

HARROGATE IN BLOOM

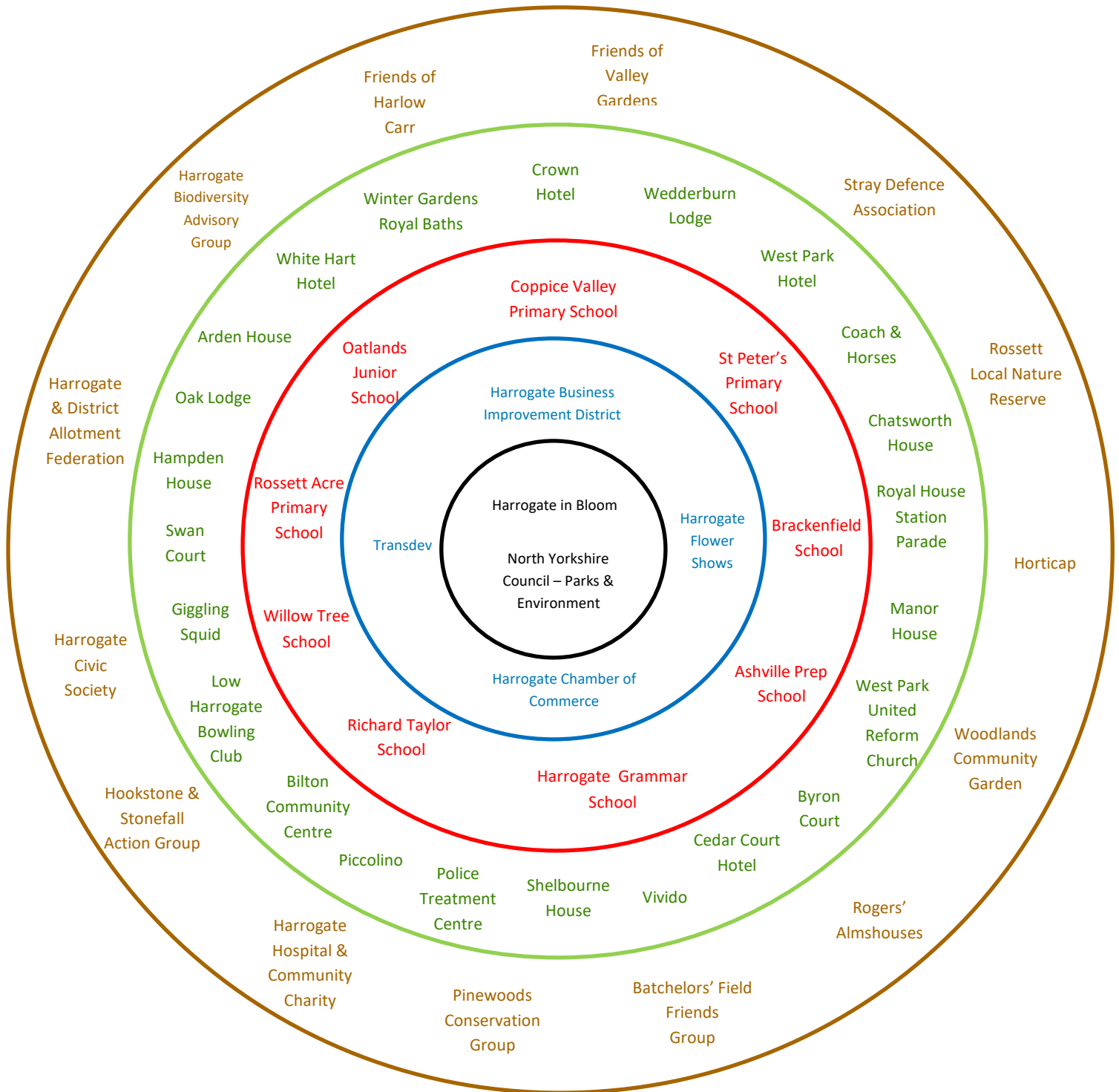
2024



Harrogate's floral excellence has been renowned for decades and has truly put Harrogate on the map.



