Catch-Up Newsletter



by **Henry Farman (Communications Volunteer)**

Hello,

The last few months have been challenging for all of us, and we would like to start this newsletter by saying a huge thank you to all our supporters that have given so much to our cause lately. We would like to thank all our volunteers that have worked so hard tending to the allotments, as well as those that have so kindly funded our work here at Nurture Through Nature. Without the unwavering generosity of all the people that support us, we would not be able to do the work we do – thank you.

We have made this newsletter to catch everyone up on what we have been doing so far this year, and to inform on what we will be doing in the near future. We are very excited about

our future plans given that lockdown will soon be over and hope to be back to normal very soon.

This newsletter includes:

- January – April Catch Up
- FareShare Collaboration
- Future Plans

Best wishes,

The Nurture Through Nature team.

About Us

For those who aren't yet familiar with us, here are a few words on what we do.

Nurture Through Nature is a small charity with a specific mission – to provide food banks local to Brighton with fresh vegetables. We work with Unemployed Centre Families Project and the Brighton & Hove City Mission food bank to help provide a varied diet to those in need. We have three allotments at the Moulsecoomb allotments where we are based, and also collect surplus produce from other growers, adding to the donation and reducing food waste.



January - April Catch-Up

The end of lockdown is in sight! We can't wait to get back to normal, it seems like it's been forever since we had a full team of volunteers working on our allotments. Recently we have only been able to have two volunteers in isolated groups, working incredibly hard to get the growing done over the winter months. Now we are able to have small groups working on the allotments together, and it has been great to get back to something far closer to normality.

We have also made a brand-new wind and rain shelter this year to allow people to be socially distanced while also being protected by the elements. As this becomes less necessary in the future, it will be used as a potting shed.. This gives us even more opportunities to grow fresh produce.

As you may know, we run a scheme at the Moulsecoomb Allotments where any fresh produce our fellow growers may have can be offered to Nurture Through Nature to pass on to the food banks we work with. We were recently given the opportunity to promote this scheme at the recent plot committee meeting. Hopefully this will get us even more generous donations than we already have.



FareShare Sussex Collaboration

We are very excited to announce that we are collaborating with FareShare Sussex to help deliver our fresh produce to those in food poverty. We are expanding, with a new allotment in our care and planting already started. All the food grown here will be delivered by FareShare's electric cargo bike, meaning this new opportunity will add very little to our carbon footprint.



While clearing the allotment ready to start our FareShare collaboration we happened to find a bath... instead of wasting it we decided to repurpose it as a polytunnel irrigation system! It collects water from the tunnel then waters seedlings via a timer. Genius!

Here are some words from Mark, the Fundraising and Communications Manager from Fareshare Sussex...

"We are looking forward to the growing year ahead and are excited to see the produce as it leaves the land. When it is ready, we will be collecting the food in our brand new refrigerated electric cargo bike - look out for it as it weaves its way around Brighton and Hove delivering food to our projects that support people in food poverty."

Thank you, Mark. We are looking forward to working with everyone at Fareshare and can't wait to see the amazing impact it will surely have on Nurture Through Nature.



Future Plans

We are very much aware of the unfortunate reality that there will still be people needing food banks for some time to come, and we will continue to work hard to provide as much as we can for those in need.

Having larger volunteer groups will hopefully continue as time goes on, but we have learned over the past year that nothing is certain, and are taking things one step at a time - something I'm sure many can relate to.

All of us here at Nurture Through Nature remain hopeful about the future, we hope that you all continue to join us in our fight against adversity. None of this would be possible without the amazing support we find all around us...

Thank you.

READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE

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