

Love Luddenden Newsletter

LUDDENDEN IN
BLOOM

Britain in Bloom & Yorkshire in Bloom Village Gold Medal Winners

The  Friendly Village
ISSUE: 1 March 2016

Welcome to the first newsletter of the year. As you can see we are trying to change the format of the newsletters as a result of not entering competitions. That's not to say we are giving up making the village bloom, but feel we need to approach this from a slightly different angle. Over the next 10 months along with information on what you can do in the garden, we will also provide advice and information on what you and your neighbours can achieve in your local area to help keep the village a great place to live along with helping the environment.



Winter News

The village didn't get off completely free from the flooding, and there was localised damage to properties from both the river and land drainage. Thankfully villagers came out to help those that had been affected and clear away debris, and where possible drains to increase water flow. The community spirit was very apparent in the High Street Court area. The amount of debris that has been washed down stream is very apparent just by looking into the river, and with Calderdale and the Environment Agency being fully stretched, villagers are asked to keep a careful eye on what is happening and report any problems should they arise in the future.

Around the High Street Court area one of our team has been very busy engaging with his neighbours. As a result we have re-cycled some black compost bins for use at that location. They are also monitoring road drains in the vicinity to try and prevent blockages as a result of rubbish and debris building up. Obviously this should be a council job but with cuts in services we all need to help where possible.

Brigitte's Garden has had to be worked on due to one trunk of the willow resting on the boundary wall. As a result, and in conjunction with a neighbour, two trees and one of the willow trunks has been felled. This now gives the team a chance to redesign Brigitte's Garden, as more light will now get into the area.

The Car Park is still a cause for concern, and the team have been out in force clearing up rubbish such as spirit bottles, beer cans and anti-social material. Visitors arriving to explore the village and surrounding area are not to blame. All we can ask is that everyone keeps an eye on what is going on and report any concerns to the police on their 101 line. Whilst the team were in the car park several large bags of top soils was spread around the beds along with donated wood chipping and some replacement plants that had been stolen last year. Further work will be needed and we will let villagers know of the dates when work parties will be held on the Facebook page.



Luddenden – Supporting Bees, Wildlife and Sustainable Friendly Planting

Love Luddenden Newsletter

LUDDENDEN IN
BLOOM

Britain in Bloom & Yorkshire in Bloom Village Gold Medal Winners

The  Friendly Village
ISSUE: 1 March 2016



Dates for the diary

Mayors Fund Easter Egg Hunts
Plant Sale in the Car Park
Luddenden Heritage Day
Mayor Making

Sunday 27th March (see Facebook)
Saturday 28th March from 10am
Saturday 4th June from 10am
Saturday 10th September



Gardening tips for April

Beware of late frosts and keep vulnerable plants and new shoots protected at night if frost is forecast. Don't be tempted to put out tender bedding until much later on in the month, and even then be prepared to cover it if necessary. Deadhead daffodils and narcissi; give them a liquid feed or a sprinkling of bonemeal and then let them die down. Don't cut off the leaves as they are necessary to replenish the bulb for next year. Keep deadheading spring bedding to keep it looking neat, and to encourage new flowers. Continue with the spring cleaning. Hoe your borders, getting rid of weeds before they take hold. Mulch away while you can still see what you are doing and before the herbaceous growth really takes off. Use your own garden compost or leaf mould, well rotted manure, the contents of out-of-date grow bags or ready-made soil conditioner. Now the soil is warming up and things are starting to grow, add general purpose fertiliser before covering with mulch especially in borders, the fruit and vegetable patch and containers. Many vegetable crops can be sown as seed this month - check the instructions on the packet and plant away! Broad beans, carrots, lettuces, spinach, salad leaves, leeks and chard are just a few ideas to get your healthy, cheap and home-grown food underway! Traditionalists plant potatoes on Good Friday - plant first and second earlies first, main crop by the middle of the month. Onion and shallot sets along with garlic bulbs can also be planted this month. If you have a frost-free greenhouse, get ahead with the summer crops - sweet peppers, tomatoes, aubergines and salads can be planted inside.



Eric's View

Help birds by keeping all your feeders topped up as we approach the spring breeding season. Due to the mild wet winter, my feeders only became busy in January with Long Tailed Tits, Blue and Great Tits, Gold Finches, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Chaffinches, Robins and Blackbirds being the most frequent visitors. If anyone takes any photos of village wildlife please share them on the Facebook site.



Luddenden – Supporting Bees, Wildlife and Sustainable Friendly Planting