



BRITAIN IN BLOOM

2017



STARBECK IN BLOOM





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Welcome To Starbeck



We have pleasure in submitting our portfolio for 2107 and look forward to welcoming you to our community.

Starbeck in Bloom was formed 19 years ago, after a spate of vandalism that left the community devoid of hope. A committee was formed: a grant from Tidy Britain (Keep Britain Tidy) and a decision to enter Yorkshire in Bloom as an urban community followed and Starbeck in Bloom was formed.

Our aim was to make Starbeck a better and cleaner place to live. We have gone on to gain extremely good results in Yorkshire in Bloom and were honoured to be chosen to represent Yorkshire in the Urban Community category in the Britain in Bloom finals in 2006, 2008 and 2013 achieving a Silver Gilt and award for the best community. We now are entering for 2017 and are already well ahead with our preparations.



Left to right - Starbeck Boundary Wheel; Mr Beer 'the man on a bike'

2000	Yorkshire in Bloom — 3rd place
2001	Yorkshire in Bloom — joint 1st place
2002	Yorkshire in Bloom — 1st place
2003	Yorkshire in Bloom — 2nd place
2004	Yorkshire in Bloom — 2nd place
2005	Yorkshire in Bloom — 1st place and Most improved award
2006	Britain in Bloom — Silver Gilt Category winner Community Champion: Christine Stewart
2007	Yorkshire in Bloom — Gold medal
2008	Britain in Bloom — Silver Gilt
2009	Yorkshire in Bloom — Gold Medal
2010	Yorkshire in Bloom — Gold Medal and Category winner ,Community award
2011	Yorkshire in Bloom — Gold Medal and Category winner
2012	Yorkshire in Bloom — Gold Medal and Category winner
2013	Britain in Bloom — Silver Gilt and Best Community
2014	Yorkshire in Bloom — Gold Medal and Category winner
2015	Yorkshire in Bloom — Gold Medal
2016	Yorkshire in Bloom — Gold Medal and National Nomination



Our objectives have always been to improve our surroundings and bring together the community in order to make Starbeck a better place. Starbeck in Bloom have aimed to make people aware of their own environment and how they can improve it for themselves and wildlife, through different planting schemes and hosting awareness days. Our businesses, local groups and residents are very willing to back us financially and practically.

Our committee is small but has numerous supporters and draws on enormous support from all groups, businesses and individuals in Starbeck. Everyone plays a part to make this a strong community of which we can be proud. We held a Britain in Bloom launch evening in February to which over 18 groups

Local History

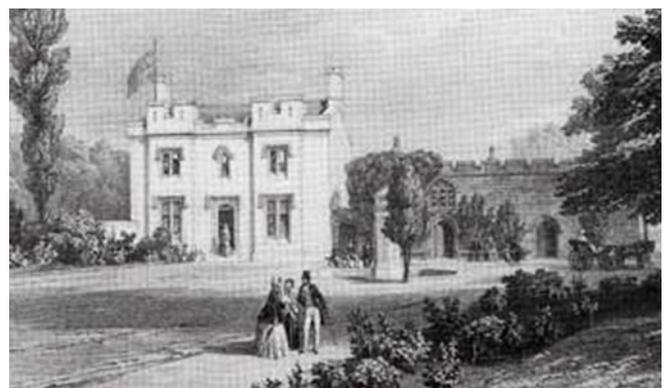
In medieval times Starbeck was known as Stokkebrigmyre, a boggy place in the Forest of Knaresborough. At the end of the 16th century two mineral springs were discovered and people began to visit the area. The waters were well known throughout the 17th century. Houses began to appear in the area known as Forest Lane Head then in 1750s Blind Jack Metcalf routed his turnpike road through here crossing the Star Beck. The forest was enclosed, the springs fell into private hands and then into a rapid demise. Fine houses began to appear and in 1811 the Harrogate Workhouse opened on the border of Harrogate and Knaresborough. In 1822 the old mineral springs were reopened and Starbeck was receiving visitors again but still was no more than a hamlet. Then came the railway. A station to serve Harrogate

came, each with a small display. Over 125 people attended and our plans for 2017 were launched. We adopted a new logo (Starbeck is Special). This will be used throughout the year on all publicity, will go on our new high street banners and in a series of articles in the local press.

We continue to work in partnership with **Harrogate Borough Council (HBC)**, **Northern and Network Rail**, **Morrisons**, **The Coop** and **Taylor's of Harrogate**, **North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC)** local schools, churches and several groups new to bloom such as **2 Women's Institutes** and **Henshaws College** (supporting people living with sight loss) and **Starbeck Mission**.

opened in 1848. Starbeck exploded in size, in less than 50 years the population rose from around 50 to 5000. Starbeck matured and prospered and soon turned into the community we know today.

We have been fortunate to have had two local historians who have written books and kept our history alive. After the death of Mr Beer in 1999 (one of the local historians), Starbeck in Bloom spearheaded a fund to raise a sculpture in his memory, "Man on a Bike" and to lay a history pavement. Starbeck in Bloom was determined to keep our "roots" alive and funded a new history project helped by historian Stephen Abbott. £15,000 was raised in about 10 months from public donation to fund the project. A history trail leaflet now takes you around Starbeck and to the history information boards funded by Awards for All.



