## Volunteer?

would you like to volunteer in the garden? if so come along and join our friendly team

garden volunteer days are **Wednesday and Saturday** 

comment from one of our volunteers

"I can volunteer whenever I have a few spare hours, there's no pressure to go every time and i've met some great people. Also we get a free drink every time"



Visit our website to find out more about the project and the great events that are happening every week.

www.thewalledgardenshop.co.uk
Instagram & Facebook thewalledgardenshop

with thanks to the gardening team for their contributions to this newsletter



## Garden News Autumn/Winter Edition 2022/23

The garden volunteers take great pride in what they've achieved in the garden over the past couple of years.

With this years addition of the greenhouse we're in planting heaven!



We love hearing your feedback and being asked lots of questions about plants. We're doing our best to label as many plants as we can to help you so look out for these labels during your visit.

Your ongoing support if very much appreciated to keep our garden in tip top condition. By purchasing a plant, a book or giving a donation means all these funds go directly back into the garden...so thankyou

## Water Water!

Virtually no rain fell in Little Plumstead between the beginning of July until mid-August last year. With the temperatures reaching the high 30s like most gardens we struggled with water supplies.

Lets tell you about what water harvesting we do.

At the beginning of the project we installed  $2 \times 7000$  litre water tanks behind the shop. This collects water from the shop/cafe roof. We also have  $4 \times 500$  litre tanks which collects water from the community room roof.

So we thought we had plenty of water... but we didn't!

Although the year proved to be one of the driest years on record this may now be expected each year so its clear we need to do more to keep our garden in top condition.

This year with the introduction of our greenhouse we are now collecting from the roof in six new zinc troughs. We also plan to collect from our shed roof into several tanks.

But its not all about collecting water.

Behind the scenes we have been working hard on our compost heaps which are maturing. This provides compost to mulch the borders which will help retain moisture in the ground. The biggest problem is under the trees where it gets very dry indeed so these areas will need a thick layer of mulch.

We continue to work hard on new ways to be sufficient of enough water without using the mains supply.

## Snowdrops at The Walled Garden

While working in the garden weve been getting lots of questions and comments from visitors about the snowdrops. Several people have said "Fancy having snowdrops out now. They're very early"

Well, in fact, these particular snowdrops were actually slightly late this year!

Two species flower regularly in Autumn and they were originally discovered in Greece. Once the Autumn rains begin up they pop. The sharp eyed will be able to find snowdrops in flower in the garden from mid-October to mid-March. Even over the Christmas period flowers of the appropriately named 'Santa Claus' and 'Three Ships' can be found.

We now have many varieties growing in the garden and for sale including Galanthus S. Arnott, G. viridapices and G. woronowii

Snowdrop Walk
with garden expert
Richard Hobbs
on
Sunday 12th February

walk includes discovering our new varieties in the garden and beyond the walls, snowdrops for sale & display of various snowdrop heritage

> walks begin at llam, l2noon, lpm

Tours £2 per person or £6 per person with takeaway soup/bread cafe open as normal