

October 2023

NEWSLETTER Egham Gardens & Allotments Association



AUTUMN IS HERE AGAIN!

The nights are beginning to draw in and soon we will resume our mole like existence for the next few months. On the plus side it allows plenty of time for reflecting on what you did (or didn't) do, how well it worked and what, if anything, to do bigger and better



One good thing to come out of the past wet couple of months is that the pumpkins are swelling and looking good in readiness for Halloween.



Not everything has to be dull and dreary throughout winter so why not plant up some winter baskets and tubs to bring some colour and interest to the garden. Winter hanging baskets look really good so swap the summer annuals with some tougher plants that will withstand the frosts. There are many hardy plants to choose from cyclamen, primroses, violas, pansies, hellebores and coupled with some evergreen plants such as heucheras, ornamental grasses, ivy etc it doesn't take much to make a good display. Pop down to Dunkirk Nursery - I'm sure Jim will have some good plants to buy. 🦓

MAGNA CARTA DAY



We had a good day at the Magna Carta Day and thank you to everyone who helped out and/or provided plants etc for sale – especially Adrian and his van!





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ST JOHNS ECO FAIR 2023! HELD ON THE 23 We had a stall at St Johns Eco Fair on

GHAM GARDENS

ASSOCIATION

We had a stall at St Johns Eco Fair on the 23rd September. Janet took along our display, with examples of homegrown produce on display, healthy eating ides and advice, demonstrations on stringing onions and advice on planting leeks and apple juicing. This wasn't taken on as a fundraising exercise more just to raise awareness of who we are and what we do. The weather stayed kind and our thanks must go to Janet and Bernard for the time and effort taken.





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THE LATE SUMMER SHOW 2023

Sadly, I was away for this event but I am told there were a good number of quality entries -73 in total from 15 members. Louise and David Clubley from New Haw were judge and judge's steward respectively and did the job enthusiastically, quickly and efficiently. There were joint winners of the Banksian Medal and the Lowles Challenge Bowl and we have been able to obtain a second medal so that both winners get one to keep. Congratulations to all the class winners.

Thank you to everyone who helped with setting up the tables, stewarding and clearing up at the end and also Wendy for organising the Quiz.

A	THE MRS P ROBERTS PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP for Most Points in the Vegetable Classes	Mark Green
В	THE MR H S COUSINS MEMORIAL CHALLENGE BOWL for the Best Exhibit in the Vegetable Classes	Heather Cooke
С	THE MARJORIE SHATTOCK CUP for Most Points in the Flower Classes	Diana Gait, Veronica Cresswell, Gwyneth Austin
D	THE FRISBY MEMORIAL CUP for the Best Exhibit in the Flower Classes	Gwyneth Austin
E	THE HAMPTON CHALLENGE CUP for Most Points in the House & Pot Plants Classes	Veronica Cresswell
F	THE REG PENTON CHALLENGE CUP for the Best Exhibit in the House & Pot Plants Classes	Veronica Cresswell
G	THE EGHAM GARDENS ASSOCIATION SHOW CUP for the Best Exhibit in the Fruit Classes	Veronica Cresswell
H	THE BANKSIAN MEDAL of the ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY and THE LOWLES CHALLENGE BOWL - for the highest total prize money in Sections 1 to 4	Mark Green, Veronica Cresswell
J	THE MRS J BAIRSTOW CHALLENGE CUP for Most Points in the Cookery Classes	Jill Williams
К	THE GARDEN NEWS SHIELD for Most Points in the Battle of the Giants	Janet Hales









WINDFALLS

Too many apples and windfalls to cope with? Janet and Bernard will take your apples for juicing around the middle of October. They will take them to Pasture Farm in the Chilterns which is a family farm near Princes Risborough where they will juice, bottle and pasteurise your crop. Two years ago Janet and Bernard took about 100kg of apples and a few days later collected over 90 bottles of juice.

The cost this year for unlabelled bottles is $\pounds 1.95$ each or $\pounds 2.20$ labelled (the people at the farm will even design a nice label for you) and you can mix them up if you wish.

Far superior to supermarket apple juice the bottles make lovely Christmas presents and last for up to two years.

CLUB OUTINGS

Katerina has taken over the organising of outings for the Club and has asked for feedback on her proposed visits to Winchester Christmas Market on 24th November and Wisley Glow on 8th December. The cost for the latter is £10.45 for RHS members and £19.95 for non-members.

Please let Katerina know if you are interested in going to either or both. She also negotiating with Savill Garden about a guided tour and more information about this will follow in due course.

AMATURE GARDEN MAGAZINE

Lastly, you will probably have read in the Press of the demise of the weekly Amateur Gardening magazine after 139 years. Having been founded in 1884 it enjoyed a large circulation in its heyday with Alan Titchmarsh, Monty Don, Percy Thrower and Toby Buckland amongst its contributors. Sadly, with rising costs, falling revenue and younger people using Google to find information the circulation has fallen dramatically. Sad indication of our times !





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