

# Friends of Valley Gardens

Newsletter November 2019 No 10

## Programme –November/December

### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November

Work party – meet Woodend Archway at 10am  
Daffodil bulb planting

### Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November

Committee Meeting 7pm  
23 Valley Road

### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December

Work party – meet Woodend Archway at 10am

Further details about these events elsewhere in the newsletter.

## Funding Boost

We were delighted to receive an e-mail from Andrew Clay informing the Friends that the Directors of Woodend had agreed a donation of £500 to support the development of projects in the Valley Gardens.

This could not have come at a better time. It means that we are financially secure over the winter period while we build up our reserves. Next spring, once we have priced the various projects, we can allocate the money to a specific scheme.

Thank you to Andrew and the Directors for this generous donation.

## Work Parties

The October work morning was wet and horrible and unsurprisingly there were just five of us turned up. However we managed an hour clearing weeds from the border above the pond before the rain finally drove us indoors for a hot drink and a shower.

We have bought five hundred native daffodils to plant at the side of the paths in the area near the grotto. Native daffodils, also known as the Lent Lily, are slightly smaller than garden cultivars, but are extremely hardy, tolerating exposed conditions and naturalising easily amongst grass.

We will be planting these on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November meeting at the archway near Woodend at 10am. Of course we are not restricted to planting native species. If anyone was to arrive on the Sunday with a bag of daffodil, crocus or even tulip bulbs, I could find a position for them somewhere in the gardens.

See you on the 10<sup>th</sup> and let's hope the weather is a little better than last time.



***Autumn Colour in the Gardens and the Native Daffodil***

## News in Brief.

### AGM

24 people attended the AGM on October 10<sup>th</sup>. The formal part of the meeting was over and done with within twenty five minutes. We had a cup of tea and then listened to very interesting talk by Roger Burnett on the History of the Parks and Gardens in Scarborough. Thanks to Woodend for allowing us the use of the Conference Room and to Roger and Sheila for the excellent talk.

Your elected Committee is as follows

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Felicity Stephenson</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Jane Millar</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Graham Stephenson</b>
<b>Committee</b>	
<b>Debbie Ambler, Andrew Clay, Chris Cooper, Sue Glew, Anna Kendall, Mick Prince, Elena Tradewell, Karon Wallis.</b>	

### Muck and Magic

A few members of your committee attended the Muck and Magic awards at the Spa last month. It was really just a reconnaissance mission to see if it was worth the Friends entering next year. We were therefore very surprised to receive a certificate for best new Community group

## Litter Picking Guidelines

- Litter-pickers, bags and protective gloves can be provided if you require.
- If you find any large, heavy objects do not lift or place in litter bags. Contact the Parks Team and they will deal with such items.
- Beware of sharp objects like glass and metal. Be careful when picking it up but also when it is in your litter bag.
- Contact the Parks Team if you come across any hypodermic needles. The team are trained to deal with this kind of problem and have the right equipment.
- Be careful when litter-picking away from the footpath. Safety first – avoid banks that are too steep and watch out for low branches. Wear sturdy shoes.
- If you litter-pick alone make sure that someone knows where you are.
- Leave filled bags near a bin and let the Parks Team know.

**Contact the Parks Team on 01723 232323 during office hours**

I have reproduced above a handy little guide for litter pickers. Most of it is common sense but it never hurts to remind members of a few practical rules.



**The team with the Friend's certificate at the Muck and Magic Awards**

## Conferences and Courses

Last Saturday your Secretary travelled up to Newcastle to attend a conference run by the **National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces**. The most useful part of the day was meeting other people and learning about their successes and failures. He has come back full of ideas, and will no doubt bore the committee rigid when he reports back at the next meeting. Mick Prince attended a local event called 'Meet the Heritage Funders' and will also, I hope, report back to the next meeting.