

ROEHAMPTON GARDEN SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1873

MONTHLY BULLETIN

May 2016

www.roehamptonallotments.co.uk

King's Cross Skip Garden- a community garden with a twist –its moveable (see page 4)



View of the skips



The outdoor swimming pool



Using recycled materials



Everything is built from recycled materials, mostly, from the construction site. In the skips, wild flowers, fruit and vegetables are grown and used in the café.

CHAIR'S REPORT

One evening recently a plot holder fell in her greenhouse and smashed through the glass. There were very few people about but luckily her cry was heard and people came to her aid, called the ambulance and went to hospital with her, where she had many stitches in her arm before going home. This is a wake-up call to us all that we are responsible for our own safety (and that of our visitors) when on site (see RGS Rule 14). Think about where help might come from if you need it – do you have a mobile phone? Can you see other plot holders around?



SHARDS OF GLASS FROM THE GREENHOUSE

I have been in touch with St John's Ambulance for advice on Health and Safety and we are considering a proposal to prohibit the use of glass for any NEW structures on our plots in the future. All comments or suggestions are most welcome - please contact me as below.

Please check to see if the common paths round your plot are safe; some look rather dangerous despite reminders from the Site Secretaries. We are obliged to keep them well maintained and free from hazards (see WBC Tenancy Agreement point 10). The Tenancy Agreement and RGS Rules are on our website www.roehamptonallotments.co.uk if you would like to refresh your memory of them.

Most plot holders are thoughtful, talented and generous! This month (to name just a few things our members volunteer for) they have given up their time to take the rents, let and inspect the plots, written the bulletin, worked in the Store, cleaned toilets, taken (other people's) dumped rubbish to the tip, helped with stock deliveries, cut the grass, repaired broken taps, prepared legal documents and put up the new Store shed on Site 3. The RGS would grind to a halt without you all. Thank you!

We will need people to help with the smooth running of our Show on 11 June but before then, on Sunday 22 May between 10am and 12 noon, both our sites will be open to members of the Wandsworth Horticultural Society. We will need help on both sites to welcome visitors at the gates and on the plots. Please let me know if you can give an hour or so of your time, or you might prefer just to be on your plot to give a cheerful hello!

A Lease has been prepared, hopefully acceptable to both the Charities Commission and the Council who are considering it. Hopefully we will hear quite soon and move forward with our objective to become a Charity with a long Lease for the allotment land.

Jackie Savage
Jackiesavage29@gmail.com
07508 559134

WISLEY TRIP – WEDNESDAY 14 SEPTEMBER – CONTACT PAT

STORE REPORT

The weather is far cooler than we would like but it was still good to see many members visiting the Store this last month to buy seeds and soil improvers in readiness for when the weather improves and we can start planting for summer (it will improve sometime, surely!).

Country Natural is still flying out the door and we are trying to keep up with demand. This product is so popular across the country that we now have to put an order in two weeks in advance instead of one. We have run out of this on a couple of occasions this year partly because of this and also due to the shed on Site 3 being obliterated in the storms that did so much damage to some of our allotments on Site 3. We can only order what we have space to store, so this meant that we had to limit the size of our orders.

I am pleased to say that we now have a new shed for storing Country Natural on Site 3 thanks to Greg Wilcox who sourced the shed and then gave up his own time to erect it. We are most grateful to Greg for this. We have an order of 75 bags of Country Natural arriving on Thursday, 28 April!



We are trialing some new products in the Store. A 10 litre watering can selling at £4.50 each and also pea and bean netting, 2m by 5m, at £5 which can provide vertical or lateral support for peas, sweet peas and beans and the like. If there is an interest in these products, we can order some more, so do let us have your feedback.

Gill Tamsett, Trading Secretary.

DISCOUNTS FOR RGS MEMBERS AT LOCAL GARDEN CENTRES

Please note some amendments have been made to the ways discounts are offered to members at two local Garden Centres.

Adrian Hall, East Sheen

On presentation of your RGS membership card you will receive 10% discount on horticultural goods that you take away with you, not on delivered items.

