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Charlton & Blackheath  
Amateur Horticultural Society  
Founded 1950

[www.cabahs.wordpress.com](http://www.cabahs.wordpress.com)



## NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2019

Tonight we welcome **Rose Cottage Plants**, who will talk to us about planting spring bulbs. Rose Cottage is an independent nursery based in Essex which specialises in bulbs and dahlias.

Our Autumn Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Display was an enjoyable and successful event with a bumper number of class entries. The **Best In Show** award went to Karen Scadeng, one of our newest members. A wonderful display of vegetables, well done to Karen!

On 18 November we will be hosting **Nick Bailey** for his talk on '365 days of Colour'. Please make sure you settle up for any reserved tickets tonight, all member tickets have now been sold. There will be just a few £10 tickets available for members friends if you let Kathy know tonight.

Thank you to all who contributed plants for the **Charlton House Horn Fair** on Sunday and to all who helped to staff the stall. We made £140, not bad at all for a rainy day!

### Dates for your diary

- Great Comp - October 27<sup>th</sup>- special opening for the NGS. 11-5pm.
- The History of Garden Furniture at the Garden Museum, 5 November, 7pm. Tickets £25.
- Indoor Colour - a workshop on using houseplants at Godinton House. 2 November, 9.30-12.30.
- RHS gold medallist Janie Pirie is exhibiting her rose paintings at the Mall Galleries, 5-10 November, admission free.
- Dig for Victory exhibition at RHS Lindley Library until 15 November. Daily.
- Chelsea Physic Garden Supper talk, 24 October, 7-9pm. Jack Wallington will talk about weeds - garden design with rebel plants. £17 for talk or £34 for talk and supper.

If you haven't been to Kew Gardens to see the Chihuly glass sculptures yet, it is really worth it and the exhibition closes on Oct 27<sup>th</sup>.

Kathy reports on the **Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park** visit: Anna led a select few of us on a gentle walk around the park on a rather grey day in September. I haven't visited

the park before and was very impressed by the layout and the planting. It was very easy to get to and full of interesting flowers and shrubs. The grasses are coming into their own at this time of year, with little pops of colour from red hot pokers and Eucomis for example. Lots of places for a coffee and you can even end the walk with a shopping trip at Westfield! A very enjoyable day, and well worth a re-visit at another season.

Has anyone been to see The Tide at the O2 yet? Or perhaps you have visited a special garden recently? Please find time to write a short paragraph for the Newsletter if you think other members would be interested, anytime.

### **Pat's 10 jobs for October:**

1. It's now time to pull out bedding from window boxes and pots and replace with spring flowering bulbs or winter bedding such as violas and cyclamen.
2. Place containers in sheltered spaces which are close to buildings for warmth and protection. My potted salvias survive like that for the winter.
3. Remove saucers from under pots and containers so that plants don't sit in pools of water which can rot them.
4. Finish ordering your spring bulbs or buy them from the plant table this month as we have a very nice selection.
5. Bring very tender plants like pelargoniums and aeoniums under cover for the winter as these won't survive outside when it gets really cold.
6. Once cannas and dahlias have been blackened by frost, cut them down and dig up and store them in a frost free place in some slightly damp compost or try leaving them in the ground in milder spots but mulch them for protection with compost or straw.
7. Take time to clean your greenhouse before storing everything to maximise light and rid it of any over-wintering pests. I've now just lost my last box plant to caterpillars and keep finding the moths in my house!
8. On the veg plot try to sow some green manures rather than leaving the space vacant as rain will leech the goodness out of the soil and weeds will continue to flourish.
9. Start to store leaves in open sided containers or bags with holes punched in but be prepared to wait a couple of years for really good leaf mould to use as a soil conditioner which is particularly good for heavy soils.
10. Don't forget overwintering insects when cutting stems down as they need places to hide for the winter as do toads and other wildlife.

“Autumn is a second Spring, when every leaf is a flower.”  
Enjoy your Autumn gardening!

Next meeting is 18<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm for Nick Bailey's talk.

*Contact us on [cabahshortisoc@gmail.com](mailto:cabahshortisoc@gmail.com)*

