Chiswick Horticultural and Allotments Society 2021 Handbook



growchiswick.org



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Chiswick Horticultural & Allotments Society

Registered as the Chiswick Horticultural and Allotments Society Charity number: 1110134 Company Number: 5453200 Affiliated to: The Royal Horticultural Society The London Gardens Society The Federation of Middlesex Horticultural & Allotments Societies Supported by the London Borough of Hounslow

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Chairman's Welcome & the CHAS

Greetings to our 600 members, a fantastic recent increase which is a tribute to the hard work of my colleagues.

The past year has been a difficult one, but has proved the value of our Society, our community centre and the work we do.

The Chiswick Horticultural and Allotment Society (CHAS) was formed in 1915 and registered as a charity on 21 June 2005. Not all our members have allotments or gardens, but we all share a love of community and growing plants.

In addition to looking after six allotment sites, we also run a number of school and community projects throughout Chiswick, helping others and beautifying our neighbourhood.

The society provides many benefits to its members including:

- Low-cost gardening essentials at our Trading Hut, a place for members to share gardening tips and ask for advice.
- Our summer and autumn shows provide a friendly competition and a fun day out for all the family.
- We organise events such as trips, tours, quiz and bonfire nights and hold summer and Christmas parties.
- We run a sharing scheme to connect people on the waiting list with those wanting help on their allotments.
- We have representatives at our sites who are happy to help members and introduce them to other allotment holders.
- CHAS works with the Council on behalf of our members.

The Society has charitable status and our objectives are the promotion and furtherance of the art, science and practice of horticulture. We've adopted some key principles that are beneficial to our members and the community in which we live:

- A conviction that people should care for nature and the environment;
- ✓ A desire to share knowledge and horticultural skills;
- ✓ A commitment to make gardening more accessible;
- ✓ A belief that gardening is therapeutic and can help develop a friendly community and improve the quality of life.

www.growchiswick.org

Our website has:

- information about the society and its activities
- an events calendar
- gardening information and links to useful websites
- a blog covering society news to recipes and wildlife
- useful features such as a weather forecast, search function and a link showing the location of the Trading Hut.

Please contact editor@growchiswick.org if you'd like to contribute, or to make suggestions and report errors.

Facebook: search Chiswick Horticultural and Allotments Society.

Twitter: a great way to promote our activities to the local community. Please follow us at @growchiswick.

The benefits of gardening

Gardening provides a number of benefits including:

- A way to enjoy first class fruit, vegetables and flowers.
- Somewhere to socialise with like-minded individuals.
- A way to share knowledge and nurture horticultural skills.
- A place of peace and quiet.
- An enjoyable way to exercise: it strengthens all parts of the body, increases fitness levels and heightens motor skills.
- All physical exercise has a beneficial effect on stress and in turn aids sleep patterns.
- A reduction in the likeliness of illnesses such as osteoporosis, backache and arthritis.
- By growing one's own produce outside, you get a sense of accomplishment throughout the seasons.
- It can lead to renewed interest in diet and offer nutritional value from eating food you produce yourself.
- Growing your own food ensures an interest in the food you eat and the money saved on groceries.

I wish you all a happy gardening year ahead!

Henry L Gewanter Chairman

Officers of The Society

President	Paul Lynch
Vice President	Noreen Jones
Vice President	John Todd
Patron	The Earl Of Burlington

Chairman	Henry Gewanter	chairman@growchiswick.org
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Handbook	Michael Flinders	rmflinders@gmail.com

Allotment representatives

Burial Ground	Lilian Baker,	bakerlilian@aol.com
	Plot 34	
Chertsey Road	Volunteer needed	
Dukes	Ben Jones,	jonesbh@btinternet.com
Meadows	Plot 340	
Promenade	Volunteer needed – contact secretay@growchiswick.org	
Staveley Road	Volunteer needed – contact secretary@growchiswick.org	
Thames Road	Volunteer needed – contact secretary@growchiswick.org	

2021 Dates for your diary

- Sunday, 24 April
- A Friday in May
- A Saturday in May
- Saturday, 26 June
- Saturday, 4 September
- Dates to be announced:

- AGM at the Trading Hut, 3pm
- Plant Sale, 17.30 19.30
- Plant Sale, 11.00 14.00
- CHAS Summer Show
- CHAS Autumn Show

We hope to organise quizzes, trips and parties in 2021 but this will be subject to COVID-19 lockdown advice and regulations.



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Community projects

The Centenary Plate Competition

Leaving enough space between plants is practical; distancing children from themselves, teachers and plots when trying to be involved in the competition is impractical.

So, with unpredictable shortages of pupils, teachers and time, the 2020 Competition to find the schools making the most horticultural progress had to be abandoned. Nevertheless, at least four are known to have persevered and "gardened" as normally as possible. In recognition of their efforts we have therefore awarded certificates to Belmont. Grove Park, Strand on the Green Infants and The William Hogarth schools.

Encouragingly, a number of nursery schools have expressed interest in growing their own vegetables and flowers. The most noticeable results of our support, however, should be seen when the spring bulbs we distributed start to come out.

The Rainbow Competition

Our limited invitation in April to two age groups to submit rainbows of drawings or objects proved remarkably popular, attracting entries largely from children who've never before participated in our competitions.

Places of Worship

In our capacity as a charity we decided mid year to offer items to places of worship within the W4 postcode. This gesture has been greatly appreciated and various plants have been enlivening borders, particularly at St.Alban's, St. Mary's Convent, St Michaels, St Paul's and St Peter's

Other locations

Besides around various churches, donated bulbs should be bringing cheer in the spring down Dean's Lane, and parts of St.Mary's Grove and Sutton Court Road.

