

## Notes from a Volunteer Gardener April 2018- Oct. 2018

April. The month started with cold, water-logged ground. Weeding was carried out in the sun dial borders & Harry Eatough's Rose Garden. Cornus pruning continued & the Community Garden was prepared for planting. Prior to Green Flag judging litter was picked & the main drive & St. Hilda's Tce. borders weeded. Bins & boards were cleaned. Regular checking of climbers started, rose beds weeded & main gates corner tidied. Edging of the main drive was carried out. Museum borders weeded.

May. Cool, windy and wet to start the month, followed by a heatwave. St. Hilda's Terrace border was weeded, & the rose beds weeded & edged. Main drive & Jurassic Garden were weeded. Climbers tied in regularly & work continued in the Community Garden. Bedding & bulbs were removed from the bank top display, the bulbs to be reused elsewhere. Bagdale fernery was tidied & weeded.

June. Twin rockeries were tidied, sedum Chelsea Chopped & Museum borders weeded. Watering of new planting carried out. The Rose Garden was weeded & edged off, climbers checked & Community Garden beds tidied. The pond was topped up after a long dry spell. Watering of new planting was carried out.

July. With Yorkshire in Bloom judging pending extra sessions were worked preparing the route which looked superb despite scorched lawns due to the extreme weather. Watering continued throughout the month, climbers checked, Jurassic Garden weeded & dead fern foliage removed. Herbaceous planting was checked & cut back where necessary, hollyhocks staked. Dead-heading of roses continued. St. Hilda's Terrace border weeded & tidied. Community Garden managed.

August. Herbaceous planting was kept looking smart, wisteria pruned, climbers checked & watering continued. The Lily Pool was weeded & the area swept. All roses were regularly dead-headed, weeded & edged off.

September. Work continued apace keeping on top of 'gone over' herbaceous planting. No let up in the watering either. Climbers checked & tied in. The wildlife pond has been managed across the summer. Community Garden tidied & crops harvested. Commemorative Garden tidied. Lavandula pruned. The main gates corner was weeded & phormium groomed. Floral Clock bedding was pulled & the area edged off.

October. Jurassic Garden weeded & tidied, watering continued & climbing roses pruned. Herbaceous planting tidied & phormium maintenance continued. Main drive & Museum borders weeded. The half moons were weeded & leaves raked off herbaceous planting. The bank top bedding was cleared & the beds edged off. Lily Pool area swept. A new volunteer has been recruited this month. As always thanks to the SBC team for their continuing support.

Vol. gardening hours for this year:1087, & since 2005:17,851.

