

## Thyme to Share

Bath Mind  
September 2018



A wet spring combined with the dry summer has proven challenging for our volunteers to maintain the garden. However, some wonderful and dedicated volunteers, who live nearby, helped us to keep the site watered during the very hot weather.

A flurry of activity when the weather was on our side meant that produce is plentiful. Participants took part in basic horticultural workshops and cooking workshops and were able to do some well needed maintenance work on the shed and polytunnel. Greenlinks Monksdale are now 'growing to order' for Food for Thought and have extended the growing season by making much needed improvements to the polytunnel, thanks to funding from the Naturesave Trust.

*"The food was fantastic. It was of a remarkable standard. It reminded me of the food we used to have when I attended receptions at the British Embassy in Washington".*



Access from bottom to top of the allotment for people who have poor mobility has been improved by the addition of steps and a handrail.



The University of Bath admin team from the Faculty of Social Sciences came on site for an away day and worked really hard on a baking hot day to tackle a number of jobs.

The site has been visited by the Bath in Bloom judges and we await the results.

Eco Accolades for the Greenlinks Projects include: 13 different varieties of vegetables now grown on site, (up from 9) as well as 9 varieties of fruit. 8 BBQS were held this year on site for clients with 80% food cooked on site also grown on site. 90% of people attending Greenlinks use public transport or walk to site. Wildlife spotted on site has recently included: Mr resident badger, mice, voles, squirrels, a heron, woodpeckers, slow worms.

*“I suffer with chronic depression and recently found the Greenlinks Project. This group has been a lifeline for me. It gives me a focus during the week and I enjoy the interaction with other people. It is helping with my recovery. Recently I have not been very well again and just coming to the garden, relaxing and having a cup of tea has been key to my recovery again. I love being part of everything and being able to take some vegetables home.”*



Greenlinks continue to provide a place of haven and inspiration to people who are facing mental health challenges and has now also increased productivity substantially. Funding from The Naturesave Trust has helped us catalyst our ambitions to join up our two social enterprises, making a vital connection in our supply chain.

Thank you very much and we will keep you informed of how the project progresses.