



TARAXACUM OFFICINALE

THE DANDELION

Idle Thoughts in Isolation

During this pandemic and enforced isolation people's reactions to it have been very different. This may be due to our diverse cultural community and how it has affected people personally. However, I have noticed a few common traits as human beings. Thinking of this brought to mind a certain little herb or weed, depending on your interaction with it. The Dandelion. Perhaps we share a few traits with it as well. People have shown a wonderful sense of community spirit, helping and looking after each other. So too does the dandelion.

It provides food and shelter for many species like birds, bugs, flying insects, animals and human beings. As a community we have proved that we are adaptable to difficult circumstances, just like the Dandelion. It will grow in poor or good soil, any nook or cranny in drought or wet weather. Our will to survive is strong, just like the Dandelion root which is embedded deep into the earth. Most people know about the dandelions medicinal properties, how would we have managed without those heroes in the health and related industries? Too many to mention here. What about all those other workers, volunteers, people in general who have kept everything going while the rest of us have been in isolation? All heroes. They remind me of the Dandelions seeds that bravely fly out into the community, not knowing what circumstances they face, but going anyway. We must not forget the children and young people patiently waiting like the Dandelion buds. Our promise to the future. Soon, those of us in isolation will be able to follow them into a brave, new, different world. Of course, all this is just my whimsical view of things. No offence is intended to plant life or human beings. Feel free to disagree with any or all of it if you wish. Some may say that I have spent too long in isolation. Perhaps they are right. However, mine will be the last word on the subject. Long may they live side by side. Human beings and the Dandelion.

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