

ROEHAMPTON GARDEN SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1873

MONTHLY BULLETIN

JULY 2017

www.roehamptonallotments.co.uk



Sue & David MacDonal's winning sweet peas



Raj Patel's favourite pot plant



Mariangela Renshaw's fragrant rose



Mariangela's vase of cut flowers

CHAIR'S REPORT

I hope you enjoyed our busy Summer Show as much as I did. Such a contrast to last year –only one dish of strawberries was on show as they were all over! However, there were wonderful displays of other summer fruits like cherries and currants. Next year we have booked the Church Hall for the 16th June hoping that it will help if it is a week earlier.



The proposal for our new 50-year lease is now with the Borough's team of solicitors and it will be presented to Senior Council Members on 31 July. This proposal is of course dependent on us becoming a Charity.

Jackie

07508 559134

Jackiesavage29@gmail.com

STORE REPORT

All your plants should be growing furiously now, given the amounts of rain and then brilliant sunshine we have had in recent weeks.

We sell many items in the Store to support the main growing season. We have a choice of twines, raffia, metal plant rings and twist ties to control your tall plants, as well as a variety of lengths of canes.

We stock 2 kinds of protective netting. Wondermesh is 3.6 metres wide that provides an effective protective barrier against cabbage fly. It is £4 per metre. The black anti-bird netting is 1 metre wide and protects against birds eating your fruit before you do. It is £3 per metre. Both are sold by the metre.

There are two organic insecticides: Bug Free Spray from Bayer (£6) is made from naturally occurring fatty acids to deal with white fly, green fly, black fly, red spider mite and scale insects. PB Plant Invigorator Spray (£4) not only deals with these, but also powdery mildew and contains a foliar feed.

Maxicrop Original Seaweed Extract is a concentrated liquid plant feed which stimulates growth and boosts healthy root development. It can be used diluted as a drench or a foliar spray. Maxicrop Seaweed Plus Tomato Fertiliser is a potassium rich feed that improves tomato quality and taste and is also ideal for flowering plants. We buy this in bulk, so do bring your old plastic milk or fruit juice bottles and we can fill these up for you. Both are £5 per litre.

Do come to the Store between 10 and 12 on Sunday mornings to have a look at these items and for a tea or coffee and a piece of homemade cake.

Gill Tamsett

SHOW REPORT

We gardeners are hostages to fortune when it comes to the weather and this year is no exception. The heat wave that immediately preceded the Show hastened the demise of roses resulting in far fewer entries in the rose classes this time. However, the hot weather gave a tremendous boost to fruit and vegetables so that, overall, the number of entries was higher than last year, which is always encouraging. So, our thanks go to all the exhibitors whose excellent produce contributed to a very successful event. The quality and variety of the exhibits remains extremely high, making judging no easy task. George Scandrett was unfortunately unable to act as judge this time. We are always very grateful to George for the support he has given to the Shows for so many years and we hope he will continue to do so.

Our thanks on this occasion go to Sheila Konig who stepped-in to judge the Flower classes



And to Charles Gillbe who kindly undertook the judging of Fruit and Vegetables.



The cookery section was very well supported with an impressive array of delicious cakes, flans, preserves and bread. We remain very grateful



To our Cookery Judge, Helen Saberi, who has supported our Shows for several years with her expertise and commitment. We have certainly witnessed an increased interest in this section of the Show in recent years.

It was disappointing that there were no entries in the Novice Section so I would encourage all those who have not exhibited before to think about doing so in September as new competitors really enhance the Shows. There were some excellent entries in the Children's Section and it is very rewarding to witness the interest and enthusiasm of the children who take part, not only with their exhibits but also with their help on the day.

