

BZZ GARAGE

WHAT IS THIS PROJECT?

West Norwood Bzz Garage is a community growing scheme in West Norwood, creating bee-friendly habitats on the high street, and growing local community food in public spaces. The first location was outside the bus garage. Through an initiative called the Open Works a resident with an idea for bee-friendly gardens was introduced to two local gardeners. Then a bus driver on his way to work stopped to talk to the Open Works team and was able to introduce the residents to the bus station premises manager who immediately said yes to the idea of growing on the site.

WHAT DIFFERENCE IS IT MAKING?

The people who got involved have enjoyed transforming a public space which used to attract complaints and is now enjoyed by people who pass by. One participant gardens more at home as a result, another has been able to add the project to his CV, and one project member is now considering careers which involve more community aspects. Salad and herbs grown on the patch have been used in shared Pot Luck community dinners in West Norwood.

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