

## Newsletter Summer 2016

### Welcome to our Summer edition of the Martineau Gardens' Newsletter.

I'm delighted to announce that our recent Summer Garden Party event raised just over £10,000 - this was a tremendous evening of generosity with supporters donating items for the auction and raffle, guests bidding enthusiastically for lots and buying a record amount of raffle tickets (over 1,800!) and our volunteers and Steering Group giving up time to make the evening run so smoothly. Our

thanks to you all, and to Audley St George's Place for sponsoring the event, to Jeremy Thornton (Biddle and Webb and pro bono auctioneer) and Sue Roberts (Chair of Trustees). This means we have now raised £18,000 towards the refurbishment work, enough to start phase one this Winter. A renovated Pavilion helps to keep Martineau Gardens open and free for the people of Birmingham. If you'd like to know more about our plans, read this article on our website <http://bit.ly/29R2p90>

**Caroline Hutton, Director**

*Pictured here (clockwise) Helen Smith (Audley), Peter Arnold (Trustee), Jeremy Thornton, Sue Roberts, Caroline Hutton; Andrea Walker-Kay (Steering Group) with guests; Bryan Corbett Quartet, Sarah Brown, Janelle Kolas (Volunteers) and Jas Mehta (Steering Group and baker of the cake).*



*Bees on the chives growing in the Herb Beds at Martineau Gardens*

### Diary Dates

#### Events Highlights

- \* Fri 5 Aug, **As You Like It**, with Folksy Theatre 6.30pm
- \* Wed 10 Aug, **The Smartest Giant in Town**, with Folksy Theatre, 6.30pm **SOLD OUT!**
- Sat 3 & Sun 4 Sept, **Honey Show**, with BDBKA, 10am — 4pm FREE
- Sun 25 Sept, **Autumn Event**, 11am — 3pm free entry for Friends
- Mon 31 Oct, **Halloween Story Night**, with Traditional Arts Team, 6pm advance ticket purchase recommended

*\* Folksy Theatre—family tickets only available in advance; tickets cheaper in advance*

*Information and ticket links via:*

[www.martineau-gardens.org.uk/events](http://www.martineau-gardens.org.uk/events)

**Open:** Mon to Sat 10am - 4pm, except bank holidays. Entry is free except for special events.

## Record Breaking Garden Party



### 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 Garden 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.

## School discovers great tastes



Braidwood Trust School for the Deaf visited the Gardens recently to find out more about how food grows. They toured the vegetable growing areas and were encouraged to taste chives, baby broad beans straight from the pod and other tasty morsels. Pictured above, a brave pupil displays a look of surprise after sampling a raw rhubarb stick. (Please always check before you taste anything growing in the Gardens!)

## Green help from GE Healthcare



Staff from GE Healthcare Finnermore volunteered their time at Martineau Gardens recently on a range of tasks. One team began the task of stripping paint from the Pavilion, another gave our logs store a thorough spruce up and, pictured here, a group gets stuck in with weeding the borders in the car park

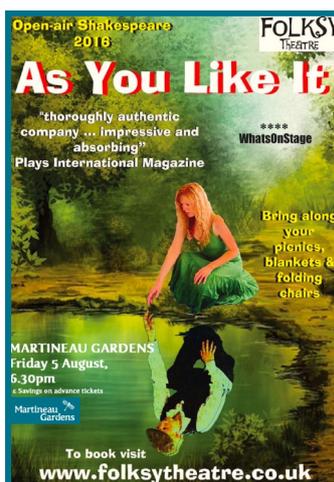
area. Our thanks for their hard work! We welcome partnerships with local businesses, find out more about corporate volunteering here: <http://bit.ly/2acYIWd>

**New Friends welcomed** Reading this and not a Friend? Isn't it time you joined?! Join online via: <http://bit.ly/1D8rlab> or at reception next time you visit.

## 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](mailto:info@martineau-gardens.org.uk)  
[www.martineau-gardens.org.uk](http://www.martineau-gardens.org.uk)

## What's on



Folksy Theatre are returning to Martineau Gardens this summer with highly entertaining, outdoor productions of 'The Smartest Giant in Town' and 'As You Like It'. Performing on and around Martineau Gardens' very own stage, the deck of the shipwreck, we, the audience relax on picnic chairs and rugs. 'As You Like It', is a Shakespearean comedy about life, love, betrayal, faith and death. The production will be filled with Folksy's touch of bold characters, live music, audience interaction and plenty of laughs. Family tickets only available in advance. **STOP PRESS:** Martineau Gardens now has a card reader, so you can call the office on 0121 440 7430 to make your booking. 'The Smartest Giant' has sold out, so to avoid disappointment over your Shakespeare tickets, book now! Look forward to the Honey Show, in September - there will be plenty of local honey to buy, and more. For full details about all our events, log onto: [www.martineau-gardens.org.uk/events](http://www.martineau-gardens.org.uk/events)

## Wildlife news

To celebrate National Insect Week, we held a Family Minbeast Safari. There was a flurry of excitement when a Lesser Stag Beetle was found in the woodland. This species has been seen at the Gardens before, but only once or twice.



*Pictured here, Juliette Green, with butterfly net, during National Insect Week and a close up of the beetle*

