

November 2017

Dates for your diary

During November the Garden will be opening for winter hours as below:

Thursday 10-12
Saturday 2-4pm

We'll be (nominally) closed during December and January but you can still buy produce by contacting us on hello@CobhamCommunityGarden.org.uk. We're organising some specific events over the winter – contact us for details if you would like to be involved in:

Muck raking – come and help bag good clean compost from the Greenfingers site and spread it over the Garden beds; not smelly & surprisingly great fun! **Thurs 30th Nov & Sat 2nd Dec. 10:00 & 2:00pm.**

Soft fruit pruning workshop – our own expert will show you how to prune a variety of fruit bushes, then have a go yourself. **Saturday 9th Dec 1:30 – 3:30pm**

Crop Captains wanted

Next year we want to introduce the idea of Crop Captains – one person (or a group) who takes the lead on all aspects of growing a particular crop, for example successional sowing, thinning, etc. Not necessarily doing all the work but taking more than a keen interest in 'their' crop. We can change crops the following season and start to really 'grow' our knowledge, plus share our experience with successors. We'll have comprehensive notes and sowing plans available and obviously the full collaboration of our gardening experts.

This is not compulsory (!) but should make the gardening experience more rewarding, and we really do need to be sharing this aspect of running the garden. We tried this with the Carrots this year and it worked really well.

Here is a list of crops needing a Captain and there are some example notes at the end, so if you would like to give it a go then let us know which crop or crops you would prefer. *Please!*

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Beans (Broad, French, Runner) | Beetroot, Parsnip | Cabbages |
| Carrots | Courgette, Cucumber | Brussels, Broccoli, Kale |
| Salads (Lettuce, rocket, radish) | Tomatoes | Leeks |

The Travellers

As you probably know there were various groups of Travellers camping on the Leg O'Mutton during the summer. When they left there was damage done to the garden and theft of tools, equipment & produce. At the time this was a very demoralising blow, but the response by our community has been marvellous; so many people and organisations have given us their support and encouragement, and several groups and businesses have given us money. We're now able to complete our fruit orchard and have cash left over for other fun projects. Thank you so much.

Farmers Market

You will all be familiar with the Cobham Farmers Market in Hollyhedge Rd on the fourth Saturday of every month, and may have seen us there. Surrey Markets, who run the event, have generously offered us a free pitch so we can sell our wares and have a High Street presence to make more people aware of the Garden. We've attended about 6 markets this year and it's been very successful

and fun too. If you would like to help on the stall from time to time then please let us know. The next one is on 25th November and there isn't anyone around from our usual team to run it, so let us know if you're feeling adventurous and fancy giving it a try!

Produce

There are still lots of fresh vegetables available for you to purchase, including:

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Potatoes | Onions | Cabbage |
| Kale | Leek | Carrots |
| Butternut squash | Lettuce | Parsnip |
| Sprouts | Sprouting broccoli | Various herbs |

Everyone's Garden

The Garden is intended as a resource for the whole community. We have engaged with various local groups in different ways, and numerous individuals are coming along to work, but are we doing what everyone wants? We would like to know what YOU would like to do in the garden, so please drop us a line with your thoughts.

M: Hello@CobhamCommunityGarden.org.uk

W: www.CobhamCommunityGarden.org.uk

T: @CobhamCG

F: www.facebook.com/TransitionCobham

Crop notes

Here are some sample crop notes which we'll use next year to manage our sowing and planting.

| Crop | Row cm | Apart cm | Depth cm | Sow | Grow | Tender Hardy |
|---------------|--------|----------|----------|--|--|--------------|
| Beans (Broad) | 20 | 20 | 5 | Sow seeds 5cm (2in) deep and 20cm (8in) apart. They are best sown in double rows, with the rows 20cm (8in) apart. If a second double row is needed this should be positioned 60cm (2ft) away from the first. Sow a few extra seeds at the end of the rows to fill in any gaps produced by seeds that don't germinate. | Taller varieties will need supporting, so place a stout stake at each corner of the double row, and every 1.5m (5ft) round the rows, and run string around the stakes at 30cm (1ft) intervals from the ground. Water plants when they begin to flower and again two weeks later – watering at other times is only needed during prolonged droughts. | T |

Planting plan - There is a map to support this showing where the beds and blocks are!

| Bed | Block | Crop | Variety | Sow | Where | Distance between rows cm | Distance between plants cm | No rows | Plants / row | Tot Qty |
|-----|-------|----------------|-------------------|--------|-------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------|--------------|---------|
| 9 | D3 | Beans (Broad) | Aquadulce Claudia | 01-Mar | GH | 30 | 15 | 3 | 11 | 33 |
| 9 | D5 | Pea | Zuccola | 01-Mar | GH | 20 | 10 | 4 | 17 | 68 |
| 9 | D1 | Beans (French) | | 01-Apr | GH | 30 | 15 | 3 | 11 | 33 |
| 9 | D6 | Pea | Zuccola | 01-Apr | D | 20 | 10 | 4 | 17 | 68 |
| 9 | D4 | Beans (Broad) | Aquadulce Claudia | 01-May | D | 30 | 15 | 3 | 11 | 33 |
| 9 | E1 | Beans (French) | | 01-May | D | 30 | 15 | 3 | 11 | 33 |
| 9 | E5 | Pea | Ambassador | 01-May | D | 20 | 10 | 4 | 17 | 68 |
| 9 | E2 | Beans (Runner) | Celebration | 20-May | D | 30 | 15 | 3 | 11 | 33 |
| 9 | E3 | Beans (Runner) | Celebration | 20-May | D | 30 | 15 | 3 | 11 | 33 |
| 9 | E6 | Pea | Ambassador | 01-Jun | D | 20 | 10 | 4 | 17 | 68 |
| 9 | E4 | Beans (Runner) | St George | 20-Jun | D | 30 | 15 | 3 | 11 | 33 |
| 9 | D2 | Beans (Broad) | Aquadulce Claudia | 01-Jul | | 30 | 15 | 3 | 11 | 33 |