

KENDAL IN

BLOOM

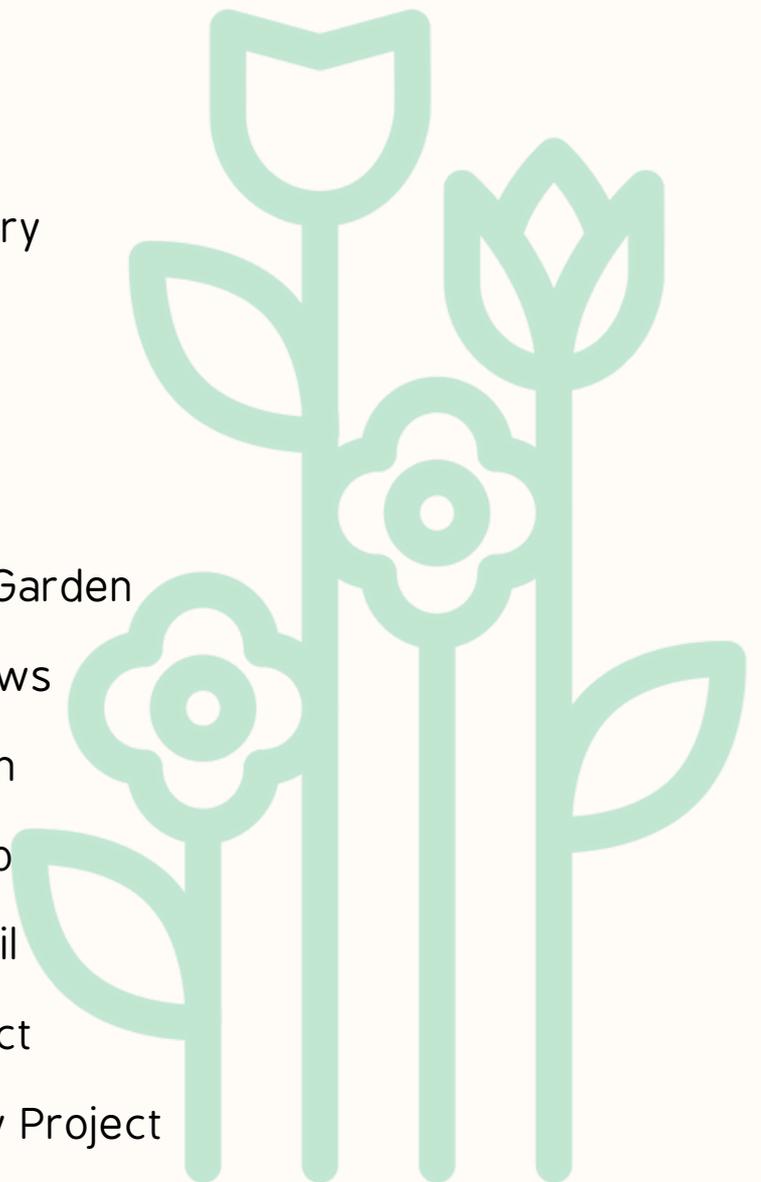
Portfolio



2022



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COUNCILLOR'S WELCOME



Kendal is delighted to welcome Cumbria in Bloom judges to our historic market town, We are extremely proud of Kendal's horticultural, environmental and community achievements over the last year (21/22). The Kendal in Bloom committee meets four times a year to work towards these.

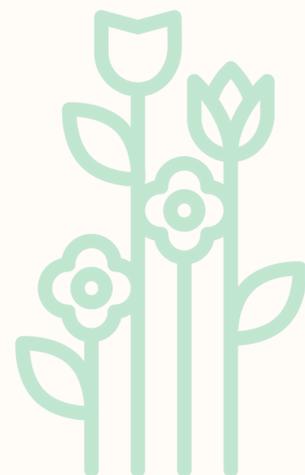
In addition to the ongoing bloom effort, we are proud to now be actively incorporating the recommendations of Kendal's Citizens' Jury into the fabric of our town, with benefits for our communities and for nature recovery and biodiversity enhancement.

Projects you will visit on judging day that aren't highlighted here include new civic planting on Aynam Road created in honour of the Platinum Jubilee, Heron Hill school's gardening initiatives, town centre floral displays created by a local shop owner, and the Victorian Fern Garden at Serpentine woods.

We look forward to meeting you on 11th July.

**Cllr Andy Blackman,
Chair of Kendal in Bloom**

*Pictured at the opening of the
South Lakes Orchard Group orchard*





Welcome to our vibrant and traditional market town. Built on the wool trade Kendal has developed into a diverse cultural hub. We have an intriguing history, including our famous yards.

Once gardens to grand town houses, the yards became hubs of the wool industry hosting tanners, blacksmiths and butchers alongside family homes. Today the vibrancy of Kendal's yards continues as beautiful gardens, interesting businesses and festival venues.



