



MOSELEY IN BLOOM / MAR 2023

# the blooming news



Welcome to the Moseley in Bloom's Newsletter. It might feel like winter but Spring is definitely on its way. With the changing weather, particularly the cold snap, it's really hard to know when to begin some of the bigger jobs waiting to be completed in our gardens. Do let us know what you have planned for your garden and any other horticultural projects you hear about. Please do send us news, photographs or information about events to come to [doctorcarolmiller@gmail.com](mailto:doctorcarolmiller@gmail.com). We saw some great images on Twitter of snowy scenes across Moseley so please do tag us in [@moseleyinbloom](https://twitter.com/moseleyinbloom). We look forward to hearing from you, Carol Miller and Kerry Jenkins, Joint Editors.

## What a difference three weeks make!

Carol went away for three weeks and came back to see Spring - or so she thought!

"Daffodils and crocuses were out, green shoots were appearing and my friend had frogspawn on her pond. Then, less than two weeks later - snow! Our weather certainly keeps us guessing and even though we are itching to get into the garden, it is difficult to know when to start the serious work. Let's wait a little while longer. The RHS is predicting a Spring of beautiful blossom, following last Summer's heatwave and the cold February. These are apparently perfect conditions for bud formation. The flowering period may be later but longer than usual. We shall see! There is evidence that Spring is coming to Moseley. The little daffodils that MiB volunteers planted several years ago have faithfully appeared round the Green again and on St Mary's Row, the planters are looking bright with spring flowers. Thanks to Trevor Hocking for looking after these. As soon as possible we will go out and tidy some of our other planting projects and we will consider how we can brighten up Moseley still further." (Thanks to Jenny Brewer for the photos).



## RHS New Shoots initiative

Do you know any secondary school students who might be interested in a career in horticulture?

The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) is aiming to increase diversity and tackle the skills shortage in horticulture by raising the profile of careers available and by encouraging learners from all backgrounds into horticulture. For more information go to: <https://www.rhs.org.uk/education-learning>. RHS also offer work experience opportunities at a number of their gardens, and you can find out more by visiting their website.



Photo credit: Royal Horticultural Society



Find Moseley in Bloom on Facebook and Twitter - [@moseleyinbloom](https://twitter.com/moseleyinbloom) and on Instagram - [@moseley\\_in\\_bloom](https://www.instagram.com/moseley_in_bloom) and more information is available on our website at <https://www.moseleyinbloom.org.uk/>

## Moseley Village Station Adoption

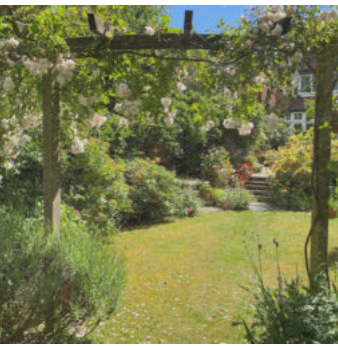
On 15 March, along with two other members of Moseley groups, Carol attended the West Midlands Transport Volunteer Forum, 2023 on behalf of Moseley in Bloom. The focus for the event was the engagement of people in railways stations and lines. This of course, is highly relevant to Moseley residents in view of the anticipated opening of the station at the end of the year. It's not just about growing plants on a station! We learned that on the 'Shakespeare Line', each one of the 18 stations from Stratford upon Avon to Moor Street has volunteers engaged in activities that enhance facilities, provide information about their local area, bring disused buildings into use, including, at Henley, introducing a micro brewery to the station. As a result, passenger safety and confidence are enhanced and train travel is increased. Adoption is beginning at Small Heath station where passengers and passers-by are told, on an attractive poster, that they are just four minutes from the city centre if they take the train. An important effect of the adoption is already being felt in that anti-social behaviour has reduced by 55%. Attendees also heard of many examples of the successes of volunteer adoption of stations and we agreed this is something to seriously consider for Moseley. A number of bodies have money available for volunteers and West Midlands Rail Executive is currently preparing a Community Toolkit to help groups in their efforts. All of this will become part of the discussion in Moseley groups as we decide how we can become involved in our local station over the coming months. Watch this space.



## Open Gardens 25 June 2023

At Moseley in Bloom we are already preparing for this year's Open Gardens event and would like to invite you to open your garden on **Sunday 25 June**. We are looking for a range of gardens spread throughout Moseley, large or small, manicured or more wild in their approach, child friendly or a haven for adult chilling. Previous openers have really enjoyed the atmosphere of this special day in the Moseley calendar, sharing their gardens and horticultural experience with our enthusiastic visitors. Could you open this year?

You can find more details and an application form on the MiB website - <https://moseleyinbloom.org.uk/open-gardens-2023/> as well as on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/moseleyinbloom>. All applications must be received by **Friday 31 March**. We look forward to hearing from you, Kate Stocks, Chair MiB Open Gardens Committee



## And the winners are!

Brilliant news from our friends at the Moseley Farmers Market. They have been named Best Farmers Market in the UK by the Farm Retail Association. This is the fourth time they have won this award. Additional congratulations also go to the Market's founder, David Isgrove, who received a Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his 23 years supporting the Moseley community. Many congratulations from us all. We are very proud to know them!



Photo credit : Farm Retail Association

## A sad farewell

Here at MiB, we are really sorry to see the closure of Clean Kilo in Moseley and wish Tom and Jeanette the very best of luck with their other ventures. Their shop in Bournville continues to challenge the food system and its overpackaged supply chain by selling without packaging.

