



### From the Vicar...

I am reminded quite firmly that this time last year we were unable to distribute the magazine because of the COVID 19 virus. As time has progressed, so much more is known and understood about the virus, and the speed of vaccination is very good. The more knowledge that is gained to understand how it works and how it infects others have been, we are told, the driving force of any decisions made about restrictions and lifting them. For some the restrictions have been welcomed as they are concerned for their lives if they should catch it, for others there is balanced with that a deep concern for business and employment. As we see an end to restrictions (I hope as I write this in mid to late June), that coupled with that will be a new way of learning to live in the world. Will we ever shake hands again without reaching for the hand sanitizer! Whatever happens I hope that we grow a more mutual respect for each other and for the world that we live on. Understanding that the world and people are fragile and that fragility has been in our faces these past 18 months. Our faith too is fragile and we need to care for that too. We very rarely talk about our faith, as something that we tend to just like our garden's. However, I would like to compare it to grass. When left to its own devices can grow long and out of control (I know that some will argue that this is natural) when this happens it takes a long time to tend to it to get it back to grass that looks like a lawn, and also when others walk in the long grass it gets trampled flat under foot. Grass can also get burnt by the sun and over the past few weeks at the beginning of June, the sun has been really strong, and so the grass hasn't grown so fast as it needs both the sun and water. Our faith is like that too we need the 'SON' but we also need the Holy Spirit. Accepting Jesus as a saviour is one step but also living that each day is the next, and for that we have to except that the Holy Spirit is something that is real and that we need to find it each day, just like the lawn would love a little rain each day too. When we cut the lawn we allow the new grass, greener as it maybe to come through. The same is true in our lives, as we cut back the things that separate us from God, we become closer to God, we grow in faith (the grass becomes thicker and greener). Let us not just make the past 18 months a memory that is painful, even though it will remain that always. Let us learn from it, realise that we and the world support each other, and that we and the world are fragile.

Adam

### Church Services

### Update on church services....

We continue to have services up at St Peter's and we are hopeful to move back into the St Andrews in July, we will make sure we let everyone know when we have a date that we are able to do this. We now have the go ahead from the Insurance company to continue the work after a pause by them to check on costs. Please continue to pray for this situation and that we can get our church back in order and welcome all those who want to journey in faith with us back into our building.

At the moment we are holding all Sunday services at St Peter's Church in Duddon, these we be as follows: 8am Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer; 9.30am and 10.45am Family Communion using Common Worship.

We have a limited number of seats in order to remain COVID safe and keep the 2metre distance in accordance with the government guidelines. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO COME TO THE 9.30AM or 10.45AM SERVICE YOU WILL NEED TO BOOK A SEAT. If you have not booked a seat we may not be able to accommodate you. (currently we are not asking those coming to 8am to book a seat in advance)

To book a seat please contact Sandra Turner on 01829749310 or email her on <u>sandraturner1234@btinternet.com</u>.

We look forward to welcoming those who want to come back to public worship, if you feel that this is not for you at this time, that is fine. Our service will remain on Facebook and YouTube at 10.15am on a Sunday morning and through the Telephone service on 01829708989. The service will also be available through the email system.

We have an Online Wednesday Morning Prayer at 9.15am. To join us the details for all online events are:

Meeting ID: 255 842 5813 Passcode: 2021

https://zoom.us/

j/2558415813pwd=WVB1UWpnRzQ4cWtNdjdKS3pVWTRqZz09

### Church Music News

### St Peter's, Duddon Junior Choir

We have started a choir in St Peter's after school every Tuesday. It's off to a great start and we have 12 singers so far. As well as having lots of fun, the singers are enrolled on the RSCM Voice for Life scheme, which is designed to give them a solid understanding of the basics of music and singing that will last a lifetime. Further details from mairilevitt@btinternet.com

### Church Choir

The choir has done an amazing job during the lockdown, recording anthems and hymns every week for the online service and singing at the 10.45 service in St Peter's.

