

Love Luddenden Newsletter

LUDDENDEN IN
BLOOM

Britain in Bloom & Yorkshire in Bloom Village Gold Medal Winners

The  Friendly Village
ISSUE: 3 April 2016

They say one Swallow doesn't make a summer, but on the 14th April several were seen flying over the village. A harbinger of summer approaching? We can but hope.



Village News

Nigel in the centre of the village has been busy with a group of his neighbours in coming up with a plan of action to undertake some clearance work along the river. At the next Conservation Meeting he is bring the results of a survey that they recently made on what sort of things need to be tackled. If you walk along the riverbank you will no doubt see the amount of tree trunks, saplings and debris that is restricting the flow of water. With the recent floods still very much impacting along the Calderdale Valley, and with budget cuts restricting the amount of work that can be undertaking by agencies, it is felt that we should do whatever we can to help. Obviously this is going to be wet work, but if you are interested in becoming involved please come to the next meeting or email Nigel.

The car park as mentioned in the last newsletter is still a problem with litter and other detritus being dumped. Bloom members regularly visit the area to pick this rubbish up, and it really is disappointing that people are doing this even though there is a rubbish bin at the entrance.

One other issue is dog fouling around the village especially along the riverbank walk, cemetery and High Street Court. This is not the pet's fault but the owners. So please clear up after your canine friend. We would also ask that pets are kept on a leash when walking through the centre of the village for their and villagers safety.



The Plant & Produce Table on High Street

Plants are kindly being donated again by villagers and left on the table for people to buy. There is a honesty box provided for the money. Everything is clearly labelled and a recommended price is displayed. It is though disappointing to report that last month all the plants were taken away without payment. Hopefully it was just a one off event and that all future goods will be paid for, as this money all goes to support the villages various planting schemes.



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Dates for the diary

Plant Sale in the Car Park
Luddenden Heritage Day
Mayors Street Party
Mayor Making

Saturday 28th May from 10am
Saturday 4th June from 10am
Saturday 18th June
Saturday 10th September



Gardening tips for May

With the ground being no longer so water logged, I had my first dig in the veg plot this week. I might be tempting fate but my first early potatoes are now planted. The heater is on in the greenhouse and my toms, sweetpeas, broadbeans and other seeds are now sprouting. Some of these will be available at the plant sale on the 28th May. Fruit trees should shortly be in blossom, so protect them at night with a fleece cover if a frost is forecast otherwise you risk any fruit that has set falling off. I'm now on with sowing Runner and French Beans but these will just be left in the greenhouse or windowsill after they sprout until the weather has warmed up. Next up for the veg plot is the rest of the potatoes and onion sets. Summer salad seed such as lettuce, radish, beetroot can continue to be sown direct this month to help give you a succession of crops, but use a clouche to help warm the soil. If you only have a small plot don't forget most salad and veg plants will do well in containers. Weeds are starting to show their faces in the borders, so whenever I have an hour spare that is the one task which I undertake. I've also used old spent compost from growbags to mulch around the plants along with a good all purpose fertilisers like blood fish and bone.



Eric's View

My Robin's appear to have a nest with chicks somewhere nearby as they have been very busy visiting the garden and taking away various insects. A male pheasant is regularly seen and heard in the field behind the house. He doesn't appear to have found a mate despite all his noise. The bird feeders are still very busy and the Great Spotted Woodpecker is still visiting although the Long Tailed Tits are not so regularly. In a nearby tree the other day there were 18 Magpies (a parliament is the collective name) the most I have ever seen. I don't know what they were debating but they certainly could have given our MP's a run for their money!



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