

Rosmead Garden – Proposed Management Plan

Introduction

The layout and character of the garden very much reflects its original early Victorian establishment although the rather formal path pattern, typical of gardens of that time, has been altered over the years. The overall impression is of a series of open grass spaces surrounded by trees and shrubs with a clear long vista down the centre of the garden all creating a peaceful oasis in the heart of West London.

From the 2013 questionnaire, circulated to all the residents, it is clear that the current layout of lawns, surrounding planting and long vista should be retained – 78% strongly agree with this and 70% believe that there is a correct balance between the planting and the open space. The garden is heavily used and enjoyed by the children and although there is some play equipment 74% strongly agree that this should be retained and updated. The children themselves might be asked to take part in a questionnaire as to how they view the garden and what features and equipment they would like to see in the garden. The other two questions that had a high level of agreement is the importance of maintaining and protecting the lawns - 83%, and the necessity for planting the borders at either end of the garden to create privacy and to reduce noise and pollution – 83%.

The questionnaire did not ask about the importance of the wild life in the gardens but as the garden is part of an area of Nature Conservation Importance, the needs of the wild inhabitants of the garden must be considered in all decision making.

Problems to be addressed

Despite the overall impression of a peaceful oasis there are various matters which need to be addressed if the garden is to be maintained and improved. These include:-

- A large number of large mature trees which, due to the need for constant pruning, have a rather unattractive canopy particularly the Ash and Lime trees.
- The Horse Chestnuts are well shaped mature specimens and are an important feature of the garden but suffer from leaf miner infestations and in some cases Chestnut Canker and may well have to be removed in the next few years.
- There are very few replacement trees already planted to take the place of any of these trees
- The shrubs in many areas are old and mis-shapen and need rejuvenation pruning or removal, many of them are not particularly valuable in terms of what they add to the garden.

- There is little colour in the garden after the late spring blossom; the Victorians would almost certainly have had bedding plants in the central bed to add colour through the summer. This is not an option, however planting shrubs and ground cover which gives colour in summer and autumn is – plants such as shrub roses for summer and hydrangeas and maples for autumn all do well in the garden and more should be added.
- The perimeter borders (known as No Man's Land) between being well planted and well maintained to being completely neglected and overgrown and this detracts from the overall attractiveness of the garden.
- At the moment the gardener is employed for about one and a half days a week and has done a good job given the hours available. He has stated that he would enjoy more guidance on the work programme and planting and could probably be more productive if this was the case.
- The shed, log piles and compost heaps are not well used but are fairly inaccessible. In most cases these features are hidden in the shrubberies.

The Way Forward

In order to address these problems a strategy for managing the garden needs to be formulated and adopted and this should include short term, medium term and long term objectives.

Short Term Plan - 2015-2017

Planning the replanting of boundary borders A1 and A2 by Rosmead Road – summer 2015

Look at and decide on possible relocation of compost heaps and log piles – summer 2015

Further survey of garden to ensure all existing trees and large shrubs acting as trees are included on garden plan – summer 2015

Removal of Euonymus in area K and next to path by Horse Chestnut no. 42 – summer 2015

Renegotiate maintenance agreements for the perimeter borders – summer 2015

Acceptance of proposals for replacement and new tree planting – summer 2015

Questionnaire for children circulated and results drawn up – summer 2015

Planning the replanting of boundary borders J1 and J2 by Ladbroke Grove to include replacement tree planting and shrub and ground cover planting – summer 2015

Planting of borders A1 and A2 adjacent to Rosmead road – autumn 2015

Planting of additional hydrangeas below Cherry tree - bed B adjacent to Rosmead Road borders – autumn 2015

Removal and replanting of any small trees in the wrong place – late autumn 2015

Planting of replacement trees in Rosmead Road borders – winter 2015/16

Removal of all poor specimen trees as soon as new tree planting agreed – 2016/2017

Planting up of Ladbroke Grove borders J1 and J2 – 2016, tree planting winter 2016/17

Planning and replanting triangle beds C below Horse Chestnut and D below Weeping Willow – 2016/17

Planning and replanting planted areas E and F below Plane Tree and Ash tree - 2017

Continue monitoring condition of mature trees

Continue maintenance of all recently planted areas

Medium Term Plan – 2017–2025

Planning and replanting beds G below Plane Tree and H in front of large Yew 2018 or sooner if possible.

