

ROEHAMPTON GARDEN SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1873

MONTHLY BULLETIN

July 2015

www.roehamptonallotments.co.uk

THE 2015 SUMMER SHOW



Derrick with his 'Best in Show' HT Rose



Raj and his 'Best in Show' Carrots



Eileen's Bowl of Roses



Diane's Sourdough bread

See page 8/9/10 for the names of the first prize winners and more Show photos on pages 5 & 7.

See page 11/12 for the criteria & score sheet that WBC are using to judge the Best Plot Competition – something to aspire to!

CHAIR'S REPORT

Thank you to everyone who exhibited, volunteered, made cakes and/or attended our lovely **Summer Show!** It was good to meet you all and so many other people from our local community.

Calendar 2016. We are looking for your allotment photos please! Could you send them to root@roehamptonallotments.co.uk or phone me and I will arrange to collect them.

Charity update. Our application was re-submitted on 31st May so we may not hear anything until July. However I will keep you all informed.

One of our members is carrying out some maintenance work on our **toilets**. They mainly needed a good coat of paint! It is most unusual to have proper toilets on allotment sites; we are most fortunate to have these assets.

As usual there will be no Bulletin in August, so I wish you all a wonderful summer and we'll be back in September.

Jackie Savage, 07508 559134

Jackiesavage29@gmail.com

THE SUMMER SHOW

Once again the show all came together on the day thanks to the helpers and everyone who entered.

The flowers were stunning – our new vases showing them off at their very best. The smell as you walked into the hall was wonderfully overpowering.

Nearly all of the vegetable classes had entries – with a good selection

of early potatoes, mange tout and broad beans. There were some enormous onions and both green and yellow ball courgettes, that I aspire to growing.

Strawberries overwhelmed the fruit displays and we had a bowl full for people to taste – which I think was really appreciated by visitors. Thanks to Raj for the idea.

We had a couple of novices who did themselves proud with superb specimens and some delightful pictures and a funny apple face in the children's section.

The cookery exhibits, however, were disappointing as many classes did not have entries. I know we all busy lives but I had hoped the new categories would inspire more people to enter. The exhibits that were there were of course a feast for the eyes and taste buds.

In the competitions Pip won the flowers in a teapot and Claire Earle's stunning photograph of Meconopsis won hands down.

Lots of prizes were won on both the adult and children's tombolas and we had some great items in the raffle – all donations - so thanks to all who contributed – we couldn't do it without you.

Homemade cakes were in abundance for everyone to enjoy with tea and at the end of the day the auction allowed everyone to bid for delicious goodies.

Thanks to everyone who helped to run and take part in the show – I hope to see you again and many others in the autumn show on Saturday 12th September.

Carol Martinez, Show Chair

STORE REPORT JULY 2015

JOBS FOR JULY AND AUGUST

Just a couple of tips this month: Keep picking, weeding, feeding and mulching. Don't forget to tie and stake tomatoes and remove the side shoots if they are cordon type. Pinch out your climbing beans and cucumbers when they reach the top of their supports.

Seeds: we have a constant turnover of Kings Seeds in our Store and there are often new varieties on the racks. It is not too late to sow Peas (e.g. Kelvedon Wonder) and Carrots (e.g. Early Nantes) and you can keep sowing salad to see you through the autumn. Check the packets.

Please let us have suggestions for seeds or products to stock; we are always looking for new ideas!

Gill Tamsett, Store Manager

STRUCTURES POLICY

We have a new policy to help give clear guidance to members and the site secretaries regarding structures. It covers sheds, greenhouses, poly tunnels, chicken coops and a few others. You can find details at <http://www.roehamptonallotments.co.uk/rgs/president/rules/rgs-structures-policy/>. Anyone wanting a hard copy, please ask at the store.

Why do we need a Structures Policy? Wandsworth Council have tightened up on structures and we need to be in step with their standards. We now have many more plots so many more possibilities for structures that may annoy neighbours. A policy will inform plot holders what is OK,

what permissions are needed and help us be consistent across the two sites. **Helen Finch**

JULY PLOT INSPECTION

The next plot inspection will be carried out on Thursday 9th and Friday 10th July. With about 180 people on our waiting list it is vital that allotment plots are being well used. At this time of year the team is looking for good cultivation, productive land use and good weed control. The paths between plots should be well kempt and clear of any obstruction.