Our two annual Shows continue to attract a large number of visitors with even higher attendance figures this year. The cake stall is undoubtedly a big draw and, as always, was a runaway success. Our thanks go to all those who kindly donated cakes and to the workers in the kitchen who so heroically kept the cakes and teas coming. The buzz in the church hall reminds us of what a valuable community event we are able to provide. But it is not just the teas, the raffle and the tombola that

attracts visitors to our Shows, is obvious that there is a genuine interest in the produce, flowers and cookery. This is further emphasized by the popularity of the auction of produce towards the end of the Show. What is particularly gratifying is witnessing the enthusiasm of the audience – many of the most dexterous bidders being under 10 years of age!

Many thanks, to everyone who donated their produce to the auction. Also, to David Renshaw for his lively and humourous auctioneering skills. The Produce Stall was extremely well stocked with just about everything sold – very many thanks to all those who so generously contributed to its bumper year.

We look forward to our next show in September and, until then, happy gardening.

Mariangela Renshaw

List of prize winners and more pictures from the show on pages 10-14.

BROCCOLI

Raj gave me a very useful article to read, 'Heads up on Broccoli' by James Wong, published in The Observer Magazine, 09.04.17. He wrote the book 'How to Eat Better' by James Wong, published by Mitchell Beazley at £20.

In the article Wong writes about the mantra of 'the fresher the better' and has looked for evidence to back this up. He states that some crops, such as sweet potato, winter squash, tomatoes and berries, show a measureable increase in phyto-nutrients and flavour chemicals with storage.

An exception is Broccoli, which is at its best when just picked. A real reason for growing it on the allotment, cutting it and taking it home to cook immediately! A study in the Journal of Food Chemistry showed that broccoli could lose up to 70% of its Vitamin C and beta-carotene and 50% of its antioxidant activity in just six days.

Pat Dark

UPDATE FROM PUTNEY COMMUNITY GARDENS GROUP

Here is what we have achieved in the last 2 months:

1) Admin.

- Our bank account is now fully working, and the first funds collected from our participation

in the Pollinator Path has been deposited by Jenny.

- We are now a member of 'The Conservation Volunteers', an organisation that gives us access to resources on how to run a community organization, as well as a number of very useful benefits like discounted Public Liability Insurance (which we have signed up for) and grants that do not depend on specific projects (we are applying for it).
- Our constitution should be completed this month and ready for full review.
- Storage unit: Bernie Brennan has found us a lovely spot, opposite the raised bed with the sunflowers, nightshade and nasturtium raised bed. The Community Champion funds will be used to add a gate, and we will build/upcycle shelves etc. The cost of building a gate to it has been agreed and the building work should start soon!

And now for the fun parts...

2) Pollinator Paths:

We have distributed 15 Pollinator Path kits, constituting of 7 plants each, with compost and chicken manure. They have been spread quite nicely across Putney and the Ashburton Estate. Part of it was given when we held our mini Fest day on 13th May on Tildesley Road; the rest was either delivered by Rowan and Ollie or given at the Putney Food Assembly collections. Charlotte, Blae, Rowan, Janine, Candice and I leafleted most of the

estate for the occasion.

3) Youth Club / Ark Academy

Rowan, Charlotte, Floriane, Martel and Hadas have taken part in a project done in partnership with the Ashburton Youth Club (Regenerate UK) and Putney Ark Academy pupils. The aim was to get the kids to build an upcycled garden, and the results can be seen at the back of the Youth Club, near the Basketball ground, as well as throughout our raised beds. They turned a chest of drawers, a bathtub and a sink into planters, and they built and painted lovely signs for the raised beds!

The project was so successful that both the school and Regenerate UK are keen on doing it again next year, over a longer period of time. If you are interested in this, please contact Rowan and Floriane.

4) Orchard Project

Orchard Project: Janine is taking the lead, and consultations will need to be done throughout June and July to create a core group of orchard carers. The aim is to plant the trees at the end of fall, November/December timeframe. Please contact us if you would be interested in joining our orchard team!

