



NORTHUMBRIA IN BLOOM PORTFOLIO 2019

northumbria ⁱⁿ *BLOOM*
 *Communities Growing Together*



BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

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NORTHUMBRIA IN BLOOM 2019

Judges' Visit Friday 19 July at 10.30 am

ITINERARY

- 10.30 Judges arrive at Blyth Town Council offices to be picked up by mini bus.
- 10.40 Leave BTC offices and drive along Quayside and up to:
- 10.45 [Ridley Park Care Home, meet Sue Jenkins, Deputy Manager](#)
- 11.20 Leave to drive up Plessey Road to Rotary Way and on to:
- 11.25 Newsham Roundabout
- 11.30 Drive up Newcastle Road on to South Newsham Road turn left at Beach Roundabout and drive down to Broadway Circle.
- Turn at Broadway and drive back up Rotary Way to Beach.
- Stop at carpet bedding site.
- Drive on to:
- 12.00 [Ridley Park - meet Fiona Gibson, Chair, Friends of Ridley Park and Vivienne Morgan, Joint Chair/Secretary Blyth Community Volunteers](#)
- 12.45 Leave Ridley Park and drive on to:
- 12.50 [Sensory Garden](#)
- 13.05 Leave Sensory Garden, turn back onto Quayside and return to Blyth Town Council offices.

IMPROVING OUR ENVIRONMENT

Blyth Town Council is committed to improving our environment through the services we are responsible for and additional services we provide. We are working hard to address the issues that are a constant problem and are regularly raised by members of the public, in particular with regards to litter and fly-tipping. We have a Partnership Agreement with Northumberland and work closely with the Team in Neighbourhood Services.

A New Partnership Agreement

There has been an existing partnership between the Town Council and Northumberland Council for five years which was due for renegotiation from April 2019. Any work carried out and detailed in the agreement is paid for by the Town Council. This enables additional work to be carried out within the Town boundary to maintain the area to a higher standard than would have been the case if the County Council core service alone was delivered.

The Town Council has agreed that for the next five years, there will be an increase in the additional work content it pays for. The total cost of the enhanced service paid for by the Town Council will be £252,546 per annum.

The Town Council also decided to introduce an additional street cleansing service, which will be mainly in the town centre, from April 2019 by including a Saturday and Sunday clean at a cost of £18,299 per annum for the five years of the Agreement.



The new Partnership Agreement will also see the introduction of a zonal system with the Town being split into three areas each with a dedicated team who will be able to develop a knowledge of the specific needs of their zone.



This approach will almost double litter collection visits to housing estates and increase job opportunities by one full-time equivalent.

The Town Council hopes this initiative will greatly improve the appearance of the Town.

The Partnership Agreement continues to give us:

- ◆ A dedicated Blyth team who can be identified by the Blyth beach hut logo.
- ◆ Enhanced grass cutting.
- ◆ Agreed planting schemes (additional planting is at an extra cost to the Town Council).
- ◆ Litter collection.
- ◆ Bus shelter maintenance.



Over the years of the Partnership, the Town Council has

purchased items of equipment for use in Blyth

- ◆ Scarab - roadsweeper and cleaner, used to clean streets and bus shelters.
- ◆ Haco - a small sweeper able to be driven on paths and also used for bus shelters.
- ◆ Quad bike - used for weed spraying and as a snow plough when necessary.

Equipment can also be identified by the logo.

Defibrillators

This year the Town Council have purchased four portable defibrillators and they have been installed in the following areas:

- ❖ Market Place - on the back of the toilet block
- ❖ Blyth Beach - Dave Stephens' Centre
- ❖ Ridley Park - new toilet block
- ❖ Police Station - Arms Everytne House, Quay Road

The first was installed on 3 May 2019 in the Market Place.



Environmental Enforcement Officer

In October 2017 the Town Council, through Northumberland County Council, employed an Environmental Enforcement Officer who is dedicated to Blyth 2.5 days per week - Phil Atkinson. Phil is employed to deal with any issues that affect the environment such as litter, dog fouling, fly tipping, accumulations of waste, abandoned vehicles. He is able to issue notices to offenders and follow up with prosecution if required.

Any issues noticed by Officers or complaints received from members of the public are passed on to be dealt with immediately. Although regular litter and dog fouling patrols are carried out we rely on reports from residents so that he can be directed to where there are persistent problems.

Updates on particular issues are received on a regular basis and reports on the issues dealt with are sent to the Town Council on a monthly basis. The monthly reports are published on our website together with a summary sheet of the number of issues dealt with. The summary sheet to June is overleaf.

