

ROEHAMPTON GARDEN SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1873

MONTHLY BULLETIN

October 2015

www.roehamptonallotments.co.uk

THE AUTUMN SHOW



Liz Chrominska's prize winning autumn basket of fruit, vegetables and flowers.

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NB: PHOTOS OF THE SHOW
THROUGHOUT THE BULLETIN



With thanks to Alex Apperley



Carole Sewell's onions – Best in Show

the other proposed Trustees and the Committee, continue with the application and keep you informed of any progress.

Did you see an article in the Business Section of The Sunday Times recently “Invest in an allotment and you'll harvest a fortune”? Apart from the well documented benefits of producing your own fruit and vegetables on your physical and mental health, the article concluded that if you compare the cost of grow your own with the cost of buying organic produce in Waitrose, an allotment is cost effective. Of course once you factor in your time ... well, it's up to you to put a price on that!

Jackie Savage

Jackiesavage29@gmail.com

07508 559134

CHAIR'S REPORT OCTOBER 2015

Thank you to Carol Martinez and the Show Sub-Committee we had another great and well attended Show in September. The quality and quantity of the entries was really remarkable. I am in awe of all this horticultural talent! Many thanks also to Robert Linton (photographs) and Sarah Purcell (production) for our 2016 “Sheds” Calendar which is now on sale in the Store for £4. And thank you to our plot holders whose sheds are featured; it was hard to choose the final 12. The response we were promised in early September from the Charity Commission arrived on 23 September and we have now been asked to address a few more points in our application. I am still optimistic as to the outcome and I will, with the help of

AUTUMN SHOW

We had a good show with lots of entries but unfortunately we were competing with a big event on the river and so had fewer visitors than usual. The tables looked great – heaving with the weight of all the vegetables.



Pat Davis's roses – Best in Show

All of the new flower, fruit and vegetable categories were entered so there were different things to see, such as an autumnal display of orange and / or yellow flowers which were delightful. In the growing chilli plant category, 5 were entered and each splendid plant was a different colour and variety. The biggest, longest etc was popular and we had a competition to guess the weight of the heaviest pumpkin – a rather striking stripy one grown by Noah Bayliss with the help of his mum Karen.

The quality of the produce in the novice section was very high, entered by Penny on site 2 who has only had a plot since spring. It shows what can be achieved if you put your mind to it and get your wellies on.

The children's funny animals and pictures were a joy. It was nice to see a collage for a change, entered by 8-year-old Sally Baker.

The cookery tables were fuller than the spring show. Chutneys and jams were as popular as ever and there were some delicious looking quiches, cakes and puddings.

The auction at the end of the show was successful with many items donated by generous growers and bakers.

Thanks to everyone who entered the show, judged the produce, made cakes, donated bottles and plants, helped on the stalls and assisted with clearing away the tables – and of course those who supported the show by visiting. Hopefully next year we will be the star attraction.

Carol Martinez, Show Chair



NEWS FROM THE STORE

We have lots of interesting items in the Store this month for you to use this autumn.

There are two varieties of **onions sets** which we are selling at **60p a cup or £3.00 per kilo**. **Senshyu Yellow** is a very hardy Japanese variety with semi-globe bulbs. Their skin is golden with white flesh. They should be planted in September or October and should be ready for harvest in June. **Red Winter** has a pinky-red tinged skin and has a superb flavour with good keeping qualities with crisp and sweet flesh.

These can be planted throughout the autumn. Plant 15 cm between the bulbs and 30 cm between rows.

We also have Broad Bean and Pea Seeds from Kings Seeds for planting now.

Broad Bean Aquadulce Claudia is a traditional white seeded variety for planting in late October – November, or February – April. Harvesting is from June onwards. Plant 5 cm deep in rows 60 cm apart. Sow a few extra seeds at the end of the row to replace any gaps that occur. Remember that bean plants are nitrogen fixers, so when cropping is over, cut the plants down and dig in as a green manure.

Pea Meteor is a dwarf variety growing to a height of 35 cm with small but well filled pods so is ideal for small plots.

Sow in late October – November, or March - April. It matures from Mid May onwards. Space seeds 5 cm apart with 60 cm between drills.

You can choose from 4 varieties of garlic, 2 Heritage Hardnecks,

Bohemian Rose and **Mikulov** selling at £2.00 per head, and 2 Softnecks, **Early Purple Wight** and at £1.50.

Hardnecks produce fewer but larger cloves but have a shorter shelf file.

Softnecks are easier to grow and store well.

Garlic is easy to grow but needs a period of cold weather for plants to bulk up. Planting in autumn provides

the necessary chilling period. It benefits from well-drained soil, so add grit as necessary and a couple of buckets of manure per square yard.

Apply a general fertiliser, e.g.

