



**BRITAIN
IN BLOOM®**
with the RHS

YORKSHIRE News from around the Region

Luddenden in Bloom

The Luddenden in Bloom team have been working hard to ensure their community members can enjoy the power of plants despite COVID-19 restrictions disrupting their usual plans.

To support their team in fundraising for future projects, they swapped their annual plant sale for honesty plant tables.

Set up in two locations across the village, locals are invited to take a plant and leave payment in a secure area. Featuring a bumper crop of perennials, herbs, fruit and vegetable plants, coupled with top tips on how to grow them, there's something for everyone to purchase no matter their gardening experience.



A great way to encourage all the villagers to get outdoors, the team are also raising awareness of how growing your own food can reduce your carbon footprint and create a greener world.

NEWSLETTER

Keeping Yorkshire Blooming
August 2021

Hello!

Across the country, community groups have been sharing their projects for consideration in this year's RHS Community Awards. With a focus on the themes of; nourishing your community, planting with purpose, nature-friendly gardening, green solutions and cultivating your community, the groups representing their regions have been using their green spaces to inspire and create positive impacts in their local area. Good luck to our National entries Mirfield & Thornton le Dale. Also, there is still time to submit your back up information for this year's Its your Neighbourhood's awards. The online platform cuts off on 8th August.

As always, you can send this newsletter on to your fellow volunteers, colleagues and friends.
Best Regards

John

Co-Ordinator
YiB



*Pic. Right
Luddendon Honesty Plant Sale*



Paula from Elloughton cum Brough painting one of the Bus Shelter in the theme of ***Bee Kind, Bee Different and Bee Positive***

Caring for houseplants over summer holidays

In the case of short absences during the summer, giving plants a thorough watering before going away may be sufficient. Moving them to a cooler room or away from a bright window will help prevent them drying out. For longer absences special measures can be taken to prevent the plant suffering or dying.

These are based on providing a reservoir of water for the plant to draw on:

Wick method

This method is useful for large single pot plants. Use a large container to hold water, and a piece of capillary type material as a wick. Insert one end of the wick into the reservoir and tuck the other end into the plant pot. This will enable the plant to draw on the water reserves in the reservoir.



Capillary matting



Use this method for collections of smaller pot plants. It may not work with pots that have broken crocks in the bottom. Place a sheet of capillary matting on the kitchen sink draining board or a suitable surface next to the bath. Drape one end of the matting into the sink or bath, which is filled with water. Plants should be grouped on the wet matting, ensuring they make good contact with it by pressing them down slightly. Clay pots need a thorough watering first for them to start drawing up water from the mat.

Use this method for short-term absences only. Place a clear plastic bag over your plant and seal it closed. This allows water vapour to be collected and recycled by the plant. Keep the sides of the bag out of contact with the plant by supporting the bag with canes.



Covering plants with a clear plastic bag

Use this method for short-term absences only. Place a clear plastic bag over your plant and seal it closed. This allows water vapour to be collected and recycled by the plant. Keep the sides of the bag out of contact with the plant by supporting the bag with canes.

Self-watering containers

These containers have built-in reservoir systems. They are best suited to plants that need moisture year-round and do not mind being grown permanently in moist conditions. Plants can be temporarily re-potted into reservoir pots if desired.



Do you have special skills you wish to share?

Yorkshire in Bloom are looking for volunteers with specific skills who are willing to volunteer with us to help on certain roles and tasks.

1. Are you experienced with **sponsorship** or business and cooperate fundraising, and willing to help our charity through the post pandemic challenges.
2. Are you able to help with **marketing**, and public awareness? If this is you and you are able to spare some time helping to promote and move the charity forward, we would love to hear from you. Contact our Coordinator John (Details at the footer of the newsletter)

Looking forward to 2022 – If you would like to be part of our judging panel, we are always looking for **new judges** to join us. Training given, but experience with working with community groups or a sound knowledge of horticulture is an asset, but don't let this be a bar, as training and mentoring is offered to enable you to do the role.



Drop us a line if interested.





Summer Holidays have arrived Gardening with young people

Gardening with young people

Get young people hooked on gardening and help us grow the next generation



Gardening with young people is a great way to spark interest in the natural world. It can serve as the first window into the fascinating workings of our planet; discovering where our food comes from, improving health and wellbeing, and looking after the environment are all big motivators for the next generation.

The first step to involving young people might be to organise an open event, invite a youth group or encourage your volunteers to bring along their children or grandchildren. Let them explore the garden together and run a few hands-on activities. Be guided by them and their interests.

Make some rules

Help young people to see the garden as a fun place, but work with them to introduce some simple rules to keep them safe and happy. Invite the young people to lead on tasks, but demonstrate good practice, such as using, carrying and storing tools safely. Support them to observe insects without handling them and introduce potentially harmful or poisonous plants.

Start small

A little success goes a long way, and young people are more likely to become hooked on growing if they can witness results quickly. A 'take home' plant is a great way to spark their interest – 'quick-win' crops such as micro greens sown in recycled plant pots are popular and carnivorous plants or succulents are easy to take home and care for.



Encourage freedom and responsibility

Let young people find things out for themselves, and generate ideas by designating an area that is theirs to plan, plant and care for. Work with them to encourage wildlife, perhaps by creating a wildflower area, or adding a bird feeder, bug hotel, bird or bat boxes, to add further interest.