They make a wonderful sound, as many of you have kindly said. In fact, none of us are trained singers. Anyone can learn to sing and, if you come to a weekly practice and sing regularly at the services, you will soon get to the same standard. Singing brings great joy to both the performers and the listeners and is one of the few skills that people can pick up at any age and get to a professional standard. Group singing has been shown to bring great benefits for social bonding and mental health - something we could all do with at the moment. As the restrictions ease, Ken would like to encourage anyone who is interested to come along to a practice and see what it's all about. Further details from kfayle@icloud.

### Choral Scholarships

For those who want to take their singing a bit more seriously, we are making a small number of Choral Scholarships available. Choral Scholars are expected to attend all the practices and sung services and to take the lead and set an example to the other singers in their part. In return, there is an honorarium of £600 per year and singers are entitled to free singing lessons from the Director of Music.

There is also an Organ Scholarship available.

These would particularly suit a sixth-former, school leaver or 1st year student who is considering a career as a musician. Please spread the word around.

Further details from kfayle@icloud.

### Duddon St Peters CE Primary School

The year has trundled by and we find ourselves in the final term of the school. The children of Year 6 are sadly unable to experience transition days at their new high schools, as these have had to be cancelled again. This does make moving on to high school more difficult for them, especially under these strange circumstances that we all find ourselves in. We have been able to begin to undertake a couple of trips with the children this term which is such a welcome return to normality! The children of Class 4 have been to Chester Zoo, which tied in with our teaching from last term on Rainforests and they all thoroughly enjoyed the day, and we were blessed with a decent day weather wise. Children in Class One are intending to visit Chester as part of their local studies. The children of Treetops and Reception have been busy fundraising by doing lots of jobs at home to fill a Smartie tube with £1 or 20p coins, which will help to fund the new water play equipment which has now arrived at school.

We were hoping to be able to run some events for the PTA over this term but due to the latest easing of lockdown being delayed, this will probably not be likely. It has been a very difficult year for fundraising, and this will undoubtably affect what we will be able to achieve over the coming years. However, if you would like to support us, we are a registered charity and have signed up to corporate fundraising schemes such as Amazon Smile and Easy Fundraising. These are both great ways that we can raise funds with no extra cost to you. If you would like to support us via Easy Fundraising the following link will take you to our page. It really is easy, sorry bad pun!

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/duddonstpeterspta/?utm\_campaign=raise-more&utm\_content=cpl

For Amazon Smile you just have to search for **Duddon Saint Peter'S School PTA** and you will be able to add us as your charity of choice. Hopefully by the new school year we will be able to get closer to normal and be able to welcome the new families to the school in true Duddon St Peter's fashion.



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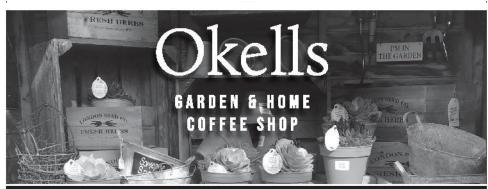


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### Curates Corner

July

'Hot July brings cooling showers, apricots and gillyflowers.'

(I found out that gillyflowers are stocks, wallflowers or carnations.)

Reasons to be cheerful

Fields full of buttercups, farmers harvesting, sunshine.

Coping with covid, vaccinations rule!

As always, counting our blessings.

Friends and family safe.

School finishes...holidays!

Doing things differently, enjoying our country, thankful for our homes.

Staying afloat

Things change so quickly, I hope as you read this we are back to normal, whatever that may be. We have coped with so much that has been unimaginable but the war has been against a virus not another country, for that we can be thankful though those who have died have been many. I hope and pray we have learnt to value our lives and what we have and that has helped us to help others. Because that's what keeps us going, the every day little things of life that are important to us are important to others. Praying for ourselves leads us on to pray for others too.

Bobbin' along

Can we remember pre-Covid? Does it seem a far off dream? It is very strange to have lost a year. Someone said to me today when I asked how they were, 'I don't even know what year we are in! OK, I laughed, but it is true. It does seem strange to look back and think what did I do in 2020? The answer is a lot of craft work, sewing, cards for people, keeping in touch, on line meetings, but staying at home! I escaped once, 3 nights away! But looking back that doesn't seem real, either! But somehow we have got here, to this moment and we can thank God for that. Keep going, keep safe.

