



Newsletter Summer 2022

We are a local group aiming to raise awareness, encourage discussion and stimulate practical action to ensure we develop into the future as a thriving and sustainable community that responds positively to the big environmental and social challenges facing us all.



**“Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,
And summer's lease hath all too short a date.”**



Spreading the word. Sustainability Marshfield hosted a visit by a number of representatives of community groups from across South Gloucestershire. This was organised by the Senior Environmental Policy & Climate Change Officer Lucy Rees who has recognised that we are in the vanguard of sustainable local projects. The group was taken around the village visiting Community Centre, School, Churchyard and Blue Heart verges. Reaction was so positive we are planning a similar event for residents on Saturday 18th June.



Marshfield Community Centre Sustainability to me covers a multitude of ideas, with people working together to make life better.

These pictures show Marshfield Community Centre which is a charity run by volunteers built by our village through fund raising. It is well used by all ages from toddlers through



to lunch club for the elderly. We have a large outdoor area which as you can see some is managed as a blue heart verge, other parts include trees and beds for pollinators (see below).



We are now fundraising to make the building more 'eco friendly'. The pictures of the parties show how coming together as a village is as important as planting new trees.

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Community Centre Planting.

Calendula (orange) and Cerinthe in full bloom at the Community Centre. Both are very good for pollinators and, Cerinthe in particular, self sows. Plants were helped in this sunny and exposed site by liberal quantities of homemade compost.

Scabious also in the Community Centre beds will flower continuously from May to end of October if regularly deadheaded and is another great plant for pollinators. The beds are also used by the Cubs and Beavers to plant seeds.



Blue Heart Verges. Are looking fantastic this month. You will see the distinctive Blue Heart signs on verges at Ayford Lane, Sheepfair Lane, Little End, St Mary's Churchyard and Hayfield, next to the Community Centre. The verges will be left uncut through to July before being hand scythed. A Corncockle is on the right, one of a number now growing in the verges.

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Tale of two ponds. Weir Pool is showing signs of holding water and playing host to a



number of tadpoles at least during its transitional phase as it is repaired and improved. Meanwhile sadly, the health of the Farm pool is under strain. A significant area has silted up due to water run-off from the road, and domestic fish dumped from garden ponds have started to



breed, affecting native species, especially amphibians. Sadly, the developing variety of plants at the back of the pond have also been "tidied" by some over-enthusiastic mowing.

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Buzz in the churchyard. Marshfield is doing its bit for pollinators, with more than 20 hives in the village and nearby fields. And there will be buzzing in the churchyard in the next few weeks as a new colony settles into a hive located in a wild patch of grass, brambles and nettles at the back of the church. Stick to the main mown paths if you are bee phobic.

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NEW Recycling Projects in the Country Stores FROM APRIL 2022



The Taylors of Harrogate Free Recycling Programme



Recycle all
brands of
flexible coffee
packaging



Sustainable Marshfield Green Drinks, Thursday 30th June at 8pm in the Catherine Wheel for an hour of catch-up and chat. A reminder will be added to the SM Facebook page.

Growing *Sustainable Marshfield* membership with your help.

We want to grow our free membership, connecting up households in and around Marshfield who are interested in taking local action for sustainability. Please encourage friends and neighbours to join.

Email your name, address and phone number to: membership@sustainablemarshfield.org

All other correspondence to news@sustainablemarshfield.org

Join over 350 people on the **Sustainable Marshfield Group** on Facebook for regular updates.

Stop Press: Due to the recent resignation of a committee member, there is space on the committee for a new member. No experience is necessary, just an enthusiasm for helping to work towards the goal of a more Sustainable Marshfield. If interested, please apply to the membership email address above.