Harrogate in Bloom Community



- Community Groups
- Competition Entrants
- Schools
- Key Organisations
- Central Organisation

INTRODUCTION FROM THE PRESIDENT OF HARROGATE IN BLOOM – PAM GRANT

A warm welcome to Harrogate in Bloom, where the power of the flower has been at the forefront for so many years. Harrogate doesn't have the advantage of a Cathedral or any major industry to attract people to live and work here. However, it does boast some beautiful architecture, and it has successfully used 'flower power' to create an attractive place for people to come for holidays, and for people to live here and enjoy a good quality of life and well-being.

Members of Harrogate in Bloom meet formally on a monthly basis, when there is general discussion about what is going on in all the community groups. This is always a friendly gathering that enables us to keep up to date on what's happening in our community. North Yorkshire Council is a major player in the town's 'in bloom' bid and provides us with support in a representative at meetings plus hands-on involvement with many of the community groups.

Harrogate in Bloom along with North Yorkshire Council invites children to design a flower bed to be planted in the Valley Gardens the following year. The Harrogate & District Allotment Federation is hosting the 63rd Allotment Show in the Valley Gardens on Sunday 18 August. Friends of Harlow Carr enjoy visits to local gardens e.g. Littlethorpe Manor and further afield to RHS Bridgewater. Friends of Valley Gardens and the Civic Society involve themselves in Heritage Open Days. The Pinewoods Conservation Group holds litter-picking sessions and balsam-bashing sessions throughout the year. The BID is constantly organising different events in the town centre and currently we are involved with them in hosting a Shop Window Competition. The BID also jointly sponsors our Harrogate in Bloom Awards Evening that we hold at the West Park Hotel in September.

Harrogate in Bloom deals with the co-ordination of all the community groups in order for the town to make a strong bid in the 'in bloom' competitions. Chris Beard and I are founder-members of the group and still actively involved. We have certainly seen some changes over the years and now we are embracing the opportunities to re-develop the wildlife that was so evident in the countryside, when we were young.

We have a website www.harrogateinbloom.org.uk, a Facebook page, Instagram and X accounts which all help to keep us in touch with local residents.

Angela has created the portfolio to give you a taste of what Harrogate has to offer, and we look forward to welcoming you both on Friday 19 July.



HARROGATE IN BLOOM COMPETITIONS (A1,A2,A3,A4, B1,B2,B3, C1,C2,C3)

Throughout the year we run a number of competitions to recognise endeavour and to encourage more involvement.

Harrogate in Bloom Awards 2024

The categories are:

- Hotels and Guest Houses
- Pubs and Restaurants
- Communal grounds
- Residential Community
- Shop windows
- School Gardens

Points will be awarded for:

- First Impression/ overall design
- Planting appropriate in colour/scale with summer interest
- Containers appropriate size and style
- Paving, paths, fabric well maintained/ signage in good order.
- Plants in good condition/disease free/dead headed.
- Noticeable environmental features and/or residents' involvement.



Children's Art Competition 2024

The theme of our 2024 Children's Art competition is '**Peace**'. Children between the ages of seven and eleven years are challenged to design a flower bed on this theme, which will be planted in 2025, on the circular bed near the main entrance of the Valley Gardens.

Eight schools entered the competition this year Brackenfield School, Coppice Valley School, Willow Tree School, Ashville Prep School, St Peter's Primary School, Richard Taylor School, Rossett Acre Primary School and Oatlands Junior School. This is three more schools than previously.

Floral Shop Window Competition



The Harrogate BID team, working in partnership with Harrogate in Bloom has organised a Floral Shop Window Competition, encouraging local businesses to celebrate our town's floral heritage

This competition is specifically for town centre shop windows.

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL - HARROGATE

North Yorkshire Council carries out most of the planting in the public spaces in Harrogate. The planting consists of traditional bedding schemes, sustainable permanent planting, pollinator-friendly and wildflower areas. The type of planting depends on the location and maintenance required.

One of the Council's corporate priorities is to be successful in the regional and national 'in bloom' awards. To that end the Council offers support to the district's 'in bloom' groups which includes a subsidised hanging basket scheme, administration, design and print, along with advice, guidance and attendance at meetings/events.

Although there is no direct funding for 'in bloom' the Council is an advocate of the benefits of 'in bloom', particularly in recent years as voluntary groups such as those making up Harrogate in Bloom help to counter the effects of the changes to resources offered by local government.

