

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>	<p>√ √ √</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>	<p>√ √</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</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> <p>√</p>

		needed. Pulled a few weeds out. Raspberries growing 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	<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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gooseberries, Red and White Currants for possible sawfly re-occurrence. • Blackcurrant re discolouring of leaves. 	<p>√</p> <p>√</p>

Chris Foster	July	<p>General</p> <p>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 grubs on them. Picked off a good number so looking reasonably clean, 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. Not as much fruit as expected but we were able to pick enough to make a few jars of jam.</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>	<p>√</p>
Anne Reid	August	<p>I went along at the beginning of August to help Chris with the fruit pickingI have never tasted such sweet blackcurrants raw !! ...good choice !</p> <p>I visited on the 13th ... the grass had grown quite long round the edges so did a bit of cutting back & weeding ...everything looking good</p> <p>On the 23rd 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.</p> <p>Trimmed the grass & did some weeding</p>	<p>Ongoing maintenance of weeding and grass cutting.</p> <p>Keep a check on the Raspberry canes to see if any need picking.</p> <p>Kailyard sign still needs replacing.</p>	<p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p>
Chris Foster	September	<p>3/9/19 Replaced the Kailyard sign with new version from Fiona.</p> <p>Picked a few of the ripened Raspberries, just enough to make some cranachan using a very basic recipe! Still more Raspberries to ripen.</p>	<p>Ongoing maintenance of weeding and grass cutting.</p> <p>Pick Raspberries when ripe.</p>	<p>√</p> <p>√</p>

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.	√ √ √
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	Visited initially on 11 Oct. Weeded as necessary and trimmed grass on path. All looking tidy. Sign still water damaged. Not much fruit on raspberries, but they were still flowering. Visited again on 29 Oct. Weeded as necessary. All tidy - grassed paths were fine and did not require attention. Previous flowering raspberries had turned to fruit which was ready to pick. (Unfortunately, had forgotten to take a container so left in situ.) Sign elf had visited and replaced water damaged sign.	Raspberries ready for picking!	

Chris Foster	November	<p>29.11.19 A sunny day but very cold and a little snow and ice around. All dormant in the Kailyard at the moment. Barry and I tidied up and lightly pruned the fruit bushes ready for their 3rd year, by the end of which they should be fully matured bushes. Manured the Rhubarb and mulched it ready for the winter. Have marked it with sticks as it is difficult to see all tucked up in its winter bed! Hopefully there will be plenty to pick next year. The raspberries are late summer/autumn fruiting varieties so will not need pruning until February/March time. We laid three of the paths with the old cut bracken to act as a weed suppressant. Now need to cut more bracken and lay 4th path. On arrival we found the gate was not properly closed and one of the cords used to secure it missing, so will need to keep a check on this. One of the gate posts was a bit wobbly so knocked this into the ground some more to steady it. Otherwise all looking good.</p>	<p>Finish laying the fourth path with bracken, (hopefully next Saturday (7/12) at the workparty).</p> <p>Keep a check on the gate to ensure it is properly closed.</p>	
Dave Peter	December			