Left to right - High Street 1920; Spa Mews wells 1860





Starbeck in Bloom Committee (all are “hands on” active members)

Chairman and Co-ordinator	Christine Stewart
Show Co-ordinator	Doreen Davies
Allotment Secretary	Chris Wardle
Treasurer	Bob Coppinger
Brigades & Methodist Church Gardens Co-ordinator	Chris Binks
Catering Organiser & Beck Welly Wader	Pat Foxall
Expert Street Weeders	Margaret Manning, Amy Clark, Grace Coop, Andy Gillespie, Gillian Herrity, Mary Bradley, Helen Fenton, Rebecca Lund
Webmaster and 'heavywork'man	Tim Stewart
Heavy Work Team	Bob Coppinger, Andy Gillespie, Mike Hine Simon Collier, John Shutt, Clive
Community Co-ordinator Taylors of Harrogate	Chris Powell
Harrogate Borough Council Liaison	Jo Ryder
Publicity and Ideas	Sue Wood
Springwater School Liaison and Weeders	Brenda Coppinger
Starbeck Primary School Liaison	Sarah Rowntree



Section A Horticultural Achievement

Left to right - Cenotaph; High Street planter;



A1 IMPACT

All the floral displays in Starbeck are planned and funded by Starbeck in Bloom and maintained by teams of volunteers for watering and maintenance. Starbeck in Bloom also encourage and advise other groups who wish to participate.

The 3 boundary wheels (B3 & B5) (one of the very first projects) which were purchased through the Starbeck community fund are planted out twice a year by volunteers, with perennial beds behind the wheels and many bulbs in the grass both front and rear.

On the High Street there are 11 barrier baskets, 12 half baskets on the tree cages and 20 hanging baskets on the lampposts. These have been purchased over the years by funding sourced by Starbeck in Bloom, from local councillors, community funds and local groups. All the planters in Starbeck are in blue to match the street furniture.

The colour theme for this year is yellow, red and white with pansies, hyacinths, tulips and wallflowers in the spring. In the summer we add orange to the theme with begonias, african marigolds, geraniums, dahlias and helichrysums. The Cenotaph will be planted with white flowers. The hanging baskets are planted and watered by **Harrogate Borough Council** made to our theme but entirely funded by Starbeck in Bloom. This year we have asked for hanging basket sponsorship from the businesses and residents and have now all 20 sponsored.

Over the years Starbeck in Bloom have Identified areas which could be planted to brighten the environment and the result is a wide variety of types of planting. We have nectar rich beds to attract insect pollinators, heuchera and grass bed, an alpine trough, a heather bed and our herbs and fruits in the 'Grow it, Eat it' corner along with a range of perennial and sustainable planted areas.



Left to right - Trough and Barrier baskets on High Street

Section A Horticultural Achievement

Left to right - Library garden ; Swimmer bed



Starbeck in Bloom has been asked this year to take over the whole maintenance of the library garden. Areas have been cleared and our plans are to develop two new perennial herbaceous borders.

Over the last year a new floral bed was developed in front of the library with sustainable planting in yellow to become our Tour de France legacy bed. In it we have Pierre our tour legacy who is a man on a pennyfarthing bike made and funded by our local metal worker, **Marlyn Metalcraft**. We have a figure of a swimmer as the focus of a floral bed planted with annuals in front of the swimming pool. This is privately funded by donation and the work is carried out by Starbeck in Bloom and watered by HBC swimming pool staff.

A2 HORTICULTURAL PRACTICE

All seasonal plants for planters and hanging baskets are sourced from Harrogate Borough Council's nursery well known for the quality of its plants. All shrubs and perennials are sourced from local plant nurseries all of which

give a discount to Starbeck in Bloom. We are frequently given plants and we recycle plants which outgrow their space. All containers have reservoirs and all beds are mulched with either recycled wood chippings, compost or gravel. Watering, deadheading and feeding are carried out by volunteers and **Harrogate Borough Council's park staff**. We have 10 voluntary waterers and use the water supply at the Prince of Wales pub where we store our own watering machine. We also use water from the **Starbeck Working Mens Club**. Grey water is used where possible but we are at present investigating the opportunities of using rainwater collected from roofs from businesses on the High Street but for various reasons such as metal downpipes this hasn't been possible in many areas.

Table of watering personnel in Appendix

Planting of herbs fruit and vegetable crops are in the community "Grow it ,Eat it " corner near the Methodist Church. This area has an interpretation board to help identify the varieties of herbs and is for public use .



Left to right - Boundary Wheel ; Grow it Eat It corner

Section A Horticultural Achievement

Left to right - Gap Site; Insect hotel in nectar beds;



. A new group is being formed of Incredible Edibles and they hope to take over the ownership of this corner and a raised bed of herbs on the railway station platform (which are planted to be picked by commuters on their way home from work).

The planting in small gap sites is being gradually changed to perennial and sustainable. Each area is evaluated yearly and a rolling programme of work planned thus spreading both workload and cost and also resources such as water when new planting is considered, the maintenance plan and responsibility is always discussed before work is started.

A3 COMMUNITY GARDENING

The story corner at St Andrews church car park was reclaimed waste land, redesigned and landscaped to create a quiet place for the local play group .It was initially maintained by **St John's Ambulance Cadets** along with Starbeck in Bloom and constantly used by youngsters. Now the **Guides** have adopted the corner and have a large planter. This year they

are taking part in a project studying bees and insects on dahlias this is part of an RHS scheme (Blooms for Bees) and they are using the project to complete their badge work in both horticulture and photography. A professional photographer has volunteered to help the **Guides** with their photography skills.

The Bio diversity bed started life as a rose bed, Starbeck in bloom changed it first to drought resistant plants then to Nectar rich plants. Original funding came from Yorkshire water and Allotment fund and interpretation panels were funded by NYCC councillors. Large insect hotels were made to encourage insects and planting is chosen to ensure all year round nectar and food for pollinators.