5) Everything Else

- The Feel Good Festival, run by Regenerate UK in the Alton Estate (Roehampton) is taking place on 29th July, and we could have a stall to run activities and recruit new members.
- Compost: thanks to Rowan, Blae and Charlotte, we now

have a water butt, a wormery and 2 compost bins that have been kindly given to us and were restored to working order on Sunday, by Markus and Charlotte. We have also built better fencing around the compost directly on the ground. We have yet to set up the water butt, soon though, it will be done.

- Things are growing well everywhere, berries, kale, spinach, kohlrabi, potatoes etc. and the Sunday sessions are growing, but we need more people to join us with the watering. Are you free one evening per week, or every couple of weeks to join one of us?

That's it for the update... We hope to see you either on Wednesday for the foraging walk or on a Sunday, 4-6pm for some gardening!

Have a great week,

Rowan, Floriane, Charlotte, Blae, Janine, Isaiah, Sara, Martell, Markus, Robin, Maria, Will, Jenny, Sean, Ollie, Candice and everyone at Putney Community Gardens!

**AUTUMN SHOW
SATURDAY 9 SEPTEMBER
ST MARGARETS CHURCH
HALL**

**SEPTEMBER BULLETIN,
SHOW SCHEDULE AND
ENTRY FORMS WILL BE
OUT BY 27 AUGUST.**

RHS: SHARING THE BEST IN GARDENING

Do look at the RHS website under the Communities section.

GREENING GREY BRITAIN UNDERWAY



Community wildlife gardens take root across the country as dozens of Bloom groups partner with young people to transform neglected pockets of grey.

www.rhs.org.uk

***Welcome to new plot
holders and members***

***Site 3
Nicola Bradbury***

HOME REMEDIES FOR ALLOTMENTEERS

Many thanks to Emma Blackwell

BLACKFLY KILLER

When pinching out tomato plants use them to make a really spray for black fly. I promise it works!

1 cup of tomato leaves, cut and bruised. Soak in 2 cups of water for 24 hours. Drain well squeezing out as much as possible

Mix with 1 - 2 cups of water until a lightish brown colour and put in a spray bottle.

NON-SMELLY COMFREY TEA FOR AN EXCELLENT PLANT FEED.

Instead of soaking the comfrey in water, which makes it really smelly do the following:

Get a bucket and put a small brick in the bottom

Fill a large tomato pot (which is large but still fits into the bucket) with comfrey, pack it really tightly and bruise it a bit

Put the tomato pot into the bucket so it's resting on the brick. Add a bit of water to get it going and put a couple of bricks on top to weigh down the leaves.

In a couple of weeks you will have a thick dark non-smelling liquid in the bucket. Pour this into a plastic bottle and keep. Mix 15:1 with water, I look for it to be a light tea colour

There is no reason that this couldn't work with nettles too as they get rather smelly as well!

UPDATE ON PROJECT TO MAKE LONDON THE WORLD'S FIRST NATIONAL PARK CITY.

Daniel Raven-Ellison, Chief Exploration Officer, National Park City Foundation, says the campaign continues to make great progress. The project needs the support of the majority of London's elected ward teams to declare London a National Park City. As of today 243 ward teams have already declared with 85 more needed.

WINNERS OF OUR CHALLENGE TO IMAGINE AND VISUALISE LONDON AS A NATIONAL PARK CITY.

Winning ideas included a giant green loop of meadows and trees encircling central London, nature-friendly street, a network of green buses and an app that connects all Londoners to the capital's 'living network'. You can see all the winning and highly commended entries at:

<http://www.nationalparkcity.london>

Or see

Time Out, Londonist websites or in detail on the Architect's Journal website.

If you would like to be involved there are 7 ways you can:

1. A

#BigWalkAroundLondon

Starting tomorrow, I'm going to be going on a 500km #BigWalkAroundLondon to meet with elected councillors and will be asking them to back our campaign. I'll also be using the walk to meet lots of individuals and community groups who are doing great work to make London greener and connect more Londoners to nature. I've written to every councillor in London, so please do encourage any undeclared councillors to meet with me. You can see my rough route [here](#). If you are involved with a project close to the route that you think I should see and share please do email us at hello@nationalparkcity.org.

