

# Love Luddenden Newsletter

The  Friendly Village

Britain in Bloom & Yorkshire in Bloom Village Gold Medal Winners

ISSUE: April 2017



## Village News

It's now just a few weeks before the annual village plant sale on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May from 10am to 1pm. The team have been busy growing and sorting out various perennials, salad and veg that will be available on the day. We will have several varieties on tomato plants such as Tumbler Toms, which are suitable for hanging baskets, pots and tubs, courgettes, cucumbers, squashes, pumpkins and herbs will also be on sale along with greeting cards of local views. Kitson's will once again be supplying some summer bedding for sale and the team have also grown a few pots to add further interest.



The Plant & Produce table on High Street has now been refurbished. Thanks to Craig Lockwood, Ernest Gills Ltd and Specialised Coatings Ltd for making this and supporting the village. For those new to the Luddenden, the table is used to raise funds for the bloom team and villagers donate the items, which can range from plants, fruit and veg to hanging baskets and unwanted garden items. There is an honesty box provided for donations. Thanks to everyone who continue to support this initiative.

Once again we are sad to say that our village Neighbourhood Watch Co-Coordinator has contacted us about criminal activity. We would warn people not to let strangers into their houses or let them borrow your mobile phones. Keep your valuables safe and lock doors, windows and sheds. Leaving your car overnight in the village car park poses a risk as one young driver had his rear tailgate window smashed. Thankfully nothing else was taken. The car park is still being used for various activities, as over the last few weekends litter picks has collected various empty bottles of drink, food waste and used condoms amongst other paraphernalia. The team has the unpleasant task of clearing this mess up so we would ask everyone to keep their eyes peeled, look out for your elderly or venerable neighbours and report anything suspicious to the police using 101 or if more serious the 999 phone numbers.

Keep up to date with what is happening in Luddenden by checking out the various Facebook Pages or the Luddenden website.



**Luddenden – Supporting Bees, Wildlife and Sustainable Friendly Planting**

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## Dates for the diary

Plant Sale 2017 in the Car park  
Luddenden Village Open Gardens

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May 10am to 1pm  
Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July



## Gardening tips for May

Quite a few of us in the village only have a small garden. So here are a few tips to help make the most of your space. Use lots of scented plants in pots such as lavender, thyme and rosemary. Place the pots around your seating area where you are able to reach out and squeeze a few leaves to release the scent. If you have an old mirror, fix it to a wall with some trellis around the edges which plants like clematis, sweetpeas or nasturtiums can climb up and help soften the lines. This will give the area a feeling of more space. Give some height to by using small trees that can grow in pots such as *Cornus Controversa* 'variegata' also known as Wedding Cake Tree or *Amelanchier Lamercki* common name Snowy mespilus. In shady spaces use woodland plants such as foxgloves ferns and heucheras which come in various colours. Gaps in paving stones and other nooks and crannies can also be planted with things like thyme, creeping jenny (*Lysimachia nummularia*) ferns and sempervivums and crassulas. Don't forget you can also grow salad and veg in pots, tubs and hanging baskets such as Tumbler Tomatoes.



## Eric's View

At the time of writing I've yet to see any swallows or swifts flying over the village. The dawn chorus though is magnificent at the moment, so if you can get up around 0530 and have a listen. Birds such as members of the Tit and crow family are definitely nesting and probably have eggs or chicks in their nests. Bumble Bees, which have been active for several weeks, have now been joined by honey and solitary bees and are busy around the spring flowers. I've seen several butterflies in the garden such as Peacocks and Large Whites. Footpaths around the village are filling up with the scent of wild garlic. The bird feeders are still active but its more a case of grabbing a quick bite before getting on with their parental responsibilities. Now is the time to stop putting out whole peanuts as young birds can choke on them. Don't stop topping up feeders during the summer as they will help small birds throughout the year and they will learn where to come in the winter months for food.



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