



“Wine is the divine juice of September”. Voltaire

Ahh, September, time to slow down, forget about the watering, reflect, enjoy late slices of summer and look out on the season of “mists and mellow fruitfulness” and prepare the garden for winter and next spring.

Coming Up

Talk on The Benefits of Miyawake Forests by Ian Wright LCC Treescapes, Community Engagement Officer.

Thursday 25th September. 7.30pm. Read and Simonstone Village Hall.

Come and find out how these miniature forests have benefitted the environment and communities across Lancashire. Might we be able to plant one locally?

We will have a very swift AGM at the start of the meeting. We would appreciate your support.

Everyone welcome - bring a friend. It's free and so are the refreshments. Raffle, donations welcome.

Gardening

Despite health problems of the main volunteers the tidying, weeding has been going on at Worthall's Rd, the Village Hall and other spots around the village. We have ordered medals.

Balsam Bashing

We are coming to the end of the season for bashing before the seed pods are too ripe.

Five went to Read Hall Lodge Wood again the other week and there was less than a tubful. The weather this year may have slightly been against these blighters, however, they are still overpowering the countryside.

Litter Picking

You can definitely see when REG litter pickers have been out. It's time for litter picking again this week end. Bags will be in the corner of the car park. Full bags to be left in the usual place on Worthall's Rd. Thankyou all. The good news this month is that we are welcoming a new litter picker...

Biodiversity

Please think about the birds and other creatures in your garden this winter when cutting back. If you leave some leaves and flower heads you will be helping them get through the winter and your garden can be tidied up in spring for a fresh start.

POSITIVE NEWS

Scientists have discovered that ancient oak trees adapt their root systems to improve carbon absorption as greenhouse gas levels rise. A recent study led by the Birmingham Institute of Forest Research in England found that these trees change how they grow roots and interact with soil microbes to pull more carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the air. This natural adjustment helps them store more carbon underground and contributes to slowing climate change.



Trees use three main strategies to get nutrients from the soil. They can grow more roots to explore new areas, release chemicals that support helpful soil microbes, or partner with organisms which break down organic matter and release nutrients that trees need to grow. The study shows ancient oak trees switch between these methods depending on the season and environmental conditions.

Water Rangers

This organisation apparently started in Canada and is spreading. A kit is provided for people to test and monitor water content in their local areas. Maybe River Ribbles Trust may know something about this.

Recycling (and Upcycling)

Laura Mason started Re-tribe after noticing that perfectly good tents at Creamfields festival were being shunted into landfill. She has now started a business turning festival tents into jackets, bags and other useful products. Helping to address one of

the music festivals circuit biggest waste problems. Read the rest of this uplifting article on <https://happyeconews.com/festival-tents-into-bags/>.



This reminds me of the talk and demonstration we had from Patricia Bennet and her wonderful use of plastics turning landfill rubbish into beautiful articles.

Recycling

Has anyone any hints on how they have recycled in unusual ways. Mine is that I know a lady with an ironing shop and when the protective plastic bags are brought back to the shop the bottom of the bag is tied into a knot and the used bag goes into lining the rubbish bin. Helps the environment and your pocket too. See Ironing Maids Clitheroe, facebook.

Gayle

September Newsletter 2025