

ST MARY'S SECRET GARDEN NEWSLETTER

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Autumn's Glory

Hello Everybody!

Hope you are enjoying nature's crowning glory of Autumn.

We are moving along with some changes in the garden through **Tesco 'Bags of Help' Scheme**. We have been dismantling and erecting new raised vegetable growing beds ready for 2017 planting. You will also see new sales tables for our plant sales areas—hoping it is easier for you to shop with us. Work will be happening soon on new compost heaps with the help of volunteers from **Vodafone**. After that our new workshop shed will be going up over the winter. If anyone knows of a group of people that are good at putting sheds up—please get them to contact us!

Our supported volunteering sessions were hugely popular and were possible through **Hackney Council's** small grants and **D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust**. Unfortunately, this excellent programme has to come to an end but we see a huge need for many older and vulnerable people to keep active, meet people and feel supported to do so. Hence, we are going to continue to seek funding to enable us to do so.

We also delivered a series of sessions in the garden to over 12 ladies with learning disabilities from an organisation called **Misgav** based in Stamford Hill. They all had a fantastic time over the summer—particularly with the hose piles and watering!

We are looking forward to



working with **St Mary's TRA** in improving some of their estate areas over the coming months—we certainly are promising them a rose garden!

Growing News

Don't forget to start ordering your **garlic** and **onion** sets for this winters planting. We have gone a bit crazy and have over 6 varieties of garlic ready to go in to our new beds.

Also get some broad bean seeds in the ground ready for

an early crop next year—if the aphids don't get them.

Also start getting your spring flowering bulbs in the ground from now—we are busy planting more in the woodland area. We have some **Narcissi** bulbs for naturalising for sale at £1.50 a

kg. For all those that buy plants from us you may be pleased to hear that we now can take **debit and credit cards**.

We are also getting ready for Xmas and will be having our stock of handmade herbal bath bags, seeds, chutneys, marmalades etc etc

Special points of interest:

- **Hackney Recycling Rewards** All Hackney people please register, record your recycling and vote for us! You also get a chance of rewards yourself <https://hackney.localgreenpoints.com>
- **De Beauvoir Xmas Fayre** @ The Crypt, St Michael's Church, De Beauvoir Saturday 26th November 11-5pm. All proceeds to charity and yes we will be there!
- **Festive wreath making & late night shopping** at the garden Tuesday 6th December. Two sessions one at 4pm—6pm and 6.30pm to 8.30pm. £35.00 or £25 Concessions & kids with parents welcome—all materials supplied. Book early to avoid disappointment. More details coming soon.