The grass bed was another unloved area , a raised bed on the High Street originally planted using donated grasses , after 6 years it was getting out of hand and was cleared and replanted with heucheras, heleniums, snowdrops, alliums and anemone blanda for the spring colour and insect pollinators.



Left to right - Raised bed on High Street: Story Corner

Section A Horticultural Achievement

Left to right - Railway Station : Eco Planter



The large planters on the station were given to us by **Network Rail** and half barrels originally donated by **Northern Rail**. This year we are funding new barrels (50%) from a **North Yorkshire County Councillor** grant, made of maintenance free plastic with a water reservoir which will aid watering and reduce the amount of water required. The total replacement will continue over the next few years.

A few years ago we trialled new planters made of recycled plastic wood to assess their suitability and lifespan, they have been a success and are using Ecoboard in other projects. (Forest Lane Roundabout & High St/ Forest Lane Junction)

Following a refurbishment at the **Methodist church**, a working party has re-landscaped the grounds and have formed a weekly gardening club. The area is also used for the planting of memorial flowering cherry trees.

Jehovahs Witness church has moved into new premises near the Belmont Railway crossing



Left to right - : Willow Hurdle : Springwater Allotment

and have extensive landscaped grounds. Hookstone school has recently expanded and the new developments has led to new landscaping down the driveway.

Springwater Special School has a sixth form section now that has adopted an allotment at St Andrews site. They have paved paths for wheelchairs and made new raised accessible vegetable beds using recycled material acquired with help from Starbeck in Bloom .

Springwater school have a woodland walk which Starbeck in Bloom working alongside students completing their NCS scheme helped to regenerate with pruning and chipping. Henshaws College has extensive grounds and Starbeck in Bloom recently helped with coppicing of an overgrown willow area and arranged for the students to learn willow skills to make a hurdle with them in the library garden.



Section A Horticultural Achievement

Left to right - Garden Competition Entry : Ravenscourt



A3 RESIDENTIAL GARDENS

These reflect a sense of pride with many residents having floral displays outside their gardens on the verges; some of these can be seen down Forest Lane. The garden competition has now been running for 17 years and attracts over 40 entries. There are also classes for business and residential homes. It is judged by the show director Mr Nick Smith from the **Harrogate Flower Shows**.

Spa Mews, Station View, Belmont House, Vida Hall and Bilton Hall are residential elderly housing schemes and all have prize winning gardens giving pleasure to many. Starbeck in Bloom help the **Spa Mews** residents to care for a scented border and bird feeding station.

Ravenscourt is a scheme for elderly independent living, each care for a small garden and always enter the communal section of the Annual Garden competition.

A3 ALLOTMENTS

There are 3 allotment sites in Starbeck, **1) St Andrews** has 82 plots and is self administered. The allotment committee has received grants from the Starbeck Community Fund and 1 from the Awards for All to fund a new perimeter fence and a composting toilet. **Springwater Special School 6th Form** and **Henshaws College** (supporting people living with sight loss) both have allotments on this site. Starbeck in Bloom has worked closely with these groups helping to provide recycled paving, raised beds and bark chippings for pathways. **2) Pearl Street** is a small council run site with 7 plots and **3) Stonefall** is another self administered site with 38 plots. All have very active members who participate in the Harrogate Allotment Show and Starbeck Annual Show. All of Starbeck's sites are fully let and have waiting lists. All have water butts and composters to save water and recycle green waste. Many are organic sites and encourage planting for insect pollinators.



Left to right - ; Spa Mews : Vida Hall

Section A Horticultural Achievement

Left to right - Working Mens Club : Golf Club



A4 BUSINESS AREAS AND PREMISES

All local businesses work to support Starbeck in Bloom, with money contributions from the sponsors boards helping to fund floral displays. **The Working Mens Club and Conservative Club** have colourful hanging baskets and many planted floral tubs. The **Harrogate Golf Club** takes part in the garden competition showing the judges a colourful bedding schemes and well maintained grounds as well as areas for wildlife .The Golf Club grounds cover many acres and have extensive wooded areas including the Belmont Oak ,a last remaining tree from the Ancient Forest of Knaresborough.

Bettys and Taylors tea factory has extensive and well maintained grounds with excellent permanent landscaping. The inner factory courtyard is lovely with an orangery of coffee, cocoa and tea plants. There are raised beds at the cookery school providing herbs and salads. It is maintained by Kevin, the Head Gardener, and his 2 garden helpers. They have entered Yorkshire in Bloom individually for the past few years and were delighted to receive a Gold Award in 2016.

The Eco **car wash** is very colourful with bulbs in the spring planted by the **Girl Scouts**. This was one of the first bulb planting schemes in the community in 1998.

Claro Enterprises, Forest Feeds, Morrisons car park and the **Harrogate Golf Club** are all good examples of Starbeck in Bloom working alongside businesses offering advice and practical help and receiving support in return. Within our garden competition we have a category for business and one for community gardens.

There is little space on the pavements outside the shops on the High Street to allow for tubs and planters due to Starbeck being used by a number of students from Henshaw College (supporting people living with sight loss) but displays have been placed where appropriate.

The railway station continues to improve with the help of **Northern Rail**. Starbeck in Bloom added a feature of a barrel given by the local brewery, fixed on an original barrow from the station. **Marlyn Metal Craft** arranged for the



Left to right - : The Hut : Taylors of Harrogate

Section A Horticultural Achievement

Left to right - Brigades planting October 2016 –Flowering April 2017



fixing and Starbeck in Bloom plant it. This is only one of many projects which show the cooperation between all businesses who are willing to support Starbeck in Bloom.

