

# THE LOCAL FUND



HARROGATE DISTRICT

## Impact Report 2023

for the period: 1 Jan 2023 - 31 December 2023



39

grants awarded



£92,828

total grants awarded



£2,380

average grant



18,273

people supported



Two Ridings  
Community Foundation

# THE LOCAL FUND for the Harrogate District

## An introduction

THE LOCAL FUND for the Harrogate District provides a sustainable source of funding for charitable and community organisations. Local groups can apply for funding for activities and services that support people, keeping them connected to their community and with each other. Projects provide long term benefit to local people and the communities they live in.

THE LOCAL FUND for the Harrogate District addresses needs of local people in the area around issues like:

- inequality and hidden poverty
- loneliness and social isolation
- health and wellbeing

## Where the fund comes from

THE LOCAL FUND was kickstarted thanks to the generous support of the then Harrogate Borough Council. It has also been funded by the Harrogate Bolland Trust Fund, proceeds from THE LOCAL LOTTO and other local donors including businesses and individuals, which enables grants to be awarded each year.

Panels making the decisions of THE LOCAL FUND are made up of local leaders, the council and local people with direct experience of the issues affecting communities in the district.

In 2023 £92,828 was awarded in 39 grants, supporting 36 organisations. This was made up of two panels in February and September.

Supporting small organisations addressing

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

INEQUALITY & HIDDEN POVERTY

LONELINESS & SOCIAL ISOLATION



## The area the fund supports

In April 2023 local government boundaries changed in North Yorkshire. However, the area of benefit for THE LOCAL FUND remains the area that was formerly Harrogate District and includes the towns of Harrogate, Knaresborough, Boroughbridge, Ripon, Masham, Pateley Bridge and the rural areas between. This geographical area reflects who made donations into the fund, and the places and communities they wanted to benefit.



## The reach of Two Ridings

Through working with Two Ridings, THE LOCAL FUND reaches locally trusted organisations, led and delivered by people with lived and working experiences of the issues being funded.

It has allowed support for both long standing organisations and newly emergent community groups, confident that we understand their respective challenges and strengths. The fund has supported organisations working in both rural areas and local towns often overlooked by national funders

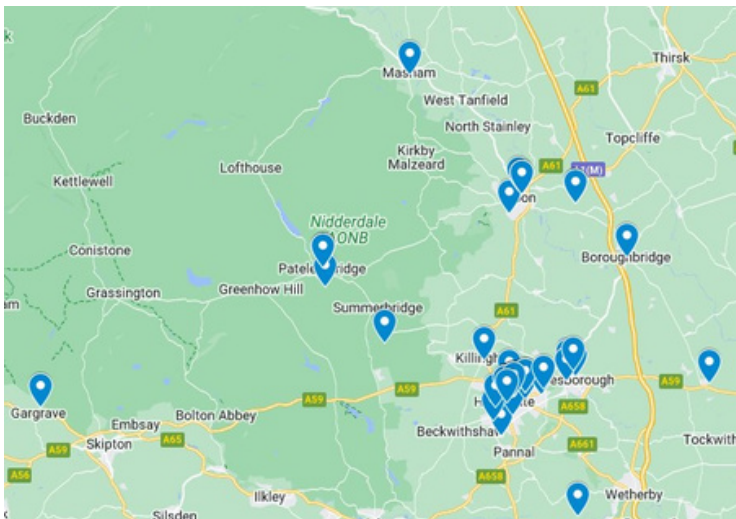
## The groups and people supported

Of the 36 groups funded, 8 were first time applicants and 3 groups received funding in both rounds of grant making. All the groups are small local charities with on average 1.3 full time staff, 4 part time staff and 4 volunteers.

Just over 50% of groups have an annual income of under £100,000, 15% under £200,000 and none of the organisations supported by THE LOCAL FUND have an annual income of over £500,000

A wide range of people were supported by the funding including people living in poverty, people experiencing homelessness, children and young people, families, older people, people with disabilities, people in hospital, women who have suffered domestic abuse and those people who are rurally isolated.

