

JULY AND AUGUST 2017 COWBRIDGE PHYSIC GARDEN VOLUNTEERS' NEWSLETTER

“And then the whining school-boy, with his satchel
And shining morning face, creeping like snail
Unwillingly to school.”

So September creeps in and it's time to look back on July and August in the Physic Garden. A busy time for the volunteers especially as several of us have been away or have been undertaking grandparental duties.

We have lost a volunteer, Lin Edwards, who has been with the garden for many years. Sue kindly hosted a tea party for her to say goodbye. And we have gained two more volunteers, Frances O'Kelly and James Mangel, so welcome to them.

Most of you will know that we were, once again, awarded the Green Flag Award and Iris and Val Caple went to Barry Island for the presentation and ceremony. Well done Physic Garden Volunteers!

David kindly finished pruning the tops of the pleached apples and Mary and Sue completed the vine pruning. And we've been collecting up the fallen apples and pears. The fig tree fell over and Gareth winched it up and supported it against the wall and it looks great! And the convolvulus (I love it, I think the flowers are stunning!) has been pulled up along the bark path behind the roses. The August colours have been, as usual, lovely - the *Verbena bonariensis* is thriving in the pleached bed, the Hollyhocks along the South-facing wall are huge, the Asters are just coming into flower, the much sought-after Echinaceas and Purple Loosestrife are covered in bees.

You will have noticed the new replacement base for the dolphin in the fountain is now fixed. It has a lead facing and looks great. Thanks to the Maintenance Group who helped to clear and assist with the capping of the base.

Well, roll on season of mists and mellow.

Val Thomas for the Gardening Group

