



Welcome to our first newsletter - we hope you enjoy it.

Message from Terry Burns, President Liphook in Bloom:

At a recent meeting of Liphook in Bloom it was agreed that we would produce a newsletter so that all members of the team i.e. friends of Liphook in Bloom, sponsors, helpers and the public would know exactly what we as a team have been up to. Miranda has kindly volunteered to produce it.

We have all worked hard during this wretched Covid to keep our village looking at its best with all the gardens and hanging baskets looking brilliant.

This has always been our aim so that people going to work, visiting or passing through Liphook would get the benefits of our beautiful village.

We have a wonderful team with varying disciplines and skills that are required for the team to run professionally and efficiently.

Of course, a good team needs a good leader which we are very fortunate to have. Joan our chairman, assisted by her husband Roy who has the ability to put his hand to anything. A big thank you from us all.

So often when I try to encourage people to join Liphook in Bloom they say they don't know anything about gardening. My reply is, 25 years ago most of us didn't. I then go on to explain all the various jobs we undertake.

1. Designing the beds and hanging baskets.
2. Ordering plants/bulbs
3. Planting, weeding and dead heading.
4. Digging and rotavating the beds to prepare for planting.
5. Repairs. For example, maintaining the bowser, mending fencing knocked down by delivery lorries.

6. Booking rooms for meetings and events.
7. Taking minutes.
8. Watering.
9. Organising watering roster.
10. Publicity.
11. Getting sponsors and Friends of Liphook in Bloom and looking after them.
12. Treasurer.
13. Dealing with correspondence.
14. Photography.
15. Photo records i.e. compiling photo albums.
16. Web master.
17. Christmas lights maintenance.
18. Organising displays and events.
19. Projects.
20. Organising social events a) Summer party b) Christmas dinner.
21. Last but not least Chairman's duties, of which there are many.

Plus, many other duties I am sure!! Apologies if I've forgotten anyone.

So, to be a member of Liphook in Bloom you don't need a lot of knowledge of plants there is a job for everyone. Come and join us and have fun in achieving something worthwhile for all to see and appreciate. It's so nice to see new faces. Let's all make an effort to encourage friends, family to join us.

On behalf of Carole and myself may we wish you a blooming great Christmas and a happy and healthy new year. Many thanks for being a member of the Liphook in Bloom Family.

Terry Burns
President

Together, we have planted approximately 9,000 bulbs and 2,000 bedding plants in 2022 - that's a massive achievement.

In early summer 2022 Paul Johnson and Joan Holdsworth chose new shrubs and planted them into the bed on Station Road near the doctors' surgery as it was looking so neglected. It's looking so much better now.

Watering was particularly challenging this summer as the weather was so hot and dry. The watering team were watering more regularly and mostly at the crack of dawn. You would also have seen, if you were up and about the village at that time, members of the team hand watering some of the beds. A huge thanks go to all of them.

We currently have 34 cash sponsors, who between them have donated over £3,000, and 16 we call "in kind" sponsors as they either donate material things or give a

discount on purchases. We have lost 4 sponsors this year for a variety of reasons, but have acquired 3 more so far. Carolyn Williamson, who looks after the sponsorship, is still hoping to entice another recently opened business to come on board (fingers crossed!).

Friends of Liphook in Bloom is also thriving, with over 30 regular contributors, and this year to date, we have received £350 from our Friends. We ask for a minimum of £5, but most give far more than that.

Carolyn is always happy to talk to any potential sponsors, small or large, or anyone who wants to become a Friend of Liphook in Bloom and she can be contacted via our website. www.liphookinbloom.co.uk

While we are talking about our website - just a reminder:

- we have a website <http://www.liphookinbloom.co.uk/>
- there is a calendar on there for the current year's workdays and events
- we have over 8.000 photos going back many years on the gallery page
- we have a Facebook page too <https://www.facebook.com/LiphookInBloom>



I expect a lot of you noticed the amazing poppy display in the Millennium Bed to commemorate Armistice Day. I wonder how many of you know how this came about?

Keith Thomas tells the story:

In December 2017 a bunch of bloomers went to Belgium to experience Bruges Christmas Market. On the way back we visited the war cemetery at Passchendaele and then moved on to Ypres where we walked around the Menin Gate which had an

amazing display of small poppies. From this the idea was born to do something similar on the Millennium Bed in the village.

We wanted to make the poppies robust enough to last for some years so on our return we found a company in Cranleigh who would manufacture a metal cutter to our dimensions and then use this to stamp out the main poppy shape in red plastic. A few green painted sticks and some self adhesive black roundels later and we had all the components to assemble our version of the Ypres poppies.

For our first display, we decided to have one poppy for each of the 111 fallen from our Parish and every year since we have changed the display either to a different design or to echo something specific in the public eye.

2020 : 75th Anniversary of WW2 VE Day

2021 : 100th Anniversary of British Legion

2022 : transition from Queen Elizabeth II to King Charles III



Joan and Barbara Miller organised a Liphook in Bloom "stall" at the Picnic on the Millennium Green in celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It was a busy and enjoyable day and thank you to all the members of the team who volunteered their time to help. There was a game for the children called Wild Flower Hunters which was a huge success and the plant sale raised nearly £200.



Paul Johnson, along with a small team organised a Liphook in Bloom celebration for its 25th anniversary.

" This year marked a quarter century of Liphook in Bloom. As part of the celebrations we set up a walk around the village linking many of our major achievements from the last twenty-five years. Banners were put up in the village and a special day of celebration was held on the 2nd of July. Children from the local schools created gardens in containers and the winner was judged by Suzanne Moss from the RHS and Lesley Hollands from Liphook Horticultural Society.

A special treasure hunt was created around the Anniversary trail and around twenty-five families took part.

In the afternoon a function for around eighty invited guests included a talk on the history of LIB and a film covering our activities since our very beginnings. Guests were given free drinks on arrival, courtesy of one of our major sponsors, REDH. The proceedings were concluded with an afternoon tea produced by Barbara Frost and her team. The twenty-fifth anniversary film and all of our other films will be uploaded to YouTube in the new year so that they are accessible to all (watch newsletters for further information)"

Paul Johnson



Great fun was had by all on the Liphook in Bloom Carnival Float and we won first prize in the Adult Class. Joan who designed the float said "The Carnival Float was a collaboration built by 6/7 of the guys over about 3 weeks. The ladies sorted out the costumes and quarterstaves and Keith Thomas organised the music". Congratulations to everyone involved - you did us proud yet again.

Liphook in Bloom now has a little rest from gardening until the New Year and we are looking forward to another blooming year. Take care and see you then.

We hope you've enjoyed our first newsletter.

We welcome any contributions or suggestions - please email Miranda <mailto:miranda.rowe@btinternet.com>

If you'd prefer not to receive any newsletters in the future please email us on: <mailto:liphookinbloom@gmail.com>