

As a keen but not experienced gardener, I have been spending much more time in my garden since self isolation was imposed. I am sure many other U3A members have been doing the same. My garden is probably better managed than it ever has been following four weeks of daily maintenance. I decided I would sow more seeds this year and try some veggies and salad crops too. Here is a picture of what I have been doing. The big sticks across the top of some of the raised beds are an attempt to keep two cats from digging the freshly sieved soil! Normally I would rarely find time to sit and enjoy my garden and everything was always a bit behind, but since the emergence of coronavirus I have sat in the lovely sunshine we have been having, with a piece of cake which I found time to bake. What a pleasure that was with the birds singing and the Spring garden coming into its glory. So, the lockdown is not all doom and gloom and despite not being able to meet with my family and many friends there is new joy to be found. I hope all fellow U3A members are finding their own benefits too.

I have spent much more time in my garden this year which has been one of the benefits of lockdown with no distractions and time to enjoy reflective moments at a leisurely pace rather than rushing around as life generally demands. In preparation of our annual plant fair I had planned to plant more seeds this year so already had the packets and seeds sewn when lockdown came. With far too many plants for my own consumption and no friends or family able to visit to take any, I offered them to my village on our website and they were snapped up, and another bonus is more friends made here near home.

