

# ROEHAMPTON GARDEN SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1873

## MONTHLY BULLETIN

November 2018

[www.roehamptonallotments.co.uk](http://www.roehamptonallotments.co.uk)



**Jackie Savage being thanked for all her hard work as Chair for the last three years by Helen Finch the new Chair.**

***The 2018 AGM was held at Roehampton Cricket Club. Over 50 members attended a very pleasant social evening with delicious food and drink. Brief summaries of the annual reports were presented, the new committee elected and cups and prizes presented by Stephie Sutters, West Putney Councillor & Chair of Community Services & Open Spaces. Our President the Right Hon. Justine Greening MP also attended. See photo and names of members of the new committee on p.2. Also cup winners on p8//9/10.***



**The Committee elected:**

**Helen Finch, Chair**  
**Jackie Savage, Vice Chair & Minutes Secretary**  
**Janis Humberstone, Treasurer**  
**Carol Martinez, Bulletin Editor & Joint Chair of Shows**  
**Mariangela Renshaw, Joint Site 2 Secretary & Joint Chair of Shows**  
**Elizabeth Smart, Joint Site 2 Secretary**  
**Vivian Fowler, Site 3 Secretary (outer area)**  
**Alison Linton, Site 3 Secretary (inner area)**

**Gill Tamsett, Trading Secretary**  
**Greg Wilcox, Store Manager**  
**Elaine Barnwell, IT Secretary**  
**Patrick Crawford, Buildings & Facilities Manager**  
**Mike Cooper, Security Manager**  
**Brenna Lattimore, Catherine Maunsell-Bower**  
**Officers non-voting:**  
**Jean Crawford, Website Manager**  
**Robert Linton, Membership Secretary**  
**Shirley Gillbe, Site Manager with ENABLE (Wandsworth)**



## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

This is my first report as Chair of the RGS. Many of you already know me especially those who have plots on Site 3, as I have been the Site Secretary for the last 4 years. I look forward to becoming more acquainted with the plot holders on site 2 and other members of the RGS.

Many thanks for all the support and encouragement that I have been given in putting myself up for this demanding role. Demanding in part because Jackie Savage, who has just stepped down from the Chair, set an amazing pace with getting things done and moving the Society forward. Fortunately, she has left a legacy of a very competent and committed committee who I know will be an invaluable support for me as Chair. Also, much has been formalized over the last few years so the organization can reap the benefits of all the work. There is still much to be done which we will tackle once I have found my feet as Chair with all the resources of our very able committee. I know we also have a fantastic resource within the membership that we will need to call on from time to time.

You will be hearing from me in every Bulletin so I will be able to keep you informed about progress and general happenings in the RGS.

*Helen Finch, Chair*

**All policies and procedures are on our website.**

**[www.roehamptonallotments.co.uk](http://www.roehamptonallotments.co.uk)**

## **STORE REPORT**

There has been huge demand at the Store for garlic, shallots, onions, potatoes and bulbs this year.

There will be opportunity to purchase onions, including red onions, shallots and garlic for spring planting and also don't forget to plant broad beans.

Spring bulbs have continued to be popular and it has been difficult to keep up with demand.

We trialled opening the Store on Saturday mornings in March and April this year, with mixed success. We believe that our members appreciated the opportunity to come on Saturdays so we will be opening on Saturdays next year but only for an hour between 11 and 12 noon from mid March to the end of April, dates to be confirmed.

*Gill Tamsett, Trading Secretary*

### **CHRISTMAS STORE OPENING TIMES**

**Last day for buying things in the store in 9 December.  
Don't forget the tools, gloves and seeds make excellent Christmas presents!**

**Re-opens on 6 January. Buy your onions and seed potatoes!**

## ***PLOT JOBS FOR NOVEMBER***

Continue to clear all plant debris from plots. Do not add blighted tomatoes to your compost, but burn or take to the dump.

Tidy up and re-cut grass path edges where the grass has encroached on your plot.

Empty compost heaps and use the well-rotted dark crumbly material.

