

ROEHAMPTON GARDEN SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1873

MONTHLY BULLETIN

June 2015

www.roehamptonallotments.co.uk

SUMMER SHOW

Saturday 20th June at 3pm in St Margaret's Church Hall, Putney Park Lane – it is a great afternoon for all the family!

The schedule and entry form are attached to this bulletin.

Contributions of bottles for the tombola, cakes for the refreshments and produce such as fruit, vegetables, jams, preserves, plants and seed cuttings are all needed. Please bring them to the hall on the morning of the show.

See also p.2 for the Show Secretary's report.



Roses

Recycling Facility Visit



Black sacks of rubbish in containers being loaded onto barges (see p.4.



Tombola

CHAIR'S REPORT JUNE 2015



This May we had a taste of all the seasons, most notably those strong winds early in the month. The Country Natural storage shed on site 3 was tossed onto Bob Aveling's plot. Thank you Bob for being so understanding about the damage! (See picture above.

Please remember the RULES regarding watering. We are **not allowed to use sprinklers** and hosepipes give way to watering cans where necessary.

Thefts. A few sheds were broken into on both sites over 2 weekends and the police were involved. At the same time there was a spate of thefts on the Dover House Estate. The thieves didn't enter through the gates but please lock them behind you at all times (even if you are just popping for a few minutes). An open gate is an invitation to strangers.

As from October (following final confirmation) the Wandsworth allotments service will transfer to a staff mutual (maybe a Charity) entitled 'Enable Leisure and

Culture'. We are convinced that the best way forward for the RGS is to become a Charity ourselves and secure a long lease on the land as soon as possible. To that end we have engaged the services of Russell Cooke, who have given us much "pro bono" advice, and they are helping us with our re-submission to the Charities Commission. We were looking at how many of our members volunteer and about 100 of you do! This is terrific support, thank you. If you would like to help in any way please let me know. There will be plenty of opportunities at the Show, as Carol explains in her article.

See you at the Show on the 20th!

Jackie Savage

07508 559134

Jackiesavage29@gmail.com

SUMMER SHOW

The schedule for the show on Saturday 20th June comes with this bulletin. Please have a look to see what you can enter – there are a few changes, mainly in the cookery section.

Working with our new cookery judge Helen Saberi we have added a dish featuring strawberries that, of course will be abundant. The dish is up to you – it can be an old family favourite or something new you think you will try on the day. The cookery dishes do not have to use home grown ingredients although obviously they are often tastier than shop bought.

We have also added 'speciality' bread to the bread class as many people are now having a go at making focaccia or ciabatta or similar.

The cake that has a given recipe is this year a lemon drizzle cake – where a few people are entering this category presentation will be especially important - as the taste should be similar.

For the flower section we have bought some lovely new transparent acrylic vases to use instead of the old green metal ones. These will be available on the day for anyone entering the category for 3 or more kinds of cut flowers, the displays of which are usually large, colourful and splendid.

Novices are especially welcome to enter and there is a category for those who have not won a first prize in the show before. So even if you entered last year and did not get a first, you can still enter in this class and try for a first prize. There are plenty of people around on the morning of the show to help novices in choosing their best items (always take along a few more than are asked for in the class in case one gets squashed or broken on the way to the church hall), and advise how to best present them.

Lots of families have taken up plots recently and children have their own category as well. Please encourage your child to enter the show as everyone likes to see his or her little masterpieces. If they also enter the autumn show they are in with a chance of winning a prize cup to hold on to for a year.

Finally – we cannot run the show without volunteers and donations, so if you can help the evening before with moving tables (19th June, 5pm at the store on site 2) or on the day helping to clear away teacups please let me know via the website.

There is a donations box in the store for items suitable for the bottle tombola and a children's tombola. Please put your items in the box or bring them along to the church hall on the morning of the show.

Carol Martinez – Show Chair

STORE REPORT

First of all, a huge thank-you to Barbara McCall for passing over everything to me in such good order. She will be a hard act to follow.

We all dread **slugs**, especially at this time of year. It is heart breaking to see the tender plants that we have lovingly grown from seed disappear almost overnight by these slimy pests.

There are several ways of attempting to control them. In the Store we stock **Advanced Slug Killer** pellets from Growing Success, that contain ferric phosphate, which is less harmful to wildlife than those laced with metaldehyde. We also stock **copper tape** which reacts with slime causing a flow of electricity that send the slugs away. We are trialling **Slug Stop**, non-toxic granules that provide a physical barrier around the plants. It has a superior absorbency action that

extracts the moisture from slugs and snails that they need to survive. You pour Slug Stop around individual plants to create a barrier 2cm wide and 0.5cm deep.

Another approach is to use **Nematodes**, e.g. Nemaslug, which have no adverse effect on other types of animals. These nematodes are watered into moist soils, then enter their bodies and infect the slugs with bacteria that kill them. These need to be stored in a fridge so we have decided not to stock them in the Store, but they are available on the internet or can be found in garden centres.