Addition of small and medium sized trees to perimeter borders where possible

Continue monitoring of all mature trees

Continue maintenance of all recently planted areas

Removal of large unattractive trees where acceptable and hopefully where replacement trees have become established.

Replanting of perimeter borders with agreement of resident

Complete proposed tree planting where possible

Long Term Plan 2025 and beyond

This is dependent on whether the medium term plan has been adhered to as any slippage in this will automatically become part of the long term plan.

Some trees which are given a life expectancy of less than ten years will die or need to be removed over the years and replacement trees planted from an accepted list of tree planting for the garden.

Planted Areas within Rosmead Garden

It is clear that the existing planted areas should not be expanded but should remain as they are, although I would suggest that they might be reduced in size in one or two cases to increase the extent of the lawns.

Perimeter Borders

These are a valuable part of the garden and any plan must include them as part of the forward planning. At present they are defined as Individual Planting Areas and the upkeep of the each area is the responsibility of the adjacent home owner as stated in the Garden Rules. The rules do not include what, if any, action will be taken if an individual owner does not maintain their area. The result is a veritable ‘hotch potch’ of well cultivated areas which add to the

overall effect of the garden, some moderately well maintained areas and many areas on which no maintenance has been carried out for some time. It may not be possible to insist that residents maintain these areas but I would suggest that if a resident refuses to carry out maintenance then this should be taken on by the gardener. The unkempt areas seriously detract from the attractiveness of the garden.

In the Garden Rules it states that any *major* modifications should have the approval of the Committee but the word major is not defined.

Three areas that need to be addressed are:-

1. Edging material - this seems to be variable although the Garden Rules state that ceramic rope tile edging is the preferred material and that a low brick retaining wall may be permitted and this is obviously necessary in areas where the soil in the bed is well above the path level.
2. No trees should be added unless part of the tree planting plan - trees should remain the responsibility of the Garden Committee both in removal and planting. This needs to be made clear to the residents if not already accepted
3. Shrubs and herbaceous plants to be planted should be those found on the plant list for the garden (this needs to be part of the next stage of garden planning) and plans for each area submitted for the committees approval as I believe happens at present.

Beds and Borders within the garden proper

There are altogether ten planted areas within the garden, most of which need attention and they are labelled as A to K on plan no. 1405/1A. Areas A and J are each subdivided into A1 and A2 and J1 and J2, as both A and J need to be considered as a whole and not as two separate areas.

A. Border next to new railings on Rosmead Road

This large border is divided into A1 and A2 by the central path to the gate. The fence is to be replaced and the supporting wall rebuilt in 2015 and this will result in the removal of some of the existing screen planting. This includes a leggy, thin beech hedge and a Hawthorn - tree no.97. The building works will inevitably lead to some damage to the existing planting but apart from the trees most of the existing planting is not of much value.

A1 - There are virtually no attractive trees in this border and the only reasonable tree Hawthorn no. 97 will have to be removed to allow for the wall construction. There is a Magnolia which should be retained and perhaps one of the Damsons tree no. 10. For immediate screening through the new railings a hedge planting of Cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*) is suggested, planted

against the new wall. This will give a solid evergreen screen at this end of the garden. There is room for at least one new large tree to be planted and possibly 2 medium sized trees plus smaller ornamental trees and large shrubs including evergreen shrubs. Interesting ferns and other ground cover plants needed to be added at the front of the border.