In Harrogate locality the Council's parks and grounds team is responsible for:

- 200 acres of Harrogate Stray parkland along with other parks and open spaces such as Stonefall Park and Rossett Local Nature Reserve
- Managing trees on highways and in parks and woodland such as Hookstone Woods and the Pinewoods, including a programme of annual tree planting
- Stonefall Cemetery and Crematorium, Grove Road Cemetery and Harlow Hill Cemetery
- Formal gardens and planted areas such as Valley Gardens, Montpellier Hill, West Park, Library Gardens as well as some roundabouts, such as Prince of Wales roundabout and The Crown roundabout
- Harrogate Horticultural, growing over 400,000 plants each year, and are planted by the parks team in floral displays across the district, including the subsidised hanging basket scheme.
- Maintenance and cutting of amenity grass and parkland.
- Many roads which are swept and cleaned across the district.
- Over 20 children's play areas, 1 skate park and 4 tennis courts.
- 9 allotment sites and 4 beehives.
- Organising events in Valley Gardens such as outdoor theatre Wind in the Willows, Pop up Party, Fun in the park, Harrogate Express Land Train, Carnival, Light Festival, Summer Solstice yoga event, regular summer band concerts and a monthly artisan market.
- Events on Harrogate Stray – Food Festival, Fake Festival, Round Table community bonfire, Race for Life and Alzheimer's Research UK **Walk For A Cure**.

The Council has been working hard to help make a difference to the environment, making gradual changes throughout the service. Some changes such as using peat free compost, recycled plant pots/trays and recycling Christmas trees, which were originally sold at the Horticultural Nursery and returned for recycling afterwards. Planting more pollinator friendly plants, wildflower growing trials, also leaving some areas to grow longer attracting insect pollinators and now have four beehives too. Trees have been planted in conjunction with the White Rose Forest, also to celebrate the King's Coronation and continued succession planting. There has been a number of volunteer tree-planting days, including some young trees which have also been grown by volunteers. Due to the warmer climate hydration bags are being used on some young trees and the results monitored for the future. There are 100 hydration bags being used and each contains 70 litres of water which releases gradually over a few days. There is ongoing upgrade of more environmentally friendly vehicles and tools, using more electric or battery-operated equivalents where possible.



Using peat free compost



Using recycled pots and trays



Recycling Christmas trees



Wildflower growing trials



Leaving wildflower areas



4 x beehives



More pollinator friendly planting



Battery operated equipment



Tree planting/succession planting



Volunteer tree planting days



Saplings grown by volunteers



Hydration bags for young trees

HARROGATE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (A1,A2,A3,A4, B1,B2,B3, C1,C2,C3)

Harrogate BID recognises the importance of Harrogate's floral offer and history of success with Britain and Yorkshire in Bloom.

- The BID funds 200 additional floral displays to add to the floral offering in the town, which include barrier baskets that are provided by North Yorkshire Council and are replaced twice each year in time for Summer and Autumn.
- Wall murals have been painted to bring art and creativity to some of the areas of the town that need it most, with a living wall planned for Oxford Street.
- A town centre support officer and two street rangers help to keep the town centre safe and clean.
- The third **Floral Summer of Celebration**, which has a theme of Friendship, was advertised at the Spring Flower Show and will be launched on 18th July.



HARROGATE FLOWER SHOWS (B3, C1,C2,C3)

Harrogate Flower Shows continues to be an active member of Harrogate in Bloom, supporting and furthering the aims of the group through its Spring Flower Show (25-28 April 2024, Great Yorkshire Showground). In 2024, support for Harrogate communities included:

- **Commonwealth War Graves**



For 2024, Harrogate Flower Shows invited the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to create awareness of their work by developing a show garden border at the Spring event. Inspiration for the garden centered around the Commonwealth War Graves' site at Stonefall Cemetery in Harrogate, where Helen, a CWGC gardener at Stonefall, spotted a visitor from New Zealand searching for the grave of Flight Sergeant Sidney W Cains. Sidney died at just 24 years old, on active service on Valentine's Day 1943, separated by 11000 miles from his kin. In the 80 years since his death, he has been honoured, respected, and remembered due to the enduring work of the staff of the CWGC. As a tribute to Flight Sergeant Sidney W Cains and the other New Zealanders commemorated at Stonefall, the garden drew inspiration from the horticulture of his homeland, whilst also incorporating plants typical to sites across Yorkshire. The garden was supported by funding from Harrogate Flower Shows and won a Gold Award.

