

MINISTER'S LETTER

Once again this year, countless gardeners and green space managers (e.g. within local councils) have signed up to Plantlife's annual campaign, *No Mow May*.



Plantlife is an international conservation charity that is working to secure a world rich in wild plants and fungi. Launched in 2019, *No Mow May* is a plea to us to leave our lawnmowers in the garage or shed that our lawns might be liberated, and our gardens provide a healthier space for nature.

Reasons to take part in this campaign are compelling. According to Plantlife:



We've lost nearly 97% of flower rich meadows since the 1970's and with them have gone vital food needed by pollinators, such as bees and butterflies.

A healthy lawn with some long grass and wildflowers benefits wildlife, tackles pollution and can even lock away carbon below ground – and best of all, to reap these benefits all we have to do is not mow our lawns in May!

There are over 23 million gardens in the UK, and even the smallest grassy patches add up to a significant proportion of our land so, if we manage these spaces properly, we can deliver enormous gains for nature, communities, and the climate.

Wanting to do our bit, I signed up this year and committed the Timmis family to not cutting the manse lawns for another month. I know, right? Give, give, give – that's me!

I did quickly let it be known to our lovely neighbours that there was method behind this apparent negligence - lest they be tempted to think that I was simply being lazy – but even so, on occasion, I have looked at the lawns with a sense of shame.

Like those embarrassing stages that people must endure when growing their hair or a beard (I know nothing about the latter, I hasten to add – I couldn't grow one if I tried), our lawn has looked shocking at times. In recent days, however, it seems to have grown into its new self and seems to be proudly claiming mini-meadow status. And bees are buzzing everywhere.



I am beginning to think that *No Mow May* might well turn into *Buy A Scythe June*, but for a while longer at least, I'm going to enjoy looking out and seeing a variety of tall grasses swaying in the breeze.

Who knew that doing God's work in the world and for all its creatures and people could be so effortless? It so often isn't, of course, but that just says to me that we need to take the easy wins when and where we find them. And with summer around the corner, we should be looking to rest and enjoy God's creation, shouldn't we?

With every blessing

Paul

Photos by Amélie

Community Garden

Fruit Trees planted in the Community Garden – in memory of our friends Joyce and Fred Plant

Linda (Joyce and Fred Plant Daughter) got in touch with those involved with the Community Garden offering to donate two Fruit Trees for the Garden in memory of her parents. We were touched by the offer and so very pleased to make it happen in memory Joyce and Fred. So, on Sunday 26th March we planted a Bramley Apple and Victoria Plum tree by the side of Church.



Linda, Ian, and Eden came along to help to plant the trees – Joanne could not be there on the day but is continuing to keep an eye and tend to the trees as she works nearby. These are Dwarf trees and we are not expecting fruit for the next few years but hope they will a great addition to our growing Community Garden.



Thankfully we are able to see the trees start to bloom already, such a great addition to the Community Garden -Thank you Linda, Ian, Eden, Joanne, Joyce and Fred.





Since Spring we have started our Bring and share lunches up again and have been very busy starting to help bring the garden back to life after the cold winter. In March, April and May we have prepared the planters and sown some seeds – starting to grow many vegetables and fruits.

We have Beans, Peas, Carrots, Po-

tatoes, Onions and Salad items like lettuce and radishes. More to come over the next few months like Peppers, Cucumbers, and tomatoes.

Do come round to the community garden next time you are at Church, to see how the Fruit trees are growing along with all our vegetables and soft fruits we are growing.



Our newest addition to the garden – our water butts are now in place ready for the watering season to start, expertly fitted by our community garden team – Thank you guys!

Abby & Shelley

JOIN US

COMMUNITY GARDEN MEAL

2 COURSE + GLASS
PROSECCO AT
BELLA DONNA (MORDEN)
£25 PP

Wednesday 20th September - 7pm

SEE JUNE-AUGUST NEWSLETTER FOR
FULL MENU

TO SIGN UP SPEAK TO SYLVIA OR
YVONNE
PAYMENT REQUIRED BY 6TH
SEPTEMBER



STARTERS



BRUSCHETTA: TOASTED ITALIAN BREAD
SERVED WITH TOMATOES, ONIONS,
BASIL AND OLIVE OIL.

MELANZANE: BAKED AUBERGINES,
TOMATO SAUCE, MOZZARELLA AND
PARMESAN CHEESE.

INSALATA TRICOLORE: AVOCADO,
FRESH VINE TOMATOES, MOZZARELLA
CHEESE, OLIVE OIL AND BALSAMIC
GLAZE



MAINS



SPAGHETTI BOLOGNESE: WITH MINCED
BEEF, CHERRY TOMATO SAUCE.

MARGHERITA PIZZA: CHEESE AND
TOMATO (VEGETARIAN)



AMERICAN HOT PIZZA: TOMATO,
MOZZARELLA, PEPPERONI, PEPPERS
AND JALAPENOS.



POLLO CRÈME FUNGHI: CHICKEN
BREASTS WITH CREAM AND MUSHROOM
SAUCE SERVED WITH VEGETABLES AND
POTATOES.





Everyone is welcome to join us at our monthly gatherings – We start by bring & share lunch together and then set to work on parts of the Garden that need tending.

Green fingers or not everyone is welcome

Dates for our next get togethers (starting at 12.30pm each time)

Dates for your diary

Community Garden Lunch & Share Dates:

Sunday 11th June

Sunday 23rd July

Sunday 20th August

Other fundraising events

Community Garden Meal (Bella Donna)

Wednesday 20th September

Spring Harvest 2023

I seem to be the only person that goes to Spring Harvest as no one else writes something for this newsletter about their experience etc. But truthfully I'm happy to give you an insight to what took place at Butlin's Minehead.