A2 - Care will need to be taken to ensure that the existing large Ash - tree no. 94, a well grown Pittosporum - tree no.93 and a large Cotoneaster are not damaged during the construction. The remaining trees give a partial screen to the interior of the gardens but are all rather old and not in good condition. What are needed are 1, possibly 2, additional large trees to create the high screen, 2 medium sized trees to give screening at a lower height and then large shrubs to complete the screening. Some of the poorer trees will need to be removed to allow space for these new trees. The proposed cherry laurel hedge mentioned under A1 should be continued along the boundary wall at the back of the border. The privet hedge along the path is too thin to provide a screen and restricts access and views into this bed; it should be removed and some large shrubs or small trees planted near the path to give seasonal colour and interest. There is probably room for 10-12 evergreen shrub as background planting and some more colourful deciduous shrubs in the foreground with a carpet of ground cover plants.

One of the historic reports on the garden, which I studied, suggests terracing these beds which would certainly help to retain moisture but I am not sure if this is really necessary although it should be considered in the re-planning of these areas

ACTION Planting plans need to be drawn up for these two areas during 2015 so that they can be implemented as soon as the construction phase is complete.

B. Area below cherry - tree no. 96

This is an attractive small bed with a central cherry tree and mostly filled with hydrangeas. It would be even more attractive if all the shrubs other than hydrangeas were removed and replaced with more hydrangeas. This is not a very large job and might be included in the replanting of borders A1 and A2

ACTION Consider including in plan for borders A1 and A2 in 2015

C. Island bed with horse chestnut - tree no. 83, and climbing frame

The horse chestnut is the major feature of this bed which includes a small tree a large privet, viburnums, hebes, elaeagnus and dogwoods; also a standpipe with

tap. The area is well used by children and any replanting will need to allow for this.

ACTION - leave for the moment but check for any essential pruning that needs to be done

D. Island Bed with weeping willow - tree no. 79

The weeping willow is the central feature of this bed which includes a large box and a philadelphus. The bed is edged with logs and includes a wood pile which needs to be substantially reduced or removed. The size, distribution and positioning of log piles to support insects and other creatures needs to be planned for the garden as a whole rather than randomly.

ACTION - reduce log pile in 2015 and consider replanting this area when more urgent areas have been completed

E. Bed centred around large ash - tree no. 108

This bed is thickly planted with a fallen fig at the western end, two lime trees, a weeping willow and a wych elm to the south, an ash in the middle and a holly to the east. The shrub layer includes, hebes, physocarpus, cercis, cotoneaster, mahonia, fuchsia and callicarpa some of which have been planted fairly recently. Eventually it will need sorting out but can be left for the moment.

ACTION - leave for the moment but check for any essential pruning that needs to be done

F. Large bed with large ash - not listed in tree report

There are several trees in this bed including a Mulberry - tree no. 76, a laburnum - tree no. 75 and a wych elm - not listed, a medlar - not listed, a holly - not listed and a very large ash - not listed. The shrub layer includes several large laurustinus, euonymus and Lilacs. There is a very large white solanum which was an amazing sight in early November.

ACTION - leave for the moment but check for any essential pruning that needs to be done

G. Triangular bed below plane tree - tree no. 16

This bed contains a variety of large shrubs and small trees many of which need to be drastically pruned or removed in order that the better quality shrubs like the magnolia and camellia have room to grow. Some of the shrubs deserve to be kept but need hard pruning like the elaeagnus and viburnums. The laburnum needs to be removed but there are a yew, a tree peony and a hypericum that need looking at carefully. The weeping pear is an attractive corner feature. I

have included this bed in the medium term plan but it needs some immediate remedial action to stop it deteriorating

ACTION - immediate pruning of some shrubs and removal of laburnum prior to medium term replanting if necessary

H. Triangular bed in front of large yew - tree no. 53

This bed is full of large shrubs and small trees all competing with each other for space. They include laurustinus, camellia, viburnums, philadelphus, lilac, hydrangea, variegated Holly plus a weeping pear, rowan tree, hawthorn and elder. Hopefully the dangerously overhanging Laburnum tree no.52 has now been removed.