- **Harrogate in Bloom Charity Breakfast**

An annual event at the Spring show, the Charity Breakfast has raised tens of thousands of pounds towards a wide range of not-for-profit and community endeavours across the years. For 2024, Harrogate Flower Shows offered the opportunity to Harrogate in Bloom, providing a platform for promoting the charity in a horticulturally-focused and enjoyable way. Offering ticket admission, venue hire and parking costs, HFS provided an in-kind donation of almost £2000 toward Harrogate in Bloom, enabling the group to fundraise and support its aims. £2000 was raised for Harrogate in Bloom.

- **Harrogate Hospital Garden**



Created as a legacy garden for Harrogate Hospital's Pannal Maternity Ward. This compact courtyard space highlighted the value of green outdoor space and its nurturing benefits for all of us. Flowing from an existing conservatory, the courtyard centred around a series of soft circular jars and planters, set amongst a variety of cascading perennials and low shrubs. Intended for both expectant parents and hospital staff, comfortable timber benches face one another, encouraging conversation and interaction.

Promoting the use of all senses, planting included scent, taste, feel and sound, with herbs, grasses and textural foliage all adding to the overall effect.

The space is supported by funding from Harrogate Flower Shows.



HARROGATE HOSPITAL COMMUNITY CHARITY (A1,A2,A3,A4, B1,B2,B3)



Harrogate District Hospital has some 27 internal courtyards of varying sizes, and a large area of tree and shrub covered estate around the hospital. Much of the estate borders the Stray and benefits from the trees and open aspect. Planted areas around the Sir Robert Ogden Macmillan Centre are lovely for patients to look at while undergoing chemotherapy.

STONEFALL CEMETERY (A1,A2,A3,A4,B2,B3)

- Twice a year, NYC's bereavement services team raises money through the recycling of metals recovered from cremations, with consent of the bereaved families. The money is donated to charities such as Alzheimer's Society, Dementia Forward, Candlelighters, Friends of Harrogate Hospital, Macmillan, MDN and Our Angels. The recycled metals include those used in the construction of the coffins and in orthopaedic implants such as hip, knee and replacement joints.

- 'On a wing and a prayer' - Bereavement Services commissioned a wonderful new sculpture which was installed just inside the entrance gates at Stonefall Cemetery in Harrogate. The sculpture is called 'Doves Ascending' by local sculptor, Stephen Allen. The doves are a symbol of eternal peace, love, forgiveness and hope, for families to remember all those who lost their lives during the pandemic, not only for the victims of Covid-19 but for those who were unable to be with loved ones in their last days.



THE VALLEY GARDENS (A1,A2,A3,A4, B1,B2,B3, C1,C2,C3)

The famous dahlia bed in the Valley Gardens has been planted with even more different varieties for 2024.



FRIENDS OF VALLEY GARDENS (A1,A2,A3,A4, B1,B2,B3, C1,C2,C3)

- Friends of Valley Gardens (FOVG) produced a World Tree Trail for children and adults describing some of the unusual and fascinating trees in the Valley Gardens to "take a trip around the world".

FOVG worked in partnership with North Yorkshire Council and local suppliers and tradesmen.

The tree trail guide was produced on the web for use online, including usage on mobile phones and also as a hard copy booklet with an information board/lectern on site.



It includes all the seasons of the year and interesting points about the trees to look for all year round.

Evelyn Sinclair (an artistic illustrator) designed the panel on the lectern to present information on the trees, including sketches and photos. There is a QR code pointing to where people can get more information anytime from the FOVG website. The information panel is located near the main Valley Gardens entrance on Elgar Walk and situated between Trees 1 & 2 on the trail.

- More generally, volunteer gardeners continue with fortnightly sessions to help maintain the gardens' diverse flora - both native and non-native plants.
- A new seat in an elevated position with a "borrowed view" has recently been purchased by FOVG and installed in the Japanese Garden.