Growmore, at planting time at 50g per square metre. Break up the bulb into individual cloves and plant an inch deep and 6 inches apart. Follow with a light dressing of sulphate of potash in February.

We also have a couple of new items to the Store. **Kneelo Garden Knee Pads** protect your knees and flex as you bend. You just strap them round the knee securing with the Velcro fastener.

One size fits all. We also have **blue netting** recommended by our Show Judge, Paul Ellis-Howe, for keeping white fly off brassicas. Its real use is for preventing debris falling off scaffolding or balconies or over garden ponds. However, you often see it on allotments as it has proved to be so effective. We are selling this at £1.50 per metre and it is 2 metres wide.

Another delivery of **Country Natural**, arrived today, and can be used as a mulch to feed your beds over winter and hopefully help to repress weeds.

Gill Tamsett, Trading Secretary

WANDSWORTH BEST PLOT COMPETITION JULY 2015

Once again we were invited to participate in Wandsworth's annual Best Plot competition, held over the 10 allotment sites. A stricter entry limit was applied this year with only 15% of plots on each site being entered. Using the 5 criteria set by Wandsworth (land management, plant growth, yield and pest and disease control, planning to grow food throughout the year, compost and wildlife-friendly gardening) the team agreed the final nominations on the plot inspection days on each site. The judge, Paul Ellis-Howe, closely examined all

aspects of the selected plots, including lifting leaves to examine for pests and diseases, running his hands through the soil and compost bins to test for texture and noting measures for wildlife-friendly gardening including pollinator friendly flowers. He also looked for evidence of succession planting that would extend the growing season.

Along the way he shared some gardening tips:

Mildew on cucurbits, a common problem at this time of year. The suggestion here was to cut off and destroy the affected leaves so the mildew does not spread into the soil and only water in the morning avoiding wetting the leaves as much as possible. As a remedy, spray the leaves with 2 soluble aspirin in a litre of water or spray with a solution of milk and baking powder with a drop of washing up liquid.

Whitefly on brassicas. This could be controlled with blue enviromesh. (Gill, who manages the Store, has now sourced this and it is in stock.)

Slug deterrent. The judge noted that few plots grew herbs and stressed that as well as being of culinary use, cut herbs, particularly sage and rosemary, strewn around plants made a good slug deterrent. He also suggested that rosemary that had a bitter smell was an indication of poor quality soil.

Compost. A key to achieving good, friable compost was to shred or cut up all matter into small pieces. For smaller plots, where space is of a premium, it was suggested positioning one compost heap on top of another. Alternatively, whizz your compostable kitchen waste in a food processor and apply directly on the soil around plants.

Planning ahead for beans the following year, dig a trench and fill directly with

kitchen waste over the winter months and dig in before planting.
Use of the Native American 3 sisters system of planting, where sweetcorn are used as a stake for climbing beans then under-planted with squash makes good use of space on small plots.

The judge, Paul Ellis-Howe, has offered to come and talk to us early next year and we will let plot holders know the date via the Bulletin as soon as we have it.

Congratulations to Raj who got excellent and the top marks on Site 3.
Jackie Savage

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

ST MARGARET'S CHURCH CHRISTMAS FAIR APPEAL

St. Margaret's Church (where we hold our Shows and AGM) is having a Christmas Fair on Saturday 28th November. They are trying to raise much-needed funds to upgrade the Church roof. They always give part of all monies raised at the fair to Wandsworth Welcare.

Allan Fuller Estate Agents have offered again this year to sponsor them by putting boards up outside homes advertising the Church Fair. The Church has asked us to contact you to see if you would consider putting a board up outside your home to help them raise some money.

If this is something you can help with please email Helen Hargreaves at stmargaret@btinternet.com.

Thank you.

RECYCLE RIGHT CAMPAIGN



**IF YOU ARE ONE OF THE
FOUR WINNING
WANDSWORTH RESIDENTS
PLEASE NOMINATE “THE
ROEHAMPTON GARDEN
SOCIETY” AS YOUR
FAVOURITE ORGANISATION
– WE WILL THEN RECEIVE
THE £2,500 COMMUNITY
REWARD**

The Golden Ticket prize draw recycling initiative was launched on Monday 7th September to encourage local residents to recycle more and also recycle correctly. All residents should receive a book of Golden Tickets and are encouraged to include these in their clear recycling sacks or orange-lidded banks, having first written their contact details on. Golden Tickets found at the recycling sorting plant in Smugglers Way, Wandsworth will be entered into one of four prize draws to be held between 30th October and the end of March 2016.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

WWW.WRWA.GOV.UK/GOLDENTICKET

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS
AND PLOT- HOLDERS

Site 3
Shaun Van Der Wel
Paddock School

OCTOBER RECIPE

Thanks to delicious.com magazine.