2. Join our Confluence Walk - July 15

Want to explore London and help make London a National Park City? [Join us](#) for the #NationalParkCity Confluence, a walk through London from lots of different sources that will converge at a final meeting point where we will share our journeys. As we walk we'll be taking and sharing photos of things that celebrate why London can

be a National Park City. If enough people take part perhaps we'll get the #NationalParkCity campaign trending on social media. Thank you to Suzie and Steve for taking a lead on this! [Join here](#).

3. Get involved with #LondonFoxFortnight - July 15-29

As British foxes are having a bit of a rough time at the moment, we thought we'd have a fortnight to celebrate them! Find out more and share your foxy encounters [here](#). There are already a number of foxes on our new map. Thank you to Jasmine and Steve for leading on this.

4. Come to our next campaign meeting - July 12

Our community campaign meetings are friendly gatherings where you can get more involved in the campaign. Everyone is welcome to join us and we are always pleased to see new faces. We always post our meeting dates on [this page](#). Please do come if you can!

5. Ask members of your social network to back the National Park City!

Please ask your friends and social network to declare their support for London to be a National Park City by [sharing this page](#). It only takes a moment and will

help us to grow our campaign and movement. You could simply copy and paste this text: *I've declared my support for London to be a #NationalParkCity! Add your name too* http://www.nationalparkcity.london/declare_your_support.

6. Join our new Facebook group

London National Park City Friends is our new Facebook Group for sharing news, events, opinions and more. [Join here](#).

7. Tweet us!

On Twitter? Do tweet us or tag us with your news, events and photos. We tweet using [@LondonNPC](#) and our hashtags are #NationalParkCity and #MadeByLondoners.

12 inch Heavy Roller Grass Cutter for Sale for £30.

Serviced 4 years ago by Mr Williams and not used since. It is a lovely mower that would suit a small law.

Contact Lesley Harvey or Georgina O'Reilly.

JULY RECIPE

This is a recipe I have adapted from a Waitrose card. I made it for the refreshment at the Summer Show and a couple of people asked me for the recipe. It makes a good pudding served with cream, yoghurt or ice cream or is good as a cake for tea. It needs to be kept in the refrigerator or eaten quickly as it is very moist!



- of the castor sugar and leave for 30 minutes while you prepare the cake.
2. Using an electric whisk beat together the remaining sugar and sugar, then whisk in the eggs. Fold the sieved flour and baking powder and the ground almonds with a metal spoon.
3. Stir in the rhubarb and sugary juices into the cake mixture with a little milk.
4. Put the mixture into the prepared tin and sprinkle the flaked almonds on top.
5. Bake for 25 minutes, then lower the heat to 180° C, gas mark 4 and cook for a further 20-25 minutes, until risen and brown and firm to touch. Allow to stand in the tin for 10 minutes before putting on a cooling tray.

Rhubarb and Almond Cake

(Serves 8/10)

Ingredients

400g rhubarb, trimmed and cut into 2cm pieces
 200g-castor sugar
 150g butter, softened
 2 eggs
 110g self-raising flour
 ½ tsp baking powder
 100g ground almonds
 1-2 tablesp. Milk
 Few drops almond essence
 25g flaked almonds

1. Preheat the oven to 190° C, gas mark 5. Grease a round 23cm spring-form tin and line the base with baking parchment. Place the rhubarb in a bowl with 50g