HARROGATE CIVIC SOCIETY & FRIENDS OF VALLEY GARDENS (B3, C1, C2)

Mike Hine, who died in December 2019, was a longstanding member of the Civic Society and made an enormous contribution to many aspects of Harrogate life. In his will he left a bequest to the Civic Society to provide a permanent feature in his memory. An opportunity arose to restore the lanterns at the entrance to Valley Gardens using new more efficient and sustainable LED lights. These are in a traditional lantern style, replacing the broken ones on top of the pillars, thus enhancing the streetscape in that area. The Friends of Valley Gardens and HCS considered this would be a fitting tribute to Mike's memory.



HARROGATE CIVIC SOCIETY (B3,C1,C2,C3)

- In April, Andrew Wilcocks, Horticulturalist at RHS Harlow Carr, led a Wildlife and Ecology Walk around the gardens for a group of HCS members terminating at the newly open Harrogate Arms café.
- In March 2024, Coppice Valley Primary School held a ceremony to plant seven apple trees to commemorate the Coronation of Charles III. 15 children, supervised by staff from RHS Harlow Carr, and supported by their Head Teacher and Class Teacher, carefully planted the trees in the school's extensive playing fields and wildlife garden. Paul Jennings, historian from Harrogate Civic Society, was invited to witness the event. .



ROSSETT NATURE RESERVE (A3, A4, B2, C1, C3)

- This small urban nature reserve is located off a 400-metre-long section of Rossett Drive, adjoining Richmond Avenue. There are several small ponds, along with some scrub and some grassland. It is a site of special scientific interest and now also has Nature Reserve status from Natural England, due to a breeding colony of Great Crested Newts.
- The Rossett Local Nature Reserve committee looks after the area, organising volunteer days for litter picking, bird song identification walks and conservation work. The team also provides educational sessions on pond life and newts on site for local schools, uniformed groups and the local community.
- Attractive information boards provide details on the wildlife that can be seen.



HOOKSTONE AND STONEFALL ACTION GROUP (HASAG) (B1,B2,B3, C1,C2,C3)

Hookstone Wood and Stonefall and Panhandle Park

These areas are owned by North Yorkshire Council and the HASAG volunteers have continued to carry out maintenance work under the guidance and supervision of the council's Countryside Education Officer. Work sessions for the volunteers are organised to carry out maintenance and project work. The group also makes plans for future projects and encourages others to enjoy the open spaces.

Stonefall and Panhandle Park

- The council, at HASAG's suggestion, has changed some mowing regimes to help increase the diversity of wildflowers and there is now a wide variety of habitats for the seasons – spring, closer mown – summer, more vigorous species
- Volunteers carry out surveys of the species growing and visiting the area. This includes wildflowers, trees and birds. At the last count there were in excess of 80 different species of plants and 15 species of trees.
- Wildflowers, bluebells planted, yellow rattle seeded in order to increase the range.
- Litter picks are carried out on an ad hoc basis keeping the whole area litter free.
- There are small areas of balsam and these are 'bashed' to prevent the spread. A policy which seems to be working well.
- Paths are edged and overhanging branches cut back which might impede the users of the Sustrans' cycle way.
- The council has carried out some major tree pruning on the more mature trees.
- There is a notice board displaying interesting features and information about the area (wildflowers / birds etc). With the help of the Council a leaflet has been produced for children 'see if you can find', which is suitable for this park and Hookstone Wood.
- Commuted sums have been allocated to these open space areas. This money has been used to purchase and install a park seat in the well-used Panhandle Park. Much appreciated by locals!!



Hookstone Wood

- This is an ancient wood. HASAG recently came across a person who did a vegetation and bird survey in 1965 and the group asked him to revisit the wood and give us an update. His initial report (60 years on) is fascinating and the changes he has noted are quite revealing, with his promise that he will continue his survey. He recommends that no major works are required or desirable and just carry out minor maintenance work, litter picking, balsam control etc.



- The Willow Bridge, crossing between the two ponds, has been a concern for a while and the group received advice that some protection of the sides of the structure could be carried out. This requires funding of £8000 and the group is currently applying for grants.
- Adjacent to the wood is a squash club. The members wish to extend the Padel court provision. Members of HASAG consider that this will have a negative impact on the wildlife, due to noise and lighting, and the group has been making representations to the planning department with its concerns.
- Litter picking and balsam bashing are undertaken as necessary by volunteers.
- The surfacing of the footpath system which has taken place throughout the wood over the past few years, is a great success.

