

# Liphook in Bloom



We're nearly at the end of September and the "wheel is turning" - there is definitely a hint of Autumn in the air, even though we are having some gloriously sunny days. I hope you'll agree that the village has looked very colourful and after a very dry June, the flowers put their roots down and have done very well.

In October we clear the beds, ready to plant the bulbs and flowers for a glorious display next Spring. We deliberately clear the beds before the Carnival because they are often used (especially in the Square) as vantage points to watch the procession!

Work is going on behind the scenes to get the recycled bulbs ready. Members of the team and helpers took them home when we lifted them in May, dried them and then a couple of weeks ago they were all inspected to make sure the ones that would be planted this year were viable.

The planting will include a mixture of recycled and new bulbs.

The planting plan for the Autumn hasn't been revealed yet, but we will have more news in the next newsletter!

## Watering

The regular watering of the village has stopped for this year. If it's very dry we may need to water in the bulbs and spring flowering bedding. But we are still on the look-out for volunteer helpers to join the watering team next year. Some of our regular

waterers are wanting to retire. Our oldest regularly working team member is 87, so helping Liphook in Bloom definitely helps keep you fit and healthy!

The watering season is generally June to September and currently there are seven two-person teams, which means each team completes 4 watering trips a year. The watering tour takes between 2 and 4 hours.

We collect the water from our rainwater harvesting tank located at the Millennium Centre.

We are looking for vehicle drivers with towing balls who would be happy to tow the bowser and waterers who will fill the baskets and containers.

If you are able to help on this community project, please email Paul Johnson [paul@tethersend.uk](mailto:paul@tethersend.uk) and he will discuss with you what is involved. His phone number is 01428 724813 or 07854 074276.



### **Trees - Station Road**

You may have noticed that we had to take a couple of Sorbus trees out in Station Road - the trees in front of the shops which have tree guards around them. We are planning to replace them this Autumn or next Spring.

### **Sustainable Planting**

Liphook in Bloom has been consulting with Dr Suzanne Moss, Head of Education at the RHS on sustainable planting in the village. She has kindly made some suggestions for sustainable planting for a number of the beds that we cultivate. Adding permanent planting could reduce the area of some beds which would, in turn, reduce the amount of annual bedding and bulbs that we need to plant. We're in the early planning stages, so watch this space.

## LIB Golf Day

Our annual Golf Tournament, for the Burns Family Golf Trophy, took place at Blacknest Golf Club on a slightly overcast morning. Ten golfers were in attendance to try and add their name to the winners' plaque attached to the base of the trophy. The bantering and badinage were rife as each group nervously teed off, not wanting to show themselves up in front of the other players.

After 18 holes of golf all the participants tiredly returned to the club house for a drink. The scores were checked and a clear winner emerged. Last year's winner Andy House looked on proudly as LIB President, Terry Burns awarded the trophy to Andy's son George. Second place was taken by Dennis Green and third by Ron Vickery. Gary Kempson won the prizes for longest drive and nearest the pin.

The trophy had an unexpected upgrade after it fell off of the seat of Andy's van and he generously purchased a new statue to replace the broken one. But like 'Trigger's Broom' it is still the same one!

The day was rounded off with a meal at the Green Dragon where there was much talk of shots that nearly went in and speculation over revised handicaps for next year.



## Christmas Dinner

The next social event in our calendar is Liphook in Bloom's Christmas Dinner. The team, waterers and helpers traditionally get together in December for a seasonal meal. This is currently being planned - Carolyn is gathering menus from various local establishments so we can decide where to go this year. All helpers will be receiving an email in the next month or so inviting them along. This is a self-funding event - no sponsorship or grant money is used.

## Working Day

Our next Working Day is Saturday and Sunday 6th & 7th October, meeting at Midhurst Road Car Park at 9.30am. We will be clearing the summer bedding in

readiness for bulb planting. We'd love to see you there. If you'd like any further details please email the address below.

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