Below are Vivien Fowlers prize biscotti biscuits



ROEHAMPTON GARDEN SOCIETY: SUMMER SHOW PRIZEWINNERS

Section A - Flowers

1. Vase containing 1 HT rose, excluding red varieties
Ruth Barnwell
2. Vase containing 1 red HT rose
Mariangela Renshaw
3. The most fragrant rose in the garden –
Mariangela Renshaw
4. *Vase of multiflora roses, 3 stems of any variety – **No first prize**
5. *Bowl of any number of roses arranged for an all-round effect - **No first prize**
6. Vase of delphiniums, 3 spikes
No entries
7. Vase of any 1 kind of annual, excluding sweet peas – **Georgina O'Reilly & Carol Martinez**
8. Vase of 6 stems of sweet peas, any 1 variety – **Vivien Fowler**
9. Vase of 12 stems of sweet peas, can be mixed varieties – **Sue & David McDonald**
10. Vase or bowl of pansies or violas with own foliage, not more than 12 stems
Carol Martinez
11. Vase of perennial flowers of any 1 kind – **Raj Patel, Best Flowers in Show, Lilies**
12. Vase of 9 stems or less of mixed perennial Flowers - **No entries**
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) – **Mariangela Renshaw**
14. Vase of flowering sprays of any 1 shrub
No entries

15. Vase of mixed flowering sprays from shrubs – **No entries**
16. My favourite pot plant – **Raj Patel**
17. *Arrangement in a goblet of flowers and/or leaves - **Vivien Fowler**



Section B - Vegetables

18. 3 asparagus spears – No first prize
19. 6 pods of broad beans – No first prize
20. 1 cabbage with at least 5 cm stalk
Pat Dark
21. 1 lettuce, any variety, with roots
Vivien Fowler, Best Vegetable in Show
22. 2 courgettes – any colour / shape
Mariangela Renshaw
23. 3 different herbs, in small bunches,
(not more than 25 cms) – Helen Finch
24. 3 onions, autumn sown, as dug,
unwashed & with tops and roots
intact. No first prize
25. 12 pods of peas – Sue & David
MacDonald
26. 12 peas, mangetout or sugar snap
Helen Finch
27. 4 Potatoes of any one variety
Jackie Savage
28. Bunch of 6 radishes, with tops and
roots – No first prize
29. Bunch of 6 salad onions – Sue &
David MacDonald
30. a) 9 shallots (pickling) (under 30mm)
No entries
b) 9 shallots (exhibition) - No entries
31. a) 3 garlic bulbs – Helen Finch
b) 3 elephant garlic bulbs – No first
prize
32. 3 sticks of rhubarb (natural) Jenny
Gorle
33. Any other kind of vegetable not listed
above – Carol Martinez, French
Beans
34. A display of 3 different seasonal
vegetables that you like in a salad
Georgina O'Reilly

Flower/vegetable/fruit – mixed

- B35.* 1 specimen each of 1 flower, 1 fruit,
1 vegetable – Mariangela Renshaw





Special Entry

B36. Any **ONE** fruit/vegetable/plant you are proud to display

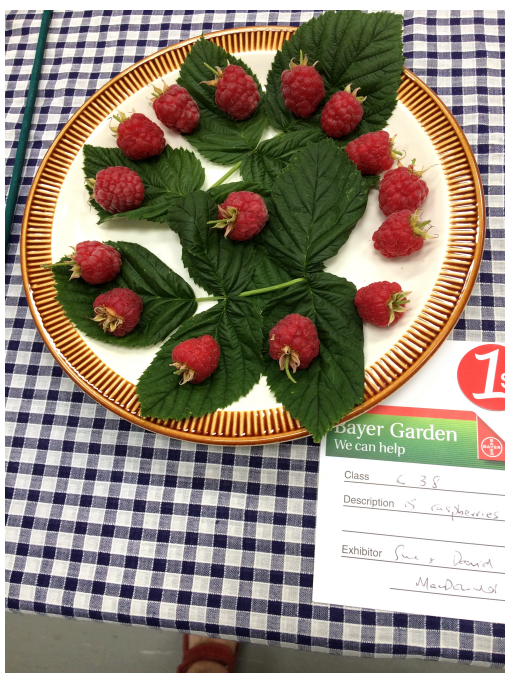
Eva Knedlova – Capsicum Plant



Section C – Fruit

37. 15 gooseberries

Jean & Patrick Crawford



38. 15 raspberries, with calyx

Sue & David MacDonald

39. 12 strawberries, with calyx
No first prize

40. Display of any other kind of fruit
Vivien Fowler – Cherries



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 – No entries
44. Display of fruit, numbers as classes C37-C40 – No entries
45. My favourite pot plant – Jean & Patrick Crawford
46. A display of 3 different seasonal vegetables that you like in a salad
– Jean & Patrick Crawford