In January the Town Council agreed to increase this enhanced service from part-time to full-time during 2019/20 and we hope this will take place in the near future.

BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

**ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
SUMMARY**

Community Protection Warning (CPW)
Community Protection Notice (CPN)
Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN)

INCIDENTS DEALT WITH	2019						TOTAL INCIDENTS DEALT WITH SINCE OCTOBER 2017
	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	
Accumulations	13	12	6	7	14	8	184
CPWs issued	9	4	2	0	4	2	74
CPNs issued	2	2	5	0	0	2	28
FPNs issued	0	1	0	0	0	0	16
Cleared by tenants/landlords	0	3	3	3	0	2	44
Ongoing	0	0	0	0	0	0	21
Awaiting Council Tax checks	0	0	0	0	3	3	10
Bulk collections booked	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Flytips	8	9	7	18	12	10	202
Offender cautioned	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Interviewed under caution and decision re prosecution pending	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Offender awaiting caution/possible prosecution	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
FPNs issued	1	0	0	1	1	0	8
Awaiting interview and possible prosecution	0	0	0	0	0	2	8
CPWs issued	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Under investigation/tracing offenders	5	4	2	4	0	2	35
Identified and advice given/enquiries ongoing	0	0	2	0	3	4	15
Litter Patrols and Advice Given	4	4	5	3	4	3	63
FPNs issued	0	0	0	1	1	1	18
Advice letter issued	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Dog Fouling Patrols	3	4	5	3	3	3	51
CPWs issued	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
FPNs issued	1	1	0	0	0	0	8
Abandoned Vehicles	2	7	3	4	3	0	63
Other enquiries/advice visits	6	7	5	3	7	4	99
TOTAL INCIDENTS DEALT WITH/PATROLS PER MONTH	36	43	31	38	43	28	662

Additional information

Unless specified accumulations/flytips etc reported to and dealt with by NEAT Team.

Bus shelters, seats and litter bins

The Town Council is responsible for:

- ◆ 86 bus shelters
- ◆ 97 seats
- ◆ 427 litter bins located throughout the Town.

Bus shelters are cleaned on a monthly basis and any damage is repaired as soon as possible after it is reported. The Town Council is responsible for bus shelters around the town and in the bus station. A programme of refurbishment was completed in early December 2018. All shelters were inspected and repairs/repainting were carried out on 51 shelters. One additional shelter has been installed at the request of County Cllr Deirdre Campbell in her Newsham Ward.

Seats are cleaned as required. Since July 2018 35 new seats have been installed around the town, many at the request of residents. Seats with wooden slats located on the Quayside, Bus Station and various locations in the town have been refurbished with the wood being replaced (where necessary) and stained/painted. This was carried out on 50 seats.

In 2018 four seats made of recycled plastic were purchased. Three of these have been installed in the Sensory Garden as planned. The other has been installed in Solingen Estate.

The litter bins in the Sensory Garden have also been replaced.



Litter Bins

In 2018 an audit of litter bins was undertaken and all bins were re-numbered with a ward-specific ID. This makes it easier and quicker to identify problem areas and for residents to report problems. Officers met with colleagues in the

Northumberland County Council Neighbourhood Team and routes for emptying bins were changed to accommodate areas that requiring more frequent emptying. Any reports of overflowing bins are dealt with immediately by the Partnership Team. Officers continue to monitor and work with the Team to ensure that all bins are emptied. Since July 2018 an additional 9 bins have been installed, although some bins have been replaced with higher capacity models.

As part of the new Partnership Agreement additional street cleansing was agreed. From April 2019 there has been an additional service on Saturdays and litter picking and bin emptying in the Town Centre on Sundays which did not previously take place.

Litter Picking

As part of the Keep Britain Tidy Great British Spring Clean campaign earlier this year, the Town Council organised, and encouraged other groups to organise, litter picks throughout the town.

The litter picks were supported by volunteers from various groups including

- ❖ Rotary Club
 - ❖ Friends of Ridley Park
 - ❖ Blyth to Seaton Sluice Links Conservation Group
 - ❖ St Cuthbert's Church/Community Food and Friendship
 - ❖ Buffalo Community Centre
 - ❖ Isabella Community Centre
 - ❖ Asda's Community Champion
 - ❖ Northumbria Police
 - ❖ New Delaval & Newsham Residents' Association
 - ❖ New Delaval Co-op Food Store staff
 - ❖ Olivers Bar
 - ❖ Blyth Town Council Councillors and Officers
- and of course
- ❖ individual members of the community.

