

LUDDENDEN CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Protecting our environment for
future generations



Welcome to the summer newsletter! What a wonderful time we had as a village celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee: it's always wonderful to see people come together and that was no exception.

Conservation Society Meetings

Since the last newsletter we've had two meetings. On 31st March, Adrian Horton from Slow the Flow talked about natural flood management. It was interesting to hear that landowners can volunteer their land for natural flood management, and that there are two such projects at Slack Top Farm which are attenuation ponds holding some 600,000 litres of water. We also learned about the importance of "leaky dams" and tree-planting which quite literally help to slow the flow. Thanks must go to everyone involved in such important projects.

On 26th May we discussed some exciting future plans for 2023, which marks the fifty-year anniversary of the Conservation Area. We hope to hold an **Open Gardens/Heritage Day** to mark the occasion. Please do let us know if you wish to take part!

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 28th July**. We will be hearing from **Martyna Krol from Hebden Wildflower Collective**. She'll be talking about gardening with wildflowers which I know is a subject close to many of our hearts.

We know lots of readers are keen to hear an update on the road closure: not the least because of the continued hazard of vehicles disregarding signs and then having to turn around in spaces which are less than ideal. At the time of writing the issue was still with the council and the insurers.

Some of you may have seen the swarm of bees that recently took up temporary residence at the park. Thanks must go to Rachel Hargreaves for her work in relocating the bees to a safe place. We've asked Rachel for some hints and tips on how to look after bees: we recognise how important they are to our ecosystem so anything we can do to keep them safe can only help.

An important part of the Conservation Society's work is supporting the maintenance of our beautiful surroundings. Just in the last couple of months we have notified the appropriate contacts of loose handrails, poorly reinstated setts on Old Lane and a problem wall on New Road opposite Thorn Bank (plus more!). We include the cemetery in this: however, since it is owned by the Council we are limited as to what activities we can complete. We are aware of the planned re-siting of some bins in the cemetery: there will be one near the church entrance and one on Bluebell Walk. This will enable refuse to be collected more easily. We will monitor to identify whether this causes problems further into the cemetery.

Bee care tips!

We asked Rachel for some advice on how we can all take care of the bees. Did you know that wild bees like trumpet flowers and honey bees prefer open flowers? If you do see a swarm of bees of course the best advice is to leave them alone, but in some instances that's not possible. If you come across a tired bee (or two!), a dish of sugar syrup with small pebbles in so the bees don't drown should do the trick! This is especially important at times of year where forage may not be so easily available for the bees, such as June. Rachel's kindly agreed to be a local contact point if you do have any bee issues – thank you Rachel!

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 28th July 2022 at 7.30pm - St Mary's Church Upper Room – Luddenden Conservation Society Meeting – see above for details about the speaker: Martyna Krol.

Contact us

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