

KAILYARD DIARY REPORTS – 2023

MONTH	NAME	DATE VISITED	COMMENTS	WORK REQUIRED	DONE √
	Chris Foster	1/1/23	Jobs for New Year	Repair back fence using existing timber laying around the Shepherds Lodge area. Also check for other weak points. Prune Autumn Raspberries early 2023. Mulch Kailyard with bracken.	 √ √
January	Chris Foster	Jan 2023	A snowy month, so somewhat difficult to visit the Kailyard. All quiet and OK.		
February	Colin Miller	6/2/23	Managed to mulch the Kailyard with some help from Iain Ralston. Brought the Kailyard sign back for renovation work which I passed to the Fosters.	Kailyard sign needs repairing.	√

	Chris Foster	6/2/23	<p>Met Colin and Iain coming back from the Kailyard where they had been mulching it with bracken. They also passed the Kailyard sign on to us as it was starting to fall apart and needed a bit of TLC.</p> <p>Barry and I carried out the outstanding pruning and put some cut broom around the rhubarb to mark it out as it was almost hidden under the bracken. The rhubarb will need manuring early Spring.</p>	Rhubarb needs manuring.	
	Jackie Cumber birch	19/2/23	<p>I visited the kailyard on Sunday and all I did was admire the work done by the group. I will be helping with the foraging woodland on the 11 March.</p> <p>I assume the sign that is normally on the gate is in the process of being replaced.</p> 	Yes, this work is in hand and the sign will be back later in March.	✓

March	Barry Foster	30/3/23	<p>Visited the Kailyard today. The weather was fine, sunny and warm.</p> <p>The general appearance of the Kailyard was good. Reinstated the newly repaired and renovated information board. The plot is still well covered with bracken but cleared areas around the base of the fruit bushes to allow air flow. Trimmed and tidied some of the bushes. Rhubarb needs some manure (forgot to take it with me!!). Fence still needs stabilising and patching – for discussion at BLP meeting 24/4/23.</p>	<p>Fence needs stabilising and patching.</p> <p>Rhubarb needs manuring.</p> 	Rhubarb has been manured
April	Chris, Barry and Jo	21/4/23	Barry added manure to the rhubarb. The redcurrant bush at the far end of the same row as the rhubarb was not growing well, some dead branches grouped together.	 <p>With thanks to our outgoing chivviers.</p>	
May			Unfortunately we didn't manage this month, sorry.		

June	Karen Main	2/6/23	<p>During my visit, I trimmed back the grass from the woven fence and did some weeding. A few of the raspberry canes look black at the tips and I removed a few suckers. The rhubarb is just coming through but it is being overshadowed by a gooseberry bush which I think is slowing down its growth.</p>	 <p>Rhubarb – not grown well this year.</p>	
		16/6/23	<p>Everything looking fine. A few blackcurrant leaves turning yellow but fruit looks good. Someone has been in and snipped dead ends off rasp canes.</p>	 <p>Raspberry canes</p>	

		23/6/23	Trimmed grass and did a bit of weeding. Propped currant bush but probably need to take a few more sticks to kailyard for propping low branches to keep currants off ground.	July – prop up currant bushes.	Done
July	Jo and Jacob Vergunst , Barry Foster.	15/7/23	Trimmed grass and weeded. Propped up the bushes. Running repairs on the fence. Chris and Alison brought a group of visitors to the kailyard as part of their colony tour. 	Noted that there is wood that could be used for fencing near the kailyard on the main Mither Tap path. 	
	Jo Vergunst	22/7/23	Harvested some blackcurrants and gooseberries, and tidied up.	Please drop by to pick any fruit available!	

August	Anne Reid	6/8/23	<p>The heavens opened when I arrived the midgits arrived when the rain stopped! Cut the grass & weeded. Picked the last of the blackcurrants. (9oz)... they were wet but large & juicy. The redcurrants over & gooseberries nearly finished. The rasps were starting to ripen but not ready for harvesting... later than last few years but other fruit earlier? Everything was looking good apart from the rhubarb.</p> 	Next year we will see if the rhubarb recovers and we could try not harvesting much – possible that it was overharvested previously.	
August	Anne Reid	28/8/23	Tidied up a bit & trimmed the grass.... picked a handful of very wet rasps. Everything was looking good, however, the rasps were not nearly as good as last year,		

			very few wet ones & others mouldy.... expect because of the wet weather? There didn't seem much of a crop of autumn raspas to ripen.	
August	Group	18/8/23	A few of us enjoyed a social gathering at the kailyard with some fine home-made and kailyard food and drink. Just a little wet!	
September	Work party	08/09/23	Work party at the kailyard: removed laurel from near the dyke to create a view over the kailyard from the path. Repaired loose fencing and gate.	

September	Allan Will	31/9/23	<p>The fence and gate are still rock solid. I cut the grass round the sides and took out the weeds under the watchful gaze of a wee Robin. There were a few Autumn rasps left, the best 2 were pretty tasty. Looks like we have a wee moleheap. Hopefully he/she will not cause too much damage.</p> 		
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October	Alison Kennedy	17/10/23	 <p data-bbox="703 730 1429 911">Everything was as normal for this time of year. A bit disappointed as usually there is some fruit left for me on my October visits, but only a few inaccessible raspberries. The stake put in for back fence seems to be holding and there was nothing adverse spotted.</p>		