Houndwood Community Group

SPRING 2023

Newsletter

For the Residents of Icon & Houndwood

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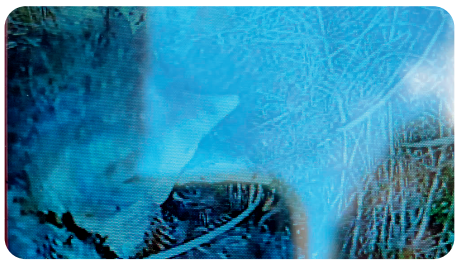
Gardening Update

After a long cold wet winter the weather is finally improving and the raised beds are beginning to bloom with plenty of forget-me-nots and then daisies to follow. The community gardeners are concentrating on weeding and also getting cuttings and seedlings (sunflowers, calendula, marigolds, snapdragons, hollyhocks, lavatera and mesembryanthemums - currently in the greenhouse and assorted warm window ledges) ready to go into the beds. Hopefully it will mean there will be plenty of flowers this summer to attract bees and butterflies.

Ecology Update

After a quiet winter, it is great to see the birds returning and nesting. In our garden for the first time since we moved in the blue tits have been coming to the feeders. We have even seen a wren on one of our flowerpots, as well as out on the estate. Earlier this month we took the endoscope around and checked the hedgehog and bird boxes

- One of the hedgehog boxes had been used, but not by a hedgehog, we suspect it was a mouse!
- One of the bird boxes had a young chick in, this was very exciting.



On Friday 21st April we held the first bat walk of the year, despite the late spring and it still being cold we saw plenty of bats at the by-pass end of the estate.

If you would like to be more involved with either the gardening or ecology group - do get in touch with us - contact details overleaf.

Events on Houndwood

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT NO MOW MAY?

No Mow May is a national annual campaign led by Plantlife, calling all garden owners not to mow grass during May – *liberating your lawns and providing a space for nature*. A healthy lawn with some long grass and wildflowers benefits wildlife, tackles pollution and can even lock away carbon below ground - why not join in from the 1st May? #NoMowMay

In our Community...

Street Murals in the Library Gardens

Street Parish Council working in partnership with Street Library Trust and Mendip District Council commissioned 4 exciting new murals for the wall of the Library Gardens (BA16 0HA) from talented local artist Jonathan Minshull. Funding for the project came from a Mendip Creative grant and a smaller grant from a local charitable trust. The four murals depict the history of Street from shoemaking, farming, quarrying and peat cutting. The second phase is now being undertaken by the Parish where the two pavilions and being repaired and decorated. Jonathan Minshull is now undertaking murals representing the Notre Dame de Gravenshon in France and Isny im Allgau in Germany. Representing the two towns Street is twinned with on the continent. In addition, the wall seating is being restored and the area being tidied up.

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