

## Hello Volunteers!

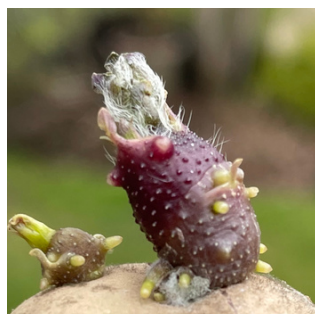
Hope this newsletter finds you well and that you are gearing up for the coming growing season. I am starting off some seedlings now but trying to hold back a bit because we are in false spring and you know it is going to be getting cold again at some point in the next few weeks. We have a few things happening that we hope may be of interest to you, so let's go:

## Potato Days

So it is that time of year where we take part in various locations giving away our seed potatoes and some other seeds. We have a wide range of places this year and we are looking for people to come and help out on the stalls on the day. Here is a list of the confirmed events and also a note of how many volunteers we are looking for to help out. If you haven't been to one of these before don't worry, they are a lot of fun and you spend your time bagging potatoes and if you get any awkward growing questions just point them in the direction of somebody else!

- Daviot School, Wednesday March 8, 3.30pm – 5pm (0 volunteers)
- Kemnay, Birley Bush Community Garden Saturday March 11, 10am -12pm (1 volunteer)
- Portlethen Larder, Saturday March 11, 10am – 12pm (1 volunteer)
- Rhynie, 14 The Square, Saturday March 11, 10.30am – 13.30pm (2 volunteers)
- Collieston, Ellon, Collieston Community Centre, Sunday March 12, 1.30pm – 3.30pm (3 volunteers)
- Banchory, The Barn, Saturday March 18, 10am – 2pm (5 volunteers)
- Stonehaven, The Haven Larder, Saturday March 18, 10am – 12pm (0 volunteers)
- Aberdeen, Bonnymuir Green Community Garden, Saturday March 25, 10.30am – 1.30pm (5 volunteers)
- Huntly, Farmers Market in the Square, Saturday April 1, 9am – 1pm (2 volunteers)

We will pay travel expenses and make sure you have plenty of tea and coffee and snacks for coming along. Please email us if you are able to help out.



## Schools

We have decided to take a different approach to deliveries this year so won't be doing any direct deliveries to schools or groups in the area, instead asking them to come and collect from us. Thanks to all of you who have done deliveries in previous years; we want to trial this to see how it works going forward.

## Tidy up at Grove Nursery, Hazledene Road, Aberdeen

We did a really good tidy up of the polytunnel last year and are taking over more of it this year so it would be great if you could come along and help us with this. There are weeds to lift and bark to put down to get it into a great space for our training programmes and others that will be using the space as a reflective area.

Aim is to do this on **Monday March 27th from 10am**. If you are able to lend a hand could you let us know by email to **[oneseedforward@gmail.com](mailto:oneseedforward@gmail.com)**, even if it is just for a short period of time. Refreshments and banter included!



## Seed Sowing Day

We are fortunate to have the shared use of one of the greenhouses at Grove Nursery and we thought that we should make better use of this by sowing a wide variety of seeds that can be brought on then shared as seedlings with others in the community. We would like to hold a volunteer open day where people come along, sow some seeds, take some away and have a general chat and cups of tea. We are planning for this to take place on:

**Thursday April 6th from 1pm – 4pm.**

## Training programmes

We were successful in getting funding to run courses this year, again based at Grove. These would mainly suit beginners to growing or those interested in setting up community gardens. We are accepting applications for a place for our April courses - see website for further details [www.oneseedforward.co.uk](http://www.oneseedforward.co.uk) (homepage or 'news' section).



## Huntly seed hub

We are looking to support the Strathbogie Seed Collective in their endeavours to maintain a seed hub in Huntly. Is there anyone who would be interested in getting involved in this, it would be to make sure it is stocked and hold occasional advice sessions on how to collect seeds, plant and store etc? **Please email us for more details if interested.**

## Planning for our future

We would like to increase our committee capacity so if you are interested in being an active member of the committee please send us an email to [oneseedforward@gmail.com](mailto:oneseedforward@gmail.com) with a short note about the experience you can offer to us. The committee posts are unpaid but we will reimburse reasonable pre agreed expenses.



Thanks as always for volunteering with us. Happy growing, all at OSF.