



ENJOY VEGETABLE GROWING

RACHEL FOSTER
PATRICK'S PATCH

FAIRWEATHER'S





PATRICK'S PATCH

- Open every day
- Free to enter
- Educating adults and children
- Providing produce for Steff's Kitchen





The volunteer team





Potting Shed Club



Robin's trail

Robin is writing Christmas Cards for his friends, but he needs your help.

Look at the fact boards around Patrick's Patch, to find out where Robin's friends will be for Christmas.



Take your completed list to the Garden Centre, where there's a magic post box and a treat.



	Robin's Friends	Home	Hibernating	Migrated
1	Hedgehog			
2	Swift			
3	Buff-tailed Bumble Bee			
4	Blackbird			
5	Painted Lady			
6	Honey Bee			
7	Blue Tit			
8	Lady Bird			
9	Earth Worm			
10	Wood Pigeon			

Beaulieu Show 2021



Beaulieu Show 2022



Wildlife surveys birds



Wildlife surveys - bees

Bumblebee Conservation Trust

UK Bumblebees

The UK currently has 24 species of bumblebee with 22 illustrated as the White-tailed includes three identical species. Sadly, bumblebees are in decline – two species not shown here are now extinct.

Common bumblebees

The Big 8 bumblebees
will make up the vast majority of what you see

Ginger-tailed bumblebees	Green-haired carder bee (<i>Bombus hortorum</i>) Rare southern species. Not seen since 1904.	Small carder bee (<i>Bombus agrorum</i>) Very rare southern species. Not seen since 1904.
Common carder bee (<i>Bombus pratorum</i>) Very common everywhere. Usually stays here on edge of woodland.	Mass carder bee (<i>Bombus lucorum</i>) Rare across the south.	Great yellow bumblebee (<i>Bombus lucorum</i>) Very rare southern species.
Red-tailed bumblebee (<i>Bombus agrorum</i>) Common.	Silvery bumblebee (<i>Bombus lucorum</i>) Rare across the south.	Field cuckoo bee (<i>Bombus lucorum</i>) Whispered. Makes many cuckoo bees. The male forms a nest.
Early bumblebee (<i>Bombus pratorum</i>) Rare across the south. Not seen since 1904.	Red-tailed cuckoo bee (<i>Bombus lucorum</i>) Southern species. Makes many cuckoo bees. Not seen since 1904.	Red-shanked carder bee (<i>Bombus lucorum</i>) Rare southern species. Not seen since 1904.
Bull-tailed bumblebee (<i>Bombus lucorum</i>) Very common.	Broken-bellied bumblebee (<i>Bombus lucorum</i>) Darkening on the sides. Not seen since 1904.	Oxygaster cuckoo bee (<i>Bombus lucorum</i>) Whispered. Makes many cuckoo bees.
Garden bumblebee (<i>Bombus hortorum</i>) Common. Very long tongue and hair.	Rural bumblebee (<i>Bombus lucorum</i>) Rare across the south. Very long legs and long tongue. Makes many cuckoo bees. Variable colour.	Southern cuckoo bee (<i>Bombus lucorum</i>) Whispered. Makes many cuckoo bees.
Tree bumblebee (<i>Bombus lucorum</i>) Common. 100% survival from France spreading north.	Barbed's cuckoo bee (<i>Bombus lucorum</i>) Whispered. Makes many cuckoo bees.	Forest cuckoo bee (<i>Bombus lucorum</i>) Whispered. Makes many cuckoo bees.
White-tailed bumblebee (<i>Bombus lucorum</i>) Very common. Includes three species: the White-tailed, the Heath and the Common.	Heath bumblebee (<i>Bombus lucorum</i>) Whispered. Makes many cuckoo bees.	

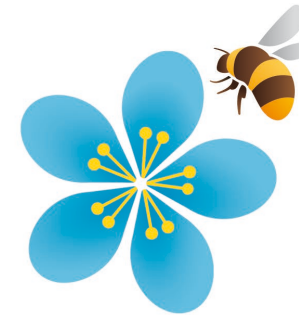
Illustrations not to scale.