The recipe makes 7x500ml jars

Spicy Apple & Walnut Chutney

Ingredients

1.75 litres malt vinegar with a splash of balsamic added

900g light soft brown sugar

1.75kg peeled, cored and roughly chopped Bramley cooking apples

900g onions chopped (or whizzed in a food processor)

450g raisins or sultanas

50g English mustard powder

50g ground ginger

4 tsp mild/medium curry powder

2 tsp cayenne pepper

50g salt

225g walnut pieces

METHOD:

1. Put vinegar & sugar in a preserving pan and bring to the boil, stirring to ensure the sugar has dissolved. Add everything else **Except the Walnuts** and bring back to the boil. Lower the heat and simmer for about 2 ½ hours.
2. Stir regularly to prevent the mixture catching on the base of the pan.

3. The mixture should be quite thick but will thicken more on cooling.
4. To sterilize the jars, wash them in hot soapy water and rinse and dry. Put in the oven at 150° C/130° C fan oven/gas 2.
5. Stir in the walnuts and put into the jars. Seal with waxed paper and cellophane tops and seal with vinegar proof lids.
6. You can eat it immediately or keep in a cool dark place for 6 months.

MORE PHOTOS FROM THE SHOW



Yel

low & orange flowers



AuctionNOTICES

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 Your Diary

AGM: 18 November 2015

2016 dates:

Summer Show 2016: 11 June

Autumn Show 2016: 10

September

AGM 2016: 23 November

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

artandeliailisi@gmail.com

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

THE STORE

*Open on Sunday mornings
between 10 -12.00 noon,
also the café serving tea,
coffee and homemade cake.*

www.vegetableseeds.com

NEXT BULLETIN: 1

NOVEMBER 2015

By email, in store and on both sites.

Copy for next edition to Pat Dark
(020 8789 7568, 27 St Margaret's

*New volunteers to help are
always welcome. Please
contact Carol Martinez at
the Store or leave a
message at:*

root@roehamptonallotment.s.co.uk

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.

Crescent, Putney, London SW15
6HL or by email:
Patdark13@yahoo.co.uk by 26
October 2015

PRIZE WINNERS AT THE AUTUMN SHOW

Section A-Flowers



Pat's Dahlia

1. Vase of 1 giant or large dahlia of any variety
PAT DAVIS
2. Vase of mixed dahlias, not more than 7 blooms
RAJ PATEL
3. Vase of decorative dahlias, not more than 5 blooms
PAT DAVIS
4. Vase of pompom dahlias, not more than 7 blooms, not to exceed 5 cm
MARIANGELA RENFREW
5. Vase of cactus dahlias (approx 10 cm), not more than 5 blooms
MARIANGELA RENFREW
6. Vase of ball flowered dahlias (larger than 5 cms), not more than 5 blooms.
RAJ PATEL
7. Two vases of different dahlias each containing 5 blooms.
RAJ PATEL
8. Vase of cut flower, 4 or more varieties, any foliage, arranged for all round effect.
PAT DAVIS
9. Vase of 3 or more annuals
GEORGINA O'REILLY

10. Vase of orange and yellow flowers,
LAURA DAVIS
11. Vase of flowering stems of fuchsia, not more than 5 stems
PAT DAVIS
12. Vase of HT roses, not more than 4 stems
PAT DAVIS
13. Vase containing 1 HT rose
PAT DAVIS
14. Vase of multiflora roses, not more than 3 stems
PAT DAVIS
15. A table decoration 25 cm max
MARIANGELA RENFREW
16. Vase of 3 Hydrangea stems
NO ENTRY



Raj's dahlias

Section B – Flowers and Vegetables mixed

17. Any exhibit of 3 different kinds of vegetables & 3 containers of flowers
CAROLE SEWELL
18. Any 1 kind of vegetable and 1 kind of flower
CAROLE SEWELL

Special Entry

19. Harvest Collection
LIZ CHROMINSKA

Section C – Vegetables

20. 2 aubergines

JOINT FIRST: RAJ PATEL & RIKKE AMSTRUP

21. 9 French beans
CAROLE SEWELL
22. 9 runner beans
THE LINTONS
23. 9 of any other sort of bean
NO ENTRY
24. 3 beetroot, round or oval with 10cm tops
LIZ CHROMINSKA
25. 1 green cabbage with at least 5 cm stalk

26. 1 red cabbage, with at least a 5cm stalk
VIV FOWLER
27. 3 carrots, any one variety with 10 cm tops
GEORGINA O'REILLY
28. 1 cauliflower
MARIANGELA RENFREW
29. a) 2 cucumbers-grown under protection
RAJ PATEL
b) 2 cucumbers-grown outdoors
NO FIRST
30. 1 fennel
RAJ PATEL



