

Growing the Future

Growing the Future (GTF) is a new pilot project jointly funded from the Welsh Government and The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development under the Knowledge Transfer Scheme until January 2015.

It has been established to offer informal courses to people across Wales to look at the feasibility and effectiveness of creating and using a number of hubs around Wales to deliver horticultural training and get people 'growing their own.'

The expectation is that the training will include growing vegetables, herbs, fruit, and salad crops. It may also extend to testing the scope for beekeeping as well as rearing small livestock linked with food growing, such as chickens.

GTF aims to devise, pilot and implement a range of training courses in partnership with local hubs across Wales with the hope that this approach will enable people to access training close to their homes. Our thinking is that easier access to training might mean more people 'get growing.'

It is an exciting time for us – our websites are now live www.tyfurdyfodol.co.uk and www.growingthefuture.co and we have started to deliver courses both here at the Garden as well as at some hubs.

As part of the third sector, we are aware of the value of working with third sector organisations across Wales. As a result, I am writing to ask if there is a possibility of telling your membership about our project in case there are some potential local hubs we can work with.

In addition, if possible, can we also spread the word about our project to the local population if you have a newsletter or information you send out?

Please see below some examples of courses we are putting on here at the Garden in the next few months. Our aim is to offer more training across Wales so whether someone is a fledgling grower or a seasoned gardener, there will be a course close to home to suit.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you need any further information. We are also happy to provide a pre-written article if you would prefer for any future newsletters.

Below is a list of our upcoming courses based here at the National Botanic Garden of Wales:

Date Time Courses

9th Feb 2013 10:30 - 14:00 Fruit Hedge Planting
14th Feb 2013 10:30 - 14:00 Fruit Hedge Planting
21st Feb 2013 10:30 - 14:30 Successful Food Growing
23rd Feb 2013 10:00 – 16:30 Forest Gardening
24th Feb 2013 10:00 – 16:30 Forest Gardening
27th Feb 2013 10.30 - 12.30 Seed Selection
28th Feb 2013 10:30 - 14:45 Undercover Growing
2nd Mar 2013 10:00 – 16:30 Forest Gardening

3rd Mar 2013 10:00 – 16:30 Forest Gardening
7th Mar 2013 10:30 - 14:30 Successful Food Growing
8th Mar 2013 10:30 - 13:30 Plan your Plot
9th Mar 2013 10:30 - 13:30 Plan your Plot
15th Mar 2013 10:30 - 14:45 Undercover Growing
22nd Mar 2013 10.30 - 15.00 A year in the Polytunnel
23rd Mar 2013 10.30 - 15:00 A year in the Polytunnel
9th May 2013 10.00 - 12.00 Herbs for Beginners
9th May 2013 13:00 - 15:00 Herbs for Beginners
8th Jun 2013 10:30 - 13:30 Extend your growing season
13th Jun 2013 10:30 - 13:30 Extend your growing season