THE STRAY (A3, A4, B1,B2,B3, C1,C3)

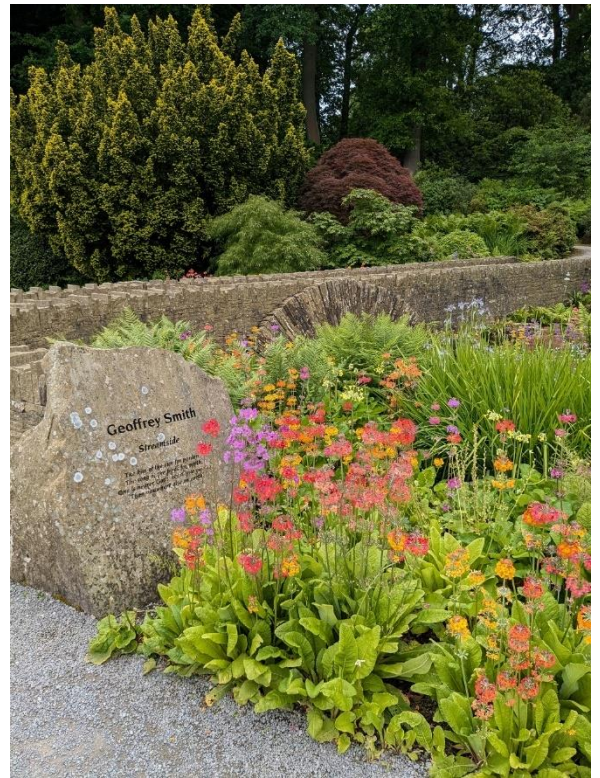
- For almost 250 years Harrogate's people have had the free and permanent use of 200 acres of open grassland and trees, known as the Stray
- The Stray is the giant green lung at the heart of Harrogate. Our 'Natural Health Service' providing fresh air, nature and restoring the spirit.
- A well-loved peaceful haven of greenery and wildlife, with over 3000 trees and other shrubs and plants.
- It is very well used for a wide variety of things, providing residents of all ages, a place for either activities, or simply peace and quiet in the heart of nature.
- Football is played each week by both Senior and Junior teams and there are numerous Keep Fit sessions, both the gentle groups like Yoga, and the more energetic groups such as Military Fitness.
- There is a weekly Park Run plus several annual Fund-raising Charity walks and runs such as Race for Life and others.
- Occasional events are held, including food fairs, entertainment, concerts. However, these are restricted to just 28 days in the year.
- The Stray must otherwise be kept as open green space providing peace and solitude, somewhere for young and old to enjoy nature whether by day or night. Or to simply relax, enjoy the peace and read a book under a tree.
- The Stray Defence Association came into being on the 12th May 1933 and more than 90 years later its objective remains the same, to safeguard Harrogate's Stray against building and encroachment from all quarters and uphold the Act, granting freedom of the Stray to all people for all time.



FRIENDS OF HARLOW CARR (C1,C3)

The group has 100 members, some individuals and others with family. The prime aim is to raise funds for projects in the garden, and since its inception in 2004 has raised over £50,000 mainly from guided walks for visitors and coach parties.

- Projects have included a Bothy, a commemorative stone to Geoffrey Smith, the Friendship Bridge, and a conservatory. This last year the group has funded some wildlife cameras which will be used for educational purposes.
- New projects in the garden have included large areas of wildflowers around the recently opened Harrogate Arms café. The café building is heated by air source heat pumps reducing its reliance of fossil fuels. A bioswale close by, has been constructed for heavy rain and run-off management.
- An RHS member of staff carries out environmental and ecology surveys, not only in the garden but also for other volunteer groups in the area.
- Visits are organised for members which include Littlethorpe Manor, near Ripon and later this year to RHS Bridgewater.



CELEBRATING 200 YEARS OF THE ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTE (A1,A2,A3,A4)

North Yorkshire Council has planted a bed on Montpellier Hill to celebrate 200 years of the RNLI. Harrogate has an active, enthusiastic and hard-working branch of the RNLI that organises regular fundraising events throughout the year.



HORTICAP (A1,A2,A3,A4, B1,B2,B3, C1,C2,C3)

Located at Bluecoat Wood Nurseries, Otley Road in Harrogate, Horticap is an independent, registered charity which provides adults with learning and other disabilities training in horticulture, allied crafts and rural skills.