A5 GREEN SPACES

There are many open spaces in Starbeck - Belmont field, Cat's field and Prospect park. Harrogate Borough Council maintains all of these to a very high standard. There is a dedicated team of workers for Starbeck who work very closely with the In Bloom group.

Prospect Park was re-landscaped in 2001 with sustainable planting. A sculpture in memory of Gordon Beer, our local historian, was incorporated into the park. Local school children designed a historical paving area fund raising for this project generated £15,000 in 8 months. The sculpture is now surrounded by miniature daffodils - a delight in early spring. Last year, after a request from Starbeck in Bloom, the council funded and arranged for the tarmacing of all the paths.

Belmont Field has had various varieties of crocus and daffodils planted over the last 18 years by **The Brigades** giving a long succession of colour. Each year an area of Starbeck is designated for bulb planting and over 60,000 bulbs have been planted.

Snowdrops form a snowdrop drift down Forest Lane. This year they have been thickened by the addition of a further 1000 snowdrops planted in the green by **Springwater Special School 6th Form Group**. Gatepost Corner that was planted in 2014 by hundreds of donated snowdrops this year has come into its

full glory. Tree planting continues throughout Starbeck with group help and the local authority where the planning policy of 2 trees are replanted for every 1 tree removed. Hedge gapping continues down Spa Lane and new whips are added yearly to Addyman's Wood. This autumn the **Scouts** will plant the latest donations from the Woodland Trust.

We continue to encourage the planting of memorial trees and receive various donations in memory of loved ones (Memory board in Prospect Park C5) .

In 2010, using a grant from the Tree Council, an area of Belmont Field was chosen to create a new copse of trees now called Addyman's Wood. In 2016 we received a grant from **NYCC** to allow us to further extend the wood and a new carved information board was erected after a successful hedgehog day. This area is planted with bluebells, ransoms, cowslips and foxgloves to provide early nectar for insect pollinators and is used frequently by local **Cubs, Scouts, Brownies, St John Badgers and Guides**.



Spa Mews in the Spring

SECTION B ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Left to right - The Starbeck : Putting up bat boxes



B1 CONSERVATION AND BIO-DIVERSITY

Conservation is high priority for many of our community groups. A project was started several years ago by the **Brigades** to clear the only area where the Star beck is visible. They cleared the stream of debris and rubbish, sited bird boxes, planted a bluebell mound and created their own interpretation panel. The scheme moved on and it was agreed with the elderly residents to keep one side of the beck trimmed and cleared and new wild flower plants were established on the other side to continue to encourage more wild life. The plants were sourced from a local nursery with Yorkshire Provenance. Bat boxes have been erected. Each year more bulbs are added to the grassy areas. Last year a swathe of tulips by the wall were planted - recycled from our street planters after the spring. There is an ongoing programme of maintenance to prevent the ivy, brambles and nettles from being overgrown and too invasive although still add

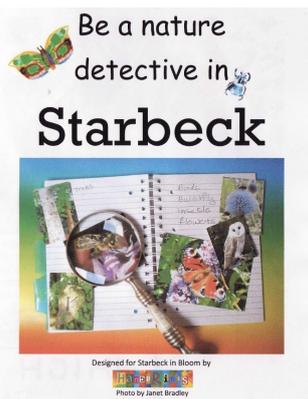
habitat areas for wildlife. This is a 3 year cycle programme. The area is a calm oasis away from the busy High Street and an area for the residents to view many birds.

In 2012 we created a Nature trail on Belmont Field and Addyman's Wood, along with a Be a Nature Detective Leaflet funded by Awards for All. St John cadets are using it this year.

Bird and plant identification and bug hunts are held annually with a variety of youth groups. Each autumn we follow the guidelines from the RHS Wild about Gardens Scheme holding a successful hedgehog day in 2015 and a Batty Day in 2016. Our first tree day was held in 2011 planting tree whips from the Woodland Trust to form Addyman's Wood following advice from a local wildlife expert. Since then we have added bug boxes, hedgehog houses, bat and bird boxes and even an owl box all to encourage children to use the area. New wood carvings including an owl and squirrel bench and a hedgehog information board have been added over the last few years. The nature Interpretation boards were funded by an Awards for All grant. The bark pathway is

Write the letters you collect in the boxes on the right and rearrange them below to spell a word.

1	Boundary marker on stone. SWT means Scriven with Tentergate, and K means Knarsborough. Lots of snowdrops and daffodils in spring & the best conker trees in Starbeck.	
2	Ha Ha. An old ditch near a big house that was here many years ago, to keep cows out of their gardens, now filled with daffodils. Can you find another boundary stone near here?	
3	Old hedge line. The boundary hedge is now full of trees with berries giving good food for birds. Holly and hawthorn, home to family of tree creeper birds.	
4	Gate post. This was the entrance to Belmont House. Lots of crocus and daffodils. Watch out for squirrels.	
5	Nectar flower beds. Look at the two giant insect houses. The flowers here are all rich in nectar to encourage bees, butterflies and insects.	
6	Addyman's Wood. New woodland area with foxgloves and cowslips. Log piles for insects and small new trees growing. Spot the owls and squirrels made of wood.	
7	Owl box. Look high in the tree to see a very large box for owls to roost in. Can you see other boxes for birds and bats?	
8	Chestnut tree. This is a very old tree. It is home to hundreds of insects, beetles and birds.	