ACTION - immediate removal of laburnum if not already done and the large elder tree no. 41. Ensure camellia is given space and prune back some of the larger shrubs.

I. Newly planted area under holm oaks

This large bed has recently been replanted and is very much how the other planted areas need to be planted in the future. There could be a few more evergreen shrubs added to assist the screening of the gate to Ladbroke Grove. A path has been created through the middle of the bed which will allow ease of access for maintenance and allow residents to explore the area more closely.

ACTION - keep on top of weeds in 2015 as new plants become established

J. Border against boundary railings to Ladbroke Grove

This large border is divided into J1 and J2 by the central path to the gate. Both borders have a recently planted cherry laurel hedge to provide a screen to outsiders. This hedge will need to be fed to encourage growth and to have any unnecessary plants removed which are in the way.

A report was prepared for this border in 2003 with planting suggestions but I suspect no plan, without which it would be impossible to know how to proceed. Some, but not all, of the plants listed would certainly be suitable for planting in this border.

J1 - This border includes the shed for the mower and compost/rubbish areas. The shed is well screened by the yews on either side but the compost/rubbish area urgently needs sorting out as it is very visible to residents visiting this part of the garden. There are two lime trees and a holm oak which will make finding space for replacement trees difficult. The bed needs almost complete clearance of the existing shrub and herbaceous planting and then replanting to

provide screening, noise and pollution reduction and to give interest throughout the year.

ACTION - remove any shrubs close to new hedge immediately and tidy up rubbish/compost area. Prepare planting plan in 2015 for implementation in autumn 2015/spring 2016

J2 - This border is dominated by the horse chestnut and lime with very little of value in the shrub layer except a box and a holly which need rejuvenation pruning. As for J1 the border needs almost complete clearance of the existing shrub and herbaceous planting and then replanting to provide screening, noise and pollution reduction and to give interest throughout the year.

ACTION - remove any shrubs close to new hedge immediately and tidy up rubbish/compost area. Prepare planting plan in 2015 for implementation in autumn 2015/spring 2016

K. Area under aged hawthorns

This bed is under two old hawthorns - trees no. 10 and 11 and a large privet. The understorey is rampant euonymus which should be removed completely. The three trees then need shaping up by careful pruning.

ACTION - remove euonymus in 2015 and prune trees to create an attractive feature

The Trees in Rosmead Garden

Introduction

The trees within the grounds of the Rosmead Gardens provide an attractive backdrop to the lawns and give some screening to the houses on either side of the garden and the two roads at either end. They, more than any other feature, create the atmosphere of the garden. Their importance cannot be over emphasised and their continuing existence must be a matter of concern for the future.

History of the trees in Rosmead Gardens

The Garden was created in the mid 19th century and certainly many trees would have been planted at this time and it is interesting to postulate which of the trees seen today may date from this original planting – a few of the very large trees perhaps, although most of them are almost certainly younger and some of the trees have been planted very recently.

There is not much documentation before the 1939-45 war but since then various reports on the gardens have been commissioned over the years, some with accompanying plans, and it is possible to trace what has happened to the gardens in the last seventy years. I wonder if the ash trees were self sown seedlings which grew into trees during the war years - they would appear to be about the right age.

Two notable events in the last 50 years which affected a lot of gardens were Dutch Elm disease in the 1970s and the hurricane of 1987, I assume the gradual reduction in the numbers of elms is a result of the former but it would be interesting to note if major trees were lost in the hurricane. Having talked to one or two of the long term residents it would appear that no trees were lost in the hurricane.