- 2024 is a special year for Horticap as the organisation celebrated 40 years of growing together. On 3rd April, Horticap Patron, Alan Titchmarsh; National Allotment Society President, Phil Gomersall; Andrew Jones MP; BBC presenter, Amanda Harper and His Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of North Yorkshire, Mrs Jo Ropner, joined students, staff, volunteers, families and friends, including members of Harrogate in Bloom, to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of Horticap and the excellent achievements of their students. The event celebrated the warmth, caring and joy of this amazing charity highlighting the power of the flower.

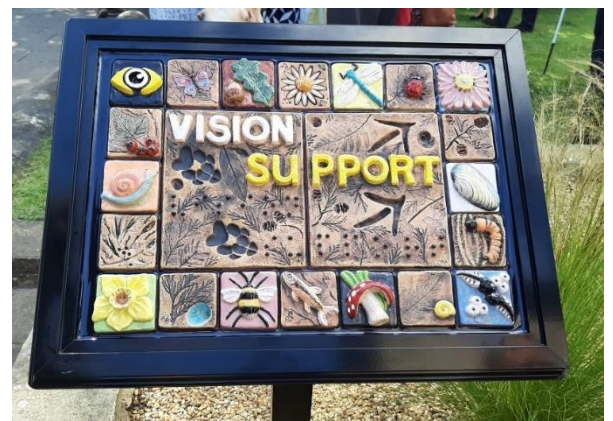
- Horticap regularly enters displays at the Great Yorkshire Show and the Harrogate Flower Shows - always winning awards for their efforts.
- North Yorkshire Council has planted a bed in the Valley Gardens to celebrate Horticap's 40th Anniversary.



SPENCELEY GARDENS (A1,A2,A3,A4, B3,C1,C2)

The sensory bed at Spenceley Gardens was originally created in 1973 when the land was gifted to Harrogate Borough Council by Alderman Spenceley.

- Staff and students from RHS Harlow Carr have redesigned and planted the garden with grasses and herbs to create a sensory area.
- Patricia Swallow funded the planting, and the Vision Support pottery class designed a new sign for the garden, along with the original braille plaques to help visually impaired visitors identify the various plants.



HARROGATE & DISTRICT ALLOTMENT FEDERATION (A1,A2,A3,A4, B1,B2,B3, C1,C2,C3)

The Harrogate & District Allotment Federation brings together the allotment sites across the district to share ideas and good practice and to showcase their gardening successes at the annual Allotment Show. There are 6 self-managed sites in Harrogate and one managed by the Council.

- The 62nd Show was held on 20th August 2023 with £500 of the profits from the Show going to Ripon in Bloom to support the re-planting of Bedern Bank. Surplus produce from the Show went to Resurrected Bites, a community organisation aiming to reduce food waste and food poverty.
- The 2023 inter-site competition was entitled Simply Red and challenged entrants to produce an arrangement at the show on that theme. It was judged by an ex-member of the band Simply Red.
- The 63rd Show will be held on Sunday 18th August. The 2024 charity is Open Country.



Individual sites also hold community events and fund-raising activities and have good links with their local communities.

- **Pine Street Allotments** raised £1,700 for the Harrogate Homeless Project at their Open Day in July 2023. The presentation to the charity took place at a pie and pea supper at Bilton Cricket Club. Their 2024 charity will be Harrogate Town Community Foundation.
- The group has good links with Richard Taylor Church of England Primary School, which has a gardening club where help is given by Gwyn Groves, one of Pine Street's plot holders. Children from Richard Taylor Primary School and Bilton Grange Primary School also make visits to the site.
- The Harrogate Women's Institute makes an annual visit to Pine Street too and volunteers from Pine Street Allotments have a table and display at the Bilton and Woodfield Library Community Day every year to promote allotments, advertise their Open Day and the HDAF Show.



- **Harlow Hill Allotments** achieved a Wildlife Garden Award from the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust for their efforts to improve biodiversity and encourage good gardening practice on the site.
- In June 2024, £600 was raised at their Open Day. The money was shared between Horticap and The Harlow Hill Community Centre.
- Surplus produce from Harlow Hill is taken to Resurrected Bites each week.
- **North Outfall Allotments** had a Summer BBQ in 2023 which raised a profit of £226 and an October Pumpkin sale which raised a profit of £293. Funds go in to their community shed fund so they can hold coffee mornings and seed swaps there and have a kitchen area for future social events.
- **Oatlands Allotments** had a visit from a local Beavers Group and there is an annual scarecrow competition on their site.
- **St Andrews Allotments** have good links with Springwater School, MIND and Time-Together who each have a plot on this site.

