



Rural Action

Administration building, Loughry Campus,
76 Dungannon Road,
Cookstown, Co Tyrone,
(028) 8648 0900

Pomeroy Woollen Woods Event – Crafters Newsletter 1 - Bees

Dear Crafter,

Thank you for your interest and participation in producing artwork for the Woollen Woods event, which we are planning for late 2020 in Pomeroy Forest.

I plan to send out further updates and ideas for what we can make to decorate the forest. Thank you to Pomeroy Resource Centre (Phyllis) and The Rowan Tree Centre (Caroline) for distributing the craft packs in Pomeroy

As you will be aware we have a theme for the event *Bees, Butterflies and Blooms*. We selected this theme at the height of the Covid -19 lockdown and whether it was we had more time on our hands or the world was quieter with less people on our roads we started to notice and appreciate nature on our doorstep and in our gardens, therefore we have an opportunity to explore and celebrate our wonderful wildlife and flowers at the Woollen woods event..

To begin with in our crafters newsletter we are focusing on bees. You might be surprised to learn there are more than 250 species of bee in the UK / Ireland. Bumblebees, mason bees, mining bees - these are just one small part of a big, beautiful family. There are 24 species of bumblebee in the UK, and personally, I don't think there is a better sight than these clumsy balls of fluff zooming from flower to flower on a sunny day. Bees are essential to a healthy environment and healthy economy. We rely on



them and other insects to pollinate most of our fruit and vegetables. But bees are under threat from and in decline in numbers, due to habitat loss and climate change and without them so is our food supplies and economy.

So I have included some knitting and crocheting patterns focusing on bees - let's get Pomeroy Forest buzzing with our beautiful bee creations.

We have been trying our hand at crafting in the Rural Action and have created some pom pom bees, but I am sure you have been much creative.



I would love to be able to see and share some of the wonderful items you have been crafting so please get in touch. Please also contact me if wish to share ideas, patterns, spare craft materials etc.

All the best and happy crafting.

Rosemary Hunter

Programme Officer

Connecting Pomeroy - Community Engagement Programme

Email: rosemary@ruralaction.co

Rural Action office (028) 8648 0900