What is clear from the reports is that the Rosmead Garden committee have taken their responsibility for tree health and safety very seriously with the result that the trees do not present a potential hazard to the users of the garden. The only caveat to this is there are several laburnums in the garden which are poisonous and the seeds are very attractive to children and should be removed.

The situation today

The Garden is an attractive open space which is clearly utilised and enjoyed by the residents and it retains the general feel of the C19 garden as a 'pleasure ground' in which to walk and relax. The long vista through the garden is an important feature and needs to be retained and perhaps enhanced by removal of a few trees. The open lawns are important areas as they bring light into the garden and allow the residents to enjoy the sun. These areas should not be encroached on by any additional tree or shrub planting and might even be enlarged by removal of unattractive small trees and shrubs at the lawn edge. Any additional planting should be within the already planted areas or the perimeter of the lawns.

However there are several other items which should be addressed and these were first outlined in the 1965 RHS report namely:-

- The rather large number of large trees which create considerable shade and are not particularly attractive due to constant tree surgery. I would include most of the limes and ash trees in this comment.
- The possible poor quality of the soil, London soils need to be constantly fed with humus - I have not checked the current state of the soil but I suspect that much more feeding is necessary particularly with recently planted trees and shrubs.
- A number of very poor trees particularly the damsons, flowering cherries and laburnums
- A large number of overgrown shrubs which need rejuvenation pruning or removal, to this I would add that many of the shrubs are of limited interest i.e. those which have flowers in the spring but are rather dull for the rest of the year. Future choice of shrubs should include those which flower for a long period or are interesting for most of the year.
- The garden is lacking in colour - I have only viewed the garden on two occasions and cannot confirm this but I suspect it is still true today

The range of trees within the Garden

A list of the existing trees is given as an attachment to this report and discounting the 6 shrubs being listed as trees there are at least 42 different trees and, as the list groups 11 flowering cherries as one type of tree, there may be 11 different cultivars and so the list might increase to 53 different trees.

Of these 42 trees:-

9 are large trees capable of growing to over 20m in height

12 are medium sized trees capable of reaching between 12m and 20m in height

21 are small trees which do not exceed 12m in height and many of this group are smaller than this

Selection of replacement trees

Before selecting replacement trees it is necessary to consider the part trees play in the design of our landscapes and gardens. There are basically four ways in which trees are used in design and these are:-

A. Structural planting

Structural planting includes using trees:-

- to provide a screen to unsightly views within or beyond the boundaries.
- to provide a screen to give privacy from neighbours – it would be interesting to ask residents whether they feel this is necessary, the screening of the private gardens may be an important consideration and could be achieved by the use of small trees and shrubs if it is considered an important factor
- to create shelter from wind – the houses do this but without the trees the garden might create a wind tunnel
- to provide a background to garden features – not important in Rosmead Garden at present
- to create spaces e.g. trees encircling grass areas – to a certain extent the purpose of the trees around the four lawns. The three weeping willows were planted to provide a visual link between the lawn areas.
- to create lines of design e.g. an avenue – not a feature of Rosmead Garden

B. Focal point planting

Trees can be used either

- as a focal point at the end of a vista – the large plane tree at the western end of the garden does this. Within each lawn several of the larger trees create focal points across the lawn
- or to frame a focal point – a pair of trees could be used either side of the entrance gates

C. Ornamental planting

These are trees planted to add colour and interest by:-

- variation in leaf colour e.g. bronze or golden leaved trees but these need to be used very carefully as they can disrupt the generally peaceful atmosphere of the gardens.
- attractive blossom e.g. cherry trees, magnolias, crab apples
- interesting fruit e.g. medlar
- winter bark e.g. birch and snake bark maples

D. Functional Planting

These are trees chosen to fulfil a need rather than as part of the design, however they need to be considered in the overall design of the garden or landscape; they include trees selected:-

- to provide food and shelter for wildlife – this is an important consideration for this garden as it is part of an area of Nature Conservation Importance.
- to provide shade – they certainly do this - perhaps providing too much shade

Trees should never be planted randomly but should always fulfil one or more of these purposes, and, by knowing the role that the tree will play then a suitable species can be selected. All trees, whatever their purpose in the design, should be first selected for suitability as to the soil, aspect and drainage of the site so that they will grow well.

