



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service



February
2025

It might seem that the gardeners were going in different directions from this picture but in fact they were all working happily together! After a wet weekend Monday 6th



January was remarkably bright if cold and the gardeners were tackling the edge borders which sometimes get less attention than the herbaceous

and rose beds. Pruning and cutting g back will let more light in and removing the sodden carpet of leaves will let the bulbs come up.

All work parties are 9.30-11.30am	Please bring your own gloves, tools and green bags
Tuesday 11th February	Town Garden, Potager and Old Mill
Wednesday 19th February	Rodmoor Gardens
Saturday 22nd February	Orchard, Boat Roundabout and Scouts' Beds
Thursday 27th February	Albert Road
Monday 3rd March	Rodmoor Gardens – rose pruning
Tuesday 11th March	Town Garden, Potager and Old Mill
Wednesday 19th March	Rodmoor Gardens
Sunday 23rd March	Jubilee Park
Thursday 27th March	Station Road



A reminder that we are still collecting tools for TWAM. Please email Portishead_in_Bloom@outlook.com if you have any items on the list to donate. The full list can be found on the TWAM website:

https://www.twam.uk/donatetools?gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KQCQiA4fi7BhC5ARIsAEV1YiZ4GNOGjpfOS_bpl_uR2tRMdySCXwj-vSSVQWCPdQNgF-kzZQGIUYf0aAgWXEAL

Join us in Café Lido from 10am on Thursday 20th February for a coffee and a preview of our 2025 plans – hope to see you there!





The following day four gardeners met in the Nuttery to continue the annual work of coppicing - this is an ancient system of woodland management. Trees are cut close to the ground on a regular cycle. More of the trees in the Nuttery will, be coppiced next year. As always we are grateful to North Somerset Council, their contractor Glendale and in particular Pete who comes to collect the large and woody waste our gardeners produce.



On Sunday 12th January the gardeners were out very early to avoid the traffic at the Boat Roundabout where they weeded and tidied. At the same time more volunteer gardeners were pruning in the orchard – our DoE

volunteers benefitted from a master class in how to do this properly – and reinstating the cleared areas around the trees. The Scouts' Beds on the corner of Wyndham Way were also weeded and tidied.

PIB has just obtained the land owner's permission to undertake some improvement work on an area which had become a bit of an eyesore behind the Old Mill. Over the next few months we will be clearing the space and planting some ground cover.





The herb bed on the Town Garden is getting a



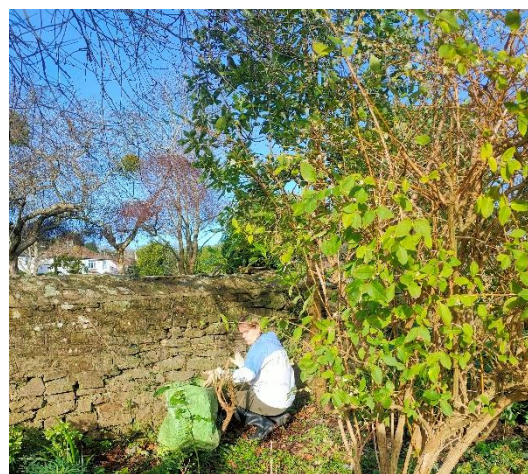
make-over – removing some of the spreading herbs and adding slate mulch which will help keep the soil damp in dry periods. It's very much work in progress....



As well as starting these two big projects some of the volunteer gardeners were dispersed around the town on 14th January, weeding and tidying the beds on Wyndham Way and outside the Parish Wharf Leisure Centre. It's amazing how much there is to do in January if the town is to look its best in the Summer. We always welcome new volunteer gardeners – no expertise required! Just come and join us at any of the work parties – we will be delighted to see you and we are a very friendly bunch!



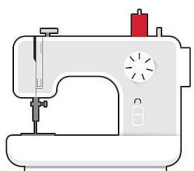
In Rodmoor Gardens on 22nd January the gardeners cut back some more of the bottom border, moved leaves and weeded the lower beds. Malcom edged and dug over the tree pits in the Nuttery and Bill got off to a good start with the dead hedge. It's amazing to see the roses still blooming...



The morning of 25th January was unexpectedly clear, bright and dry after the previous wet day which encouraged ten keen gardeners to work in Millenium Garden. The borders there are particularly deep and we haven't given them much attention for a while. A number of self set saplings were removed and there was a lot of pruning, weeding and general tidying up done – the composting area was pretty full when we finished. Some attention was also given to removing the ivy which damages the surrounding stone walls – a fiddly job but much needed.



The final work party in what has seemed a very long month was on 30th in Jubilee Park. It was another bright clear day and there were many harbingers of Spring to be seen – lots of snowdrops and cyclamens....



Our valiant flag makers are appealing for more people to join their group. You

would help make and maintain the bright flags which adorn the High Street each summer so some sewing skills are needed. For more information or to volunteer please email us at [portishead in bloom@outlook.com](mailto:portishead_in_bloom@outlook.com) (note underline required between words)

