

ROEHAMPTON GARDEN SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1873

MONTHLY BULLETIN

May 2015

www.roehamptonallotments.co.uk

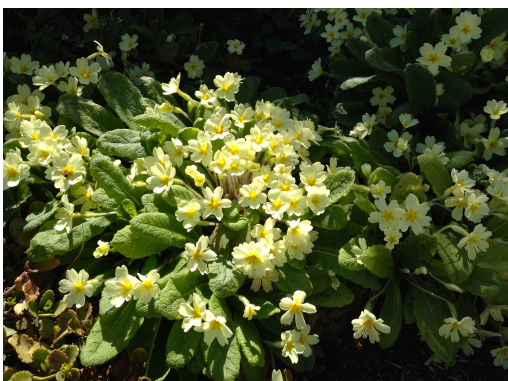
Wisley Trip



12 of us went to Wisley and were taken on a garden tour.



Greenhouses at Wisley



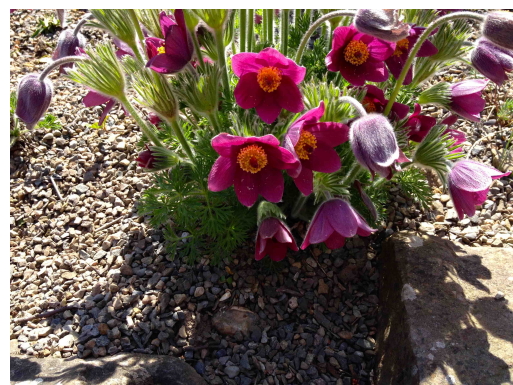
Primroses



Pink bell-shaped rhododendron



Sand & rock garden



Pulsatilla 'Rubra'

Many thanks to Jackie & Mike Cooper - the new locks are excellent!

CHAIR'S REPORT

MAY 2015

OUR 2 SITES: I have had a plot on Site 3 (the larger one with the main gate next to 162 Dover House Road) for a few years now and it has quite a different "feel" to Site 2 (the smaller of our sites, next to 18 The Pleasance, with the Store on it). As your keys fit the locks on both sites why not have a walk round the site you are not on – it is very interesting.

GATES: Talking of locks I hope you are all pleased with the new ones on both sites. PLEASE LOCK THE GATES BEHIND YOU AT ALL TIMES. If there are any problems let me know straight away; my contact details are at the end of this report. Thank you to all those plot holders who helped and particularly Mr and Mrs Pretty who generously let us use their electricity one morning.

STRUCTURES: We have started work on a detailed policy regarding structures on our plots, based on the Wandsworth regulations. If you have any opinions or ideas please let me know.

CHARITY: Our Application to become a Charity has been returned by the Charities Commission, as it needs more detail in certain areas. Thanks again to everyone who is giving so much time to this!

PLEASE DON'T WASH YOUR PRODUCE IN THE WATER TANKS because we don't all use the same horticultural practices and also because they are becoming very muddy.

STORE: Finally a sad goodbye and thank you to Barbara and Dave McCall who are moving out of the area. They have been plot holders and firm RGS supporters for many years and then in the last year or so Barbara has been a wonderful Trading Secretary; her cheerful approach to cold early morning deliveries will long be remembered! Please see Barbara's last Store report in this Bulletin.

Jackie Savage

Jackiesavage29@gmail.com

07508 559134

SHOWTIME – COMING SOON

We have had lots of new people join our happy team of allotmenters. For those that do not know we hold 2 shows a year both of which are great community events for the whole family.

Our Summer Show is on Saturday 20th June at 3pm in the church hall at St Margaret's church on Putney Park Lane.

As well as giving everyone the chance to show off their produce and win cash prizes there will be a refreshments stall selling tea/coffee and cakes, a produce stall where you can buy donated surplus seedlings and plants as well as unwanted/second hand garden tools. There will also be the very popular raffle and tombola – a bottle one for adults and a toy one for children.

In order to run these stalls we rely on generous plot holders to donate items to the raffle and tombola.

From Sunday 3rd May there will be a donations box in the store where you can place the following items;

Bottle tombola suggestions:

Wine, beer or other alcohol
Soft drinks, squash
Food items – salad
cream/dressing, olive oil, ketchup,
olives, Jams and chutneys (home
made or shop bought)
Toiletries – bubble bath, shampoo,
shower gel, liquid soap

Toy tombola suggestions

Small toys such as tub of bubbles,
yo-yo, balls

A week before the show we will be asking for donations of surplus seedlings and plants, unwanted garden tools and **lots of cakes**.

The schedule for the show will accompany the next bulletin at the beginning of June. In the mean time keep growing those prize-winning flowers, fruits and vegetables. There is a novice section for newcomers so everyone can take part!

Carol Martinez, Show Chair

***NEWS FROM THE STORE
AND A FOND FAREWELL!***

The Store is filled to the brim with fabulous products; we have had a massive delivery and are ready for spring and summer growing! We still have some onions left, £1 per kilo, not too late to plant them, and a few potatoes.

There is an extensive range of KINGS SEEDS, with 20% discount and don't forget the amazing Root

Trainers and seed and cutting compost too. Everything to get you going this season!

We also have a great deal on enviromesh, essential for stopping carrot fly and many other pests and to protect all fruit and veg., there is fabulous netting. You can buy just what you need as both are sold off the roll!

