

LUDDENDEN IN BLOOM NEWSLETTER

Horticultural Achievement
Environmental Responsibility
Community Participation

Yorkshire in Bloom Village Gold Medal Winners 2004, 2007, 2010 and 2012

Britain in Bloom Silver Medallist 2005 & Gold Medallist & Category Winner 2011 ISSUE: 4 June 2013

Luddenden Valley Wines

Tel: 07748 090054

Luddenden main sponsor for 2013



*When purples robe the monarch's court, painted ladies choose and sort,
In vibrant hues the subjects bloom, beacon, sceptre, orb and plume, Evening dress, rose perfumed haze, lush
velvet lawn, we toast and laze, Coronation crowned by royal heir, rare skylark sparkling solitaire, Out in the field the
fox cubs play, on that regal summers day. Andrew Fox – That Regal Day*



News from the village

The Britain in Bloom judges have made contact and advised us that they will be visiting the village on Tuesday 6th August. Your intrepid "bloomers" will once again be doing all we can to ensure the village looks as good as possible. Calderdale have arranged to bring in the sweepers and mowers prior to the judging. All we ask from you the villagers is to ensure your house frontages look as good as possible, to request you pick up any litter on your walks and to ensure your dog does not leave any presents about.

As you walk around the village you will see that all the hayracks, boxes and planters have been updated for summer with bedding from Kitsons and using compost made from our own bins. The two planters outside the old paper shop have been planted up with herbs as this years Britain in Bloom campaign is about Edible Britain. One of the beds (aka the bedstead) at the entry point to the village has been removed (see item below). A maintenance plan has been drawn up for the wild flower meadow on the riverbank. The team will also be seen out and about weeding and when necessary watering.

Newsflash 1 – After several years of investigation and discussion within the team and with the Conservation Society, Trevor Oaten has recently been successful in gaining sponsorship for a lump of Yorkshire Stone from Marshalls the UK's leading manufacturer of superior natural stone. The site at the junction of High Street and New Road where we currently have two planters located has been chosen for the stone and the greeting to be engraved has been discussed. One of the planters has now been removed and it is hoped to have the sign in place by the autumn.

Newsflash 2 – A couple of weeks ago we were approached by the Luddenden Mayors Fund asking to sponsor further perennial planting around the cenotaph and other areas where required. This offer was gratefully received and we have now added over 50 perennials to the war memorial and replanted the "steps to nowhere" on High Street with colourful varieties of heuchera. Many thanks to the Mayors Fund especially as the enhancement to the cenotaph will be a fitting reminder to the fallen in the centenary year of World War 1 in 2014

The Second Plant Sale – The weather this time was more in keeping for summer and once again was well supported by people far and near and £450 profit was achieved. Thanks once again to Kitsons who always provide the team with summer bedding on a sale and return basis. We don't make a huge profit on the bedding plants but villagers bought everything on offer. The Luddenden Hessian bags all sold out on the day so Rhonda is now on with another batch, hopefully in time for Mayors day. Thanks yet again to volunteers and villagers for coming and all donations of plants received. From now until next year we will be looking for further donations of plants so when splitting your perennials in the autumn please pot up something for the team to sell.



Gardening tips for July

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First and foremost this month is to ensure everything in pots, tubs, hayracks, hanging baskets and grow bags are regularly watered and fed. Open up the green house on very hot days. Remember the best time to water is early morning or late evening. Deadhead bedding plants and repeat-flowering perennials, to ensure continuous flowering. Give the lawn a quick-acting summer feed, especially if a spring feed was not done. Give woodwork a lick of paint or preserver, while the weather is dry. Continue to hoe to keep the weeds down. Check roses for suckers and remove them from where they join the root. New whippy growth on Wisteria's should now be cut back to about 20cm from their base to encourage good flowering next year. Pick courgettes before they become marrows. As tomato trusses grow heavier, tie new cordon growth onto supports. If growing toms outside pinch out the main shoot tips once the 4th truss has appeared. If you can feel broad beans inside their pods then it's time to harvest. Plant out leeks in the veg plot by making a hole in the soil with something like a broom handle, dropping the leek in and filling with water. Don't back fill the hole with soil. Continue to sow salad leave seeds every few weeks to give you a regular crop. To help the village promote Edible Britain sow some lettuce, radish or carrot seeds in a large pot and site it outside the front of your house.

Volunteers

Both the Bloom Group and Barry Dyson (mobile 0777 199 7405) of the cemetery group are still looking for extra pairs of hands to help with ongoing work.



Dates for the diary

Open Gardens
Village Judging
Mayor Making
Britain in Bloom Awards

Saturday 6th July
Tuesday 6th August
Saturday 7th Sept
Saturday 12th Oct



Eric's View

I've seen my first fledglings in the garden, namely a family of starlings. The young who are browner in colour than the adults have been popping down to my bird feeders with their parents who must be showing them where the best grub in town can be found! So keep feeding your birds to encourage them into the garden. Something has started plugging up the holes in my bughouse. I'm no expert as I usually just chase flying things about, but I'm almost certain it is the solitary red mason bee. Perhaps Derek my reporter can investigate this, as other bughouses around the village are also looking the same. Don't forget to read Derek's full report this month on the website www.luddenden.com on my Eric's View link.