

# **ROEHAMPTON GARDEN SOCIETY**

FOUNDED 1873

## **MONTHLY BULLETIN**

April 2015

[www.roehamptonallotments.co.uk](http://www.roehamptonallotments.co.uk)

### **NEW AND INVENTIVE WAYS TO NUMBER YOUR PLOT**



**See more images on page 3**

**WISLEY: STILL SOME PLACES!  
PLEASE CONTACT PAT DARK  
[Patdark13@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Patdark13@yahoo.co.uk)**

## **CHAIR'S REPORT APRIL 2015**

April is rent collection month and you are now able to pay your rent by direct bank transfer, if you are unable to come to the Store to pay. The Store will be open for payment of rents and for sales of goods Weds evenings from 6–7 and Sunday morning from 10-12 throughout the month, starting on Weds 1 April.

Plot inspections took place in March and some plots have changed hands recently on both sites. Please remember that if you would like more land (up to your limit of 5 rods per household) or would like to move then you **MUST** put your name on the waiting list. You will then be contacted when you reach the top of the list.

We have now put in an application to register the Charity. The six “founder” trustees, chosen for their skills, are Sarah Purcell, Robert Linton, George Casley, Stewart Tamsett, Anthony Fitzsimmons and me. All are plot holding members of RGS and I am the only member of our current committee. Thank you to those who have done all the work on this application completely free of charge. Once we have a reply from the Charities Commission I will let you know what our options are.

I hope by now the final lock has been fitted to the Dover House Gate on Site 3 and the last trees pruned at Site 2. Many thanks to those people who make these things possible, particularly our helpful and friendly neighbours! If there are other improvements you would like to suggest please don't hesitate to let me know.

Happy Easter!

**Jackie Savage**

**Jackiesavage29@gmail.com**

### **DIGGING CAN BE FUN!**



**Eibhin and Conall McGeary (Plot 37B) helping to make a good start to the growing season. They are using child-sized spades to make the digging more fun.**

### **STORE REPORT**

The Store is extremely well stocked for spring and Easter planting!

There are many soil additives and fertilisers to meet all your growing needs, and a fabulous selection of Kings seeds and root trainers. We have composts, canes, netting, string, tools, sprays and a great many loose products at very competitive prices, to name but a few. Remember to ask for an application leaflet for any of the loose products, when purchased. The best thing is to come in and browse, so you have an idea what we are now offering.

#### **Dried Seaweed**

As you know, we have had great difficulty in obtaining dried seaweed (a firm favourite for organic growing, as our original supplier in the Shetland Isles are no longer trading. But after researching a



comparable supplier, we have finally found one, so within the next two weeks we shall have it back in the Store. Wonderful for adding to all plants!

Now is the time to cover your crops with **Wondermesh**, from sowing to harvest (but remove if there are flowers that need to be insect pollinated). It protects the crops from so many of our common pests and is perfect for you, especially if you are growing organically.

**WONDERFUL WONDERMESH – 3.6 metres wide @ £4 per metre.**

There is a large roll on the table in the store and we may ask you to help measure it out and cut it to size. Please work out how much you need before you come, remember you may want to cover hoops or a stand and the mesh should be secured into the ground all round the crop for maximum benefit. Pegs are on sale at 10p each.

Mesh Statistics: Mesh size 0.8 mm:  
National light levels: 85%: UV stabilised

The mesh will protect from pigeons, crows and the weather as well as the following common pests:

Carrot Root Fly: emerge between May - June & August - September

Cabbage Root Fly: Emerge between April - May & August – September

Flea Beetle: Most active in April – May & August

Allium Leaf Miner: Protect leeks, onions, garlic, shallots & chives. Most active from March – June & September – November.

## FROGS



Following the Wildlife Workshop, run by Froglife, in our Store last April, Laura installed a small pond on her plot. And look what happened less than a year later! Congratulations Laura!

*If you missed this workshop you may be interested in attending others that Froglife run. Contact [info@froglife.org](mailto:info@froglife.org)*

### **WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS AND PLOT-HOLDERS**

#### **Site 3**

#### **Plot-holders**

**Jean & Patrick Crawford  
Mat Tinker**

#### **Site 2**

**Angus and Annelle Reilly  
Christian Malone**

## **NEW AND CREATIVE WAYS TO NUMBER YOUR PLOT**

It is really important to have your plot clearly numbered. The committee welcome unusual and creative plot numbering and will give a prize to the most inventive examples at the AGM this November. So plenty of time to get crafting - please send a photo or let us know when you have a new sign. Some of these examples might inspire you!



**Jackie Savage**



## **Book Review**

### **Carol Klein's Favourite Plants**

I was given this beautiful book for Christmas. The plants have been selected by character, for example, 'dainty and detailed' and 'drama queens'. The photographs are exquisite and there is chapter on each describing plants chosen. It is a lovely book to dip into. **Pat Dark**

***“THRIVE” IS THE LEADING CHARITY IN THE UK THAT USES GARDENING TO BRING ABOUT POSITIVE CHANGES IN THE LIVES OF PEOPLE WHO ARE LIVING WITH DISABILITIES OR ILL HEALTH OR ARE ISOLATED OR DISADVANTAGED OR VULNERABLE.***

***FIND OUT MORE:***

***<http://www.thrive.org.uk/>***

***“Thrive” is looking for volunteers to help in its new sales kiosk and the office in Battersea Park.***

Horticultural therapists use the garden as a safe and secure place to develop someone’s ability to make friends and learn practical skills that will help them become more independent, confident and can lead to qualifications in work-based horticulture.

