

S P R I N G 2 0 1 8

The Walled Garden

Newsletter of the Friends of Llanfrechfa Grange Walled Garden



Welcome

It's been an eventful year since we launched our new look quarterly newsletter for members and supporters. The community group is now a registered charity, with a growing and active band of volunteers. The walls have been repaired and repointed, the undergrowth cleared and temporary planting in place. We have a new design layout agreed and alongside, the new hospital is springing up before our eyes! There is much still to do so please keep reading to stay in touch with our progress.

Spring Diary

Spring Raffle

2 May 2018 – 7pm
Newport
Uskmouth Rotary
Club charity draw
at the Mayor's
Parlour, Newport
Civic Centre.

Project Board meeting

23 May 2018
Joint meeting of
Health Board,
charity trustees
and partners.

Garden design team meeting

Dates tbc
To focus on designing
the water feature for
NW quadrant and
planting for SW
quadrant.

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Garden design news

In January 2018 we were delighted to hear that Torfaen County Borough Council granted planning permission for the garden design submitted on the charity's behalf by Aneurin Bevan University Health Board. Here is how the designs are being taken forward.

Northwest (reflective) quadrant planting plan finalised

Our volunteer garden design team has explored in detail the plants that will work well in this quadrant. The plan is to use a range of shrubs and evergreens as a framework, with infill of perennials/bulbs/annuals with soft, pastel coloured, insect friendly flowers. To view the full details please visit our website at this link: <https://llanfrechfawalledgarden.wordpress.com/designing-the-garden-2/>

The area still needs clearing, digging out and the laying of paths and seating areas. We also need to decide on a water feature and get planning permission for the corner shelter structure. This means we will probably not be in a position to start planting until October this year.

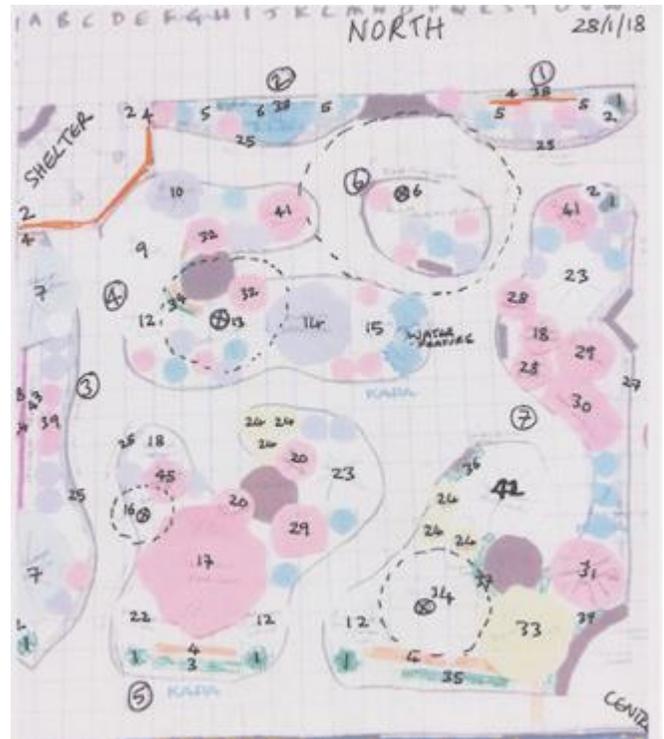
Can you help us with plant supplies?

We've put a lot of thought into the precise varieties of plants on the list for this quadrant, so will try and stick with them if at all possible. If anyone would be willing to take cuttings or offshoots of plants on the list (particularly perennials) and grow them on for us, that would be very much appreciated. We also need well-rooted cuttings of *Eleagnus ebingii* (the plain green leaved, thornless variety) for the long hedge bordering the main north-south path, and also of *Escallonia bifida* (pale pink flowers) for a short hedge around a seating area. (We already have enough Lavender and Viburnum davidii plants). Financial donations towards the cost of some of the larger shrubs/trees are also very welcome.

The Social and Community quadrants need planting plans too – currently we are thinking hot coloured perennials in the social quarter, and native / woodland plants in the shadier community quarter, with a pebble river.

Ideally we need plants ready for the coming autumn/spring, so please let us know if you can help. We will try to use donated plants in the garden if they fit with our planting schemes, but if we receive too many or are offered other plants we will sell some to raise funds for the garden, or swap or donate them to other community garden projects.

If you can help please contact email: janenehaul@gmail.com. Thank you.