Sowing guide

January

In trays or pots

- Round seeded (as opposed to wrinkle seeded) peas can be sown from late January onwards.
- Onions in modules germinate them somewhere with a little heat (a windowsill is fine) then put them in a cold frame or unheated greenhouse to grow on.

In a polytunnel or greenhouse

• From the end of the month, you can think about sowing hardy salads and oriental greens; mizuna, mibuna, pak choi

February

In trays or pots

- Round seeded (as opposed to wrinkle seeded) peas
- Winter salads & oriental greens to plant outside in March, but still under a cloche or mini-tunnel
- Onions in modules germinate them somewhere with a little heat (a windowsill is fine) then put them in a cold frame or unheated greenhouse to grow on.

In trays or pots somewhere warm, germinator/warm airing cupboard

• Tomatoes, peppers and aubergines

In a polytunnel or greenhouse

• Winter salads, oriental greens, carrots

March/April

Outside

- Root crops; beetroot, turnips, carrots & parsnips
- Mangetout & podding peas & broad beans
- Summer salads including lettuces, endive, cress, rocket, radishes
- Brassica crops for eating from summer through to the winter kale, cabbage, sprouts, broccoli, chard, calabrese and cauliflowers
- Leeks

- Radishes and spring onions
- Potatoes

In trays or pots somewhere warm, germinator/warm airing cupboard

- Tomatoes, peppers and aubergines, ideally by the end of March.
- Celery/celeriac (again need heat to germinate)
- Courgettes, squashes, cucumbers and melons

In a polytunnel or greenhouse direct into the border

- Summer salads
- French beans for an early crop
- Herbs including basil, coriander & parsley

May

Outside

- French, runner and broad beans, mangetout & podding peas.
- Root crops carrots, beetroot, leeks, radishes, turnips etc.
- Herbs including parsley, coriander, fennel and others
- Swiss chard & leaf beet
- All the brassicas can still be sown this month for overwintering kale, summer and winter cabbages, Brussels sprouts, purple sprouting broccoli, calabrese and cauliflowers
- Summer salads
- Sweetcorn
- French, runner and broad beans, all types of peas
- Sweetcorn

In trays or pots somewhere warm germinator/warm airing cupboard

• Courgettes, squashes, cucumbers and melons

In a polytunnel or greenhouse border

- Summer salads
- Basil & coriander
- Plant out summer crops (tomatoes, peppers etc.) started indoors

June

Outside

• French and runner beans

- Root crops including carrots, beetroot, turnips, swedes
- Herbs including parsley, coriander and others
- Swiss chard & leaf beet
- Summer salads
- Fennel

Sweetcorn

In trays or pots somewhere warm (germinator/airing cupboard)

• Courgettes, squashes, cucumbers and melons

In a polytunnel or greenhouse border

- Basil & coriander
- Plant out summer crops started indoors

July/August

- Dwarf French beans (up to early July) in warmer areas only
- Last sowings of root crops including carrots, beetroot, turnips
- Winter radishes and swedes
- Swiss chard & leaf beet
- Oriental greens, mizuna, mibuna, komatsuna, mustard greens
- Lettuce, rocket, cress and salad radishes
- Fennel
- Spring cabbage (from late July)
- Bunching and spring onions

September/October

- Spring cabbage (early September, warmer areas only)
- Winter salads and greens
- Bunching onions
- Broad beans and hardy (round seeded) peas to overwinter

In a polytunnel or greenhouse border

• Hardy oriental greens, particularly mustard greens, komatsuna, mizuna, tsoi sim and Chinese cabbage.

November/December

• Plant garlic, choosing the biggest cloves to get the best results

A difficult year on the allotment

2020 has been an unusual year for us allotmenteers. We are all used to dealing with viruses on our plants but this year we were challenged with trying to prevent having to deal with a virus which affected our bodies. Unfortunately, there were a few on our allotment estates in Chiswick who succumbed to the human virus and we mourn their passing.

When lockdown was announced, for a lot of us it spelt disaster at the prospect of having to spend all of our time within four walls slowly going mad. Then the good news that going to your allotment counted as legitimate exercise. HALLELUJA!

The next question we asked ourselves, how do we get to our plots in a safe manner and stay safe whilst we were there? For those who had their own cars or bicycles, they could stay in their own bubble and travel safely. For those who relied on public transport it was a different proposition. Not many felt safe travelling on a bus, and who could blame them. Fortunately, neighbouring plot holders who were aware of their predicament came to their assistance and kept an eye on their plots. For those shielding it was a different matter, and where I was made aware of such circumstances, I was able to find people from the sharers list who went and kept their plots cultivated.

We then had to ask ourselves how to stay safe on the plot. We simply had to follow the rules. Taking precautions meant wearing gloves when opening the gates and using the water taps. Wash your hands or use hand sanitiser before and after you leave. Do not lend your tools to anyone, do not cross onto another plot, keep to the walkways.

Everyone soon became aware of these sensible precautions.

With most people spending more time on their plots the transformation of some sites was remarkable. Overgrown plots soon turned into model allotments all perfectly groomed and providing everyone with a bountiful harvest.

During this time all garden centres were also shut which closed off the supply of gardening essential to everyone. CHAS took advantage of one of the exceptions which related to the provision of agricultural supplies. As a supplier to some 600 small farmers, although their land was measured in square meters rather that acres, we opened our trading hut to members the second week into the lockdown.

The first week was spent reorganising the Trading Hut to make it covid safe with social distancing measures put in place, providing sanitising stations and making a one-way system. We were overwhelmed by the support we received and substantially increased our membership, and there were a lot of local residents who hadn't realised they had a mini garden centre in their midst! We managed to provide a constant supply of compost, seedlings and seeds to satisfy our members, thanks to the outstanding contributions from our areenhouse teams of volunteers who germinated and potted up the essentials for growing on allotments and in gardens.