If you have a particular problem with cultivating your plot at the moment please let your site secretary know. For site 3 contact Helen Finch on 07736 422 373 and for site 2 Georgina O'Reilly on 07468 539 476 or you can send an email to: root@roehamptonallotments.co.uk.

We shall also be selecting for the Best Plot Competition so enjoy the fresh air, sunshine and get weeding!

Helen Finch, Site 3 Secretary

WBC BEST PLOT COMPETITION

Once again Wandsworth have organised a Best Plot Competition across all their allotment sites. The judge, Paul Ellis-Howe, will be judging the nominated plots from July 15- July 17. The criteria are 1) Land management, 2) Plant growth/ yield, pest/disease control, 3) Planning to grow food throughout the year, 4) Compost, 5) Wildlife friendly gardening. Please see the Guidelines for

Assessment and the score sheet (attachment 2 pages 11&12).

Site Secretaries can nominate up to 15% of plots on each site and will take the above criteria into account when making their selections. If you would like to nominate your plot or prefer your plot was not entered please contact your site secretary by Friday 3rd July.

PADDOCK SECONDARY SCHOOL

I don't know if you are aware of Paddock School here in Wandsworth and the wonderful work the teachers do at the Primary and Secondary schools with pupils who have significant learning difficulties, many with autism. The Primary School is very close to our Site 2 and the Secondary School is also nearby in Priory Lane.

Back in March this year we received a request from the science teacher at the Secondary School asking if they could go on our waiting list for an allotment for the students to work. Having sought some advice about schools working allotments we decided it would be good to investigate further. Both site secretaries (Georgina O'Reilly and Helen Finch) arranged to visit the school and meet those staff who would be involved with this initiative. We were very impressed by the commitment and resources the school were prepared to put into this project. The concerns we had identified were discussed and solutions were found. A particular concern we had was the number of students at any one time and the level of supervision they would have while on site. The staff agreed there would be a maximum of 6 carefully selected senior

students at any one time and they would be supported and supervised by staff at a ratio of 2 students to 1 staff member including a qualified teacher.

Georgina and Helen then reported back to the committee who agreed that offering an allotment to Paddock Secondary School would be a project the RGS would like to support. Working an allotment could offer these students the opportunity to be outside enjoying an activity they may continue with when they have left the school and gardening might even become vocational. The committee was also aware that helping these students would be compatible with our becoming a charity.

One of the objectives of the school is for the students and the general public to have contact with each other to help promote understanding of and respect for each other. Their students' working an allotment has this potential. The school is very keen for their students to connect with the community and already run a café at the school that is open to the public. You can find out more about the school at: <http://www.paddock.wandsworth.sch.uk/pa/secondary>. You could also visit their café. They are open on Wednesdays from 10 to 12 for coffee and on Thursdays from 12 to 2pm for lunch. You will find the school café on the west side of Priory Lane at the Upper Richmond Road end.

Since this is such a special case the committee have decided to offer a plot to the school once a suitable one becomes available and we look forward to working with the students.

