



# **Hopton in Bloom**

## **Spring 2017 Update**

**for**

## **Yorkshire in Bloom**



# Hopton in Bloom Spring 2017



## The Hopton in Bloom team

### We currently have 24 members in the team:

Gail and Richard Auty, Toni Baldwin, Anne Blamires, Christine Breare, John Broscombe, Dennis and Kathryn Calnan, Kathryn Cockerill, Adel Draper, John Farren, Margaret Gill, Anita Godden, Alison and Tony Hayman, Sue Lee, Roger Leedham, Sandra Moylan, Dammika Nixon, Lynne Stagg, John Sykes, Philip Tolson, and new members Russ Heaton and Jean Williams.

Along with Simon Dedman and Malcolm Webster who look after the bus stop at the junction of Hopton Lane and Hopton Hall Lane and the triangle at the entrance to Chapel Hill.

### The officials are:

Kathryn Cockerill - Chairman, Christine Breare - Secretary, Alison Hayman - Treasurer

The Hopton in Bloom team are a large stable group that has grown steadily since 2002.

All members participate on a regular basis, most of the team working together on a Wednesday at 9:30 to 12:30. Those members, who have other commitments on Wednesday, contribute on a regular basis at other times. Many of the team however work a lot more than three hours per week. Monthly meetings are held to discuss short term and long term plans for all the various activities which we undertake. See Appendix 1 for an example of the meeting minutes.

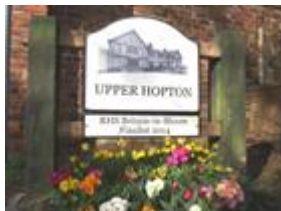
The group get together socially for garden related trips, the odd party or simply for a meal.

The team has worked throughout the winter of 2016 and spring 2017 without missing a single session but have had to limit activities due to the very wet weather.

### Some of the team parking their wheelbarrows at coffee break and some celebrating John's 80th







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**50 YEARS**  
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Silver Gilt Medal 2014

**New compost / leaf bins being built**



by the HIB team.

**Bug Hotel built by HIB and enjoyed by the Pre-School children.**



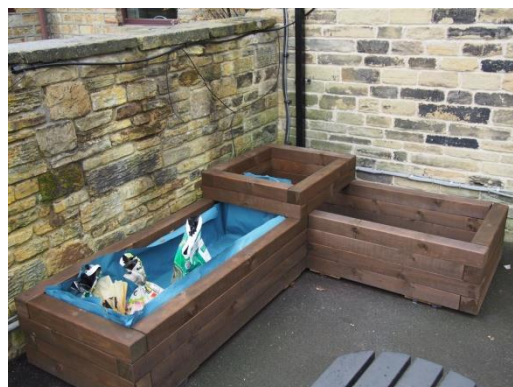
**Development of the area adjacent to the tool shed and garages is ongoing.**



**New planters at churchyard gates**



**New planter at Croft House entrance, built by HIB**



**Planting of Bellis at the WW1 graves**







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**Development of the new gateway to the recreation field. The laying of cobbles is ongoing and will be completed summer 2017.**



**Following consultation with Kirklees Council a safety gateway to the recreation field has been added**



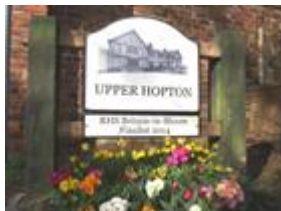
**Following a consultant's report extensive tree work was carried out in January 2017**



**Clearing overgrown rhododendrons**







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**Clearing after Autumn**



**New bed created on Jackroyd Lane**



**New Spring flowers after felling  
some of the trees.**



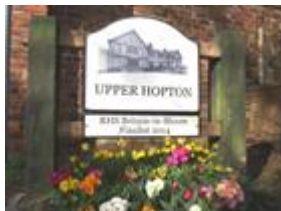
**Pruning Berberis**



**HIB Calendar 2017 (all design work carried out by HIB members).**







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## Telephone box - Harvest festival, Halloween and Christmas

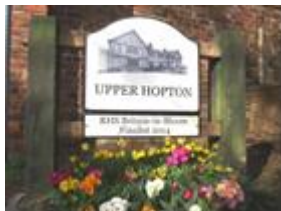


## Heritage Exhibition July 2016



## Upper Hopton Fete July 2016





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### Working with Pre-School and Rotary planting spring bulbs



