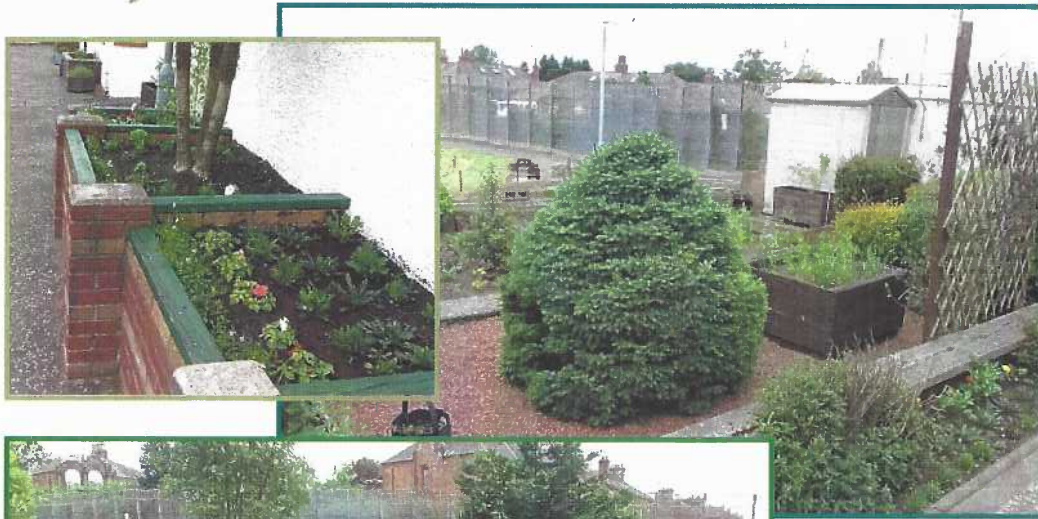


The Gardens

@ HMP Dumfries

17th July 2018



Designed by HMP Dumfries

A Message From Gardens Officer Instructor: Greg Van Nuil.

A warm welcome to HMP Dumfries and to "Cultivating Futures 2018" which we're privileged to be hosting here in our hardworking gardens area.

Ever since we volunteered to host this years event, myself and the gardeners who work here are very excited and proud to think that all the hard work and dedication that they put in on daily basis will be recognised by visitors attending today. Their skills and talents showcased by the way the garden area is presented. As I'm sure you'll agree, it looks in fantastic condition at this time of year.

Currently, I have 15 gardeners in the party who work up to nine sessions per week earning between £9 - £13 for their efforts. Jobs range from cutting grass around the establishment, planting various vegetables and flowers from seed, to general maintenance. Let's not forget an old favourite: weeding! The gardeners have a variety of different skills ranging from backgrounds in farming and landscaping, to others who had never used a garden tool before! That is the beauty of gardening and what can be achieved by utilising all these skills along with hard work to become a successful team which I believe we have here at HMP Dumfries.

The Gardens Party also offers Vocational Training. The SVQ, which consists of two units is designed to give an introduction to gardening skills and an understanding in the use of hand tools in horticulture. This, alongside our in house training, demonstrates how to correctly use tools in a safe working practice.

Well that's enough from me. I hope everyone who attends has a good day and the weather holds out. There are lots of interesting and skilled exhibits to see at this worthwhile event.

Greg

Contents

1) Cultivating Futures - What's it all About?	Page 4
2) Cultivating Futures - The Year of Dumfries!	Page 5
3) Cultivating Futures - Why We Work Together.	Page 6
4) Cultivating Futures - A Prisoners Point of View.	Page 7
5) Using the Prison Community.	Page 8
6) Cultivating Futures: 2018 Exhibition.	Page 10
7) The Dementia Project Partnership - Forget Me Not.	Page 14
8) The Memorial Garden.	Page 18
9) Production at HMP Dumfries in 2017.	Page 19
10) The Mystery of a Garden.	Page 20
11) A Project Unlocking Skills: Transforming the Future.	Page 21
12) Your Gardening Questions Answered.	Page 22
13) Acknowledgments.	Page 23

Cultivating Futures: What's It All About?

