

[View this email in your browser](#)

Ludwell Life

Sharing Enhancing Enjoying Protecting...
Ludwell Valley Park



December 2021 Newsletter

There's a lot of news to squeeze into this newsletter! We've planted up the scrape; we have dates set to plant more trees in the Community Orchard and to plant the Ludwell Oak. We provide a link to a great article in DWT's recent magazine about Ludwell Valley Park. And we have an award to tell you about. Plus another of our little quizzes for you. Please read on!

Thank you to Agnieszka Boboń for this fantastic wintery photo of the Valley.



Devon Wildlife Trust

Devon Wildlife Trust Volunteer Award

First, the award! We were surprised and delighted to be nominated for one of DWT's volunteer awards at their recent Annual General Meeting. This is in recognition of all we have done to protect, enhance and enjoy Ludwell Valley Park. It is an award for all of us: Lynn Wetenhall, who set up Ludwell Life over five years ago, the Steering Group, our Friends, everyone who reads this newsletter, all our followers on Facebook and everyone who loves Ludwell.

We will be presented with a certificate by DWT in the new year (see the article about the Ludwell Oak); not sure where we should display it, but at least we can share a photo of it!



Planting The Scrape

Back in early November we planted nearly 800 tiny pond plants in and around the scrape in Butcher's Field. It doesn't look anything yet, but as long as most of the plants survive, watch how it changes next spring! Nature willing, there will be marsh marigolds, water mint, pond sedge, hemp agrimony, yellow flag iris, common rush, gypsywort, purple loosestrife, water avens, and speedwell.

This was only possible due to a very generous grant from Countess Wear Village Hall, for which we are very grateful. Thank you to the hardy group of people who came to help with the planting (only one of whom slipped in and got thoroughly wet and muddy!). And also thank you to all the dog owners and walkers who have done their best to restrain their dogs from paddling and rollicking in the scrape to give the new plants a chance to get established.



4 19XX?

A December Quiz

1. What is the old name of the field where the scrape is?
2. How big (in hectares) is Ludwell Valley Park?
3. What is the smallest mammal living in Ludwell Valley?
4. In what year was the Valley Park created?
5. Where would you find this statue? (*Hint*: nothing whatsoever to do with Ludwell Valley!)

Answers at the end of the newsletter



Community Orchard

We will be planting three - and maybe more - fruit trees in the orchard this January. Ludwell Life is paying for one; Devon Wildlife Trust is providing one and two of our Friends, Helen and Brian Moore, are donating one to mark the birth of their granddaughter Ursula. These will be the first new trees we've been able to plant

for two years due to the pandemic, so it is a bit special.

This will all be happening on the morning of Monday 24th January. It will need a willing band of helpers so we'll put out a message near the time with all the details.

You will all be very welcome to come and enjoy the orchard that day, even if just to say hello!



Ludwell Life Oak

We are going to plant an oak tree in February, the Ludwell Life Oak, hopefully to be there for future generations to enjoy as it grows and spreads, maybe eventually becoming as magnificent as the one in the photo. The tree will be near the bench on the hill known as Burrige's Hill, just above Ludwell Lane near the top end (do you know the one I mean?)

It will only need four or five people to do the planting, but we are inviting all our paid up Friends to join us to celebrate, and to be there when DWT present us with our certificate. And then the tree will be there for everyone to enjoy!



Ludwell Valley: an article in DWT's magazine

As we mentioned in a postscript to our last newsletter, Devon Wildlife Trust's 'Wild Devon' autumn magazine had a really good article about Ludwell Valley. If you are a member of DWT, you've probably seen it already, but for everyone else, DWT have given us permission to share it with you all. So here is the link:

<https://www.devonwildlifetrust.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/Ludwell%20article.pdf>

Quiz Answers

1. *Butchers Field*
2. *It's big - 58 hectares. (Give yourself a point if you were within 10 hectares either way!)*
3. *Harvest Mouse*
4. *1983 (again, a point if you were within 5 years!)*
5. *Exeter Cathedral*

Ludwell Life is an independent community group, set up to protect and enhance Ludwell Valley Park

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)
Ludwell Life · 50 Well Oak Park · Exeter, Devon EX2 5BB · United Kingdom