## Geographical spread of the fund



## Supported organisations at a glance

- Artizan
- Badapple Theatre Company
- Bilton Dragon Bowling Club
- Boroughbridge and District Community Care
- Claro Enterprises
- Dales and Bowland CIC
- Dancing for Wellbeing
- Darley Playing Field Association
- Harlow Hill Community Centre Association
- Harrogate & District Community Action
- Harrogate Hospital Radio
- Inspire Youth Yorkshire
- Jennyruth Workshops
- Resurrection Bikes
- Knaresborough Museum Association
- Knot Another Choir
- Lifeline Harrogate
- Living Potential Care Farming
- Low Harrogate Crown Green Bowling Club
- Masham Community Office
- New Beginnings Peer Support
- Nidderdale Fell & Trail
- Nidderdale Plus Partnership
- Open Country
- Pateley Bridge & Beverley Memorial Hall
- Pinewoods Conservation Group
- Reflect
- Ripon City Festival Trust
- Ripon Disability Forum
- Samaritans of Harrogate
- Supporting Older People
- Taking Baby Steps
- The Trauma Centre
- The Wellness Gateway
- Village Voices Killinghall
- Wellspring Therapy & Training

## Funded organisations

**Artizan Harrogate:** Funding towards staff, craft supplies and refreshments for craft and socialising opportunities for children and teens with Special Educational Needs, alongside support for their parents. **£2,688**

**Badapple Theatre Company:** Funding towards staff, hall hire, DBS checks and training to run youth session in the rural area of the Ure Valley, and to enable them to earn a recognised award. **£1,580**

**Bilton Dragon Bowling Club:** Funding towards a sprinkler system to make water use more efficient and to support club members with maintenance. **£1,000**

**Boroughbridge and District Community Care:** Funding towards staff and room hire to train befriending volunteers for people experiencing bereavement, or living with dementia or disabilities, for recently recruited, existing and to-be recruited volunteers. **£3,000**

**Claro Enterprises, Starbeck:** Funding towards staff, insurance and utilities to run community workshop to support people with mental health difficulties to improve their health and wellbeing. **£3,000**

## FOCUS ON

### Dales and Bowland CIC, GARGRAVE - £3,000

The Dales and Bowland CIC are using their funding to enable the continued provision of bus service 24 between Harrogate and Pateley Bridge on Sundays and Bank Holidays throughout the year.

It will serve the villages of Hampsthwaite, Birstwith, Darley, Dacre Banks and Summerbridge together with smaller communities along the route, with three journeys running in each direction, and will connect with other buses at Pateley Bridge during the summer months.

Reduced fares will enable young people aged under 19 to travel for as little as £1 per journey and older/disabled people with bus passes will benefit from free travel.

The service will help to connect the communities of Harrogate and Nidderdale, boosting people's mental wellbeing and physical health, as well as tackling social isolation/loneliness and social exclusion due to a lack of private transport.

**Dales and Bowland CIC:** Funding towards running a rural bus service on Sundays and Bank Holidays. **£3,000**

**Dancing for Wellbeing:** Funding towards operational costs, including a Dance Movement Therapist, for a trial series of sessions to support those who care for family members with dementia, to support carer's own needs. **£1,200**

**Darley Playing Field Association:** Funding towards outdoor play equipment for children in rurally isolated village. **£3,000**

**Harlow Hill Community Centre Association:** Funding towards new doors to improve the carbon footprint and look of community building. **£2,000**

**Harrogate and District Community Action:** Funding towards staff and room hire to support befriending and signposting services for older members of the community, particularly the weekly club and where some clients have more complex needs. **£3,000**

**Harrogate Hospital Radio:** Funding to purchase radios to lend to lonely inpatients in the Harrogate area hospitals. **£1170**



**Inspire Youth Yorkshire:** Funding for staff and overheads towards free weekly youth activities. [£3,000](#)

**Jennyruth Workshops:** Funding for staff and travel costs to offer workers with learning disabilities outreach opportunities, including sales at local shows, visits to stockists and delivering talks to other local groups. Also towards Jennyruth branded t-shirts and fleeces to provide new workers with learning disabilities pride in their work, and being able to represent the organisation at events. [£3,000](#) & [£1,500](#)

**Kairos Network Church:** Funding towards a sprinkler system to make water use more efficient and to support club members with maintenance. [£1,000](#)

**Knaresborough Museum Association:** Funding towards staff and room hire to train befriending volunteers for people experiencing bereavement, or living with dementia or disabilities, for recently recruited, existing and to-be recruited volunteers. [£1,500](#)

**Knot Another Choir:** Funding towards staff, insurance and utilities to run community workshop to support people with mental health difficulties to improve their health and wellbeing. [£3,000](#)