Left to right - ; Be a Nature Detective Leaflet: hedgehog information board

SECTION B ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Left to right - St Johns Badgers Wood chipping path in Addyman's Wood: Donate a plant day Library garden



annually renewed by one of the youth groups, **Scouts or Badgers** (St Johns) with a donation of recycled bark mulch from **Harrogate Borough Council**

This year a Stag Beetle habitat area has been built in Addyman's Wood by the **St Johns Badgers** and they have re-chipped the footpaths in the wood using recycled wood chips donated by **Harrogate Borough Council**

The library gardens are now entirely maintained by Starbeck in Bloom with new herbaceous borders being created by a Donate a plant Day (22nd April 2017) . The compost bins in this area are now screened by a willow woven hurdle erected by the students from **Henshaws College** in April on a practical workshop by Leilah Vyner from **Dragon Willow**. The willow used was recycled from Henshaw's willow dome

The library is used as a venue for our programme of seasonal free events to engage children, families and uniformed groups to raise awareness of their local environment. This has included activities such as The RSPB

Big Garden Bird Watch, Butterfly Counts, Hedgehog Days and Bug Hunts. These then link the library into the community.

In Starbeck there has been an emphasis for a number of years on planting for insect pollinators in new areas to create planting that will be flowering nearly all year round to give food to the bees and insect pollinators.

B2 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

HBC leads the way in recycling with weekly kerbside collections of glass, tin, plastic bottles, cardboard and paper with over 22000 tonnes diverted from land fill. At the Stonefall household waste recycling centre there is recycling for plastics, garden waste, rubble, yellow pages and electrical items. Our local 'bring sites' are sited at Morrisons and the Coop and we are included in the fortnightly collection of green garden waste.

HBC parks and environmental services supply us with compost to use as a mulch and a soil improver and wood chips produced by the tree team is given to Starbeck in Bloom as mulch and wood chips for paths. Our compost bins in



Left to right - ; RSPB Big Bird Watch: hedgehog day

SECTION B ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Left to right - 'Pirate Captain Rummage' the Cone Exchange: Recycled plastic wood Bench



the library gardens are used for our weekly work party weeds and any plants that cannot be re-positioned.

Most seats in Starbeck are made from recycled plastic as an environmentally friendly alternative to soft wood.

HBC uses residual weed killer on all hard surfaces applied twice a year using glyphosate. Most of Starbeck's allotments are organic with little use of pesticides.

In Starbeck many streets and houses share composters given to us by Yorkshire Water. Composting on allotments is extensive with water saving devices as well. All of our public areas have mulched beds.

Taylor's Cone Exchange goes from strength to strength. It aims to re-use and recycle all waste materials from Taylor's factory and now has extended to other factories in the north of England. With the help of **'Pirate Captain Rummage'** who visits schools and groups explaining about recycling and swapping rubbish for treasure, this facility is unique. The **Cone Exchange** has its own premises and is

regularly visited by group and school leaders with an Eco Craft Shop that the public can visit. Starbeck in Bloom has been closely involved with the Cone Exchange for 20 years and in turn benefits from a bursary given from the proceeds of all this "rubbish".

Our policy is to recycle plants as much as possible. Polyanthus are moved to the library gardens and behind the Methodist Church, bulbs are moved on from place to place as are small shrubs as they become larger. Small seedling plants are potted on and then sold to raise funds.

Compost bins in Library Gardens



Left to right - ; HBC Kerbside collection: Eco Wood Planters in "grow it corner"

SECTION B ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Left to right - 'The Chalybeate Well before and after.'



B3 LOCAL HERITAGE

An exciting project a few years ago was uncovering our old well head. This was done by the Brigades in conjunction with Starbeck in Bloom and a well dressing and blessing of the chalybeate well was held. This spearheaded a new history project and now there is a board and a mosaic explaining the history of the Starbeck spa waters.

Grants from Awards for All and from NYCC via our local councillor paid for two history boards and funded a history trail to guide people around places of historical interest. The trail is available from the Library and from the Starbeck in Bloom web site

In Prospect Park we have our sculpture in memory of Gordon Beer (Local historian) and the historical pavement designed by school children to showcase the main historical areas in Starbeck. Our wheel boundary markers emphasise Starbeck's railway history. These are planted and maintained by Starbeck in Bloom and act as a display board for our 'In Bloom' achievements.

Several years ago our local museum closed and the various artefacts were rehoused. We took a barrow originally from the railway station and repositioned it at the station entrance adding a barrel from our local brewery Daleside Brewery. We plant this twice yearly along with the station planting.

The only remaining gate post from the large house on Belmont Field is now the centrepiece for our Snowdrop bed Gatepost corner.



Starbeck History trail Gate post Corner



Left to right - ; Boundary Wheel: History Board at Spa Mews"

SECTION B ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Left to right - 'Scouts, Brownies and Sustrans litter picking cycle way; Starbeck Primary School



B4 LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Litterpicks. Annual litterpicks, frequently carried out with the **Brownies, Cubs and Guides** have taken place since 1998. Last year, as a group, we organised several events for the national **Keep Britain Tidy** campaign for 'Clean for the Queen'. This March we participated in the 'Great British Spring Clean'. **Springwater Students** joined with children from the primary school to litter pick Cats Field and Belmont Field. **Henshaws College** (supporting people living with sight loss), for the first time, participated in a litterpick - not easy for the partially sighted and those in wheelchairs. They are now doing a monthly clean of their area. **Springwater Special Needs School** have formed a group of 'Friends of Starbeck in Bloom' and have weekly work parties including litterpicking. **The Methodist Church, the Bowling Club and the allotments** all hold monthly litterpicks. A back street clean-up will take place in July.

