



MOSELEY IN BLOOM / JULY 2022

# the blooming news



Welcome to the Moseley in Bloom's Newsletter. This is such an exciting week for us as we count down to our Open Gardens which takes place on Sunday 17th July. We would love to hear about your garden and other horticultural projects. Please send items of news, photographs and information about events to come, by email to [doctorcarolmiller@gmail.com](mailto:doctorcarolmiller@gmail.com). We look forward to hearing from you, Kerry Jenkins and Carol Miller (Editors).

## Meet Kate Stocks, Chair of the Open Gardens Organising Team

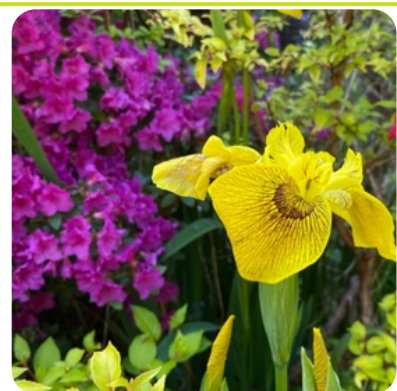
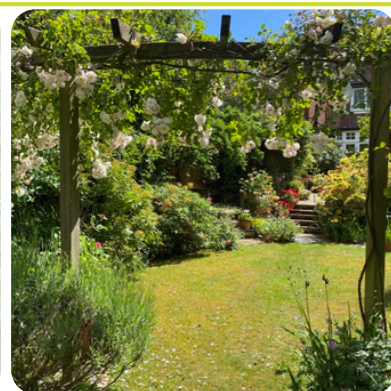
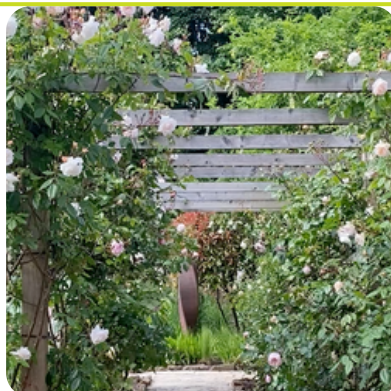
Having opened her delightful Salisbury Road garden for us on several occasions, Kate expressed an interest in joining the Moseley in Bloom team and was welcomed with open arms. She is currently part of the Schools team and will be involved when our business project starts in the next few weeks. However, her main love is still Open Gardens where, instead of opening herself, she is now Chair of the organising team. She says: "We are so lucky here in Moseley to have such a wide range of wonderful gardens and it is a privilege to be able to facilitate sharing some of these more widely. Do join us this coming Sunday and take a trip round some of the area's more hidden spaces. I guarantee that you will not be disappointed."



## Open Gardens - Have you got your tickets?

Open Gardens (OG) is our signature community event bringing together the very best of Moseley's beautiful gardens. It is a massively important event as it helps us achieve the charity's fundraising goals which support the beautiful floral displays currently on show and the projects that we support with local schools. Tickets are £10 and under-12s go free providing they are accompanied by an adult. We have 18 wonderful gardens opening, some big some small and all offering inspiration. You will get a wristband to show that you have paid and a booklet with descriptions of each garden, a key showing refreshment points, music venues, loo stops, a map showing all the garden locations and bus stops, the bus timetable and more information about Moseley in Bloom and our work in the community. Tickets can be bought at Moseley Exchange, weekdays 9am – 7pm, from Moseley Festival Street Fair on Saturday 16th July, 11am – 4pm or from our online store until 5pm on Saturday 16th July 8pm which you can find here:

<https://moseley-in-bloom.sumup.link/>



Find Moseley in Bloom on Facebook and Twitter - @moseleyinbloom and on Instagram - @moseley\_in\_bloom and more information is available on our website at <https://www.moseleyinbloom.org.uk/>



## A green roof in Moseley by Emilia Faux

I have cultivated my small garden for over 25 years and I am always on the lookout for new space. When we needed a new shed, a green roof presented a perfect opportunity. The first lockdown with glorious spring weather provided us with time for the project. The shed began to take shape out of skip finds, unused materials in friends' sheds and a few new items for the main framework and to waterproof the newly-created roof box before filling it with a 20/80% mix of soil and broken brick to a depth of 12 cm. This was the moment when the real fun began for me - planting! I opted for a varied collection of plants which could survive and thrive in an exposed, shallow, dry growing medium. Over the next few months, I grew various alpines, succulents, wild flowers and herbs, from seeds and cuttings and planted them on the roof in the autumn of 2020. Magpies took a keen interest in the roof's 'offerings', forcing us eventually to net the whole lot to give the new arrivals a chance to put down roots. This was a wise move. From Spring 2021 and this summer, my roof plants have settled, flowered and relaxed to fill the available space. Now it is a colourful mat of purples, pinks, whites, shades of greens and yellows, reds and terracotta in varying shapes and habits. The maintenance is negligible and it continues to be a favourite playground for the magpies. They seem to do a lot of tidying up, inadvertently 'propagating' the sedums across the roof and into the gravel below. The green roof protects the shed from the weather but more importantly, giving us endless joy and fascination each day. (You can see this green roof at Emilia Faux's house at Open Gardens on 17 July.)



### Gardening help?

A Moseley resident, Anne in Anderton Park Road, asks if anyone can help with clearing and planting in her garden. If you think you can help or if you want more information, please give Anne a call on 449 0014

### Moor Green Primary Academy's edible garden

This year, Moor Green Primary School was awarded one of MiB's £500 grants. They tell us that throughout the academic year, children from Y4 participated in a project called 'Seeds to Supper', beginning with seedlings which they planted out on the playground. The children used wheelbarrows to deliver the soil and compost to the new planters as well as topping up existing planters in their edible garden. They planted produce including tomatoes, onions, courgettes and sweetcorn. During the final week of term, they are having a 'grow, cook, eat' event where they make mini pizzas over the campfire in Forest School. Further, they were even able to sell some of the produce to the community!



photos by Marci Green



### Error, Error!

We were so excited by the arrival of ten flower towers for Moseley that we made a slip up on a name. It was Tony and Kevin who dropped them off (not Tony and Steve) from the wonderful Cofton Nurseries !! In the picture above, Kevin is on the left and Tony is wearing a cap.



### Young Gardeners

Moseley folk believe in starting young and Moseley in Bloom were thrilled to receive this photo! Daisy, aged just four, has been helping with the planters as she walks past them most days. She recently planted Teddy Bear Sunflower seeds and is now helping to look after them.

### Gardening health

Bending to dig, twisting to prune and carrying heavy loads can all mean gardeners end up with unnecessary aches. Here are some expert tips that we spotted recently in the newspaper to keep you healthy as your garden blooms.

<https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2022/jun/23/growing-pains-how-to-stop-yourself-getting-injured-while-gardening-from-essential-exercises-to-the-perfect-posture?>