



Take Five

The Five A Day Market Garden newsletter

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Five A Day Market Garden
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Garden News...

After a long and cold, dry winter, the garden is at last showing some signs that Spring is on the way. We have some very welcome green shoots of daffodils in our long border and the broad beans which we planted in November are doing well. Despite the weather, we have been pruning the fruit trees, cleaning all of the tools and have rejuvenated the polytunnel with some new compost. Hopefully this will mean a bumper crop of tomatoes and cucumbers this year.



2018 ended on a high note as our Christmas wreath workshops were very successful with over 60 people attending to make their own individual wreaths with willow cut from the garden. We will be running them again this year so if you are interested, please check our website later in the year and look out for our Autumn newsletter.

The willow has recently been cut by volunteers from CROW (Conserve Reading on Wednesdays) and will be used by a therapy garden in Reading to be woven into low fencing.

Some of you may know that Yvonne Redgrave, the project coordinator has been seriously ill since mid-December. The fantastic news is that she is now back at home and has asked us to send this message: 'Hopefully when the weather warms up, I will be able to pop into the garden and see you all. Meanwhile, I would really like to thank everyone who has sent me cards or asked about me. All your well wishes have been passed on and it has made a big difference knowing so many people care'.

In Yvonne's absence, Wendy Tobitt, committee chair and Wendy Cadman, committee secretary, have been doing a great job ensuring that things are running smoothly and the programme of future events is as busy as ever. Please see overleaf and on our website for more details.

Needle Felting Workshop

Saturday 30th March

10am—1pm

This workshop will be run by Sylvia Beeton, an experienced feltmaker who will be your 'shepherdess' for the session. All materials will be supplied to make your own sheep!

The cost is £20 per person to include light refreshments. Open to adults and children over 11.



Booking essential.

Please contact
wendy@fiveaday.
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07555 184343



THYME TOGETHER

Our very popular Thyme Together sessions will be restarting on Thursday April 4th from 1—3 pm. They will continue throughout the year with short breaks for holidays. **The new day for all of the sessions is Thursday.**

If you know of an older person who may have loved gardening, or someone who now has time to explore a new interest then Thyme Together will be perfect for them.

The sessions are run by trained volunteers and along with some gardening activity, there is plenty of time for tea and delicious cake.

If you are interested or know of a friend or relative who might like to come, please use the contact form on our website www.fiveaday.org.uk or email us at Yvonne@fiveaday.org.uk



Looking ahead

Jobs and events over the next few months include:

- Chitting potatoes
- Planting Seeds
- Weeding
- Edging
- Soil preparation and digging
- Felting Workshop 30th March
- Thyme Together from April 4th
- Welcoming back our adult learner groups
- Summer Open day Saturday 13th July to coincide with Englefield Flower Show.

Keep up to date by visiting our website www.fiveaday.org.uk

Volunteer news

Our regular volunteers started back in the garden in early February and we are hoping to welcome some new volunteers following the V365 recruitment event in Newbury. We meet regularly on Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 am.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please drop in to the garden on Wednesday or Friday or contact us at Yvonne@fiveaday.org.uk



Friday volunteers hard at work

HELP PLEASE

If you, or anyone you know, has a petrol driven shredder which they would be willing to lend to us from time to time, please contact us either by email to yvonne@fiveaday.org.uk or by phone to 07555 184343.

We produce a lot of garden waste which we need to shred and use as mulch but have no shredder so any help would be greatly appreciated