

SOUTH CROYDON ALLOTMENT SOCIETY

July 2023 NEWSLETTER

Jobs for August

The Main focus will be on watering, weeding and harvesting.

1. Cut back/pull up wild rocket and mustard leaves. After flower.,
2. Cut back flowering herbs
3. Prepare empty spaces for the autumn
4. Feed plants with liquid feed or wormcast fertiliser.
5. Keep brassicas protected from butterflies, pigeons with netting
6. Earth up or stake taller plants like broccoli and sweetcorn August normally a bit windy.
7. Cut or plant strawberry runners

Reminders

- **Please remember to lock the gate**
- Speed limit is 5mph please drive carefully on site.
- **Please keep paths around the plot, Cut, clean and tidy**
- Thank you to everyone who helped at working parties this year.

Plot Numbers



Every plot should have a plot number; please ensure you have one. These signs are available for sale in the shop, you have to pre order all money raised will go to charity.

Website: southcroydonallotment.com

South Croydon Allotment & Wildlife Area Open Day 12th August 2023 10am – 1pm



- Allotment Produce for sale & Tombola Scarecrow & Tallest Sunflower competition.
 - BBQ & Refreshments
 - Kids activities
- Wildlife Area walk & Best Plot competition
 - Tool Sharpening



Competition Time

Would you like to win best Full plot or Half plot? Now is the time to get your plot in shape inspections will take place on the 6th August they will put your plots into the competition.

Get the kids busy making a scare crow make it as funny or as scary as you like.

Please donate any produce you have spare for us to sell, all money raised on the day will be going to the Purley Food Hub charity.

Cake makers get baking we love to endure lots of different varieties.

Volunteers needed on the day to help on stalls Please drop the scas email address your name.

Welcome new plot holders

SCAS would like to say a huge warm welcome to all new plot holders who have taken over in the last few months. These include the following: Mrs Lorraine Lock, Mrs Beverly Turner, Ms Donna Whittaker-Gill, Mr Michael Osborn, Miss Annija Kvietina, Miss Venessa Longmore, Mr Peter Stephens. We hope you have a great start to the season and wish you every success.

Contact email addresses

Jackie Jones: jackieallotment2@gmail.com Tel: 07780379105

Matt Morris (Chairman) matt_a_morris@hotmail.com

CHOCOLATE COURGETTE CAKE



Ingredients

350g [self-raising flour](#)
50g cocoa powder
1 tsp mixed spice
175ml extra-virgin olive oil
375g [golden caster sugar](#)
3 [eggs](#)
2 tsp [vanilla extract](#)
500ml [grated courgette](#) (2 medium courgettes; peel first and take out seeds)
140g [toasted hazelnut](#), roughly chopped

For the icing

200g [dark chocolate](#), chopped
100ml [double cream](#)

Instructions

Heat the oven to 180C/160C gas 4. In a large bowl, combine the flour, cocoa powder, mixed spice and 1 tsp salt. In another bowl, combine the olive oil, sugar, eggs, vanilla essence and grated courgette. Mix the dry and wet mixture until just combined, then fold in the toasted hazelnuts. Line a 24cm cake tin with greaseproof paper, then pour in your mixture. Bake for about 40-50 mins, then leave to cool.

To make the icing, place the chocolate in a bowl and bring cream to the boil in a saucepan. Pour the hot cream over the chocolate and stir until completely smooth and melted. Leave the icing to cool slightly and thicken, then spread it over the cake.

Wildlife Report

It has been an excellent few months on the Wildlife Area. Rare Yellow Rocket has been flowering near the grass car park, the large pond site has been crowded with Greater Spearwort, more Rocket, and Dog Eyed Daisies.



It has been a great year for roses, although the roses pictured are near, but not on the Area.

Water Iris have bloomed in the small pond by the road, and currently another large daisy is attracting many varieties of hoverflies.

Across our site, poppies of many varieties have made a lovely sight, and a Holly Blue was seen, feeding on an Allium flower.



An enthusiastic Wildlife Area work party was held to clear areas and create wider paths, as suggested by our London in Bloom judge last year. Many thanks to all the volunteers pictured who helped (including Dell, who escaped before we could include her!).

Our 'In Your Neighbourhood London in Bloom' Judge, Jeanne, visited a few weeks later, and was very positive with her comments. Fingers crossed we get the extra point to gain an RHS 'Outstanding' award.

On the Allotment Open Day, we will also be holding our Wildlife Area Family Day. Do join us to view wildlife through the microscope, and wander around the area to see what is flowering and flying.

As always, please contact me with any wildlife queries or sightings on 07710494096, or at nigelwilliams.allotment@sky.com.
Nigel.