KAILYARD ROTA DIARY REPORTS - 2019

NAME	MONTH	COMMENTS	WORK	SORTED
			REQUIRED	V
Colin Miller	January	Plants, gate and fence all OK. I removed/uprooted a few tiny	Amend typo and reprint new sign. (JC)	V
		weeds with a trowel (useful to take one along). Ground not	Reinstate new sign (BF)	V
		frozen, and air temperature well above freezing. Rhubarb shoots look healthy. Where the uprights support the bent		
		sticks in the middle row there was an empty hole in the		
		ground, while a stick of the appropriate size was leaning		
		against an inside corner of the fence, looking guilty. I put the stick in the hole in the ground. Other than this, there was no		
		evidence of incursion by animals or people.		
		The sign is showing evidence of water ingress a bit of		
		staining and bulging, but should last the winter OK. The attached photo doesn't show this! There is a typo in the PO		
		Box number, which says 115535, when it should read 11535.		
		The water in the well is (at a guess) about 18 inches below ground level. No litter on the site, and the buildings all look fine.		
		Time on site: three-quarters of an hour.		
		Attached are photos of the plot and the sign.		
Jackie Cumberbirch	February	Visited site on 18th Feb Rhubarb now starting to appear see photo.	Jackie still to do sign.	V
		Site looks good. No issues within kailyard	Work required to cut back broom and gorse at well and at Shepherd's Lodge	V
		Will print out new poster and put up on site at work party on 9th March.		

Gary Middleton	March	 24/3/19: I popped up and checked out the kailyard. Reported that fresh broom cuttings have been laid on the first 2 rows which apparently had been laid as an experiment for suppressing the weeds. Offered to add more bracken to the end path. Everything is coming through nicely. 31/3/19: As requested I added more bracken to end path. 	Add more bracken to end path as a weed suppressant.	V
Chris Foster	March	General 27/3/19: Pruned back the autumn fruiting raspberries and fed all the fruit bushes with potash.	-	-
Andrew Wainwright	April	-		
Barry Foster	May	 "10/5/2019 All growing well. Cut grass edges back. Cleared weeds and raspberry suckers. Found very tiny Sawfly(?) larvae on Gooseberries, Red and White Currants. Removed those seen and dug soil out around base of affected shrubs. Will need to watch further. Orangey pupa found in soil, checking out! 	Check Sawfly evidence again asap and remove any found. Check orangey pupa. Jackie still to do sign.	√ √
		 30/5/2019 Sawfly still present. Picked off as many as possible and turned over the soil below plants. Gooseberries pretty much defoliated, White and Red Currents not quite so bad. The "Essons" Gooseberry seems worst affected. Gooseberries forming on "Crown Bob" so put supports in for some of the branches. Fencing still stock-proof with some slight repairs needed. Pulled a few weeds out. Raspberries growing 	Keep checking for Sawfly over the next few months. Minor repairs required to fence.	V

		well and Blackcurrants showing plenty of fruit. The Rhubarb is looking healthy and thriving but is not being picked this year in order to help it establish.		
Karen Main	June	 I've been up to inspect kailyard again on evening of Tuesday 18th June and yesterday, 29th June. On both occasions, I cut down the grass around fencing which is still in good order. The gooseberries, especially, middle bush, leaves almost devoid of leaves but plenty of fruit. Again, I could not see any sawfly – only the damage. I removed the raspberry suckers which are growing vigorously right now. The blackcurrant bushes are fruiting very well. However, on a few of the central stems, the leaves are showing signs of yellowing/mottling and curling at edges. I thought it might be mildew but no signs of powderiness on leaves. I discarded these leaves as best I could to prevent spread. A few leaves (3 to be precise) had clearly been eaten (maybe by sawfly) but this damage seemed isolated at the moment. I added a few more old branches to prop up stems. I removed quite a lot of small weeds to keep them under control. I did not disturb soil too much to prevent water loss as it was extremely dry yesterday. However, probably got a good watering later on with thunder plump. 	 Keep a watch on: Gooseberries, Red and White Currants for possible sawfly re- occurrence. Blackcurrant re discolouring of leaves. 	√ √