Apply a 5cm layer of well-rotted compost or manure to bare plots or cover bare areas with brown cardboard weighed down with damp grass clippings. (*Country Natural rotted stable manure available in store*)

Add layers of the un-composted stable manure from the piles to your compost heaps and spread thinly on bare soil to rot down over winter.

Prepare a winter compost trench for next season's moisture loving plants such as sweet peas, runner beans or squashes. Dig a trench a spade deep and fill with kitchen vegetable waste covering each additional layer with soil.

Continue to sow overwintering broad beans.

Sow hardy peas either straight into the ground under fleece or 3 to a 9" pot to be planted out when the roots reach the bottom.

Sow peas for pea shoots in a box or gutter in the green house or windowsill for salad or risotto at Christmas time.

Sow boxes of cut-and-come-again salads in the green house or a sheltered spot covered with fleece.

Finish planting onion sets and garlic.

Order bare root trees now for the best selection.

Fix grease bands to fruit trees to protect against winter moth. Start winter pruning of apples and pears.

Keep overwintering brassicas covered with netting to prevent pigeon damage. Stake tall brassicas against wind damage.

Start to harvest winter cabbage, Brussels sprouts and leeks. Wait until after frosts for parsnips as they will be sweeter.

Clean the greenhouse to maximise light levels and before the water is turned off in December.

**Prepare for plot inspections early this month. Tidy plot, make sure weeds are under control, paths are well maintained and not obstructed**

***An image sent by Vivian Fowler***



***The Linton's produce***

### ***Bonfires***

**Site 3 - Saturday 3 November at Bob's plot, Dover House Gate entrance. Bonfire lit at 5pm. All welcome including friends and family. Bring drinks, food and sparklers.**

**Site 2 - Monday 5 November. Bonfire to be lit at dusk.**

**NOTE: Small bonfires are allowed on plots on the weekend of 3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> November ONLY - please remember to check for hedgehogs, some have been sighted on the Dover House estate. The plot holder must attend at all times with an attached water hose to hand and ensure that the fire is fully extinguished when they leave site.**

**RGS email, As you know the email system was changed earlier this year. Those of you on email should all have been receiving emails from [rqs.sw15@gmail.com](mailto:rqs.sw15@gmail.com). If you have not been receiving any, then please check your spam/junk folders. In order to be sure to get them in future please set up [rqs.sw15@gmail.com](mailto:rqs.sw15@gmail.com) as a known contact.**

### ***PLOT INSPECTIONS IN NOVEMBER***

The Inspection Team want to see:

- The plot has been tidied up for the winter, so there would be quite a lot of bare ground.
- Weeds are under control and particularly not likely to invade any neighbouring plots either by sending out runners or by spreading seeds.
- Surrounding paths are not obstructed and are reasonably well maintained.

If the inspection team identifies a problem the plot holder will be contacted. The aim is to give guidance and encouragement but if there have been problems with cultivation in the past the team will take this into account. We are mindful that there is a lengthening Waiting List and since allotments are a public facility in high demand and short supply we have a responsibility to ensure plots are well used.

Please let us know if there are any circumstances (e.g. illness or injury) that have prevented you from looking after your plot. Please contact site secretaries as follows:

For Site 2 (The Pleasance):  
Mariangela Renshaw 07770 968895  
or Elizabeth Smart 020 8878 5083

For Site 3 (Dover House Road):  
Plots 50 to 100 (outer plots) contact  
Vivien Fowler 07525 143 265

Plots 101 to 127 (middle area) Alison  
Linton 07764 587147  
Or email [rqs.sw15@gmail.com](mailto:rqs.sw15@gmail.com)

***Emma Blackwell's butternut squash hanging out to dry.***



***NOVEMBER RECIPE  
ROASTED SQUASH AND  
RICE SALAD (serves 4-6)***

700g butternut squash or other  
2 cloves garlic (peeled & crushed)  
Pinch dried chilli  
2 tbsp balsamic vinegar  
3 tbsp olive oil  
2 large red onions, peeled and cut  
into 8 wedges  
12 cherry tomatoes  
Salt & black pepper  
100g brown Patna rice

Basil oil  
Clove garlic  
2 large handfuls of basil leaves  
1-2 tbsp white wine vinegar  
7 tbsp olive oil  
Salt and black pepper