Distinctions for 'Cuckoo, male or female?'
Look at the hind legs. Female cuckoos have a shiny black pollen basket (marked by long hairs). Males have 'long pronounced' 'hairs', longer antennae, and no stinging. Cuckoos have no pollen baskets and darker wings.

www.bumblebeeconservation.org

Follow us on:

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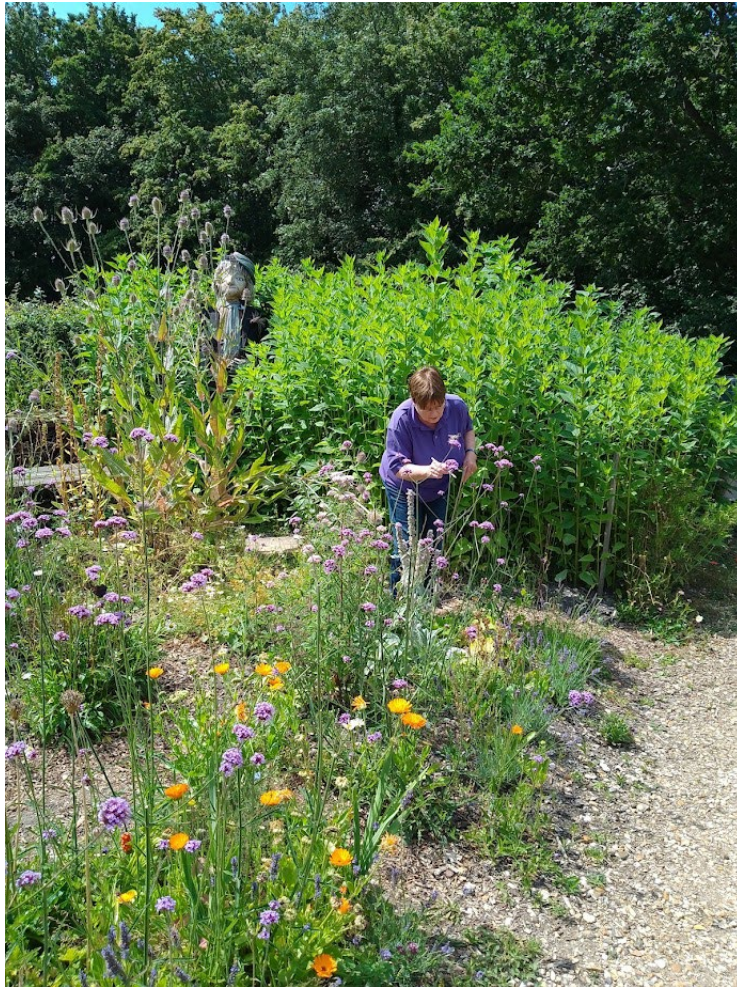
Bumblebee Conservation Trust

Wildlife surveys - butterflies



Butterfly Conservation's

BIG BUTTERFLY COUNT

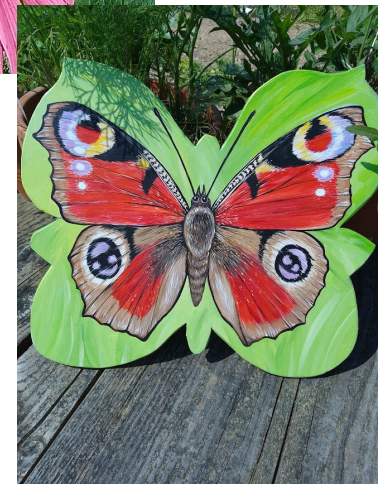
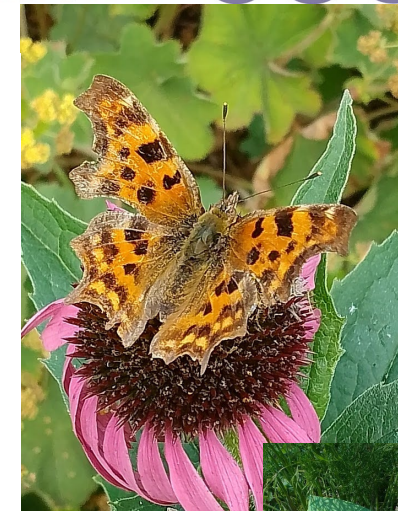


