Solway Village Garden Competition





Two garden competitions took place at Hagans Leisure Group's residential parks at Solway Holiday Village on 7th September. Mr Sam Hagan accompanied the judges, the Mayor and Mayoress of Silloth. The Mayor said 'that the effort and energy that people had put into the gardens he judged was inspiring'.

Mr Sam Hagan said

'I am delighted by the number of residents taking part and look forward to others getting involved next year'.

Following the judging 55 residents gathered with the Mayor and Mayoress for lunch.

Kevin and Joan Charlesworth were declared the winners of The Lido Park competition. The Mayor said he was amazed at the standard they had reached during their eighteen months on the park. Alan and Joan McLean were the winners of Meadow View Park. The Mayor said 'the garden boasts such a rich array'.

Both were awarded with silver plates, and bottles of Champagne along with a sum of money each to assist with the re-stocking of their gardens for next year's competition.

Garden in Autumn

Series by: Nadia Bunner Tel: 016973 52024 gardens-by-nadia.co.uk

Hopefully this year. September/October will bring some much needed sunshine. We need it even if our plants don't.

This year plant growth has been exceptional, and after a slow start, hanging baskets and containers have never looked better. I can't remember a year when you could count the number of waterings my hanging baskets have had on one hand. Although much of the early soft fruit was ruined by the rain the autumn fruit is looking promising.

September is a good month for laying new lawns from either seed or turf. There is more moisture available even without rain, but the soil is still warm enough for the new root growth to help establish the plants before winter takes its toll. I am often asked which is the better option, turf or seed. There is no clear cut answer to this question as many factors influence the final choice. For most gardens, if I could guarantee the turf was top quality with no weeds it would be my choice every time because it is instant. However turf can be expensive especially when covering a large area. Seed is the option if you have a limited budget or have specific requirements and need a particular

mix such as for shade or heavy use. Whether you choose turf or seed, ground preparation is essential and any problems such as weeds or poor drainage should be sorted before it is laid. After laying turf or sowing seed, keep it moist until established.

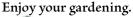


The same conditions which make it a good time to lay new lawns also apply to other plants. September is a good month to move, divide or plant new plants. When planting plants in late winter or autumn, fill the planting hole with water, let it drain away, plant the

plant then water again. In most years this is sufficient to get the plant off to a good start without the need for further water.

Tasks:

- 1. Divide herbaceous perennials
- 2. Pick autumn raspberries
- 3. Collect and sow seed from perennials and hardy annuals
- 4. Dig up remaining potatoes before slug damage spoils them5. Net ponds before leaf
- fall gets underway
 6. Keep up with watering
 of new plants
- 7. Start to reduce the frequency of houseplant watering
- 8. Clean out cold frames and greenhouses so that they are ready for use in the autumn
- 9. Cover leafy vegetable crops with bird-proof netting
- 10. Give evergreen hedges a final trim.





Stingo no name supplied

drawn at the

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Age Concern Community Development Project

Is there something missing from your community?

What would make living there better?

With the Community Development Project in the Silloth and Solway plain areas Age Concern want to:

Increase local awareness of existing services for the over 55s and how to get in touch with them, e.g. prescription collection and delivery services, home delivery by local shops or community transport schemes.

Identify any gaps in services and look at ways of creating new and relevant

Set up a database of support information which will be available for older people, community and statutory groups.

Act as a link between people who offer the support, e.g. voluntary and church organisations; and the older people who will benefit from that support. Set up Community Information centres in local venues around Silloth. If you have any information that you think would be useful, or if you would like to talk to me about your community, or if you know of anybody who needs support; Please contact me, Lyn Hardie, Community Development Worker

Age Concern Northwest Cumbria 12a Selby Terrace, Maryport, CA15 6NF Tel: 01900 819087

Or e-mail me at:

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