

Friends of Valley Gardens

Issue No 47 August 2023

Work Parties

August

Wednesday 23 August 7pm to 8.30pm

Tuesday 29 August—6pm to 8pm

September

Sunday 10 Sept 10am to 12 noon

Sunday 24 Sept 10am to 12 noon

Meet at the shelter at the top of the path at 9 Valley Road to collect tools and have a quick briefing about the work to be done.

We have added an additional date in August—it is the Tuesday after the Bank Holiday and we expect there might be a fair bit of litter to clear. But we also hope to start work on one of our new projects –repainting of the Victorian Bench (see next column).

We have had one work party since the last newsletter. Unfortunately we had to cancel the 2nd August due to the weather but we had a good turnout on 13 August with 12 volunteers focusing on the 'Peace Garden' (see next column) and, of course, litter picking.

Volunteers are always welcome. Email our Secretary, Chris Cooper at: friendsofthevalleygardens@gmail.com

New Projects

There will always be litter to be picked and general weeding/tidying in the Gardens but, following the walk through the Gardens with the Parks Team, a number of specific projects have been identified.

'Peace Garden'

Tidy and improve the area above the small bridge to the Bike and Boot just along from the Buddhist Centre. This will include improving access and planting. This is a lovely space and, with a bit of work, it will be a wonderful area for people to picnic and enjoy the view.

New benches

The Parks Team have installed two new benches in the Peace Garden and are looking at installing one on Valley Road near where coaches drop off.

Victorian bench

Repair and repainting of the Victorian bench which is near the roundabout at the end of Valley Road.

Trees

Replacing of the fruit trees with more mature trees.

Railings on Vernon Road bridge

We are hoping that these can be repaired/replaced.



Working on the Peace Garden and the first bench installed.

Issues in the Gardens

We are disappointed to have to report that the urn on top of the fountain has been broken off again.

It is clear that this was a deliberate act of vandalism of which there have been several instances in the Gardens lately. The fruit trees planted last year have been pulled down and a litter bin inside the Gardens by the Vernon Road Bridge has been set on fire.



If you spot any damage like this in the Gardens please report it to the Police via phone to 101 or online ([Contact us | Police.uk \(www.police.uk\)](https://www.police.uk)). That way the incident will get logged and given a crime number and will inform where the Police focus their patrols moving forward. If you can also drop us a line that will help us in our ongoing discussions with the Police and the Community Safety Manager at North Yorkshire Council.

In the meantime we are discussing with the Parks Team about planting more mature trees to replace those lost. We are grateful to them for acting quickly in reattaching the urn on the fountain.



Giant Hogweed

Take care when walking through the Gardens as there may be some Giant Hogweed about.

It is a non-native invasive plant which can cause burns if you touch it. If you get giant hogweed sap on your skin, be sure to wash the area thoroughly and immediately. Seek medical advice and do not expose the area to sunlight for a few days.

This is an image of what it looks like and there is a lot more information on the Woodend Trust website: [Giant Hogweed: The Facts - Woodland](#)



And finally.....

Scarborough Theatre Company are putting on a performance of Pinocchio on the grassed area behind Woodend over the Bank Holiday weekend, with two performances each day from Saturday to Monday. It will be performed by students of performing arts in, and from Scarborough.

More information can be found on the Scarborough Theatre Company Facebook page.

Email: friendsofthevalleygardens@gmail.com

Website: [The Friends of Scarborough Valley Gardens, Scarborough \(hugofox.com\)](http://TheFriendsOfScarboroughValleyGardens.com)