



Welcome to Over the Garden Hedge!

Welcome to our little oasis, a place where we can share garden news, hints and tips as we chat over the hedge.



This is something we've been wanting to do for while now, to share with you what we have been doing in the garden and what we plan to do in the future. This is our Autumn edition and we plan to send this out seasonally.

This year, in May at our AGM, we saw the old Management Committee stand down and a new team step into the roles required for the garden to exist and thrive.

So, this seems like a perfect opportunity to introduce you to the team:

- Steve Baker stepped

into
the
role
of
Chair

- Peta Sampson was elected Secretary
- Sam Hollis is our Treasurer
- Zara Baines is responsible for Marketing
- Goff Gleadle is our Head Gardener
- Thomas Fox is our Maintenance Man
- Beverley Richardson is multi-talented, working on the website, teaching the history of the garden, and welcoming people in.
- Jenni Van

Wijk
does
whatever
she
can
to
help
the
garden
be
in
harmony
and
thrive.

The team meets regularly and is on a mission to ensure that the foundations are in place to support all of the exciting opportunities that are coming our way.

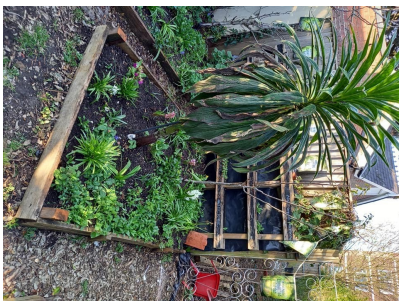
Since May, we have been building on the networking and connections we have with other groups in the City who share similar values to those of the garden. From those who are passionate about protecting and educating people about Nature and Wildlife, to those who are keen to share the health benefits of gardening and growing your own to helping Asylum seekers find some peace and new skills in the garden.

Our lovely garden wouldn't exist if it weren't for the dedicated and passionate people working in the garden sowing seeds, planting the plants, watering, weeding, looking after the compost and the wormery and fixing beds. Behind the scenes there's loads of other jobs that need doing from organising events, communicating what we're doing across our social media, finding and applying for funding to keeping our finances in order. And that is to name just a few of the jobs that need doing to keep the garden and its people blooming all year round.

We hope you enjoy Grapevine, please feel free to send in any contributions or ideas for following editions.

Love from the garden organising group. xxx **

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The Vegetable Plot by Irene Strange, Founder Member

Brussel sprouts sprout on the stems
Cauliflowers flower as white gems
Cabbage green grow with rain,
Cabbage white purity to gain.
Curly kale swirl

As they curl and twirl.
Broccoli florets solid and tight
With graceful stems as they catch the light.
Green beans grow as they cling,
pods swell sweetness to bring.
Lettuce, let us chew the cud.
Asparagus squeeze through the mud.
Marrow's stretch on the ground.
Melons rolling round and round.
With aching muscles and hearts laid bare
Providing food so healthy with tender care.
Gardeners work and dig the soil
As onwards they sweat and toil.

Thank you Irene for the lovely poem.

Co op Funding Sensory Garden Project

Jenni Van Wjik and Zara Baines worked hard to put together a series of events to spend the remainder of the Coop funding received earlier this year and these took place in September and October. Goff delivered his signature talk on designing a garden that appeals to all of the senses.

Jenni, from Surfing the Sea of Life, and Sam Britton, Serenity for the Soul, joined forces and delivered a very popular relaxing and inspiring sound bath and guided meditation workshop.

We organised an event for Portsmouth's over 60's series and welcomed people to the garden to sit, relax and enjoy tea and cake.

We rounded these events off with an Open Day where we welcomed kids, adults, and potential collaborators to come along and enjoy time in our garden. We were approached by a student journalist from the University to do a piece on our group, and we had a local photographer, Romana Vodnáková contact us and kindly offer to take some photos of the day.

If you entered the raffle, please check our Facebook page to see if you're a winner of one of our fabulous prizes kindly donated by local businesses.!

Autumn Gardening at Southsea Green with Goff

Gleadle Head Gardener

Autumn at the Southsea Green garden. We have harvested most of our summer crops; potatoes, carrots, onions, french beans, but there are still a few tomatoes and sweet peppers to harvest and the celery is ready to cut.

The beans are drying on the vine and we will be saving the seeds; Blauhilde, Major Cook, and Cherokee Trail of Tears, for planting next year.

We can also save seeds from tomatoes and sweet peppers. We planted our crops for winter use two or three months ago and red cabbage, kale and purple-sprouting broccoli are doing well.

We are now planting leek, broad beans, and onion sets to grow through the Winter and give us early crops in spring. When other beds become empty we will be topping them up with our own homemade compost.

In the tunnel, we will clear the beds and plant some rocket for winter salads. We sowed some earlier, but the fox decided to sleep there, so we have to try again!



Autumn Recipe

Goff's Slightly Spicy Squash and Sweet Pepper Soup

- Slice one large onion and a clove or two of garlic and

fry
in
vegetable
oil
until

- coloured
in
a
large
pan.
- Chop
up
squash
into
cubes
and
chop
up
peppers
(
preferably
red)
and
add
to
pan
- and
fry
a
little
more.
- I
like
to
add
a
few
chopped
carrots
or
sweet
potato
to
improve
- the
colour.
- Add
vegetable
stock
to
cover
(
you
can

use
a
stock
cube
)
and
bring
to
boil.

- Season
to
taste
with
salt
and
pepper
and
add
a
little
sweet
chilli
sauce
for
that
slightly
spicy
flavour.
- Simmer
until
veg
are
soft
and
whizz
with
hand
blender.
- A
real
warming
winter
soup
(but
don't
overdo
the
chilli
sauce)!

We welcome your recipe ideas for us to share on social media.



What are the Roots at the Secret Garden of Southsea.

Beverley, our newest volunteer loves the garden and its history, she would like to share her first impressions and knowledge, hope you enjoy it!

Chapter 1:

There was a place known for its beautiful gardens and outlook onto the sea. There was a rose garden that embraced the British pastime and symbolic significance of roses.

Roses would often be a central feature in royal estates and were known to represent loyalty.

Beyond the rose garden was another garden created by the Natural History Museum, which incorporated a range of plants to encourage the surrounding ecosystem to flourish and grow.

This garden was full of butterflies. Butterflies remind us of how nature can embody growth and transformation.

There was another strip of land which lay overgrown between them. This garden was left behind and almost unnoticeable to passersby. One day a man who had worked alongside gardens for a majority of his life recognised this abandoned garden beneath the overgrown trees and shrubs.

He and a few other gardeners had a transformative vision of the garden which would preserve its historic beginnings and enhance our perception of nature.

This became our secret garden....to be continued in the next edition



What's coming up?

We have our Tuesday gardening club from 11.00-13.00 every Tuesday.

We are now meeting on the first Saturday of every month from 11.00-12.00.

Keep an eye out for our online talks and events in the garden coming up in the next few months.



Volunteering with Southsea Green

We are always on the look out for for new volunteers to support the garden in various ways!

If you can help this is just some of the support needed:

- * Carpentry
- * Painting
- * Crafts
- * Gardening
- * Admin
- * Social Media

- * Events
- * Pond clearance
- * Rubbish Clearance
- * Maintenance

If you can help please contact Peta at
southseagreengarden@gmail.com

Special thanks to Michael Birchmore and his team from FabShab for all the help with fixing our gate.

Finally, a little garden humour...Why did the carrot go to the hairdressers?

Its roots were showing.

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Web Version

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