We were a small group this year just 12 of us (8 from Martin Way 2 from the Lantern Church and 2 dear friends from Ruslip Middlesex). The journey to and from Butlin's for most of us was slow at times to the point of not moving for what seemed like forever, but God is good at teaching patience. Once on the site we settled into our accommodation then attend the evening worship in the new Studio 36 [Which holds 2000+ people] after which we retired to our beds for a good night's sleep.

This year the theme for the week was 'Flipped – Life in the Upside Down Kingdom.'

Each day started with the Big Start in Studio 36, which some of us got up early enough to attend (a Fun Time of worship Teaching and much more – all in just 30 minutes). I love this session as it great to be among the families and it's a good way of setting the theme for the day.

After a short break it's off to the different sessions taking place all over the site. I stayed in Studio 36 for the Bible teaching where I was not disappointed. Rachel Gardner kept myself and over 1500 people captive with her teaching (there not many speakers that could hold your attention for over an hour – well for me, she is one such person). After the midmorning break during which I would purchase a Genuine Cornish Pasty [my treat to myself each day] I stayed in the same venue to hear other speakers over the whole week. Lunch Time followed this session, after which I would visit the SkyLine where you can purchase books, clothing, pianos etc. I would chat with the different charities who had stands there. While other members of our group went to different seminars which had been laid on each afternoon.

In the evening it was off to the "Evening Celebration" again some would go to the lively noisy one in Studio 36 while other (myself included) would attend the quieter celebration which took place in SkyLine (It was quieter - because there was only Sam playing the Keyboards and singing with Moira accompany him with the singing).

To show my age, where as in the past I would have gone to what is called “After hours” events, this year all I could do was to go to ‘Tony’s consultation room’ [the onsite bar] where we would gather to chat about the day and what we enjoyedor not!

Reading over the above it could look pretty boring, but I can honestly say that it was not and I will be going again in 2024 (detail of Spring Harvest 2024 you will see elsewhere in the Newsletter). For me the few days away is a time to recharge the batteries together with being with a great group of people.

It would be good if you could join myself and others in April 2024, speak to me if you would like to know more, I’m only too pleased to tell you more about Spring Harvest.

Blessings

Tony Loft

SPRING HARVEST 2024

Skegness 1-5 April or Minehead 8-12 April

*The Theme for this year is
'UP AND ALIVE'*

[Living the life we are made for]

**We will be booking for 2024 on Wednesday 14
June 2023**

*So you don't have long to tell Tony Loft
If you would like to go.*

As for the week we go and the type of accommodation preferred will be decided after the majority of those wishing to go have had their say.

CHURCH DIARY

June 2023			
Fri	2	12.30pm	Lunch Club
Sat	3	10.30am	Community Garden Craft Fair
Sun	4	10.30am	Morning Worship – led by Valerie Ashcroft
Tue	6	10.30am	Coffee & Chat
Wed	7	11.30am	Open Table
Thur	8	8.00pm	House Group
Sun	11	10.30am	Café Worship & Annual Church Meeting – led by Revd Paul Timmis
Tue	13	10.30am	Coffee & Chat
		7.00pm	Circuit Meeting – LMC(W)
Wed	14	11.30am	Open Table
Fri	16	12.30pm	Lunch Club
Sun	18	10.30am	Morning Worship – led by Viv Newitt
		6.00pm	Holy Communion – led by Revd Paul Timmis
Tue	20	10.30am	Coffee & Chat
Wed	21	11.30am	Open Table
Sun	25	10.30am	Holy Communion – led by Revd Paul Timmis
		4.00pm	Circuit Valerie @ 50
Tue	27	10.30am	Coffee & Chat
Wed	28	11.30am	Open Table
		8.00pm	Church Council
Fri	30	12.30am	Lunch Club

Please email items for next month's Newsletter to
newsletter@martinway.org.uk by **Sunday 13 August 2023.**

July 2023			
Sun	2	10.30am	Morning Worship – led by Sally Rush
Tue	4	10.30am	Coffee & Chat
Wed	5	11.30am	Open Table
Sun	9	10.30am	Café Worship – led by Revd Paul Timmis
Tue	11	10.30am	Coffee & Chat
Wed	12	11.30am	Open Table
Fri	14	12.30pm	Lunch Club
Sun	16	10.30am	Morning Worship – led by Richard Graham
		6.00pm	Holy Communion – led by Emma Cusack
Tue	18	10.30am	Coffee & Chat
Wed	19	11.30am	Open Table
Sun	23	10.30 am	Holy Communion – led by Revd Paul Timmis
		12.30pm	Community Garden Bring & Share Lunch
Tue	25	10.30am	Coffee & Chat
Wed	26	11.30am	Open Table
Sun	30	10.30am	Morning Worship – led by Tony Loft
August 2023			
Tue	1	10.30am	Coffee & Chat
Sun	6	10.30am	Morning Worship – Led by Valerie Ashcroft
Tue	9	10.30am	Coffee & Chat
Sun	13	10.30am	Morning Worship – led by Brenda Cannon
		6.00pm	Holy Communion – led by Revd Paul Timmis
Tue	16	10.30am	Coffee & Chat
Sun	20	10.30am	Holy Communion – led by Revd Paul Timmis
		12.00pm	Community Garden Lunch & Share
Tue	22	10.30am	Coffee & Chat
Sun	27	10.30am	Morning Worship – led by Revd David Hookins
Tue	29	10.30am	Coffee & Chat