



## ABOUT THE SUSTAINABLE LIVING INITIATIVE

The Sustainable Living Initiative (SLI) is a Norwich based charity. Members come together to grow fruit and veg **organically**, share resources, food, and recipes, learn about, and support the natural environment and to enjoy each other's company.

### SLI Membership

SLI is membership-based and is open to all who support its objectives and wish to be involved.

There is an annual membership fee plus plot rents for those who wish to have their own growing space at either GO<sup>2</sup> Bluebell South Allotments or Marlpit Community Garden. The current fees are on the website and available separately.

When you join, you will be asked to agree to the terms by signing a member's agreement form.

Benefits of membership are:

- volunteering opportunities in communal areas including the orchard and apiary
- learning gardening skills, meeting like-minded people, working collectively to help maintain the local environment
- a share of surplus seasonal produce
- free admission to training and cooking events
- free admission to our social events
- monthly newsletter
- access to the SUMA cooperative Group (where you can buy Suma products at the wholesale price)

Please contact us at the address below for an application form.

### Grow-our-own (GO<sup>2</sup>), Bluebell South Allotments

GO<sup>2</sup> Bluebell is on Bluebell South allotments off The Avenues (please follow this [link](#) for directions). There are currently about 80 members of all ages and diverse backgrounds.

The emphasis is on small, manageable-sized plots approximately 1.2 m x 6 m. We also have raised boxes which are 1.2 m square with level, paved access for people with mobility difficulties.

Please contact us for an application form. You will be allocated a plot once you have joined and paid. Payment can be made by BACS or cheque.

When joining, you are committing to being a part of the SLI community and helping to run and maintain the GO<sup>2</sup> Bluebell communal facilities. There is a communal work morning on the first Sunday of the month at 10 am followed by a food-sharing lunch at 1 pm and there are plenty of other opportunities for you to contribute your time and skills.

You are responsible for looking after your plot and keeping the paths around your plot tidy. If you are unable to do this for any reason, you must let us know.

The use of tools, a choice of seeds, plants, manure, compost, netting and locally coppiced bean poles and pea sticks are all included in the rent. If you are a complete beginner, we can arrange for someone to help get you started. Practical advice and information are always on hand. You are welcome to join the regular practical gardening and cooking sessions held at Marlpit which are free to all our members.

Volunteers will be around to provide advice, plants and seeds on Sundays and Wednesdays from 10 am - 1 pm except between mid-November to mid-February. We have an onsite composting toilet large enough for a mobility scooter.

Members are advised to walk, cycle, or use public transport when coming to the site. There are plenty of cycle stands but only a few car parking places reserved only for blue-badge holders and for delivery of goods to GO<sup>2</sup> Bluebell South Allotments.

### **Marlpit Community Garden**

The Marlpit Community Garden (MCG) is a seven-acre field in Marlpit Lane, near the Marriott's Cycle Way and close to the river Wensum. The site is divided into plots for individuals and families, plots for schools and community groups, a forest garden, an apiary, an orchard, a herb garden, a wild-flower areas and meadows.

Marlpit offers small plots each measuring 1.20 x 10 metres approximately.

Please contact us for an application form. You will be allocated a plot once you have joined and paid. Payment can be made by BACS or cheque.

Volunteers will be around to provide advice, plants and seeds on Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 - 1 pm.

When joining, you are committing to being a part of the SLI community and helping to run and maintain the Marlpit community garden. There are communal work mornings every Tuesday, Thursday and the second Saturday of the month.

The use of tools, a choice of seeds and plants, and manure and compost are all included in the rent. Practical advice and information is always on hand.

As a plot-holder, you are responsible for looking after your plot and keeping the paths around your plot in order.

MCG is a car-free zone; there are plenty of cycle stands but only a few car parking facilities reserved for blue-badge holders. For directions to MCG, follow this [link](#).

### **Grow-at-Home**

The Grow-at-Home scheme provides practical help and advice for people who want to grow fruit and vegetables organically in their own gardens. Members of the Grow-at-Home scheme also have the opportunity to come and meet other growers on the allotment and share experiences. The fee includes seeds and seedlings, access to gardening information and training at Marlpit Community Garden.

If you live in Norwich and wish to join as a grow-at-home member, please contact us for an application form. Payment can be made by BACS or cheque.

### **School / Community Groups**

Marlpit Community Garden at Marlpit Lane, Norwich, provides opportunities for schools and community groups to learn about growing fruit, vegetables and herbs, wildlife and nature conservation.

You can have a raised bed of 3 m x 1 m. The rent includes all seeds, plants and practical advice from our experienced volunteers.

Alternatively, you can come and visit the garden for a gentle refreshing walk, learn about bees, wildlife, and food growing organically.

### **Corporate volunteering**

Our Marlpit Community Garden has been hosting corporate volunteers for last four years and so far we have received volunteers from AVIVA, MARSH, Jones Lang LaSalle (JLL), GoodGym, Voluntary Norfolk, among others. If your organisation is interested in volunteering with us, please contact us at the address below.

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### **Sustainable Living Initiative**

Marlpit Community Centre, Hellesdon Road, Norwich NR6 5EG,

Tel. 01603 920570

email: [sustainable@grow-our-own.co.uk](mailto:sustainable@grow-our-own.co.uk)

web: [www.grow-our-own.co.uk](http://www.grow-our-own.co.uk)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/SLI.Norwich](https://www.facebook.com/SLI.Norwich)