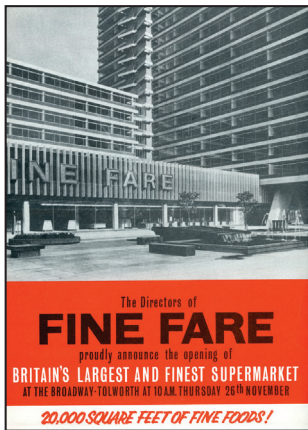


# ALLOTMENTS TODAY

The second half of the 20th Century saw enormous social change. More women were working and people began to enjoy the benefits of new self-service supermarkets, convenience food and home freezing. These changes helped reduce people's dependence on allotments, which were still seen by many as a symbol of poverty and a haunting reminder of the hardships of war.

The 1960s saw the lowest ever take up of allotment plots. A government report suggested that allotments should now be presented as a leisure activity. The British population had more time for leisurely pursuits than ever before and tapping into this held potential for the resurgence of the allotment.



*Come celebrating and saving at*  
**FINE FARE**  
 PRICES YOU LOVE

CHIVERS TABLE JELLIES	7 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>2</sub> 23d
SUNFRESH ORANGE OR LEMON	11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>1</sub> 13d
GIANT PARSIL	2 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>7</sub> 6d
SMOKED SALMON PER OZ	4 <sup>-</sup> / <sub>-</sub> 16
PRINCE'S SALMON	3 <sup>11</sup> / <sub>7</sub>
KING EDWARD POTATOES	1 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>7</sub>
SUPERS QUALITY ENGLISH DAIRY FED PORK CHOPS	4/4 LB
SUPERS QUALITY ENGLISH LAMB	44lb
LEGS whole or half	3 <sup>-</sup> / <sub>-</sub> 22
SHOULDERS whole or half	3 <sup>-</sup> / <sub>-</sub> 22
STEWING TABLE TRIMMED CHOPS	4/10 lb
PRIME QUALITY PALE BACK BACON	4/6 lb
BEST QUALITY SPANISH GRAPES	1 <sup>8</sup> / <sub>8</sub> LB
9 1/2 SAVE 4 <sup>-</sup> / <sub>-</sub> FROZEN PEAS	

AND A HOST OF OTHER WONDERS FOR BUYERS

**AMPLE CAR PARK FACILITIES FOR OVER 600 CARS**

OPEN UNTIL 8 p.m. FOR FAMILY SHOPPING ON FRIDAYS



Fine Fare Supermarket opened at the foot of Tolworth Tower in 1963. It is now Marks and Spencers

## GREEN REVOLUTION

The second half of the 1960s saw a 'green revolution' and a renewed idea of going 'back to the land'. There were ever increasing concerns about where food was coming from, how it was being made and the impact this was having on the environment and climate change. The idea of becoming self-sufficient (growing all your own food) became popular.



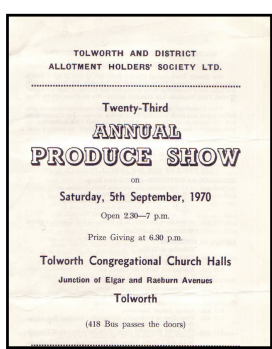
## THE GOOD LIFE

In 1975, the BBC launched a sitcom about a couple who had escaped their jobs in the city to live self-sufficiently. Surbiton was chosen as the location, as the name conjured images of the most suburban of areas. The light-hearted show followed Tom and Barbara's attempts to grow all they needed to eat in their back garden. Over the fence, their more traditional neighbours Margo and Jerry kept a watchful eye on their activities. For people of a certain age, The Good Life is the first thing that comes mind when they hear 'Surbiton'.



## ENVIRONMENT

Environmental issues have continued to be a motivation for the existence and popularity of allotments. Growing food locally reduces the need for food transportation, and encourages recycling, composting and a reduction in plastic food packaging. In Surbiton, Addison Gardens Allotment Association have even built their own composting toilet.



## ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATIONS

Plot holders today will tell you that one of the best things about having an the allotment is the sense of community spirit and support from fellow growers. Each allotment site usually has its own society, association or cooperative to share tips, hold talks, sell equipment and sometimes even hold vegetable competitions.



TODAY there are 22 allotment sites made up of 1,200 plots in Kingston Borough. They are very popular and people normally have to sign up to a waiting list before being given a plot. As people from other cultures have moved to the area, the range of vegetables grown on allotments has evolved. One long standing allotment holder told how: *'two of my neighbours are from Hong Kong. And they have introduced onto the allotment these Chinese vegetables. Yau mak choi looks a little bit like a long narrow spinach and it's absolutely delicious.'*