Section E- Children (under 14)

47. Colour picture of a flower – any medium (paint, crayon)
Callum Lodge
Angus Lodge

48. Funny animal or person made of anything grown
Sally Baker

49. A collage made from pictures from a seed catalogue – Callum Lodge

Section F - Cookery

50. Glass jar of marmalade
Helen Compson
51. Glass jar of lemon curd
Ruth Barnwell
52. 6 scones (savoury) -Vivien Fowler
53. A fruit flan – using fresh seasonal fruit – No entries
54. A rhubarb dish – Pat Dark
55. Lemon drizzle cake (as per given recipe) – Ruth Barnwell
56. A seasonal sweet item of cookery – i.e. tart, dessert, cake – Helen Compson
57. Plate of 6 biscuits (any 1 type)
Vivien Fowler
58. A seasonal savoury item of cookery – i.e. quiche, pie, flan. - No first prize
59. Plain, wholemeal or speciality bread (any size/shape) made in either traditional way or in bread maker. Present on board/tray
Ruth Tighe
60. A strawberry dish – No entries

Competitions

Photograph – (child) Tom Savage
Photograph – (adult) Jackie Savage

Flower arrangement in a teapot
Sheila Konig

NOTICES

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Summer Show: 24 June 2017
Autumn Show: 9 September 2017
AGM: Wednesday 15 November 2017

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

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

THE CONSERVATION

FOUNDATION TOOL SHED Mend

and re-furbished old garden tools
For schools
www.conservationfoundation.co.uk
www.vegetableseeds.com

DISCOUNTS

Adrian Hall, East Sheen

On presentation of your RGS membership card you will receive 10% discount on horticultural goods that you take away with you, not on delivered items.

Neal's, Heathfield Road, SW18 3HR (opposite Wandsworth Prison)

Register for their loyalty card, as an RGS member by showing your membership card, giving your name, email address, post-code. A 7% retrospective discount on goods purchased, which can be redeemed at the time of the next purchase (like a Nectar card). The amount of discount is recorded as 'points' on the card and shown on each till receipt. £5.00 worth of points is put on your card as a thank you when you register. If you are over 50, and a loyalty card member, you will receive 10% discount on Wednesdays.

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

AUSTIN MOWERS

Repairs and sells reconditioned mowers and sharpen shears. 300 Garrett Lane, SW18 4EH 020 8874 4206 www.austinmowers.com
austinmowers@aol.com

YOUR LOCAL LOCKSMITH
Professional & Reliable Service
Complete Security Specialists
Keys Cut

Lock & Safes Emergency
Locksmith Security Gates &
Grilles Alarms

391 Upper Richmond Road West,
East Sheen, SW14 7NX Tel: 0208
392 2233

SECURITY

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

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

MANTRA LANDSCAPES

Grounds maintenance specialists'
www.mantralandscapes.com
Alexander Barrington Thompson-
Byer
Tel: +44 (0)7985 463 283

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 bagged up and
gardeners are welcome to collect
between 8am -5pm, 7 days a week.
They will also deliver manure in
larger loads (approx 60 bags) to
allotments in the area, on
Saturdays.

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

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

Volunteer gardeners needed

Volunteers are needed to help in
the large and beautiful gardens at
Mount Court which is a retirement
home in Weimar Road, Putney
SW15 1SJ. If you are interested
please phone Maggie on 07549
279 215.

THE STORE

Store open on Sunday mornings
between 10 -12.00 noon. Café,
serving teas, coffee and
homemade cake.

NEXT BULLETIN:

The next Bulletin,
Sunday 27 August 2017
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 to:
patdark13@yahoo.co.uk by 10
August 2017