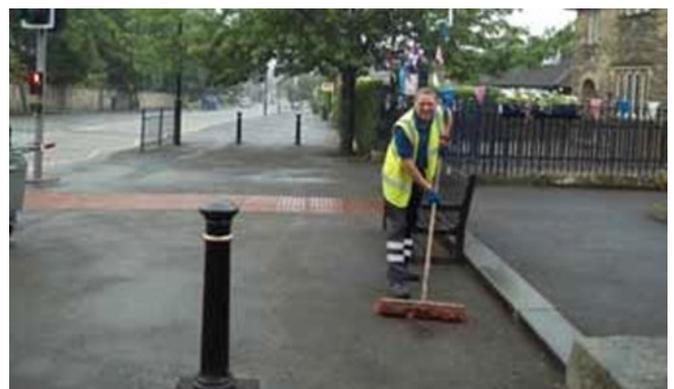
Sustrans also litterpick the local cycleway between Starbeck and Bilton monthly

HBC's local street cleansing team works closely with Starbeck in Bloom. Chris sweeps diligently 6 days a week all year round and larger vehicles help with gully sweeping. Litter bins in the area are 'high density' with ones near bus shelters having cigarette stub trays. All the play areas are checked on a weekly basis for safety and broken glass. Any graffiti is removed within 7 days and Network Rail are on a response call for subway graffiti - but this has not been necessary.

Starbeck in Bloom has worked actively with **Northern Rail** to improve the cleanliness of the subway and station. They have replaced litter bins, repainted seating and fences and cleaned the platform three times a week.

We have recently joined their Station Adopters scheme

We have weekly work party evenings throughout spring, summer and autumn with a good turnout of volunteers. These not only concentrate on the main High Street but also go from the centre to other areas to make sure Starbeck looks its best all year round.



Left to right - ; Henshaws College Students; Chris our council street cleanser.

SECTION B ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Left to right - 'Coop' Volunteers painting walls at Camwal Play area Before and After;



Many businesses including the **Prince of Wales public house, the Working Mens Club, the Conservative Club and Morrisons supermarket** regularly maintain the cleanliness of their area. The **HBC dog warden service** operates in the district. There are large dog waste bins in both parks, wrapped dog waste can also be disposed of in the general litter bins. We encourage dog walkers to pick up 2 pieces of litter every walk. This has been so successful over the last few years that the litter problem is now minimal.

The Star Beck is now part of a Conservation area and Pat one of our team regularly cleans the beck and works closely with Environment Agency to monitor water quality.

B5 PRIDE OF PLACE

HBC has a maintenance schedule for the repainting of lampposts, refurbishing of seats and bins and always responds if there is a problem. All our planters, railings and other street furniture are in 'Starbeck blue', regularly washed by volunteers each spring and summer. This May our three wheels were

repainted by a newly formed "Strong Arm" Group. Starbeck in Bloom installed a community noticeboard 9 years ago on Belmont Field is made of recycled plastic to match our benches and is a key area to publicise any local events and is well used by community groups. Eco Board is used for smaller planters and 7 new plastic half barrels with water reservoirs are installed in front of the **Prince of Wales** public house. These have been jointly funded by the **Brewery** and the Landlady and our **North Yorkshire Councillor Margaret-Anne de Courcey-Bayley**.

Camwal Play area had a graffitied wall which has been repainted by Starbeck in Bloom and **Coop** volunteers. Last year the primary school created pictures for the wall in conjunction with **Colton Signs** and funded by HBC commuted sums policy and the paintings were opened by the school children and **the Mayor of Harrogate Cllr Nick Brown**. Our sponsor board in Prospect Park is also blue, made and maintained by a local sign writer.



Left to right - ; Camwal Art project ; Community notice board made of plastic;

Section C Community Participation

Left to right - 'Avenue park ; Sponsor sign



C1 DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINUITY

Starbeck in Bloom has developed over the last 19 years and improvement to the whole area is very noticeable. It is totally sustainable with fundraising from a wide variety of sources and interests from so many different groups. Over the years the publicity following our achievements, both nationally and regionally, ensures that our public profile remains high. We are continually taking on new projects but only after considerable discussion as to how they will be sustained both physically and financially. The number of projects clearly shows that we are continually developing and yet are sustainable. Many of the projects have interpretation boards or sponsorship signs to publicise the Bloom campaign.

Yorkshire in Bloom judging twice yearly, The Garden Competition has been going over 20 years and Annual Show (going since 2000, was supposed to be a one-off Millennium project), give focus to the year and the celebratory presentation evening in September is always well attended. There are over 200 entries into Starbeck Show in a varied

selection of categories including fruit, vegetables, jams crafts and photographs.

Twice yearly newsletters are distributed. Along with Awareness Days such as hedgehogs, bat or birds.

Donate a Plant day in April was to help in our continuing development of Library gardens. A successful day with over 80 plants given.

FUTURE PROJECTS

- Improvement of small park along The Avenue
- Regeneration of Belmont Play area with £12000 grant from Tesco Bags of Help scheme
- Continuing extension of library garden
- Further development of Wild life area as an educational facility
- Strengthen our links with Springwater and Henshaws sixth form programme.



Left to right - ; Annual Summer Show,.



Section C Community Participation

Left to right - 'Flag ; Banner



C2 COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION

Starbeck in Bloom website, set up in 2006 and is updated regularly. It has been redesigned this year. We have been on Face Book and Twitter since September 2012 to get our message out to all in the community We have posted over 650 times on Twitter have 376 followers and 44 likes. On face book we have 189 followers. . A QR code is in use on new noticeboards to link smart phones to our website.