Will your anchor hold?

Trust in God. He is bigger and stronger and more loving than anything we know and can know. I need to be reminded of this every day, fallible and human as I am. It is because of my weakness that I am strong with God.

Be strong with God, lean on him and he will hold and support you. Stress comes from trying to do it all on our own. Peace comes from putting it in God's hands.

Almighty God, you who are in the wind that breathes on the sea, and the waves of the ocean; the seal on the rocks; the lark in the heavens; the rays of the sun; and the glittering rock in the valley; you who are in the whole of creation and in your loved ones, we give you thanks and praise. (Harvest for the World)

Keep safe,. Love and prayers, Barbara

### Birds on the Farm

I thought you might like an update on our birds. There are two brightly coloured young Great Spotted Woodpeckers who come to the peanuts together. The young Blue Tits are also a joy to watch there are four of them who come to the bird bath together. If I have just filled it (it's about 4"deep in the centre) they hop around the rim until one will "take the plunge" then they all get in together. We have lots of House Sparrows in the garden and they also love communal bathing! My sister who lives in Maidenhead never sees Sparrows - they have those Ring-neck Parakeets instead! The Robins have raised their first broods and are busy nesting again. The young ones have got very bold with us eating outside most days in the nice weather - they know there may be crumbs. Still no nesting Swallows although we saw two in and out of the usual building, they were obviously not a pair and didn't stay. I wondered if they were last years young. Of course, all these young birds are so vulnerable as there are Buzzards, Kestrels, Magpies and Jackdaws that are all feeding their young coming into the garden. Such is nature.

Pat Briscoe



### Weekly reflections

### Week 1

Almighty God, send down upon your Church the riches of your Spirit, and kindle in all who minister the gospel your countless gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### Mark 6 1-13

Verse: "He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics."

Have you ever just left the house without a bag? I am sure you haven't, I have to check for keys, wallet and a mask at least. However there was an incident when Freddie was younger and we had gone to Disneyland in Paris and we needed to park the pushchair up to go on rides. At one place I parked the pushchair as Helen and Henry went to get in the queue, I joined them only to be asked "where is Freddie?". I had left him in the pushchair in the pushchair park. Taking children anywhere requires taking so many things with us and believe me I probably do pack the kitchen sink, well you never do know what you might need. Sun cream and a brolly! Jesus asks his followers to go out in faith, knowing that through God's grace things will be provided for us. Take no money, no spare clothes, and no bag. Trust in the generosity of others. This is faith I would aspire to have, although if we think about this spiritually instead of physically, we can by God's grace journey with Jesus. On our journey of faith we just need ourselves, we are God's resource, we are what God will use in our mission, to tell others about his saving love. As well as relying on the generosity of others, the followers Jesus sent out on this mission, were themselves enough.

### Prayers week 1

Let us pray for the end of term, for holidays. For those going onto new schools, new challenges, a time for rest and reflection. Let us pray for all teachers and lecturers that they may have a time to relax and recuperation. For all who are fearful and anxious may these days bring healing and reassurance, God is in charge, especially if we let him!

### Week 2

Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Mark 6 14-29

Verse: "but others said 'it is Elijah.' And others said 'it is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old."

To be made in God's image is about how we act to others rather than our physical appearance. We all know we look different, that is by far one of the greatest wonders of creation for me. To be in God's image is to show to others what Jesus showed to the world, after all Jesus was God's image on earth. To show kindness, generosity, patience, love, peace, etc, maybe you could write a full list, (answers on a postcard, or several to the vicarage). You get the meaning though. To shine the light of God in this world is to be what God needs us to be to others around us. Jesus after all came into the world to save sinners not the righteous, within that I strongly suggest that we are all sinners waiting to be saved. By living in God's image each day we can ourselves be examples, not just of living a life of faith, but by showing others the joy that brings to us each day.

