

NEWSLETTER

Yorkshire in Bloom Village Gold Medal
Winners 2004, 2007 and 2010

Britain in Bloom Silver Medallist 2005

LUDDENDEN IN BLOOM

Horticultural Achievement
Environmental Responsibility
Community Participation

ISSUE: 1. February 2011

"A community is the mental and spiritual condition of knowing that the place is shared, and that the people who share the place define and limit the possibilities of each other's lives. It is the knowledge that people have of each other, their concern for each other, their trust in each other, the freedom with which they come and go among themselves." Wendell Berry American Author

With spring's promise of warmer weather beckoning and the new growing season beginning welcome to the first newsletter of 2011 a year in which the village once again goes forward into Britain in Bloom representing not just Yorkshire but Halifax and the Calder Valley. This accolade was achieved by villager's efforts during 2010 so once again thanks to everyone for doing so much and all we can ask for is more of the same this year.



The Launch

The RHS Britain in Bloom competition sponsored by Anglian Home Improvements is officially launched during March with the focal point for PR purposes being the 26th-27 March. The Woodland Trust has also joined forces for the event by offering to each group a free pack of tree saplings. There are 4 different pack of trees to choose from and the team decided to apply for the "wild harvest" saplings, which includes hazel, blackthorn, crab apple, elder, and dog rose. Once these are established they will compliment the trees and shrubs already in the village and also provide extra fruits for wild life to feed on during the winter months. Several sites have been identified for the trees and these will be planted around the village on Sunday 27th March when we also hope to have local media present.



News from the village

Since October all the tubs, baskets etc have been replanted for the spring. The Mayor of Luddenden, Geoff Dardis along with volunteers from Lloyds Banking Group undertook a days work party around the village and their efforts especially around the church have been greatly appreciated. The Christmas Wreath competition was a great success and the winner Mrs. Karen Page of Riverside Cottage duly received the fair trade hamper for her effort along with a picture in the local newspaper.

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Luddenden In Bloom Newsletter



Gardening tips for February

If you haven't already done your winter digging now is the time to do it providing the ground is not water logged. If it is leave this task till it has dried out. Once your soil is ready for sowing cover with polythene sheeting to warm it up for early veg planting. Now is the time to give the green house, pots, seed trays, watering cans and tools a good clean. Tidy up your borders and remove any leaves and other dead plant material. Watch out for greenfly especially on roses, but only take actions if there is a serious infestation otherwise leave it to the blue tits who will quite happily deal with the problem for you.

Have you planned what you are growing this year? No well how about starting off with some salad such as rocket, radishes and spring onions. All these can be sown during March. Leeks, onion sets, broad beans, parsnips, turnips, early carrots and peas can also be started off but check the seed packet to ensure you are using a type for early sowing. Complete winter pruning of apple and pear trees before the buds burst into growth.

Finally keep an eye on the weather forecast as temperatures can still fall and you will need to protect seedlings and young plants with cloches or fleece.



Dates for the diary

1 st Plant Sale in the Car Park	Saturday 21 st May
2 nd Plant Sale in the Car Park	Saturday 28 th May
Open Gardens Day	Saturday 25 th June
Mayor Making	Sunday 11 th September



Eric's View

Hello I'm the new wild life reporter for the village and from my vantage point I'll report on what I've seen during the month. During January in the field behind where I live a very big dog fox was spotted. A few days later a pair of Roe Deer was also seen in the field. Owls have been keeping me up at night. I think they are Little Owls as they are so noisy. The local Jackdaw, Magpie and Rook population are very busy flying around the village which means they will shortly start nesting. Don't forget to keep feeding your garden birds.