If you want your slugs to die happy, you can try a **beer trap**, or sink a saucer of beer into the ground near the plants that need protecting. This will need topping up regularly and may get diluted by rain.

Apparently, one in five gardeners admit to throwing slugs and snails into their neighbour's gardens. Obviously, we do not recommend this on our allotments!

We now have **Hozelock tap connectors** in stock for when you lose your one, and we will be getting some **Hoselock spray attachments** shortly.

Gill Tamsett, Trading Secretary

THEFTS

During the night of 2nd May 3 separate sheds on site 3 were broken into. A pair of bolt cutters was stolen from one of these. During the night of Saturday 9th May thieves broke into Site2. This time, 16 sheds were broken into, in most cases by padlocks being cut open with bolt cutters. Four electric trimmers and a

garden fork were stolen. On both sites the gates were locked so the thieves obviously gained access over these or one of the boundary fences. The police were called on discovery of the extensive break-ins and thefts on site 2. If you have any information relating to this incident please contact the police and quote **Crime Reference Number 0309885/15**.

Should you be aware of anything suspicious on site please do not hesitate to contact the police on **999** in an emergency or **101** for non-emergency situations.

Jackie Savage, Chair RGS

VISIT TO THE RECYCLING FACILITY

A small group visited the facility that collects black sacks and recycled rubbish from Wandsworth, Lambeth, Kensington & Chelsea and Hammersmith & Fulham Councils. 1000 tonnes of black sack rubbish is collected a day and transported in containers, on barges to Bexley riverside, where it is incinerated and the power used to make electricity. We also saw the recycled rubbish, that is collected in orange sacks (350 tonnes a day), sorted and compressed ready to be sent for recycling.

It is obviously important that we all recycle properly. One of the most frustrating things is the numbers of plastic bags that are recycled in orange sacks. These cannot be recycled by the facility and should be taken back to supermarkets. For more information about recycling:

www.westernriverside.org.uk



Above is an example of a table made from recycled plastic. For more information on recycled products look at the following site.

www.smile-plastics.com

We were also told about another website to review in order to take advantage of offers that support composting in your local area:

www.getcomposting.com

The facility does a lot of education work with local schools and has set up a wormery to make compost. They were using the compost to grow seeds. Jackie has used her wormery for 8 years, which can be obtained from a company called Wiggly Wigglers:

www.wigglywigglers.co.uk

Welcome to new Plot-holders and Members

Site 2

**Elizabeth & Ian Duncan
Brad & Phillipa Sanderson
Brenna Lattimore
Andrew Lodge
Alain Bessan
Monica Tombini
Eugene Power**

Site 3

**Edward Forrester
Alfie & Christine Lay**

SOMETHING I AM PROUD OF



I have had my plot for about eight years and the Soloman's Seal came with it. It has grown from strength to strength and is a delight every spring. **Pat Dark**

My Paths



I am also proud of my paths as they are made from stones I have picked out of the plot! I line the path with plastic sacks then put the stones on top. **Pat Dark**

**DOVER HOUSE ESTATE
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
(DHERA)**

TABLE TOP SALE

Old stuff, new stuff, cooked stuff,
made stuff, etc.
Books, CDs, DVDs (videos even!),
clothes, furniture, cakes, cookies,
toys, games, etc.

**Saturday 27 June from
11am to 3pm
on the Pleasance**

Why not get involved as a seller,
buyer, visitor or volunteer?

For further information contact
[dhera.london+community@gmail.c
om](mailto:dhera.london+community@gmail.com)

REMINDER:

We have been asked on several occasions recently if barbecues are allowed on our allotment plots.

Unfortunately they are not. All Tenants are personally responsible to ensure no smoke nuisance is caused or allowed to be caused. (Rule 21 Wandsworth Letting Agreement)

JUNE RECIPE

Potato Salad with tarragon

900g new potatoes, washed and scrubbed and cooked in boiling salted water until just tender. If large slice or cube.

1 tablespoon of fresh tarragon leaves, chopped

1 bunch of spring onions, washed and chopped

2 tablespoons of cornichons, chopped

2 tablespoons of walnut pieces, browned in the oven (Gas 6/200° C for a few minutes to crisp. Them chopped

Place above ingredients in a bowl.

Dressing:

1 tablespoon tarragon or cider vinegar

2 teaspoons Dijon mustard

2 tablespoons olive oil

2 tablespoon walnut oil

1 teaspoon runny honey

Salt & ground black pepper

Place dressing ingredients in a screw top jar. Screw on the lid tightly, and then shake well until ingredients are combined.

Pour dressing over the warm potatoes and serve or keep in a refrigerator.

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

**Arundel Castle: 5 June
Summer Show: 20 June
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**

**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

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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@roehamptonallotment.s.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