



Hello Everyone, and a very Happy Easter to you all,

Snow this morning, and possibly minus 3 tomorrow morning, after barbecuing (possibly) last week, that's British weather for you! After a short break from REG matters over the Easter holiday, we're looking back to what we have done recently, and ahead to what's coming up.

Working Parties – Wildflower Beds

The wildflower bed at the bottom of Simonstone Lane was duly weeded, raked and sown with the seed we had collected from last year's plants. Penny met with Roger Hirst from Simonstone Parish Council and a contractor to discuss what to do about where the other bed opposite had been before United Utilities did a great deal of work recently. It was decided that it needed starting from scratch, 10 tons of new top soil will be spread, a flower bed marked out in a similar shape to the other one, and grass seed will be sown. They will also pay for wildflower seed, which REG will sow.

Working Parties - Side of Cricket Club

Many bags of weeds, stones, litter and dead wood have been taken out from down the side of the Cricket Club, though by no means all of it, because the couch grass etc is so well established it would take a complete replacement of soil to get rid of it entirely. People have kindly donated and promised plants, and work is on-going on Thursday afternoons at 1.30pm. Please let Penny know if you can come, so we don't contravene Covid regulations with too many people. 07957 [792518/pennygalpin@aol.com](mailto:pennygalpin@aol.com)

Working Parties – Litter

A big operation took place beside the Stork car park last month. Brian and Peter cut back trees to enable the others to get out decades of rubbish. After Peter made contact with Thwaites, a representative from the brewery came to see what was happening, and this may eventually lead to a new fence to stop the litter blowing through the scrub, making it easier to collect. Otherwise the Parish Council might agree to help, if a new fence seems appropriate.

Donations

The owners of Automotive Tools have made a generous donation to REG, having seen the efforts being made down the side of the Cricket Club. They are pleased to see that the area is being cared for. Also, the Friday coffee morning group has made a generous donation to our coffers. We are so very pleased and thankful for both of these.

The usual monthly litter picking is this week:

Friday 9th and Saturday 10th April. RVBC will collect the bags from the usual place by the bin on the way down to the Cricket Club on Monday 12th. Please let Wendy know when and where you're going to pick, and whether you need a picker. Empty bags can be collected from the Stork doorway. Also, please let her know how many bags you have left

for collection, and how many man/woman hours you did, for our records (all anonymous!).
wendylaycock7@gmail.com/07528 212215.

Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership

We are in the process of applying for grant funding from PHLP, with three aims – to see if we can influence people not to litter by the use of anti-litter posters by the roads; to increase biodiversity by sowing wildflower seeds ourselves on verges to provide ‘corridors’ for pollinators, and giving seed to the primary school children; and by continuing and expanding our Himalayan Balsam-pulling work this year. If granted, we will be buying more equipment for our activities, and will have to do evaluations and inform the public in various ways of what we have done.

Finance

Just a reminder that subs are due, it's only £5 a year, but helps to pay for our annual insurance. So if you haven't paid yet, here are the bank details:

Lloyds Bank

Sort Code: 30-98-97

A/c No: 86507860

Ref: REG and your last name

Alternatively you can pay by cheque, to Readstone Environment Group, and give to one of the committee (Wendy, Gayle or Penny) or post to G Wray, 13 Dawson Avenue, BB12 7JF, or make a cash donation and receive a receipt.

No-one has come forward yet to join the committee, or to head up the gardening or litter teams. We could really do with help if we are to grow as an organization, and do more on other things such as climate change. The more people who take on a small job, the smaller will be the jobs – that's the theory anyway!

Thank you for your on-going support.

Penny, Wendy and Gayle

Penny Galpin, Chairman
pennygalpin@aol.com/07957 792518.

Tony Seaford tonyseaford@gmail.com (for advice on lowering your carbon footprint)

Wendy Laycock, Secretary, Litter Supremo
wendylaycock7@gmail.com

Gayle Wray, Treasurer
gw@gayle-victoria.com

Hedgehog Support: <https://www.hedgehogstreet.org/help-hedgehogs/link-your-garden>
Contact: Shirley Bridge