

## DR BIKE RETURNS!

Dr Bike is back at the Greening Wingrove Bike Garden in Nuns Moor Park.

Free health checks for your bike, and basic repairs, are being offered by the Trusted Bikes CIC in partnership with Greening Wingrove & Arthur's Hill. The Dr Bike sessions began at the start of September and are very popular.

Further sessions take place on the following Saturdays: 19th and 26th September and 3rd October, all between 10.00 am- 6.00 pm.

It's hoped to arrange more sessions that we'll advertise, but to book an appointment, contact [drbikeappointments@gmail.com](mailto:drbikeappointments@gmail.com) or TEXT: DR BIKE INFO to 07385 634825.

The Bike Garden is at the Western edge of Nuns Moor Park - just follow the paths to beyond the tennis courts.



## LET A THOUSAND NORTHUMBERLAND FLOWERS BLOOM

Our free wildflower seeds are back again.

Last year, we gave out lots of Northumberland wild flower seeds and the feedback was very positive. We've now been up to Kevin Waugh's remote North Northumberland farm for another batch of seeds.

There's Yellow Rattle, Ox-eye Daisy, Meadow Buttercup, Red Clover and more. The flowers are ideal for supporting pollinators such as insects, and the insects attract House Martins, Swifts and Bats that visit our part of Newcastle.

The seeds are ideal for sowing in small spaces.

If you would like some seeds, do contact us via [gw.bikegarden@gmail.com](mailto:gw.bikegarden@gmail.com)



## THE BIKE GARDEN - BIG PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The Greening Wingrove & Arthur's Hill Bike Garden, in Nuns Moor Park, is a lovely space. But we want it to be used much more and open to the public more often.

Sadly, Covid scuppered our plans for this year's summer. But we've been able to host a Best Summer Ever playscheme with North East Wellbeing Ltd., and now Dr Bike is also offering cycle maintenance sessions.

**Coming through Covid, it's vital that we put safety at the forefront of whatever we do.**

And thanks to support from the National Lottery Heritage Fund we're now able to plan for the future. So, over the early autumn, we'll be doing a few new things:

- Assisting the litter picking and Friends of Nuns Moor Park groups, and others, to resume their activities.
- Restocking our supply of litter picking equipment, sanitisers, face masks and other items.
- Developing a new business plan to build on the Bike Garden's success as a venue for gardening, meetings, visits, a cycle training, repair and riding hub, children's and family parties, wildlife observations, adult education, clubs, festivals, and maybe even looking at opportunities for music and poetry.



The Bike Garden. Photo by Gerry Hunwick

- But we also want the Garden to remain a quiet place just to sit or wander around.
- Producing two newsletters (this is one of them!) to let everyone know what the Garden and Greening Wingrove & Arthur's Hill can provide.

Do get in touch if you wish to know more, or would like to be involved in some way. You'll be made very welcome.

And if you'd like to know about hiring the Bike Garden, please contact: [gw.bikegarden@gmail.com](mailto:gw.bikegarden@gmail.com)



Supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

## KEEP IN TOUCH

Greening Wingrove & Arthur's Hill is on social media.

It's a way of keeping up to date with what we do, as well as seeing what people are talking about locally when it comes to the environment.

Our website is on [www.greeningwingrove.org.uk](http://www.greeningwingrove.org.uk)

And we manage the following Facebook pages:

- The Greening Wingrove Bike Garden
- Friends of Nuns Moor Park
- Greening Wingrove Action on Litter

## WELCOME TO GREENING WINGROVE & ARTHUR'S HILL

**We hope that you find this newsletter interesting. Any resident over the age of 16 years can join Greening Wingrove CIC.**

We're also looking for three more people to join our Board. The CIC Board is voluntary, meets once a month, and shapes the direction taken by the CIC. It's a friendly group. If you'd like to know more, do let us know.

If you would like to know more about who we are and what we do, or would like to be involved, please get in touch by e-mailing [gw.bikegarden@gmail.com](mailto:gw.bikegarden@gmail.com) or calling 0191 273 6418.



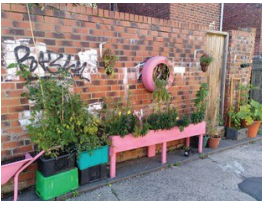
# GREENING WINGROVE & ARTHUR'S HILL NEWSROUND

## RECLAIM THE BACK LANES

Back lanes are feature of our area but not always a beautiful one!