At the time of writing, we are still in a state of emergency with various restrictions on our activities in place. The sites remain open for you to visit and carry out maintenance work or get away from the four walls that some see as a prison. We really should be grateful for our little plots, which flat dwellers would give an arm and a leg for. They keep us sane in a mad world and give us hope and inspiration for the future as we plan our plots for next year, reflect on the mistakes we made this year and hope for better things in 2021.

COVID queues







Growing the membership at the Flower Market









Garden chic

Garden chic? It's all about memories for me. It was when I was about to throw away an old metal flower jug that my friend David taught me the meaning of garden chic. David was gongoozling at the time which, if you haven't come across the word, means that he was idly watching while somebody else (in this case, me) was busily engaged in a meaningful activity. A gongoozler is more properly applied to someone who stands around on a bridge over a canal, just gazing while the crew of the boat below are energetically negotiating the complicated procedure of going through a lock, but it has been adapted. I am going to name-drop now, because Susie Dent of "Countdown" herself gave me permission to use the word in a general sense when I interviewed her just the other day. Anyway, there I was putting on the spectator sport known as clearing up the garden, when I came to this jug which was almost as old as my friendship with David, but in rather worse shape. It had been painted cream once, but that was only a memory. The handle was no longer fully attached and there were holes in the rusted bottom.

"They pay good money for distressed artefacts like that in the market where Tasha goes," remarked David, as I briefly examined the jug before it went in the garbage pile. Tasha is his daughter, my goddaughter, a discriminating academic in a university town. I stayed my hand. "What! For a holey and rusty jug?" I said, incredulous. "Indeed," said David. He went on to explain that it is very much the thing, with academics, you know, to find another use for a functional item – such as, for example, a jug - in order to demonstrate one's awareness of the finite resources of the planet. We embarked on a brief existential discussion of the alternative uses of something designed to pour water, when it is actually no longer fit for that purpose on account of not itself holding water. Remember Harry Bellafonte? I started humming the tune. "Put a plant in it," said David.

The jug was spared and, in due course, planted. It sits even now, in my direct eye line from the garden shed office where I write, on

something I like to think of as my jardinière, or tiered plant stand. In my opinion they both look exceedingly chic. There is not much in flower, now in the late autumn, but a few geraniums are hanging on out there, there is an apricot nemesia continuing to show its colour and the nasturtiums are still doing the business. And I, the woman gardener, the jardinière indeed, take particular delight in my plant stand of that name which I don't think anyone would ever guess was once a shelving unit in an office somewhere in St Mary's Convent. Garden cheek? No, I asked permission before I carried it off from the recycling unit.

It is a big beast, as tall as I am (5'6") and has five laddered shelves. It is now painted that delicious shade of dirty green that is like the underside of the leaf of the olive tree (and which, when I emulsioned the kitchen walls that colour, to my delight came in a tin marked "Graham Green"). The jardinière is the centrepiece of the outdoor living room at the bottom of the garden.

On its top shelf is a lantern, a 60th birthday gift from Alex, and a number of cheap little coloured china pots which carry candles on summer nights. On the shelf below are old Victorian putty coloured ceramic tubs and bottles, retrieved from what had once been a 19th century rubbish dump on the North Kent marshes, near the former home of my late brother. Apparently, London rubbish was once carried out of the city on Thames barges, which were then emptied a comfortable distance away from where the wealthy could afford to live, in this case on the banks of the river Swale, a tributary running into the Thames estuary. We used to pick them up, every time we went walking on the marshes. These days they sell for many quids in boutique antique shops and they do look very stylish on restaurant tables. Or on my jardinière.

Beneath that shelf of history, there are two shelves of plants, in old jugs and cracked teapots, and then, on the bottom at ground level level, is a set of Victorian scales, with no weights, but a handsome Just William ensconced on its cradle. And here, also, is an old scuttle from a canal boat, painted traditionally with a castle and roses and given to me by Sarah, my erstwhile next door neighbour who had once lived "on the cut", and left behind this memento when she moved to Brentford. She comes and nostalgically checks it out ("Ah...!") sometimes, in the summer months.

My brother's battered but still beautiful galvanised watering can is usually nearby, handy for the butt, and it never fails to recall memories of his glorious garden as I use it to water my own urban plot. There were hedgehogs here once – they used to whiffle round our feet when we were drinking in the summer dark – but while they have long gone, we still have a few frogs and occasional bats and the honeysuckle descended from the plant in my parents' garden, scenting my evenings as it once did theirs. We have their table, too, and the bench we "children" bought them to mark the 60th of their 67 years of marriage. It is a sweet memory. I still sit on the same seat cushions my own late lamented bought for this bench and that was, unbelievably, twenty-five years ago.

Another memory, just there, is the birdbath that our friend Gordon bought for the first baby I brought home here. And the flowering shrubs we planted for each of the children - and which I used to cut into the shape of their initials in the springtime of their childhood to make them laugh when they looked out of the upper windows and to understand that it was their garden, too. They have all matured in their own ways.

And over all this, beside the shed that Bill built ("I'll do it in a fortnight, darling, as long as you go away and just leave me to get on with it!" and he did, too) is the umbrella of all these memories, the roof of my outdoor paradise, the apple tree. It was here when we bought the house, forty-seven years ago. I suspect it dates back to the orchards which grew here before the houses were built, when Victoria's long reign had only just ended. It doesn't get pruned much, this lovely gnarled old tree. It suffers the occasional indignity of fairy lights or hanging lanterns. It is a route to and from the roof of the shed for the cat, the squirrels and the occasional fox. I tell the dogs they are barking up the wrong one, but they never get the joke.