Starbeck in Bloom workers all have t-shirts, sweatshirts, body warmers and hi-viz jackets with Starbeck in Bloom logos. These have been funded by donations to talks given to local groups. These talks, over 20 this last year, publicise Starbeck in Bloom to a wider audience. This year we have purchased 10 blue hi-viz jackets for the Friends of Starbeck in Bloom groups to wear on their work parties.

Banners on the lampposts have been erected since 2006 showing our motto "pride in our community". This year we are replacing with

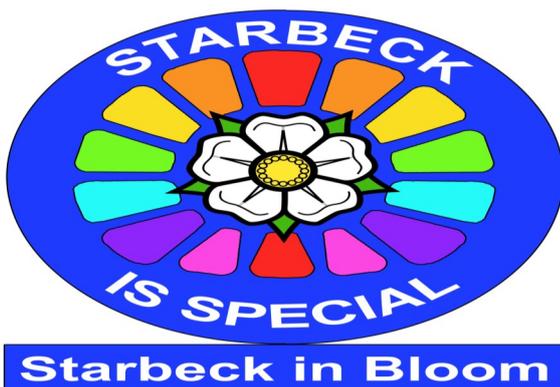
new banners showing the new logo "Starbeck is special ...". These banners have been sponsored by local businesses and the community fund. New pin badges have also been produced to celebrate "Starbeck is Special" along with car stickers

Window stickers for the businesses on the High Street are also being considered and a new "Starbeck" flag for the flag pole at Belmont House is in production

A local sign maker Colton Signs make all our signs at cost price. Some are for the boundary wheels showing our yearly achievements and others are interpretation boards in our different areas.

Over the years Starbeck has bought display boards, pop- up display boards and banners to promote events.

The Nature Trail leaflets are a quiz that take you around Belmont Field and Cats Field and are frequently used by Brownies ,Guides and St John cadets as part of their badgework. They are Free and available in the library or to download off the website



Left to right - ; New Logo;. Banner



Section C Community Participation

Left to right - 'BBC Radio York ; Display at YIB Awards York



We join with other community groups to share information and increase our publicity and exposure. This July we will attend the Woodlands Community Garden event 8th July

On July 1 we have planned a Willow Day, an educational day with Dragon Willow helping to pass on skills and create butterflies for our Art Installation

The community noticeboard, made of recycled plastic, which is erected on Belmont field allows full publicity for Starbeck in Bloom and other local groups. Publicity photographic displays and our promotional banners are put up in the library and at other local events.

Starbeck in Bloom are asked annually to have a display stand at the Yorkshire in Bloom Awards in September held at York Racecourse. This offers help and advice to other Yorkshire in Bloom groups and Starbeck has shown several other bloom groups around Starbeck.

The local paper, **The Harrogate Advertiser**, runs a Starbeck column fortnightly and a Starbeck in Bloom column monthly.

BBC Radio York and Stray FM advertise events along with Harrogate News, a local news website. This year **BBC Radio York** gardening programme hosted by Julia Lewis, are following Starbeck in Bloom monthly with interviews from different members of the team.

Starbeck in Bloom newsletters are distributed twice a year and our boundary wheels proudly display our winning years.

Annually, the new Mayor of Harrogate, is taken on a tour of Starbeck shortly after the election to raise awareness of all the work undertaken to make Starbeck special.

The Mayor of Harrogate opens our annual Flower and Vegetable Show and attends all our other events as does our local **MP Andrew Jones**. Members of our committee give talks on Starbeck and Yorkshire in Bloom to any groups in the Harrogate district, thus helping to publicise and promote Yorkshire in Bloom and RHS Britain in Bloom. Our launch for the national campaign was held in February with over 125 people attending. It was sponsored, for the wine and cheese, by the local Coop.



Left to right - ; MP Andrew Jones helping; Display in Starbeck library

Section C Community Participation

Left to right - 'RSPB Bird Watch ; Handprints



Eighteen individual groups also used the evening for their own publicity. £90.00 was raised on the raffle with prizes given by local businesses. Our launch for the national campaign was held in February with over 125 people attending. It was sponsored, for the wine and cheese, by the local Coop. Eighteen individual groups also used the evening for their own publicity. £90.00 was raised on the raffle with prizes given by local businesses.

Handprints, the special needs art group, design and make our posters, print our show schedules and have made the certificates for the new hanging basket sponsorship scheme.

Over the years we have sold for funds Starbeck tea towels, keyrings, fridge magnets, greetings cards, mugs and calendars at all our events throughout each year. The group have also sold copies of the history of Starbeck and this year we are selling car stickers with our new logo. The group have produced "Starbeck in Special" badges for this year's theme with a



Left to right - ; BIB Launch night; Free Craft Day



logo designed by a local resident Mike Hine

We actively take part in **St Andrews Church "Holiday at Home"** week giving talks and demonstrations.

Various events for children have been organised over the years such as hedgehog day, Batty Day and RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch along with various teddy bear picnics and craft days. The aim is to offer completely free activities to all the community regardless of income and status.



Teddy Bears Picnic



Section C Community Participation

Left to right - 'Street work parties



C3 COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

The 28 groups that interact and support Starbeck in Bloom are an excellent illustration of our commitment to the Starbeck community. By giving talks to various groups and helping with badge work for **Guides, Brownies, Brigades, Scouts, Cubs and St Johns Cadets(Badgers)**, we encourage all age groups.

