

✿ My Allotment Diary

No sooner had the 'Beast of the East' swept through, we faced the 'mini' version – March certainly didn't provide great growing weather! My trays of seedlings have now been moved back to the greenhouse after spending time on the kitchen table for safe keeping. My autumn sown sweet peas suffered a little during the really cold days so I probably should have moved them indoors too, but overall, most things have coped ok.

March marked the start of the busy time at the allotments. Preparation of the ground continued, despite the weather and we are particularly pleased to welcome new members; Ryan & Rebeca Prendergast and Christiane Andersen!

We all gathered to have a good spring clean around the site – with the shed now all tidy, the paths maintained, and most importantly the much abused lawn mower has been repaired (again!) and is ready for use (Thanks David!)

I picked my first flowers – daffodils bringing a little sunshine inside amongst all the snow! I also completed the sowing of seeds for my cutting garden, and finished pruning roses and potting up my new dahlias so that they get a head start... I'll probably spend the next month or so worrying about more frosts, but that's the price of impatience!

On other plots, spring potatoes and broad beans are going in, along with garlic and onions. Parsnips and early carrots can be sown now, and by the looks of it, it won't be long before the first rhubarb is picked!

Sadly the sunshine will bring the usual weeds, and the first of the pests, but nothing we can't handle! And, with Gardeners World back on the television, spring must finally arrive! Happy Days!

If you'd like to join us at the allotments; please email us at: helen.ripper@outlook.com.



