

THE POOR CLOSE ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION



From the Newark Road entrance towards the SW

The land that now forms the allotments was bequeathed to the village in 1699, for the benefit of the poor. Produce and rents derived were distributed twice a year to the needy. Later the income from rents was used to help finance the Baptist School in North Collingham and for other charitable purposes.

During the war years (1939 -45) the field was given over to a local farmer, possibly to grow produce for the war effort. In 1946, the Poor Close Allotment Association was founded. A well-known local resident, Mrs Daphne FitzHerbert, took the initiative with guidance from the National Allotments Society to which we remain members but now boasting the splendid title of [The National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners.](#)

During its earlier years, indeed right into the late nineties, the membership remained small numbering at best 12. Today, the Association boasts 43 members gardening 59 quarter plots each measuring approx 30 x 8 metres, testimony to the increasing appetite for wholesome, additive-free food and modern awareness of environmental issues such as land management and food miles. You will find the land to the South

of the recently purchased extension to the [Collingham Cricket Club](#).

Allotment Jottings in the Fleet Parish Magazine chronicle the trials and tribulations of our members. During the year, we sell surplus produce at the [2020 Green Vision](#) markets, rhubarb at the May Fair and organise social activities for our members, such as a Christmas meal at the Kings Head.

If you would like to join us then contact: -

Peter Dutton 01-636 892681 / peterrcd@tiscali.co.uk