**ALLOTMENT SOCIETY**

Unusually, we started the year with several vacant plots. We are now full again and starting a waiting list. If you are interested in the chance of a plot next January get your name on the list now – contact Tom Martin on 813320.

In the last issue we commented on the late, cold, wet start to the season. This time we note the hot, parched and unworkable, concrete soil of early July, emphasising the extremes of weather we now experience. The birds have been looking for moisture and un-netted soft fruit has been a target with whole bushes being stripped overnight. It will be interesting to see what gets on to the Village Gala show bench this year. Sweet corn and squashes look to be popular.

We were fortunate that our early season competition was judged before the drought and there was a generally high standard of cultivation. It was good to see some new names challenging the established order and there’s all to play for come the autumn contest.