

ROEHAMPTON GARDEN SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1873

MONTHLY BULLETIN

November 2016

www.roehamptonallotments.co.uk



Hedgehogs: See page 4

AGM: Flyer and agenda – page 2

Plot inspections: dates page 2, item page 3. And much more

Roehampton Garden Society

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Social Event with Presentation of Cups and Prizes

Wednesday 23 November 2016

St Margaret's Church Hall, Putney Park Lane

Welcome refreshments from 6.30pm

Meeting starts 7pm

- **Reports from committee members**
- **Update on “Becoming a Charity”**
- **Committee Elections**
- **Presentation of Cups and Prizes**
- **Social Event and Refreshments**

COMMITTEE ELECTIONS:

Closing date for Nominations: 13 November 2016

Jackie Savage (Chair)
29 Amerland Road, London SW18 1QA
07508 559134
jackiesavage29@gmail.com

**PLEASE RETURN CLEANED CUPS TO THE STORE BY
SUNDAY 20 NOVEMBER**

CHAIR'S REPORT NOVEMBER 2016

As we prepare our plots and gardens for winter there are a few events left in our busy Calendar.

On **Saturday 5 November** our **Bonfire Party**, to which all of you and your families and friends are invited, starts at 5pm on Site 3 (Dover House Road entrance). The Bonfire on Site 2 (The Pleasance) will be lit at dusk. Any other bonfires which you decide to have on your own plot can only be lit during the weekend of 5/6 November and must be attended at all times with a connected hose pipe to hand. Last year the Fire Brigade was called to both sites and we really must avoid this happening again this year or we will be banned from having any fires ever again!

On **Wednesday 23 November** we are holding our **Annual General Meeting and Committee Elections** at St Margaret's Church Hall in Putney Park Lane (where we hold our Shows). Light refreshments from 6.30 pm then the business will start at 7pm. This will be followed by the presentation of Cups and the offer of more substantial refreshments and a chance to chat to committee members and your fellow plot holders.

Most of the current committee have agreed to stand again at the elections, but we always welcome new faces and talents so please let me know before 13 November if you would like to discuss what is involved and/or be nominated.

If you won a Cup last year please leave it in the Store by Sunday 20

November, or contact me to make arrangements for it to be returned.

Charity update: At the time of writing Anthony Fitzsimmons and I have recently attended a friendly and constructive meeting with Peter Tiernan (Wandsworth Borough Valuer) and Jerry Birtles of Enable Leisure and Culture, to come to agreement on the final details of the Heads of Terms for a new long Lease for our allotment land. Once this is agreed the next step is to present it to the Charities Commission to see if they find it acceptable. We will be able to update you at the AGM and answer any questions.

A rather belated thank you to one of our members who kindly donated **2 garden benches**; one is outside the store on Site 2 and the other is under the large communal apple tree (85B) on Site 3.

Other dates to remember this month are the **Plot Inspections** and the **annual collection of rubbish** organised by Wandsworth Council. Please keep all rubbish on your plot until we let you have the date for the rubbish collection. Thank you.

Jackie Savage

Jackiesavage29@gmail.com

07508 559134

PLOT INSPECTIONS

Site 2: 8 November

Site 3: 3 November

See next page

PLOT INSPECTIONS

The next plot inspections will be in early November. The inspection team usually consists of at least three Committee members (the Site Manager and the two Site Secretaries), and one non-Committee member.

What the team would expect to see in November is:

- That the plot has been tidied up for the winter so there would be quite a lot of bare ground.
- That weeds are under control and particularly not likely to invade any neighbouring plots either by sending out runners or by spreading seeds.
- That surrounding paths are not obstructed and are reasonably well maintained.

If the inspection team identifies a problem the plot holder will be contacted. The aim is to give guidance and encouragement but if there have been problems with cultivation in the past the team will take this into account. We are mindful that there is a lengthening Waiting List and since allotments are a public facility in high demand and short supply we have a responsibility to ensure plots are well used.

Please let us know if there are any particular circumstances (e.g. illness or injury) that have prevented you from looking after your plot.

For Site 2 (The Pleasance) please contact Georgina O'Reilly 020 8789 7181 or 07468 539 476.

For Site 3 (Dover House Road) contact Helen Finch 07736 422 373.

Or email
root@roehamptonallotments.co.uk.

HEDGEHOGS

Hedgehogs are found across the UK, absent only from some of the Scottish Islands.

They eat slugs and snails, but also beetles, earthworms and caterpillars.

Young are born from May onwards in litters of up to five and the young leave the nest after 4 weeks. They live for 2-3 years.

Hedgehogs, along with dormice and bats hibernate, or enter a state of torpor from October/November, lowering their body temperature and slowing their metabolism to save energy. They must feed intensively to be in good condition before hibernating.

Do look at the website below. It is very interactive and gives some fascinating facts and information.

www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk

**PLEASE TAKE GREAT
CARE ON BONFIRE NIGHT
THAT THERE ARE NO
HEDGEHOGS
HIBERNATING IN YOUR
BONFIRE!**

BONFIRE NIGHT

Last year the London Fire Brigade was called to both sites. This year houses near to the bonfires have had letters warning them about the forthcoming bonfires.