BIG BUTTERFLY COUNT
16 JULY - 8 AUGUST 2021

Spend 15 minutes in a sunny spot. Use this chart to note how many of each species you see. Then submit your sightings at www.bigbutterflycount.org or download our free app



Large White <input type="checkbox"/>	Small White <input type="checkbox"/>	Green Veined White <input type="checkbox"/>	Common Blue <input type="checkbox"/>	Holly Blue <input type="checkbox"/>
Small Copper <input type="checkbox"/>	Speckled Wood <input type="checkbox"/>	Meadow Brown <input type="checkbox"/>	Ringlet <input type="checkbox"/>	Scotch Argus <input type="checkbox"/>
Comma <input type="checkbox"/>	Painted Lady <input type="checkbox"/>	Peacock <input type="checkbox"/>	Red Admiral <input type="checkbox"/>	Small Tortoiseshell <input type="checkbox"/>
Silver Y <input type="checkbox"/>	Six-spot Burnet <input type="checkbox"/>			



Don't forget to join us online with [#ButterflyCount](https://twitter.com/ButterflyCount)



Males and females of some species vary and are not all illustrated on this chart. Please refer to the Big Butterfly Count app or website for more information on how to identify butterflies and moths correctly.

INVITE NATURE TO HELP YOU ON YOUR PLOT

- MORE DIVERSITY WILL PROVIDE A BETTER BALANCE OF PESTS AND PREDATORS
- A VARIETY FLOWERS WILL BRING IN MORE POLLINATORS
- CONSIDERATION FOR ORGANISMS LIVING IN THE SOIL WILL GIVE A MORE FERTILE SOIL
- RECYCLCLE ORGANIC MATERIAL ON SITE
- ENJOY THE DIFFERENT LIFE FORMS



