

Jubilee Road Allotments, Perivale

January 2017



The allotments were established as part of the expansion of London suburbs during 1930's, surrounded by the triangle of housing built on Jubilee Road, George V Way and Bilton Road. The allotments are managed by Ealing Council with a locally appointed, voluntary, site manager providing local liaison and collection of rents.

The earth is generally good, but with high clay content. Regular rotation of crops and replenishment of organic matter are essential to good results. The members prove themselves successful in cultivating a wide range of fruit, vegetables and flowers. Raised beds are beneficial for some crops. In addition, bees, chickens and geese are cared for on site.

The site covers about 2.98 acres (1.2ha), the majority of 90 plots are approximately 150 square yards (5 pole or 125 sq. meters). With care, a 5 pole plot is adequate to provide fresh fruit and vegetables for a family through most of a year. A few plots have small shed or greenhouse, though a simple storage box works well for many. A mains water butt is nearby for majority of plots.

Our collective effort to improve plots, remove rubbish and clean up unused plots was rewarded with a 'Commended' Award from Ealing in Bloom in 2016. This is wonderful encouragement to all our members who, in addition to working their own plots, have contributed to the overall improvement.

Supporting the work, and general plot maintenance, the Jubilee Allotment Garden Society has a small annual membership fee to provide strimmer and rotavator. In addition, social events are arranged through summer months.

Prior to this collective effort many plots had fallen into disrepair. At end of 2015, with more than 15 vacant plots we decided it would be beneficial to attempt some repair and make them more attractive to new members, which proved true. This took a great deal of effort on behalf of a handful of dedicated members. The work steadily progressed through spring, clearing rubbish, rubble, plastics and metal, weeding and digging. Where possible we used green manure on the cleared plots. Phacelia faired best being fast growing and seemed to prefer conditions better than others. The green manure was left to flower and some allowed to seed, which has been gathered for sowing next year.

It takes time and effort to bring allotment plots and overall site up to good standard. Our work continues, including raising funds for onsite toilets and provision of smaller plots.

For further information and vacancies contact site manager at jubilee.allotments.perivale@gmail.com or Ealing Council at allotments@ealing.gov.uk.