

# The Grapevine



*Newsletter of the Finchley Horticultural Society*

SPRING 2022

You come to fetch me from my work to-night  
When supper's on the table, and we'll see  
If I can leave off burying the white  
Soft petals fallen from the apple tree  
(Soft petals, yes, but not so barren quite,  
Mingled with these, smooth bean and wrinkled pea);  
And go along with you ere you lose sight  
Of what you came for and become like me,  
Slave to a Springtime passion for the earth.  
How Love burns through the Putting in the Seed  
On through the watching for that early birth  
When, just as the soil tarnishes with weed,  
The sturdy seedling with arched body comes  
Shouldering its way and shedding the earth crumbs.

*Putting in the Seed by Robert Frost*



Spring is back, despite the cold winds and even snow on 1 April! Yet nothing can deter our plot holders as we look forward to another growing season. Let us hope we have a good year for fruit and vegetables and surplus produce to help those who are struggling with the cost of living going through the roof.

We welcome the return of our wonderful Plant Sale to be held on 15 May and call on volunteers, both to grow plants for the sale and to help on the day.

There is going to be an exciting trip to the RHS Wisley coming up soon (details in the Newsletter's *Notices* section).

This Spring issue of the Grapevine offers gardening tips, insights into the way other allotment sites are run, and plot holders' stories of their experience of growing exotic vegetables, visits to the RHS gardens and more.

Happy reading and growing!

# A Visit to RHS Garden Hyde Hall on 26 February 2022

By Felicity Nock

To my amazement, ten years have passed since I last visited RHS Hyde Hall in March 2012 and over this period huge changes have been made to the visitor buildings and planting schemes. The original characteristics of the gardens have been accentuated and the welcome made more inclusive. On this warm late February Saturday whole families with grandparents and prams milled about delighting in scents, bees and flowers.

As I parked, I noticed the swale ditches separating the rows of cars and the flourish of soft pussy willow beds - these are clue to the signature characteristics of Hyde Hall. From 2017 the RHS expanded the grounds into a garden of two halves: the original Hilltop farmhouse cluster with its traditional ornamental gardens and the rock-strewn slopes forming a renowned Dry Garden (1) which descends to wide, recently landscaped grassland skirts. Here coloured willow stems flourish in the wetter conditions and are chopped, bent, and woven to tame and create vibrant winter sculptures (2). Throughout the gardens bare stems are woven into shapes, pruned, and tied into rosy nets or twisted in planters as ornamental supports. These skills are the second horticultural characteristic showcased at Hyde Hall.

On arrival, the first stop is to visit the new Winter Gardens (2018) where the willow sculptures can be seen linked together like Matisse's dancers or taking fanciful shapes as focal points. The planting in this stroll garden is still being adjusted but the gently mounding beds are extensive, and the design already delivers on its ambition to showcase 'key plants and design techniques' where 'light, structure, scent silhouettes, colour and architectural forms provide an original experience' and real planting inspiration. A helpful booklet 'The Winter Garden, Designing in the Dark' provides a guide and if you ever think you've seen all the white birch, flaming cornus and black Ophiopogon planiscapus 'Nigrescens' combinations you need, prepare to be surprised, the RHS will introduce you to plants that may be as new to you as Tasmannia lanceolata was to me. It is also astounding to sit beside a massed group of scented Edgeworthia chrysantha layered with high clean notes of witch hazel behind and be lured onward by rich vanilla scented daphnes.



Compare this experience with a marmite-like treat in the Global Growth Vegetable Garden, another new addition on the hilltop; for spring 2022 the Hartley Botanic octagonal glasshouse is planted with a carpet of outrageous ‘sucking-sweet pink’ hyacinths. One mother stayed outside gasping that it was ‘too intense’ while I followed her husband and three-year-old inside to just stand, stare and drink the heady scent.