If you have just acquired your allotment...congratulations! Do come into the Store between 10-12 every Sunday to have a browse, see what we have and ask questions! If you are a seasoned allotmenteer, do also come and browse we now have so many new items, many requested by Members! We always try to offer all our stock at very competitive prices; so do look at the Store first, before going to other suppliers.

Country Natural Manure is a favourite with Members and we are having deliveries regularly, but we now stock two new Organic Fertilisers that are being hailed as the best yet!

The first is **Groworganic, 100% organic fertiliser**, shredded chicken litter, oven heated eliminating all bacteria and weeds, clean and safe to use as a supplement and compost accelerator as well. It conditions the soil, breaks down clay, safe to use with lime haters. 'No matter what condition your soil, hard sticky clay, sand or even dust, Groworganic will produce healthy bumper crops.' Why not try some in part of your seed-bed and compare?

The second is **6X, 6 times richer**

than farmyard manure; it provides balanced nutrition for vegetables, flowers, shrubs etc. It has been oven heated, to provide a sterilised, weed free and natural fertiliser. Fibrous chicken litter this is also very easy to use and **100% Organic!**

Both of these serve as fertilisers and soil conditioners - they feed both plants and the soil. Here is an interesting analysis of the differences between Organic and Non-organic fertilisers. Soluble chemical fertilisers contain mineral salts that plant roots can absorb quickly, and do boost growth. However these salts do not provide a food source for soil microorganisms and earthworms, and will even repel earthworms because they can acidify the soil. Overtime, soils treated only with synthetic chemical fertilisers lose organic matter and the all-important living organisms that help to build a quality soil!

Therefore, if you need a really good boost for your plot, or you have just inherited a new plot, feed your soil with either of these excellent products!

A fond farewell! This is my last *News from the Store*, as I am soon to move away from Putney and will not longer be able to be the Trading Secretary. The Store has just grown amazingly this last year and has become everything the Store Sub Committee of myself, Jackie, Liz, Carol and Georgina had a vision for when we started. It is a great meeting place and cafe, and is providing many products at great prices for all the RGS Members. I have really enjoyed being the Trading Secretary and

'being in retail' has been something new to me, having been in teaching my entire working career!

The Store could not function without help to unload all the lorries of stock that we now order, so I would like to say a massive thanks to all the volunteers for the help they have given me, carrying in heavy bags, sacks and boxes....thanks to Dave McCall, Greg Willcox, Artan Deliallisi, Jean Bolon, Mike Ebberson, Dave and Jackie Savage and passing others who helped on the delivery days! Also many thanks to all the Store Volunteers who help to run the shop every Sunday.

Have no fear...a new Trading Secretary is already in place! I am very happy to announce that Gill Tamsett has agreed to take on the role and we have been working together, ordering stock, taking deliveries etc., and I know that Gill is going to do a grand job! It has been a great to meet so many excellent gardeners and a pleasure to be part of the Roehampton Garden Society. Allotments are part of our heritage and I am delighted to have been able to contribute to the continuation of ours!

Happy Gardening to everyone and see you at the Show!

Barbara McCall, Trading Secretary

**Recycling Visit, 10am
Wednesday 3 June 2015**

**There are still two places,
so let me know if you would
like to join the visit.**

**Pat Dark (contact details at
end of Bulletin)**

WELCOME TO NEW PLOT-HOLDERS AND RGS MEMBERS

Site 2:

Annelle & Alex Reilly
Chris Malone
Sarah & Johnny Bouchier
Penny Murphy & Terry Baker

Site 3:

Stephen Kalinauckus
Mat Tinker

SOMETHING I AM PROUD OF!



Many thanks to Artan Deliallisi for sending me this photo of Carol Sewell with her tremendous cauliflower.

Isabella Plantation, in Richmond Park is at its best at the moment with wonderful rhododendrons in bloom – do visit!

PHOTOGRAPHY OF OUR LOVELY ALLOTMENTS

Alex Apperley would like to take photos of our plots. He will ask your permission if he sees you on your plot but please let me know if you have any objections.

Thank you

Jackie Savage, 07508 559134

MAY RECIPE

Asparagus with Lemon Butter

Crumbs (thanks to Delia)

570 g asparagus

Finely grated zest of a lemon, plus

1 tablespoon lemon juice

50 g butter

40 g fine white breadcrumbs (2

slices bread, without crusts)

Salt and pepper

1. Wash asparagus and remove woody ends.
2. Steam the asparagus for 5 minutes, until tender.
3. While asparagus is cooking, melt half the butter in a pan then stir in breadcrumbs and stir whilst cooking until evenly browned.
4. Add the lemon zest and season. Tip out onto a plate.
5. Then add the rest of the butter to the pan and when melted add the asparagus and toss in the butter. Sprinkle with lemon juice and season.
6. Divide between warm plates and sprinkle with crumbs as a starter or put asparagus in a serving dish and sprinkle with crumbs and serve as a vegetable accompaniment.

TREE PRUNING SITE 2



At the AGM last November a site 2 plot holder raised the problem of excessive shade caused by high trees along parts of the southern boundary of the site. Over a period of weeks we managed to gain permission to carry out the work from both the householders concerned and then Wandsworth Council. The work has now been completed and hopefully the affected plot holders will enjoy increased sunshine on their plots.



CUT PRICE COMPOSTER

Carol Martinez writes “ I saw this on the website at work – thought it might be worth putting in the bulletin.”

http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/news/article/12813/get_a_cut_price_composter

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

*Wisley trip: 22 April
Recycling Trip: 3 June
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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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

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: 7 June
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
May 2015