Nathan Dippie, Thrive’s Battersea Manager, said: "We have a host of dedicated volunteers already working in the garden with our clients, which is fantastic, and now we need to add to the team as we look for people to help in our stylish new sales kiosk and assist with admin work in the office.

"Our retail volunteers will be required to sell plants and merchandise whilst providing great customer service to visitors.

"In the future we would like to train some of our client gardeners to help in this new social enterprise venture for Thrive Battersea, which is a great thing to be involved with".

The kiosk is outside so volunteers would have to be prepared for this; however, if that’s not for you we also have some office-based opportunities.

"We are looking for people to help with administration duties like filing, answering the phone, helping project co-ordinators, ordering stock and database inputting."

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Battersea office on 020 7720 2212.

***Jackie Savage***

### ***Chiswick House***

A reminder about Chiswick House, a local place worth a visit. The gardens are free and open from 7am to dusk.

Take a train from Putney mainline to Chiswick and walk along Park Road to the entrance. Alternatively, if you want to go by car it is off the Great West Road, soon after Hogarth House.



The Camellia Festival finishes on the 29 March, but there is a kitchen Garden open day on 16 May and 13 June, as part of Open Gardens weekend. See website below for more details:

***[www.chgt.org.uk](http://www.chgt.org.uk)***

## ***Something You Are Proud Of!***

This is a new venture, an opportunity for you to send me photos of something you have grown that you are proud of! Or it could be something you have built for your allotment.



Helen Finch sent me this photo of the 'Cauliflower Di Sicilia Violetto' she has grown. I am not surprised she is very pleased with them.

***Pat Dark, contact details at end of Bulletin***

## ***April Recipe***

The recipe is highly recommended by Georgina O'Reilly.

### **Rubbed Kale**

Shred the kale finely. Put in a large bowl and scoop into the palms of your hands and rub together. Drop and scoop and rub again repeatedly. You will soon feel the kale soften and go a darker green as it is broken down. Pile on top of a serving of any hot dish, for example a helping of casserole. Drizzle with lemon juice and a few grinds of pepper.

Wonderfully healthy and scrummy!

## ***Advertisement***

***Arches repaired or built and much more!***

***Competitive rates!***

***Contact:***

***ARTAN DELIALLISI***

***07411288485***

***[artandeliallis@gmail.com](mailto:artandeliallis@gmail.com)***

## ***VISITS***

### ***TRIP TO RHS WISLEY WEDNESDAY 22 APRIL***

**The RGS is an affiliated association so we can take up to 50 members free of charge.**

**Generally, we travel by car, either your own car or a car-share, as a number of us are very happy to offer lifts.**

**We can also book a garden tour. The tour is an optional extra at £3 per person. The last two years the tours have been excellent.**

**Please let me know if you are interested to do the visit and the tour.**

**Pat Dark**

**[Patdark13@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Patdark13@yahoo.co.uk)**

**020 8789 7568**



## NOTICES

### **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

Comments, questions for Chair and/or Committee via website:

[root@roehamptonallotments.co.uk](mailto:root@roehamptonallotments.co.uk)

### **RHS CONTACTS**

Committee Chair: Jackie Savage,  
Site 2 Allotment Secretary:  
Georgina O'Reilly;  
Site 3 Allotment Secretary: Helen Finch.  
Site Manager: Shirley Gillbe;

### **SECURITY**

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

### **Dates for You Diary**

*Wisley trip: 22 April  
Recycling Trip: 3 June  
Arundel Castle: 5 June  
Summer Show: 20 June  
Autumn Show: 12 September  
AGM: 18 November*

### **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](mailto:jackiesavage29@gmail.com) or 07508 559134

### **DISCOUNTS**

**10% discount when you show your RGS membership card at: Adrian Hall Garden Centre in Sheen; Capital Gardens, opposite Wandsworth Prison**

**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](http://www.cartridgepeople.com/RaisingMoneyFor/Roehampton-GS)

**THE CONSERVATION  
FOUNDATION TOOL SHED**

**Mend and re-furbished old  
garden tools for schools**

**[www.conservationfoundation.co.uk](http://www.conservationfoundation.co.uk)**

**AUSTIN MOWERS**

**Repairs and sells reconditioned  
mowers and sharpen shears.**

**300 Garratt Lane, SW18 4EH  
020 8874 4206**

**[www.austinmowers.com](http://www.austinmowers.com)  
[austinmowers@aol.com](mailto: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](http://www.capitalgrowth.org)

**[www.vegetableseeds.com](http://www.vegetableseeds.com)**

**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 already bagged and gardeners are welcome to collect between 8am -5pm, 7 days a week.

They can also deliver manure in larger loads (approx 60 bags) to allotments in the area. This is done on Saturdays.

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

**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](mailto:root@roehamptonallotments.co.uk)**

**NEXT BULLETIN: 3 May  
2015**

**By email, in store and on both  
sites.**

**Copy for next edition to Pat Dark  
(020 8789 7568, 27 St Margarets  
Crescent, Putney, London SW15  
6HL or by email:**

**[Patdark13@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Patdark13@yahoo.co.uk) by 24  
April 2015**