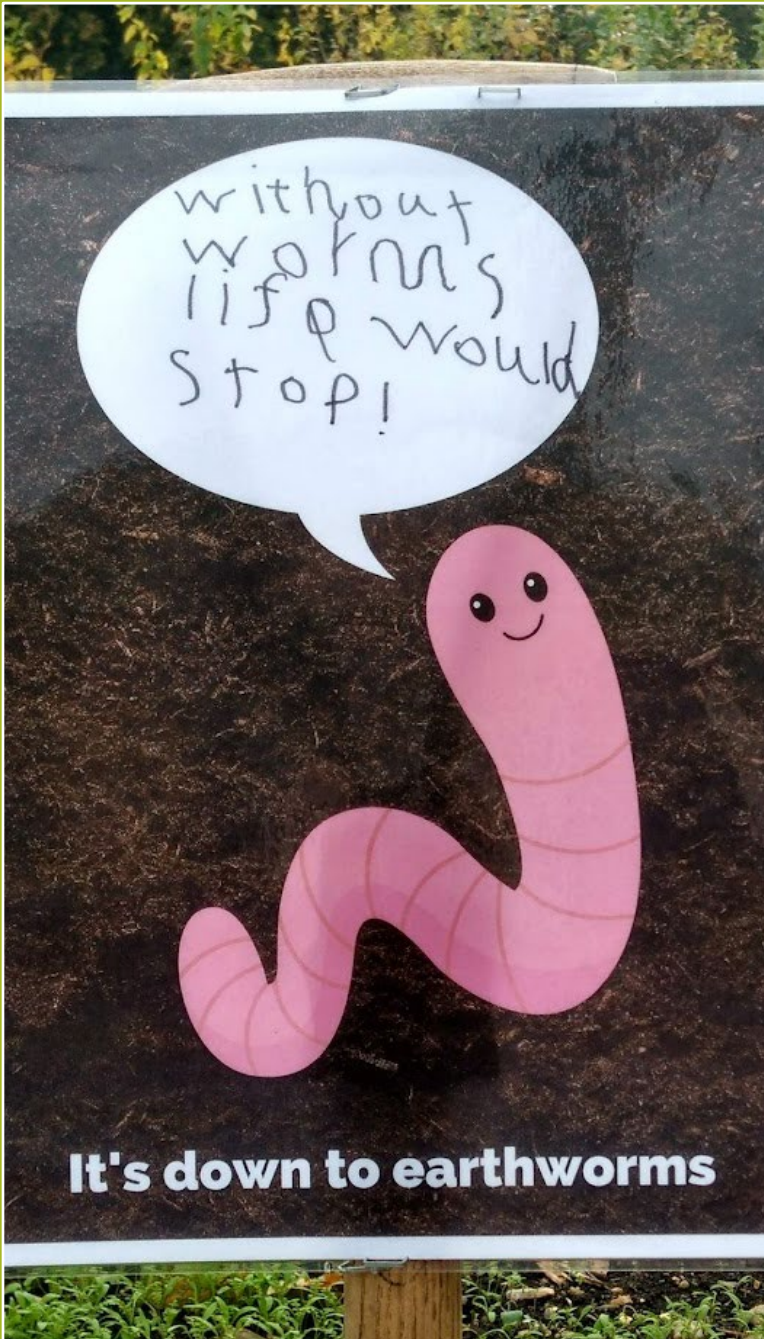
Making our butterfly garden in 2023





Hoverfly lagoons





Soil comes first

Ingredients of good soil:

Air

Water

Minerals / rocks

Microbes

Invertebrates

Decomposers

Composting



The richest compost is made by maintaining a 10:1 Carbon : Nitrogen ratio, this proportion means less nitrogen is lost as ammonia.

In reality, this ratio looks like **2 PARTS GREEN MATERIAL TO 1 PART BROWN MATERIAL**

Green material – fresh garden material

Brown material – straw, wood, cardboard



No dig



Green manures



Comfrey – use leaves as a mulch or make a comfrey tea liquid feed



Dilute the collected liquid at a rate of one part comfrey to 10 parts water – the darker it is, the more you'll need to dilute it. Use the solution as a potassium-rich liquid fertiliser to encourage flowers and fruit set.