**Lifeline Harrogate:** Funding for fruit and veg boxes (subsidised by the provider) to provide a healthy equivalent to crisis loans for food, to people who have recently experienced homelessness and are now accommodated in supported housing. Also for food and room hire for fortnightly lunch club, to support current and former residents of supported accommodation. [£2,400](#) & [£2,600](#)

**Living Potential Care Farming:** Funding for tools, raised beds, compost and seeds to start therapeutic sessions in the walled garden for people living with mental health difficulties. [£1,740](#)

**Low Harrogate Crown Green Bowling Club:** Funding to buy bowls and equipment which will make the club more inclusive and to review the irrigation system. [£2,250](#)

**Masham Community Office:** Funding towards purchasing the organisation's premises to secure it as a community asset. [£3,000](#)

**New Beginnings Peer Support:** Funding towards staff, volunteers, materials etc for workshops looking at self-worth, boundaries and resilience, to increase the health and wellbeing of families, especially children. [£2,690](#)

**Nidderdale Fell & Trail:** Funding for staff and overheads towards free weekly youth activities. [£3,000](#)

**Nidderdale Plus Partnership :** Funding for three months of Digital Champion Coordinator time to continue to run project to support older people to be safe and confident online, and to stay connected. [£3,000](#)

**Open Country:** Funding for staff, volunteer costs, and operational costs towards running an allotment and tree nursery to offer skills development, mental health benefits and social activities for people with disabilities. Also for an accessible minibus, and allotment rent to ensure members can access mixed gardening and outdoor activities. [£3,000](#) & [£2,450](#)

**Pateley Bridge & Beverley Memorial Hall :** Funding towards extending a local social event by opening for longer, and to offer hot food for the first time as part of the group becoming a warm space, for older people in a rurally isolated areas. [£1,000](#)

**Pinewoods Conservation Group:** Funding towards tools and PPE to create a new volunteer group to care for the woodland and to support volunteer's health and wellbeing. [£2,410](#)





## FOCUS ON

### **Lifeline, Harrogate**

Addressing loneliness and isolation of local people, Lifeline use their funding for their fortnightly lunch club which is an integral part of their charity, and has been since they were formed 10 years ago. Lifeline work with people experiencing homelessness and those who are vulnerably housed, providing supported accommodation in six 3-bedroomed houses in Harrogate.

The lunch club is open to current residents but is also attended by former residents who have moved onto independent living and employment and can therefore provide inspiration to those who may be struggling.

Sharing food together and a game of pool, in a relaxed atmosphere enables some of the town's most vulnerable people to discuss things they might otherwise feel they have to keep to themselves.

**Reflect:** Funding for staff, volunteer costs and overheads to publicise support and to increase face to face sessions for people experiencing pregnancy and baby loss, and for those seeking post-termination support. **£2,800**

**Ripon City Festival Trust:** Funding to support teenagers to engage more with their local community and to address self-care and mental health, by experiencing live theatre themed around wellbeing, taking part in drama workshops and volunteering to encourage other young people to take part in the Festival. **£1,800**

**Ripon Disability Forum:** Funding to set up a website, particularly to create an interactive route mapping tool, that people with disabilities can design their own travel routes into and around Ripon and the surrounding area. **£2,940**

**Samaritans of Harrogate and District:** Funding towards volunteer expenses, operational costs and overheads for organisation seeking to reduce the number of people dying by suicide. **£3,000**

**Supporting Older People CIO:** Funding for staff, DBS checks, publicity to recruit and train befriender volunteers to support older people, and to start a new social group for older residents. **£2,940**

## FOCUS ON

### Taking Baby Steps CIC, Ripon - £2,530

“From some of the clients we have met, we recognise that rural isolation can exacerbate feelings of loneliness and existing mental health issues, which can be particularly difficult for new parents or those who sadly didn't get to bring a baby home.

“ We are developing our services focusing on women and their partners in the perinatal period, seeking additional support who live in Ripon, Boroughbridge, and surrounding villages in North Yorkshire.