### Prayers week 2

:For gardeners and especially farmers, relying on a good crop for survival:

O God, creator and source of life, we thank you for the gifts given from your abundance and through the work of human hands by which we are blessed with nourishing food. Pour your blessing on this garden, this field, all farmed land for all that grows in it, and on those who toil in it, and work it, with love and reverence that the earth may yield its abundance and we and all your children may be fed. Amen.

Week 3

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### Mark 6 30-34, 53 -end

Verse: "And wherever he went, into the villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the market places and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

The desperation of us when we are ill, to be made better is in the heart and the reality of the situation Jesus finds himself in, in this passage. We are a sick nation, and I mean no offence or flippant comment by saying that. We have hope through the healing powers of doctors and nurses, but illness is there all around us. With that is the need we have, the desire we want to become better. Some people are living with chronic illness, constant pain and the knowledge that the body cannot be cured. When Jesus walked the earth the Spirit, the Soul, was as much in need of healing as the body. To heal the soul, we need to repent and believe. To accept Jesus as the one from God that gives new life. As Vicar of the Parish, at my induction many years ago, I was given a share, with the Bishops of the Diocese of the cure of souls'. This is the understand that I have the responsibility of the souls of the whole parish reaching eternal life in heaven. This is something that I thankfully share with all those committed in faith in out two churches, as with over 5000 people (and growing) that is a lot of souls that need healing and saving. We underestimate how many people cry out to be healed in their soul, the voices we don't even hear. So let us try to listen to the cries of people's hearts, that call out to be healed.

### Prayers Week 3

For those whose day has started badly, who wonder what the day holds for them, those who face pain, loneliness, decisions over their health: Hold onto this new day, this is a day that God has made, there is hope. Just say to your self, the Lord is here, his Spirit is with us.

We need not fear, his Spirit is with us.

We are surrounded by love, his Spirit is with us.

We are immersed in peace, his Spirit is with us.

We rejoice in hope, his Spirit is with us.

We travel in faith, his Spirit is with us. (The Archbishop of Canterbury)

. Week 4

Lord God, your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake:

when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair,

that we may trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### John 6 1-21

Verse "A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick."

Jesus and his disciples were followed everywhere they went and Jesus never turned them away. This story is the famous one of the feeding of the 5000. With 5 loaves and 2 fish, and 12 baskets of food picked up after the crowd had eaten. I sometimes wonder why Jesus felt responsible to feed them, after all it was getting late, they could have travelled back into the city of Jerusalem and got provisions for themselves. This is an example for us of giving what is needed to those who come to us, if that be support in prayer or in food. Over the past year there has been many of you who have supported the Foodbank and all donations are gratefully received and can be dropped off in the vicarage porch. I am sure we understand why Jesus fed the people, but the question in the stark reality of today is why we have a society where we need to provide food for those classed as being in 'food poverty'. I wonder how a G7 nation, because of its wealth lives with the poverty within its borders. Surely this needs to change, I know it isn't easy and everyone's circumstances are different, but to not solve the problem because it is too complicated, or will not be popular is not the answer. Jesus responded to the needs of the world, just as the church needs to do that too. We also have a responsibility to help the world change, to be a fairer more inclusive place.

### Prayers Week 4

A Celtic Blessing.

May the strength of the wind and the light of the sun, the softness of the rain and the mystery of the moon, reach and fill you.

May beauty delight you and happiness uplift you. May wonder fulfill you and love surround you.

May your step be steady and arm be strong.

May your heart be peaceful and your word true.

May you seek to learn, may you learn to live, may you live to love - always.



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### St Peter's CE School, Duddon.

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### COFFEE MORNING

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### Community Newsround

Ashton Hayes and Tarvin Flower Club:

Do you like flowers and enjoy meeting people? Why not join us for an evening of entertainment as you watch a skilled flower arranger demonstrate their art. All arrangements are raffled so you may even take one home with you! We usually meet in Tarvin Community Centre, on the second Wednesday of every month at 7.30 p.m., (except August and December) and you would be assured of a friendly welcome. During the Covid lockdowns more Information from 01829 740832 or 01829 740473

### Tarvin Women's Institute

Tarvin WI are still unable to hold our regular monthly meetings but we are learning to navigate our way around the virtual world of Zoom and taking part in the various talks organised by the Cheshire Federation of WIs.

