

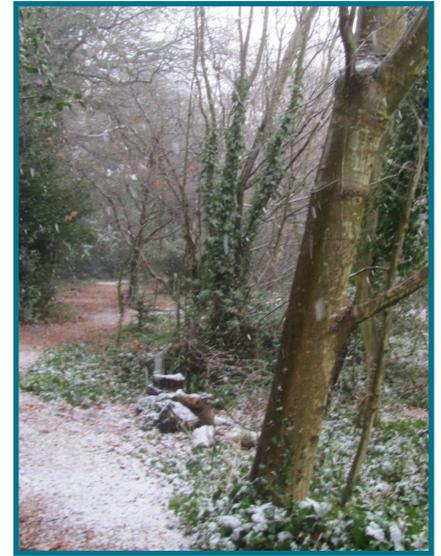
Newsletter Winter 2019

Welcome to this winter edition of the newsletter.

As another year in the Gardens draws to a close, we're celebrating a project that has seen some real community spirit in action. Thank you to everyone who has helped us in creating the new garden area behind the Pavilion. We are proud of all our volunteers and staff who worked on the design and construction to provide a quiet and tranquil area for reflection and

recovery for some of our most vulnerable volunteers. The on-going development of this and the continuation of the Therapeutic Horticulture Project would not have been possible without funding from Charitable Trusts and the long-term support of our corporate partners Jo Malone London, Nicholls Brimble Bhol Solicitors and the Co-op. We thank Amey too, for generously supplying us with expertise and materials.

Gill Milburn, Director



Frost in the woodland



Hire the Pavilion! Available for parties, celebrations, workshops, community meetings and more. And all profits made contribute to a great cause! Find out more here:

www.martineau-gardens.org.uk/visitor-information/venue-hire/

Bulbs for future and wellbeing



Photocredit: A Drozd

On a bright October day, Martineau Gardens volunteers and staff came together for a mass planting of the new garden area behind the Pavilion. We provided our volunteers with lunch to say thank you and celebrate the efforts of their hard work all year round keeping the Gardens a beautiful and tranquil place to visit. Crocus, snowdrops, aconites and more were planted into the newly created beds. We chose to do this on World Mental Health Day, 10 October. Gill Milburn,



Director of Martineau Gardens said: "Bulbs are a symbol of new growth. Planting bulbs during the dormant months gives us something to look forward to, for when the warmer weather returns. For some volunteers on the therapeutic horticulture project, gardening together, week in, week out can be a lifeline that gives purpose to one's life." Find out more here:

bit.ly/2pmwDyk



Diary Dates

*Festive Stick Man Family Sessions Thurs 19 Dec

10am or 1pm Tickets £6.60 per child. Family fun with craft activities suitable for 3 to 7 years. Advance booking essential, info on our website:

www.martineau-gardens.org.uk/events

Little Leaf Nature Play Monday mornings, term time with Kayleigh Atkinson littleleaf.fs@gmail.com

Claire Cotterill Mosaic Courses in December and January

www.clairecotterill.com/mosaic-courses/

Wildlife News



Upright Coral fungus *Ramaria stricta*

The wet weather has brought out plenty of fungi, see overleaf —more details on bit.ly/34LVwmY

Photocredit: A Curran

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.

Open: Mon to Sat 10am - 4pm, except Bank Holidays. Entry is free except for special events. (Festive period : please check website <https://www.martineau-gardens.org.uk/2019/12/festive-opening/>)

Sleeping out to raise funds



On a cold and damp November evening, when most would prefer to be indoors, children aged 10 to 12 years old, recently slept out at Martineau Gardens, until midnight to raise funds for Martineau Gardens and local youth charity, St Basils. The children (members of education movement Woodcraft), built cardboard box shelters and fitted them with fairy lights, blankets and sleeping bags. A short-term appeal (raising money for both charities) has been set up. At time of writing, the children and their families and friends have already raised £621 including gift-aid collections - please do consider boosting the impact of what they have achieved so far, by donating to this short 3 week appeal. On-line donations can be made until 12 December via:

www.localgiving.org/appeal/sleepoutforhomeless/
The full story and details of alternative ways to give are detailed on our website: bit.ly/2P5LXZb

Here at Martineau Gardens we aim to provide a safe and welcoming space which enables adults, young people and children to connect with nature and improve their wellbeing. Our preventative work also supports socially isolated and vulnerable people, through gardening and more, to help people feel good about themselves. Sometimes, having somewhere to go, that feels like 'home', can give hope to someone feeling desperate and lonely.

No more logs!

Our log sales season has now ended, a little earlier than usual. With the winter nights drawing in, we've seen an increase in customer demand for our seasoned logs. Alas there has been a decrease logs supplies dropped to us by tree surgeons working in the area. We are told that an increase in supplies for biomass boilers could be behind this. Thanks to all our customer who have supported the Gardens by purchasing logs from us (and our wonderful volunteers for chopping them to size).

[collared earthstar fungus](#)



Beekeeping Course— for Christmas?



Photocredits: L Smith, A Curran

With the new year approaching and a chance to try something new, you might be thinking about taking up a new hobby or interest, or maybe know someone else who is? In response to telephone enquiries, our beekeeping taster courses for 2020 are now on sale, just in time for Christmas. There are three identical Saturday sessions to choose from (25/4, 16/5 or 23 /5) - they provide a fascinating insight into the art of beekeeping. Led by our volunteer beekeeper Sam Walker (pictured above left), participants will be borrow a beekeeping suit for the day, and will find out everything they need to know in order to decide if beekeeping is for them. From the equipment required, to life inside the colony and how to obtain bees, this is a practical, hands-on course full of insights from your experienced tutor. Advance payment is essential and gift vouchers can be purchased. For more details on how to book, visit <https://martineau-gardens.org.uk/event/beekeeping-taster-courses/> or call 0121 440 7430.

Co-op celebratory film features Gardens



Celebrations have been underway around the Big Co-op Payout – Martineau Gardens has received just over £7,000 thanks to the support of Co-op members and staff at supporting stores. The funds received contribute towards delivering our therapeutic horticulture placements which include vulnerable adults with mental health issues and learning disabilities. Our thanks to Co-op members and our supporters who have chosen us, when shopping in our supporting stores. Co-op made a short film of volunteers and staff at Martineau Gardens, you can view it on our website and find out our plans for 2020 and supporting stores, via this link: bit.ly/2LfpbNx

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