



Supporting TWIGS and the Olive Tree Café

Welcome to FOT Summer Newsletter

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TWIGS Gardens are open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for your delight. Still not too late to buy some plants to fill any gaps.... and then why not pop over to Olive Tree Café for a delicious meal or cuppa? **The Café is open as usual despite the temporary closure of Akers Way until September.**

Bumper Summer Fun Edition!

Featuring photos of TWIGS Open Days

FOT Fund Raising News

The raffle raised an amazing £843 on top of £1688 raised at the June Open Day. Thanks to Justin Tomlinson MP, Debbie Vincent, Arkell's Brewery, Castle Coombe Racing Circuit for their kind generosity in donating prizes.

Prize winners included Mrs Thomson (Tour of Parliament) Mrs Sanders (Arkells tour) Mr Benfield (Racing event) and Mr Drew (Lovely hamper) Thanks to everyone who bought tickets.

The Annual **Golf Day** in June raised £4256 and thanks to all the teams who generously took part. Thanks for Christopher Loveday and his colleagues for arranging this.

Future Events to support

Still spaces for you to take part in the **Clay Pigeon Shoot** at Barbury Shooting School on Wednesday 27 September at 9am for bacon sarnies and a full morning's shoot for £480 per team.

Places still available for the **Kilimanjaro Trek** in 2018.

Wine Tasting Evening on Friday 13th October at Magnums in Wood Street, Old Town arranged by Debbie Vincent with Swindon Rotary Club. Tickets are £15 and limited to only 55 places, so book now!

Details of all these by emailing contact@friendsoftwigs.uk



News from the Kitchen Garden at Olive Tree Café

The first crop of beetroot was harvested whilst I was there with the camera! The garden is looking in great shape despite the dry weather, and plenty of crops are being used in the Café kitchen or being sold to Café customers.

Stephanie enthusiastically runs the project and has plans to replace currant bushes in the Autumn and incorporate a greenhouse.

Volunteers with a variety of skills are always needed in the kitchen garden. There's always plenty of DIY type jobs to do, as well as weeding, watering and digging! Please pop into the Café to pick up a volunteering form if you are interested. Or do you know someone who might love to get involved?

Olive Tree Café News

A key objective of the café is to help and support people recovering from mental illness by providing them with positive, work-related opportunities in a Café open to the public in order to take them a step nearer to the world of work.

So Café Manager Phyllida was delighted to tell us that 5 volunteers have recently moved onto paid employment. "It leaves us with a huge gap to fill in our workforce obviously, but isn't it a wonderful problem to have?! Five people have gained the confidence and skills to move on to paid employment. We couldn't be happier for them and we will continue to give people this wonderful



The Creative Café meet on Tuesday afternoons at the Olive Tree Café and made this wonderful giant teapot. It's on proud display at the entrance to the Olive Tree Café. But can you guess what they used as their initial 'mould'? Answer somewhere in this newsletter! It's inspirational!



This beautiful tee light holder was carefully crafted by Geoff. Any ideas what it's made from? Answer

Volunteers to work in the Café are being recruited all the time. If only for a few hours a week, we would welcome you. Full training given. Please pop into the Café for a chat and to pick up an application form.

...On our wish list!

The dishwasher is the next thing that the Café will be raising money for. During the six years of the Café's operation, we calculate it's been operated around 45,000 times!

Saturday 9 Sept 8am - 12 Noon

Car Boot Sale in TWIGS Car Park

Also coffee, cake, bacon baps & plant sales

To book a pitch call 01793 533152

There's an amazing sense of positivity in the Olive Tree Café

Some volunteers not only work in the Café, but come in for arts sessions on Tuesdays, and arrange fund raising events such as Heroes and Villains to buy new non leaky teapots for the Café

There's something else very special going on here. People nurture each other and care deeply about others despite how they are feeling themselves. It's a very wonderful place.

Watch this space!

Jake Blandford is making a film of the Olive Tree Café which tells our wonderful story. Watch out for it on Olive Tree Café Facebook page.



Thanks to everyone who supported our Open Days. Whether you made cakes or ate a slice of one - Thank you!



Photo teaser answers..... The tee light holder is made from old Olive Tree Cafe teapots, The new big Olive Tree teapot was formed around a "Spacehopper" Did you guess correctly?