Put it in context

Use the garden as a tool to introduce global issues – wellbeing, climate change, food security and biodiversity are big motivators for young people. Help them understand the purpose of different tasks by showing them the results, such as using compost from the site's own heap to enrich or mulch beds.



Spark wonder

Grow some novelty crops, or weird and wonderful flowers to delight your helpers, encouraging samples of your edible produce. Suggest they take photos or collect things that amaze them to share, and discuss their finds.





11 Categories to choose from

'Best of Yorkshire'

Covid Resilience Awards 2021

RHS Yorkshire in Bloom

recognise the enormous challenges the last 12 months have had and are continuing to have on all our lives and especially the "bloom community" and although we have taken the very hard decision in 2020 and again in 2021 to cancel the competitive element of entering your individual community, business, or neighbourhood, into the regional campaign, we felt we had to celebrate all your hard work in keeping our county blooming. So, we are launching our

"Best of Yorkshire"

awards to help congratulate you on your community's resilience from the effects of the Covid pandemic. Based around the three main pillars of Bloom, Horticulture, Environment and Community.

These awards are open to everyone to nominate to. **They are FREE to enter** and if successful you will receive a certificate of achievement to display in your community. These new awards will be for one year only and will replace our normal campaign which we hope will return for 2022.

Self-nomination

- ❖ Each community/entry can put forward up to **five** of their best examples (out of the eleven).
- ❖ Each submission should have written evidence of between fifty and a hundred words accompanied by three (no more) photos, (each photo limited to 2mb size) All entries must be submitted by September

Horticulture

- "Yorkshire in Springtime" :- award, for the best spring displays seasonal or sustainable (March to May)
- "Yorkshire in Summertime" award, for the most impressive summer floral or sustainable displays June to September (can even be wildflower meadows)
- "By heck that's good" award for the best floral feature, can be for the most traditional carpet bedded feature or themed garden display, examples could depict the heritage of the area, or perhaps a themed display thanking NHS workers with innovative planting with either sustainable or traditional bedding plants

Environment

- "On a wing and a prayer" award for the most impressive War memorial, cemetery or place of worship, large or small can be maintained for wildlife or immaculately manicured flower beds and lawns.
- "Kind to nature wildlife project" can be a small wildlife friendly garden or a well-managed nature reserve, village pond or riverbanks.
- "Saving the planet" award for good examples of resource management, recycling projects or tree planting initiatives.

Community

- "Clap for the Community" award to the volunteer or team of volunteers who have kept going through the pandemic and helped their community get through the past year (not necessarily florally could be doing things like organising food banks, looking after the elderly or keeping spirits up within their area)
- "Community Litter Heroes" awarded to the individual or group who throughout lockdown have continued to keep their community clean by regular socially distanced litter picks or clean ups.
- "Wheels of Fortune" award to celebrate local transport centres, could be anything from a floral bus stop to a heritage railway station and anything in between
- "Heart of the Community" award for businesses who have supported their community by whatever means, anything from delivering meals for the elderly to donating materials for making face masks or helping the NHS staff with discounts or free materials or just blooming up to lift peoples spirits and making us smile.
- 'Young Bloomers' includes any project or activity encompassing resilience of young people. Can include, youth groups, schools, or individuals.



All entries via website page

<https://www.yorkshireinbloom.co.uk/bestofyorkshire2021>



Big Bee Challenge competition

The Royal Horticultural Society are partnering with Radio 2 for the campaign, with their garden experts building the winning design and through engagement with schools and their info-packed website.

Doncaster chosen as location for Zoe Ball's Radio 2 Big Bee Challenge winning garden, in a nationwide joint BBC Radio 2 and RHS contest.

Presenter Zoe Ball revealed to her radio 2 Breakfast Show listeners that the Big Bee Challenge winning garden will be built at the NHS Trust's Children and Young People's mental health service in the town.



The competition was open for listeners aged 6-12 years old (on or before the competition closing date of 5 July) to design a bee-friendly garden and, along the way, learn more about nature and sustainability. The aim is for young people to discover things we can all do to help bees and other pollinators thrive - from planting a bee-friendly flower pot, to leaving a section of lawn unmown, to creating a bee B&B for them to live in.



On her show, Zoe said: "The judging is underway as we go through the thousands and thousands of your entries for Radio 2's Big Bee Challenge, to design a bee friendly garden at a NHS Trust site for children and young people with mental health needs. We can't wait to come and see you in South Yorkshire next month, where the winning garden will be built by gardening whizz Adam Frost and the Royal Horticultural Society."



Radio 2 asked younger listeners, to design the bee-friendly garden, – now revealed as the site in Doncaster. The winning garden will be unveiled in a live outside broadcast of The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show at the NHS Trust site on Friday 20 August.

Kathryn Singh, Chief Executive of Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (RDaSH), who run the children and young people's mental health service in Doncaster said: *"It is absolutely fantastic to be chosen to host BBC Radio 2's Big Bee Challenge winning garden. "Our Children and Young People's Service has only just moved to its new location in Doncaster and this will transform the current garden making it a great place for young people visiting our service to go to relax with their family before or after a visit or to chat with their therapist."*



Website:
www.yorkshireinbloom.co.uk



Contact:
01422 885222



Email address:
admin@yorkshireinbloom.co.uk