

Older people and children working together

Master Gardener, Steve, has run 40 growing sessions that bring together old and young members of the community for their mutual benefit.

He played a key role in establishing the 'Mile Cross Intergenerational Gardening Project' in autumn 2011 with children from Catton Grove Primary School, older volunteers from Age UK, and staff from Mile Cross library.

As well as learning about growing food in a sustainable manner, the project helps older people enhance their social contact and sense of purpose, and provides children with mentoring and adult role models.

Steve recalls, "I delivered a presentation at Catton Grove School for the kids (yrs 4 and 5), teachers, and residents from sheltered housing close to the Library. There were 30-40 kids present and 7 potential volunteers. From that we got a few design ideas and a list of vegetables, herbs and flowers that they'd most like to grow."



Master Gardener Steve working with the Catton Grove school group