The Vegetable Gardens may be the area of most interest to FHS members, but of course in this season there is little to see beyond caged brassicas and a couple of rows of celeriac. Here, the preparation itself provides inspiration: in 2017 the RHS commissioned designer Xa Tollemache (Helming Hall, Suffolk) to design an exemplary potager sponsored by the Witan Investment Trust. She created three circles of inter-locking beds raised at different heights to radiate out from the glasshouse. The foundation structure for growing is thus a straightforward and clearly concentric world. Orderly grey sett paved paths provide a maze of paths for access. The sides of the beds are vertically laid wooden sleepers (which may be lined inside), the soil is friable and as you would expect, beautifully prepared for planting. “Without soil there can be no life”, we read. In expectation of evaporation from sun and wind some of the beds are equipped with parallel lines of spongy drip irrigation.

Budding fruit trees and bushes are planted on the lee side of an outer bund that protects the whole hill-top garden from exposure to the prevailing southwesterly winds.

On this early spring morning the joy lies in imagining - mentally planting - a bountiful summer in the space. Clues about to how to do this are provided by permanent notice boards describing key edibles imported over centuries from Asia (rhubarb, apples and onions), South America (tomatoes, chillies and potatoes), North & Central America (beans, maize, and cucurbits) with Europe & the Middle East glorying in brassicas. For some reason the legendary Jerusalem artichoke gets a plaque all its own, downwind of all the rest! For any child or adult who believes that edibles come from plastic trays or polytunnels this is (or will be in summer) a real journey of exploration.

Open, wind-swept RHS Hyde Hall has a remarkably different spirit to the wooded, enclosed headquarter gardens at RHS Wisley. In decade long renovations the RHS has capitalised on this to enhance the signature and character of the gardens, to give visitors a unique yet a ‘RHS family’ welcome that ultimately, broadly, reflects the vegetation of the larger surrounding environment, and introduces a play upon the old adage: ‘right plant, right place’. With this in mind, I hope that FHS members will enjoy visiting Wisley this summer and reflect upon the warmth, skill, diversity and gentle education of the RHS endeavours.

# Roses

Text and pictures by Shoko Higashitsuji

Roses are some of the most popular flowers, and I am sure many of you have roses in your garden. There are several thousand varieties of roses around the world. Here are some of the main types:

## Hybrid Tea

Roses with large flowers with high centered buds



## Floribunda

Roses with medium sized flowers, that grow in clusters



## Climbing rose

Roses with long canes, that are often grown on walls, pillars, obelisks, and arches.



## Miniature rose

Miniature roses grow up to around 30cm tall. It is the most suitable type of rose if you want to grow roses indoors.

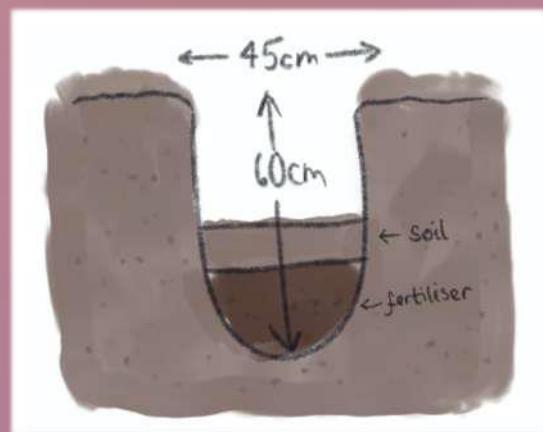


## Choosing a plant

When choosing a plant, it is important to pick one with a thick main cane, with many branches and buds.

## Planting

Dig a hole around 45cm wide, and 60cm deep, and place fertiliser at the bottom and soil above it. After placing the plant in the hole, cover with soil, and give it plenty of water once every two to three days, until fully established.



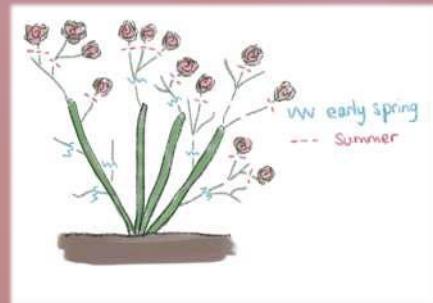
## **Pruning**

- Roses should be pruned in early spring before budding, and in summer after blooming.
- Pruning is not necessary for the year the rose was planted, and for the first few years in the case of climbing roses.
- For Hybrid Teas: In early spring, cut the strongest canes down to 15-30cm from the soil. In summer, cut them down, leaving two shoots per cane. This pruning method works for miniature roses too.



