

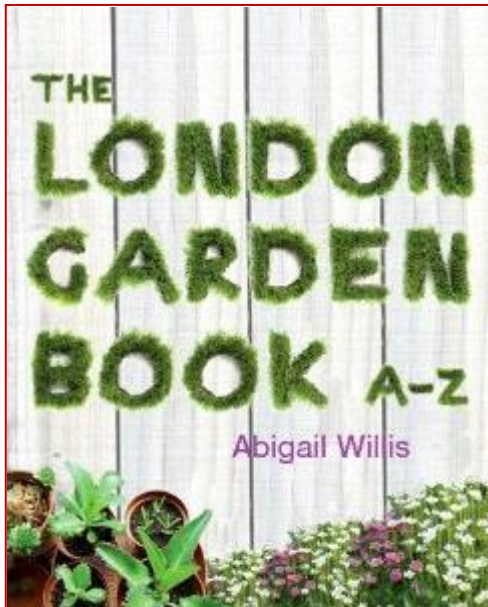
Secret Garden Newsletter

Winter 2012 www.stmaryssecretgarden.org.uk



Winter has arrived, the nights are drawing in and the end of the year fast approaches. Time to look back on the year's achievements and plan for the future in the garden.....

News

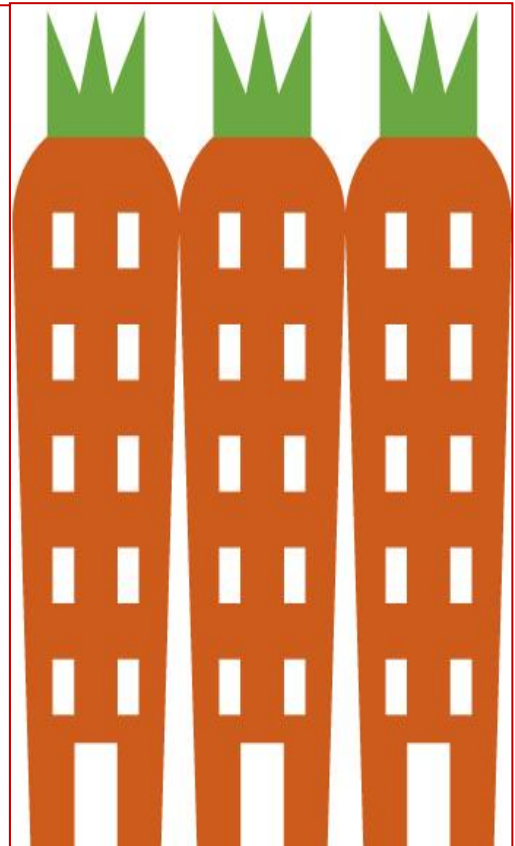


St Mary's Secret Garden is featured in this fabulous book, **The London Garden Book A-Z**, which lists gardens worth a visit in London, as well as a few other interesting details and information. Our garden is described as a '**community garden-cum-horticultural project (which) takes a truly inclusive approach to gardening, aiming to provide a resource for the whole community.**' Hear, hear! It's available from good bookshops for £14.99 or from tax-shy Amazon for £10.49.

It really is worth a look.

We have completed our first two **Estate to Plate** courses, which took place at St Mary's secret Garden, and are aimed at local people living on estates who want to learn about gardening. The course gives people the skills and experience to support and eventually run growing activities in their local community. Shoreditch Spa are also delivering a cooking project to run alongside the gardening course so participants can learn how to use the produce they grow to make healthy food and run cooking clubs. We will be starting **more courses**, including accredited courses, **next January, February, and April**. Watch our website for details or to book a place/register an interest please contact Edouard at Shoreditch Trust:

edouard@shoreditchtrust.org.uk



We still have places on our PUPPs (Pop-Up Produce Project) for carers and those they support. We have moved the sessions to a more convenient time of Tuesday mornings, 10am-1pm. The winter sessions will be mainly craft based with participants getting a chance to make scented bath/drawer bags, wrapping paper and cards, floral decorations and wreaths. The project will then continue in Spring with gardening, cooking and an exciting pop-up café.

If you know anyone who is a carer, please let them know about this opportunity, or if you are a carer yourself, please contact us at the garden:

Tel: 0207 739 2965, info@stmarysgarden.org.uk

This Christmas, we set up a stall at the De Beauvoir Christmas Fair, where we sold our wares. We will also be at Hackney Home Made for Christmas Saturdays at St John-at-Hackney Church Gardens; check website and Twitter for details. We'll be selling bath bags, cards and chutneys amongst other things.

We'll also have great stocking fillers available to buy here at the garden Monday-Friday 9-5.



Other news....

A big **thank you to GS1** from all of us here at St Mary's Secret Garden for the donation of a fantastic **new lawn mower** and a load of comfy chairs. Our grass and bums are most grateful!!



This winter in the garden...

Lift and divide rhubarb to make new, more vigorous plants, discarding the woody middle and replant the pieces; you can pot some up and give it to a friend. To **force** some of the rhubarb, exclude light completely by covering with a bucket for delicious early, tender stems.



We wish you all peace and happiness