I have no idea of the species of this tree but it unfailingly produces a froth of glorious blossom and a monster crop of early, big, green, sharp-tasting apples which can be eaten straight off the tree, or cooked into an instant puree. Some fall on the roof of the shed with a resounding thump but I am used to that. Others can catch you with a nasty bump when they drop a surprise in the middle of a summer lunch. Their only deficiency is that, alas, they do not store.

But if the apples don't keep, the memories do. Chic? The dictionary defines it as "elegantly and stylishly fashionable". And what, after all, could be more elegant than a garden which has been tended for a generation and fashioned down all these long years by the loving memories of family and friends?



The plot a place for work and rest









Information for exhibitors

Parking

Exhibitors may park their cars by the Chas Trading Hut while unloading exhibits but should then move them off site as quickly as possible to allow access for other exhibitors.

Setting up/Staging

Exhibitors should pay for their entries and pick up their show cards from the organizer's table inside the Nissen Hut. Depending on the weather, setting up/staging will be done in or outside this Hut. There will be tables, water vases in three different sizes and paper plates available until 11.45. Stewards will be on hand to offer advice and guidance on staging.

Exhibits should be placed with the card (name side down) on the appropriate section on the exhibition tables, which will be numbered and marked with dividers, in the Trading Hut or outside exhibition area. If you know it, please write the variety on both sides of the card, so judges and show visitors know what you have entered.

Judging

You will have to leave the show area at the time indicated to allow the judges to do their job. No exhibitors are allowed in the Trading Hut or Exhibiting Area while judging is taking place. The Show will reopen at 14.00 after judging.

Prize giving

Prizes will be presented at 15:45, and only 10 minutes before then may exhibits be removed. Any exhibitors who want to keep their flowers or produce must remove them by 15:45 otherwise they will be put into the auction of produce. Any money raised from the auction will be put into the Society's Funds.

RHS Allotment competition & alternative allotment competition

Do not forget to advise your allotment site representative if you wish to be considered for the RHS Allotment Competition. Each site representative will nominate the best plots on their site for entry to this competition.

BUSBBY'S Dispensing Chemist (Susan Birch MRPharmS) Family Healthcare Cosmetics (Clarins - Claudalie - Dr. Hauschka - Elizabeth Arden) 9 Grove Park Road, Chiswick, London W4 3RS Tel: 020 8994 6087





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Going for gold: tips for exhibitors (it's fun and easy)

Have a look at the different categories (fruit, flowers, vegetables, domestic, photography, children's) and you will be surprised at just how many you and your family can enter.

All entries must be produced by you from seed, bulb etc. (you must not enter other people's plants!). However you can enter a plant that you have bought and grown for at least 6 weeks before the date of the Show.

A copy of the RHS Shows Handbook is available in the CHAS Trading Hut if you need to consult it about any of the rules. Also check out the tips for success on the website <u>(growchiswick.org/shows-3/tips-forsuccess</u>).

Flowers

Choose blooms that look fresh and are just opening, so they will look good for the whole day of the show, and are not damaged, for instance no brown spots or broken tips. Remember to include some foliage from the same plant. Pick them late in the evening of the previous day and keep them in water in a cool place overnight. Check the size of flowers where this is specified as you must get the number of blooms or sprays exactly right, as specified on the list of classes, otherwise your entry will be disqualified. When selecting blooms, aim for uniformity and refinement, rather than just size. Great care should be taken in arranging the flowers, because in close competition a little extra neatness in presentation and what is termed 'staging' may decide the award.

Fruit and vegetables

Check whether your exhibit should have roots, foliage or stalks left on (e.g. Summer Show Class 46: *Rhubarb, 3 sticks with 5cm of leaf*). If nothing is indicated, there are no restrictions. Aim for uniform size, colour and shape where you are asked to exhibit more than one item. Clean vegetables by gently sponging off soil from root vegetables, but don't clean the bloom off plums and other fruit as this may lose you

points. Your produce should be displayed on a plate that is **no larger than 18cm in diameter.**

French and Runner beans should be long and straight and should be staged with stalks.

Carrots and **parsnips** should be shown with the tops removed about 5cm above the crown, but for *beetroot* at least 5cms of the top and leaves are left on.

Onions and **shallots** should have their outermost skin removed a week or two before the Show, to develop a good ripening colour. For **Classes 43 Summer** and **37 Autumn onion** foliage should be cut off, leaving about 5cm to be turned over and tied, but for Autumn **Class 38** plants should be staged with foliage and roots attached and well washed.

Cabbages, **cauliflowers** and **lettuce** should be shown with roots attached but washed. **Lettuce**, **spinach** and **chard** should be lifted as late as possible as they wilt quickly but roots may be wrapped in damp tissue within a clear plastic bag

Dates & details

Summer Show, Saturday 26 June

Autumn Show, Saturday 4 Sept

The Trading Hut Staveley Rd. W4 2SJ

Classes for all ages, open to members/non members Entry fees 25p per exhibit, children free.

Staging 9.30am-11.45am Judging 12.00pm -2.00pm

A decision will be made closer to the dates on whether to hold Shows in person or virtually. Virtual entries must be photoed and submitted anytime in the 10 days before midnight on the day of the Show.

Entries in the photography classes can be taken anytime in 2021.