We had 4 litter picks - 3 had taken place before the spring judging visit and were included in the presentation. There was one litter pick to go as part of the campaign.



The last litter pick of the Great British Spring Clean was organised by the Town Council and held in the Town Centre on Sunday 14 April. We had 16 volunteers and collected 18 bags of rubbish.



The litter picking hasn't stopped as a group has been re-established from the volunteers who have come together through the litter picks we have organised.

The Town Clerk and Office Manager, together with Fiona Gibson who is Chair of Friends of Ridley Park and a member of the Rotary Club, organised the first meeting which was held on Tuesday 9 April.

High Street Community Clean-Up Funding

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government awarded a grant to Northumberland County Council for High Street Community Clean-Up activity. NCC awarded some of the funding to Blyth Town Council. We received a grant of £4,500. The grant had to be used for community-led high street/town centre clean-ups and had to be used for tools, equipment, training etc that would facilitate community clean-ups. The grant had to be spent by the end of April so we had to move quickly to get ideas.

The group of volunteers who attended the meeting on 9 April came up with lots of ideas of how to spend the money. A particular theme is the problem with cigarette butts which had been the topic of conversation many times on previous litter picks. One time in the pub (when we went back for tea and coffee!) Fiona said what she needed was somebody to event was a vacuum she could carry on her back - little did we know that you could get them! Research was done by the volunteers and officers of the Town Council on various items that had been suggested, these included: vacuums, leaf blower, rings for the bin bags, garden shorter litter pickers for children and wheelchair users, hoes and a garden trolley.

A second meeting was held on 23 April for the group to decide on what to buy. Another suggestion had been a banner or flag and hi viz vests. The only problem with that was they hadn't yet decided on a name. Various suggestions had been made but in the end they decided on

BLYTH COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

Great progress was made at the second meeting as, apart from deciding on the name and what equipment to buy, it was agreed that Claire Young and Vivienne Morgan would be joint Chair/Secretaries (Claire is also secretary of Friends of Ridley Park but was happy to take on the role).

They asked everyone to give their permission for them to use their mobile phone numbers and Claire set up a WhatsApp group straight away to keep everyone informed of what was going on. This is also handy to keep in touch with everyone when out on a litter pick or any other activity. Claire also set up a Facebook page to post information about what the group is up to.

We arranged for Jimmy Reith, Northumberland County Council, to come to give training to the volunteers on using the petrol powered equipment that had been bought. This included the hand-held vacuum/leaf blower and the trolley vac. Everyone had a go with the equipment - although we weren't quite as expert as Jimmy at getting them started!

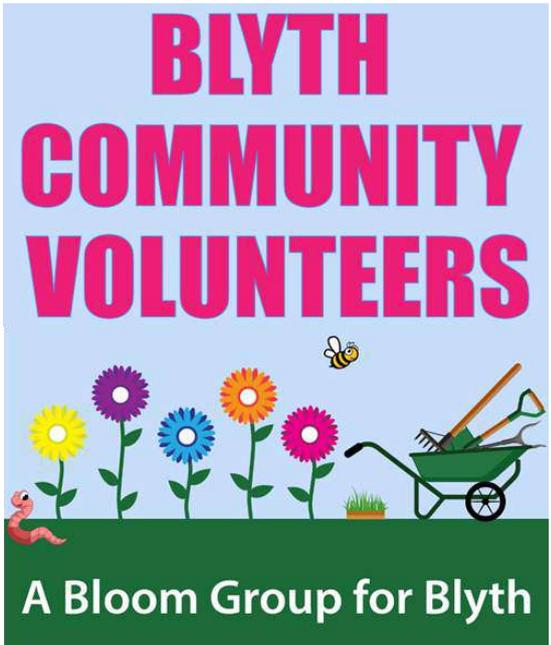






We needed to decide on a design for the banner the group wanted - they liked the Blyth in Bloom poster and so we based it on that. The finished artwork can be used by the group for anything they want in the future. A blade banner was bought using the grant. This can be taken anywhere the volunteers are working so that people can see they are around and it came in particularly useful for the Carnival.

Hi viz vests were also bought using the grant and the Town Council had them printed. We got the new vests at the end of June so used the Blyth Town Council Volunteer vests until then. The BTC vests can be used to lend to other groups - staff from the Coop borrowed them and some litter pickers when they organised a beach litter pick.



The group have concentrated on litter picking up to now but are keen to get involved in some gardening projects in the future.