“The grant will fund therapeutic support sessions for those who have experienced pregnancy loss. We will also provide partially funded places for anyone requiring other elements of our one to one services. “

**Taking Baby Steps CIC, Knaresborough:** Funding for staff, travel expenses and sundries to be able to run community drop in groups as a pilot in rural areas, for parents facing pregnancy loss, baby loss, or peri- and post- natal mental health problems in more rural areas of the Harrogate district. **£2,530**

**The Trauma Centre :** Funding towards staff to support the running of heavily subsidised self-help evening classes for people with mental health difficulties, which would help reduce the need for more intensive therapy. **£3,000**

**The Wellness Gateway CIC, Ripon:** Funding staffing, to set up a trial Wellness Hub to offer mental health support and signposting in Ripon and surrounding areas. **£3,000**

**Village Voices Killinghall :** Funding towards a keyboard and accessories to be able to keep rurally isolated village choir running for years to come. **£640**

**Wellspring Therapy & Training:** Funding towards volunteer travel expenses, to be able to offer more counselling sessions and reduce waiting times for people to support people with poor mental health, experiencing family problems and more. **£3,000**



“To make our service as accessible as possible Taking Baby Steps will be available at our premises in Ripon, at ‘virtual’ online appointments or through pre-arranged home visits for one-to-one scheduled support. All thanks to this funding.”



## FOCUS ON Artizan, Harrogate

The young people at Artizan experienced extreme social isolation as a result of the pandemic and dwindling social care support, Artizan wanted to offer more free creative workshops and isolation busting opportunities for them to come together for friendship and support.

Their crafty Llama group is a weekly after school club specifically designed for children aged 8-12 with special needs.

The children develop their creative skills and make friends in a supportive environment whilst their parents benefit from a coffee and signposting support

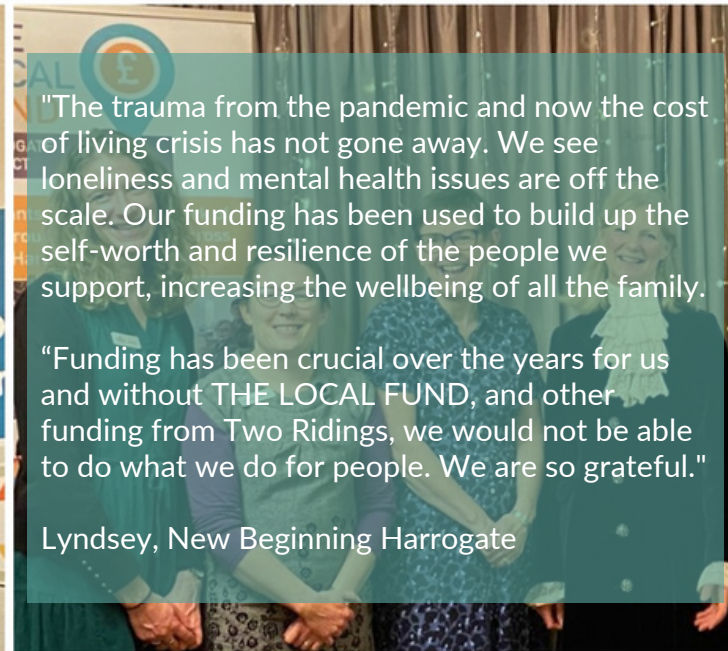
Their Llama Lounge SEN youth club is a vital socialising opportunity for teens with special needs that are amongst the most isolated of disabled groups.

When their able peers are busy with part time jobs and activities, young people at Artizan are often left behind.

The Artizan youth club is a place they can hang out with friends, game, switch on a big screen, dance under the disco ball and take part in a range of games that are often not available to neuro diverse and disabled young people.

Again, there is a support element for the parents attending, where they can access moral support together and useful signposting for funding or activities and partner organisations.





# Be the difference

Do your charitable giving through THE LOCAL FUND

The LOCAL FUND for the Harrogate District has been supporting people and community organisations in the area for over 5 years.

Despite a reputation for being a place of prosperity, there is much hidden need in the area, with many local people facing significant social issues.

The council, local businesses and generous local people have created an endowment fund worth over £650,000, and together with income from THE LOCAL LOTTO have enabled an annual distribution of grants of around £60,000 each year.

## Double your donation in Harrogate

If you want to make a difference in the Harrogate District, match funding is currently available, essentially doubling your giving in the area.



## Thank you to all the people & organisations that support the fund

Harrogate Borough Council (that was), The Harry Bolland Fund, The Shears Foundation, Full Circle Funerals, McInroy & Wood, Presence Church, West Park Hotel, and everyone that plays THE LOCAL LOTTO

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## Discuss your giving with us

If by reading this impact report you realise you want to support THE LOCAL FUND please contact Celia directly on **07519 485103**

Celia would be very happy to visit you and talk through your tax efficient giving options and how you can make a difference in the region.