40g blanched hazelnuts  
60g Parmesan cheese, grated

1. Heat oven to 220C/Gas 7. Cut squash in half, remove seeds, and then cut into slices 2cm thick. Spread on two baking trays with the tomatoes and onions. Put the crushed garlic, chilli, balsamic vinegar and olive oil in a jar and shake well. Pour over the squash, tomatoes and onions. Bake for about 30 minutes until caramelised.
2. Cook the rice in a large pan of boiling salted water for about 25 minutes. Drain and cool.
3. Make the basil oil by pounding the garlic clove and basil with a pinch of salt in a pestle and mortar. Put this mix into a screw top jar with the wine vinegar and olive oil. Shake well.
4. Mix half of the basil oil into the rice.
5. To serve, mix the rice and vegetable and put into a dish. Pour over the rest of the oil and sprinkle over the grated cheese and hazelnuts.



***Mr Lui's sun dried tomatoes***



## **OBITUARY**

We are sorry to announce that Lena Parsons has died, aged 98 years and 4 months. She was the last of the original plot holders, having lived in the house backing on to her plot all her life, until she had a stroke about two years ago. She started working the plot, alongside her father, at the age of five and took it over full time in her mid teens following his death.

She attributed her long life to knowing exactly what was in the fruit and vegetables that she ate....a great character and, like Nina, part of the history of the Dover House Estate. It seems fitting that she has gone in the centenary year of the end of a war that caused the Estate to be built as homes for heroes.

## **BULLETIN REPORT**

This is my Bulletin as I am passing the baton to Carol Martinez who will be editing the Bulletin from now on.

I took over writing the Bulletin from Paula Alderson in May 2008, so have been editing the Bulletin for ten years, producing over 100 editions. It is worth noting that Paula used to chair the society, edit the Bulletin, was Site Manager for the RGS and Site Secretary for Site 3, amongst other things and had a delivery round!

The Bulletins have developed as my skills have.

Colour photos have been introduced, links to web-sites, places to visit and recipes and now the Bulletin is written by a team rather than one person. One of the biggest changes has been circulation by email rather than hand delivery, as when I first took over.

At the July 2008 Show George Scandrett was the produce judge and in October 2008 Derek Ratcliffe took the prize for best dahlia. George only recently retired and Derrick is still taking prizes, this year for his HT rose.

For years the Bulletin was printed by Wandsworth Council in-house printing service, led by the very efficient and charismatic Lee. The service worked well as I could email my copy to Lee and pay for it when I collected it two days later from the Town Hall. In 2017 Wandsworth Council decided to close down the service and out-source it. We persevered with the new system for about a year, but copy had to be costed, put out to tender and a price agreed, then printed and delivered, making the timescale between two to three weeks. Also invoices became very erratic. This finally proved so difficult so we moved the printing to London Print Ltd on the recommendation of the Putney Society. This has proved a very efficient service with a fast turn around, courier service and instant invoice for payment.

My thanks to all who have contributed regularly and those, that contribute occasionally with letters, recipes, photos and items of interest.

**Pat Dark**

## **PRIZE-GIVING AT THE AGM**

### ***Special Awards for the Summer Show***

**The Roehampton Estate Challenge Cup (presented by Douglas Overall)** – The best vegetable in the summer show  
**Natalya Ribeaux (for garlic)**