Kendal is truly green at heart, surrounded by the world famous Lake District and with the River Kent at its core. You're always close to outstanding scenery and wildlife which takes your breath away.



ABOUT KENDAL IN BLOOM

KIB is dedicated to making Kendal a beautiful place to live, work and visit, by encouraging pride and recognising everyone that makes a difference.



The KIB committee oversee all civic planting, some is carried by Horticare, a local day service for people with learning difficulties. KIB run the Kendal in Bloom competition which encourages and supports community projects and co ordinated entries into Bloom competitions.



The committee is run by Kendal Town Council (KTC) and supported by a dedicated part-time officer and handyman.



Kendal in Bloom 2022



The three themes for this year are: **Scrap Heap Legends** which encourages horticultural creativity and imagination by celebrating reuse and repurposing of 'waste' materials. The **Front Gardens** category celebrates both traditional and biodiverse planting styles. This year there's also a special **Platinum Jubilee** category, with residents and schools invited to create an area, planter or garden in honour of the jubilee.



A Scrap Heap Legend: upcycled pallets adorn this garage in a Kendal alleyway

Kendal in Bloom 2022



Kendal's civic planting retains traditional features of beds and hanging baskets, while introducing some more innovative features to improve our town's environment and biodiversity.

Examples of these are ivy screening at the bus station and at Longpool - designed to reduce air pollution, wildflower meadows at Somerville Gardens and Aynam Road - providing valuable forage for pollinators, and edible planters at Noble's Rest.



New planters in Woolpack Yard (R) were funded by the Welcome Back Fund.



Kendal in Bloom 2022



Kendal is home to an active Rotary Club, which in October 2021 planted 8000 bulbs along Burton Road, adding to the swathes of springtime colour that can be seen around Kendal, including at Kendal Green, Parkside Cemetery, Shap Road and Aynam Road.





KENDAL CLIMATE CITIZENS' JURY

Kendal held a Citizens' Jury in 2021, which addressed the question "What should Kendal do about climate change?". Among the recommendations agreed by the jury were calls for increased tree planting, growing more food locally, and to increase allotment provision.

