

WIGAN BOROUGH IN BLOOM

GROW WILD COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING 2018

Have you got a ridiculously exciting idea for a project that brings people together through activities that help connect their community and celebrate UK native wild flowers, plants and/or fungi?

Grow Wild is awarding funding of £2,000 or £4,000 to groups and projects that:

- Stand out from the crowd: listen to your beneficiaries – be creative together, try something new that reaches new audiences.
- Focus on UK native wild flowers, plants and/or fungi, highlighting the importance of these species for the environment, and for quality of life.
- Will engage one or more of these groups:
 - o Young people aged 12-18
 - o Students and young people aged 18-25
 - o People living in urban areas
 - o People experiencing hardship and reduced access to services
 - o Adults that are less engaged with their community and environmental activities
- Will encourage large scale community involvement, ideally in the hundreds!
- Will deliver the project in a space or location that is accessible to the general public i.e. is not in a restricted or controlled area

You are eligible to apply if you are a voluntary, youth or community group, which is constituted, not-for-profit or charitable. In particular:

- o Youth groups
- o Secondary schools
- o Parish, town and community councils
- o Health authorities, health boards and prisons

- A group that is able to deliver and be financially responsible for a community project.

A group that holds a bank account in the name of their group and can show evidence of this to Grow Wild.

How to apply: visit www.growwilduk.com/content/community-project-funding-2018

You will need to contact your local Grow Wild Engagement Manager to discuss your proposal and request the online application form. For northern England this is Ben Fisher: b.fisher@kew.org Deadline: **Monday 15th January 2018, 12 noon**

COMMUNITY TREES FUND

The Tree Council is the UK's lead charity for trees and works in partnership with communities, organisations and Government to make trees matter to everyone. The Community Trees Fund,

which forms part of the Council's annual Community Action Programme, opened for applications on 4th December 2017 with new guidance notes and application forms.

The programme funds trees of appropriate species, size and numbers. Groups may apply for the costs up to four fruit trees on semi-vigorous, vigorous and very vigorous rootstocks.

The Tree Council reviews its eligibility criteria every year and the criteria for last year (listed below) may be different when the fund re-opens on 4th December:

Applications must be made on behalf of a community group which must be a charity/not for profit organisation.

Children under the age of 16 years must be actively involved in the planting process.

Planting must take place on publicly accessible land, usually in public or charity ownership.

The community group must be able to raise 25% of planting costs.

Planting must take place during National Tree Week (or as soon as possible afterwards).

Hedge plants, willow and retrospective costs will not be funded.

Applications will be accepted from 4th December 2017 to 31 March 2018.

<http://www.treecouncil.org.uk/grants/community-trees>

SURVEY SEEKS TO RESEARCH VALUE OF URBAN GREEN SPACES TO OLDER PEOPLE

Multi-disciplinary research project, Green Infrastructure and the Health and wellbeing Influences on an Ageing population (GHIA), is running a survey that seeks to capture arts practice specifically engaged with issues of ecology, biodiversity, geographies and uses of green (nature) and blue (water) spaces. The project aims to better understand the benefits and values of urban green spaces to older people and how these spaces can be an important part of healthy ageing in urban areas.

GHIA members include The University of Manchester, the University of Salford and Manchester Metropolitan University. Funded by the Natural Environment Research Council, the Arts and Humanities Research Council and the Economic and Social Research Council under the Valuing Nature programme.

Findings from the survey will form part of the written outputs of the project and will inform future research. All data will be anonymised prior to publication. Click on the link to complete the survey questionnaire.

<https://apps.mhs.manchester.ac.uk/surveys/TakeSurvey.aspx?PageNumber=1&SurveyID=94223115&Preview=true>

NEW ALLOTMENTS IN LEIGH

Wigan Council has developed a new allotment site to the rear of Laxey Crescent in Leigh. It's known as Bickershaw Allotments.