Cultivating Futures was born from an idea by Activities First Line Manager, Rab Hayes, who works at HMPYOI Polmont who suggested at a meeting with **Trellis** that those in our care should have the opportunity to celebrate their gardening achievements. Trellis is a registered Scottish Charity that supports health through horticulture and has worked with the Scottish Prison Service over various projects and celebrates the use of horticulture in custody promoting it's use with regard to mental health and general well being.



This idea stemmed from numerous establishments having successful exhibitions outside their respective jails such as the *Royal Highland Show* and *Gardening Scotland*. After receiving positive feedback and backing to progress this idea from Operations Directorate at HQ, the launch of the **Cultivating Futures Garden Exhibition**, in conjunction with Trellis, was put in place.

HMPYOI Polmont held the inaugural exhibition on 16th August 2017. The exhibition featured horticultural efforts from 10 prisons across Scotland. The event involved decorative plants and pallets on the theme of the environment and was aimed at showcasing the creativity and horticultural skills of individuals in custody across Scotland.

The theme for last years event was the environment and the majority of SPS establishments who took part were tasked to build a pallet sized planter and smaller planters built to certain sizes.

The pallet planters were 1000ml x 1000ml and no higher than 2000ml.

The smaller planters were 500ml x 500ml and no higher than 500ml.

Each establishment had the opportunity to enter two exhibits. Ten prisons took part in the exhibitions first year which was a fantastic response.



Cultivating Futures: The Year of Dumfries!

This years theme is "Our Community" which is being hosted by HMP Dumfries!

We expect to see some strong entries again this year. One of our external partners, SACRO, who work with offenders in the community will also take part in the event.

Prisoners from across Scotland had been involved in the planning, design and construction of all the exhibits using a wide variety of skills in gardening, woodwork, metalwork, recycling, numeracy and literacy.

Promoting therapeutic gardening and show-

casing prisoners skill sets through exhibits on show is a productive use of prisoners time and can inspire others to try something new.

Throughout this booklet we have contributions from prisoners and staff; joiners and gardeners; poets and artists. This demonstrates the community spirit and the willingness to do something outside the box.



Everyone at HMP Dumfries is thoroughly looking forward to this event and hope we can contribute to the continued growth of the Cultivating Futures Theme in years to come.

A warm welcome to everyone and...

Enjoy the exhibition!

Cultivating Futures: Why We Work Together.

Stuart Pomfret, Head of Offender Outcomes

The Scottish Prison Service (SPS) Organisational review identified a steep change for SPS in focusing the direction and ambition of partnership working to achieve better outcomes through collaboration. Our corporate plan reflects the strategic objectives for a partnership strategy.

HMP Dumfries recognises itself as a community facing establishment and also be an integral part of the Dumfries and Galloway Community, and as such it will work at developing and enhancing relationships with stakeholders and the effectiveness of partnership working to improve services for those in our care and the wider community.

HMP Dumfries, like many prisons across the country has an increasingly elderly population, to help us support this client group and to foster positive relations with our NHS partners. The IDEAS Team (Interventions for Dementia Education Assessment and Support) have collaborated on the **"Forget Me Not" Gardens**

project.

Gardening is a wonderfully flexible medium, that can transform lives where you can see first-hand how gardening can help individuals, regardless of age or disability.

Social and therapeutic horticulture is the process of using plants and gardens to improve physical and mental health, as well

as communication and thinking skills. It also uses the garden as a safe and secure place to develop someone's ability to mix socially, make friends and learn practical skills that will help them to be more independent.

The benefits of a sustained and active interest in gardening include:

- Better physical health through exercise and learning how to use or strengthen muscles to improve mobility;
- Improve mental health through a sense of purpose and achievement;
- The opportunity to connect with others – reducing feelings of isolation or exclusion;
- Acquiring new skills to improve the chances of finding employment;

**And... just feeling better for being outside, in touch with nature
and the great outdoors!**

Cultivating Futures: A Prisoners Point of View.