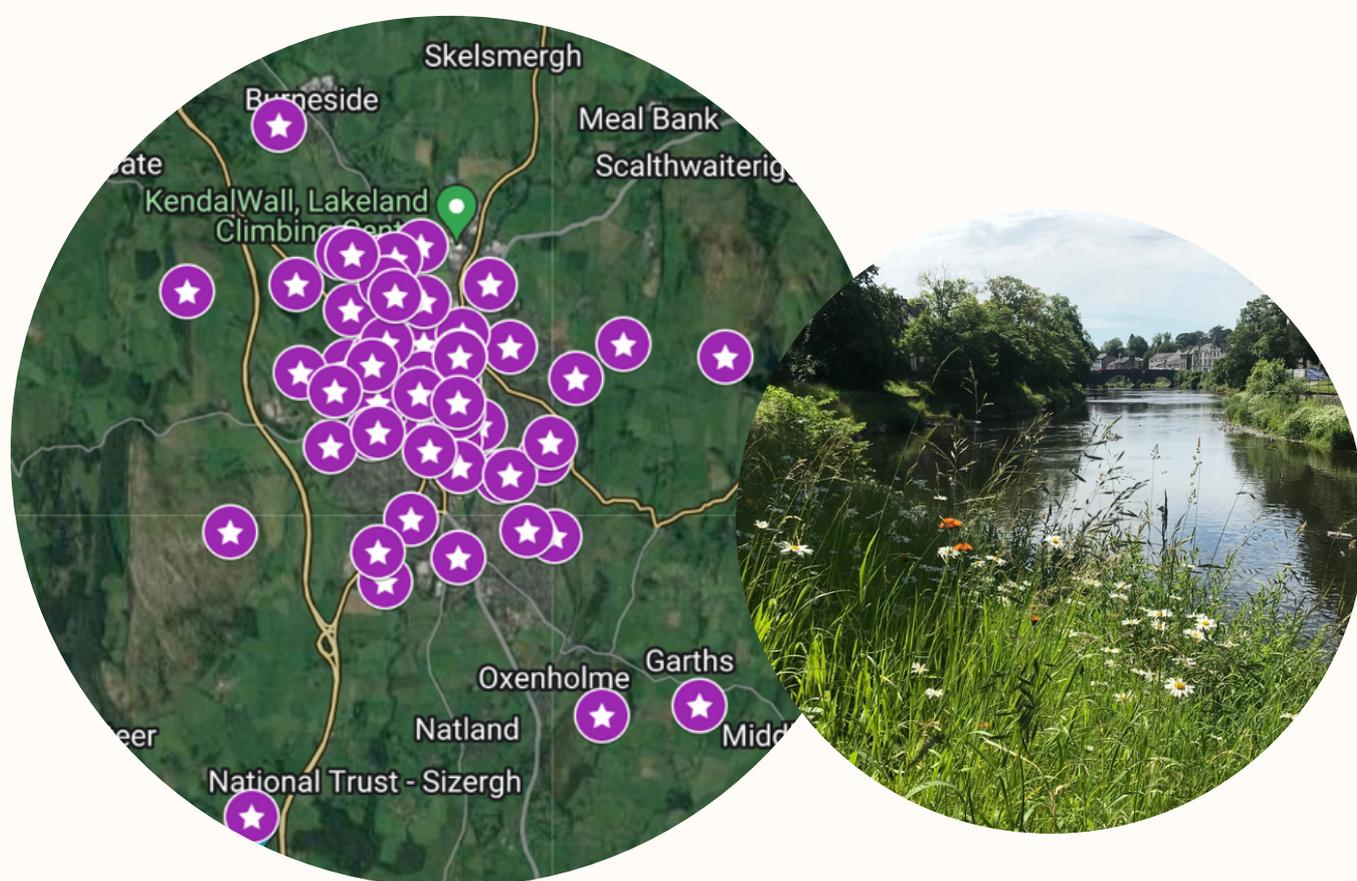


Tree planting has taken place in Fletcher Park (left), Burneside road and Queen Katherine's School, among other locations, and new allotments are currently in development at Canal Head.



NATURAL KENDAL

A research report commissioned by Kendal Town Council in 2021 has identified existing and planned nature recovery activity in and around Kendal, with the aim of enhancing biodiversity and to engage and involve individuals, communities and organisations.



While there is already lots going on in Kendal to support biodiversity and nature recovery, the Natural Kendal report also identifies opportunities for 'quick wins', partnership working and community involvement. Watch this space!



WASTE INTO WELLBEING

Since 2020, Kendal's allotment holders have donated over 1.5 tonnes of surplus produce to Waste into Wellbeing. This volunteer-run group redistributes food that would otherwise be wasted to those in need.



This zero-waste ethos is also reflected in the town's pilot composting project at Noble's Rest. Green waste from the park is now composted on site reducing emissions associated with buying compost and transporting green waste to be recycled.





KTC BIODIVERSITY GRANTS

Since 2021 Kendal Town Council has offered biodiversity grants to local groups and organisations whose projects aim to increase biodiversity. Belmont Biodiversity Patch received a grant to transform an unloved space, which had previously been regularly sprayed. Now it is a space for nature to recover, providing a haven for birds and insects.



before

An informal hedge of flowering and fruiting shrubs has also been planted along with a bird box and wood piles to provide shelter for birds and insects. The space will evolve organically based on what thrives here on extremely poor soil that is mostly builder's rubble.



June 2022

Last year, 20 native species of plants were observed; this year has seen this more than double, with numbers of birds and insects increasing too.



APPLEBY ROAD COMMUNITY GARDEN

Based on permaculture principles, this project aims to provide children, young people and volunteers with education and training opportunities and a chance to grow fruit and veg in a friendly and supportive environment. The garden is used by a range of individuals and groups of all ages and abilities (inc 15 small rented allotment plots). Our emphasis is on working together.

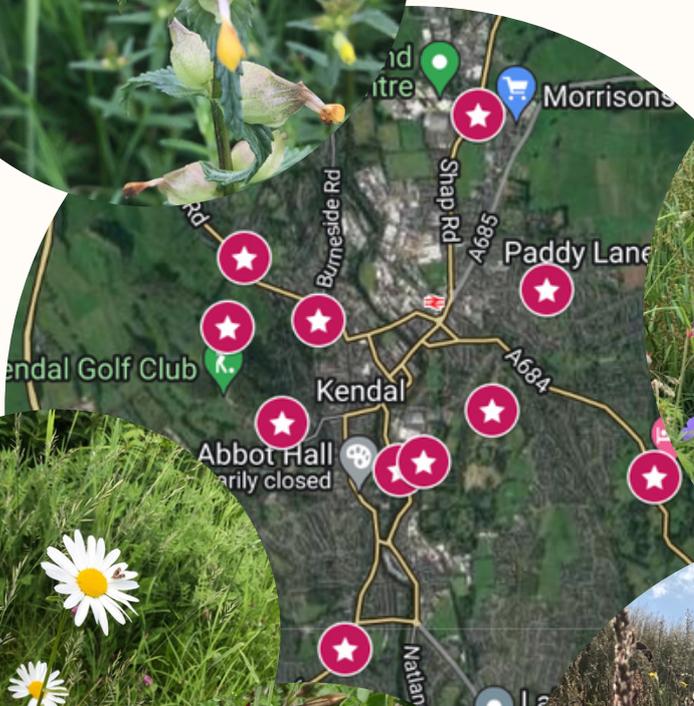
A new project within the Garden started in 2021, The Spiral Project, which provides horticultural placements to those experiencing social isolation and poor mental health.