Trees for **structural planting** should be first selected for their vigour and ability to thrive. Native trees are adapted to our climate and soils and often, but not always, are the logical choice for many screens and shelter belts. The potential ultimate height of the tree needs to be considered in relation to the desired height of the screen, shelter belt or background, forest sized trees where screening a block of flats and medium sized trees where screening low buildings. Trees which are fast growing are obviously to be preferred where a quick screen is important but these trees are also likely to be short-lived and so speed of growth is of secondary importance to the canopy effect of the tree. Round headed trees are frequently selected as these trees make a wider screen than those with more upright shape. An evergreen screen may be considered essential, and as there are few suitable evergreen broadleaf trees, then a coniferous tree may need to be selected.

Trees for **focal point planting** need to stand out to catch the eye by virtue of their colour, size, shape or habit. A mature copper beech is a good example as is the cedar of Lebanon with its dramatic horizontal branches. In Rosmead garden the plane and horse chestnut trees are the most noticeable focal points.

Trees for framing are chosen in relation to the size and style of the focal point, if this idea is followed for the two entrance gates then a pair of upright trees might be appropriate.

Trees for **ornamental planting** are chosen for their leaf colour, flowers or fruit and, on occasion, all three. Vigour may be less important particularly where the tree is part of a bed or border. The cherries, crab apples, magnolias and amelanchier provide a good selection for ornamental planting. For a less obviously ornamental area then the smaller maples provide interest for much of the year.

Trees for **functional planting** must be chosen for the desired purpose and, where wildlife is to be encouraged then, our native trees should be selected in the first instance – see list in appendix II attached to this report

Replacement trees

The following trees could be planted in Rosmead Garden when further tree planting is considered

Large Trees

Acer platanoides **Norway Maple** – a reliable tree and not too large with lovely yellow autumn colour which does well in London gardens

Aesculus indica **Indian Horse Chestnut** which appears not to be susceptible to leaf minor, and more resistant to chestnut canker than *A. hippocastanum*

Fagus sylvatica **Beech Tree** - there are no Beech trees in the garden at present

Liriodendron tulipifera **Tulip Tree** – one has been removed in recent years

Platanus x hispanica **Plane Tree** – definitely for adding to eastern and western boundaries

Platanus orientalis **Oriental Plane Tree** – a rather more interesting plane tree and could be planted as a replacement focal point tree

Quercus robur **Oak** – the one planted recently is doing well and one or two more might be considered as they are the tree with the largest number of insects and other wildlife

Tilia cordata **Small leaved Lime** – there is one in the garden (tree no. 80) already, but this is the best alternative to the common lime *Tilia x europaea*

Medium Trees

Alnus incana **Italian Alder** – this has a more attractive leaf than our native alder, the cone-like fruits are an attractive feature in winter

Carpinus betulus **Hornbeam** – there is a young hornbeam in the garden which is growing well and more could be added

Cercidiphyllum japonicum **Katsura** – there was one in the garden that has been removed, perhaps another could be planted.

Fraxinus ornus **Manna Ash** – an attractive small ash tree with attractive flowers

Gleditsia triacanthos **Honey Locust** – there is already a honey locust (tree no. 60) growing well and more could be added in the perimeter borders as it is a good camouflage tree but only creates a light shade. Infinitely preferable to the False Acacia which it resembles

Liquidambar styraciflua **Sweet Gum** – there are already two in the garden but again this is a good tree for the perimeter borders and has brilliant autumn colour

Malus tschonoskii This is one of the larger *Malus* spp. and has a rounded head, apple blossom, small fruits and autumn colour

Parrotia persica A lovely tree with autumn colour and interesting flowers in winter, as it does tend to spread it may not be suitable

Prunus avium ‘**Plena**’ **Double flowered Gean** – this may already be in the garden as it was not possible to identify most of the cherries in the late summer and autumn. An improved form of our native cherry which does very well in London gardens.

