

Nurture Our Nature – Pollinator Garden

About the Garden

This site was funded from the National Lottery Local Places for Nature Fund, Llandrindod Wells Town Council, Powys County Council and Welsh Government and was created in 2021.

Its purpose is to bring nature and people together in an area of tranquillity that uses all the senses whilst at the same time giving a relaxed feel.

95% of the old garden has been recycled one way or another, with the rubble being used as drainage for the large raised bed.

The design is in a Celtic style with pathways intertwining to enable people to move around with ease.

The path was laid on recycled rubble and the second layer was formed from recycled rubber.

The surrounding shrubs are being left to grow naturally with decaying tree trunks and twigs to act as a haven for "mini beasts" (insects and bugs.)

Silver Birch trees are sited to give various birds a chance to perch. Also in the back corner, beds have plants such as Lavatera and various herbaceous perennials to give a changing of the seasons feel.

Lilac and Buddleia will be added to create smell and structure and food for the various bees, butterflies and other mini beasts.

An array of bulbs will help demonstrate the change in seasons.

The inner circle contains scented and edible plants also used for sight and touch, such as tall grasses, lavenders, roses, rosemary and bay.



Two seater benches have been placed within the garden, some have wheelchair and stroller access at the sides.

The centre raised bed is designed with families in mind, where people can sit on either side and the local children can plant their own plants in the centre.

Wherever possible, plants and materials have been locally sourced including the arched entrance, and all old materials have been recycled as part of our commitment to climate change.

Bird and bat boxes were constructed from recycled wood by the Llandrindod Mens Shed.

Top Tip! To help bees, plant bee-friendly flowers for all seasons

- Spring flowers**
Flowering Currant, Comfrey, Crocus.
- Early Summer flowers**
Allium, Aquilegia, Borage, Campanula, Catmint, Cranesbill, Globe thistle, Poppy, Rosemary, Thyme, Viburnum, Foxglove
- Late Summer flowers**
Cosmos, Echinacea, Honeysuckle, Lavender, Marjoram, Sea Holly, Sedum, Teasel, Verbena.



SENSES AND PLANTING



Smell – Our noses notice strong and delicate smells such as flowers in bloom, cut grass or food cooking.

Our sense of smell is linked to the part of our brain that deals with emotions associating memories to smells.



Lavender



Rose



Lilac

The sensory garden promotes inclusion and accessibility, engaging the senses and encouraging exploration, curiosity and learning whilst enjoying the outdoors. The planting in the garden heightens all the senses. Smell, sound, touch, sight and taste.

There are scented herbs, furry leaved plants, rustling grasses.

This garden will continue to grow and improve as time progresses with new additions in the future.



Touch – Your fingers are the most sensitive part of your body with 100 touch receptors on each fingertip!

When you touch the stone walls or the ivy on the oak carved benches, messages are sent to your brain about what it feels like. Is it hard, soft, smooth, rough, cold or warm?



Blue Pulmeria



Silver Birch leaf



Sight – this is an important sense, we use our eyes to see colours, shapes, patterns, movement and work out distance, this information is processed by our brain and stored as memories. Notice the changes to the garden over the seasons. **Can you see any wildlife in the garden?**



Peacock Butterfly



Sedum spectabile 'Brilliant'



Male Blackbird



Cherry Blossom



Sounds travel through the air, water or objects and reaches our ears. Our brain processes what noises we hear all the time and works out which are new or important.

Can you hear a buzzing bee, birds singing or the wind blowing through the trees?



Bee



Robin



Autumn leaves



Taste – Herbs are used for flavouring cooking. Plants such as apples and blackberries are grown to eat but you must remain cautious about unidentified edible plants. The plants in the sensory garden provide food and nectar for birds, butterflies, insects, and small mammals.

How many can you spot today?



Common Blue



Rosemary



Blackberries



Centipede

Wildlife - The sensory garden has been designed to encourage wildlife, pollen rich plants that provide winter berries and shelter have been included in the design and the back of the garden has been purpose fully left to nature, providing a wildlife corridor through to the woodland.

Nurture Our Nature Garden - To encourage and protect birds, pollinators and mini beasts with a variety of native plants and shrubs