They have organised a number of litter picks and decided to have a regular pick on the first Saturday of every month at 10.00 am - 12.00 noon. Additional picks and any other activities will be organised on an ad hoc basis. The Town Council were approached by McDonalds last year as they were keen to be involved. The Town Council have

kept them informed of activities that have been organised and passed the contact details on to Claire and Vivienne. Hopefully they will be able to join in soon. While out litter picking Claire has popped into shops and other businesses around the Town Centre to let them know about the group and what they're doing. She has had some interest from a number of people including Silx Teen Bar. Blyth Community Volunteers are keen to involve as many groups as possible and will support and join them in litter picking and gardening activities.

The first outing with some of the new equipment at the beginning of May

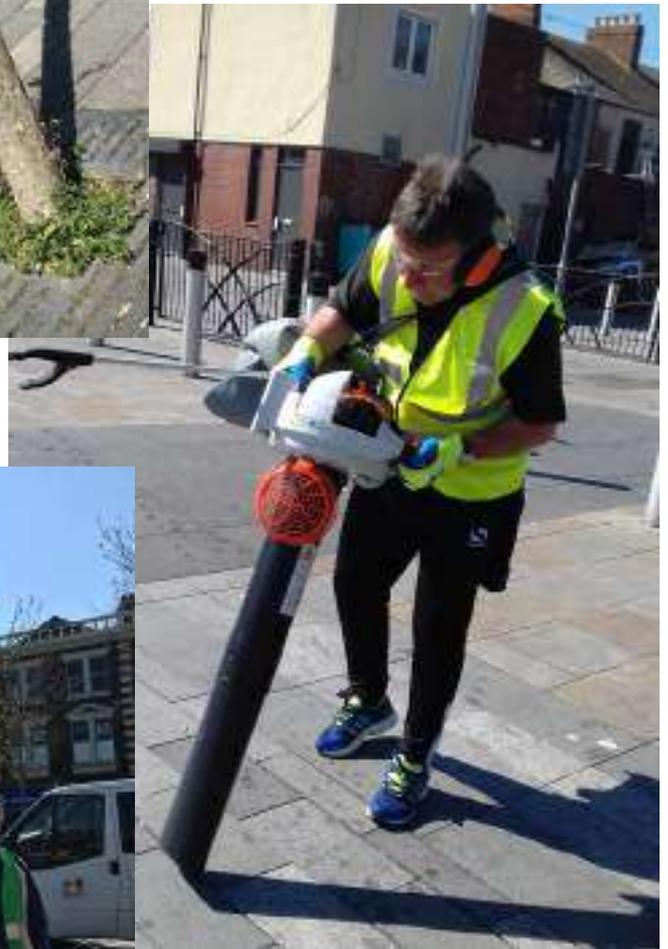


The Karcher vacuum, as modelled by Fiona, is battery operated - she said it's like Ghostbusters





The future Mayor getting to grips with the Stihl vacuum.



More litter picking pics



In the Carnival - Sunday 7 July 2019



Claire's litter outfit





Sharing a stall with Friends of Ridley Park and Bill and Ben.

New volunteer Kevin looked after the stall while the parade was on. Kevin contacted the Town Council after reading about the litter picking in the Town Council's newsletter as he wanted to volunteer.



Claire and Vivienne with buckets of rubbish and the quiz was to guess how long it took different things to rot.



We litter picked during the event and Vivienne got the vacuum out!

CARPET BEDDING FLORAL DISPLAY

South Beach

This, now permanent, feature was initially installed for the Tall Ships visit to Blyth in 2016. Each year the design is changed to mark a notable occasion. This year the display is dedicated to our football club - Blyth Spartans - who are celebrating their 120th anniversary.



The Instaplant bedding was, again, supplied by Kernock Plants.





We invited representatives from Blyth Spartans to join Councillors, Officers and members of the County Council team who installed the bedding, for photos when the display was finished.

Unfortunately, the morning we chose turned out to be freezing cold and windy - it was 11 June!

We were all delighted when the press release was published in the local newspaper.

Thursday, June 27, 2019 www.nowspostleader.co.uk

NEWS

LOCAL NEWS

Town council ensures a blooming good show for Blyth Spartans

By DAVID SEDGWICK
 david.sedgwick@ipmedia.co.uk
 Twitter: @nowspostleader

Visitors to the seaside at Blyth will be greeted with a special display honouring the town's rich football history.

To commemorate Blyth Spartans' 120th anniversary, Blyth Town Council have dedicated this year's carpet bedding display to the football club.