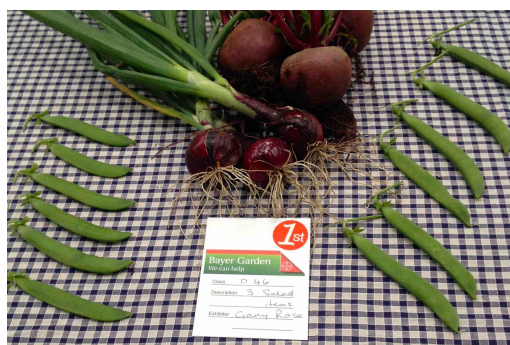
Helen Finch



Brenna's redcurrants



The Ireland's display of 3 different vegetables



Gary's display of vegetables

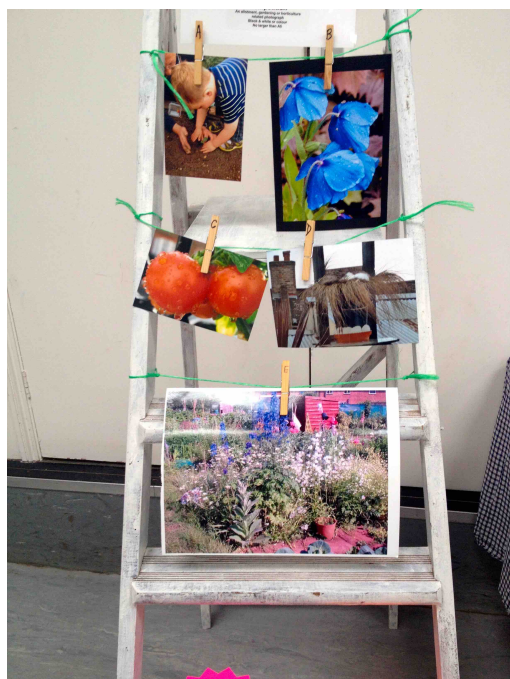


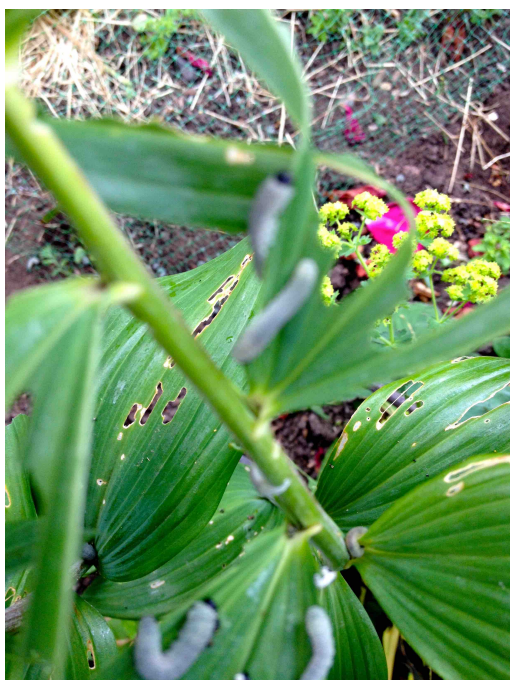
Photo competition



Vivian's sweet peas

SOMETHING I AM PROUD OF!

Last month I wrote about my Solomon's Seal. Two weeks ago I went to my plot to do some weeding and saw to my horror that the Solomon's Seal was being eaten – see photo 1. Then I looked again and found it was covered in dozens of small grey caterpillars – see photo 2. Serves me right for boasting! **Pat Dark**



JULY RECIPE

I have been making this wonderful recipe for years (since I saw it in one of the Sunday supplements). It is a Raymond Blanc recipe, which makes a wonderful summer lunch or a starter for a dinner party (if you want to impress!) The beauty of the recipe is that it can be prepared in advance.

Assiette de crudities Maman Blanc

DRESSING:

4 tsp. Dijon mustard
1 tbsp. white wine vinegar
120 ml olive oil
salt and pepper
5 tbsp. cold water

Put the mustard, salt & pepper into a jam jar and mix in some vinegar until the mixture is loose. Then slowly add the other ingredients stirring to make sure the mustard is well diluted and mixed in. Then screw the lid on tightly and give the mixture a good shake.

VEGETABLES

4 beetroots: roots trimmed and cooked in boiling water for 40 minutes, until tender. Cool, peel and slice

150 gm green beans: cook in boiling water for 4 minutes, then drain, rinse in cold water and drain.

150 gm cucumber, peeled, halved lengthways and cut into 2 mm thick slices. Sprinkle with salt and set aside to drain for 30 mins.

2 large carrots, peeled and coarsely grated.

4 shallots, finely chopped

200 gm salad leaves

2 Jack Hawkins tomatoes, finely sliced.

4 eggs, hard-boiled, peeled and quartered

1 tbsp chives, chopped

1 tbsp crème fraîche

ASSEMBLING THE CRUDITIÉS

Mix the cucumber with 2 tbsp dressing and the crème fraîche.

Mix the beetroot slices with 4 tbsp dressing and half the chopped shallots.

Mix the beans with 2 tbsp dressing and the remaining shallots.

Mix the carrots with all but 1 tbsp of the remaining dressing.

Season each dish well and set aside.

Arrange each of the vegetable salads, the salad leaves and hard boiled eggs on a large serving plate. Add the tomato slices and spoon over the remaining dressing.

Sprinkle the whole dish with chopped chives.