Pyrus calleryana ‘**Chanticleer**’ A pear tree with shiny foliage, early blossom, autumn colour and a neat shape.

Sorbus ‘**Joseph Rock**’ A mountain ash with a neat shape and yellow fruits that last well into the winter

Small Trees

Acer davidii **Snake Bark Maple** – there are a range of small acers which would be suitable but this is one of the best

Amelanchier arborea There is one very poor specimen in the garden (tree no. 90) but it really is worth planting more as they have early blossom, attractive summer foliage, autumn colour and never get too big

Cydonia oblonga **Quince** – a small tree with lovely blossom, large leaves and quince fruit, well worth including in the garden

Malus x zumi ‘**Golden Hornet**’ There are several crab apples in the garden and this one may be already present but there are a range of interesting other *Malus* cultivars which would do well

Prunus subhirtella ‘**Autumnalis**’ **Winter flowering cherry** – There are a couple in the garden but one is very ancient and the other planted in the wrong place, every garden needs a tree that has winter blossom.

Selection of trees with consideration to the potential effect of global warming

Although not having much noticeable effect on our trees at the moment – there is enough documentation to indicate that global warming will be a fact in the future and whilst planning the trees for the next 100-200 years it would be sensible and prudent to look at the selection of trees with this in mind.

Our major trees throughout the South of Britain are the Oak and the Beech and both need to be part of the tree strategy for the future, however, there are other trees which will tolerate a warmer, drier climate and these include:-

Castanea sativa - **the Sweet Chestnut** A large handsome tree which was introduced by the Romans and has been planted here ever since.

Platanus orientalis - **Plane Tree** This species thrives in the hot summers of the Mediterranean and can withstand periods of low rainfall.

Tilia cordata - **the Small Leaved Lime** A large native tree which does not dominate our landscape but loves a hot, dry climate so a very good choice for future planting. It has limitations of being attractive to bees and producing epicormic growth but, as already mentioned, probably the best *Tilia* for future planting.

Tilia 'Petiolaris' - **the Silver Lime** Another possible Lime with larger leaves and a more attractive shape than *Tilia cordata* and with less suckers but it is attractive to aphids and it may be toxic to bees. There is one in the garden already but possibly room could be found for a replacement to this tree.

In considering the medium sized trees – important as screening and background trees – there are several which might be planted and these include:-

Juglans regia - **Walnut** A tree native to Southern Europe and long grown in Britain. It is a handsome tree but needs room and produces its leaves late in the season and then has an early leaf fall which makes it less useful in most structural planting. There is a single specimen in the garden but more could be planted.

Fraxinus ornus - **Manna Ash** Another tree native to Southern Europe and which has proved useful as a street tree. Much more attractive than *Fraxinus excelsior*. Should be considered for planting in the future.

We also have room for smaller, more ornamental trees, to add interest and these might include:-

Arbutus unedo - **the Strawberry Tree** An evergreen tree which is found as a native in Southern Ireland and which will enjoy a warmer climate. Attractive flowers and fruit make this a very useful small tree for ornamental planting.

Prunus dulcis - **Almond** This tree blossoms very early in the spring and then, after hot summers, produces almonds. It has been grown in this country for centuries but it grows more happily in southern countries where the weather is warmer.

Olea europea - **the Olive** Often quoted but not really suitable unless we no longer have winter frosts. Its olive green leaves can look 'out of place' with the brighter green leaves of the other trees in the garden.

