



# VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2022

## WELCOME TO THE HILL HOUSE VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER!

The garden is continuing to produce many wonderful fruits and vegetables. The apple trees have produced a fantastic crop, along with the figs and raspberries. The apples have been particularly good this year. We have some cider vinegar on the go and Caroline is hoping to be able to send some of the apples to one of the Gloucester hotels or to the drop-ins in Bristol. We have a good crop of courgettes, runner beans, onions and spinach in the vegetable patch. Jean has sowed and planted out radishes, and the potatoes are growing. In the house, Mike has stripped the old peeling wallpaper in the music room and replaced it with new paper. Thanks again to everyone who has been busy working hard around the house and garden this month.

Outside of the house, Gloucestershire funders have met to discuss our grant application - we'll hear the outcome by early October, so we will hopefully be able to begin recruitment for a development worker.

### HILL HOUSE NEWS



#### Bell Tents

Amadou, our friend from Bristol took down the Bell tents with Caroline ahead of the winter. He has been working hard keeping the grass mowed all summer, and has given it a final mow before going to visit his mother in the Ivory Coast. Amadou has been helping at the house for a number of years, helping to keep things up together in the garden. He is an absolute star and we couldn't manage without him.

#### Days out from GARAS

At the beginning of the month we had a lovely morning with one guest from GARAS, walking, picking blackberries and making apple and blackberry crumble. We have now had the review with GARAS and have decided to move to once a month for the rest of the year. Bud is putting a leaflet together to advertise these sessions to potential users in houses and hotels in Gloucester as well as GARAS. The next days out will be the first Tuesdays of October, November and December. We will be walking or based at the house depending on the weather. Please could you let Caroline know if you are interested in joining any of those dates.



#### Stroud Together with Refugees

Earlier this month, some of our volunteers attended a 'Not In Our Name' vigil in Stroud to protest against government plans to deport people seeking asylum to Rwanda. Around 70 people attended, and it was part of a national day of action. If anyone would like to be on the campaign group email list for information about events and actions please write to:

[enquirySDTWR@googlegroups.com](mailto:enquirySDTWR@googlegroups.com)

The next meeting is on October 4th at Star Anise cafe, Stroud.



#### Toilet news!

On the 18th, Caroline visited Black Mountains College in Wales where she learnt how to make a composting toilet. She had a lovely, and informative time and we are going to install one on the slope on the way down to the bottom field.



#### Ukrainian Information evening

On the 6th October there is a meeting at Stroud Brewery for people to find out more about the situation for Ukrainians who have come here fleeing war. It should be an informative evening, if you would like to attend, please book on their website.



### DATES FOR THE DIARY

The next volunteer Mondays are:  
3rd and 17th October



The next GARAS walk is on October 4th - Please contact Caroline if you would like to be involved.