



De Beauvoir Gardeners

Annual Report 2019

Tue 5th February 2019 De Beauvoir Gardeners meeting

HELPING TO PROTECT SOLITARY BEES

Alison Benjamin, co-author of the forthcoming *The Good Bee: a celebration of bees and how to save them*, will introduce some of the UK's 250 solitary bee species that visit our urban gardens; like the hairy-footed flower bee, wool carder bee and red mason bee. They are important pollinators of flowers and fruit trees, and like all bees face many threats. But we can help provide vital food and shelter by planting their favourite food and creating habitat.



7.30pm tea, 8pm speaker. All welcome, £4 entry for non-members. The Cafe, St. Peter's Crypt, Northchurch Terrace, London N1 4DA

www.debeauvoirdgardeners.org.uk

@DBGardeners



Tue 5th March 2019 De Beauvoir Gardeners meeting

OTTERS IN HAGGERSTON?

THE REGENT'S CANAL AS A GREEN CORRIDOR LINKING
THE LEA VALLEY INTO THE HEART OF LONDON

Gideon Corby is a community gardener living by the Regent's Canal. Having adopted a stretch of the waterway, he and other local residents are 'greening the grey' and encouraging wildlife. He will talk about the different methods of planting they use, how the **Wildlife Gardeners of Haggerston** project started and its aim to transform the canal into a green corridor.

March is also our **Annual General Meeting** – join us to hear about plans for the gardening year ahead.



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Tue 2nd April 2019 De Beauvoir Gardeners meeting

GROWING HERBS IN URBAN SPACES

Natalie Mady shows us how to grow herbs in urban spaces including windowsills, balconies and small gardens. She will cover the herb growing calendar, propagation and top tips for growing herbs in pots. You'll get to sow some seeds to take home and the talk is suitable both for beginners and experienced gardeners.

Natalie is a Hackney-based community gardener and permaculturist. She runs local social enterprise **Hackney Herbal** which promotes wellbeing through herbs.



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Tue 5th November 2019 De Beauvoir Gardeners meeting

IN OUR SOIL

Francisca (Fran) Sconce is an entomologist with a background in research, most recently on springtails and other soil invertebrates. She is passionate about education and presently works in Outreach and Engagement for the Royal Entomological Society. Fran will talk about **insects and other invertebrates** that live in and around soil. She also knows a little about slugs – both good and bad!!



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Tue 3rd September 2019 De Beauvoir Gardeners meeting

SPRING BULBS

Anne and Jack Barnard of award-winning **Rose Cottage Plants** specialise in bulbs, corms, rhizomes and tubers. They will give an illustrated talk about spring bulbs with particular reference to London gardens (species and cultivars), establishing plantings for spring as perennials and squirrel and other pest control. There will be a Q&A. Bulbs pre-ordered from their website can be brought to the meeting without paying P&P, please see our website for how to order.



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Tue 1st October 2019 De Beauvoir Gardeners meeting

SWIFTS in de Beauvoir

Many of you will know **Mike** and be aware of the project to support swifts; indeed some of you have nest boxes. He will talk about the lifecycle of the swift, how it has adapted to the urban environment, why it is threatened, and what more we can do to conserve this vulnerable species.

He will also talk about other bird species and bats in North London, and how their populations are faring.



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Tue 3rd December 2019 De Beauvoir Gardeners meeting

Cordwainers Grow

Cordwainers Grow are about connecting people and place through discovery. They evolved out of Cordwainers Garden, a community growing space where they started growing plants for dyeing and to make fibre. They continue to champion community growing and have formed the **Union of Hackney Gardens** to share resources, protect our network of green spaces and give them a stronger voice. They will be talking about their work and activities.

As it is our December meeting we will be serving mince pies and mulled wine.



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We enjoyed 7 speakers in 2019

In May we had a tour of the Middle Temple gardens





- In June we had an indoor picnic at St Mary's Secret Garden
- In July our annual walkabout took in several gardens, the de Beauvoir estate allotments, greening the canal and a floating allotment on a barge!

DBG SPRING PLANT SALE

Sunday 12th May 11am – 1pm

Come to our annual plant sale on the corner of Northchurch Terrace opposite St. Peter's church.

Affordable plants and seedlings grown locally by members of the De Beauvoir Gardeners.



Plant Sale

This year we made £338.50
at our May plant sale!

