



Roehampton Garden Society

AGM 2025

Site Secretary Reports

Site 2 (plots 1-49)

It's now been 2 years that I have been Site 2 secretary and I am still very much enjoying the role. Overall Site 2 is looking good. A number of plots have changed ownership due to circumstances and a few large plots of up to 5 rods have been divided into 2, 2.5 or 3 rod sizes which are much more manageable. This also helps tremendously with tackling the long waiting list. We have 9 new Plot holders and some of these new people have done extremely well at tackling rather overgrown/neglected plots. A few of these people will be awarded "Certificates of Excellence" at the AGM to highlight their achievements.

On 21 June 2025, we had a wonderful day as we combined the NGS (National Garden Scheme) Open day on Site 2 with our own RGS Summer Show. It was a beautiful day, the sun was shining all day and as well as many visitors and exhibits in the Show, there was plenty of tea and cake to be enjoyed.

Many thanks to the toilet cleaning volunteers who vigilantly keep the toilet pleasant. And many thanks to the Store volunteers who enable us to purchase seeds, compost and many other items on site. Also we owe thanks to the 'Tea Hutters' led by Georgina O'Reilly who look after the social area behind the store.

I look forward to another year as Site 2 secretary and wish to thank Helen Finch and all the members of the RGS Committee who have been extremely helpful in assisting me with this responsibility.

Susan Bennett
Site 2 Secretary

Site 3 (plots 50-100)

I took over the site secretary role for the outer plots on Site 3 in January. I'm sorry that I'm not able to attend the AGM in person as I will not be in the UK due to work commitments.

This has been a stable and positive year for outer plot holders on Site 3. It was a pleasure to see the plots being productive during the last plot inspection, achieved in varied ways. The plots continue to be well maintained overall. I feel a sense of community, with plot holders supporting one another and contributing to the friendly atmosphere that makes coming to the site such a pleasure.

A total of 6 plots were given up since I took on the role, including the small, 1 rod plot that had been held by a local school given up due to their moving away from the local area. Thank you to the adjoining plot holder for looking after this plot until a suitable school or organisation is found to take it on. The other 5 plots have been re-let with no plots divided or merged. Four were promptly reallocated, ensuring minimal downtime and continued use and/or preparation of the available growing space; the fifth required some remedial work before it was let.

I supported the routine inspections in July and November resulting in very few advisory emails/conversations for minor issues. I have not issued any stage letters. In most cases, concerns were quickly resolved.

General upkeep of paths and shared spaces has been good, thanks to the efforts of plot holders who contribute time and care to maintaining the site's appearance.

My sincere thanks go to Helen Finch for her continued leadership and commitment, and for her help during my transition into the role.

Caroline Alexander
Site 3 Secretary plots 50-100

Site 3 (101-127)

I welcomed 10 new plot holders to site 3 this year. This turnover was partly the result of a few long standing plot holders relinquishing their plots. Additionally, 2 extra plots were created by splitting a 5 rod plot and a 3.5 rod plot. In doing so, the Society has been acting in line with the Council's policy of increasing access to leisure services.

I am particularly pleased to report that 2 hard to let plots have been allocated. One was achieved through the removal of 3 large trees and even then it needed a lot of work. Both of the new tenants have transformed their plots; an inspiration to us all.

Overall, the standard of horticulture remains high. The inspections highlighted a number of recurrent issues e.g. plants growing over the boundaries of plots with the common paths and over-sized trees. I recognise that some of these were planted a long time ago but if left unpruned they can impact adversely upon neighbouring plots.

Sadly, I received 2 reports of anti-social behaviour. One concerned the dumping of garden waste and another taking fruit without permission. Fortunately, such conduct is rare and the allotments continue to provide a place of peace and productivity for its plot holders.

Richard Standen
Site 3 Secretary, plots 101-127