

[View this email in your browser](#)

Ludwell Life

Sharing Enhancing Enjoying Protecting...
Ludwell Valley Park



June 2022 Newsletter

This month, as the sun shines on Ludwell (well, sometimes!) we have news of what's happening in the Valley; we introduce a new idea, Field Guardians; Burn the Curtain and the Imaginarium will be in the Valley again this autumn; and we have the second in our new regular feature, 'Why I Love Ludwell'.

What's Happening in the Valley

Everything is so green now, still fresh and looking good! There have been some lovely photos posted on our Facebook group. Next to look forward to, the wildflower meadows will soon be awash with subtle colour - you can see in the last photo below how the wildflowers are just starting to bloom..

Three particular things to mention, as the photos show. First, the Community Orchard trees are really getting going. Not too long before we can start harvesting the fruit - and next winter we plan a wassail - details nearer the time!

We're pleased to see that the ground round the turning circle has been planted up and already it is starting to recover.

Slightly more problematic: the cattle. They are an essential part of the management - and funding - of the Valley Park and many people love seeing them, but we are aware that some people are nervous of them. DWT put up notices on the main entrances to the fields they are in, and we will try to let you know when they are being moved to a different group of fields later in the summer. However, the cattle are well used to humans and we know of no instances of them causing any actual problem, so if you keep your dog under close control, there shouldn't be anything to worry about. If you do experience anything untoward, report it to DWT on 01392 279244.



Field Guardians

This is an idea that came up at our recent Friends meeting. We think it is a great concept, which would really help protect and enhance Ludwell. A Field Guardian

chooses a field (or more than one) to be the guardian: keep an eye out for any damage or problems, report any interesting wildlife sightings, and pick up any litter. There are, I think, 29 fields open to the public in the Valley. Five already have a guardian, one of whom spotted and reported the problem with the bollard at the top of Ludwell Lane, which as a result has been replaced, making the lane safer for pedestrians and cyclists again.

So, if you would be interested, please drop David Robertson a line at LudwellLife@gmail.com, saying which field you'd like to take on.



Burn the Curtain & the Imaginarium of Us

Do you remember this from last summer? Well, the Burn the Curtain theatre group have got the funding to run the Imaginarium of outdoor art and theatre again this year. The performances will be in September and October. We are meeting with them to find out more and how Ludwell Life can be involved. We'll share more details as soon as we have them. Meanwhile, they have produced a great little video of last year's event if you'd like to have a look: <https://vimeo.com/663631264>



Why I Love Ludwell

Each newsletter, we want to share stories from our followers entitled 'Why I Love Ludwell'. If you'd like to contribute a piece, long or short, maybe just a sentence or two, please contact us at ludwelllife@gmail.com. Do think about it.

This time, Daisy B shares her lovely story:

"Ludwell Valley Park is tied up with the story of my family. The day we found out I was pregnant, we went to the hill to sit and take in the news. Some kids along the hill shouted and teased us from the safety of their bramble patch! We still comment on the spot when we walk past it now. In the week before she was born, I stood at my bedroom window, jealously watching people sledging the slopes in the rare snowfall. Her first outing was in a sling on my front, walking the crest of the hill with proud grandparents.

I have so enjoyed watching it develop in the twenty plus years I've lived here. I remember the planting up of hedgerows and the copse at the head of the Roly Poly Hill valley, which are now loud and alive with birdsong. During the Lockdown in 2020 my son and I went up there daily to play football as the sun set, listen to the rooks as they settled in for the night and look out for bats on our way home.

Our favourite field for a family outing is at the top (Perraton), with the view of the

sea. When the grass is long, we play hide and seek. When it's just cut, we climb on the hay bales, singing songs, doing jumping tricks. When the haybales are gone we throw frisbees and kick footballs. The space and openness of the field helps us all to breathe and relax.

Every field in the park has a memory for us of walks, picnics, mini adventures, and I know we will continue to make more in the years to come."

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