Neal's, Heathfield Road, SW18 3HR (opposite Wandsworth Prison)

Firstly, you need to register for their loyalty card, as an RGS member. You will be asked to show your membership card, give your name, email address and post-code. You will get 7% retrospective discount on goods purchased, which can be redeemed at the time of the next purchase (like a Nectar card). The amount of discount is recorded as 'points' on the card and shown on each till receipt. Points worth £5.00 will be put on your card as a thank you when you register.

If you are over 50, and a loyalty card member, on Wednesdays you will receive 10% discount instead of the 7% on other days.

Jackie Savage, Chair

KINGS CROSS SKIP GARDEN – a moveable, sustainable urban garden in the heart of London

A fellow plot holder told us about the Kings Cross Skip Garden, in the middle of the vast construction site that is the regeneration of Kings Cross. The skips are moved around when the project is required to relocate within the site. The current location will be the last.



Everything is built using recycled materials – mostly from the construction site – and more than a thousand hands have come together to create the garden. This is a community effort in every sense and the project brings together people of all ages and backgrounds.

Wild flowers, vegetables and herbs are grown and used in the lovely café.

We suggest you visit this summer when the garden will be at its best and take your swimsuit if you fancy a dip in the natural swimming pond next door!

Further details and directions on the website <https://www.kingscross.co.uk/skip-garden>

Georgina and Jackie

Welcome to new plot-holders and RGS members	Site 3
Maggie Jones	Caroline Van Marle

2 volunteers are needed to help clean the toilets on Site 3. You will be part of a team as the work is done on a rota so you will be needed only twice during the year. If you could help please talk to Helen or

STORE SWAP SHOP

Do you have surplus PRODUCE, SEEDS, PLANTS, and TOOLS etc that you can't use?

**Bring them to the Store and put them in the SWAP SHOP container.
(Try and label them so we know what they are!)**

**Maybe you will find something you would like in exchange that week
– Or maybe you will find something later in the season.**

**OR if you are taking (and not giving) just put your donation
In the pink pig on the Store counter.**

THANK YOU!

NATIONAL PARK LONDON



(Photo by Luke Massey)

Have you heard about the new initiative, to get London designated as the world's first National Park City!

This National Park will create a partnership that links up and supports all the hundreds of local people and organisations that work towards making London a greener, healthier, happier place to live. The purpose is to give every Londoner access to the green space and opportunities to engage with wildlife that are vital to physical and mental wellbeing. Also a partnership of London wide local enthusiasts will be able to have a voice on larger scale planning issues.

This initiative already has the support of The London Assembly and all the mayoral candidates as well all the organisations and individuals who have crowd-funded the proposal for a charter. This is described in full on the website at <http://www.nationalparkcity.london/>

What can we do? As individuals we can find out more and declare our support. Then contact our local electoral ward councilors to ask them to declare our ward's support. All the details and a suggested email are on the website. Follow the 'Declare your support' link.

When more than half of the wards have declared their support the organisers will ask the government to declare London a National Park City. 180 out of 436 wards have declared already, so we are well on the way!

Kristina Fitzsimmons

FOR SALE

ELECTRIC ROTAVATOR - NEVER BEEN USED - will accept £49.99 o.n.o. (Bought for £79.99)

Phone Patricia Davis 020 8876 4913

April Recipe

Radishes are nearly ready. This recipe caught my eye in The Guardian's Cook.

Sweet and Sour Braised Radishes

2 tbsp. runny honey
1 tbsp. lemon juice
1 tbsp. cider vinegar
2 tsp. olive oil
1 tsp. unsalted butter
1-bunch radishes (about 300g)
Salt and pepper
Chives

Wash, trim and halve or slice the radishes. Put honey, lemon juice & cider vinegar in a small screw top jar and shake to combine.

Put olive oil, butter, radishes in a pan and fry for a couple of minutes over a high heat. Pour the honey mixture over the radishes, stir and cook over a medium heat for 4-5 minutes.

Season and sprinkle with chopped chives.

Serve over green leaves, over baked Feta cheese or on top of cheese on toast. Delicious!