Pat Davis's vase of cut flowers

More Images from the Summer Show



Raj's garlic bulbs



Marie-Estelle's strawberries

Notices pages 13 & 14

Attachment 1

THE SUMMER SHOW

Section A - Flowers

1. Vase containing 1 HT rose.
**JOHN & MARY JANE
IRELAND**
2. Vase containing 1 red HT rose.
DERRICK RATCLIFFE
3. The most fragrant rose in the garden.
MARIANGELA RENSHAW
4. Vase of multiflora roses, 3 stems of any variety
MARIANGELA RENSHAW
5. Bowl of any number of roses arranged for all round effect.
EILEEN MAY
6. Vase of Delphiniums, 3 spikes
PAT DAVIS
7. Vase of 1 kind of annual, excluding sweet peas
**JOHN & MARY JANE
IRELAND**
8. Vase of 6 stems of sweet peas, 1 variety
**DAVIS & SUE
MACDONALD**
9. Vase of 12 stems of sweet peas, can be mixed
VIVIAN FOWLER
10. Vase or bowl of pansies or violas with own foliage, not more than 12 stems
THE LINTONS
11. Vase of perennial flowers of any 1 kind
**DAVID & SUE
MACDONALD**
12. Vase of 9 stems or less of mixed perennial flowers
PAT DAVIS
13. *Vase of cut flowers, 3 or more kinds with any foliage, arranged for all round effect (Society vases to be used, available

on day)

PAT DAVIS

14. Vase of flowering sprays of any 1 shrub

PAT DAVIS

15. Vase of flowering sprays of any 1 shrub

PAT DAVIS

16. My favourite pot plant

JOINT: RAJ PATEL;

DAVID & SUE

MACDONALD

17. Arrangement in a goblet of flowers and /or leaves

MARIANGELA RENSHAW

Section B-Vegetables

18. 3 asparagus spears
NO FIRST
19. 6 pods of broad beans
PIP MELOTTE
20. 1 cabbage with at least 5 cm stalk
**JOHN & MARY JANE
IRELAND**
21. 1 lettuce, any variety, with roots.
GEOFF WATERHOUSE
22. 2 courgettes
LIZ CHROMINSKA
23. 3 different herbs, in small bunches,
THE LINTONS
24. 3 onions, autumn sown, as dug, unwashed & with tops and roots intact
ISHBEL PONTEFRAC
25. 12 pods of peas
RAJ PATEL
26. 12 peas, mange tout or sugar snap
BRUCE MAY
27. 4 Potatoes of any one variety
**JOHN & MARY JANE
IRELAND**
28. Bunch of 6 radishes, with tops and roots
NO ENTRIES

29. Bunch of 6 salad onions
JOHN & MARY JANE IRELAND
30. a) 9 shallots (pickling)
(under 30mm)
RAJ PATEL
b) 9 shallots (exhibition)
RAJ PATEL
31. 3 garlic bulbs
RAJ PATEL
32. 3 sticks of rhubarb
(natural)
GEOFF WATERHOUSE
33. Any other kind of vegetable
RAJ PATEL – BEST IN SHOW
34. A display of 3 different seasonal vegetables that you like in a salad
JOHN & MARY IRELAND

Flower/vegetable/fruit- mixed

35. . * 1 flower, 1 f fruit, 1 vegetable (salad or otherwise)
NO FIRST

Special Entry

36. Any **ONE** fruit/vegetable/plant you are proud to display

Section C - Fruit

37. 15 gooseberries
JOHN & MARY JANE IRELAND
38. 15 raspberries, with calyx
DAVID ROSSITER
39. 12 strawberries, with calyx
MARIE ESTELLE HUGHES
40. Display of any other kind of fruit
DAVID ROSSITER

Section D – Novices

For members who have never won first prize for an exhibit.

41. Vase of mixed Flowers
NO ENTRIES
42. Vase of 3 stems of any variety of roses
NO ENTRIES
43. Display of vegetables, numbers as classes B18-B33
BRENNA LATTIMORE & ANDREW LODGE
44. Display of fruit, numbers as classes C37-C40
BRENNA LATTIMORE
45. My favourite pot plant
NO ENTRIES
46. A display of 3 different seasonal vegetables that you like in a salad (see description of salad vegetables in guidance notes)
GARY ROSE

Section E – Children (under 14)

47. Colour picture of a flower – any medium (paint, crayon, collage)
TOM SAVAGE (8) CALLUM LODGE (20 MONTHS)
48. Funny animal or person made of anything grown
HOLLY SAVAGE (9)
49. 6 fairy cakes, decorated as liked
NO ENTRIES

Section F - Cookery

50. Glass jar of marmalade
JACKIE SAVAGE
51. Glass jar of lemon curd
NO ENTRIES
52. 6 scones (savoury)
NO ENTRIES
53. A fruit flan – using seasonal fruit.
NO ENTRIES