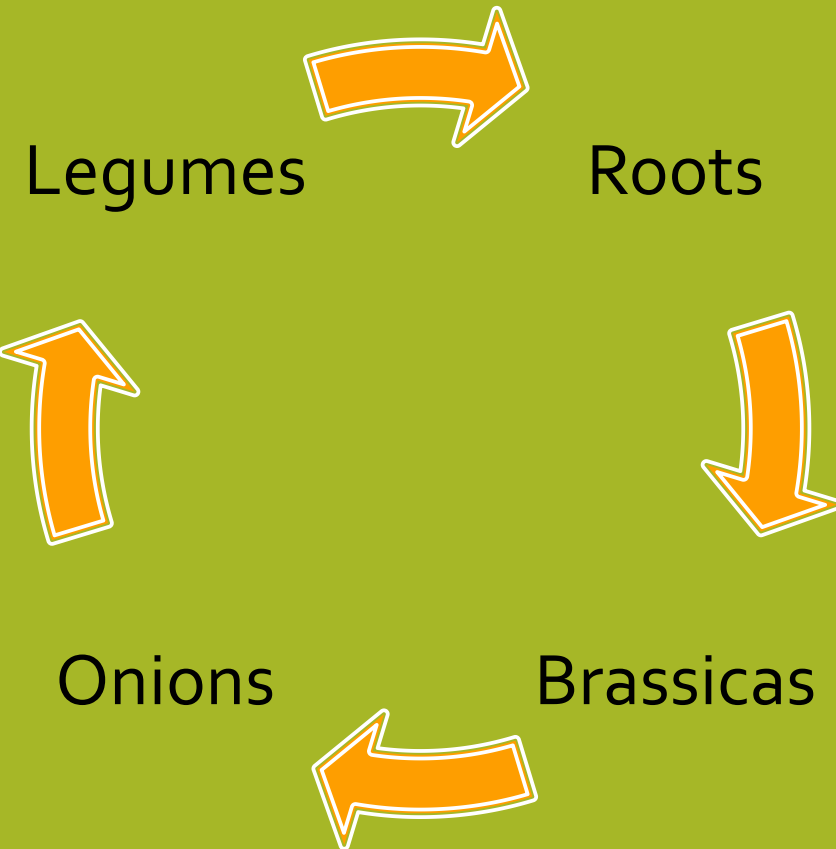


DRAW A PLAN

THINK ABOUT

- CROP ROTATION
- CROP MATURATION TIME
- SOIL TREATMENTS
- STRUCTURES

SIMPLE CROP ROTATION



GET PREPARED



Gather seeds



Salad leaves	Mustard	ruby and gold streaks	mizuna			jan
Salad leaves		Rocket				jan
Salad leaves		all the year round				jan
Salad leaves		endive bianca				jan
OTHER	Agretti					feb
salad leaves		amaze				feb
legumes	Beans	Fava				Feb
LEGUMES		broad bean				Feb
ONION		Cebolla				Feb
BRASSICA		Cabbage	Greyhound			Feb
BRASSICA	Kale	Red russian	ruble			feb
Salad leaves	Landcress					feb
ONION	leeks	Winter Giant				feb
HERB	Parsley	Giant of naples				Feb
OTHER	Radish	Kulata Cema				Feb
ONION	shallots	Golden Gourmet				feb
Salad leaves	Mustard	ruby and gold streaks	mizuna			feb
Salad leaves		Rocket				feb
OTHER	Aubergine	Famers Long				mar
HERB	good King Henry					mar
Onion	Leek	Clarsman				mar
legumes	Pea shoots					mar
LEGUMES	Peas	Carlin				Mar
ROOTS	Potato	early				mar
OTHER	Radish	Kulata Cema				Mar
OTHER	Radish	gaudry				mar
ONION	salad	north holland Blood Red				mar
OTHER	spinach	Emilia F1				mar
OTHER	spinach	Missouri				mar
BEEF	Spinach Beet					mar
HERBS	thyme etc					mar
OTHER	tomato	Crimson Crush				mar
OTHER	tomato	Koralk				mar
ROOTS	Celeriac					Mar
Salad leaves	lettuce	little gem	amaze			mar
Salad leaves	lettuce	Catolagna Verde		Navara		mar
Salad leaves	lettuce	Green and red salad bowl	Biju	Cancan		mar
Salad leaves	Mustard	ruby and gold streaks	mizuna			mar
Salad leaves		Rocket				mar
LEGUMES	broad bean	Kamazyn				mar
ROOTS	Carrots	for Winter				mar
BEEF	CHARD	rhubarb				mar
BEEF	chard	bright light mix				mar
OTHER	Chili					mar
BRASSICA	Kohi Rabi	white Vienna		purple vienna		mar
LEGUMES	pea mange tout	oregon sugar pod				mar
OTHER	Peppers	Romano mixed				mar
Salad leaves	Perilla					mar
SALADLEAF	Wild Rocket					mar
OTHER	Radish	gaudry				apr
ONION	salad	north holland Blood Red				apr
BEEF	beetroot	bolhardy	golden	Egitto Miglorata		apr
BRASSICA	Cabbage	Red Primero				apr
BRASSICA	Broccoli	early purple				apr
BRASSICA	Cabbage	Offenham 2				apr
ROOTS	carrot	Paris market				apr
HERB	Coriander					apr