**The Hugh & Lady Linstead Centenary Cup**– The most points for vegetables in the summer show  
**Vivian Fowler**



**The Davis Memorial Cup** – The best exhibit for 1 vegetable/1 fruit/1 flow  
**Jackie Savage**



**The Lady Hudson Cup** - The best rose in the summer show

**Robert Linton**



**The Dr Howard Coulthard Cup** – The best bowl of roses arranged for an all round effect

**Ruth Barnwell**



**The Lady Corry Cup** - The best vase of multiflora roses

**Carol Martinez**





**The A Norman Rogers Challenge Cup**

The best vase of cut flowers, 3 or more kinds

**Mariangela Renshaw**

**The Barbara Dacle Cup**

The best flower display in a goblet

**Mariangela Renshaw**

**The Summer Cookery Cup**

The highest number of points in Section F

**Ruth Barnwell**

**The WTF Iles Memorial Cup**

The novice with most points in the show

**Natalya Ribeaux**

**Special Awards for the Autumn Show**

**The Reta Challenge Cup**

The best vegetable in the autumn show – Capsicum plant

**Raj Patel**



The Hugh & Marie Jenkins Trophy  
Most points for vegetables in the Show

**Raj Patel**

**Dr Miguel Lacroze Cup**

The best Harvest Collection

**Carol Martinez**

**The Tommie Noon Cup**

The best exhibit in class C54 – 5 different vegetables and fruit

**Jean & Patrick Crawford**

**The Barnes & Mortlake Herald Challenge Cup**

The best exhibit of dahlias

**Vince Cottam**



**The Jack Hawkins Challenge Cup**

Best vase of 4 different types of flowers

**Mariangela Renshaw**

**The Ben Dandey Memorial Cup**

Best vase of roses

**Melanie Tham**

**Annual Awards**

**The Reverend PG Wallis Cup**

Most points for fruit in both shows

**Jackie Savage**

**The JHP Higgins Cup**

The exhibitor gaining the most points in horticultural sections in both shows but not successful in winning a major horticultural award

**Helen Compson**



### **The Banksian Medal**

The exhibitor with the most prize money in horticultural sections of both shows

**Georgina O'Reilly**



### **The Rita Noon Cup**

The most points in the children's classes in both shows

**Angus & Callum Lodge**

Collected by their mum Brenna



### **The RGS Challenge/Paula Alderson Memorial Cup**

For the best kept allotment

**Mr Lui**



Above is Mr Lui's plot (photo taken on 15 October). He has 3 rods and it has been cultivated for 2 years.

You may remember Mr Lui's sun-dried tomatoes on the front cover of the September Bulletin & on p.6 of this Bulletin.

Mr Lui's plot is always well tended and full of diverse and healthy vegetables that he cultivates all year round. Mr Lui is also noted for his generosity in sharing his bounty and has introduced his neighbours to some delicious varieties of vegetables.

## **NOTICES**

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

#### **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](http://www.roehamptonallotments.co.uk)

#### **RHS CONTACTS**

Committee Chair: Helen Finch;  
Site 2 Joint Allotment Secretaries  
Mariangela Renshaw & Elizabeth Smart  
Site 3 Allotment Secretaries: Helen Vivian Fowler & Alison Linton.  
Site Manager: Shirley Gillbe;  
Comments, questions for Chair and/or Committee via website:  
[rgs.sw15@gmail.com](mailto:rgs.sw15@gmail.com)

#### **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](mailto:jackiesavage29@gmail.com) or 07508 559134

## **PLOT NUMBERING**

Please ensure your plot is clearly numbered and the label is not hidden under some plants!

You can make your own; have a look round and you will see some lovely creative designs or you could buy one in slate or metal from a garden centre. Make sure it is large enough for the number to be seen clearly from the side path and it doesn't fade. You could also paint the number onto your shed.

Failing that, we have large white plastic ones with stick on numbers and letters that you can collect free in the Store. These will last you for several years.

#### **THE CONSERVATION FOUNDATION TOOL SHED**

**Mend** and re-furbished old garden tools

For schools

[www.conservationfoundation.co.uk](http://www.conservationfoundation.co.uk)  
[www.vegetableseeds.com](http://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,**  
10% of the cost of your order back to the Society when you buy from:  
**[www.cartridgepeople.com/RaisingMoneyFor/Roehampton-GS](http://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](http://www.austinmowers.com)  
[austinmowers@aol.com](mailto:austinmowers@aol.com)

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**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](mailto:artandeliallisi@gmail.com)

**MANTRA LANDSCAPES**  
Grounds maintenance specialists'  
[www.mantralandscapes.com](http://www.mantralandscapes.com)  
Alexander Barrington Thompson-Byer. Tel: +44 (0)7985 463 283

**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](http://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**  
2019. Editor Carol Martinez. Copy to [rgs.sw15@gmail.com](mailto:rgs.sw15@gmail.com)