

REG October Newsletter

Autumn carries more gold in its pocket than all other seasons. Anon.

“Crisp air, cosy sweaters and falling leaves.” Anon.

Coming Up

Thursday October 30th We are still looking for a suitable speaker and will keep you informed.

Thursday December 4th Social Evening.

Biodiversity

Ensure you make the most of these fabulous autumn colours and that fact that it is a ‘mast year’, plenty of acorns and chestnuts. You may want to roast some “on an open fire”.

Keeping a wild area in your garden is useful for birds and other creatures for shelter and to rifle for food. Don’t forget to check bonfires for early hibernating hedgehogs.

Climate Pollution

Not so good news for people in the outfall area of Clitheroe Cement Works. Check out this pollution. https://climatetrace.org/air-pollution/ghs-fua_3401



Handy Environmental Hints from Linda Sawley

Here's a hint. I carefully open the plastic bags that toilet rolls come in and reuse them for my small bin in the bathroom. I also bring home my church's toilet roll packaging to line my bin. (I'm the person in charge of the toilets!!) I haven't bought small plastic bags for years!

Has anyone else got any tips?

Is it too early to mention Christmas?

Be an early bird and be environmentally conscious and avoid cards and wrapping paper which have gold, silver or glitter on them as they are made out of plastic. Many bows are made of plastic too. Use real ribbon which can be re used. You might want to try - Zero Plastic Cellotape <https://www.tesco.com/groceries/en-GB/products/307797813> @ £2.75 for 3M x 24mm.

AGM and talk on Miyawake Forest

We had a very swift AGM. A Chair – myself and Treasurer – Alyson Stenhouse were nominated. Mike Addis and Penny Galpin stood down as Secretary and Balsam Lead respectively. Thankyou to both of you for your hard work, enthusiasm, commitment and sense of humour in ensuring that REG keeps on track and keeping the balsam at bay in parts of the village. And indeed almost clearing 3 sites. A fantastic job according to Ian Wright LCC Community Engagement Officer (Treescapes) for LCC. Well done Penny. The committee was re-elected.

Sooo we are short a Secretary and Balsam Lead. The latter needed next Spring. Step forward please all those who are interested. We don't bite and like to have a good laugh at meetings!

Ian was also our speaker on Miyawake Forests. This is a technique for planting self sustaining dense woodland with native trees and shrubs that grow closely together in prepared soil. The saplings are surrounded by a paling fence usually about the size of tennis court or smaller. They produce a rich biodiverse environment extremely quickly which enhances biodiversity in general locally. There are 27 completed in Lancashire and the county has the largest most experienced sites in the country. Ian has spoken of perhaps creating one locally – we are waiting to hear back from him. We hope that this idea takes off.

St Johns School Read

Wendy has been busy with Eco Warrior group and the Gardening Club. Planting bulbs and cowslips and primroses plus other activities.



Positive News

Rewilding and nature:

Efforts in the UK have shown success, with rewilding projects progressing and conservation efforts like restoring heathlands leading to a record number of nightjars in 2024.

Ocean protection:

The Global Ocean Treaty, designed to protect marine ecosystems, officially became law after 60 nations ratified it.

Salmon return:

Atlantic salmon have successfully returned to breed in England's River Don for the first time in centuries, a sign of significant waterway restoration.

And locally... last swallow seen on October 3rd.

Environment dates

UNBLOCKTOBER

The time to **act** to save our sewers and seas. Small changes have a big impact. How we dispose of small things down our kitchen sinks, bathroom, drains can make a big difference to the environment and the health of our waterways, seas and oceans. It's easy to get involved. Or just use common sense really. See <https://www.unblocktober.org>

October 14th International E waste day

CRMs (Critical Raw Materials) are essential to future generations. Some of them are rare, some may involve us being hostage to countries that mine them, for all our phones, TVs and electrical goods in the future. That is why disposing of your E waste in the correct manner is important in order that CRMs can be recovered from old electrical goods.

See <https://weee-forum.org/iewd-about/> for further info.

I know the date has been and gone but I never heard a peep from anywhere about this. Did you?

November 24th Buy Nothing Day – by buying less (of everything) and buying well, there is less waste to go into landfill.

Gayle 20th October 2025

See below

More pictures from local schools with plants, weather stations, wormeries and litter posters, bought with money from the Duchy of Lancaster grants and Parish Council council grants. Read school are in navy uniforms, Simonstone in red.





