



Media Release

Lynne Mee

Direct line 01423 556022

Communications and Media Manager Direct fax 01423 561154 not 24 hrs

24 hour fax “ 556010
Mobile 07884 226409

Email lynne.mee@harrogate.gov.uk

www.harrogate.gov.uk

pr999.Water butts for Darley.doc DATE: 1 June 2004

photo opportunity – see below

MORE WATER FOR NIDDERDALE

Yorkshire Water is turning on its support for Darley’s entry in this year’s Entente Florale (Europe in Bloom) with the donation of 100 water butts. Local residents will use them to help with their floral efforts and, at the same time, they will be helping to conserve water.

Yorkshire Water provides local communities with much more than high quality water and sewerage services. The company has an extensive community affairs programme, providing help-in-kind to a wide variety of organisations across the Yorkshire Region.

Commenting on Yorkshire Water’s support for Darley, Clare Dunlop, Water Conservation Manager, said: “We obviously know the beautiful village of Darley because a lot of our reservoirs are located in Nidderdale. There is such a wonderful community spirit in the village with villagers pulling out all the stops to succeed in this major floral event. With the spell of good weather we have been having, we hope that these easy to use water butts will help Darley to success in the Europe in Bloom event.”

Darley and Harrogate were put forward for the European competition after both winning gold in last year’s Britain in Bloom, making it the first time in Entente Florale’s 27-year history that two places from the same district have been entered.

But the judging of Entente Florale is not just about flowers. The judges will be also be interested in a variety of environmental issues and will be particularly looking at how the council and the in Bloom groups work within the community and develop partnerships.

Judi Smith, Chair of Darley in Bloom, welcomes Yorkshire Water’s support. She said: “We are thrilled and delighted that our small but beautiful village is taking part in this event. The competition recognises that participation will enhance the reputation of towns and villages, which will increase visitor numbers, boost the local economy and instil civic pride. But we can’t do it on our own which is why we are so grateful to Yorkshire Water. We know how wonderful Darley is but with their help we are now ready to tell the rest of the world.” ENDS

Water butt manufacturer, Blackwall of Leeds, have also offered their support by selling the water butts to Yorkshire Water at cost price.

Delivery of the water butts around the village is also another sign of community spirit. Delivery is being organised by Judy Barker (Vice Chair of the Parish Council) with the help of her husband George who will do the actual dropping off. There are a few water butts still available and anyone in Darley who would like one can telephone Judy or George on 01423 780948

FURTHER INFORMATION: Judi Smith, Chair of Darley in Bloom is available for comment on 01423 780526. Clare Dunlop, Yorkshire Water Conservation Manager is available on 01274 804048.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY: The water butts are being delivered to Mr Keith Hardcastle, local farmer, Chair of Darley Parish Council and supporter of Darley in Bloom at 2.30 pm Friday, 4 June to Southfield Farm, Darley (locate the Darley in Bloom village sign as you enter Darley and Southfield Farm is opposite).

Local members of Darley in Bloom will be there to receive them and to arrange onward delivery to Darley residents.