54. 6 scones (savoury)
NO ENTRIES
55. Lemon drizzle cake (as per attached recipe)
CAROL MARTINEZ
56. A seasonal sweet item of cookery – i.e. tart, dessert, cake
57. Plate of 6 biscuits (any 1 type)
NO FIRST
58. A seasonal savoury item of cookery – i.e. quiche, pie, flan
NO ENTRIES
59. Plain, wholemeal or speciality bread (any size/shape) made in either traditional way or in bread maker. Present on board/tray
DIANE MCCANN
60. A strawberry dish
NO ENTRIES

Competitions (to be judged by visitors to the Show):

1. An allotment, garden or horticultural related photograph, black and white or colour, no larger than A5.
CLARE EARLE
2. Photograph as above – entrants to be under 16.
NO ENTRIES
3. An arrangement of flowers in a teapot, foliage allowed (any age)
PIP MELOTTE

Attachment 2

GUIDELINES FOR ASSESSMENT

The score sheet has been drawn up to encourage best allotment practice. The judge assesses several aspects on the day of the visit. These guidelines go some way to explaining what is being assessed under each category.

1. Land Management

Soil cultivation: getting the soil into good growing condition, evidence of digging, forking to break down the surface, hoeing, etc. Good control of annual and perennial weeds. Management to attract predator insects, e.g. mix of perennial and annual flowers, water.

Evidence of crop planting system: The judge will note evidence of how the plot holder makes decisions about placing plants in growing groups and consider companion or succession planting.

Well maintained common pathways, neatness and tidiness: Plot holders are required to maintain the paths around their plot as well as those within the plot.

2. Plant growth/yield, pest/disease control

Growth and vigour of plants: the better the growth the more marks should be awarded.

Cleanliness of crops: free from diseases and pests; adequate measures in place to deal with diseases and pest. This arises from observation and recognition of problems that occur and understanding how to deal with them or avoid them occurring.

Potential yield: The judge will assess probable yield of crops by the appearance of the plants.

3. Planning to grow food throughout the year.

Summer and autumn supplies: refers to crops ready for use between June and September.

Winter and spring supplies: refers to crops for use from October to May.

4. Compost

Quality of compost in bins: hand tested, moist, friable, free from any 'volunteer plants' growing in the compost bin.

Volume of active compost bins: The judge will consider the provision of adequate number and design of bins or other composting methods appropriate to the size of the plot.

5. Wildlife friendly gardening

Actively attracting wildlife to your plot can assist in getting the right balance of pests and predators. Features such as flowers, bird feeders, 'bug hotels' and various habitats, water, etc, can make the plot altogether more friendly.

IMPORTANT: All plots are judged by the same standards irrespective of the plot holder, size of plot, or other factors. The judge is looking for best use made whatever the size of plot.

WANDSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
ALLOTMENT JUDGE'S SCORE SHEET
Scheme for the Award of Certificates of Excellence, Merit or Endeavour

Allotment site:

Plot No:

Name of plot holder

1.	Land Management	Judge's marks	Maximum marks
	<u>Soil cultivation</u> , weed control, management for wildlife		10
	<u>Evidence of crop planting system</u> – labels, companion planting, grouping types of plants, etc		10
	<u>Well maintained common pathways</u> , general neatness and tidiness		10
2	Plant growth/yield, pest/disease control		
	<u>Growth and vigour of crops</u> , good sized plants making good use of available space.		10
	<u>Crops free from pests or disease</u> , cleanliness		10
	<u>Potential yield</u> of crops		
3	Planning to grow food throughout the year		
	<u>Evidence of crops for summer and winter supplies</u>		5
	<u>Evidence of winter or spring supplies</u>		10
4	Compost		
	<u>Quality of compost</u> in bins		10
	<u>Volume of active compost bins available and in use</u>		10
5	Wildlife friendly gardening		
	Evidence of methods to encourage wildlife		5
	TOTAL		100
	Signature of Judge:		
	Dates of Judging:		

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**

RHS CONTACTS

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

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

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

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

***Autumn Show: 12 September
AGM: 18 November***

DISCOUNTS

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

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Give 10% of the cost of your
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***[www.cartridgepeople.com/Raising
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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

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

**NEXT BULLETIN: 5 July
2015**

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 June 2015

