



Take Five

The Five A Day Market Garden newsletter

Issue 49
Winter 2018

Five A Day Market Garden
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Garden News...

The Winter newsletter marks a time of change for the garden and we are in the process of tidying the beds up for the Winter and preparing some of them for next Spring.

Looking back, 2018 has been extremely busy and since our Autumn newsletter we have had many highlights worthy of mention.

Yvonne, Glen and Yvonne's son, Charlie took part in the Step Up 4 Good charity run on a **very** wet Sunday in October. We raised over £1300 which will be matched with funding from Kids Go Green and will be used for after school sessions for Beavers, Cubs, Rainbows, Guides and Brownies to do their gardener's club badge. Thank you to everyone who donated towards our goal.



3 very wet fundraisers

We had a fantastic crop of squashes this year and were very happy that they were used to decorate Englefield church for an Autumn wedding. Along with some flowers from the garden, they looked amazing. After the wedding, they went to Englefield school for display.



Wedding decorations



Squash on display at the school.

Festive Wreath Making Workshops

Saturday 15th December
10am—midday

Places are still available at the workshops. If you would like to book a place, please contact Yvonne on **07555 184343** or by email yvonne@fiveaday.org.



Garden News. (cont),



The apple press in action

Like everyone else, we had a bumper crop of apples this year and were very happy to donate them and some of our squashes to be used at the Reading Town Meal. Our apples were pressed into apple juice and the squashes were cooked to provide some of the food. Reading Town Meal was set up in 2011 to celebrate locally grown produce and this year's event took place in late September.



Squash on a plate !

Some of you may have heard the us on BBC Radio Berkshire between April and October. Bill Buckley came to the garden on five separate days to interview us for his radio show on a series about community gardens. He spent time with Yvonne, the project co-ordinator, Wendy Tobbit, the chairperson and several of the volunteers and visitors.

The garden will be closed in January and the group session will start again in March. Hopefully food sales will restart in late April when we should have some lovely rhubarb from the garden and salad leaves from the polytunnel.

Until then, may we wish you a very merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Plans for next year

Plans for next year's produce are already underway.

We have doubled the size of our potato patch as they sold very well this year. We have also been extremely busy working on the soft fruit areas and, weather permitting, this should result in a good crop of raspberries and strawberries.

Other plans include adding carrots, sweetcorn, broad beans, celeriac and kale to our list of produce.

Fingers crossed, we will have a greater variety of produce to sell throughout next Summer.

Volunteer news

We bade farewell to two of our longest serving volunteers this Autumn. Louisa and Margaret had been volunteers at the garden for many years and have both contributed hugely to its success with their knowledge and enthusiasm for all things gardening. We wish them both a very fond farewell and best wishes for their future ventures.

We also welcomed two new volunteers, Helen and Chloe—more about them in our next issue.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please drop in to the garden on Wednesday or Friday or contact Yvonne at [Yvonne @fiveaday.org.uk](mailto:Yvonne@fiveaday.org.uk)