The bonfires will be managed on both sites. Alan Smart is managing the bonfire on Site 2 and Bob Aveling on Site 3. Please note the instructions below.

IMPORTANT

Bonfires allowed ONLY on weekend of 5/6 November

YOU MUST ATTEND YOUR BONFIRE AT ALL TIMES WITH CONNECTED WATER HOSE AT HAND

The invitation to Site 3 Bonfire Party is on the last page of this Bulletin.

Site 2 Bonfire will be lit at dusk.

PUTTING PLOTS TO BED

The NSALG stresses the importance of tidying up allotments and removing any old crops in preparation for next year. Remains of summer crops may harbour overwintering pests and diseases.

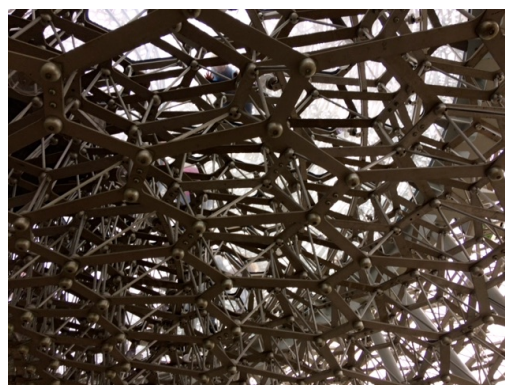
They also suggest collecting fallen leaves and making a leaf mould stack and cleaning and checking garden tools and equipment.

www.nsalg.org.uk

THE HIVE AT KEW



The Hive is a unique installation at Kew Gardens and represents a vast honey bee hive. It is linked to one of Kew's hives and the 1,000 LED lights inside flicker in time to vibrations caused when the bees communicate with each other



Well worth a visit. Makes you remember how important pollination is for food production and how hard the bees work!

Pat Dark, Bulletin Editor

NOVEMBER RECIPE

(Thanks to Louise Hagger in The Guardian on 13 August 2016)

Courgette and Chard Tart

2 red onions, peeled & finely chopped

Olive oil

500g courgettes

A few sprigs thyme leaves, chopped

½ bunch Oregano, chopped

3-4 sheets Filo pastry

25g melted butter

200g rainbow Chard, stalks separated from the leaves. Slice the stalks and shed the leaves

2 eggs

A few sprigs mint leaves, chopped

100g Parmesan cheese

1 unwaxed lemon

100g Feta cheese

100g black olives (de-stoned)

1. Preheat oven to 220C/gas 7. Grease a 24cm tin or ovenproof frying pan.

2. Put the olive oil and onions into a saucepan & fry on a medium heat for 5 mins.

3. Peel and roughly grate all the courgettes but one. Added the grated courgette to the onions with the thyme leaves & oregano & cook for 5-10 mins until mixture is dry.

4. Unwrap the sheets of filo pastry & lay them one by one over the pan, brushing each sheet with a little melted butter before you layer. Leave a little pastry to overlap the edges (you fold this in later). You need 3-4 layers all over. You may need to patch. Slice the remaining courgette into thin slices.

5. When the courgettes are ready add the chard stalks & fry for a few minutes further. Then put the mixture into a bowl to cool. Crack the eggs into a bowl; add the chopped mint & grated Parmesan cheese. Season with salt & black pepper and mix well together. Toss the shredded chard leaves in the juice & zest of the lemon & a little oil.

6. Mix the cooled courgette mix into the egg mixture & pour on top of the pastry layers, sprinkle on the shredded chard leaves & top with the courgette rings. Press down & dot with feta cheese & black olives. Fold the excess pastry over the filling to make wavy lines.

7. Bake in the bottom of the oven for 20-25 mins until golden. Serve with a well-dressed green salad.

COMPANION PLANTING

When planning your growing for next year think about companion planting to help with providing nutrients for the soil and pest control.

Plant combinations

- French marigolds among tomatoes to help repel greenfly and blackfly.
- Sage with carrot or plants in the cabbage family to ward off pests.
- Nasturtiums with cabbages as they are a magnet for caterpillars.
- Garlic planted among roses will ward off aphids.
- Carrots and leeks planted together helps with carrot fly.

NOTICES

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2016 dates:

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

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)

Register for their loyalty card, as an RGS member by showing your membership card, giving your name, email address, post-code. A 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. £5.00 worth of points is put on your card as a thank you when you register.

If you are over 50, and a loyalty card member, you will receive 10% discount on Wednesdays.

THE CARTRIDGE PEOPLE,

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

www.cartridgepeople.com/RaisingMoneyFor/Roehampton-GS

AUSTIN MOWERS

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

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.

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

Store open on Sunday mornings between 10 -12.00 noon. Café, also serving tea, coffee and homemade cake.

NEXT BULLETIN:

The next Bulletin by
Sunday 4 December 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 24
November 2016

ROEHAMPTON GARDEN SOCIETY



BONFIRE PARTY

SITE 3 DOVER HOUSE ROAD

**SATURDAY 5 NOVEMBER
FROM 5 PM**

**FRIENDS & FAMILY WELCOME
BRING: SPARKLERS, SNACKS, DRINKS**