



Readstone  
Environment  
Group

## July Newsletter

“Ah, summer – that long anticipated stretch of lazy, lingering days, free of responsibility and rife with possibility. It’s a time to hunt for insects, master handstands, practice swimming strokes, conquer trees, explore nooks and crannies, and make new friends.”

Darrell Hammond.

## Coming Up

### Foraging Walk – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July 7pm

Delve into the unknown with Pete Compo and explore the benefits of nature’s larder and how it feeds every part of our lives. Identify wild flora and find out how wild food from our local environment contributes to our good health.

Join us at Pendle Plant Craft, Kirby Rd. Lomeshaye Industrial Estate, Nelson BB9 6RS. Go onto the estate from the motorway junction. Kirby Road is the second turning on the left on Churchill Way.

Please email to book a place. [readstoneinfo@gmail.com](mailto:readstoneinfo@gmail.com) or contact a member of the committee. We can offer a car share & help save carbon emissions.

## Plastic Free July

Visit our stall at the Wednesday Coffee Morning at the Village Hall. Find out the reasonable cost of refilling your washing up liquid and hand soap bottles. We also hope to encourage more people to join our group and take part in activities that benefit the environment in and around the villages.

## What have we done since last month?

















Litter has been duly picked and flower beds have been weeded and watered. Thankyou to all for your hard work. There is a new anti litter pavement sign near George Lane which we hope will deter passing motorists from dropping litter. The sign was funded partly from the Duchy of Lancaster grant and partly from REG funds.

Unfortunately both litter pickers in the playground have disappeared, they will be replaced. However, we can't keep on doing this so if you see any spare litter pickers lying around anywhere please let us know. We did well to keep the same pickers for a year!

## Biodiversity

Some of the primroses are growing rather large and have been planted out. We hope to complete this when the weather returns to the 'normal?' British summer to avoid having to tear around to water them. Bee friendly plants have been added to the Constitution Club garden and Worthalls Rd. The wild flower beds on Simonstone Lane, have sprouted flowers and so have a few patches around the villages.

**UK bumblebees to see in July**

					
<b>Heath</b> bumblebee	<b>Shrill carder</b> bumblebee	<b>Red-tailed</b> bumblebee	<b>Broken-belted</b> bumblebee	<b>Bilberry</b> bumblebee	
					
<b>Buff-tailed</b> bumblebee	<b>Tree</b> bumblebee	<b>White-tailed</b> bumblebee	<b>Garden</b> bumblebee	<b>Ruderal</b> bumblebee	<b>Early</b> bumblebee
					
<b>Moss carder</b> bumblebee	<b>Common</b> carder bumblebee	<b>Red-shanked</b> carder bumblebee	<b>Great</b> <b>Yellow</b> bumblebee	<b>Brown-banded</b> carder bumblebee	
<b>Big Eight common and widespread</b>			<b>Rare and less common</b>		
<b><a href="http://www.bumblebeeconservation.org/species-guide">www.bumblebeeconservation.org/species-guide</a></b>					

### Some Very Positive News

Our attempts at Balsam Bashing have proved successful in the ditch near the road at Law farm and a small patch along the brook. The wood by Read Lodge has also been cleared of himalayan balsam, this has taken at least four years and many volunteer hours. It is very gratifying to see the absence of this pesky 'weed'.

### More Positive News!

- 1 The world is to get 10 new Marine Reserves. Waters off the coasts of Portugal, Colombia, Sao Tome and Principe are to be protected after an announcement at the UN World Ocean Conference in Nice.
- 2 The UK is to ban bottom trawling in 41 offshore marine protected areas. Let's hope the plan is actually delivered.
- 3 New research and map modelling is pinpointing places where reforestation is designed to work and provide a win win situation for people and nature. (University of Minnesota).
- 4 Local conservation methods in Mozambique include protected corridors that straddle national borders enabling wildlife to recover to prewar numbers.

PLEASE LEAVE SOME WATER OUT IN YOUR GARDEN FOR WILDLIFE

Gayle

July 16<sup>th</sup> 2025

'Butterflies fluttering in the warm summer sun'