

FEBRUARY 2021

No: 812

Annual Subscription £2.50



Photo credit: Olga Subach

In this Issue:

- **New for 2021 - 'My First Car' memories**
- **Tysoe's Wildlife Friendly Parish initiative**
- **Bards are invited to take part in another Poetry Challenge**
- **A magical winning entry for the Village Shop Competition**
- **A valedictory piece from our outgoing Editor**
- **. . . . And MORE, MUCH MORE!**



TYSOE -

A network of wild areas
to benefit wildlife

Spring is on the way and with it a number of new initiatives to support wildlife in the Parish of Tysoe.



Facebook and web pages

Firstly, check out the new Facebook page Tysoe Wildlife **@tysoewildlife**. Your posts on wildlife and environmental topics are very welcome.

We have linked up with a group of villages who are developing plans for wildlife. This group was initiated by the village of Risby in Suffolk. They have been happy to share a version of their logo with us – as seen on the Tysoe Wildlife Facebook page and above.

There is also a dedicated space on the village website – the address is https://www.tysoe.org.uk/about_tysoe/tysoe-wildlife/.



Supporting wildflowers and insects

Together with the Parish Council we are planning to develop some new wildflower areas within the Parish. These will be marked out in the next few months and sown with additional wildflower seeds collected in the locality. This will include the current wildflower areas in School Lane and the Churchyard.

The Parish Council is going to support **'No Mow May'** when a proportion of the mown verges in the Parish will be left unmown for a month. This will allow flowers in the verges to grow for a few weeks and flower, producing sources of pollen and nectar for beneficial insects such as bees. To find out more about the 'No Mow May' initiative nationally please check out Plantlife: No Mow May: <https://bit.ly/3qAHZsD> We will be looking for a few more **'Scaremows'** to appear to support the event.



WILDLIFE FRIENDLY PARISH

created by residents, on both public and private land,
and people.

Wildlife in St Mary's Churchyard

In addition to the wildflower areas, bird boxes and hedgehog bunker that have been installed in the churchyard in the last year or so, a new wildlife hedge has been planted. To get a good mixture, the plants came from two suppliers and there is hawthorn, blackthorn, field maple, hazel, crab apple, wild pear, buckthorn, spindle, guelder rose plus one or two other things. They are all native species and hopefully will provide shelter and a source of food for birds and insects once they get going. The buckthorn was included as it's the foodplant of the caterpillars of the brimstone butterfly. Thanks are due to David Bell and Graham Collier who planted the hedge.



Some more yellow rattle seeds were sown in the wild-flower areas in late autumn to suppress the grass and help other flowering plants. More wildflower seeds will be sown in the spring. There are plenty of primrose plants in the churchyard, some have already started to flower, and in a few weeks there will be a wonderful display.

Privately-owned nature areas

There are a number of privately-owned nature areas in the Parish of Tysoe and it would be great to have updates from them during the year. This includes the Sun Rising Natural Burial Ground and Nature Reserve, which has some fantastic habitats for wildlife.

Other plans for 2021

Lockdown has affected all our lives and at the moment we don't know when we'll be able to meet in groups again. We have a number of planned events and activities on hold at the moment including a bat night, butterfly talk and nature walk around the village. Once the future is more certain we will put the plans in place and publicise the events. Lockdown doesn't stop us walking around the village and using the footpaths in the parish. We will aim to flag up areas of wildlife interest as they appear through the year. **Please contribute to this knowledge-sharing.**

