



## *Fordham in Bloom April 2018*



Having reached agreement with Fordham Parish Council, the Fordham in Bloom group has resumed activities in the village. Working parties have commenced again and the task of bringing planted areas back to their former glory has started. Anyone is invited to come along to one of the working parties that meet fortnightly on The Green. They last for approximately two hours but any time given is much appreciated. The next working party is on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm. Over 2018 the group hopes to achieve the following:

### **PROPOSED WORK FOR 2018 BY FORDHAM IN BLOOM**

- Maintain the wood – remove suckers and dead trees/branches. Plant bluebells, primroses and snowdrops
- Wild flower meadow – sow Poppy seeds and plant Alliums at the front
- Pond – remove excess growth and renovate the whole area. Clear the pond surface and strim the edges both front and rear. Prune Cornus
- Plant snowdrops on The Green under the trees
- Sundial – weed and trim the Thymes
- Plant primroses and cowslips along the drainage ditch in front of The Green
- Maintain and plant the sign bed on The Green
- Maintain the bed in front of the War Memorial
- Remove the box by the telephone and create a new bed.
- Prune the Clematis and Rose by the bus shelter
- Maintain Jo's box/School box/Les' bed

## The Village Litter Pick



MANY THANKS TO THOSE WHO HELPED AT THE LITTER PICK ON SATURDAY 18<sup>th</sup> MARCH. A group of about 13 Villagers covered all the main areas and blue bags soon appeared all over the village. Thanks to Les Hearsey for arranging with Colchester Borough Council and to Richard Tebbutt Snr for collecting the bags afterwards.

We did not have our resident expert photographer Richard Gregory but have a few photos (attached), including one of some wine glasses on a front wall....!!! Weird!!! We also collected some abandoned stereo speakers on Fossetts and a buoy (with no boat attached) by the village green.

### News from Les Hearsey – Volunteer Ranger

On the 21st March I met the new Woodland Trust Manager for the Fordham Hall Estate.

He was pleased to see that a volunteer ranger was in place (namely me) as it was good for him to have a point of contact both to hear of information or queries from the village, plus if he had any information that was relevant to Fordham Hall he could contact me and I could feed it out.

He is a nice guy who is very approachable and seems quite keen. He does cover a large area so his time spent at Fordham Hall will be limited. Part of his patch is the very important historical Hatfield Forest. We took a short walk around the area and he did show some concern with the condition of the footpaths caused by horses.

We have had a new area of trees planted which have covered areas where the Ash trees have died. These are mainly Alder, Lime and some Oak. Some more will be planted in this area.

One comment he did make was that he was pleased with lack of litter on the estate, which is great feedback for us and the people that use the estate. All I can say is keep it up!

That's all for now but I am sure I will have a lot more to report next time.



*The Green bed after twelve months neglect*

*The Green bed after the latest Working Party*

**Help us make a difference!**

**Next Working Party – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2018**



Further April Working Parties: Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> – 2pm – meet on The Green



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Newsletter produced by Richard Gregory