The gardens within HMP Dumfries could be a garden anywhere in the world as it's a place that takes you away from the day to day running of prison life. The people who work there have created a space to thrive in a personal and professional capacity and you get a sense of being part of something good and worthwhile. There is a real community feel as everyone works together

to create a peaceful place to work in and to make visitors feel relaxed and welcome.

The gardens is all about life. From the first seed to an established tree, you can see life all around. As gardeners, we have a responsibility to care for the plants development and to help to maintain them to keep them strong and healthy. We spend a great deal of time making sure our plants get the right amount of water and feed to grow and we prune/dead head them to keep them in shape. These skills can help us to develop and maintain our personal relationships as we learn about caring and nurturing.

Other skills we learn are good time management and problem solving. The planting of seeds isn't just a case of 'pop it in the ground and see what happens', you need to do so under the right conditions. Seeds all have their own germination process so you need to make sure you sow them at the correct time or you'll end up losing them. You also have to consider how many to sow as you are limited to how many trays you can have in the propagator and what space you have in the greenhouse. Finally, you need to time the planting correctly because going to early could result in a loss of plants due to frost.

Not everything goes to plan as we are sometimes hit with problems. These problems could be from things like the plants being eaten by bugs or birds, or dealing with flooding after a heavy downpour of rain. The first problem is usually the easiest one to fix as we can use a bug spray, slug pellets or netting to protect the plants. Flooding is more of a challenge as you need to divert the water away safely without it impacting on other areas. So far we have adapted the gardens so it's at a lower risk of flooding, so we don't need to worry too much about heavy rain.

By having good time management and solving problems we can carry them through into our personal lives with regards to employment, as we can be confident at solving issues in the workplace and working to time constraints. The skills we learn in the gardens can be a good foundation for the rest of our lives.

The gardens isn't just a place to see flowers grow or to see apple trees in blossom. It is also a place to see life reborn as prisoners have a real purpose to change their life, to grow and to blossom into someone better.



Using the Prison Community: Gardeners, Joiners & Cooks.

HMP Dumfries is a small prison and therefore good relations and a community spirit are part of the daily routine. So over the next two pages we have perspectives from both the joiners work shed and the cookhouse. First of all the joiners. They help produce so much excellent work, not only throughout the gardens, or the prison, but the wider community as well.

The Joiners Perspective.

Securing a place in the joiners shed has been a pleasant experience. Not only did I get to make projects for the gardens and charities, I also got to teach others the skill and craftsmanship of joinery. We have made a lot of projects that have been sent to different destinations. We made all sorts of different things including; benches, chairs, tables, rabbit/chicken hutch's, rocking horses and even a Victorian street lamp! It's a great feeling we get when we see our projects going out the door as it gives us a real sense of achievement.

We are now working on planters for a charity. Some of the different planter designs that will be dotted around the prison include:

- A Tractor
- Farmyard Animals
- Horses
- Cats and Dogs
- Owls
- Elephants
- Ferris Wheels and Carousels
- A One Man Band
- Cooking Pot
- Aeroplane

We have visitors from different organisations who come to see what we do and how we do it. Most of our projects are made from recycled wood, or off cuts from the builder's yard. Anything we can't use is cut up for kindling and given to pensioners in the community.

We also take much pride in looking after our tools. Taking care to sharpen the chisels, clean the saws and planes. It is the work in the background that can actually take longer than the making of a project.



Using the Prison Community: Gardeners, Joiners & Cooks.

The Cooks Perspective.

Whatever comes from the gardens is used. Whether that is to make fresh salads or using the herbs and onions for curries, fresh produce is always best! Produce from the gardens results in better tasting meals as more of the natural goodness can be tasted in comparison to frozen processed food. Fresh produce can also be used in more varied ways. This has led to an increase in training for the cooks working at HMP Dumfries.

Currently, between 4 and 6 cooks participate in SQA Professional Studies in Hospitality & Catering.

With fresh produce being made available by the gardens, there has been an increase and variety in training when using and preparing fresh produce as opposed to frozen products.