Summer Show classes, Saturday 26 June 2021

Roses

- 1 A bowl of roses: bowl not to exceed 30cm. in diameter
- 2 Rose, pink, 1 bloom
- **3** Rose, red, 1 bloom
- 4 Rose, yellow, 1 bloom
- 5 Rose, chosen for fragrance 1 bloom
- 6 Rose, any colour not in above classes, 1 bloom
- 7 Rose, 3 blooms of a single variety
- 8 Rose, 3 blooms of different varieties
- 9 A vase of shrub roses
- **10** Novice (those who have never won a rose prize here) 3 blooms

Sweet Peas

- 11 Sweet Peas, 1 vase, 5 spikes, single variety
- 12 Sweet Peas, 1 vase, 5 spikes, mixed
- 13 Novice (never won a sweet pea prize here) 3 blooms

General

- 14 1 bloom or spike, excluding roses and delphiniums
- **15** Garden flowers arranged for all round effect in a bowl not to exceed 30cm. in diameter
- 16 Delphiniums, 3 spikes or stems, 1 or more varieties
- 17 A vase of mixed flowers, excluding roses
- 18 A vase of "weeds" and/or wildflowers
- 19 A vase of pinks
- 20 A bowl of pansies 6 blooms
- 21 A vase of flowering trees or shrubs (not roses) 5 stems
- **22** An arrangement in an unusual container using flowers with or without accessories not exceeding 30cm x 30cm

Plants in pots or containers diameter 17.5cm or less

- 23 1 plant in bloom, grown in a pot
- 24 1 cactus or succulent grown in a pot or container
- **25** 1 pelargonium or geranium grown in a pot or container

Displays

26 Noah's Ark collection: a matching pair of flowers, a matching pair of fruits and a matching pair of vegetables (total 6)

27 A display of 4 pelargonium or geranium leaves

28 A display of flowers, fruit and vegetables n/e 45x 45cm

29 2 dishes of fruit and/or vegetables, 2 distinct varieties

Fruit

30 Strawberries, 1 dish of 7 with stalks

31 Gooseberries, 1 dish of 7 with stalks

32 Raspberries, 1 dish of 7 with stalks

33 Blackcurrants, 1 dish of 5 strigs

34 Currants red or white 1 dish of 5 strigs

35 Any other fruit not listed above, 9 or less

Vegetables

36 Lettuces, 2 with washed roots

37 Peas (excluding mange tout), 5 pods

38 Mangetout, 5 pods

39 Radishes, 5 with trimmed tops

40 Broad beans, 5 with stalks

41 Asparagus, 4 spears

42 Onions, green salad, 6

43 Onions, 4 under 250g, tops dressed, roots trimmed

44 3 stems of 3 different named herbs in separate vases

45 Cabbage, 1 with at least 7.5cm. of stalk

46 Rhubarb, 3 sticks with at least 5 cm. of leaf

47 Any other vegetable not listed, max 3

48 Beetroot, 3

49 Potatoes, 4 of same variety

Domestic

- 50 1 jar of marmalade named and dated
- 51 1 jar of chutney named and dated
- 52 1 jar of fruit curd named and dated
- 53 1 jar of Kimchi
- 54 1 loaf of brown or white bread

55 Shortbread Biscuits (six on a plate)

56 A Victoria sponge

Photography / Poetry

57 A photograph themed, "A water course"

- 58 A photograph themed, "My favourite kitchen or garden tool"
- 59 A photograph themed, "British birds" 1 or more
- 60 A poem themed, "Lockdown"

Children's (7 and under, and 8-12 year olds)

- 61 A coloured picture of a flower, maximum A4
- 62 A decorated wooden spoon
- 63 2 different salad vegetables that you have grown.
- **64** A moss or miniature garden on a tray or plate, not more than 45cm in diameter
- 65 Design and build a Bug Box
- 66 A model of an insect made from fruit and or vegetables

Cups to be awarded at the 2021 Summer Show & & & ames of 2020 winners

The Rose Bowl for the highest total points in the Rose classes. 2020 won by Ruth Caleb

The Shailer Cup for the best Rose in show. 2020 won by Ruth Caleb

The Chatsworth Vase for the highest total points in the Sweat Peas classes. 2020 won by Joseph Forshaw

The Chiswick Products Cup for the best exhibit in the Fruit classes. 2020 won by Lizzie Drake

The Jubilee Cup for the highest total points in the Flower classes. 2020 winner Ruth Caleb

The Orchard Cup for the highest total points in the Fruit classes. 2020 won by John Gill

The Forth Trophy for the best exhibit in the Vegetable classes. 2020 won by Julian Deghy

The Hazeldene Candlesticks for the highest total points in the Vegetable classes. 2020 won by Julian Deghy

The Society Cup for the highest total points in classes 1-49 2020 won by John Gill

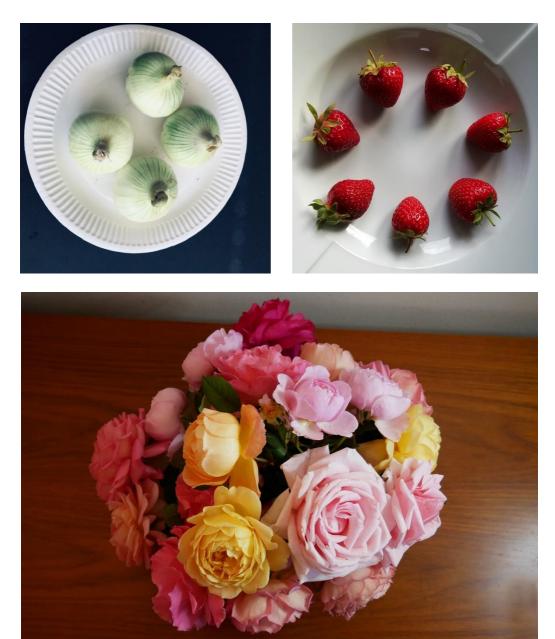
The Thornett Cup for the highest total points in the Domestic classes. 2020 not awarded due to Covid restrictions

The Snappy Snaps £50 Voucher for best photo in Show 2020 won by Ruth Caleb

The Hawkins Cup for the greatest number of exhibits over all classes. 2020 won by John Gill

The Sutton Court Cup for the school entering the most exhibits. 2020 won by Strand on The Green Infants School

Perfectly presented at the Virtual Summer Show



Drawing joy from the Virtual Summer Show







Virtual Summer Show 2020

It happened, the Virtual Show became a reality. First to submit photo entries (roses) was Elaine Hughes; who would have expected that one of our most senior members would be first to enter into what may be the first ever virtual allotment and gardeners show? Neatly from senior to junior, the last entries came from Strand on The Green Nursery and Infants School with their "make you smile" colourful flower drawings.