Please feel free to circulate this email to your contacts. If anyone has any queries, or they would like a plot, they can register their interest by contacting clm@wigan.gov.uk

The sizes range from 125m² – 250m² and the costs are £28-£56 per year

FRIENDS OF THREE SISTERS

Have a work morning on the second Sunday of each month, meeting at 10 am in the car park. Any amount of time would be appreciated. If you are not a gardener but would like to learn the group can offer help and advice and practical experience: visit www.friendsof3sisters.org.uk

GOLBORNE IN BLOOM

Golborne in Bloom is welcoming volunteers.

They meet regularly in a bid to get the area looking its best

More details from www.facebook.com/GolborneinBloom

BOROUGH IN BLOOM

This opportunity is offered to:

- Individuals
- Schools
- Businesses
- Community groups

In Bloom allows you to get involved all year round involvement in :

- General cleanliness: litter picking; fly posting and graffiti removal, wash street names plates and traffic signage
- Install In Bloom planters and plants
- Plant up floral beds and landscaping areas with summer blooms (annuals)
- Plant salad, vegetable and herbs (part of 'incredible edible' planting)
- Early weed control treatments
- Remove moss growth from street furniture

For further details and to volunteer go to

<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/The-Deal/Volunteering>

STANDISH IN BLOOM/INCREDIBLE STANDISH

Standish in Bloom/Incredible Standish has a working party that meets every Monday at 4.30pm near the Three Dishes close to the Market Cross in Standish. We tidy the planted areas, weed and sweep street sides and edges, plant flowers, vegetables and herbs and paint the seats around the village, plus lots of other jobs. The first Monday of every month Standish in Bloom/Incredible Standish meet at 6 pm in The Globe Inn Standish.

For more information contact Tony Jones: Anthony-jones52@sky.com

'FRIENDS OF' GROUPS

'Friends of Groups' are local community-based volunteers, who need your help to keep our parks and green spaces maintained for the enjoyment of all.

There are 17 groups across the borough that does things like:

- Fundraising and grant applications
- Nature conservation
- Horticulture
- Clean ups and painting
- Health walks
- Events

<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/The-Deal/Volunteering>

THE FRIENDS OF HAIGH WOODLAND PARK ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS...

We are a group of like-minded people who came together a few years ago to breathe new life into a much loved area of Wigan which was beginning to look very tired and neglected. Over the last few years we have renovated the original crazy golf course and staff it entirely by volunteers; our aim is to open every weekend and school holidays from Easter until the end of October.

The park has been transformed over the last couple of years and, if you would like to be a part of that, why not come and join us and help us to play a part in continuing this transformation. Although we have a wide range of talent and skills, anyone wishing to join us would be most welcome as we are always looking for new ventures. Contact Cora on 01257 422377

GARDENING HELP

Gardening help is needed to help keep the Haigh Hall Walled Kitchen Garden looking its best.

The garden is open Monday's and Thursdays throughout the year and volunteers may attend as often and for as long as they wish. No gardening knowledge and experience is needed. Produce and plants are made available to the volunteers for a donation to funds which helps to pay for seeds and equipment. For more details email haighwalledgarden@virginmedia.com

APPLEY BRIDGE IN BLOOM

There is an exciting new project at Forest Fold in Appley Bridge which we are calling Edible Appley Bridge. 10 new fruit trees were planted at the beginning of April to form a mini-orchard, and 5 raised beds were installed on the 16th May. We shall be inviting school and uniform groups to get going, growing vegetables, herbs and soft fruits with us which will be made available to local residents when ready.

Any offers of help - regardless of level of ability - from local residents will be welcomed. If you would like more information or to make arrangements to visit, please contact Eileen at brileen.longmore@blueyonder.co.uk or look at our Facebook, Twitter or Community Book pages

SHEVINGTON IN BLOOM

Need more help to maintain the beds and planters to the existing high standard which is for the benefit of everyone in the village. New volunteers can do as much or as little as they like; an hour a week for a few months of the year would greatly help this organisation to continue.

If you are able to help ring 01257 401997 or email shevingtoninbloom@yahoo.com