

✿ My Allotment Diary

Like many gardeners, this is a tough time of the year – I look out each day, hopeful for the sun, and a break in the rain so that I can get outside and start preparing for the new gardening year – but last year was a bit different for me – I wanted to ‘grow my own’.

At home, we grow a few vegetables, and I enjoy the flower borders, but I have never really got the results I wanted, and I couldn’t bring myself to cut the flowers for the house....

I knew the answer was to get an allotment – but I found every reason not to!

- There was sure to be a waiting list
- I work full time, so I’d never have enough time
- I’m not knowledgeable enough, so wouldn’t know where to start

My assumptions were all wrong, and I’m really glad that I ignored my doubts! With the encouragement of friends and other allotment holders, I signed up to a half sized plot - 8.5m x 7m.

We are really lucky in West Meon – there is NO WAITING LIST! This was great for me – I could get stuck in nice and early, and prepare my ‘patch’ all ready to plant up as spring came! It did take a few hours to get the plot ready, but with a little help we got there!

Walking up the path to the allotments is like opening a door to a new world – peaceful and friendly, but with support from others if needed! It was certainly the best thing I did last year, and I’m pleased to say I had cut flowers in my house from May to November! Flowers are my ‘thing’ but the fruit & vegetables that I’ve seen others growing have really inspired me, and I have a growing pile of seeds to get planting when spring finally arrives!

If you’d like to join us at the allotments; whether it’s a full plot, or a half you’re after; you’ll be made very welcome! – please email us at: helen.ripper@outlook.com