In between, came entries not just from west London but from California, Singapore, Wales, Bristol, Norfolk, Hampshire, Hove, Brighton, Isle of Wight and Cyprus.

Rula Lenska, who was full of praise for winners and bowled us over with her charm and wit, joined our ebullient President, Paul Lynch, to present the virtual certificates at a very real prize ceremony on Dukes Meadows Allotments.



Show photo magic from Janet, Joseph and Teresa



I visited Clevedon in North Somerset and was inspired by the efforts volunteers had made to make the pier safe for visitors. By placing flower tubs down the centre they not only achieved social distancing but have enhanced the appearance of the pier. This involves a huge commitment as the plants need to be tended and watered regularly.

This was my first attempt at entering a photo competition so thank you CHAS for the opportunity. Teresa



"Shiny happy people" (R.E.M) Creative selfies



Allotment competitions

In late July, our allotment representatives select the most promising allotments on their sites for entry into our two allotment competitions.

The RHS Allotment Competition judges plots according to the following criteria:

Condition of the plot	60 points
Good workmanship	50 points
Quality of crops, flowers, fruit, vegetables and plants	150 points
Originality of layout and planning	25 points
Ingenuity in overcoming local problems	25 points
Visual aspect of the plot	20 points
Condition of garden sheds	20 points

The winner will be awarded The Quest Cup at the Autumn Show.

The Alternative Allotment Competition judges plots according to the following criteria:

Use of recycled materials (sheds etc.)	50 points
Diversity of plants	50 points
Organic cultivation	60 points
Water conservation	50 points
Composting	50 points
Encouragement of wildlife	50 points
Originality	60 points

The winner will be awarded The Debbie Sutherland Award, at the Autumn Show.

The Alternative Allotment Competition with some of its criteria being opaque to the casual observer needs your help to alert nonmembers and encourage them to enter. The award is a beautiful handcrafted, glass relief, donated by Debbie's friends.

Autumn Show classes, Saturday 4 Sep 2021

Flowers

1 Hanging basket

Zinnias

- 2 Zinnias, 3 blooms, 1 variety
- 3 Zinnias, 5 blooms mixed varieties

Dahlias

- 4 Dahlias, 1 vase or bowl, bowl diameter 30cm or less
- 5 Dahlias, 1 bloom, any colour or variety
- 6 Dahlias, 1 vase, 3 Cactus or Semi Cactus blooms
- 7 Dahlias, 1 vase, 3 pompon blooms 5.2cm or less
- 8 Novice, (never won a dahlia prize here) 1 vase, 3 blooms Roses
- 9 Roses, 1 vase, 3 stems, any large flowered variety
- 10 Rose, 1 vase, 1 stem, large flowered (not cluster)
- 11 Rose, 1 vase, 1 spray, Cluster Flowered Other Flowers
- 12 Michaelmas daisies, 1 vase 5 blooms
- 13 1 spike gladioli
- 14 Vase of mixed flowers, to be viewed all round 5-10 stems
- 15 Vase of foliage (with or without berries)
- 16 Vase of marigolds, for overall effect

Plants growing pots or containers diameter 17.5cm or less

- 17 Any flowering plant, excl. those in the following classes
- 18 A Cactus or Succulent
- 19 A Geranium or Pelargonium in bloom
- 20 1 flowering Fuchsia

Fruit

- **21** A harvest festival offering of fruit and vegetables in a container not exceeding 45x45 cm
- 22 Apples, cooking, 3
- 23 Apples, dessert, 3
- 24 Pears, dessert, 3
- 25 Blackberries, 7 with stalks
- 26 Plums, 6 with stalks

- 27 A bunch of grapes, any variety
- **28** Raspberries, 7 with stalks
- 29 Any other fruit (max. 6 of same variety)

Vegetables

- 30 Potatoes, white, 4, 1 variety
- 31 Potatoes, other than white 4, 1 variety
- 32 Potatoes, salad, 4, 1 variety
- 33 Carrots, 3 long or stump variety with stalks
- 34 Runner beans, 6 pods with stalks
- 35 French beans, 6 pods with stalks
- 36 Shallots, 6
- 37 Onions, 4, tops dressed, roots trimmed
- 38 Onions, 4, with washed roots and tops intact
- 39 Tomatoes, 5 Red, 1 variety, with calyxes
- 40 Tomatoes, 1 truss, some ripe, any variety
- 41 Tomatoes, 5 Yellow, 1 variety, with calyxes
- 42 Cucumbers, 2 with stalks (with or without flowers)
- 43 Cabbage, 1, with at least 5cm of stalk
- **44** Brassica, 1, with at least 7.5 cm of stalk (excluding Cabbage)
- 45 Leeks, 3, with washed roots
- 46 Sweet peppers, 2
- 47 Chilli peppers, 4
- 48 Marrow, 2, with stalks
- **49** Lettuces, 2, 1 variety, with washed roots, (wet wrapping ok)
- 50 Pumpkin, 1
- 51 Squash, 1
- 52 Garlic, 4 whole bulbs
- 53 Courgettes, 2, minimum 15cm long, with or without flowers
- 54 Courgettes, 2, round variety
- 55 Sweetcorn, 2
- 56 Beetroot, 3, with at least 5cm of top and leaves
- 57 A vase of 3 stems of 1 culinary herb
- 58 3 stems of different named herbs in separate vases
- 59 Any other vegetable, not listed above (maximum 3)
- 60 Longest Runner bean
- 61 3 matching pairs, flowers, fruit and vegetables, 6 in total