A number of different plants have been used in the colourful display to make up the famous Spartans crest complete with laurel leaves and the date of the club's founding.

Town Mayor, Coun Warren Taylor and other representatives from the Town Council and the football club turned out to see the design for themselves.

Coun Taylor said: "We



Tony Platten with Coun Warren Taylor and town council members.

have a lot of people visiting Blyth to go to the beach at this time of year.

"We wanted to have something for our visitors to look at that would remind them of the town's sporting heritage and culture and create a talking point and I certainly think we've achieved that.

"We are all incredibly proud of Blyth Spartans."

Tony Platten, chairman of Blyth Spartans, was delighted with the floral display.

He said: "After 120 years, the club are still representing the town and everyone who visits comments on how welcoming the town and the club are.

"People know Blyth Spartans no matter where they are in the world and this floral display is a great way to welcome visitors to our town."

For more on the Town Council visit www.blyth-towncouncil.org.uk

TREE SCULPTURE



Following the success of the sculpture of a miner at the junction of Hodgson Road and Cowpen Road the Council decided to commission another very different work at Twelfth Avenue. This depicts a Spartan Warrior and is situated near to Blyth Spartans football ground.



The warrior is an imposing piece of work by Bill Pierce, Self Exploding Arts, and has been well received by residents.



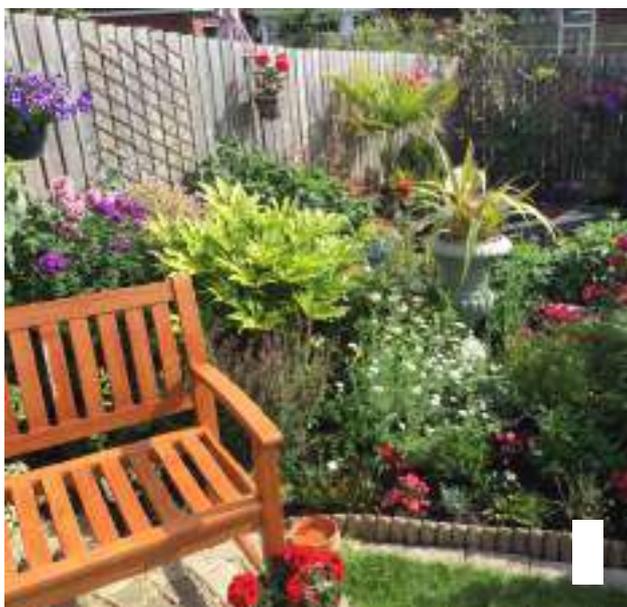
BLITCH in BLOOM

In 2017 the Town Council's gardening competition was launched with 13 entrants competing. In 2018 we had 20 and for 2019 we have 23 entrants - we're steadily growing!

The standard of the competition was high and it was a difficult decision for the judges to make. Entries are judged on the following criteria: first impressions, use of available space, condition of plants and all year round interest. They are scored 1-5 with 5 being 'outstanding'. The competition was again sponsored by Adam and Fiona Greenwold of Perennial Favourites and a presentation evening was held for entrants and guests on Tuesday 11 September 2018.

Best Garden

Bob and Beryl Cessford of Herring Gull Close won the best garden category for the second time. Jean Hayton, who won the Judges' Discretionary Award in the first competition, was awarded second place and Jack Goodall of St Cuthbert's Court was third.



Best Yard

In 2018 Michael and Christine Morris of Rosemary Terrace were awarded first place in this category with Stephen Wood of William Street second and Steve Frake and Jane Freeman of Wensleydale Terrace third.





Best Allotment

This category was won again by Stephen McMillan at Beatrice Avenue allotments. Second was Barbara Burns at Newsham Side Club and Deborah Barnes, also at Beatrice, was third.



Best Commercial/Community Group

Sure Start Children's Centre won this category with the Railway Tavern in Regent Street second and Thomas Knight Nursing Home in third place.



