

Next Season in the Gardens!



Karl, our head gardener has shared some exciting updates for Rowton Hall Hotel's kitchen garden and grounds over the next few months. Karl collaborates with Matt, our head chef to help produce delicious, fresh ingredients that are perfect for the kitchen to turn into scrumptious dishes for our visitors!

GARDEN EXTENSION

Despite the lockdown, we have continued to build upon some of the changes we made in the previous year. The extended border in the walled garden continues to take shape and some additional plants and shrubs have been added to bring variety across the season. We hope to add further plants and shrubs to bring winter interest to this part of the garden.



FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Whilst not certified organic, we do grow all our fruit and vegetables following organic principles, including the 'no-dig' method of growing. Over the winter months, we have been gradually adding further veg beds to the kitchen garden so we can grow more fresh and organically grown produce for the chef as well as reducing our food miles across the business. We have also reduced the width of the main path through the kitchen garden and created a flower bed to aid pollination and attract beneficial insects to keep pests to a minimum.



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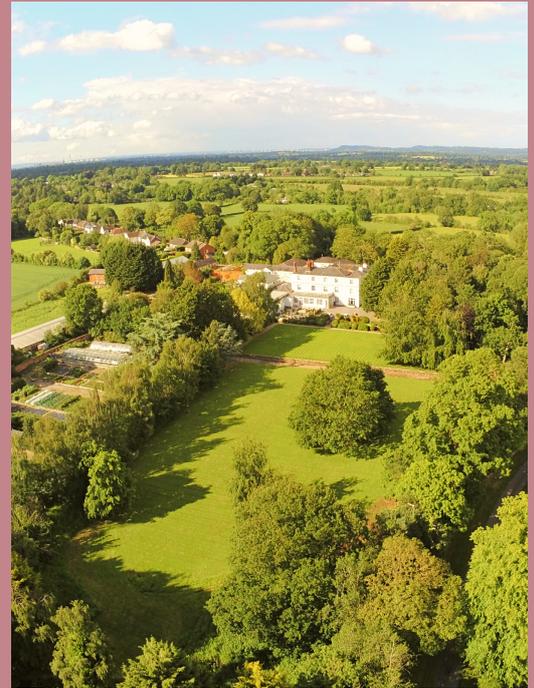
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SELECTIVE TREE FELLING

Whilst the hotel was closed, we took the opportunity for some selective felling of trees around the car park, the lower woodland and removing the hedge in the kitchen garden. These trees, mostly Leylandii, were planted in mass around the garden around 30 years ago and have a tendency, if not properly managed, to restrict the growth of any other vegetation around them. In the kitchen garden, whilst the hedge provided a weather barrier, the soil has become dry and impoverished and made growing vegetables almost impossible. With their removal, we can extend our growing area and hopefully replace the hedge with a more wildlife-friendly hedge in the future. We aim to remove further Leylandii over the coming winters and replace them with more suitable varieties of trees and shrubs.



FUTURE PLANS

Over the next year we have a number of projects in the pipeline; firstly creating a secluded courtyard garden to the rear of the hotel which is currently used as an overflow car park; establishing a pathway around the large pond as well as developing the woodland garden further and lastly improving access across the paddock field which suffers from flooding during the autumn and winter months.

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