If you are interested and would like further details please contact Margaret Matthews telephone 01829 741081 - we would love to hear from you.

### Tarvin Meeting Point.

A group of lively minded women who meet fortnightly in members homes to discuss a wide variety of topics, both serious and light-hearted. Keep your mind buzzing! For Further information during the current lockdowns contact Sue Hardacre on 01829 741962

### Ash-worth Time bank

If you are either over 60, a carer, have recently suffered bereavement, are a single parent or maybe have been made redundant, you are welcome to attend our free therapy sessions which include For details Caroline or Sue on 01829 751398. www.ash-worthtime.org.uk or email ashworthtime@hotmail.co.uk

### Woodland Notes — July

### Poplar progress!

You may remember that, in March 2020, the members of Tarvin W.I. planted a new Black Poplar (*Populus Nigra*) tree in the Community Woodland. This was one of the trees grown by Chester Zoo as a part of a project aimed at trying to save Black Poplar trees in Cheshire. A survey of the whole County has revealed that there are fewer than 400 mature specimens of this tree remaining and, since they are mostly mature trees, they are inevitably susceptible to being gradually lost through old age. Our tree is a female tree – with Black Poplars, the two sexes are borne on different trees and females are less plentiful.

That the Black Poplar in Cheshire, one of our rarest and most distinctive trees, deserves to be "saved" goes without saying. No other native tree can compare with its rugged grandeur - its massive straight but leaning trunk often reaches 100 feet high and 6 feet thick, with heavy branches which arch and sweep downwards. The trunk and boughs are covered with great bosses, the bark is very deeply ridged and appears jet black at a distance (hence the name of the tree). However, while finding a home for a tree does help their preservation in the short term, it does nothing towards helping the species in the long term. To do that requires trees to be able to produce their own viable seed which can then germinate and produce new seedlings - the adult trees of tomorrow. For that to happen, a male Black Poplar tree must be planted upwind of the female tree and both trees cared for until they reach an age at which they can produce catkins. Male catkins are crimson and appear on the male tree in late March or early April. Female catkins, which are yellow-green and develop on the female tree, appear shortly afterwards.

If Tarvin Community Woodland is to play a real part in the preservation of Cheshire's Black Poplar trees, we must be more than just a museum in which to house one of Chester Zoo's specimen trees. It is for that reason that Trustees have decided to purchase a young male Black Poplar tree and an exceedingly generous resident from Crossfields has provided us with the necessary cash. With the prevailing wind blowing from the West, it must be planted at a short distance from the female tree and closer towards the Townfield Lane gateway.

And what, you might say, of the seedlings of Black Poplar that we are hopeful of eventually producing? If we are successful and seedlings do appear, then they will go off to other places in Cheshire, in order to further help the Chester Zoo project. Perhaps then Tarvin Woodland will be doing its bit to help conservation on a wider scale!

### Surveys of people using Tarvin Community Woodland.

Since December 2020, we have been doing a quarterly survey of how well the woodland is used. It is not a scientific survey – it merely counts how many adults, children and dogs use the woodland during each of the daylight hours. During the eight hours of the survey on Sunday, 6th December 2020, we counted 347 people and 167 dogs on a day that proved to be miserable, chilly and occasionally wet. There were ten daylight hours on Saturday, 2nd March 2021 – a day where the morning and evening were decidedly chilly but, by the middle of the day, the sun had come out, the day was warmer and the woodland became very busy. On that occasion, there were 639 people and 230 dogs using our woodland, which was considerably up on the December count. . We expected that the June survey would show an outcome that would be greater still. The weather on Sunday 13th June was idyllic - bright sunshine and clear blue skies, with the welcome dappled shade enabling the 'counters' to reduce their UV light exposure. However, the totals for the day were surprisingly low, with just 331 people and 160 dogs using the woodland - the lowest scores of the three "survey" days were produced across a really long day of thirteen hours!

