

SALTERSGILL ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

Management Committee

In March 2014, as negotiations to establish the Saltersgill Association were well advanced, a general meeting of plot-holders was called in order to establish an interim Management Committee.

At the meeting 12 people put their names forward to serve on an interim Committee and, to avoid the need for an election to be held at that time, the 12 volunteers were duly accepted as interim committee members.

Under the terms of the Association's Constitution the composition of the Committee should be reviewed each year at the time of the Annual General Meeting.

The twelve members of the initial committee are:

- Peter Whelan (Chair) – plot 146
- Marvin Adkin (Secretary) – plot144A
- Ian Ford (Treasurer) – plot 104
- John Appleby – plot 100
- Laurissa Papprell – plots 86-87
- Keith Lewis – plot 93
- Billy Holdsworth – plots 124-125
- Chris Allen – plot 32
- Catherine Howell – plot 85
- Guy Wilson – plot43
- Ros Waugh – plot149
- Nigel Reid – plot 131

To get in touch with a Committee member please go to the contacts page on this website. [*Click here.*](#)

Profiles of Committee Members

Peter Whelan (Chairman) – plot 146

I have now had my allotment since March 2010. The site was a tip, literally, when I took it over. I spent the first year, with the help of my neighbour Kevin, to transform it into an allotment.

I am passionate about the Saltersgill site and will do all I can to turn it into a thriving community. I try to grow a variety of fruit and veg, I had not grown anything before 2011 so I am still learning. Outside of the allotment I enjoy many sports practically following the Boro. I also enjoy cooking, travel and reading.

Ian Ford (Treasurer) - plot104

I was born in 1946 and lived in South Banks until 1960. My father had 'gardens' in South Bank behind the Gas Works on Normanby Road. I spent a lot of time down the garden helping (messing about), and where I kept a few pigeons, tumblers and high fliers. We also kept hens and my father grew all the usual vegetables but also 'specialised' in growing chrysanthemums.

When we moved to Normanby we gave up the South Bank allotments and took a couple of plots on the Teesville site behind Lime Road. Whilst there we gardened and also bred rabbits, New Zealand Whites, Californian Whites, Dutch and English. A neighbouring garden holder had aviaries and bred Canaries and British Finches, a hobby which I became interested in.

I moved to Middlesbrough in 1972 and kept up the gardens at Teesville until about 1996. I then obtained an allotment on the Saltersgill site which I continue to garden.

Keith Lewis – plot 93

My wife, Jan and I have had a plot at Saltersgill for about 10 years. Although we have quite a big garden at home, it is surrounded by mature trees which makes growing vegetables very difficult. Hence our decision to take on an allotment as well.

Although now retired, we are still very busy people with a wide range of other hobbies and voluntary work commitments, and so class ourselves very much as "part-time" allotment gardeners. Whilst some growers do spend all of their spare time at the allotment, not everyone can do this. We find that it is still possible to keep on top of a plot and have enough successes to make it worthwhile and rewarding.

There is nothing more satisfying than coming home from the allotment with freshly picked produce that you have grown, and sitting down a couple of hours later to taste the fruits of your labours! The fresh air and exercise also make you feel better too!

Catherine Howell – plot 85

I've only just taken on my allotment, but I've had a lot of experience growing food at community sites and in my garden. I love being able to pick fresh produce and cook it into something tasty for my children! My big passion is fruit, particularly apples, and I'm fascinated by the history of fruit growing in the Middlesbrough area. I think it's really important that people know how to grow food and that we don't lose the skills gardeners have. I don't have much spare time, but I love being outdoors, especially in the countryside, and I like making things too - everything from knitting to willow weaving!

Laurissa Papprell - plots 86-87

I have always wanted to create a little paradise of my own. And I have one - my allotment! I have had it for more than 8 years. I love to watch the plants grow throughout the season with all the vibrant colours in the garden, hearing the birds singing, chatting along with neighbours, changing the layout design of the garden and

many others. I enjoy being part of the team who help to improve the site, sharing ideas with other people, bringing people together and making it a happier place. Growing, harvesting, eating, painting, going to the beach, making things (don't ask what), exercising or doing nothing! They are some of my favourite things to do.

Chris Allen – plot 32

I've always been a gardener but this never amounted to anything more than planting a few border plants and keeping the lawns neat and trim. I've had my plot just over a year and having had a very successful 1st harvest my partner and I have now caught the 'Allotment Bug' in a big way. The foundations are down for a new shed and we hope to be using it in just a few weeks' time as a base for the propagation and rearing of plants and seeds for next year's crop. We already have plans for planting and the crop layout underway.

Along with cultivation and my committee responsibilities, I'm a keen cyclist and try to get out on my bike as often as I can. You may even see me up and down the allotment avenues from time to time.

With the new committee set up at Saltersgill I envisage a bright future for the allotments and all of the associate members. Signs of improvement are already beginning to show due to the hard work and enthusiasm of committee members.

John Appleby – plot 100

Prior to my retirement I was the Construction Manager for a large American multinational company engaged mainly in the petrochemical and power generation fields.

My hobbies include reading, photography and, of course, allotmenting. I am now in my 7th year and I was absolutely delighted when we gained self-managed status. We can finally become masters of our own destiny.

We now have a Committee with ambition, dedication and the ability to run an efficient and profitable site, giving all members the opportunity to join in schemes which will enhance their gardening pleasure. Such as well-maintained infrastructure including hedges, rubbish collection, seed catalogues, composting facilities, along with a site compound & shop these & many other things are well within our grasp. I look forward to being part of the Committee, to drive these issues forward.