RIDLEY PARK CARE HOME

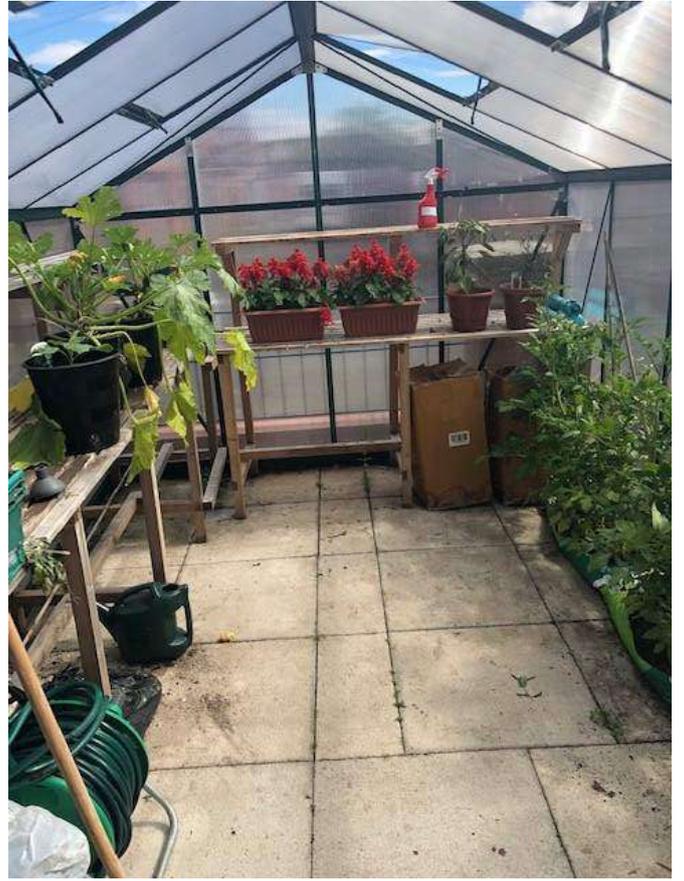
WHAT THEY'VE BEEN UP TO SINCE THE SPRING VISIT

This is the first year that the Town Council has put Ridley Park Care Home forward for a Special Award and they are very excited to be part of Northumbria in Bloom.

Apart from care home's beautifully maintained grounds, the residents have their own greenhouse and areas where they can be involved in the garden and the many various activities provided.

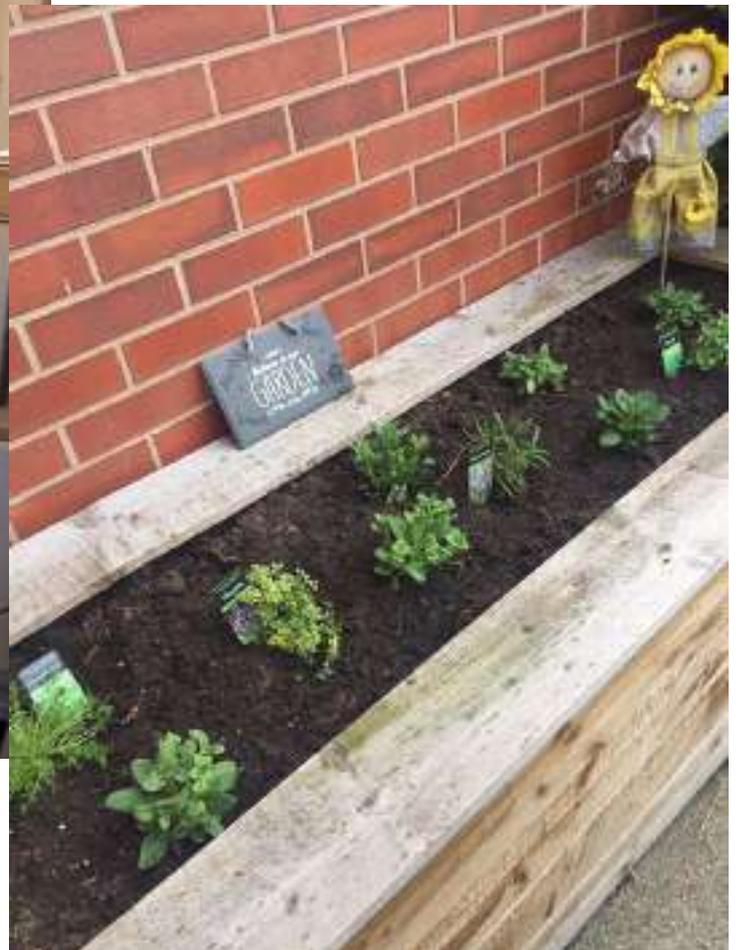
Michelle Green, Manager, and Sue Jenkins, Deputy Manager have been sending the Town Council some great photographs of what they've been up to with the residents since April. Unfortunately, there are too many to include in the portfolio but here are a selection. A display of the rest will be made for the judges' visit.