Now some residents are 'reclaiming the back lanes' to make them less grime ridden and vulnerable to fly tipping and mess. It's an approach that's worked elsewhere, but needs a lot of patience. Here are couple of local initiatives from the Arthur's Hill terraces:

Greening Wingrove & Arthur's Hill is keen to help others to start reclaiming the lanes, and welcomes a plan by Simonburn Avenue residents to go for it on a bigger scale. They've also offered to share their experience with other streets once they've made progress.



## ANOTHER GREAT SEASON FOR VERTICAL VEG

Despite Covid lockdown, our long running vertical veg growing programme had a successful summer.

The on-street sessions were moved on-line with lots of local participation (and also someone who called in from Texas to talk about moles in their yard!). Several people kindly made donations to the sessions that helped to buy water butts for new gardens. Over 134 free 'grow your own seeds' starter kits were given away with fast growing seeds including raddish, rocket and pea shoots. Locked down children loved them!

We're grateful to the Co-op's Local Causes scheme and the generosity of the Newcastle Round Table for making all this possible.



## GREENING WINGROVE WILD WEST END PROJECT

### Swifts Saved!

Wild West End volunteers played a critical role in protecting Swift nests in the Queensway/Royal Crescent/Linum Place housing estate this summer. Your Homes Newcastle were re-roofing homes in this area while Swifts were nesting. After campaigning from Wild West End and Save Newcastle Wildlife, YHN stopped work until the Swifts had finished nesting. YHN and Wild West End are now working together to ensure that the Swifts will have nest sites in this estate and YHN's other properties across the city for many years to come. Swifts are amazing birds and fly all the way from Southern Africa each year to nest here in Newcastle!

### Go Batty!

Help Wild West End find bats. We have bat detectors to loan out for 10 days at a time. These turn the bats echo location calls into sounds that humans can hear so you can find the bats in your garden or local green space. Email [wildwestend@greeningwingrove.org.uk](mailto:wildwestend@greeningwingrove.org.uk)

### Help our Hedgehogs

In the autumn hedgehogs will be searching for places to hibernate and to find enough food to see them through winter. Make a log pile and store fallen autumn leaves in a quiet corner of your garden or allotment to make a natural nesting and feeding place for them. You can also give them cat or dog food to help get them fat enough to survive winter.

If you see a hedgehog, alive or squashed, please let Wild West End know, so we can build a picture of where they are living.

*Wild West End is Supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.*

## MUTUAL AID

Greening Wingrove & Arthur's Hill has been glad to support the Arthur's Hill and Wingrove Mutual Aid groups during Covid.

We've been able to help with the costs of leaflets, as well as providing tables and seed kits for Freecycle events. Mutual Aid has done a terrific job helping local residents with food, emergency money and other support. And who would have thought it'd be possible to turn disused phone boxes into community larders!

If anyone would like to donate to local Mutual Aid, there's a Solidarity Fund via: <https://opencollective.com/arthurs-hill-solidarity-fund>

## SUPPORT GREENING WINGROVE & ARTHUR'S HILL AS YOU SHOP

We're in the Co-op's Local Causes funding scheme until 24th October. If you are a Co-op member you can donate your community rebate from buying Co-op own brand food to Greening Wingrove. It goes to fund our vertical veg growing programmes. So far, Co-op members have raised over £700 for us. Our nearest Co-op shops are Cedar Road, Market Street and Newcastle University Students' Union.

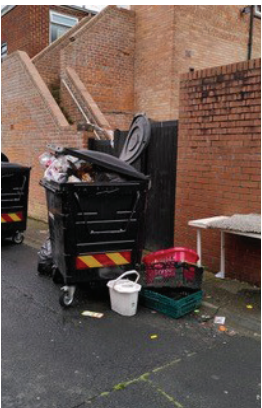
For more details visit: <https://greeningwingrove.org.uk/support-us/>



## BINS, BINS, BINS

Back lane bins and fly tipping have been a real issue over the summer. As a response, Greening Wingrove & Arthur's Hill CIC has written to the City Council urging a meeting with residents to sort out problems with rubbish, bins and recycling.

We said that 'the appalling litter and rubbish problem in our terraces, and the limited access that our residents have for re-cycling' needs urgent attention. We've argued before that a form of neighbourhood management, bringing together enforcement and improved systems for bins, refuse and recycling, and actively involving residents, is key to getting on top of the problems.



## BURGER KING OBJECTION

We've also objected to the scheme to turn the ex-Police Station on Westgate Road into a Burger King. Our comments on the developer's planning application said we're not in favour of 'poor quality proposals which would have a negative effect on the health of local residents, and present traffic problems. The West Road is a centre for small businesses serving a local catchment and should not be opened up to predatory developments, which give nothing back to the local community.'

There's more on our website: [www.greeningwingrove.org.uk](http://www.greeningwingrove.org.uk)