### **For Floribundas:**

Do not prune the branches too short – cut to around 25-30cm from the soil level. In summer, snip the branches after the rose has finished blooming.



### **For climbing roses**

Cut the canes to two thirds of their length in early spring.

### **Watering**

Usually, roses do not require much watering, however, water generously during dry spells.

### **Fertiliser**

- It is important to fertilise roses, to encourage them to bloom.
- For repeat flowering roses add fertiliser to the soil after spring flowers finish blooming, and before flowers bloom in autumn.
- You can use any fertiliser of your choice such as compost, manure, or bonemeal.

### **Unusual colour varieties:**



## Insights from the Fitzroy Park Allotments, Highgate

A few weeks ago, I visited an old friend, Zee Nagre, at Fitzroy Park Allotments (FPA) which is one London's bucolic secrets, located on the slopes visible from the Ladies Pond on Hampstead Heath. At the top of the hill is Highgate Village and in the other direction, almost a stone's throw, Kenwood House. FPA is an 80-plot site - the largest in the Borough of Camden.



The site is accessed via a private Fitzroy Park Road. The views from the allotments are quite stunning. Zee and his friend Armorer, another plot holder and member of the site's committee, showed me around and talked about a number of issues that I thought may be of interest to our plot holders.

### Zee's story

**Rats:** Of course, as everywhere else in London we are never that far away from rats. During the first Covid lockdown the rat population on the allotment exponentially increased. One very plausible explanation was that as a result of the closure of all the restaurants, pubs and cafes in Highgate and other nearby places, rats came in hordes to the allotments seeking food. Nearly every plot holder reported sighting on their plots. I didn't get off lightly as they had taken up residence in my unfinished shed! Rats like to breed in places that aren't visited much, and due to my frequent absences from the plot they liked the shed. The stench, when I finally got there during the lockdown, was almost unbearable. The committee consulted experts who tried humane traps and even dogs (Jack Russells). The population of rats has receded since but is still greater than before COVID. This has resulted in another decree from the committee for the plot holders to stop feeding birds.

### **Composting and dry fencing**

We were having an increasing amount of green compostable matter being thrown away in the council's bin which is emptied every week. Apart from diseased plants or troublesome weeds such as bindweed and couch grass roots, it has always been forbidden to put green matter in the bin, the contents of which were surely destined for landfill or furnace. A few years ago, it was decided to construct compost bays on a plot that wasn't very productive due to the shade and roots of sycamore trees close to it. We have a very healthy culture of voluntary work at FPA, so the construction, maintenance of the bays and the distribution of the resulting compost just happens effortlessly. The restriction for twigs and branches more than half an inch in diameter not to be discarded in the compost bays was the main reason for the committee's

decision to use those branches to construct a rectangular enclosure, about 20 feet wide and 4 feet deep. The walls were created by putting the ground stakes in, about 3 feet apart, and crudely weaving green branches through them. The height is about 4 feet. It looks very appealing, and I guess the space in the enclosure will hold twigs and smaller branches. The residents' association in Fitzroy Park is very assertive. They are always very quick to complain about anything that can be seen from their road that they deem unsightly. I assume that as this 'dry wall' enclosure is in clear sight of the road, care was taken regarding the look of yet another composting bay.

The committee continuously encourage plot holders to create an area on their plots where they compost all their own green waste, but for reasons I have yet to fathom quite a few plot holders, many very established and competent gardeners, just want to throw away couch grass, clumps of nettle etc. with their best topsoil still clinging to them.



There is one very inspiring plot holder who has invested in a shredder and a small generator. Using pallets he constructed a few bays, lined them, and made lids for the containers. The shredded wood breaks down super-fast. I once pushed my hand into the middle of one of these containers and couldn't believe the heat generated by the method of anaerobic composting – almost the temperature of the slow oven in an Aga! Now the committee are considering the idea of hiring a man and a shredder periodically to come to the allotments and do large scale shredding for us. I really hope this idea develops so that I would never have to buy dodgy horse manure from Thompsons ever again!