Summer Wishes Tree

Herb Garden

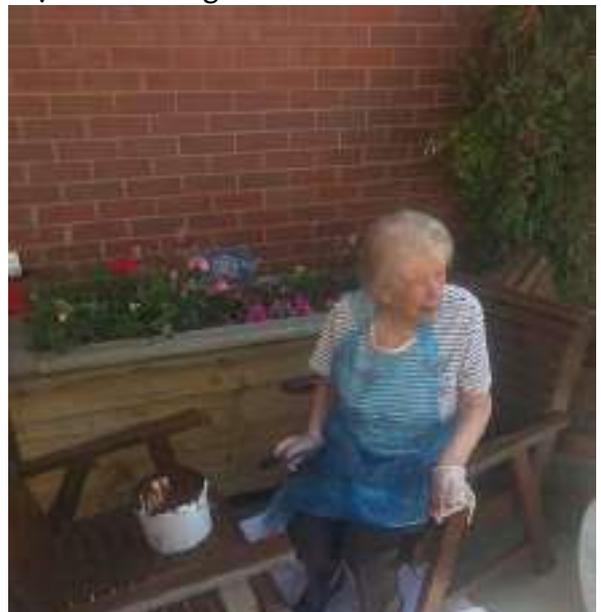




Hand painted pots



A nice sunny day for staining the furniture



And the main attraction - a bug hotel!



FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK

COMPLETED PROJECTS 2019 - From Fiona Gibson, Chair, FORP

Tree Information Board

This was funded by a community grant from Blyth Town Council. FORP members took the photos, designed the map and completed the information. To celebrate Northumberland Day 2019 FORP led a tree trail tour for members of the public, highlighting the trees on the board.



Replacement Bust

Friends of Ridley Park commissioned sculptor, Edward Taylor, to make the bust after receiving funding from the Ridley Family Charity. FORP received a grant from Town Councillor Adrian Cartie's Small Schemes Allowance for its installation and a generous donation to cover the cost of the plaque. On 21 June 2019, Lord Ridley came to Ridley Park to unveil the new bust and was very impressed with the work and commitment shown throughout this project.



Basketball Hoop

Funding was received from the Readman Family Grassroots Fund at the Community Foundation Tyne and Wear and Northumberland. It is great to see this area of hard standing brought back into use and it is attracting all ages to have informal active fun.



Drinking Water Fountain

Friends of Ridley Park are very proud to have the first one of this design in the North East of England and the first one bought by a small community group. The Mayor of London chose this make of drinking fountain for London parks, as did the Scottish Parliament, Scottish Water and Vale of Glamorgan Council for their communities. Our model provides a drinking fountain for adults, children and wheelchair users as well as a bottle filling station. FORP hope this will encourage everyone to drink more water and also reduce plastic waste. Thanks to staff at the following local practices for their support: Railway Medical Group, Horizon Dental Clinic, Vine Williamson & Hall and MyDentist Waterloo Road Practice. The fountain was funded by a community grant from Blyth Town Council, a Small Schemes grant from Cllr Adrian Cartie and FORP's own fundraising.



Wildflowers in the Park

Funding was secured from the Rotary Club of Blyth for this project for the second year in a row. They not only bring an eye-catching expanse of colour to the park throughout the summer but also encourage biodiversity and pollinating insects.



ROYAL VISIT TO RIDLEY PARK HRH THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER

As part of his visit to Blyth on Thursday 6 September 2018, HRH the Duke of Gloucester visited Ridley Park. He was accompanied by the Lord Lieutenant, Her Grace The Duchess of Northumberland.



He was shown through the Park by Fiona Gibson, Chair, FORP and Jimmy Reith, NCC Neighbourhood Services. On the way he met members of Friends of Ridley Park and was taken to the Pavilion where he also met with students from Blyth Academy and artist/blacksmith Stephen Lunn who have been working together on designs for the new gates.



His Royal Highness was then introduced to the Mayor, Cllr Adrian Cartie, and Blyth Town Council Town Clerk, Joe Hughes who led him on to see the newly refurbished war memorial. Joe explained the work that had been commissioned by the Town Council to restore and refurbish the war memorial.



He then met Kevin Tilmouth, Mark Topping and their teams who had carried out the work on the war memorial.



His Royal Highness met members of the Elswick All Arms Association before unveiling a plaque to commemorate his visit to the Park.