Raj & Rikke's aubergines

31. 3 garlic bulbs
RAJ PATEL
32. 4 different herbs in small bunches
PAMELA PARTRIDGE
33. A pot of one type of home grown annual herb
SUE & DAVID MACDONALD
34. 1 marrow

NO FIRST

35. 4 onions dressed for presentation
CAROLE SEWELL –BEST IN SHOW
36. a) 5 peppers, chilli
CAROLE SEWELL



Display of chilli peppers

- b) a pot of growing chillies
VIVIAN FOWLER
37. 3 peppers, sweet (capsicum)
MARIANGELA RENFREW
38. 5 potatoes, white, any variety
GEORGINA O'REILLY
39. 5 potatoes, coloured, any variety
VIVIAN FOWLER
40. 6 radishes, with tops and roots
NO ENTRIES
41. a) 9 shallots, pickling (under 30mm)
- b) 9 shallots, exhibition
CAROLE SEWELL
42. 1 pumpkin
CAROL MARTINEZ
43. 1 squash (winter or summer)
SUSAN CLARK
44. 2 sweetcorn
RAJ PATEL



Raj's sweetcorn

- 45. 3 tomatoes, large-fruited (Beefsteak)
CAROL SEWELL
- 46. 6 tomatoes, medium fruited
GEORGINA O'REILLY
- 47. 9 tomatoes, any colour, small fruited
PAULA ALDERSON
- 48. 6 tomatoes, plum type
PAULA ALDERSON
- 49. 1 truss of tomatoes, ripe or unripe
RAJ PATEL



Tomato entries, including Raj's 'Lemongelo' tomatoes

NB: Thanks to Alex Apperley for sending in the photo.

- 50. 2 courgettes, any colour
CAROLE SEWELL
- 51. 6 stalks of leaf vegetables
RAJ PATEL
- 52. A display of 3 seasonal vegetables
CAROLE SEWELL
- 53. Any vegetable not in Section C.
RAJ PATEL

- 54. Collection of vegetables & / of fruits of 5 different kinds in a box ort tray
CAROL MARTINEZ
- 55. Collection of vegetables and or fruits of 3 different kinds
CAROLE SEWELL
- 56. The biggest marrow
RAJ PATEL
- 57. The longest runner bean
SUE & DAVID MACDONALD
- 58. The heaviest pumpkin
NOAH BAYLISS
- 59. The largest diameter sunflower
PENNY BAKER



Carol's pumpkin

Section D – Fruit

- 60.** 3 cooking apples, with stalks, any variety
PAT DARK
- 61.** 3 dessert apples, with stalks, one variety
PAT DARK
- 62.** 12 blackberries
SUE & DAVID MACDONALD
- 63.** 1 bunch grapes
GEORGINA O'REILLY
- 64.** 3 pears, with stalks, any variety
BRENNA & ANDREW LODGE
- 65.** 12 raspberries, with calyx
SUE & DAVID MACDONALD
- 66.** 12 of any hybrid berry
NO ENTRIES
- 67.** Exhibit of other edible fruit
IAN POWSEY



Ian's melons

Section E - Novices

- 68. Vase of 3 dahlias
NO ENTRIES
- 69. Vase of mixed flowers
NO ENTRIES
- 70. Display of fruit, one kind
NO ENTRIES
- 71. Dish of vegetables, one kind
PENNY BAKER
- 72. A display of 3 different salad vegetables
PENNY BAKER

Section F- Children (under 14)

- 73. Funny animal made of anything grown
NOAH BAYLESS-BUTT
CALLUM LODGE
- 74. Colour picture of a vegetable or fruit
SALLY BAKER
CALLUM LODGE
- 75. A gingerbread figure or shape
NO ENTRIES

Section G - Cookery

- 76. Plate of 6 canapes
NO ENTRIES
- 77. 6 sausage rolls

THE LINTON

78. Glass jar of chutney
VIVIAN FOWLER
79. Glass jar of pickled vegetables or piccalilli
NO ENTRIES
80. Seasonal savoury item of cookery
NO FIRST
81. Plain or whole meal bread
NO ENTRIES
82. Glass jar of jam
VIVIAN FOWLER
83. Glass jar of jelly
THE LINTONS
84. A ginger cake
HELEN FINCH
85. An apple pie
NO FIRST
86. 6 fruit scones
LAURA DAVIS
87. A seasonal sweet item of cookery
PAMELA PARTRIDGE
88. Homemade wine, cider or infused spirit
VIVIAN FOWLER
89. Homemade fruit cordial
PAT DAVIS



**Variety of tomato entries
PHOTO COMPETITION**

1. **SARAH PURCELL**
2. **NO ENTRIES**
3. **NO ENTRIES**



Visitors looking at produce
(thanks to Ales Apperley)