first share were:

Baby Spinach

Basil

Beetroot

Broad Beans

Courgettes

Cucumber

Lettuce

New Potatoes

Radishes

Rocket

Spring Greens

Spring Onions



So far, we've had some great feedback from people, which is always nice to receive. Here's one of the first members to collect his share, Simon, with his boxful of fresh veg.

Our veg membership is on the increase, and we now have over 40 subscribers. We still have a fair way to go to reach

our target for this first season, so if you haven't done so already, please remember to send in your Veg Share Subscription forms a.s.a.p! Remember to keep spreading the word, and get your friends and family signed up as well.



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