



Readstone Environment Group

“If you cannot do great things, do small things in a great way.” (N Hill)

Coming Up

AGM

We intend to have a swift AGM at the start of the meeting to elect the committee for the next year. This will be in the Village Hall on September 11th or 25th at 7 30 pm. Date will be confirmed later. The Visiting Speaker will be Ian Wright from L.C.C. on the development of Miyawake Forests in Lancashire and a potential site for a local forest.

Gardeners – Tidying, clearing weeds and watering continues to be done to make the villages look attractive. If you are splitting perennial plants this back end and they need a good home, please consider contacting us. We have room to fill at the Worthall's Rd. site.

Litter Picking

July stats are: 16 bags collected, 8 volunteers and 15 hours worked. Thank you to all for doing this task.

Re Two Minute Litter Pick Board in the Playground

Due to vandalism of the litter pickers and disappearance of the hand made litter bags we have discontinued this project for a while and will reinstate it at a later date.

Biodiversity.

Balsam Bashing

A small inroad was made into a new area on

If you are able to pull up a few of these dreadful plants and stomp on the roots it will be useful and there may well be hundreds less of them by doing this. Children in the future may thank you for this as you will be helping to preserve British wild flowers. Balsam is also bad for pollinators on many levels especially bees.

The task of planting out the primroses and cowslips which will hopefully come up next spring to feed the early pollinators is nearly finished.

Butterflies

It's been encouraging to see a lot more of them about this year, Hooray... Please bear them in mind if you are planting/buying new plants in your garden and go for pollinator friendly plants.

Something else your grandchildren may thank you for....

If you refill plastic containers instead of using them once, there will be less plastic rubbish going into landfill. Refilling hand liquid soap, washing up and laundry liquid, using glass milk bottles instead of plastic, benefits the environment in many ways.

Request

If you are on Facebook please could you like or follow REG it will be a boost to our figures. Also, could I ask the same for Clitheroe Repair Café? Thank you.

Been and Gone

Foraging Walk

Seven of us attended Plant Craft at Lomeshaye Business Estate, Nelson for a walk through the nature reserve. After some delicious soup containing nettles and other plant edibles Pete showed us how to identify plants, noting the effects on the body and what was edible and how certain plants. We looked at nettles, herb robert. Plants that we have known since childhood have healing properties for example herb Robert.

Langho in Bloom Thankyou Coffee Morning.

We were invited to Langho to help celebrate their 10th Anniversary and as we drove towards the venue it was easy to see the gorgeous flower pots which volunteers have developed over this year. We received a very warm welcome and tea and scrumptious cake too.

Some Positive News

In a historic shift, solar power generated more electricity than fossil fuels across the EU this May. The milestone reflects a growing move towards renewables, with solar supplying 18% of the EU's electricity. Coal, by contrast, fell to a record low of just 10%, signalling lasting change.

And in 2024 UK renewable energy surpassed 50% for the first time.

Pine marten kits have been born in Devon for the first time in over 100 years. Once extinct in England, the species is making a quiet comeback thanks to reintroduction efforts by the Woodland Trust and Devon Wildlife Trust.

A common crane chick, fluffy and rare, has hatched at a UK wetland centre for the first time in three years.

Greggs has opened its first “Eco” drive-thru in Winchester, featuring solar panels, rainwater harvesting, sun tubes, low-energy lighting and heat-recovery systems. Part of a wider sustainable rollout — building on its eco-shop model across 27 % of its estate — the pilot seeks to reduce energy, waste and water use.

See: <https://www.positive.news/society/good-news-stories-from-week-31-of-2025/>

More very welcome good news.

UK councils to receive £1.4bn recycling windfall

Local authorities across the UK will cash in on a share of £1.4bn thanks to new measures set to reinvent recycling by making producers pay a chunk of its cost. Under the current system, local authorities – or, rather, taxpayers – have footed the bill for recycling our empty milk bottles, cereal boxes and soup tins.

That’s about to be binned with the government’s announcement of a new [‘Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging’ scheme](#), which shifts the financial burden to businesses who produce the packaging.

They will be charged fees, which vary based on how easy their packaging is to recycle, with lower costs for reusable or refillable packaging.

The overhaul comes into effect in November. The bulk of the cash will go to English local authorities to streamline collections and revamp recycling infrastructure.

The scheme aims to incentivise businesses to slash packaging and switch to more planet-friendly materials. Circular economy minister Mary Creagh hailed the move as a major step forward.

“This will revolutionise how we deal with our waste and ensure more of today’s rubbish is recycled into tomorrow’s packaging,” she said.

If you are interested in joining the REG Committee please get in touch. We are especially looking for a secretary or someone who can take minutes at our meetings.

Let’s hold on to and make the most of that final stretch of summer and relax in the warmth and golden sunlight.

Gayle. August 2025

See lovely image below...



The tide turns for seahorses on England's southern coast
Conservation efforts have been credited for a spike in seahorse sightings off the coast of Dorset.