Key to the success of the use of the fresh produce from the gardens has been the relationship established between both work parties. The gardens grow produce in stages which falls in line with demands of the kitchens. This also results in minimal wastage. The savings contribute to other catering events such as Christmas, Eid, Burns Night or one of HMP Dumfries's theme nights.

The partnership of the Kitchens and Gardens is a great example of the community of HMP Dumfries working together, to benefit everyone.



A message to the Gardeners - A poem.

Some peoples image of a garden is flowers and plenty of them.
But look beyond the flowers and you will see the effort which has been put in to digging, planting and organising.
The tools that are needed to dig, hoe and cut.
Then there is natures tools; the bee's, worms, and moles (who are disliked by most gardeners).
Not to forget the rain, wind frost and sun!
There are cant do's. "I cant dig - too frosty" and "Cant mow - too wet".
But there are also the can do's.
The tough who face the elements so we can enjoy the splendid views, even if it is only for a short time.

Cats off to the gardeners.

Cultivating Futures: 2018 Exhibition.

What's been planted?

One man band:
Petunia, Impatiens
Surrounded by:
Strawberries to the rear. **Cabbage** and **Onions** can be seen at the front.

Where is it?

To the right of the stairs as you look onto the football field.



What's been planted?

Inside the Ferris Wheel: **Petunia, Lobelia**

Where is it?

Far away on the right hand corner of the gardens, overlooking the potato fields.



Cultivating Futures: 2018 Exhibition.



What's been planted?

Inside the well: **Sweet pea, Lobelia, Gazania, Strawberries**
Surrounding Garden: **Marigold, Nolana, Geranium, Petunia, Impatiens, Coleus Convolvulus and Cavender.**

Where is it?

Far away on the right hand corner of the gardens, overlooking the potato fields.



What's been planted?

Inside the aeroplane:
Dianthus, Geranium, Impatiens, Lobelia

Where is it?:

Follow the path to the left hand side of the garden.



Cultivating Futures: 2018 Exhibition.



What's in the pond?

Types of fish: **Small and Large Rudd.**
(We also have a frog who appears from time to time)

Where is it?

Take the path to the right upon entering the gardens and the pond can't be missed on the left hand side!

Did you see?

Throughout the gardens there are:

32 apple, 2 peach and 1 pear tree!



What's been planted?

Inside the well: **Sweet pea, Lobelia, Dianthus**

Where is it?

Far away on the left hand corner of the gardens.

Surrounding Garden: **Wild flowers, Marigold, Petunia, Lopins, Geranium, Wall Flower, Impatiens, Dianthus and an assortment of bushes**



Cultivating Futures: 2018 Exhibition.

Planters in Production



Left: **Forget Me Not Flower planter.**

Look out for the completed and planted versions of the **Forget Me Not Flower** and **Cooking For Our Community Planter** at the Exhibition!

Below: **A new cooking pot and spoon for the kitchens!**



Above: **HMP Dumfries Planter**



Right: **Greg's ery own Tractor Planter.**

The Dementia Project Partnership - Forget Me Not.

The Scottish Prison Service, working alongside **Trellis** has embarked on a new and exciting community project that has created a therapeutic gardening environment for people with dementia.



After careful planning, it was decided that a purpose built pollytunnel would be built within the Garden area of HMP Dumfries. This was to enable us to support our elderly population and provide community access for those who suffer from dementia. Approximately 90,000 people have dementia in Scotland with a significant number under the age of 65. The number of people with dementia in Scotland is expected to rise to 127,000 by 2031.

So why Gardening? Having access to a garden can meet many health needs for people with dementia and their care givers, for example:

- **Physical health benefits, garden activities provide exercise, for large and small muscle groups. This maintains & improves muscle tone and hand & eye co-ordination.**
- **Opportunities for vitamin D production in skin in response to sunlight.**
- **Provides stimulation with colour, smell and sounds of wildlife. Multisensory stimulation.**
- **Opportunities to relieve tension, frustration and aggression and bring out positive mood change.**
- **Provides personal space for reflection and privacy; reminiscence opportunities for self-expression and reinforcing a sense of self.**
- **Provides different social environments: group activity reinforcing intimacy, privacy for solitude.**
- **Caring for plants may alleviate feelings of helplessness and being dependent on others for care.**

After careful planning and consultations from Trellis, the work of making this new initiative was put into action...

