

Moseley, still in Bloom

There is lots of planting going on at the moment, thanks to wonderful volunteers. We can expect to see a brighter, cleaner, greener Moseley over the next few weeks. A little rain was also welcome although the cooler temperatures may have slowed down growth temporarily.

The Dovecote

The boxes on the railings outside the Dovecote are normally planted and maintained by our colleagues from Birmingham City Council but, as with the village displays, it is not possible this year. However, the keen team at the Dovecote tried to make sure they would not be left out, although all did not go according to plan, as Helen Minovi explains:

If I have realised anything over the last two months, it is that we should not take anything for granted. Year after year, Moseley village has been festooned with gorgeous, colourful hanging baskets, but this time, a very different time, they are not going to appear. The other thing I have been reminded of is the strength of team work. The last Sunday morning in May saw effective cooperation and collaboration in action. The Dovecote gardening

team set about planting up the four troughs on the railings outside the Dovecote garden. We had advice and support from Moseley in Bloom, who were also hard at work, planting up floral displays. Simon from Gifts and Gardens helped to put the liners and compost into the boxes. We opted for simple arrangements of mainly lavenders and pelargoniums. They

tend to be less thirsty than some other bedding plants. We intend to add other plants - nasturtiums for example, later. Keeping the displays watered is a challenge but the troughs have reservoirs and again, team work between us will hopefully do the trick.



There was good news when we heard that Miriam, the warden at Dowells Close had offered the use of their tap to fill watering cans to water the Dovecote planters.

However, there are sometimes setbacks and on 8 June, Helen Minovi sent the following message:

Sorry to report that the plants from two of the four troughs outside the Dovecote have been stolen. I noticed the troughs were empty when I drove past this morning. I stopped and had a closer look. The plants in the two troughs nearer the Village pub still have their compost, but there are holes where the plants were. So theft, rather than vandalism. The other two troughs, at the moment, are still intact and looking lovely. As far as I can tell, all the other displays are ok.

I've only just told the other Dovecote gardeners about this so we do not have a plan B yet, but we will. We can only try, can't we?



Following this message, Kerry Jenkins said that she would try to get replacements for these plants. Peter Leadbetter offered to remove the graffiti. We don't give up!

More good news

Izzy Knowles always has her ear to the ground and knows what is going on in Moseley. She observed that the planters at the Elizabeth of York pub have been emptied of the dead plants and she heard that they will soon have new ones put in.

Unwanted pavement weeds just add to a general air of neglect and Izzy was very pleased to see a man from Kier Highways on a quad bike spraying weeds in the village. This shows that things are slowly improving and Moseley is beginning to look tidy and cared for again.

Stoney Lane

Planters on Stoney Lane had been very neglected and although one had been cleared by local people, more work was needed. With the opportunity to have plants from the Cofton Nurseries collection, Izzy, with Amy Maclean and her sons, decided to take this on. The rubbish was cleared, new compost was brought and bright bedding plants were put in. What a difference it makes! The shop keepers and passers-by love them and have agreed to water and care for the plants. A great success!



St Mary's Row/Wake Green Road planters

Now we know that the man with the wheelbarrow, buying plants at Gifts and Gardens last week, had a plan. The planters on the green verge on Wake Green Road were looking a little worse for wear and one of them had been damaged by the mowing contractors. Wheelbarrow Man has now restored and replanted them with the new plants and they look great again. Thank you Trevor!



Birmingham City Centre

If anyone ventures into the centre of Birmingham, you may notice the fabulous floral tribute to the NHS by Birmingham City Council Parks and Nurseries by the Council House. Normally, BCC would have a high profile at Chelsea Flower Show - and would probably win a Gold medal (they often do). This year, they have turned the display into one that recognises our present situation, highlighting the NHS. If you have seen their displays in recent years, you may also see some familiar aspects



- ever resourceful, parts have been recycled. We are so lucky to have such talented gardeners in the City.

Small Ads

Last chance to buy!

Our pop up plant sale will be on Sunday 14 June from 2-4pm at 20 Greenend Road. This will be an opportunity to donate any surplus plants and acquire some you may still need. Please label your plants. Voluntary donations will be welcome and, of course, social distancing rules will apply. For further information contact Carol Miller doctorcarolmiller@gmail.com