

Secret Garden Newsletter

Autumn 2012 www.stmaryssecretgarden.org.uk



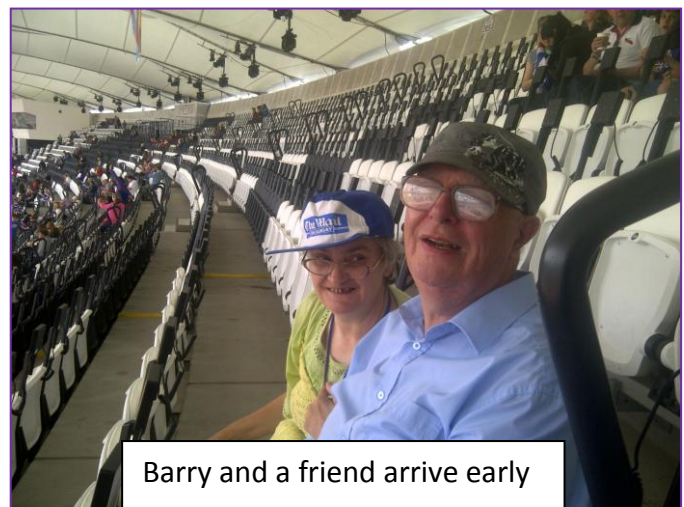
Looks like we're on for an Indian summer – September is set to be warm and sunny (fingers crossed!) We've got a busy autumn ahead of us with lots of community projects and training. Come down and check out the produce – it's the season of mellow fruitfulness after all!

News

We had a busy summer, joining in the [One Hackney Parade](#) where we welcomed the Olympic torch in July. We were also lucky enough to win 20 complimentary tickets to the [Paralympics](#), where we saw Richard Whitehead win gold in the T42 200 metres. It was SOOOO exciting!

Paula, Noushine and a group of volunteers also got to go on a pre Olympic visit to the Stratford site where they attended BBC radio4's [Gardener's Question Time](#).

You might also have seen our stall at the [Hoxton Street Party](#) on 14th July. It was a fantastic local event.



Barry and a friend arrive early



We are pleased to announce that we received the [Green Flag Community Award](#) for our fantastic garden!

Hot off the press – we have just heard that we won **FIRST PRIZE** for Best Community Project (professional) in the [Hackney in Bloom](#) competition. Yay!

We have moved into the 21st century and are now on [Twitter](#)! Find us at <https://twitter.com/stmarysgarden>. We try to tweet regularly (when time allows) and we post all our news and upcoming events, so it's very handy to find out what's going on at the garden. Become a follower for regular updates.

We have also joined [Local Giving](#) which is a social enterprise which helps smaller charities to fundraise by making it very easy to donate money. If you would like to help us with the running of the project (we could certainly do with some new tools!) then go to the website localgiving.com, put Secret Garden into 'search charities by key word' and click on the amount you want to donate. There are examples of what we can buy with each amount.

Any amount will be gratefully received and they'll match fund donations of £10 until the end of September.



We have been running a very successful growing and eating project for older people on Thursday mornings, the [Good Grub Club](#). Participants do some gardening, harvesting and preparing lunch to share. If you're over 60 (or thereabouts!) and free on Thursday mornings between 10 – 12.30 then call the garden or just turn up on the day.

We are starting a new project for carers and those they support called the [Pop Up Produce Project](#), or PUPP. Join us here at the garden on Wednesday evenings from 4-6.30p.m starting September 26th, to make chutneys, jams, bath bags and soaps (during autumn and winter) and create a pop up café cooking with produce from the garden (spring and summer). Places are limited so please go to the website for further information



[This autumn in the garden...](#)

Don't forget to order your bulbs and start planting from now until Christmas. Most bulbs work well in pots for a great spring display. This year we will be planting the gorgeous Tulip Blushing Apeldoorn (see picture). We are selling mixed large trumpet daffodils for £1 a kilo – hurry while stocks last.

