

GREEN-FINGERED TOM SHOWS HIS SUPPORT FOR NHS STAFF



A GREEN-FINGERED pensioner has been putting his gardening skills to good use by making up pot plants for nurses working on the frontline during the Covid-19 pandemic.

During the height of the lockdown, Broadacres' resident Tom Fletcher decided he wanted to do something to show his gratitude to the NHS staff at the Friarage Hospital in Northallerton.

So, he made up 18 small pot plants at his home in Castle Close with the view of offering them to the nursing staff.

Using his one hour's permitted exercise, 76-year-old Tom got on his mobility scooter and drove to the hospital where he showed a member of staff one of the pots he had made.

They were so touched with his gesture that they said they would have all 18 pots, so he returned the next day to drop them off. The pots were going to be given to nurses to take home.

Tom said he was delighted to have been able to bring a bit of cheer at such challenging times.

He said: "I worked in gardening and landscaping for a good bulk of my life and I still enjoy doing it now as a hobby.

“I was really fed up with all the bad news about Coronavirus and wanted to do something to help the nurses, so making up pot plants seemed the logical thing to do.

“I am glad they were well received, and it was nice to be able to make my own small contribution to supporting local NHS staff during this difficult period.”

Andy Powell, Broadacres’ Director of Customer Experience, said: “This was a lovely gesture by Mr Fletcher, who is a real credit to his community.”

Ends.

Picture caption: Tom Fletcher with some of the pot plants in his garden which are similar to the ones he gave to the Friarage.

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