



MOSELEY IN BLOOM / MAY 2023

the blooming news



Welcome to the Moseley in Bloom's Newsletter. Our gardens have loved the mixture of rain and sun over recent weeks meaning lots of flowers are already blooming! We are getting ready for our Open Gardens event and volunteers have been really busy visiting gardens and we are excited to say our programme is being finalised. We cannot wait! Do let us know what you have planned for your garden and any other horticultural projects you hear about. You can send us news, photographs or information about events you hear about to doctorcarolmiller@gmail.com and don't forget to tag us at [@moseleyinbloom](https://www.instagram.com/moseleyinbloom) in any of your social media. We look forward to hearing from you, Carol Miller and Kerry Jenkins, Joint Editors.

Open Gardens 2023

Whilst the cold and wet of recent weeks have kept the thoughts of many very firmly inside, the Open Gardens committee has been looking forward to Moseley's outdoor event of the year. Preparations for this year's Open Gardens are well underway and on Sunday 25th June you will be able to explore 18 lovely gardens. These will include some that have not opened in recent years and several others that have not been seen before. The gardens are very varied in size and style and all are a real testament to their owners' care and horticultural enthusiasm. Tickets will be on sale from 25th May at The Exchange and via our website, and at the Farmers Markets on 27th May and 24th June. As always, help will be needed if this event is to run smoothly. Could you volunteer on the day by selling tickets, serving refreshments or generally lending a hand? Maybe you could bake us a cake? If you can help in any way please email Bridget at bridget@moseleyinbloom.org.uk - we are really looking forward to enjoying another great Open Gardens on June 25th and we hope you are too!



Pop up plant sale

Our first Pop-up Plant Sale of the year was held on 23 April outside St Columba's Church, Moseley. We had many generous donations of plants - perennials, vegetables and house plants, together with pots and other garden paraphernalia. In spite of rather cool weather, business was brisk and we are pleased to have raised just over £300. Thanks to everyone who contributed by giving or buying plants. The money will help to fund Moseley in Bloom's projects over the coming year. Watch out for the next Pop-up, probably in July.



Find Moseley in Bloom on Facebook and Twitter - [@moseleyinbloom](https://www.facebook.com/moseleyinbloom) and on Instagram - [@moseley_in_bloom](https://www.instagram.com/moseley_in_bloom) and more information is available on our website at <https://www.moseleyinbloom.org.uk/>

Remembering Hilary Bartlett

Sadly, a garden that will not be open this year is Hilary Bartlett's in Ashfield Road. Hilary passed away recently and will be sadly missed by all who knew her. She was the organiser of the group of eight or nine Moseley Gardens that opened for several years under the National Gardens Scheme - the Yellow Book. The group then changed its allegiance and have generously opened for Moseley in Bloom for several years. Hilary was a stalwart member and a very keen gardener. Those who visited will remember her beautifully planted shady garden and the delightful pond by the house. She was a frequent visitor to the Malvern shows, to rare plant shows and trips with the Kings Heath Horticultural Group where, as well as the plants, she always enjoyed the pub lunches. As well as her passion for gardening, we should also remember Hilary as the restaurant critic for B13 magazine, under the name 'Beanobrum' for a number of years. She loved the good things of life.



No Mow May!

Don't forget that it's No Mow May! You can put away the lawn mower for this month and let the grass grow so that wild life and plants can thrive. We are really pleased that Birmingham City Council has chosen Moseley as one of its pilot sites where verges and other grass areas will not be mown during the month of May. Although some will complain, others will be thrilled. The idea is to allow wildflowers and other plants to grow at a time when birds and insects need them most. Do join in and see what happens if you leave the lawn, or even part of it unmown. We are sure you will notice an increase in visiting bees and butterflies.

Moseley Schools

Moseley in Bloom is now inviting all primary and secondary schools with a B13 postcode (or registered in the Moseley Ward), to apply for a School Gardening Grant. Projects over the past five years have built flower and veg beds, erected willow domes, reclaimed wasteland where plants now flourish, offered peace gardens for contemplation, and provided shelter for birds and bugs. Importantly, they have encouraged pupils to engage with nature and have enhanced classroom lessons. Application forms and guidelines have been sent to the eligible schools and are posted on the MiB website here: <https://moseleyinbloom.org.uk/schools/>
Closing date for applications is Friday June 30th.
Image of Uffculme School, courtesy Marci Green



Birmingham at Chelsea Flower Show - again

Birmingham City Council Parks and Nurseries have eleven consecutive Gold awards for their entries at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show. Fingers crossed for them again this year and although the details remain top secret we can reveal that this year's theme will celebrate and promote the 631 parks and open spaces of Birmingham. Sponsored by Lendlease, the display will showcase a wide range of aspects of the history of parks in the City and will include photos of volunteer groups - who knows, Moseley in Bloom may be there! Parks and Nurseries arrived this week and the display is already beginning to take shape! To read more about how the display will tell the story of Birmingham's green spaces, go to: <https://bit.ly/3MsAKAR>