### Bonfires

Currently the hottest topic amongst plot holders. At FPA we are allowed to have bonfires between 1 October and 13 March for the purpose of disposing of woody, dry and diseased plant matter. Annually we would also have a communal bonfire which tends to get quite large. One resident has been consistently complaining to the Council citing the Environmental Protection Act and the Clean Air Act. Councils up and down the country get very nervous when litigation is threatened. Recently the Council issued an edict banning communal bonfires and sent a strongly worded letter to each plot holder that whilst a small fire was still allowed on individual plots during the permitted period, any flouting of the rules would lead to a total ban of bonfires.

### Armorer's story

I was on the waiting list for a plot at Fitzroy Park Allotments for 19 years and had lived without a garden for the previous 35 years. I was thrilled when the call came: the

allotments are on a beautiful south-west-facing slope next to Hampstead Heath. I thought I had won the lottery: it was like being offered a country cottage (without the nuisance of the cottage), in walking distance from my flat.

I realised that I wanted to establish the plot, step by careful step, with a long-term vision of an ultimately low-maintenance, completely organic haven. I carried memories of a formidable and beloved mother-in-law, who had been an early advocate for the organic movement when such people were considered highly eccentric.

The soil was heavy clay, with red topsoil very near the surface in parts of the plot. I don't think it had ever been amended, but five years on, with a big manure delivery each autumn, and my own compost and now leaf mold, it is slowly improving. There was couch grass everywhere. I followed George Monbiot's advice and covered large sections of the plot with hideous plastic weed-block. That made it possible to dig out the couch grass, the following year. Some plot-holders told me that couch grass would always regrow, and that I should take all of it off the plot, but I couldn't face removing anything organic or to lose the precious topsoil that would go too. I bagged it up and left it for three years. My patience was rewarded: it turned into gorgeous, dark, sweet compost.

More recently I have got interested in **permaculture** and was keen to develop a **Hugelkultur** mound. In the end I used the **Hugelkultur** idea to build a really tall raised bed. I had to fell some failing apple trees and used the wood and additional woodchip as a base, along with some of the really heavy red subsoil, and a good cover of woodchip, delivered to us by local tree surgeons, that had rotted down on my paths. I then covered that with the couch grass compost. Everything I planted – strawberries and salad - shot up (unfortunately slugs love it too).

I was really pleased to find a way to use the wood to amend the soil, rather than to burn it. We are trying to become more environmentally aware at Fitzroy Park Allotments, and to burn as little as possible: we no longer have communal autumn bonfires, several plot-holders have developed a dry fence from wood prunings, and we are now composting thinner prunings in a communal area.



Six years on, I now have wonderful fruit bushes of every description, two pear trees and a slightly stubborn Early Transparent Gage (it blossomed for the first time last year, and the fruit that did not get brown rot was divine, but there is almost no blossom this year). And I have four veg beds, asparagus, rhubarb, globe artichokes, herbs, flowers - and salad planted in 'moated' planters to prevent slugs reaching it! It is NOT low maintenance, but it still feels like I won the lottery...

# Growing Exotic Vegetables

By Anya Zvezdina

I want to share my experience of growing some exotic plants last summer (and I shall leave some seeds in the seedbank in the Green Room).

My overall impression of the outcome: easy, productive and beyond expectations!

## Alternative to Spinach

I have been growing perpetual spinach since before I had a plot. But I have discovered some examples of studies whose findings indicate how greens that may look great lose many of their nutrients that are the reason we go to the trouble of eating them, in the first place. Essentially, all those things that we hope to gain from them to keep us healthy, are being used up to maintain their own green appearance. Therefore, the first thing I always aim to cultivate are some fresh greens; but I have grown tired of rainbow chard and perpetual spinach (more or less the same thing) that do well on my plot. I enjoy broccoli but it takes a lot of room to have a small harvest for a relatively short part of the year. PLUS, the bloody pigeons eat all of the above crops and my vegetable cage is simply not as good as Eric's (even despite his old/donated netting!).

I was intrigued to hear that Huauzontle or Aztec Broccoli\* is not particularly attractive to pests, has a quick turnaround from sow to crop and gets good feedback from growers who say that it is their favourite green!

Based on the last year's experience, I can confirm that all of the above is true. I will be planting it again this year (further from the paths this time, thank you for your patience, neighbours!)

