

North Hull Community Rainbow Gardens



Newsletter January 2022

Happy New Year!

As we enter 2022, we'd like to invite you to look back with us on what we achieved together in 2021.

- ▶ Although we began the year with restrictions imposed due to COVID-19, Emma and Brenda continued to stay in touch with members of our community who couldn't come to the garden in person. They were on hand by phone, by text, and via social media.
- ▶ Then we were able to reopen our gates in March. And wow, we certainly made the most of the next 10 months!





Thank you to all our volunteers and service users

From March-December 2021, we welcomed **18 regular volunteers and service users**, attending sessions at the garden for a collective total of **736.5 attendee-hours**.

These amazing people help us to maintain not only the garden, but also the little plot we manage at the entrance to Levisham Close (pictured on the right). They get involved in litter picks and many other activities. They are the beating heart of the Rainbow Gardens; the reason we are all here and the engine that keeps us going.

Allotments and more

Nine plot holders came in to maintain their allotments over the 10 months from March-December, sometimes with family members. This amounted to a total of **239.5 attendee-hours**. Many of our plot holders also volunteer their time elsewhere in the garden, forming a vital part of our community.

In addition, we supported work experience and an internship in cooperation with Northcott School. We also hosted 2 sessions with R & R Day Service for Adults Living with Learning Disabilities.





Getting Crafty

Last year we were able to restart our popular women's group, holding sessions for 10 members who attended for a total of 63 attendee-hours.

We also launched a messy play session for under 5s, attended by 6 different children and 4 adults.

AND we held a hugely successful series of June half term and summer holiday activities. Our 18 Summer Craft sessions were attended by 60 different children and 38 adult carers.

Special Events

Last summer, we held a summer celebration event, marking the incredible achievements of our founder, Jeannie Webster. Now retired from her position as chair of the board of trustees, Jeannie continues to inspire and support us to continue her work in our community.

In the autumn we had a well-attended Halloween crafting event, followed by 2 litter picks at Oppy Wood, in preparation a remembrance day service held by Rev David Walker.

And in winter we had our our annual Christmas crafting event, where we made table decorations and wreaths from garden foliage and willow. Thanks to St Mikes for hosting us.





Awards

We were showered with awards in 2021! We received the Green Flag Community Award for the 9th consecutive year, while 2 of our amazing volunteers (Valerie Shaftoe and Paul Young) were shortlisted for Green Flag Volunteer of the Year Awards and our own Brenda Elm was shortlisted for the Employee of the Year Award.

We won an award for Excellence in Community from RHS Britain in Bloom Yorkshire.

And we were shortlisted for a Charity Governance Award in the Improving Impact category.



Do you have any comments on what we do, or ideas about things you would like to see us do? Would you like to volunteer yourself, or discuss making a referral from your organisation?

We'd love to hear from you!

Contact us via our website

(<https://rainbowgardenhull.wordpress.com/contact/>)

or by telephone on 07862 025831 or 07915 972168.

You can also email us at

hullrainbowgarden@outlook.com or follow us on

Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/rainbowgardenhull>



A big thank you
to our funders.
We couldn't do
it without you!



Look out for our next newsletter in April 2022