Chris Foster	July	General 6/7/19 Gave the Kailyard a quick check. The Blackcurrants and one Gooseberry bush are coming along well and should be ready for picking later this month or early August. It does not look like the red and white currants are going to produce much if anything this year which is disappointing. Not sure why. The Gooseberry bushes are recovering from the sawfly attack and producing new leaves. However, there are still sawfly on them. Picked off a good number so looking reasonably clean at the moment, but they obviously need constant checking. The weeds need pulling out on a regular basis which currently we seem to be on top of.	Keep checking on the sawfly problem. Keep pulling out the weeds!	√ √
Jo Vergunst	July	 Inspection on 17 July. The fencing and general area are in good condition. The gooseberries are now largely back in leaf and are growing well. We couldn't see any sawfly. There is one bush with fruit (red gooseberries) that looks just about ready to pick. The blackcurrant bushes had a small number of discoloured leaves (orange / red). The fruit is ready to pick and looks like a good crop. Raspberries are also doing well and a few flowers are present The redcurrants and whitecurrants appear healthy but very little fruit. 	Blackcurrants and Gooseberries ready for picking.	V

Chris Foster	August	1/8/2019 Anne and I visited the Kailyard following Jo's report that some of the fruit was ready for picking. Not as much fruit as expected but we were able to pick enough to make a few jars of jam.Did some weeding and grass cutting but due to the large numbers of biting midges decided to leave for later in the month!	Ongoing maintenance of weeding and grass cutting. Blackcurrant and Gooseberry bushes need pruning. Investigate possible reasons for low yields.	V
Anne Reid	August	I went along at the beginning of August to help Chris with the fruit pickingI have never tasted such sweet blackcurrants raw !!good choice ! I visited on the 13 th the grass had grown quite long round the edges so did a bit of cutting back & weeding everything looking good On the 23 rd again everything looking really good. The gooseberries seemed to be recovering well from their sawfly attack, the rhubarb looking a bit passed it but fine & the rest of the fruit bushes looking great. Trimmed the grass & did some weeding	Ongoing maintenance of weeding and grass cutting. Keep a check on the Raspberry canes to see if any need picking. Kailyard sign still needs replacing.	√ √ √
Chris Foster	September	3/9/19 Replaced the Kailyard sign with new version from Fiona. Picked a few of the ripened Raspberries, just enough to make some cranachan using a very basic recipe! Still more Raspberries to ripen.	Ongoing maintenance of weeding and grass cutting. Pick Raspberries when ripe.	√ √

Brian Cornock	September	Visited for couple of hrs 18 Sep pm. Stockade seems in fairly good order though gate post a bit loose. Tried to trim grass outside and inside the stockade but found my shears really blunt – more of a grass chew than a cut. Picked 60 big rasps (gave 7oz) then chopped top off rasp canes to just above eye level. Now looks a lot better although don't know if that was the right thing to do. Currant bush leaves turning to autumn(?) colouring. Gooseberry bushes a bit small and scraggy – the lowermost one looks the most poorly. Rhubarb 6 leaves and 4 reasonable stems. Started some minor weeding (foxgloves & grass) but, after half a bucketful, drizzle and midges stopped play!	Ongoing maintenance of weeding and grass cutting. Autumn maintenance (pruning, etc.) of bushes. Check loose gate post and stabilise.	V V
Chris/Barry Foster	October	1.10.19. Stabilised gate post. Weeded the gooseberry and raspberry sections including the paths between. Could now do with some more bracken to suppress the weeds. Pulled out raspberry suckers. Picked ripe raspberries, still more on bush. Trimmed the grass path (should soon be dormant). The new sign has been spoilt by the wet weather, so need to replace it yet again! Pruning can be left until November, although raspberries will not need cutting back until February/March time.	Ongoing maintenance of weeding. Trim grass path (if needed). Pick any remaining ripe raspberries. More bracken needed to suppress weeds. Replace sign with laser printed one.	
Alison Kennedy	October			
Chris Foster	November			
Dave Peter	December			