

# Garden's Newsletter

*St Mary's Secret Garden*

## JULY 2010 NEWS

Claudia has left after 3 years at St Mary's Secret Garden to take up a full-time position at Sydenham Gardens – therapeutic centre for people with mental health problems. We all miss her and wish her well. Nounshine who was a volunteer is temporarily filling in until we recruit formally. Lucky for us!!



Open Squares and Gardens on 12 and 13th June was another great success this year. We raised approximately £800 for the garden and we had a steady stream of lovely people to chat to! Many volunteers were out over the weekend to help make the events a success and even baked homemade cakes! These were enjoyed by all.

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## UP AND COMING COURSES

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

#### Courses

Coming soon (dates to be confirmed)..... So register your interest now!

#### **Bee Beautiful 3 (making herbal lotions & potions)**

Introduction to Bee Keeping (6.30-8pm on 21 July, 28 July and 4 August)

Contact The Golden Company on 07886 214329 or [zoe@thegoldencompany.com](mailto:zoe@thegoldencompany.com)

Our popular 6 week basic gardening course

## UP AND COMING EVENTS

### Freightliners Farm Open Air Theatre

1st August – **Taming of the Shrew** plus bargain of the year bookable pre-theatre menu.

For pre-theatre menu contact Peter at [peter@freightlinersfarm.org.uk](mailto:peter@freightlinersfarm.org.uk) or for booking tickets [http://forms.enfield.gov.uk/peo/search\\_results.asp](http://forms.enfield.gov.uk/peo/search_results.asp)

## UPDATE ON WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

**Green Pennant Award** - We have been judged recently and although we know the result we have to keep it a secret until 28th July!

**Corporate group team days** - Lots of lovely corporate groups have been having team days in the Garden helping us with some excellent work including new signs at the front and laying shingle and preserving our timber. Thanks to Freshfields and Lloyds so far. More groups are coming.

**Family garden sessions** - These went brilliantly with our youngest gardener being 20 months old! The Learning Trust (who funded these sessions) was impressed enough by them to contract St Mary's Secret Garden to deliver family gardening sessions at Gainsborough School, Hackney Wick.

**Open your Eyes** – Art in the garden group have completed their year course and some would have seen their final exhibition on the Saturday of open squares and gardens weekend. We are hoping to secure funding from somewhere to run this popular course again.



## THIS MONTH IN THE GARDEN

### Gardening tips for summer



- If you need to water the garden while it is hot early morning or late evening is best.
- Try applying a mulch to keep your water consumption down.
- Dead head your flowers which may encourage repeat flowering.
- Now is the time to collect your flower seeds for sowing next spring - make sure you label them so you know what they are.

### WHAT'S FOR SALE

- Summer bedding, herbs and our usual perennial plants are all still available at the garden.
- Ready now - Cosmos & Nicotiana (tobacco plant). £4.99 @ local garden centres and only £2.00 at our garden!
- Harvest Season is coming upon us; keep popping into the garden to see what's ready.
- Honey will be available soon - but we think it will sell out quickly!

## GARDENER PROFILES

Ronald started coming to the garden in March 2010 on a Friday and has recently started to attend on a Wednesday as well.

Ronald's favourite spot in the garden is in the greenhouse where he spends many hours pricking out seedlings. He has a very good eye for this work and is very quick! He is like a mini factory once he gets started.

"I like to come to the garden because it is a nice place to spend time and there are people here I can talk to. I also like having something to do."



Noushine has volunteered here on Wednesdays for 2 years while she was having a career break after having had 2 children. She is currently covering the post Claudia held.

Noushine was an Occupational Therapist before she had a career break and is using some of these skills at the garden. She also recently completed her RHS Level 2 in Horticulture.

She thinks "working here part-time is the perfect opportunity to combine these skills –working with people in a therapeutic way using horticulture as the medium."

WE'RE ON THE WEB  
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