

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

Britain in Bloom Silver Medallist 2005 & Gold Medallist & Category Winner 2011 ISSUE: 8 October 2013

Luddenden Valley Wines

Tel: 07748 090054

Luddenden main sponsor for 2013



"A garden is a grand teacher. It teaches patience and careful watchfulness; it teaches industry and thrift; above all it teaches entire trust" Gertrude Jekyll 1843-1932 Horticulturalist, Garden Design, and Writer



Now for the news you have been waiting for ...

Britain in Bloom Results

We are proud to advise the village was awarded a Silver-Gilt in this years Britain in Bloom Competition. For the first time the RHS have given a summary of the General Results and these were as follows:

Horticultural Achievement	Silver Gilt
Environmental Responsibility	Silver Gilt
Community Participation	Gold
Overall	Silver Gilt

The judges highlighted the following as key areas of achievement; the upper High Street and cenotaph area had a high impact with good quality horticultural displays with a mix of floral, edibles and permanent planting. The Lord Nelson's floral displays and beer garden. The good quality of residential gardens and flowerpots and the perennial planting that is in keeping with the local heritage sites. The judges also complimented us on how clean and spotless the village is with particular note to the cobbled areas. The large number of bird, bat and bug boxes along with the encouragement of wildlife support and our communications through the newsletters and shop window display. They were impressed with our composting area. The judges also highlighted the community involvement and were pleased to meet village groups along with residents during the tour.

At the judge's surgery, after the awards we received very positive feedback and were pleased to hear that the judges had hoped to award us a gold, and we were very close to having achieved it. The judges were keen to advise that they hoped we would continue in competition, as it would not take too much work to raise the standard back to gold level. It is evidently clear to us that in order to achieve a higher standard we would need more people to help, as our team is only a small one.

Sadly the main reason for the reduction in points came from the churchyard area. The standard of planting and quality did not meet expectations. There had been building work in the churchyard and whilst attempts had been made at short notice to clear the damage it was still visible along with rubbish that had been dumped onto the bonfire. The number of invasive plants along the river such as Himalayan Balsam, was mentioned and a suggestion that we attempt to raise the tree canopy in the car park and look for further plant associations in our shaded areas.

It is our hope there are some people within the village who would be prepared to work with the church to improve its impact – not for competitions but for everyone who uses the church and enjoys entering the grounds.

Further News

Apologises to the residence of Hamilton House for omitting them in last month's newsletter where they were awarded a gold medal in the Ada Brooks Trophy. Belated congratulations to them. Liz and Jim the winners at Quarry House have been presented with their certificate and now hold the trophy until next year. We have sent a report to local newspapers for inclusion in their editorials. Well done also to Deb and Geoff at the Lord Nelson for winning a Enterprise Community Award and to Eric and Linda Gaukroger for winning Sowerby Bridge

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Allotment Holder of the year with a brilliant score of 96 marks out of 100. The team have started to clear away all the summer bedding from displays and we are just awaiting the delivery of bulbs to replant them for spring.



Gardening tips for November

There is still time to plant spring bulbs in your flowerbeds, pots and containers. As garden centres start to count down to Christmas there should be plenty of bargains to be had. Your greenhouse should now be clear of toms and been given a good clean to get rid of any pest. Now it's time to fill it with all those tender perennials that need some protection throughout the winter. It's also a good time of year to buy a soft bristle broom and place it inside, as you will need this to remove heavy snowfalls of the glass before any damage is done. All summer bedding should now be cleared from pots and containers and composted. Once the first frost happens its time to dig up and store your dahlias. Dig over veg plots, as any frosts will help break the soil down. Clear leaf fall and if possible compost it as it makes great potting medium. Give footpaths a clean or alternatively sprinkle with sand to help you keep your footing during winter months. Continue mowing on a high setting but only when the grass is dry and the ground isn't boggy.



Dates for the diary

Christmas Wreath Competition
Father Christmas in the Village
Conservation Christmas Walk
Heritage Day

December
14th December
30th December
28th June 2014



Eric's View

My best pal Derek's latest blog is on the website www.luddenden.com already. There is a very interesting story this month on Sparrowhawks versus House Martins. I've asked him to provide a report throughout the year so you can find out what's happening every month even when this newsletter takes a rest. It's my favourite time of the year now as my little pals the Robins are singing in the garden. They are one of the few birds that do this so listen out for them.