#### Newsletter



# St Alban's going for Bronze in 2024



We hope you joined in

## NO MOW MAY

If you can keep it going throughout June that would be great.

The birds, bees, insects, and small animals will thank you for their food and habitat. Please be careful when you do eventually mow that there are no small creatures living in your lawn.

Email us photos of your WILD lawn and we will post these in our next magazine.

Can you find any of these wildflowers in your garden, local park or whilst on holiday.



BUTTERCUP found in meadows & lawns



COWSLIP found in meadows, lanes & grassy banks



RED CLOVER found in parks, lawns & sea walls

In APRIL we featured Hedgehogs, in MAY we featured lawns this month we are looking at BEES.

Bees are so important to our world they pollinate the plants in our garden and the vegetables we eat. Broccoli, carrots, fennel, parsnips, turnips, kale, apples,

raspberries, and tomatoes are among the British crops that rely on pollination by bees.

#### Bees prop up the ecosystem

Without bees (and thousands of other insect species that call the UK home), it wouldn't be long before our ecosystem collapsed. Bees pollinate our wild trees and wildflowers, which then support other insects, which then support birds, bats, mammals and everything up the food chain with food and shelter.

#### Red Mason Bee



Honey Bee



Bumble bee



You can make a big difference to bees and other wildlife by stopping using pesticides in your

#### 3 types of Bee you will might in your garden

You might be surprised to learn there are more than 250 types of bee in the UK.

Bumblebees, mason bees, mining bees - these are just one small part of the big, beautiful bee family.

Red Mason Bees live a solitary life and are great pollinators. They nest in hollow spaces so we might find them in our bug hotel, they do not sting.

Honey bees are social insects and live in large numbers, they are super-important pollinators for flowers, fruits and vegetables. They transfer pollen between the male and female parts, allowing plants to grow seeds and fruit. Honey bees live in hives or colonies and only sting when they feel threatened.

There are 24 types of Bumble bee in the UK, they are very social insects and they mainly nest in the ground. Bumble bees do not make honey but are wonderful pollinators. The Bumble Bee is twice as big the Honey Bee.

garden. Some pests provide food for crucial pollinators as well as birds and other animals, so leaving them to be controlled naturally is the best choice if you want to help save bees.

One of the easiest ways to help bees is by planting lots of nectar-rich, bee-friendly flowers. Dedicate an area of your garden if you have one – even a single window box or pot on a balcony can be a lifeline.

## **SAVE OUR BEES**