### Having fun on the stepping logs



### Carols around the tree in the Rose Gardens with the Clifton & Lightcliffe Band



### Christmas party in Croft House with entertainment provided by the guitar group.







# Hopton in Bloom Spring 2017



## Minutes Hopton in Bloom Wednesday February 15th 2017 at 11.15 am in St John's Meeting Room

Present Alison, Anne B, Anita, Chris, Gail, John B, Kath,(Chair), Lynne, Margaret, Roger, Sandra and Tony.

1. **Apologies** Dammika, Dennis and Kath, John F, Russ and Toni.
2. **Minutes of last meeting** on Wednesday October 26th 2016 Proposed by Margaret and seconded by Anne

### 3. **Matters arising.**

Christmas celebration at the Club. We all really enjoyed the evening and the food was lovely. We need more helpers to clear up at the end of the evening. It was suggested we buy a couple of small plastic trugs to carry a washing up dishes up to the sink upstairs

### 4. **Financial Report @ 15.02.17**

The Current A/C balance at the end of last month was £6536.86

Since then we have had an **expenditure** of £1828.10

Calendar 2017 £8.40 - Plants £609.20 - Compost & Feed £35.91 - Building Projects £785.79 -

Advertising £22.52 - Miscellaneous £366.28

An **income** of £1523.00

Calendar 2017 £1128.00 – Miscellaneous £195 - Donation £200.00 from the late Barbara Senior's Funeral.

The balance @ 15.02.17 = **£6231.76**

### PETTY CASH

The Petty Cash balance at the end of last month was £104.22

Since then we have had an expenditure of £58.98

Equipment £14.98 – Building/Projects £4.00 – Miscellaneous £40.00

An income of £55.40

Plants payback £5.40 – Donations £ 50.00

The balance @ 15.02.17 = **£100.64**

Miscellaneous expenditure includes - Website expenses & Thornhill Insurance

Building & Projects expenditure includes – planter expenses, tree survey & felling.

### 5. **Report Calendar 2017 and Plans for Calendar 2018**

To date we have collected £1344 for the calendars.

Last year made £1500 but as John F did all the computer artwork this year our outgoings were reduced.

We have about 50 left over. Maybe we should just print 300 next year.

It is time consuming getting money from sponsors. Thanks to John for all the art work and to Kath for collecting the sponsor money. Next year will Kath need help to chase up sponsor

### 6. **Aims for the Future**





# Hopton in Bloom

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- Recreation Ground. It needs a blitz but also more tidying. We need a plan for it as Kirklees are short of funds. It was agreed that we would all meet in Rec at 9.30 next week to discuss a plan.

- Archway to Rec from Croft House

Again we need a plan and design and it was suggested that we have a wrought metal one from Paul. We need to prune the rhododendrons and brambles back.

It was suggested that we erect finger posts and these would be useful at the Fete, as some newcomers into the village may not be aware of our activities it was suggested we have a name on Croft House

- New planters in front of Croft House

Thanks to Roger for making them. The other planters which have been moved looked good in their new position by the water butts.

- New planters in church yard. Thanks to Alison for staining them and planting them up. St John's Business Team is very grateful as they brighten up the exit from the churchyard.

- Team work with Cricket Club

We keep trying to engage and have provided them with shrubs attractive to bees and butterflies. They are happy to look after the ground themselves.

- Tree works around Croft House The area looks brilliant with a lot more space and light between the trees. We have been clearing away the stones and planting woodland plants.

- Gateway in Recreation Ground. The wrought iron safety gateway will be completed soon. Progress Stone Sets will be made when the weather is dry.

We need to move the metal strips at the safety gate to make a nice border. It was suggested we use the diamondplastic matting to let grass grow through.

### 7. Spring Judging YiB

There is a drop in session on **Sat 11<sup>th</sup> March** at the Tithe Barn, Poppleton near York, postcode YO26 6LF which will run from 10am-3pm for any new entrants to ask any questions or advice. Please publicise this to any entries you know or are considering it

### 8. Plans for Planting for Summer 2017

Alison will look after 7 barrels and is doing these from scratch. Lynne will take on her two and Anita and Sandra will do the ones at the Chip shop. Richard will do Hopton Drive and Avenue. It was decided to try to use perennials wherever possible. One suggestion is to use lavender. People will take ownership of these barrels.