I am also looking forward to doing a little more than sauté them with butter, which I did last year. (Many vitamins are fat soluble, so anything other than margarine, helps you absorb the fruits of your labour).

## Alternative to... bell peppers?

I heard of this one on Gardeners Question Time, a programme I used to listen to in New Zealand long before moving to the UK or keeping a garden. One of the experts, James Wong gave such a rave review of this plant that for the very first time, I decided to plant something recommended by the show. The adventure continues as there are two similar varieties of Acocha, as shared by James in his 2017 article in the *Guardian*:

<https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2017/feb/05/acocha-courgettes-cute-little-cousin>

**Fat Baby** - does not require glass house in UK; **Bolivian Giant** - better off within a glass house in the UK, has larger fruits, good for stuffing.

The trouble is that people keep offering or trying to sell me Bolivian Giant that behaves, performs, and appears to actually be the Fat Baby variety. Anyhow... I got more than I could harvest from one plant, that covered my entire 'attempt' at a cage but none the less appeared to be an excellent plant to grow in a shady spot, easy to control but plentiful. In addition, my first ever cucumbers were very happy growing in its shade. It kept fruiting for a long time and was only killed by the first frost, while still full of fruit.



This year I plan to grow it along the boundary of the tea house - so please help yourself - you can eat them raw (like a cucumber) or fried, like a capsicum.

### Cucamelons

These are fun to grow, but having grown them for a few years, I can say that they only fruit in a glass house (even if it has holes, like mine). They are well behaved. I have tried to keep the tubers from the previous year to continue growing, but they rot every year. Assuming I had damaged the tubers last time, I tried leaving them entirely untouched and did not water them this year but still none survived. I found we were not really eating them, so I won't be planting them again. But if you are looking for something fun for cocktails or a preserve these represent a curious cross between gooseberries and cucumbers.



### What Next?

I would love to try **Tree Spinach (Chaya)** but I am yet to find the seeds.

I've never tried **Spaghetti Squash** before but someone has kindly left some seeds in the seed swap box so I have taken a few to see what will happen.

\* **Huauzontle (Aztec Broccoli)** native to South America, grows well in UK. Turns red in the autumn. This amazing plant grows large bushes (4 ft tall) with delicious edible leaves. The best bits are the hundreds and hundreds of flower shoots which you gather just before they show their tiny yellow petals. Tastes a bit like a cross between sprouting broccoli and samphire. No trouble with pests or diseases. Easy to pick and cook. Just take the top 3 inches of each flower stem (which will have both leaves and flowers) and boil or steam them. It is one of the very few greens that keep their texture when cooked, with a very slight crunch to them. They're not in any way chewy - they just don't go completely soft the way that spinach does, for example.

# GROWING EDIBLE FLOWERS

## (a tip from *Rocket Gardens*)

Edible flowers are all the rage now. Here's a quick guide to growing and using them in your cooking.

### Calendula & Marigolds

These plants are well suited to beds and borders in full sun or partial shade. If dotted in and around veg or other flowers, they add a good splash of colour and will attract pollinators. Plant 20cm apart and keep them watered during dry spells, other than that they are fairly self-sufficient. They will self-seed easily, so either leave flowers to go to seed if you are happy for them to spread in the borders or keep deadheading right through to the end of autumn. Harvest flowers in the morning and use petals only to sprinkle into salads, rice dishes, pasta etc.

### Viola

These can be grown in pots, borders, hanging baskets and beds. Give them plenty of compost when planting to keep them well nourished. Plant 20cm apart in full sun or partial shade. Keep them watered during dry spells and watch out for slugs and snails which will eat the flowers. Deadhead often to keep them flowering for longer. Harvest flowers in the morning (when they are just opening, rather than in the evening when they are closing again) and use them to sprinkle on salads or glaze flowers to use in cake decorating:

*Violas for cake decoration:*

Lightly whisk an egg white.

Use a fine paintbrush to completely coat the flowers with the egg white.

Sprinkle caster sugar evenly over the flowers whilst the egg white is still wet.

Place the flowers face down on greaseproof paper to dry for 12-24 hours.