We have worked on projects with youth clubs and in special needs schools and workplaces.

This year, as part of our national Britain in Bloom celebration, we hope to have a large art installation with over 10 groups and nursing homes producing a 'River of flowers' but more of that on Judging Day. A coffee morning for all the different groups is being held at the Library on Saturday 24th June to check progress and agree a timetable for installation .

The new Friends of Starbeck in Bloom **Springwater Special Needs School 6th Form** have worked weekly washing seats, planting snowdrops, doing litterpicks and fundraising. Friends of Starbeck in Bloom **Henshaws College** (supporting people living with sight loss) students have done weekly litterpicks, gardening and learnt how to willow weave making a hurdle fence for the library gardens.

Weekly work parties are held from April til November with a planned programme covering weeding, planting ,street sweeping. Few meetings are held in the summer -'on the Street' is more useful. In the winter meetings are used for future planning and training for Yorkshire in Bloom to ensure all the group understand the criteria.



Left to right - ; Scouts making bird boxes ; Primary School group



Section C Community Participation

C4 Year Round Involvement

Dairy for 2016/2017	
October	Batty Day
	Bulb Planting with Brigades
	Planting for winter
November	Final meeting of the year decision taken to enter Britain in Bloom
December	Social evening and group visit to cone exchange
February	Starbeck is Special Launch evening
	Work parties to clear Beck & gate post corner
March	Great British Spring Clean Starbeck primary school & Springwater school
March 7 th	Great British Spring Clean with Henshaws students
March 23 rd	Willow weaving hurdle At Library gardens with Henshaws students
March 29 th	Rechip Addymans wood path with St Johns badgers
March, April & May	Radio York interviews
April	Restart Wednesday evening work parties
	St Johns badgers redo insect house, hedgehog house make stag beetle hostel
	Rainbows bean planting evening
	Guides blooms for bees project evening
May	Mens Bowling club repainting boundary wheel
June 6 th	Hanging baskets erected
	Start planting bedding
June 13 th -14 th	Help at Countryside Days at Yorkshire Show ground
June 24 th	Field of Flowers Coffee morning
July 1 st	Willow weaving day- Library
July 9 th	Community day Woodland garden
July 20 th	Garden competition judging
August 4 th	Britain in Bloom judging, Finale of Field of Flowers art installation
August 19 th	Annual Fruit, Flower and Vegetable show
September 18 th	Awards evening for winners of Shows sand gardens competitions
October 27 th	Britain in Bloom awards Llandudno

Section C Community Participation

Left to right - 'Sponsor Board ; Hanging Baskets



C5 FUNDRAISING AND FINANCES

2016 we spent a total of £7000, this included funding the floral displays and running the annual show and garden competition. Money this year has come from **Northern Rail**, grants from our **NYCC councillor, Taylors of Harrogate, Starbeck Community Fund and the Coop**. Funding is sought for any new project before starting.

Our main funds come from the sponsorboard in Prospect Park, where businesses make an annual payment for their name to appear. This is also used as a memory board. Over £1500 is raised by the board and this is supplemented by annual grants from the Starbeck community fund.

This year a hanging basket sponsorship scheme has been successful in raising £1200 and the names are displayed on a Roll of Honour.

The **Coop** has started a new sponsorship deal and we will be part of the 1% fund as well as occasional gifts in kind. The **Tesco Bags of Help Grant** will help HBC improve and



Left to right - ; Simon and Russel the Dog; Barrier baskets

extend our Belmont Field play area. The grant is for £12000.

Starbeck in Bloom was offered the takings from Nidderdale Hardy Planters group coffee time every monthly meeting.

Our expenditure on annual flowers is over £3500. These are purchased at cost from HBC nurseries. We have 30 Friends of Starbeck in Bloom and have received many donations from individuals

Simon Collier a local supporter is doing a sponsored walk of 84 miles (coast to coast) with 50% of the sponsorship going to Starbeck in Bloom

St John Badgers are holding a sponsored silence to raise money for a Hanging basket and Springwater students raised £89 at a talent show for a Hanging basket.

Local shops have collection boxes and are distributing car stickers for Starbeck is Special ...



Section C Community Participation

Left to right - 'Panel on Belmont field ; Daffodils on Belmont field



Financial report Budget 2016/17 (Oct-Aug)			
Income		Expenditure	
Starbeck Community Fund	£954	Plants	2000
Sponsor boards Income	£1,380	Hanging baskets	1600
Friends of S.I.B	£350	Internet	125
Fund raisers		Stationary & posters	350
Bat day	£52	Centotaph Wreath	18
Lainch evening	£90	RHS Insurance	70
Hanging Basket Sponsorship	£1,000	Seminar fees and travel	75
Grant from NYCC councillor	£1,100	refreshemnts for judging	45
Private Donations	£960	hi Vis jackets	102
talks by CS & SW	£450	Signage	150
Sale of merchandise	£300	Flower & veg show	100
Donations Barrels brewery	£400	new planters	1400
taylor's tea & coffee	£200		
Total	£7,236	TOTAL	6035

In-kind help is invaluable and comes from all local businesses. We would like to thank **St Andrews Church** and **the Methodist Church** for the free use of halls and churches for all our events, **Network Rail** and **Northern Rail** for planters and extra work on the station, **Taylor's of Harrogate** for unstinting help and encouragement, **Lookers Ford** for providing the judging vehicle year after year, but most of all businesses, groups and people that make Starbeck Special.



Left to right - ; Golf Club Wheel; BIB Launch



Don't forget to visit our Website, and follow us on Facebook and Twitter



Starbeck in Bloom