Some have vine weevil. There are still the ones around Croft House to plant up.

Ideas for the Circles this year:- the verbena still in and Margaret will have a think about what to plant.

### 9. Garden Trail Date for July 8th 2017

Ongoing

### 10. K6 telephone Box



## Hopton in Bloom Spring 2017



We had lots of publicity with John B Anne and Sandra appearing on Look North. It looks lovely again with a Snow theme and next we will have a Spring theme and then Easter. We could put some Art work in Chip Shop window. We have declared an interest with Kirklees so it should soon be ours. The idea for a Flag needs revisiting

### **11. Round the Team.**

#### **Sharing information and queries.**

Roger; the area behind the garages need clearing of stones and rubbish.

Margaret is going to do brambles behind Croft House.

Lynne proposed we buy new secateurs.

Claire suggested we have a wild flower area in the community orchard

One of our wheel barrow seems to have disappeared!

### **12. Preschool Planned Activities.**

Wednesday March 1<sup>st</sup> planting seeds sweet peas, nasturtiums and potatoes.

Wednesday March 8<sup>th</sup> meet for photo with End Polio Now campaign and Sue Young Chair of Rotary with the crocuses now in bloom.

Monday April 3<sup>rd</sup> Children together with parents and carers visit St John's for the Easter story.

### **13. AOB**

Glen does not want to deliver flyers anymore and we have several to circulate. It was agreed that we should divide the village into sections and we all deliver some.

Jumble sale on March 11th. Refreshments Tea, coffee and biscuits

**Date of next meeting will be Wednesday March 15th 11.15 2017 in St John's Meeting Room**

## Achievements Hopton in Bloom 2016

The Hopton in Bloom team have settled into a wonderful Wednesday morning rhythm of meeting together, then some going off to tend their specific sites around the village to ensure they are well maintained and as full of colour as we can make them, and at 11 a.m. gathering back together for coffee. Occasionally a particular site gets out of hand and then all the team are called into action to sort it out. All this is recorded in our weekly action book together with the important rota of who is bringing the cake for the next few weeks! The whole village has benefitted from the bright and colourful beds and borders and restoration projects which are now flourishing following our TLC over the last fourteen years.

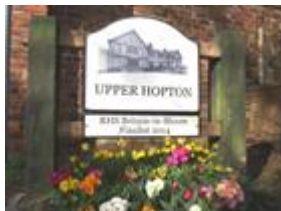
### **Projects**

Our major project this year has seen the completion of the beautiful oak gates and entrance to the Recreation Ground and the cobbled driveway. What superb workmanship has gone into this construction. Plans are in hand for a wrought iron recessed gateway at the small entrance to the Rec which will ensure that children can play safely without the risk on running directly out onto the busy road. We are grateful to Kirklees for awarding us a grant of £1000 to meet the costs.

The K6 telephone box, which is a major attraction with all its innovative seasonal displays, has this summer been completely restored and painted and a water pump, generously donated by Richard Haigh, has been restored to full working order and is in pride of place in front of Croft House.

The container, which houses all our equipment, has been completely cleared out and revamped with the addition a small shed at the side to house building materials. Two new mowers have been purchased a small light electric one to ensure the banking is relatively easy to mow and a larger





## Hopton in Bloom Spring 2017



Mountifield battery operated one for the more distant heavy duty grassy areas. Both have proved to be an asset to the mowing team.

### **Yorkshire in Boom**

After an incredibly wet winter which saw the River Calder dramatically flood on Boxing Day, Yorkshire in Boom wrote to offer us the option of cancelling the Spring judging but the team voted to carry on as usual so we were delighted to gain Gold Awards for both the Spring Judging and Summer judging. The six members of the team who attended came away from the Awards Ceremony at York Racecourse full of enthusiasm particular as the opening view was of our begonias and hebes on the banking. However a vote is to be taken as to whether we enter next year.