HERITAGE AND CULTURE

Restoration and Refurbishment of the War Memorials

The Town Council is responsible for the war memorials at the following locations:

- ❖ Cenotaph at Ridley Park
- ❖ Newsham/New Delaval Pavilion
- ❖ Cowpen
- ❖ Submariners' Memorial at Elfin Walk
- ❖ Blyth Links Cemetery

In June 2018 work commenced on the restoration and refurbishment of the memorials at Ridley Park, Newsham and Cowpen to be completed in time for remembrance services and the Centenary of the First World War. This followed a lengthy process of surveys, planning applications and a tender process to appoint a specialist contractor to carry out the work. Art of Stone, a Blyth company, were awarded the contract to carry out the restoration to all of the memorials. They sub-contracted Kevin Tilmouth



Commercial Limited who carried out the underpinning of the memorials in Ridley Park and all of the paving and landscape work involved in the refurbishment.

New columns were made for the memorial at Newsham to replace those that were damaged and the name panels were restored and the memorial cleaned.

The Cowpen memorial was cleaned and restored and the lettering on the plaques repainted. The most significant part of the restoration on this memorial was the replacement of the soldier which was beyond repair. Substantial donations were made by the Elswick (Blyth) All Arms Association and the Freemasons of Northumberland towards the cost of the new soldier statue.

The Cenotaph in Ridley Park underwent the biggest transformation with a complete refurbishment.

The Cenotaph is made up of three war memorials:

The Boer War Memorial was originally located at the junction of Bridge Street and Freehold Street. It was designed by Morrison and McLean of Gateshead and was unveiled on 22 July 1903 by Lord Ridley. The monument was moved to Ridley Park in 1950.

The First World War Memorial for the town of Blyth, including New Delaval, Newsham, Bebside and Cowpen, was erected outside the Knight Memorial Hospital on Beaconsfield Street. It was unveiled on 17 November 1923 by the Duke of Northumberland and dedicated by Reverend A Tucson, Vicar of Blyth, in commemoration of 637 servicemen who died in the First World War. The memorial was moved to its location in Ridley Park in 1950.

The World War Two Memorial was placed in Ridley Park in 1950.

When work started on the refurbishment programme it was discovered that there were no foundations and this had been the reason for the subsidence that was in the initial survey report. The World War II memorial was dismantled and the subsidence issues were resolved.

All the memorials were cleaned and the names re-painted.

New memorials were created to incorporate the names of those not on the original memorials and also to commemorate those who have died in conflicts post 1945.

The parade area was paved and the steps re-laid in granite. An accessible path was added from the parade area to the top of the Cenotaph to allow those with restricted mobility to access the memorials to lay wreaths. A dropped kerb to the path was created to aid access and six dome bollards installed at the entrance to the parade area to limit vehicular access.

Handrails were installed at either side of the steps, at the side of the accessible path and behind the memorials. This work was carried out by D & M Fencing who also supplied the steel troughs that have been placed beside the memorials to hold crosses.

The final flourish to the parade area was the installation an engraved, polished plaque depicting the emblem of the All Arms Association.

The cost of the refurbishment and renovation work was:

Survey/condition report, planning applications	1,166.50
Cenotaph at Ridley Park	95,107.99
Newsham/New Delaval	10,970.13
Cowpen	12,375.00
TOTAL	119,619.62

Blue Plaques and Online Museum

The Town Council has an on-going programme for the installation of blue plaques to commemorate people and places in Blyth. The latest plaque to be installed commemorates Bella Reay, Centre Forward for Blyth Spartans Ladies (1917-1919) and England. The plaque is located in Croft Park, Blyth Spartan's football ground, and was unveiled by Cllr Adrian Cartie, Mayor (2018) and Tony Platten, Chairman of Blyth Spartans Football Club.



The Town Council has a large number of items that came from the former Blyth Valley Council via Northumberland County Council. In 2018 these were valued by Anderson and Garland and catalogued. Since then we have received various items from other organisations and have a digital catalogue of items from local historian, Gordon Smith. We are continuing to work with Widescope Web Design to make this information available in an online museum. Once this is live there will be the opportunity for people to request to come in to the Town Council if they would like to view particular items.

EVENTS

The Town Council continues to organise free events for the community and to attract visitors to Blyth. The involvement of local businesses and organisations is important to our events and is ever-growing. Events like the Carnival bring together groups from across the Town and Northumberland Live attracts visitors from all over the local area.

Events so far this year



Mad Hatter's Tea Party

Traditional family fun in Ridley Park.



Northumberland Live

This was the sixth year for the music festival which will, from next year, be renamed **Blyth Live Music Festival**.



Carnival

Organised for the Town Council by Leading Link, this event brought hundreds of people together for a parade through the town centre. Led by Cllr Warren Taylor, Mayor, the parade ended at the Market Place with stalls and entertainment.

