

Member Briefing

Number: 1165

Title: Victory Garden Competition

Summary: To support the development of active and healthy communities the Council is launching a Victory Garden Competition.

The Victory Garden competition will form part of the Council's programme of events to mark the centenary of WWI. It aims to encourage schools, community groups, allotment associations and town and parish councils to create a victory garden and grow their own vegetables.

During WWI the Ministry of Food encouraged people to support rationing and grow their own food. Harsh rationing meant that food was scarce so a campaign was started to urge people to use any spare land to grow vegetables – this included: gardens, parks, golf clubs and even the moat at the Tower of London.

Members are encouraged to promote the competition in their communities – to firstly mark the end of WWI, and secondly to support the Council's drive to create active and healthy communities.

To celebrate the efforts of those groups who participate in the competition there will be a harvest event during October that will be fun, inclusive and support networking opportunities.

To help schools and groups get started, we have a number of starter packs comprising a range of seeds. Groups that are interested are encouraged to register by the 12 April via email: rurallocality@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Information about what a victory garden is, what the best vegetables to grow are, recipes from the period plus lots more will be available online at: westcheshirelocalities.co.uk.

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Responsible Committee, Cabinet Member: Councillor Louise Gittins

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