HALF-SEASON VEGETABLES – 3 TO 4 MONTHS TO MATURITY



Early crops		Late crops	Very late crops	
Sow February	Sow March	Sow April/May	sow June	Sow July/August
Harvest May/June	Harvest June/July	Harvest August/September	Harvest October/November	Harvest October/November
broadbeans	Early beetroot	French beans	French beans	Red Russian kale
Kohl rabi	Early potatoes	courgettes	Florence fennel	Florence fennel
Spinach	Spring onions	cucumbers	Winter carrots	spinach
shallots	Mange-tout peas	squash	Kohl rabi swede	Winter radish
		sweetcorn	Late beetroot	
		carrots		

Early crops

Sow February

Sow March

**Harvest
May/June**

**Harvest
June/July**

broadbeans

Early beetroot

Kohl rabi

Early potatoes

Spinach

Spring onions

shallots

Mange-tout
peas



Late crops

Sow April/May

Harvest
August/September

French beans

courgettes

cucumbers

squash

sweetcorn

carrots



Sweetcorn



Courgettes

Late crops

Sow April/May

Harvest
August/September

French beans

courgettes

cucumbers

squash

sweetcorn

carrots



Borlotti beans/ storing beans



Outdoor cucumbers



Very late crops

sow June

Sow July/August

Harvest
October/November

Harvest
October/November

French beans

Red Russian kale

Florence fennel

Florence fennel

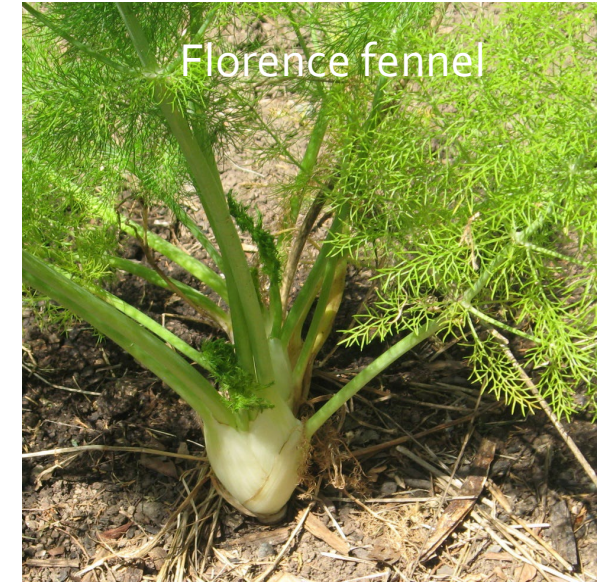
Winter carrots

spinach

Kohl rabi
swede

Winter radish

Late beetroot



LONG CROPS – OVER 6 MONTHS MATURITY



CHARD



Sow in March and again in early June.

Usually crops right through until following April.

CELERIAC



Sow in March in cold greenhouse.
Grow on in modules.
Plant out in May
Harvest in Autumn

LEEKS



Sow Feb-April in deep pots in cold greenhouse.

Plant out with dibber in May.

Harvest Autumn and winter



KALE

- Sow in May in seed trays, prick out and grow in pots
- Plant out in July
- Put cabbage root fly prevention collars around Base of plants, earth up and possibly stake.
- Crop from Autumn to spring