Domestic

- 62 A loaf of white or wholemeal bread
- 63 A jar of chutney or pickles named and dated
- 64 A jar of homemade jam, named and dated
- 65 A jar of honey from your own hive, named and dated
- 66 A jar of Sauerkraut
- 67 6 biscuits
- 68 A Parkin cake

Art and Photography

- **69** Art inspired by British wildlife and or Fruit & Veg, Painting, Photograph, Poetry, Craft, or any other medium, not exceeding 45cm x 45cm
- 70 A photo on the theme "Creative Selfie"
- 71 A photo on the theme " Dappled Shade"

Children's competition (7 and under, and 8-12 year olds)

72 A Headress

73 A miniature beach on a seed tray or plate not more than 45cm in diameter

- 74 2 different, vegetables that you have grown from seed
- 75 An A4 size drawing of British wildlife
- 76 A bunch of flowers in a jam jar
- 77 A painted pebble

Cups to be awarded at the 2021 Autumn Show and names of 2020 winners

The Novice Cup for dahlias 2020 winners Eddie & Maia

The Wavendon Cup for highest total points in the dahlia classes 2020 winners Jeanette Edwards & Vernon Wood

The Johnson Cup for highest total points in the flower classes 2020 winner Dennis Flaherty

The Staveley Cup for 2nd highest total points in the flower classes 2020 winner Judy Parsley

The LGS Certificate and Medal for best exhibit in floral classes 2020 winner Jeanette Edwards & Vernon Wood

The Mrs Johnson Bowl for best exhibit in fruit classes 21-29, 2020 winner Roger Mason

The Brereton-Hill Cup for the highest total points in fruit classes 21-29, 2020 winner John Gill

The Henniker Cup for the highest total points in classes 29-69, 2020 winner Dennis Flaherty

The Chiswick Allotment Association Cup for the best exhibit in classes 21 & 30-59 2020 winner Sara Ward

The Jock Lindsay Cup for the second highest total points in the horticultural classes 2020 winner John Gill

The RHS Banksian Medal for the highest total points in all the horticultural classes, open to all except winners in 2 previous years 2020 winner Dennis Flaherty

The Tomlinson Cup for the best exhibit in the domestic classes 60-67 2020 not awarded due to Covid restrictions

The Carol Weale Memorial Cup for the highest total points in the domestic classes 60-68 not awarded due to Covid restrictions

The Snappy Snaps £50 Voucher for best photo in Show 2020 winner Skye Palmer-Jones

The Whitehouse Cup for highest total points in the autumn children's classes 2020 winner Arlo Palmer-Jones

Mellow Yellow in The Virtual Autumn Show



Ella, Flint & Arlo get creative in The Autumn Show



Sylvie's supercalifragilistic expialidocious art





Virtual Autumn Show 2020

Organisers, entrants and prize presenters swerved Covid and took to the web to fashion a 2020 Virtual Autumn Show filled with welcome, endeavour and hilarity.

The welcome came from the cogs, John, Mike, Vernon and Yosef, who clicked to make it happen.

The endeavour from the 77 entrants and their 336 fabulous exhibits.

The hilarity courtesy of the quick-witted duo, television presenter, radio host, and newspaper journalist Adrian Chiles and the Mayor of Hounslow, Tony Louki.

A special mention goes to Yosef for managing the shoot of the presentation on a very windy day.

A big thank you to all those who took part and made a groundbreaking Virtual idea a reality.



Sour, hot and sweet in the Virtual Autumn Show



Pointing the way on the Promenade plots



Snow on the Burial Ground plots, 2009



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CHAS Trading Hut What we sell & what it's used for

Bone meal - Slow release Organic fertiliser suitable for general use at a rate of 2oz/sq.yd.

Chicken pellets – A slow release non-chemical fertiliser and a useful source of nitrogen, it also contains smaller amounts of other important nutrients.

Country natural - Improves soil structure to help drainage and to retain moisture without water logging, a natural source of organic matter.

Ericaceous compost – Compost suitable for growing acid-living plants such as heather.

Blood, fish and bone – organic fertiliser for general use. Apply at a rate of 2oz/sq.yd.

Garden lime – Apply during October and February. On normal soils an application of 4oz/sq.yd. every three years will normally be enough to maintain a pH reading of 6.00 – 6.5. DO NOT USE near plants which require ericaceous conditions.

Garotta – Takes garden and kitchen waste and turns it into rich, natural compost.

Growmore – Well balanced chemical fertiliser suitable for all-round general use. Apply at 2oz/sq. yd. and always water in during dry weather.

Horticultural grit - helps conserve moisture, improve drainage and opens up heavy clay soils. As it has been washed, it is free from lime and other elements. This gives it a neutral pH that will not affect soil acidity levels.

Horse manure - Will fertilise and improve your soil. Put it on your beds/borders anytime of the year.

John Innes No 2 - Ideal for pricking out, potting rooted cuttings and other young plants and repotting house plants.

John Innes N0 3 - Ideal for final potting and planting up of established and mature plants.

Liquid seaweed – A balanced natural fertilizer contains major plant nutrients and a wide range of micronutrients.

Multi-purpose compost - contains all the nutrients essential for vigorous growth and strong root development and is ready to use straight from the bag. Once called 'universal' compost, these mixes cater for a host of uses – including sowing large seeds, pricking out seedlings and planting-up pots, containers and hanging baskets. Don't use it to sow small seeds though: choose a seed compost.

Seed and potting compost - A good seed compost will coax flower and vegetable seeds into life; helping young seedlings to develop strong roots and healthy growth. Most seed composts do work well for rooting cuttings, too.

Sulphate of ammonia – A rapid-acting source of nitrogen when used at a rate of 1oz/sq.yd. Scatter on the surface and lightly fork in, especially when natural growth is active.