It is worth commenting upon the numbers of children using the woodland. In December, they made up 16% of the walkers and in March it was 19% while this time, it was 18% - a surprisingly consistent result. However, while consistent, the numbers - rather less than one fifth of all users - are disappointing. Dogs again outnumbered children - this time by a ratio of almost 3:1 - far greater than expected. Once again, the mid-morning proved to be the most popular time for walking but, on this occasion, there was no second peak in the afternoon. The numbers between 1pm and 2pm are remarkably low on this occasion.

What has not been so far said is that this time there were both tennis and soccer matches on television. Indeed, England played Croatia in their opening match, with the broadcast going on between 1pm and 5pm. Whether this has made any difference is, of course, a matter for speculation. However, I must own up to the fact that having a June count which is about half of the total for March (which was a much shorter day) has come as a real surprise to me!

We have one more survey to do in September. After that, we will take stock and decide whether we will continue with them and, if so, what information we wish to obtain, going forward.

### Woodland "housekeeping".

It is not widely appreciated that Tarvin Community Woodland Trust does not own all of the land or the trees in the area of the woodland. The Trust has been fortunate to be able to purchase a great deal of this land and that part which is ours is the area within the post and rail fencing, the fences of neighbouring houses and the acoustic fence bordering the A51. Everything lying outside of that area belongs to someone else. Thus, it is that the oak tree at the woodland access point between 50 and 52, Crossfields is outside our land and so the fallen branch is the responsibility of someone else. (I have a suspicion that no one is sure who that might be!) Were the tree on Trust land, we WOULD have sorted things out very quickly.

Similarly, the walk that is on the outside of the original woodland (called by some a Bridleway or a horse walk) does not belong to the Trust. Strictly, that land still belongs to CWaC, although they seldom (if ever) carry out any care or maintenance of the pathway. The fence does belong to the Trust and so that is always kept in good repair and, from a sense of public spiritedness, the woodland volunteers also go along the pathway doing some guerrilla gardening twice a year - cutting and pruning that area, to make sure that the Tarvin community is kept safe.

#### Our website.

Everything that is going on in the woodland is well documented on our very extensive (and frequently updated – especially in pandemics!) website. Do 'visit' us at:- www.tarvincommunitywoodland.org

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### @ Grapevine

Copy deadline for the August edition is Tuesday 20th July Please send any news items, articles, events, diary entries to tarvingrapevine@gmail.com

We are also making this Grapevine available in digital format as a pdf download from <a href="http://kenfayle.com/home/grapevine">http://kenfayle.com/home/grapevine</a>

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Tarvin Parish, St Andrew's and St Peter's takes its duty and obligation to protect all extremely seriously. We have adopted the national Church of England's robust procedures and guidelines. You can find out more about the national policies and procedures at <a href="www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding">www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding</a>. If you have any safeguarding concerns or issues of a safeguarding matter then you can find useful contact information at <a href="www.chester.anglican.org/social-responsibility/safeguarding">www.chester.anglican.org/social-responsibility/safeguarding</a>

### TALES FROM THE GRAVEYARD JUNE 2021



Following on from last month where the idea of promoting wild flowers around the borders of the graveyard, it is worth stopping to appreciate the natural flowers that show at this time of the year. On the left is the beautiful show of rhododendrons at the front of the church and below the same species growing in the shade in the north section of the "old" graveyard.

The Rhododendron is one of a genus of 1024 species, initially found in Asia, but now spread across the world. It is the largest genus of the family Ericaceae. It is also the national flower of Nepal, and the state flower of Washington & West Virginia in the US. It is not known how these plants arrived in the graveyard, but they are well known for use



in landscaping thanks to their structure, size and flower. In the language of flowers, though, they represent danger and to beware!



However, back to the wild flower theme. Now a border is being left next to the hedgerows, the team are promoting the growth of flowers that encourage the "Butterfly and Bee" population to reside amongst us. These seeds are shown being spread by Richard Williams one sunny Wednesday in June. They were spread just a little late in the year, but a good downpour of rain will help to bed these in and we hope to see them grow in late summer.