- Notes:** 1. This list is compiled of those trees on the ACS tree report 2013 plus some, but not all, of those found in the gardens in October 2014
 2. The trees listed include some of the recently planted specimens
 3. Some trees are listed as spp. These are still to be identified as to species and/or cultivar
 4. The trees as yet not listed will be added in 2015

Broadleaf Trees

No.	Name	
2	<i>Acer japonicum</i>	Japanese Maple
6	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	Horse Chestnut
1	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree of Heaven
1	<i>Amelanchier lamarckii</i>	
9	<i>Betula pendula</i>	Birch
1	<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	Hornbeam
1	<i>Cercis siliquastrum</i>	Judas tree
1	<i>Crataegus laevigata</i> 'Paul's Scarlet'	Hawthorn
12	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
1	<i>Crataegus oxyacantha</i>	Midland Hawthorn
2	<i>Davidia involucreta</i>	Handkerchief Tree
1	<i>Ficus carica</i>	Fig
6	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash
1	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	Honey Locust
8	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
1	<i>Juglans nigra</i>	Walnut
5	<i>Laburnum</i> spp.	Laburnum
2	<i>Laurus nobilis</i>	Bay Tree
2	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Sweet Gum
1	<i>Malus</i> spp.	Crab Apple
2	<i>Malus domestica</i>	Apple
1	<i>Mespilus germanica</i>	Medlar
1	<i>Morus nigra</i>	Mulberry
2	<i>Platanus x hispanica</i>	London Plane
11	<i>Prunus</i> spp.	Flowering cherries
1	<i>Prunus avium</i>	Gean
9	<i>Prunus domestica</i>	Damson/wild Plum
2	<i>Prunus subhirtella</i> 'Autumnalis'	Winter Flowering Cherry
1	<i>Prunus x yedoensis</i>	
3	<i>Pyrus salicifolia</i>	Silver pear
3	<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Holm Oak
1	<i>Quercus robur</i>	Oak
5	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	False Acacia

3	Salix x sepulcralis var. chrysocoma	Weeping Willow
1	Sorbus aucuparia	Rowan
1	Tilia cordata	Small leaved Lime
9	Tilia x europaea	Lime
1	Tilia 'Petiolaris'	Silver Lime
4	Ulmus glabra	Wych Elm
1	Ulmus parvifolia	Chinese Elm

Shrubs listed as trees

2	Buxus communis	Box
2	Cotoneaster spp.	
4	Corylus avellana	Hazel
1	Ligustrum japonicum	Privet
1	Pittosporum tenuifolium	
1	Sambucus nigra	Elder

Coniferous Trees

1	Ginkgo biloba	Maidenhair Tree
7	Taxus baccata	Yew

Trees which should be removed

Trees which are about to be removed due to danger or reconstruction of the western boundary

52	Laburnum	leaning over path, due for immediate removal
97	Hawthorn	removal due to rebuilding of boundary
Sub-total	2	

Small trees, poor specimens which need to be considered for removal as soon as new tree planting is agreed

3	Damson	leaning, poor specimen
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8	Winter flowering cherry	poor specimen, too close to adjacent Oak
12	Laburnum	poor specimen, remove to allow room
		adjacent camellia, poisonous could be risk to children
13	Crab Apple	a poorly shaped tree suppressing the adjacent holly
14	Hawthorn	smothered by ivy, one sided
18	Laburnum	leaning tree of little value and as poisonous could be risk to children
25	3 no. Hawthorn	scruffy, remove to allow new hedge room to grow
47	Elder	poor specimen, remove to allow planting
		significant tree
48	Hawthorn	poor specimen, remove to allow planting of significant tree
62	Flowering Cherry	bad bark wounds, poor specimen
75	Laburnum	very poor specimen; poisonous
87	Winter flowering cherry	very old and mis-shapen.
92	Laburnum	very old tree of little value, poisonous.
	Sub-total	15

Trees which are dying or potentially dangerous and will need to be removed in next ten years

42	Horse Chestnut	dying tree with canker
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