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Charlton & Blackheath
Amateur Horticultural Society

www.cabahs.wordpress.com

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2017

We hope you all enjoyed last month's speaker Neil Miller. We have had a lovely letter of thanks from the Caron Keating Foundation, to which Neil donated his speakers fee - it is on the Noticeboard if you would like to read it. Our speaker tonight is Dr John Hughes who will be telling us about Judging for the RHS.

Outings

The outing to Hatfield House gardens on Wednesday 19th July has been cancelled as we were unable to fill the coach. Full refunds will be made.

The Great Get Together- takes place on Saturday 24 June from 11- 6pm. Entry is free. Royal Artillery Barracks, Repository Rd, Woolwich, SE18 4BB

HELP! PLANTS NEEDED!

We have signed up for a pitch to run a plant stall at this event, and need as many plants as possible to sell - the pitch is bigger than we expected at 9 x 12ft (!). The event is expected to be well attended and a fun family day out. Plants need to appeal to all types of gardeners and children too - look by the Noticeboard for some ideas, but more are welcome! (Note that we can collect on Thurs 22nd or Fri 23rd - contact Kathy Aitken 07785 358 538). We are aware this clashes with some of the Open Gardens, but they are from 2-5pm so it's quite possible to do both! We could do with some more volunteers to help run the stall during the day, let Angela Burr or Vija Vilcins know if you can help.

Provender Nurseries

Don't forget that you can borrow a discount card from any committee member if you are buying plants from Provender, very good discounts. Some members have visited, see their review on the website/Noticeboard.

Dates for your diaries

25 June: Hall Place Plant Fair Roadshow, Hall Place, Bexley DA5 5TY

25 June: Sian's charity Open Garden at 14, Oakcroft Rd SE13 7ED 2-5pm.

7 July: Hampton Court Flower Show - Angela Burr is organising a trip for the 3pm entrance, see her tonight if you are interested or call her on 0208 316 0854.

12-13 July: RHS Urban Garden Show, Lawrence Hall, free. The show features plants for small gardens and balconies.

Demelza Hospice Open Gardens - info from Rosemary 01689 815 736:

2 July : 4, Felstead Rd, Orpington BR6 9AB and

Website, Newsletter and Noticeboard

We would love to have more input from our members for these. Please send anything of interest for sharing to the CABAHS email (cabahshortisoc@gmail.com) or phone society secretary Paula. For example an article about gardening / plants or a good offer at a local nursery - please share!

Hori-Hori

Have you heard of this great tool? It is a Japanese trowel - hori-hori means "dig-dig" in Japanese. It is basically a trowel with sharpened edges, smooth on one side and serrated on the other. It certainly cuts through tough roots and hard soil and is easier on wrist, elbow and shoulder than a traditional trowel. (But if you are at all accident-prone, probably not for you!). Available from Amazon or e-bay.

Top Tips

- 1 Dead heading flowers as they go over can result in a second flush, eg lupins
- 2 Pick Allium seed heads for drying and decorating. Hang in bunches upside down.
- 3 Bring tomatoes out of the greenhouse, plant out and keep well watered.
- 4 A second sowing of courgettes can be done now.
- 5 Direct sow basil, and take cuttings of mint to grow on for teas.
- 6 Pond weed can get out of control, keep on top of it and drop in barley straw.
- 7 Keep containers and hanging baskets moist. If already dry, rehydrate by plunging into a bucket of water.
- 8 Sow annual poppies direct - many varieties flower within 8 weeks.
- 9 Deadhead roses as often as possible while they are growing at full tilt. Feed weekly.
- 10 Oriental poppies have finished flowering, cut them back to ground level leaving no foliage standing. Feed and mulch and new leaves will soon appear.

Our next meeting on 17th July will be a Gardeners Question Time - our panel will try to solve your horticultural dilemmas - please send questions to the CABAHS e-mail or jot them down tonight on the paper provided, by the Noticeboard.

Enjoy the lovely summer weather, visit lots of gardens, get inspired and share your ideas with us all!

Kathy Aitken
(Viv is on holiday!)

Favourite quote:

"Gardening requires lots of water - most of it in the form of perspiration." - Lou Erickson, cartoonist and illustrator 1913-1990