### Borage

These plants are well suited to beds and borders in full sun or partial shade. Plant 40-50cm apart, near the back as they will grow to about 1m tall. They will self-seed easily, so either leave flowers to go to seed if you are happy for them to spread in the borders or keep deadheading right through to the end of autumn. Harvest flowers in the morning (when they are just opening, rather than in the evening when they are closing again) and use to decorate cakes, add to drinks or sprinkle on salads. You can freeze them in ice cube trays as well. Great for gin & tonic!

### Nasturtium

These plants are well suited to pots, beds and borders in full sun or partial shade.

Plant 20cm apart or in and around vegetables or other flowers. Keep them watered during dry spells, other than that they are quite self-sufficient. You can cut them back quite hard during the growing season and they will grow back well. Plant near brassicas to use as a sacrificial crop – to encourage cabbage whites lay their eggs on the nasturtiums rather than on your brassicas. Flowers are best harvested in the morning just as they are opening.

You can add both flowers and leaves to salads and other dishes for a peppery flavour.



# Three Things to Do on Your Veg Patch

(advice by *Rocket Gardens*)

- Dig over beds for root vegetables - if the ground is soft enough, now is a good time to start digging over and raking the beds where you will be growing root vegetables. The fewer lumps, the better!



- Tidy up perennial/evergreen herbs - remove any old woody stems from last year, and make sure the plants are not too crowded. A light pruning may help them to bush out if they are looking leggy.



- Start building supports - use the next few weeks to get bean and pea supports built so that you're ready to go when the planting season starts.





**PRESS RELEASE:  
Peonies, Picnics, Pimm's & Prosecco...  
2022 Open Days at Primrose Hall Peonies**

*Come join us at our nursery in Bedfordshire for selected dates in April, May, and June to learn about our nursery, how to grow peonies and how to make things with peonies.*



For a celebration of all things peonies join us at the nursery for a series of pop-up peony weekends. Alec and the team will be running nursery tours, 'How to grow peony talks and demonstrations' as well as floristry workshops. Book a workshop to create a peony hand tied bouquet or design your own peony flower crown.

If you prefer to relax amongst the peonies, why not pre-order a picnic and a glass of Pimm's from our peony themed Pimm's and Prosecco bar.

There will be morning and afternoon sessions and all tickets will be available on the website to book from the 1<sup>st</sup> December. Tickets start from £10.00 and limited availability - once they are gone, they are gone.



**April 28, 29, 30**

**May 12, 13, 14**

**June 9, 10, 11**



# Notices

## BONFIRES, SKIPS, RECYCLING AND VEGGIEBOX SCHEME

As you have probably seen already in the recent FHS Mailchimp the Committee plans to phase out bonfires over the coming year. Plot holders are currently still permitted to burn vegetation from their plots subject to the time constraints specified in our lease with Barnet that states that bonfires may be lit by tenants on their allotments on the first Wednesday of the months of May, June, July, August, and September. We hope that bonfires will be a last resort for getting rid of vegetation. We regularly get complaints from our neighbours about smoke pollution and its effect on their children's breathing. Burning also contributes to global warming and to the air quality in Finchley, as well as being an antisocial activity. We therefore ask members to have consideration for our neighbours and to burn vegetation only if they really must and only on the first Wednesday of the month. The green waste skip we're going to use instead of bonfires has been a success and people stuck to the rules as to what could be put in it, so that the contents of the skip could be recycled. Another skip has been booked for 21 April and there will be more in September. In the meantime, please do not leave branches or other green waste at the site of the skip but store them instead on your plot and compost as much as possible. This is the best way to reuse green waste. Please, note that the communal fire pit has been dismantled and will be used for growing vegetables for the Charity Veggie Box scheme this year (so please do not leave any green waste or branches at the fire pit site).

## PLANT SALE

Our annual Plant Sale will take place on the 15th of May (1-4pm), and we are looking for volunteers, both to help Christine and Catherine with growing plants for the sale and to assist with a variety of jobs on the day. C&C can be found in and around the polytunnels from 10.30 am every Sunday. From shifting bags of compost to potting seedlings, there are plenty of jobs to do and new skills to acquire.