BACHELORS FIELD FRIENDS GROUP (B1,B2,B3, C1,C2,C3)

Bachelors Field Friends Group is a small organisation, originally formed out of the desire to protect the field from proposed planning at the time. Prior to this, the field was part of the estate for local landowners, the Taylors, with the field being part of the original Bilton Endowed School. The school was built in 1793, with the original building, now residential property, and an original well, which is the Bachelor's field logo. Since then, the aims have developed, and it is hoped to maintain a space which can be enjoyed by people and wildlife.

- There are many different areas, from bramble scrub, a Bog section, pond, mature Oaks, as well as those sadly declined, crab apple, wild damson, and sloes. Over the years the group has shaped the environment through the planting of native copses, which add bird cherry, wild rose, hazel, and countless other food species for the local wildlife.
- The volunteers work trimonthly on tasks ranging from maintaining the pond, litter picking and bulb planting, managing the fine balance between species to ensure this diversity remains. The local Council supports with grass cutting.



PINEWOODS CONSERVATION GROUP (C1, C2 C3)

The Pinewoods Conservation Group aims to promote the maintenance and conservation of the environment within the Pinewoods. Activities this year include:

- Funding raising for new tools and storage to allow the group to be more self-sufficient. This was via grants and crowd funding.
- Many volunteering events for local schools, youth groups and businesses.
- Regular volunteering groups to refill bird feeders and litter pick.
- Regular monthly volunteering day, 1st Sunday of the month, with increasing numbers. May 24 was 12 people.
- Christmas event with advent doors to generate increased visits over winter.
- Increased press interest in groups volunteering and campaigning activity with numerous press articles.



WOODLANDS COMMUNITY GARDEN

(A1,A2,A3,A4, B1,B2,B3, C1,C2,C3)

2024 sees the 10th Anniversary of this truly community space which, involves lots of community groups in many different events and provides healthy food for the local community.

The garden volunteers work weekly on a Wednesday 9am-10am (9 local people) and monthly on Sundays (2pm-4pm)

- They are growing more flowers in their raised beds so they can give cut flowers as gifts to local people who may be ill.
- Visitors to the garden have enjoyed watching tadpoles in the 1-year-old pond and spotting a dragonfly that had just pupated inflate its wings!
- Volunteers from Open Country and Harrogate Community Fit helped to complete the pond and have helped to transform the garden.



Harrogate in Bloom Diary of Events

Month	Event	
July 2023	7 th	HiB committee meeting
	29 th	Unity Grove Allotments Open day
	30 th	Pine Street Allotments Open Day
August 2023	4 th	HiB committee meeting
	20 th	HDAF Annual Show– HiB and Civic Society had stalls
September 2023		Heritage Open Days
	8 th	HiB committee meeting
	21 st	Harrogate in Bloom Awards Evening
October 2023	6 th	HiB committee meeting
November 2023	3 rd	HiB AGM & committee meeting
	28 th	HASAG AGM
December 2023	1 st	HiB committee meeting
January 2024	30 th	HDAF AGM
February 2024	2 nd	HiB committee meeting
March 2024	1 st	HiB committee meeting HiB Awards Competition launched including children's Art Competition.
	6 th	Friends of Valley Gardens AGM
	19 th	Friends of Harlow Carr AGM
	20 th	Pinewoods Conservation Group AGM
April 2024	3 rd	Horticap 40 th Anniversary Celebration
	12 th	HiB committee meeting
	26 th	HiB Charity Breakfast at Harrogate Flower Show
May 2024	10 th	HiB committee meeting
June 2024	10 th	Floral Shop Window Competition launched
	14 th	HiB committee meeting
	15 th	Harlow Hill Allotments Open Day
July 2024	12 th	HiB committee meeting
August 2024	18 th	HDAF Annual Show– HiB and Civic Society to have stalls
September 2024		Heritage Open Days
	19 th	Harrogate in Bloom Awards Evening