The Dementia Project Partnership - Forget Me Not.

The first stage of preparation, which began on the 12th February 2018, was to clear the ground for the new pollytunnel. This began with the careful dismantling of the old pollytunnel which will be recycled in the future. After the removal of some historic slabs, bricks and some unidentified objects, the digging began. For what seemed like an eternity, mountains of excess soil was removed (and then returning same soil) to create a level area.

The levelling process was a learning experience for many and was much harder than it initially looked. After some bumps, pipes, torrential rainfall and a lot of digging, the area was cleared and levelled, ready for the new pollytunnel to be put in place.



The pollytunnel carcass, measuring 24ft x 48ft, was installed by outside contractors. In the interests of fairness to the prisoners who undertook the digging, the installation work was also completed under the continual pouring of rain! This was the only part of the process which no prisoners were able to help. (Something to do with security). But the respite was welcome.

Once the skin was applied, the doors put in place and most importantly, bolted to the ground - the task of transforming the area into a workable and functioning working environment got underway. The first task was to start the slabbing. A path three slabs wide (6ft) and twenty four long (48ft) was put in place right down the middle of the tunnel so that access to either side of the tunnel was easy. As this inside work started, the weather also became conveniently dry and even warm at times!



Pollytunnel By Numbers.

- 1 built-in irrigation system has been installed.
- 1 slab measures at 600ml x 600ml.
- 1 Ton of Golden Flint stone chips
- 2 Sliding doors at either end for ease of access.
- 15 Sleepers surrounding the tunnel.
- 35 Tomato plants were the 1st to be planted.
- 65 Slabs used for the patio area.
- 72 Slabs inside the tunnel.

The Dementia Project Partnership - Forget Me Not.

The pollytunnel was designed to meet the needs of people in the prison with mobility issues and those who have dementia. Namely, being easy to use and understand. Accessible sliding doors on a newly laid path will give ease of use and are wheelchair friendly. With entry points at both ends, a journey can be taken from one to the other in a free form loop. To complement and give additional comfort. New chairs and benches have been purchased for the patio area which is situated next to main entrance to the pollytunnel. This gives opportunity not only to rest, but to admire and contemplate work achieved with a line of sight inside the pollytunnel. Most importantly, it gives a place for a good old chin wag and to enjoy some Dumfriesshire sun!



With the slabs done inside, it was time to get the patio area levelled off and slabbed. Following the same process, but taking much less time, the patio area started to take shape. Slabs were also laid at a low gradient in places to ensure there would be no requirement for steps. To complement the new look area, there was the removal of old slabs at the adjoining path to ensure a straight and level path was in place. (See below)

The project was starting to really come together. Surrounding ground and bays were planted with flowers. At the side (see right) of the pollytunnel a selection of Lobelia, Geranium, Gazania, Impatiens, Marigold, Dianthias, Coleus, Wallflower, Petunia and Convolvulus bring the area to life.



The side of the patio area and flower bays and set off by 8ft sleepers which give a nice clean finish.

The final compliment is the application of Golden Flint chips which gives an inviting ambience to the area as a whole. With an inevitable yet very slight delivery mix up delaying the installation of the final few slabs, the project is almost finished and ready for those in our care with mobility issues and the NHS Dementia Group.

Whilst all this was ongoing, the normal business of the gardens continued.
Grass still had to be cut, crops planted and weeds pulled!

The Dementia Project Partnership - Forget Me Not.

It's Finished! After 4 months and a lot of hard work, the purpose build pollytunnel is finished and ready for use. A massive effort by all involved, from planning to installation - a great sight to see it finished!



"One of the best idea's the prison has ever came up with and put into practice. An exciting and worthwhile initiative that will benefit the community and inspire prisoners"
- Prisoner



Did you know - Dementia Facts.

People with dementia are often able to remember the lyrics of old songs, even though they might struggle to recall other details of daily life. A care company has identified the 10 most popular songs among dementia patients with Eric Morcambe and Ernie Wise's "Bring me sunshine" at number one!

