



## Extra Bulletin 8

### GARDENING

It's National Gardening Week and the National Trust have released a special podcast episode with balcony gardener, Alice Vincent. You might think that living in a flat 40ft up limits your gardening options, but Alice has created a mini oasis in her London flat. Listen to the podcast and discover how a tiny patio, balcony or even windowsill can offer as much gardening enjoyment as a large outdoor space. Then read the article for exclusive tips from Alice on how to create your own micro paradise.

Go to [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/features/how-to-garden-in-small-spaces#podcast](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/features/how-to-garden-in-small-spaces#podcast)

### NO MOW MAY

If you let the flowers bloom on your lawn, they can provide a vital source of nectar for bees and other pollinators. That's why The NT is encouraging you not to mow your lawn for the month of May to support Plantlife's No Mow May campaign in the run up to their Every Flower Counts survey at the end of the month. So you can cross mowing the lawn off your to-do list and watch to see if more bees, butterflies and bugs visit your garden.

### NEWS FORM KEW GARDENS

This National Gardening Week get gardening tips and advice from Kew's experts. No matter how much space you have, there's something everyone can do to recreate a bit of Kew at home. Go to [www.kew.org](http://www.kew.org) to find out more including ...

How to start a vegetable garden-: One of Kew's horticultural experts shares her advice on making the most of your vegetable garden.

How to grow vegetables on your windowsill -: Set up a windowsill garden with these easy to grow vegetables and herbs.

How to multiply your houseplants-: Create an indoor jungle by learning how to propagate your plants at home.

There are lots of other podcast and virtual tours on the Kew site.

### PASHLEY MANOR

Sally thought people might like to see the gardens at Pashley Manor. They are beautiful. Amazing Wisteria.

<https://www.facebook.com/130353493701835/posts/3722730971130718/?extid=UhC18GXBRfkr0iV9&d=null&vh=e>

## Maths Challenges Week Four

### Question 1

In the addition sum below, A, B, C & D represent different digits, and all the digits in the sum are different. What is the sum of A, B, C & D?

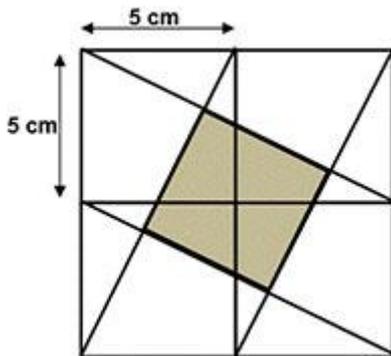
5A  
BC  
D43

### Question 2

You cash your pay cheque and save half of it. With the rest you pay a debt of £20 and buy something for £5. After spending  $\frac{1}{5}$  of the remaining money you are left with £12. How much was your pay?

### Question 3

What is the area of the shaded square formed within a 10cm square?



### Question 4

I have a wooden right circular cone with height  $H$  and radius of base  $R$ . What is the greatest volume right circular cylinder I can cut out of this?

### PLACES TO VISIT ?

The royal mint exhibition is now on line online. For those who haven't visited the Royal Mint you can now see it online at [/www.royalmint.com/](http://www.royalmint.com/)

The British Museum has much more on its site now. Visit [www.britishmuseum.org/](http://www.britishmuseum.org/) to see more.

Hampton Court Palace is open virtually too.

## Virtual Chelsea: 18 - 23 May

The world's greatest flower show is going digital to bring you an exciting line-up of world-leading designers, plant experts and practical gardening advice.

### Coming up during show week

Every day you can enjoy new videos and inspirational articles from regular Chelsea exhibitors. We're bringing you tours from well-known garden designers, florists and gardening personalities of their own private gardens as they share their top design tips, favourite planting combinations and gardening trends with virtual visitors. Other features include:

- Interactive lunchtime Q&A sessions with RHS Advisors joined by special guests
- Behind-the-scenes tours from award-winning nurseries
- Tours of gardens owned by those who would have been exhibiting this year, including some that have never been open to the public before.
- A daily School Gardening Club with activities for families to grow plants and connect with nature

Enter the My Chelsea Garden competition

The RHS and BBC1's *The One Show* at [bbc.co.uk/theoneshow](http://bbc.co.uk/theoneshow) have joined forces to launch a competition to celebrate Virtual Chelsea. They are asking you to share images of your green spaces – be it a balcony, window sill, front or back garden – and hear how plants are helping you through these challenging times.