Sulphate of potash – Particularly valuable for better quality flower and fruits. Use at a rate of 1oz/sq.yd. when preparing the ground for planting.

Superphosphate –A readily available source of phosphate to assist strong root growth and encourage healthy, early maturity. Use at a rate of 3oz/sq.yd.

Top soil - Improves depleted soils, adds nutrients.

Trading Hut price list

Country Natural	80 litres	£4.00			
Country Natural	4 bags	£14.00			
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Multi-purpose	20 litres	£1.50			
Compost	40 litres	£3.00			
Horse manure	45 litres	£3.50			
Ericaceous	60 litres	£7.50			
Compost					
Peat free	60 litres	£6.50			
compost					
6X Extra rich	60 litres	£8.00			
fertiliser					
John Innes No 2	25 litres	£6.00			
and 3					
Chicken Pellets	per lb	60p			
	per 15kg bag	£15.00			
Garotta	Per 3.5 kg	£6.00			
	packet				
Blood fish bone	per lb	60p			
Bone Meal	per lb	60p			
	per 10kg tub	£12.00			
Growmore	per lb	60p			
	per 10kg tub	£12.00			
Garden lime	per lb	60p			
	per 10kg tub	£12.00			
Sulphate of	per lb	75p			
Ammonia					
Sulphate of	per lb	85p			
Potash					
Coarse Grit	per lb	60p			
	per 20kg tub	£7.00			
Black Ground	per metre	£1.75			
Cover 2m wide					
Black Netting 4m	per metre	£1.75			
wide					
Enviromesh	per metre	£3.00			
1.83m wide					
Fleece	per metre	£1.50			
Canes					

8'	each	60p
6"	each	55p
4'	each	35p
3'	each	30p
Stakes	each	£5.50

Jill, aided by a team of volunteers, ensures that the CHAS Trading Hut is stocked with a wide range of garden essentials. Always willing to stock new items at the behest of members, keeping prices low and letting you buy in any quantity. Famed for the wide varieties of potatoes ready for chitting it stocks from January-April.

A place to meet old friends, with books to browse or buy and a team of friendly volunteers ready to give advice and help with loading heavy items.

In May, the team stage a big plant sale. Some of the plants are bought in from nurseries but many are grown by volunteers in the greenhouse where they produce excellent plants ready to plant including tomatoes, peppers, leeks, cabbages and beans.

Open every Sunday except the first Sunday of the month, 10am-12.30pm. Sunday 25 July is the last trading day until September and Sunday 5 December is the last trading day until January.

Moon calendar 2021

Lunation	New Moon	First Quarter	🔵 Full Moon	Third Quarter
1212				Jan 6 - Wed 09:38 am
1213	Jan 13 - Wed 05:02 am	Jan 20 - Wed 09:03 pm	Jan 28 - Thu 07:18 pm	Feb 4 - Thu 05:38 pm
1214	Feb 11 - Thu 07:08 pm	Feb 19 - Fri 06:49 pm	Feb 27 - Sat 08:19 am	Mar 6 - Sat 01:32 am
1215	Mar 13 - Sat 10:23 am	Mar 21 - Sun 02:41 pm	Mar 28 - Sun 07:50 pm	Apr 4 - Sun 11:04 am
1216	Apr 12 - Mon 03:32 am	Apr 20 - Tue 08:00 am	Apr 27 - Tue 04:33 am	May 3 - Mon 08:51 pm
1217	May 11 - Tue 08:01 pm	May 19 - Wed 08:13 pm	May 26 - Wed 12:14 pm	Jun 2 - Wed 08:26 am
1218	Jun 10 - Thu <mark>1</mark> 1:54 am	Jun 18 - Fri 04:54 am	Jun 24 - Thu 07:40 pm	Jul 1 - Thu 10:12 pm
1219	Jul 10 - Sat 02:17 am	Jul 17 - Sat 11:11 am	Jul 24 - Sat 03:37 am	Jul 31 - Sat 02:18 pm
1220	Aug 8 - Sun 02:50 pm	Aug 15 - Sun 04:21 pm	Aug 22 - Sun 01:02 pm	Aug 30 - Mon 08:15 am
1221	Sep 7 - Tue 01:52 am	Sep 13 - Mon 09:41 pm	Sep 21 - Tue 12:54 am	Sep 29 - Wed 02:58 am
1222	Oct 6 - Wed 12:05 pm	Oct 13 - Wed 04:27 am	Oct 20 - Wed 03:57 pm	Oct 28 - Thu 09:06 pm
1223	Nov 4 - Thu 09:15 pm	Nov 11 - Thu 12:48 pm	Nov 19 - Fri 08:59 am	Nov 27 - Sat 12:29 pm
1224	Dec 4 - Sat 07:44 am	Dec 11 - Sat 01:37 am	Dec 19 - Sun 04:37 am	Dec 27 - Mon 02:26 am



Nicotiana, Dressed to kill



Acknowledgements

With thanks to:

Our advertisers, Busby's Chemist, The Carpet Gallery, The Chiswick Camera Centre, The Chiswick Salon, DC Waste, Elmwood Fencing Ltd, NB Newsagents, Pot Pourri Flowers, Snappy Snaps, Strand Antiques, W4 Bathrooms and Whitman & Co for their generosity.

Colin Watson and Vernon and Jeanette for the cover.

Teddy for the back cover.

Julia Langdon for 'Garden chic' and Martin Argles for illustration.

Dennis Flaherty for 'A difficult year on the allotment'.

Mike Thomas for, 'Snow on the Burial Ground plots, 2009'.

Anna McCallion for, 'Nicotiana, Dressed to kill'.

Sam Flinders for his all-round help.

And all our members for their inspiration.

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