



## Rural Action

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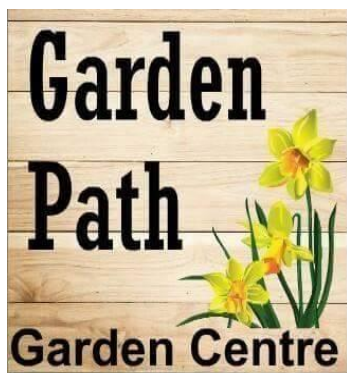
## Pomeroy Woollen Woods Event – Crafters Newsletter 8 – In the business of Flowers

Thank you for your interest and participation in producing artwork for the Woollen Woods event, which has been postponed until later in 2021 (subject to Covid -19 restrictions). We would however encourage crafters to keep producing items so we have an even better display at the event.

Our theme of Bees, Butterflies and Blooms, will be used to create items for the Woollen Woods event. In this newsletter we look at a local business involved with plants & flowers-



Husband and wife team Sean and Lorraine Hamilton run 'The Garden Path', with the florist and gift shop at 74 Main St Pomeroy and their garden centre operating at 198 Termon Road, Pomeroy. Lorraine is the local florist, she loves working with the wonderful colours and scents of the cut flowers, some of which are grown by themselves at their garden centre nursery. A selection of beautiful gifts can also be found in the flower shop e.g., picture frames, scented candles, stoneware memorial items, birthday balloons and all other celebrations are catered for. Lorraine also admits she enjoys the conversations with the people who drop in for a chat and to also see what new floral arrangements she is working on.



Sean caters for all the local gardening needs at the garden centre and provides a year-round planter refill service and he suggests there's no better time than now to drop off your empty pots/containers and get them filled for Spring.

Sean explains that in Pomeroy, most people have a great opportunity to discover the joy of gardening, being in a rural location the majority of people will have access to areas where they can try some homegrown fruit and veg. Strawberries are a great example, they can be grown in a hanging basket, window box or a handy growbag. They are very easy to propagate. Strawberry plants send out runners late in the season and these can be planted up in pots of fresh compost to take root, with the runners then cut off from the parent plant, leaving your new strawberry plant ready to plant out in the spring.

Sean is encouraging Pomeroy residents this year to create a 1 metre X 1 metre vegetable bed in their garden and is setting a challenge to local people to grow something that they might like to eat. He is more than happy to give you advice and support regarding the starter plants that are available from The Garden Path Garden Centre. So why not try some sweet peppers - they are easy to grow from seed but may need a greenhouse or warm window to help allow the seeds germinate. Working with flowers and plants or spending time in the garden can bring a great sense of enjoyment, with many health related benefits, both physical and mental.



Sean is also an active member of the Pomeroy in Bloom group. Taking part in local gardening groups like Pomeroy in Bloom can be both beneficial to those taking part and there is also the added benefit of seeing the wonderful planting schemes around the village and seeing the enjoyment people get from these colourful plants and displays around Pomeroy. With this year's activities presently being planned, Sean and other volunteers within the group would love to hear from you as they are always looking for new people to get involved in this great local initiative which not only contributes to building civic pride but also provides opportunities to build new friendships, and to do so in the great outdoors, connecting with nature.

With Mother's Day fast approaching it is a great time to think about Roses. Not only do these make a beautiful cut flower but they are also a great showpiece in the garden. Sean recommends placing them in a central location where they can be seen from a window or next to a garden path where the scent can also be enjoyed. A job to be done now on your roses is to prune them, ideally on a sunny frost-free morning, removing old stems and any damaged or diseased stems and pruning them back to an outward facing bud.

Finally, as part of this Newsletter I have also included a few patterns using Springtime as the inspiration.

As always, continued thanks to Phyllis at Pomeroy Resource Centre and Caroline at The Rowan Tree Centre as they continue to support the collection of your items for use at the future Woollen Woods event.

Please continue to send me your photos of the wonderful items that you all have been crafting so I can feature them in our future Crafters Newsletter. Also, please feel free to contact me if you require any additional materials – wool, felt etc. or indeed require any further help or support.

In the meantime, Happy Springtime, Happy Gardening & Happy Crafting!

Kind Regards

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