You can also buy show-stopping plants directly from our Chelsea nurseries online.

Go to <https://www.rhs.org.uk/> to find out more.

## LOST FOR WORDS.....

### \*Furlough Merlot\*

Wine consumed in an attempt to relieve the frustration of not working. Also known as “bored-eaux” or “cabernet tedium”.

### \*Coronadose\*

An overdose of bad news from consuming too much media during a time of crisis. Can result in a panicdemic.

### \*The elephant in the Zoom\*

The glaring issue during a videoconferencing call that nobody feels able to mention. E.g. one participant has dramatically put on weight, suddenly sprouted terrible facial hair, or has a worryingly messy house visible in the background.

### \*Quentin Quarantino\*

An attention-seeker using their time in lockdown to make amateur films which they're convinced are funnier and cleverer than they actually are.

..... ARE THERE MORE ?

# CHURCHILL'S FRUIT CAKE

Next week marks the 75th anniversary of VE day and the National Trust are offering an exclusive preview of our version of a rather special recipe – Churchill's fruit cake. It was created by one of Churchill's personal cooks at his family home of Chartwell and Churchill claimed he 'could not have managed throughout the war without her cooking'. Why not give the recipe a try to commemorate the end of the war in Europe?

## INGREDIENTS

**225g** butter  
**170g** dark brown sugar  
**285g** self-raising flour  
**280g** dried mixed fruit  
**2** cups strong black tea  
**5** eggs  
**110g** halved glacé cherries  
**1tsp** mixed spice  
**1tbsp** black treacle (optional)

## METHOD

1. Preheat oven to 150 degrees and line and grease a cake tin.
2. Soak the dried fruit in tea, preferably overnight.
3. Cream together the butter and sugar in a mixing bowl, until almost white. Remember to scrape the sides of the bowl and continue to cream together.
4. Gradually beat the eggs into the mixture, remember to add a little flour to stop the mixture from splitting or curdling.
5. Fold in the flour and add the mixed spice to the mixture.
6. Add the the mixed fruit and the glacé cherries and continue to fold together.
7. Continue to fold and stir, whilst adding in the black treacle.
8. Once completely mixed together, scrape the mixture into the cake tin and leave to bake for 2 hours. Check that the cake is cooked throughout before leaving to cool on a wire rack.



Work by Sue and Beryl from the Wednesday Patchwork beginners group .



### **A MESSAGE FROM LIONEL**

#### **JUST IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T HEARD ...**

Because your committee need to plan in advance for the AGM which should take place in July this year and it doesn't look likely that it will be possible. We have taken the decision to postpone this year's AGM for three months; with a view to further extension if required.

This is of course unprecedented but we feel that it is a necessary measure and I hope that you will understand why we have decided to do this.

I will keep you informed of any further information on the situation as we get it.

The committee are sorry to have to take this decision as we are all members of groups and miss our meetings too, although like so many of our great membership, have turned to technology to keep our groups in contact; who says that older persons aren't computer savvy!

The present committee members will continue in their roles, although three members were intending to retire this year and replacements are sought for the roles of Treasurer, Secretary and Groups Coordinator.



Members of MU3A and others continue to make bags for hospitals, the ambulance service, GP surgeries and care homes.

Donations of suitable materials are still welcome.

Contact Edina at Sewbwls to arrange pass the fabric over.

Thank you

## MAH JONG

If you are missing your games you may be interested to know that there is a way for two homes to play Mah-Jong remotely without recourse to any online game software.

Visit <https://mahjong-britishrules.com/the-game/playing-mah-jong-remotely> where you will find out how to do this.

This message has been sent by the U3A Mah Jong subject leader and take you to his site.

## Historical Rainfall Records

If you've suddenly found yourself with a bit of extra time on your hands, Great Britain could use your help to understand the weather of its past—and forecast its future.

Through an ongoing campaign spearheaded by the **Rainfall Rescue Project**, [www.zooniverse.org/projects/edh/rainfall-rescue](http://www.zooniverse.org/projects/edh/rainfall-rescue) climate researchers and meteorologists are calling on volunteers worldwide to help digitize reams of handwritten temperature and precipitation records from decades past. Fed into computer models, the data could both enhance our understanding of past periods of flooding and drought and help scientists keep pace with the world's fast-changing climate. Just simple IT and typing skills needed.