Please pot up seedlings and
cuttings now for both of the May
and September plant sales



We made flower crowns at Party in the Park

2019
DE BEAUVOIR GARDENER'S

FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW

Growing a Greener Planet

Sunday 15th September
1.30–5pm admission free
and the famous De Beauvoir
DOG SHOW
(3.30pm, register 2–3pm, £2 per dog)

WASTE FREE EVENT
Please bring along
bags, re-use mugs
and containers

COMPETITION for CHILDREN & ADULTS
FLOWERS • VEGETABLES • FRUIT • CAKES • PRESERVES • ARTS & CRAFTS
(Free to enter, bring entries to St. Peter's Crypt between 9.30 and 11.30am)

Stalls: PLANTS & GARDENING ADVICE • TOMBOLA • WI CAKES & JAMS
RAFFLE • TEAS • PRE-LOVED HOUSE & GARDEN • CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES
GASPARD THE FOX • LOCAL HONEY • ZAYTOUN • HEALTHY BACK BAG
DOG PORTRAITS • WILDLIFE, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

In The Crypt and outside of St Peter's Church, Northchurch Terrace, London N1 4DA
For competition categories and rules visit www.debeauvoirgardeners.org.uk



Flower & Produce Show 2019



Competition entries



Donations

From the proceeds of the Flower and Produce Show raffle plus a DBG donation we gave £250 each to:

- The Garden Classroom
- The Wildlife Gardeners of Haggerston
- St Joseph's Hospice – garden



Community planting

£25 each to:

- Diana Mansfield for the horse trough on De Beauvoir Road
- Julian at the Rose Lipman building
- Barbara Barnett for Ufton Road treepits



Finance

<u>Income</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Membership	£1,411.40	£1,080.00
Flower Show	£2,731.67	£2,714.75
Plant Sale	£338.50	£174.30
Visitors	£157.50	£242.80
Coach Trip	£0.00	£686.00
Donations	£0.00	£0.00
RBS Interest	£2.36	£2.64
Total	£4,641.43	£4,900.49

<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Crypt Rental	£630.00	£840.00
RHS Affiliation	£110.00	£110.00
Speakers	£800.00	£821.00
Flower Show Expenses	£898.99	£892.93
Party/Meeting Refreshments	£127.67	£86.00
Coach Trip	£0.00	£740.00
Equipment Purchases	£0.00	£0.00
Website	£0.00	£23.98
Donations	£1,175.00	£1,645.00
Misc. Stationery etc.	£74.84	£0.00
Float	£30.00	£126.32
Front Gardens Scheme	£50.00	£0.00
Total	£3,896.50	£5,285.23
Surplus/(Deficit)	£744.93	-£384.74

Balance in RBS Account
at 31 December 2019 **£6,376.91**

Membership

In 2019 we had 75 members
(couples count as 2 members).

This was 2 less memberships than in 2018.

54 members are concessionary memberships
and five are honorary members.

ANNIE CHIPCHASE, ECOLOGIST, PRESENTS:

Nature in an urban environment

The plants that populate our urban areas are generally, much loved and appreciated. The value of close proximity to nature has long been recognised as towns and cities started to grow. Now, the growing climate crisis has thrown a spotlight on the natural world, and particularly trees, as a potential saviour.



7.30pm tea, **8pm** speaker.

All welcome, **£4** entry for non-members.

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2020 Speaker Programme

7th April – Annie Chipchase

5th May – John Little of the Green Roof Company

2nd June – Garden design

7th July – A walkabout with tree expert Paul Wood starting at Haggerston Station and ending with a drink in Cec Darker's garden

1st September

6th October

3rd November

1st December

2020 Events

10th May – Spring Plant Sale

Garden club and DBA litter pick with some community planting (volunteers needed)

Cec To talk to us about helping to maintain the park on the corner of Ufton and Downham Roads

4th July – Party in the Park

(volunteers to make flower crowns needed)

13th September – Flower & Produce Show
(volunteers needed)

DBG Trip to RHS Hyde Hall

- Saturday August 1st
- Sign-up sheet circulating
- Coach from de Beauvoir
– approx. £25 each



Union of Hackney Gardens

We have some copies available to share, of five maps which plot walks that connect community garden spaces:

- 1 Dalston & Hackney Central
- 2 Hackney Wick and Homerton
- 3 Hoxton & Haggerston
- 4 Manor House & Springfield Park
- 5 Stoke Newington



Thanks

- Our Treasurer, Richard Turnbull for organising the transfer of our bank account
- Stephen King for setting up the meeting room making sure we have tea and biscuits
- Nancy Korman for hosting the plant sale
- The committee
- Cec Darker for organising the 2019 walkabout
- EVERYONE WHO HELPED with the Flower & Produce Show

Elect the committee

- Judith Parker (chair)
- Avril Broadley
- Irene Slegt
- Sophie Beauchamp is standing down as membership secretary due to illness
- Would anyone else like to join us in 2020?
- Vote to elect the committee

HELP

We are looking for members to organise a meeting in 2020 or 2021.

We are looking for volunteers to sit on the Flower and Produce Show committee or run a stall or activity such as the competition, plant stall, raffle or tombola.