Eleagnus ebingii. Source: Haagbeplanting.nl



Escallonia bifida.

More garden design news

In the middle of the Garden ...

New north to south and east to west paths will eventually define the four quadrants and will cross in the middle of the garden. Work on this central point has recently begun, consisting of a circular paved area surrounded by low stone walls.

Graham and Brian, two of our talented and hardworking volunteers, are using reclaimed bricks, stone and granite sets to create this important feature which will also have an interesting design built into its paving. Once completed we think this area will be a lovely place to congregate and expect it to be quite a talking point!



Spring into Planting!

Spring is the time of year to get your planting plans into action and what better way to do this and to support our charity than to buy your plants from the Walled Garden.

We currently have a growing range of perennials (the primroses are looking very colourful!), pots of daffs and tulips, strawberry plants and the first tomato plants. Annuals and vegetable plants will be available over the next couple of months. We are also planning hanging baskets – wicker style or metal 10 inches. Visit our website for stock availability and prices. Prices are always reasonable and may vary, depending on the size of the plant / pot. If you would like to see the plants before ordering and choose your own, call in on a Monday 10am to 4pm, or a Sunday 10am to 12.30. Other times can be arranged by e-mail. We also accept orders via e-mail, provided collection is within a week of ordering. See back page for e-mail and website addresses.

Happy planting!

News in Brief

Open Day 14 April



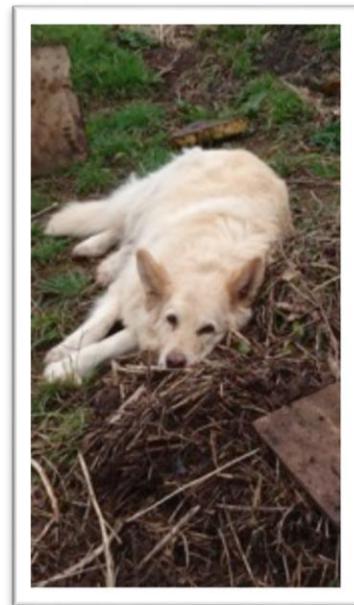
We had a good turnout for our recent Saturday coffee morning inviting people to find out how the Walled Garden project is coming along. It was an opportunity for visitors to meet the Trustees and our partners from Growing Space. The event raised a small amount of money towards our planting plans and recruited a few new members. We were also pleased to receive a write up about the project in the South Wales Argus. You can read the article at this link:

http://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/16171643.Volunteers_and_funding_vital_for_Llanfrechfa_Grange_walled_garden_project/

Meet Ben, our honorary team member

Ben is a White German Shepherd who spends every Monday in the garden enjoying the company of our volunteers. He loves being stroked and getting the occasional treat and will seek out individuals he knows will provide both. Ben also attends meetings in Grange House and is well known to the staff who treat him as their own therapy dog. Ben also recently helped welcome 30 or so Norwegian visitors to the garden.... more about that in the next newsletter!

The picture below shows Ben with Tom, one of our regular volunteers.



Data Protection Law changes



The new General Data Protection Regulation law comes into effect on 25 May 2018. The charity trustees have developed a plan to ensure we will be compliant.

Grange University Hospital building progress

Work is progressing at pace on the new hospital build. Here is what has happened since the beginning of this year.



- 600 piles sunk 60m into the ground for foundations
- Retaining walls built
- First concrete base and pillars in to form what will be the Haematology department
- 3 tower cranes in place – another 3 to come!
- First columns on Level 0 signed by Judith Paget, CEO for the Health Board

Thank you tea for volunteers



Aneurin Bevan University Health Board supports a wide range of volunteering schemes operating across all its sites. To say thank you to all the volunteers who provide their time, skills and care for free, the Health Board is hosting an afternoon tea for them on Weds 25 July at the Christchurch Centre, Malpas, Newport.

We are delighted to have been offered a number of places for volunteers working on the Walled Garden project and hope they will all have a lovely time.

A Growing Space for Veg!



Our charity partners Growing Space have been busy supporting people with Autistic Spectrum Disorders through our Therapeutic Horticulture project. They are now going to be taking a lead role in developing the vegetable plot that will be in the South East quadrant of the garden.

So far the trainee gardeners have sown a number of different vegetables including cabbage, cauliflower, leeks, chillies, beetroot, onions, beans and broad beans. Potatoes have been planted out and the ground is being prepared to accommodate the ever growing list of tasty vegetables.

We are looking forward to a very fruitful harvest.

Contact Us

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Or on Facebook at llanfrechfa grange walled garden

