



## Happy New Year

2019 is now well under way. The spring flowers are blooming, the frogs are spawning and the allotment rent bills are all settled. Great to be back after the winter as the site wakes up. Your site committee has just had it's first meeting and fixed up dates for the year's attractions, more later. We also welcome new ploholders into the site, seven this year which is more than in previous years, but all have waited at least eight years. Welcome to Inverleith!

Let's hope for a successful growing season and plenty of fresh vegetables and fruit to enjoy.

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## Locking the Gates

We've had a couple of instances of the gates being locked up from the inside where the locks couldn't be unlocked from the outside. This has resulted in some rather frustrated ploholders being stuck outside.

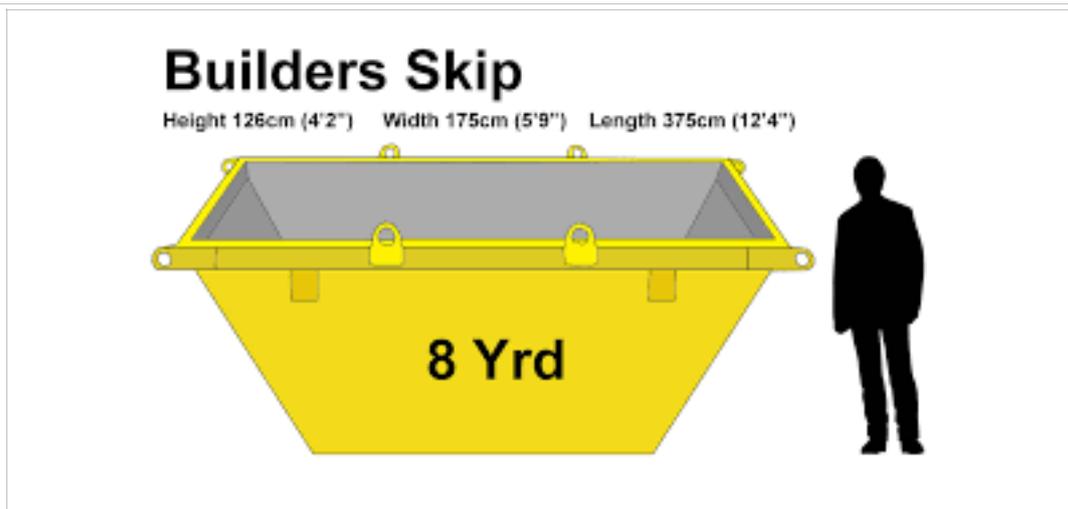
The padlock must be locked so access to the lock is possible from both sides. In other words - don't put the lock through the hole in the end of the sliding bar as it can't be reached from outside. Thanks.

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## Skip and Tidy Up Weekend Announced

An 8 yard Builders Skip has been arranged for the weekend of **April 13th and 14th**. It will be available from 10.30am on both Saturday and Sunday mornings.

However, we have to be careful about what goes in as the hire company expects to be able to recycle EVERYTHING. For this reason we will have plholders supervising what is dumped. The reality is that a lot of it is taken away for someone else to find a use for it. We're a strange lot!



Please put the date in your diary for your annual shed or 'pile of useful stuff' clearout. Let's try to reduce the amount of building material lying about.

If you are planning a bonfire yourself please try to only burn dry material which creates less smoke. Also bear in mind that treated timber on a fire gives off poisonous gases containing arsenic amongst other nasties. Better to put in the skip.

Similarly, don't dump bags of weeds on the communal composting bins beside the notice that says 'FULL - Don't Dump Weeds Here'. When you cut down a tree YOU should arrange for it's disposal. Don't dump on the site where someone else has the job of clearing it away.

Why would anyone do that? Yet they do.

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## **Sadly, the Rats are Back**

We've had reports of rat droppings in a plotholder's shed. This has been reported to the Council who will be baiting the area around in the hope we can eradicate them before they can get established.

Rats like an easy life; a cosy shed and a food supply. Please bear this in mind and don't provide food and lodgings. Secure your shed and don't bring in surplus cooked and processed food from home for composting.



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## **On a Happier Note...**

The dates of our various events are announced:

**Annual General Meeting and Social** - Sunday 19th May at 2pm - your chance to join us, talk to us and enjoy a glass of wine and a few nibbles.

**Tattie Boiling** - Sunday 28th July at 2pm - dig up a few of your potatoes and bring them along to share with others. Last year over 20 varieties were enjoyed with lashings of butter and whatever else you like to bring along.

**Annual Show** - Sunday 1st September - our ever-larger annual flower and vegetable show. Details to follow. Which reminds me, we need to buy more tables.