MOWING REGIMES & MEADOWS

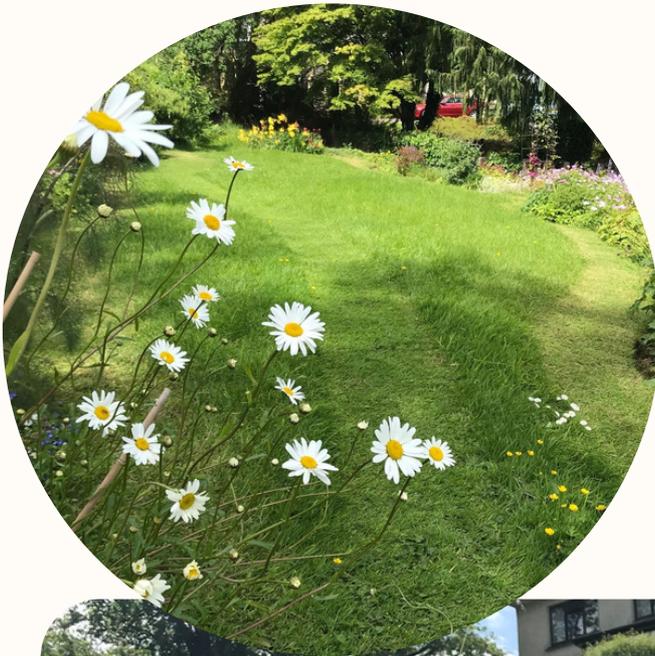
Several areas of Kendal are now benefiting from reduced mowing, allowing natural meadow regeneration and increased numbers of plant, insect and invertebrate species.





TRIANGLE COMMUNITY GARDEN

Tucked away in a corner of Fellside is Triangle Community Garden. Tended by a group of volunteers, it hosts a mixture of edible and ornamental plants, all grown with biodiversity and wildlife in mind.



Paths mown around the borders allow wildflowers to bloom in the lawn, while allowing easy access to the borders and bench. The perfect spot for a rest with a view!





SOUTH LAKES ORCHARD GROUP

The SLOG orchard is home to 170 varieties of mostly northern English apples and pears. The trees are grown as cordons to fit them all in the 1/10th acre site at Underley Allotments. The orchard has received National Plant Collection status granted by the UK governing body Plant Heritage for “*Malus domestica*: North West English Apple Cultivars”.



SLOG holds apple grafting workshops for the public to learn the ancient art of grafting and take home their own trees, thereby increasing both local food production and tree planting.





LEGENDARY LANDSCAPES TRAIL



The Legendary Landscapes Trail was created by Kendal Conservation Volunteers in 2018. In 2021 it extended beyond the town centre, engaging with Sandylands Residents' Association to create a Natural Health Service planter outside the hydrotherapy school (top), and the story of Kendal Green - the cloth that brought fame and fortune to Kendal - which can be seen on Shap Road (bottom).



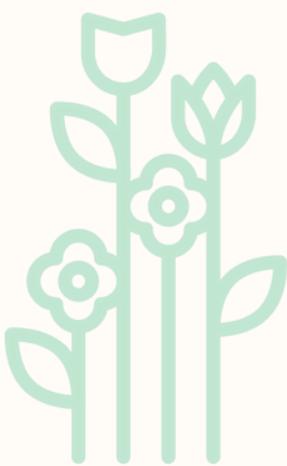
A portable display which has made appearances at Torchlight Festival and the Jubilee party at Fellside tells the sad story of the Helsfell wolf (centre).



HALLGARTH COMMUNITY PROJECT



Gardeners from the local community have transformed an unloved space at Hallgarth Community Centre with the help of a grant from KIB and KTC.





BRIARY MEADOW COMMUNITY PROJECT



With support from SLDC and KTC, Kendal Conservation Volunteers and community members have planted a meadow on an unloved patch of grass. Now it features year-round interest, with native spring bulbs, plug plants and wildflower seeds including English bluebells, snowdrops, cowslips, betony, hawkbit, knapweed, scabious and vetchling, along with yellow rattle. It is much admired by passers-by.





CLEAN RIVER KENT CAMPAIGN

Local campaigners and volunteers are working together to protect the beautiful River Kent and its flora and fauna from pollution.



Volunteer citizen scientists are collecting water samples to monitor pollution levels, with the aim of applying for designated bathing water status later this year, so that swimmers, paddlers and kayakers can enjoy the river and its wildlife safely.

Kendal in Bloom 2022



Wildflowers at Somervell Gardens