

# Love Luddenden Newsletter

The  Friendly Village

Britain in Bloom & Yorkshire in Bloom Village Gold Medal Winners

ISSUE: September 2017

## Village News

Welcome to what is the final delivered version of the "in bloom" newsletter. With mounting costs of printing along with more use of technology such as Facebook and the village website, the decision has been made to end the paper production. I have been writing the Luddenden in Bloom newsletter for nearly twenty years and hope they have been of interest and provided you with gardening and wildlife information along with village issues such as dog poo. From now on this will all be available mainly on the Luddenden Facebook page but I will from time to time produce newsletters that you can download from the Internet.



**Ada Brooks Trophy 2017**

It was announced that Jude on Old Lane (seen being presented with the award by Vern a bloom member) was this year's winner of the trophy. Our judge loved the eclectic mix of planting ranging from perennials through to herbs and veg that was seen throughout the summer. The judge also commented on the variety of containers used in this difficult space and how much produce had been grown. Congratulations Jude.

## The Plant & Produce Table

I would yet again like to thank everyone who is supporting this initiative on High Street this year. There has been such a wide range of produce available, and I know several people who haven't bought a shop bought cucumber all summer.

## Jobs for Autumn

We are now well into September and the bloom team have already bought all the bulbs and spring flowers for the various containers around the village. There are so many bargains to be had so plan your containers so that you get the most from them. Try placing different bulbs, dependent on their flowering period, in the same pots. Ensure you provide adequate drainage in the bottom otherwise bulbs will rot off. Time to clean and wash out the greenhouse and ripen any remaining tomatoes off on windows. If you plan to store tender perennials over winter, cover the inside with bubble wrap or at least some fleece to protect plants from frost. The veg plot can also be put to bed in the next few weeks once the first frost are experienced so keep picking any runner beans or courgettes you might still have. Perennial can also be cut back and if you have any compost or spent growbags, the material can be used to provide a mulch over the flowerbeds.

## Wildlife

The most important thing we can all do this year is feed the birds of the village this winter. So keep feeders topped up and provide water in dishes if the ground freezes. Little birds like Robins, Wrens, The Tit Family, and Finches all use a lot of energy on cold days looking food. Finally hedgehogs hibernate during the winter so check bonfires before lighting.

## Home Made Christmas Wreath Competition 2017 (Your chance to win a Fair-trade Hamper)

The rules are very basic, it has to contain at least 60% natural material and you have had to make it yourself. We will start walking round the village during the second week of December.



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

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