

Newsletter Autumn 2017

Welcome to our Autumn edition of the Martineau Gardens' Newsletter.

In case you haven't heard, we have launched our crowdfunding appeal to refurbish the Pavilion. Within this issue, we're updating you on the progress so far, and the next steps for the refurbishment. I'm writing this message just as we go to print. I'm delighted to say that the appeal has got off to a flying start. At the end of Day One, we raised more than 10% of our target. The campaign will run until 12 October. Please pull out all the stops, watch our film, spread the word and if you

haven't yet donated, please donate.

Our Autumn Event is Sunday 24 September; I do hope you'll be able to join us.

Caroline Hutton, Director

Ways to donate:

online: localgiving.org/appeal/martineaugardenspavilion

cheque: made payable to 'Martineau Gardens', post a cheque to our address overleaf

Phone: call 0121 440 7430 and make a card payment.

Cash: call in to see us



Autumn produce for sale

Diary Dates EVENTS

*Sat 23 Sept, **Baking in an Earth Oven Course**, 10am—3pm, £40 *telephone bookings only*

Sun 24 Sept, **Autumn Event**, 11am – 3pm free entry for Friends

Thurs 12 Oct **Crowdfunding Appeal** last chance to donate

Sat 21 Oct, **Martineau Gardens AGM**, 2pm

* Tues 24 and Thurs 26 Oct **Autumn Half-Term Family Activities:** 10am or 1pm, £5 per child, find out more about the wildlife here with plenty of fun and play along the way

*Tues 31 Oct, **Stories on Halloween Night**, 6pm, Trad Arts team, £5 (£2) *timed tickets see web*

**Advance booking Information and ticket links via: www.martineau-gardens.org.uk/events*

Open: Mon to Sat 10am - 4pm, except Bank Holidays. Entry is free except for special events. (Closed Fri 22 December 2017 and re-opens Tues 2 Jan 2018.)


 Watch our **www.localgiving.org/appeal/martineaugardenspavilion** film



What's been achieved

Due to the generosity of 16 Charitable Trusts, we have successfully raised funds to begin work on the Pavilion. This year, the roof has been replaced (no more leaks!), asbestos roof tiles have been removed, the outside walls have been painted a lovely 'lichen' colour, courtesy of Farrow & Ball, and the volunteers' room relocated



Tiles for our new roof—Staff, Volunteers, Jericho and R Allen Roofers

to the Mollie Martineau Building and kitted out with a modern kitchen. The Pavilion looks beautiful on the outside, but now we need to get to work on the inside and raise the funds to do so. *More details overleaf.*

We stand for social equality, which is why we use social enterprise Jericho Construction (pictured above) for the refurbishment work.

What is Martineau Gardens?

Our Therapeutic Community Garden is looked after by Volunteers, many of whom have

mental health issues or learning disabilities. Hundreds of school children visit the Gardens to learn about science and the environment. Every year, Birmingham people (now in their

thousands) visit the Gardens to enjoy its peace and tranquillity. We host events and courses and sell plants and produce.

Refurbishment Appeal: Next Steps



(l) Walls insulated with sheep's wool (r) Refreshments served

Refurbishing our Pavilion means Martineau Gardens can continue to be the place where people, plants and wildlife meet. The refurbishment will create a bigger space that's warm and dry in winter, light and airy in summer.

Care of the environment and the natural world; getting children in touch with nature and the outdoor world; gardening and all its pleasures, growing and eating healthy food - this is at the heart of what we do. As well as simply providing a warm, dry roof overhead, this space, refurbished, becomes a place where we can teach more children about nature, whatever the weather; a place that YOU can hire for your family parties and celebrations, and a place for businesses and community organisations to hold events and meetings. This income will contribute towards keeping Martineau Gardens free to enter.

So the next steps are: knocking through walls to create more space; fitting a kitchen to better serve refreshments; insulating walls with sheep's wool; fitting secondary glazing and a wood stove (already pledged to us). All of which will keep our fuel bills down.

The Pavilion ... a building that won't cost the earth.

Family Steps Up for Film

Rich Burnett (AWOL Media Productions) filmed and edited the short film for our Appeal. We're enormously grateful, especially since he stepped in at short notice to give this support. Pictured here is Rich (on the right) with brother Michael, (our fundraiser who made his debut in the world of film). Our thanks to their mother, Jan McCarthy for vital contributions on the day, plus our other contributors for joining in with great spirit. Watch the film and donate here:



www.localgiving.org/appeal/martineaugardenspavilion

Events in September and October



Pictured here: (l) pirate ships made on a family activity session and (r) picking apples in preparation for the Autumn Event

Apple pressing, seasonal produce, children's wildlife activities and live music from local bands are some of the treats in store for visitors to Martineau Gardens' annual **Autumn Event** on **Sunday 24 September** from 11am – 3pm. Our family friendly 'green' fete will celebrate the Autumn harvest and provide a day of family fun. (*Tickets available on the gate for this event.*) Following on from the popularity of our summer activities (pictured above left), Juliette Green will be running four identical **Autumn Half Term Family sessions** with an autumn and Halloween theme, on Tues 24 and Thurs 26 October. Ideal for finding out more about the wildlife at Martineau Gardens with plenty of fun and play along the way, each two hour session costs £5 - booking in advance is essential. **Stories on Halloween Night** (31 Oct) is an opportunity to enjoy Martineau Gardens at night, in the company of storytellers from the Traditional Arts Team. Take a ghost walk around the Gardens as darkness falls and enjoy a firelight tale or two. For details of what's planned and how to book tickets, log onto our website at: martineau-gardens.org.uk/events/

Edgbaston Awakes



At the Autumn Event, come and see the bench that our volunteers have made over the last few weeks with Peter Wood. With thanks to Artscoop. Photo credit: J Green

Book your school visit

We're taking bookings for school visits until the end of October 2017 and starting again in March 2018. Information is here:

www.martineau-gardens.org.uk/education

Connect with us ...



How to contact us

Martineau Gardens, 27 Priory Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B5 7UG

T: 0121 440 7430 E: info@martineau-gardens.org.uk

www.martineau-gardens.org.uk

Opening Hours

For visiting: Mon - Sat, 10am - 4pm

Volunteering: Mon - Thurs, 10am - 4pm

Volunteering for women: Fri, 10am - 4pm