- 1) Bring Me Sunshine Morcambe and Wise
- 2) It's a Long Way to Tipperary -Jack Judge
- 3) You Are My Sunshine Jimmy Davis
- 4) We'll Meet Again Vera Lynn
- 5) Oh What a Beautiful Mornin' -Gordon MacRae

- 6) The White Cliffs of Dover Vera Lynn
- 7) Que Sera Sera Doris Day
- 8) Over the Rainbow Judy Garland
- 9) Singin' in the Rain Gene Kelly
- 10) My Way Frank Sinatra

The Memorial Garden.

The memorial garden has been transformed by a prisoner who previously had been a landscape gardener and stonemason by trade.

One of the most inspirational pieces added to the garden is the wooden memorial dedicated to the men and women who have lost their lives, serving in the Armed Forces. On the memorial are badges for the Army, Navy and RAF, which were painted in oil colours. Each badge took about 3-4 weeks to complete. The SPS supplied the plaque. Having never carved wood before, it was a something new for him to try whilst also doing something constructive. It took 6-8 months to make the memorial, and involved carving, painting, varnishing and positioning it in the garden.

But his work hasn't stopped there!

Everything you see in the garden is 100% recycled. The decking was made from an old hand rail and the spindles made from an old tree. The fencing along the front and side was made from old pallet wood in the joiners shed. Everything was done by hand. The recycling also extends to last years cuttings and seeds. Throughout the memorial garden is a selection of herbs that grows in amongst the plants, trees and flowers. This includes chives, thyme, green basil, celery, coriander, red and sweet basil, curry plants, dill, tarragon, parsley mint, strawberry, blueberry and sweet peas. It shows what can be achieved with a little bit of planning. The Ian Kerr (Cussie) memorial bench gives an ideal place to sit and admire this inspirational garden and the wonders its holds.



The Produce Figures for HMP Dumfries 2017.



Every year, the gardeners at HMP Dumfries prepare the ground for all sorts of different types of fruit and vegetables. Last year saw a bumper crop that was passed onto the Kitchen department for in-prison use. The crop produced in 2017 has resulted in additional amount of fresh fruit and veg to the tune of £2700.00.

This not only contributes to healthy eating for prisoners in the dinning hall, but gives a sense of self sufficiency which allows for saved funds to be spent on other things. So although it may appear nothing is to be seen in the winter months, work is constantly being undertaken in preparation for the next years crop.

The Crop of 2017

Leeks - 60kg
Potatoes - 1153.45kg
Tomatoes - 250kg
Onions - 108.10kg
Turnip - 101.95kg
Beetroot - 23.70kg
Radish - 50.41kg
Dwarf Beans - 74.80kg
Carrots - 60kg
Parsnips - 60kg
Spring Onions - 20kg
Lettuce - 1230
Cucumbers - 402
Hot Pepper / Chillies - 2534
Green / Sweet Pepper - 414
Winter Cabbage - 70
Spinach - 19 small trays
Mixed Herbs - 26 trays
Garlic - 20 bulbs
Rhubarb - 5 small trays
Chard - 5 small trays
Strawberries- 10 small trays
Raspberries - 7 small trays
Apples - 12 small trays



An update for 2018: This year over 6000 plants have planted and an estimated 6000 fruit and vegetables have been grown. New additions include melon, peas, red cabbage, brussel sprouts and kale!

The Mystery of a Garden.

In a place far far away (the far corner of the garden), a mystical and wonderful place of enchantment can be found. In other words, a wild garden!



This has been introduced by a prisoner who wanted to think outside the box. Having always held a keen interest in wildlife, the wild garden's purpose was to attract insects, birds, bees, flies and spiders! An "insect hotel" has been built and is a unique feature that will offer a place for amphibians to hunt for food or take place for shelter. A mini pond, created from an old barrel will hopefully attract local legend, Fred the frog and his friends.

So far we've seen lizards, frogs and swallows with hopefully more to come! It would be fantastic to utilise the expansive space for wildlife by bringing in such animals like hedgehogs (they could also take care of the slugs!)



