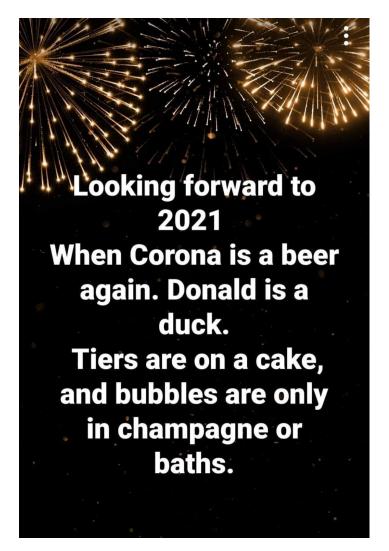
New Year Message from the RGS Chair

Here we are again effectively in a full lockdown. This new variant of Covid being much more transmissible is alarming so we decided that since many of our members are of a vulnerable and venerable age we should minimize risk and not open the store until the virus is better under control. We are aware that many of you will be wanting to buy seed potatoes and onions for the new season so we are looking into ways we might be able to supply you using a delivery system. We will be in touch by email once we have the details worked out. The plan is to do two rounds of deliveries then, when more of our members are vaccinated, to sell just the seed potatoes, onions and garlic at the open doors of the store. Hopefully we will be able to open the store again in early spring. All these plans will be constantly under review and may change in accordance with the progress of Covid and the vaccination programme.

Not the most cheering start to 2021 but:



Happy New Year to you all! Helen Finch Chair **Rental charges**: for 2021 /22 there will be a modest increase:

	Current charges	New charges
Full rate	£25.00 / rod	£25.40 / rod
Concession rate: 65 years old or over on 1 st April 2021 or disabled	£20.00 / rod	£20.30 / rod
water	£2.00 / rod	????

The charge for the water needs to increase and this is currently under discussion. For the last several years all plot holders on both sites have been paying £2/rod for water which just covers the water bill. We only pay for the water used on site 2, RGS has not been billed for water used on Site 3. However, with our upgraded water system, site 3 water will be metered so the total water bill is likely to be a lot more as there are almost twice as many plot holders on site 3. This means the water charge we collect from all plot holders will need to increase substantially. In the rest of Wandsworth to cover their water charges plot holders are required to pay ± 5.42 /rod and for several years, while we were paying ± 2 /rod they have paid ± 3 /rod. We have been let off very lightly in the past!