

KAILYARD ROTA DIARY REPORTS - 2019

NAME	MONTH	COMMENTS	WORK REQUIRED	SORTED √
Colin Miller	January	<p>Plants, gate and fence all OK. I removed/uprooted a few tiny weeds with a trowel (useful to take one along). Ground not 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Time on site: three-quarters of an hour.</p> <p>Attached are photos of the plot and the sign.</p>	<p>Amend typo and reprint new sign. (JC) Reinstate new sign (BF)</p>	
Jackie Cumberbirch	February	<p>Visited site on 18th Feb Rhubarb now starting to appear see photo.</p> <p>Site looks good. No issues within kailyard</p> <p>Will print out new poster and put up on site at work party on 9th March.</p>	<p>Jackie still to do sign.</p> <p>Work required to cut back broom and gorse at well and at Shepherd's Lodge</p>	√

Gary Middleton	March	<p>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.</p> <p>31/3/19: As requested I added more bracken to end path.</p>	Add more bracken to end path as a weed suppressant.	√
Chris Foster	March	<p>General</p> <p>27/3/19: Pruned back the autumn fruiting raspberries and fed all the fruit bushes with potash.</p>	-	-
Andrew Wainwright	April	-		
Barry Foster	May	<p>“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!</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Fencing still stock-proof with some slight repairs needed. Pulled a few weeds out. Raspberries growing well and Blackcurrants showing plenty of fruit. The</p>	<p>Check Sawfly evidence again asap and remove any found. Check orangey pupa.</p> <p>Jackie still to do sign.</p> <p>Keep checking for Sawfly over the next few months.</p> <p>Minor repairs required to fence.</p>	<p>√</p> <p>√</p>

		Rhubarb is looking healthy and thriving but is not being picked this year in order to help it establish.		
Karen Main	June	<p>I've been up to inspect kailyard again on evening of Tuesday 18th June and yesterday, 29th June.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>I removed the raspberry suckers which are growing vigorously right now.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Keep a watch on:</p> <p>Gooseberries, Red and White Currants for possible sawfly re-occurrence.</p> <p>Blackcurrant re discolouring of leaves.</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>

Chris Foster	July	<p>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.</p>	<p>Keep checking on the sawfly problem.</p> <p>Keep pulling out the weeds!</p>	<p>√</p> <p>√</p>
Jo Vergunst	July	<p>Inspection on 17 July.</p> <p>The fencing and general area are in good condition.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The blackcurrant bushes had a small number of discoloured leaves (orange / red). The fruit is ready to pick and looks like a good crop.</p> <p>Raspberries are also doing well and a few flowers are present</p> <p>The redcurrants and whitecurrants appear healthy but very little fruit.</p>	<p>Blackcurrants and Gooseberries ready for picking.</p>	<p>√</p>

Chris Foster	August	<p>1/8/2019 Anne and I visited the Kailyard following Jo's report that some of the fruit was ready for picking. The fruit yield was not as promising as we had expected from early indications. If we had picked the fruit a few weeks sooner we would have had more as some of the fruit had fallen off and, if they were well ripe, the birds may have also taken some.</p> <p>The Blackcurrants we did pick were a good size and juicy, but a shame that there were not more. We now have a few pots of jam but not enough berries for much else other than I tried a sprinkling of Blackcurrants on my porridge which was quite palatable!</p> <p>Likewise the Gooseberries had a very small yield too. The Red and white currants didn't yield anything. At the moment I'm not sure why the yields were poor.</p> <p>Did some weeding and grass cutting but due to the large numbers of biting midges decided to leave for later in the month!</p>	<p>Ongoing maintenance of weeding and grass cutting.</p> <p>Blackcurrant and Gooseberry bushes need pruning.</p> <p>Investigate possible reasons for low yields.</p>	
Anne Reid	August			
Brian Cornock	September			
Alison Kennedy	October			
Chris Foster	November			
Dave Peter	December			