

Wild About Darlington – April Update

A Growing Partnership with Bellburn Lane Allotments



What an incredible start to our **Wild About Darlington Project!**

A huge and heartfelt thank you goes to our amazing *Rotary Hit Squad*, who rolled up their sleeves on Saturday 25th March and completely transformed what was once an overgrown, unused piece of land into the beginnings of something truly special.

From Wasteland to Wildlife Haven

Thanks to the generosity of Bellburn Lane Allotments, this plot was gifted to us to develop, with the shared vision of creating a beautiful, nature-rich space that will ultimately be returned for all to enjoy.

In just one morning, our volunteers:

- Dug, cleared, and rotavated the entire site
- Created a defined woodchip pathway, forming the foundation of our future reflective garden
- Prepared the ground for raised beds and planting areas

The transformation already is remarkable, and this is only the beginning.

Community, Camaraderie & Cake!

No Rotary project would be complete without a moment to pause and enjoy each other's company.

A big thank you to the allotment committee for providing lunch and refreshments which was very much appreciated and well deserved after such hard work. The day was full of energy, teamwork, and laughter, everything that makes Rotary so special.










What Happens Next?

Now the exciting part really begins...

Over the coming months, we'll be bringing the space to life through a series of hands-on, nature-focused activities:

-  **“Bring a Plant” Day** – helping fill our raised beds with pollinator-friendly plants
-  **“Build a Habitat” Day** – creating natural bug hotels and wildlife spaces
-  Planting **shrubs, seeds, and seasonal flowers** as part of an ongoing programme
-  Installing and positioning **raised beds and habitats**
-  Building a **trellis wall** for climbers, roses, and fruit

This space will become a haven for both people and wildlife, a place to reflect, connect, and support biodiversity.

A Project the Community Already Loves

The enthusiasm from the allotment holders has been fantastic, they are already excited to see how the space develops and cannot wait for the full transformation.

This project is a brilliant example of what can be achieved when community spirit and shared purpose come together.

Want to Get Involved?

Keep an eye out for upcoming planting and build days, we'd love to see even more Rotary members join us as the project continues to grow.

