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Charlton & Blackheath  
Amateur Horticultural Society  
[www.cabahs.wordpress.com](http://www.cabahs.wordpress.com)

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## NEWSLETTER MAY 2016

Tonight we welcome Liz MacDermot who will be speaking to us about the restoration of Charlton Pet Cemetery. Thank you to everyone who has brought plants in aid of the restoration work. Liz tells us that they plan to plant them to enhance the cemetery.

### Spring Show Results

Congratulations to all who brought in so many beautiful flowers for everyone to enjoy. Trophy winners were Margaret Lay, for her vase of mixed spring flowers which won 'Best in Show' and Elizabeth Crawley for her 'Floral Art.'

### Members' Photographs

This is a chance for members to see their photographs in print and sold as greetings cards to raise funds for the society. Photographs should be taken of member's own gardens and should be printed at A5 size ( 210mm x 148 mm ) or 8 ¼ "x 5 ⅝ ". Images taken either on digital cameras or very high quality mobile( eg iPhone )are preferred. Please bring your prints to the July meeting for selection. Selected images will be sent direct to the printers. These will then be printed on good quality card and put on sale in packs of 4 to raise funds for the society.

### Kew Survey

Kew gardens have just completed a worldwide survey of 391,000 flora and fauna. 2000 new plants were identified in 2015 alone. About 5,000 invasive plants were identified around the globe. The damage caused to the environment, by invasive species and the difficulty and expense of removing them, costs nearly 5% of the world's economy.

### Weed Killer Wars

The World Health Organisation has warned that "Round Up", containing Glyphosate, is "probably carcinogenic". As a result Bristol City Council have been using vinegar as a weedkiller. Residents are complaining their roads smell like a chip shop!

### Super Size Slugs (according to the Telegraph)

Gardeners have been warned that very large slugs may wreak havoc on their allotments and gardens. Apparently some slugs did not go into hibernation due to our recent mild winter. As a result of this and last year's wet summer they have grown very large. The slug population is set to increase by 10%. The average British garden contains around 20,000 slugs, each of whom lays approximately 200 eggs in it's lifetime. Pippa Greenwood advises laying down round-worms that attacks slugs without damaging other flora and fauna.

### Outings

There are still a few places available on our coach outings to - Penshurst Place and Gardens, on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May and to RHS Wisley on Thursday 21st July.

### Dates for your diary

24<sup>th</sup> May and 21<sup>st</sup> June Lambeth Palace Garden. 5.30-8pm Open evening with wine adm £6. Also open on the first Friday of each month until October.  
24-28<sup>th</sup> May Chelsea Flower Show. For last minute tickets ring 08443387502  
28,29<sup>th</sup> May. Hall Place Shetland Pony rides. Butterfly Jungle & Owl display continue.  
28<sup>th</sup> May. Coolings Food and Produce market. 10-4pm  
9,10,11<sup>th</sup> 9<sup>+</sup> June Mid Summer Fair at Hole Park, Rolvenden TN17 4JB £8-50  
11<sup>th</sup>,12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> June Geeenwich & Bexley Hospice Open Gardens. See their leaflets  
17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> June Coolings craft fair 10-4pm with Orpington Bee Keepers.  
18-19<sup>th</sup> June for NGS London open gardens see [www.opensquares.org](http://www.opensquares.org) online  
25<sup>th</sup> June Coolings food and produce market & Orpington art club exhibition 10-4pm.  
3<sup>rd</sup> July Hall Place Plant Fairs Roadshow DA5 1PQ Adm free 10-3pm

### Refreshments

Charlton House is now supplying our meetings with refreshments, for which we have to pay in advance, before the meeting. It is therefore important that members remember to pay £1 for each hot drink as we seem to be running at a loss.

### Top Tips for May

- 1 Remove red lily beetles and their larvae from lilies and fritillaries.
- 2 Earth up potatoes to prevent green tubers.
- 3 Plant up containers with summer bedding adding slow release fertiliser to compost
- 4 Remove raspberry suckers growing in paths or between rows
- 5 Sow carrots, radishes, beetroot, lettuce, cucumbers, courgettes & sweetcorn now
- 6 Water newly planted trees and shrubs generously in dry weather
- 7 Cut down pulmonarias before they seed. Handsome new growth will follow.
- 8 Harden-off tender plants before planting out in the garden
- 9 Harvest asparagus regularly
- 10 Sow French and runner beans direct

### Open Gardens

Elizabeth Crawley will be opening her garden again on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June from 1-4pm.  
Address: 298 Shooters Hill Rd, SE18 4LT. Refreshments and plants will be on sale in aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care and B.F.A.S.

Viv Parson will also be holding an informal open garden on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May at 1-4pm. The invitation is limited to her friends and society members and their partners only. Tea and cakes will be served on the lawn and there will be a donation box to collect for Marie Curie and McMillan Nurses in memory of Viv's sister Christine. Viv's address is 10 West Park, Mottingham, SE9 4RQ. Ample parking is available in West Park.

### Rosemary for Remembrance

Scientists have conducted a study of pensioners and found that simply being in a room diffused with the smell of rosemary boosted memory test scores by 15 per cent.

### June Meeting

There will be a change to our speaker in June. Our talk will be given by Rachel Castle on the subject of Auriculas. We will also be holding our hospice plant sale that evening. All donated plants (well-potted & labelled please) will be gratefully received. Thank you