



Wantage Market Garden



Summer 2021

Summer is usually a time to sit back and enjoy the results of all the hard work during spring. However, due to the cold, dry, then very wet spring (never mind Covid restrictions!) we are a little behind in our planting and still have lots to go in. There is always work to be done in the garden, but make time to enjoy each new flower that comes into bloom, the first courgette or tomato as well as the wildlife that is also enjoying your outdoor space.



Here are a few ideas for you to do this summer:

Pick your flowers! especially sweet peas and dahlias. Enjoy them in your house and removing the flowers (especially the dead ones) will encourage the plant to produce more. Give a bunch to a friend to share the love!



Big Butterfly Count

Look for and count butterflies. Do the Big Butterfly count. See if you can find any unusual varieties. We are looking out for them at the Market Garden and our most unusual so far is a Tiger Moth. Which flowers do the bees and butterflies like best? Maybe grow more of those next year. Also, if you can, keep a wild patch in your garden. Even a small patch of nettles can be food for caterpillars.

Make a rainbow of fruit, vegetables and flowers

·Create a rainbow collage using materials from the garden such as flowers, fruit or leaves. Take a photo and send to your friends.



Cook something new with what you have grown

There are lots of tomato and courgette recipes available. Try adding some home grown herbs. At the garden we had a bountiful soft fruit harvest with lots of raspberries, gooseberries, and red/white currants so lots of jellies and jams are in production.



Time to celebrate our volunteers

It was the annual volunteer's BBQ at the garden in June. It's a chance for the team to relax and celebrate another year of volunteering at the garden. The Market Garden could not function without it's incredible team of dedicated and knowledgeable volunteers - thank you for all you do!

Meet Simon

Simon is a regular gardener on Fridays and had been coming to the market garden for the last five years. As well as using his experience and gardening skills, Simon loves the social part of gardening - meeting up with friends for a catch up, to share problems and of course, a bit of reminiscing. It's true that while you work on the garden, the garden works on you!



Date for your diary

Our next plant sale will be 2-3.30pm on Sunday 26th September. We have been busy sowing biennials such as hollyhocks, foxgloves and sweet William. All these plants are grown in the first year but flower the next and are a worthy addition to any garden. We will be selling a selection plus other plants. We're looking for donations of houseplants or six module plant trays for the sale, please do get in touch if you have any to donate



Enquiries:

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