

# Friends of Valley Gardens

Newsletter April 2019 No 3

## Forthcoming Events

My apologies for the time it has taken to get this newsletter out. As Match Secretary at South Cliff Bowling Club I am used to just dealing with one person when it comes to organising events so things tend to get done quickly and efficiently. I am discovering that it is a bit more complicated with the Friends Group. Every decision requires input from at least four or five other people, which is probably not that surprising when so many different organisations have a stake in the future of the gardens. I think patience will be an important attribute over the next couple of years.

However we have made some progress!  
Our next working party will be on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April from 10am. Roger and Sheila's diaries are looking very full with Sunday mornings definitely out for the next few weeks. Details of the tasks we can do are outlined elsewhere in the newsletter.

We have been offered tours of Woodend and the Museum Store and I hope to have details of dates for these in the next newsletter.

Roger has contacts with an expert who would be willing to run a session on the art of dry stone walling. More details when we have them



## Friends' Meeting Tuesday May 7<sup>th</sup> 7.15pm

Andrew Clay, Chief Executive at Scarborough Museums Trust, has very kindly agreed to let us use Woodend, free of charge, for a meeting to establish our steering committee. We hope to combine this with an event where representatives from other local Friends Groups will come along and share their experiences, both good and bad. This meeting will take place on **Tuesday May 7<sup>th</sup> at 7.15pm**. More details in the next newsletter

## Working Party Tuesday April 16<sup>th</sup> 10am

We appreciate that meeting on a weekday will prevent everybody who works during the week from joining us, but the alternative dates meant a very long wait before we could attempt any further tasks  
We will meet as usual at the pond. We hope to carry out a number of tasks including -

**Planting up a border next to the tower at Woodend.**

**Clearing and sweeping a number of the paths below the Art Gallery to remove the accumulations of soil and stones.**

**Remove branches and the smaller brash from the grassed areas to facilitate cutting.**

**The never ending task of litter picking.**

Roger and Sheila will provide the tools we need but bring a decent pair of gloves and stout footwear.



## Planning for the Autumn

Sometimes it is not possible to attend all the events but there are one or two things you could do at home that would make a big difference in the Autumn.

There are no Foxgloves in the gardens even though conditions should suit them. If you have the space at home could you sow a few seeds of the native foxglove and once they have germinated grow them on to a decent size for planting out in September.

There are quite a few areas of primroses but no cowslips. If you have cowslips in the garden, why not divide some of the bigger clumps and pot up a few, again to be planted on one of the grassy banks in the Autumn. The best time to do this is shortly after they have finished flowering.

## Yay Coffee

Did you know you can get a decent cup of coffee at Woodend courtesy of Yay Coffee. This Spring they are expanding outside so you can sit on the terrace with your drink and admire the work we are doing on the gardens. They are open from Tuesday to Saturday each week between 9 and 5.

## Festival of Archaeology Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July

We have been asked to help at a Festival of Archaeology being run by Scarborough Museums Trust in July. Volunteers are needed to help with the activities and guide visitors through the park between the venues.

The event is described as fun for all the family. The Rotunda will host mini digs, flint tool demonstrations and artefact handling.

The Art Gallery will have Cave Painting and at Woodend there will be talks and tours, Bushcraft Skills, building shelters and dressing in Stone Age clothing.

Put the date in your diary. Further details and how you can sign up to follow

## Weaponess Mosaic

You may have spotted in the Scarborough Review that the Weaponess Valley Community Group has been hard at work producing a mosaic featuring many local Weaponess landmarks. Now complete, it has been installed opposite the University Training College, guarded by the sea dragon.