## VISIT TO THE RHS GARDENS WISLEY

Looking forward to some days out this Summer? Why not join us on a visit to the RHS Gardens Wisley? The date is Friday 24th June and the cost per person is £26.00 per member (non-members £28.00). This will include transport, driver gratuity and entry into the gardens. The coach will leave Regents Park Road just opposite College Farm at approximately 9.30am and return will be late afternoon. Please email Judy Woollett at [finchleyhorticulturalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:finchleyhorticulturalsociety@gmail.com) or you can download a booking from the website <http://www.finчleyhs.org/category/blog/>.

## THE BAF ALLOTMENT SITES AND PLOTS COMPETITION

There is a plan to hold plot and site competitions this year as before the lock-down, provided societies are happy for judging teams to visit their sites. The first round is planned over the weekend of 16/17 July (two days in case of a large number of entries/issues with weather) and the final judging over 23/24 July (again, in case of issues with weather). Let's hope the weather is good to us this year and we have a lot of winners and runners up.

---

## UKRAINIAN REFUGEES IN BARNET

There is a sinister backdrop to this year's spring, with the war still raging in Ukraine. Many people in the UK, including Barnet residents, have offered to sponsor Ukrainian refugees, my husband Guy and I among them. One, a lovely young woman called Kseniya, has already arrived and is staying with us. She has also volunteered to help with our Plant Sale! We are still waiting for the other one, Alina, to get her visa. I have a list of other refugees who need homes, so if there are potential sponsors out there, please get in touch with Elena Cook ([yelenacook@hotmail.com](mailto:yelenacook@hotmail.com)).

The Finchley Horticultural Society 34 Elm Park Road, Finchley, N3 1EB  
[www.finchleyhorticulturalsociety.org.uk](http://www.finchleyhorticulturalsociety.org.uk)  
[twitter.com/finchleyhort](http://twitter.com/finchleyhort)  
[www.facebook.com/FinchleyHS](http://www.facebook.com/FinchleyHS)

For all Finchley gardeners and for plot holders at Gordon Road, Nethercourt Avenue and Brent Way

President  
Catherine Schmitt

Chairperson and FHS Enquiries  
Jo Cuttell 020 8922 0241

Allotments Secretaries  
Gordon Road: Sylvia Berente 07512 322909  
Nethercourt Avenue: Penny Igoe 07871 846496  
Brent Way: Elain Wright 020 8346 9975

Treasurer  
Chris Ouseley: 020 8346 1205

Membership  
Christine Williams: 07984 935668

Trading Hut  
Tuuli Taylor 020 8349 0176

Allotments Security & Break-ins  
Tony Ingram  
020 8349 1265 or 07967 274739

Communications  
Website and Twitter  
Marcos Scriven: 07446 881600

Newsletter Editor  
Elena Cook: 07931140817  
Newsletter Design - Toby Cook

To contact any committee member by email please use this address and mark it for the attention of the person you want to contact:

[finchleyhorticulturalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:finchleyhorticulturalsociety@gmail.com)  
Member of the Barnet Federation of Allotment and Horticultural Societies  
Affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society

## Events Diary

### RHS SHOW DIARY:

RHS Flower Shows to enjoy in 2022:

**5-8 May**

RHS Malvern Spring Festival

**24-28 May** (after hours event **27 May**)  
RHS Chelsea Flower Show

**23-26 June**

RHS Garden Harlow Carr Flower Show

**4-9 July** (after hours event on **8 July**)  
RHS Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival

**20-24 July**

RHS Flower Show Tatton Park

**3-7 August**

RHS Garden Hyde Hall Flower Show

**19-21 August**

RHS Garden Rosemoor Flower Show

**6-11 September**

RHS Garden Wisley Flower Show

Look out for on-sale dates in the members' e-newsletter or visit [rhs.org.uk/shows](http://rhs.org.uk/shows)



If you received a paper copy of this newsletter and are now able to receive it by e-mail, please inform Christine Williams,  
[finchleyhorticulturalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:finchleyhorticulturalsociety@gmail.com)  
This saves us time and money.

This issue of the Grapevine has been generously sponsored by Winkworth Estate Agents

**Winkworth**

T: 020 8349 3388 [www.winkworth.co.uk](http://www.winkworth.co.uk)