NOTICES

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2016 dates:

Summer Show 2016: 11 June Autumn Show 2016: 10 September

RHS Wisley visit: 14 September

AGM 2016: 23 November

RGS ADDRESS AND POST BOX

Fixed to the gate at site 2, The Pleasance. The address is: Roehampton Garden Society The Pleasance Allotments The Pleasance London SW15 5HF

RHS CONTACTS

Committee Chair: Jackie Savage, Site 2 Allotment Secretary: Georgina O'Reilly;

Site 3 Allotment Secretary: Helen Finch.

Site Manager: Shirley Gillbe;

Comments, questions for Chair and/or Committee via website: root@roehamptonallotments.co.uk

BASIC RULES FOR THE PROMOTION OF SOCIAL COHESION ON OUR ALLOTMENT SITES

- Respect the rights and belongings of other plot holders.
- No dogs without leads.
- No unsupervised children.
- Lock the gate behind you.
- Dispose of your own rubbish.
- No structures to be erected or trees to be planted without permission of your Site Secretary. *If you think someone is breaking the rules contact a committee member or me, rather than confront another plot holder.* jackiesavage29@gmail.com or 07508 559134

THE CONSERVATION

FOUNDATION TOOL SHED Mend and re-furbished old garden tools for schools

www.conservationfoundation.co.uk

www.vegetableseeds.com

DISCOUNTS

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THE CARTRIDGE PEOPLE,

Give 10% of the cost of your order back to the Society when you buy from:

www.cartridgepeople.com/RaisingMoneyFor/Rehampton-GS

YOUR LOCAL LOCKSMITH Professional & Reliable Service

Complete Security Specialists

Keys Cut

Lock & Safes Emergency Locksmith Security Gates & Grilles Alarms

391 Upper Richmond Road West, East Sheen, SW14 7NX Tel: 0208 392 2233

SECURITY

If you see someone trespassing or causing damage on the Sites, or in an emergency phone 999 or text phone 18000.

NEW DAWN GARDENS

Artan Deliallisi, one of our plot holders, offers regular or casual maintenance for gardens. He will repair or build fences, gates, sheds, paving, walls and arches. 07411 288485

artandeliallisi@gmail.com

MANTRA LANDSCAPES

grounds maintenance specialists www.mantralandscapes.com Alexander Barrington Thompson-Byer

Tel: +44 (0)7985 463 283

FREE HORSE MANURE

Ridgway Stables in Wimbledon (next to Swan Pub on the corner of Hillside and Ridgway) have a constant supply of free horse manure available.

The manure is bagged up and gardeners are welcome to collect between 8am -5pm, 7 days a week.

They will also deliver manure in larger loads (approx 60 bags) to allotments in the area, on Saturdays.

Please call Julia on 020 8946 7400 if you are interested.

AUSTIN MOWERS

Repairs and sells reconditioned mowers and sharpen shears. 300 Garratt Lane, SW18 4EH 020 8874 4206 www.austinmowers.com austinmowers@aol.com

CAPITAL GROWTH

Capital Growth is the largest food growing network in London. It was set up initially as a partnership initiative between London Food Link, the Mayor of London, and the Local Food Fund and helped create 2012 new community food-growing spaces across London by the end of 2012.

You may be interested in their courses and voluntary work opportunities. See what they are doing and sign up for their newsletter at

www.capitalgrowth.org

Volunteer gardeners needed

Volunteers are needed to help in the large and beautiful gardens at Mount Court which is a retirement home in Weimar Road, Putney SW15 1SJ. If you are interested please phone Maggie on 07549 279 215.

THE STORE

Open on Sunday mornings between 10 -12.00 noon, also the café serving tea, coffee and homemade cake.

New volunteers to help are always welcome. Please contact Carol Martinez at the Store or leave a message at: root@roehamptonallotments.co.uk

NEXT BULLETIN:

The next Bulletin

Sunday 5 June 2016

by email, in store and on both sites.

Copy for next edition to Pat Dark (020 8789 7568, 27 St Margaret's Crescent, Putney, London SW15 6HL or by email: Patdark13@yahoo.co.uk by 25 May 2016