

Message from Thirsk Regeneration Initiative...

This short guide has been produced to let everyone know about the Thirsk Regeneration Initiative and how you can get involved

We are a group of people from Thirsk and the surrounding area. The group has representation from the Public, Private, Voluntary and Community sectors

We meet to plan, deliver and influence proposals that will help improve the quality of life for people in our area

We are well supported by the local authority to help make projects happen for Parish Councils, clubs and voluntary groups

You can be involved by becoming a member and taking an active role in helping to shape and deliver priorities

To find out more visit www.communityhambleton.org and follow the Thirsk links, telephone 01609 767212 or email communityplanning@hambleton.gov.uk

Lindsay Ross
Chair

May 2007



Achievements so far...

Thirsk Clock

TRI assisted this newly formed charity in securing funding for a town centre youth café and salary costs to employ a manager
www.thirskclock.com



Thirsk and Sowerby Past and Present Trail

A sub group of TRI has created the Thirsk and Sowerby Past and Present trail – the group facilitated the design and installation of 15 interpretation boards in and around the town as well as creating a website and supporting literature www.thirskheritage.co.uk

Thirsk Alleyway Improvement Scheme

TRI has supported Thirsk Town Council in their alleyways improvement scheme through sponsorship and assistance in securing match funding www.thirsk-tc.gov.uk

Blue Plaque Trail

TRI secured funding to purchase and install 19 blue plaques to raise awareness of key historic buildings and individuals in Thirsk and Sowerby



engAGE with us!

Are you over 50 and live in the Thirsk area?

Let us entertain you at our **Thirsk Activity Fortnight!**
Monday 14th May – Sunday 27th May 2007

We're having two weeks of special events and opportunities based on what you've told us you wanted to see on offer locally. We've also put together an A-Z guide to activities available all year in and around Thirsk.

Pick-up a free programme inside or call into Thirsk Tourist Information Centre in the marketplace to find out more – activities include:

- Horseriding
- Gliding
- Free Swimming Sessions
- Aquarobics
- Exercise Classes
- Crafts
- Walking
- Nature Events
- Talks
- Hot Bowls
- Dance Classes

Logos for Hambleton Regeneration, Thirsk Regeneration, and Thirsk Regeneration Initiative are visible at the bottom.

Thirsk Eng-age

TRI worked in partnership with a range of local organisations to deliver an activities fortnight for people over 50 to encourage them to engage in new activities. A programme was produced providing a snapshot of activities that take place in and around Thirsk on an ongoing basis to raise awareness of what there is access to locally.

Tourism material

The TRI Tourism Sub Group successfully secured £5,000 from Awards for All to produce a tourism leaflet and website. This scheme is also linked to projects by the four other market towns in the district to create a 'family' of tourism material that will benefit all towns www.visit-thirsk.co.uk

Signage

TRI lead on a project to improve signage on the approach into Thirsk and around the town centre – new gateway signs were installed on all the approaches and 11 fingerposts erected to direct people around the town once they have arrived

Thirsk Events Group

Through an approach by Thirsk Rotary Club, TRI has established Thirsk Events Group to co-ordinate future festivals and events in the Thirsk area from the summer week long festival to Christmas events and one off community events www.thirsk.towntalk.co.uk

Other projects supported by TRI: East Thirsk Learning and Resource Centre; Thirsk Rural Business Park; Hillside Rural Activities Park, www.hrap.co.uk; Thirsk Community Woodlands Group, www.thirskwoodlands.uk.com; The Ritz Cinema, www.denison.btinternet.co.uk/ritz; Long Street Enhancement Scheme

This leaflet is also available in other formats – Tel 01609 767212

Key Milestones

- ✓ **2000** - Thirsk Regeneration Initiative established
- ✓ **2002** - Thirsk Area Community Plan published
- ✓ **2004** - Thirsk Area Community Plan revised



What's next...

Thirsk and Villages Community Plan 2007-2009 priorities

| PROJECT AND DESCRIPTION | LEAD | WHEN |
|---|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Sensory Garden To provide a public open space on the riverside portion of the former Salem Chapel site | Thirsk Town Council | 2007/2008 |
| Alleyway Improvements To build on the strong heritage of the market place and ensure that the intriguing aspects of the alleyways are exploited to create 'joining' links from Thirsk Town Centre to outer areas that are then encouraged to develop | Thirsk Town Council | 2007/2008 |
| Development of Carrs Field To support the Trustees to develop this area of public open space to meet the needs of the local community | Board of Trustees - Carrs Field | 2007/2008 |
| Centre of Rural Enterprise The project aims to ensure that local people are able to equip themselves with the skills and knowledge needed to meet local employers' needs for trained, skilled and professional staff | Thirsk Regeneration Initiative | 2007/2009 |
| Tourism related projects To develop aspects of Thirsk's tourism offer including adoption of a café style culture, develop the town's museums, develop a "welcome host" culture and identifying opportunities to strengthen the 'Herriot' brand | Thirsk Regeneration Initiative | 2007/2009 |
| Thirsk Events Group To continue supporting the group, providing administrative and development assistance. The intention is that this group will produce a calendar of events making Thirsk a visitor destination all year round | Thirsk Regeneration Initiative | 2007/2009 |
| Role for Older People To recognise the contribution older people make to the community and support projects that encourage older people to take an active part in their community | Thirsk Regeneration Initiative | 2007/2009 |
| Rural Arts Courthouse Development of a fully functioning digital media studio, coupled with an IT training suite, which can be used both for training and for the development of a creative social enterprise | Rural Arts North Yorkshire | 2008/2009 |

Other useful information

Our Area

- Thirsk Area
- Bedale Area
- Easingwold Area
- Northallerton Area
- Stokesley Area

Our Membership

- Hambleton District Council
- Knayton Parish Council
- North Yorkshire County Council
- Ritz Cinema
- Rural Arts North Yorkshire
- Severfield Rowen Plc
- Thirsk Rotary Club
- Thirsk, Sowerby and District Community Care Association
- Thirsk Team Ministry
- Thirsk Town Council
- Thirsk Chamber of Trade Ladies Group