LEAFY SALAD CROPS

FAIRWEATHER'S

SPRING MIX





Extra flavour



Edible flowers - spring



Chive

Pansy (hearts ease)– *Viola tricolor*

Tulbaghia violacea

Rocket and mizuna flowers

Golden marjoram leaves

Summer mix



Red Salad bowl

Green Salad Bowl

Cancan

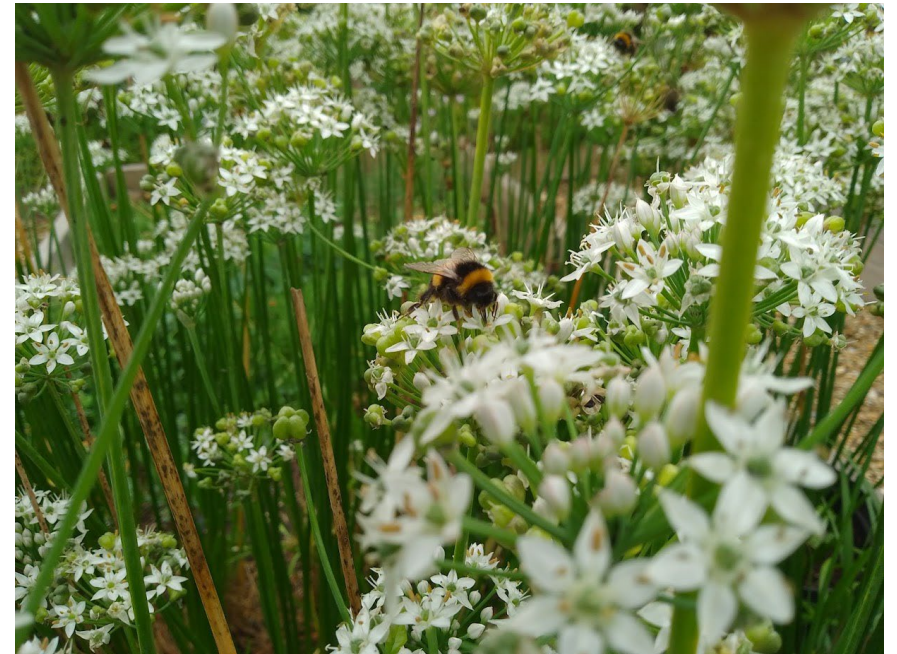
Oak leaf (red)

Bijou

Edible flowers -summer



Garlic chives
Dill flowers
Coriander flowers
Thyme flowers
Borage
Calendula officinalis
Daylilies
Nasturtium



Autumn leaves



Mizuna

Rocket

Red and green mustard

Raddichio

Endive (self blanching)

ENDIVE AND RADDICCHIO



Chicory 'Rossa di Treviso'



- Sow June/July
- Frost hardy
- Pick outer leaves





SEED SOWING TECHNIQUES

FAIRWEATHER'S

Sow in trays



Propagaters



Prick out into modules and grow on



Harden-off and plant out



Direct sowing

Ground needs more preparation

Conditions need to be right

Susceptible to slugs

Need thinning

Better established root systems

Quicker

Don't need greenhouse





CROP PROTECTION

KEY TAKE AWAY POINTS

PLAN AHEAD

GROW WHAT YOU
WANT TO EAT

GROW WHAT YOU
HAVE TIME TO
ACHIEVE

DON'T SOW TOO
DEEPLY

CROP FAILURES
ARE NORMAL

ENJOY AND
UNDERSTAND
THE WILDLIFE ON
YOUR PATCH

Successful Gardening with Rachel



Wed 7th Feb

5 - 6 pm

Held in Steff's Kitchen
£10

Growing Vegetables

Top tips for successful vegetable growing, for gardeners of all skill levels. Small presentation with refreshments. 10% off shopping afterwards. Book online.

Sat 16th Mar

10.30 - 11.30am

Held in Patrick's Patch
Free

Composting Masterclass

Learn how composting happens and how to make your own garden compost and leaf mould. This will be a hands-dirty session. Only 10 spaces available. To book email lisa@fairweathers.co.uk

www.fairweathers.co.uk

Events

Join me to kick start your vegetable growing year!

Wed 7th Feb – a short talk followed by a Q&A's.
10% off shopping afterwards.

Sat 16th Mar – You will get your hands dirty!
Leaving with all the knowledge needed for
Successful composting.

THANK YOU!

And now question time



FAIRWEATHER'S