### **Social and Community**

For Christmas 2015 we decided on a 'Bring and Share' fuddle at the Club and this was such a great success we are planning to repeat it again this year. In May we planned a surprise 80th birthday party for John at the Club but had to let him in on the secret as he was planning to go off on a walking trip. A very convivial evening, together with his very special birthday cake, was enjoyed by all.

Most of our team wear several hats in the village so we support each other wherever possible. The Carols round the tree was a great success, with Clifton and Lightcliffe Band providing the music and Revd Hugh Baker leading the Carols and an enthusiastic crowd enjoying mulled wine and mince pies, although at one point we had to hold tight on the ropes to stop the marquee from flying away. We have also supported and assisted with:-

- Jumble sale
- A Gourmet Evening with Eric
- Casino Royale evening
- RNLI Race night at the Club,
- decorating St John's for Christmas and Easter,
- The Spring Craft Fair
- The Village Fete and Heritage Event
- Tea and Tiara
- Harvest Festival Auction
- The Autumn Coffee Morning

Our regular monthly activities with the preschool children have been most enjoyable for both children and adults.

They have, among other things, planted potatoes, harvested them, cooked and eaten them. A deluxe bug hotel, constructed by two of our new members and filled with organic habitat by the children, is now resplendent in the Wild Life garden. Last week, the back of Croft House, the children planted crocus bulbs, donated by Mirfield Rotary Club for the *End Polio Now Campaign*, in newly created beds, using our own leaf mould and compost. Hopefully in the Spring they will be able to see them through the windows as they meet in Croft House.

The [upperhoptonvillage.co.uk](http://upperhoptonvillage.co.uk) website continues to be a valuable source of information and publicity for Hopton in Bloom, UHCA and all the Associations in our village

### **Fundraising**

Apart from our very first Garden Trail, we have each year enjoyed a beautiful sunny day but not so this year. After so much hard work, by all the gardeners opening their gardens and the team, in preparation for the day, we woke up on July 9th to torrential rain. A few brave souls toured the gardens in the morning but more arrived in the afternoon when the skies cleared. We were down on



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Following our photographic competition, which was extended to include Hopton and surrounding areas, we are fortunate this year that a member of our team volunteered to produce all the artwork for the sponsors for the HiB Calendar for 2017 which should reduce printing costs considerably.

### Team News

A couple of our team were seconded to the Extension project at Croft House which is now complete and this will be a most useful facility for all who use Croft House and the surrounding area.

We were sorry to say good bye to two hard working members who have moved from the village with the prospect of carrying on the In Bloom initiatives in their new village.

Fortunately we have welcomed four new members so we have an unbelievable strong team of 22 members, all with valuable and very different skill mixes.

Thanks are due to each and every member of our consistent and hardworking team; to all in our village and beyond who support us in many different ways: to Malcolm Webster, Anne and Vince Seabourne, Simon, the Dedman's gardener, who all tend their local areas: to Knowle Park Nursery and Horticulture who supply us with valuable advice and healthy plants; to all who give us such generous donations and to all who sponsor our Calendar; to St John's church for hosting our coffee breaks and meetings.

We look forward to continuing to meet each Wednesday for gardening, friendship, fun and refreshments with an end result that benefits our whole community.

Chris Breare Oct 2016

## Minutes AGM 2016 Hopton in Bloom

2. **Minutes of last AGM** 18th November 2015 Proposed Alison and seconded by Anne.

### 3. Matters arising

### 4. Election of Officers

Chairperson Kath Cockerill Treasurer Alison Hayman Secretary Chris Breare

There being no other nominations, all the officers were voted in en bloc.

### 5. **Financial Report** ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT - AGM 30TH September 2016

Alison presented the balance sheet for the year and then summarised the report

We have ended the year with a profit of £1,366.62 but have since spent on plants for Spring and are planning to replace the tubs around Croft House.

Alison thanked Peter Cockerill for auditing the accounts.

The full balance sheet is attached for information

### 6. **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

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Chris Breare Oct 2016

**7. Five year plan.** To be updated.

**8. AOB Lynne** is happy to carry on writing in the weekly Diary, and she plans to leave a sheet in the shed for volunteers for the cake rota.

Chris to upgrade team contact sheet and circulate.

**9. Date of AGM** Wednesday October 25<sup>th</sup> 2017 in Croft House.