A bird table has been put in place and all that is required is the feed!

The Gardens.

*As I walk around these gardens
A sea of ever-changing green,
And gaze upon the peaceful scene
Calming and serene.*

*A testament to those,
Who work so very hard each day,
To keep it all in pleasant shape,
From sunrise until the drapes.*

*Of night come creeping down
Beauty must be worked at
Does no come on her own
So marvel at the bounty
That prisoners have grown.*

A Project Unlocking Skills: Transforming the Future.

Following the successful teamwork and acknowledgement of prior learning of both staff and prisoners during the dementia project, it is clear that a long term work shed involving this kind of labouring would be a success. Officer Davie McKie, who prior to joining the SPS was a builder to trade for over 10 years, led the way in teaching new skills to prisoners throughout the project. He taught techniques for levelling the ground (chapping/tapering/screeding) all the way through to the finishing touches in slabbing.

All in all, the boys worked very well. It was slow to begin with, but as the weeks progressed, confidence increased and they took on more responsibility. They had a great attitude and were very enthusiastic.

- Officer Davie McKie

The benefits can clearly be seen and a long term shed would further enhance the grounding in all general labouring skills. This would not only improve the landscaping, feature walls and pathways in the prison, but also give additional opportunities for prisoners once liberated. Schemes involving the SQA (i.e courses in Bricklaying) and CSCS (Construction Site Certification Schemes) would give formal qualifications to the practical learning.

Prison community projects could also be given a new lease of life. There is plenty of scope to integrate other prison work sheds in a similar way to the cooperation and teamwork shown in the dementia project. There is a willingness from both prisoners and Davie. The enthusiasm about this type of work shown by all, demonstrates a passion for future opportunities.

The immediate benefits can be seen by approximately £15000 being saved in labouring costs thanks to the interest and hard work demonstrated by the gardeners.

So not only have prisoners learned new skills, but also saved money for the prison as a whole. On this very rare occasion, even the prisoners agree that Davie deserves a pay rise!

The dementia project was initially a community focused initiative. Inadvertently, it showed that the prison community, joiners and gardeners, staff and prisoners can work effectively as a team.

It was a great example of the collective use of previous skill to improve the prison environment and opportunities.



Your Gardening Questions Answered!

Q: Lupins are covered in horrible grey insects - help!

A: This is called lupin aphid, a truly dreadful pest. There is no easy way to control these aphides and spraying while plants are in flower is harmful to flying insects. The bad news is that lupin aphid remains on the host plant throughout the winter, so I'm afraid the only real solution is to dig up and destroy affected plants.

Q: Is there a plant that repels midges?

A: Oil from Eucalyptus citriodora "Lemon Bush" is used in the production of citronella candles. Plants can be difficult to get hold of but seed is readily available. Bring indoors during the winter and replant outside the following spring.

Q: Has your Ajuga disappeared - where has it gone?

A: A mix of hot weather and scoring sun is the most probable cause. Ajuga does best with some shade and while it doesn't like to be permanently wet, it should also not be allowed to dry out.

Q: What makes Rhododendron flower buds turn brown and not open?

A: This is a fungal disease called bud blast, spread by leafhopper insects as they lay eggs near the buds.

Spray with bug killer in late summer when the insects are active.

Q: You've planted peach coloured foxgloves, but now I've only got purple ones - what's gone wrong?

A: The cultivated foxgloves have crossed with the wild variety. If you want to keep one colour theme, remove all purple foxgloves and plant a fresh selection of your chosen varieties.

Top Gardening Tips.

Place saucers beneath houseplants, fill with gravel and keep moist to help irrigate plants during hot weather.

Split up supermarket herbs and repot into fresh compost for bigger stronger plants.

Remove strong-growing invasive weeds from cracks in the walls and paths before the roots can do damage to the masonry.

Keep watering camellias throughout the summer as next years flower buds will soon start to form.



*With thanks to
everyone who made this
booklet possible.*

*The Poets
The Artists
The Joiners
The Writers
The Shed Staff
The Learning Centre
and
The Gardeners.*