

# NEWS



# LEAF

Issue: 4

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*Welcome to the fourth issue of Newsleaf, again kindly sponsored by:*

## HARROGATE SPRING WATER

### *Yorkshire Welcome*

Pam Grant, President of HIB, on behalf of Team Harrogate offers a true Yorkshire welcome to BIB judges Roger Burnett BEM and Jim Goodwin.

“We are privileged to welcome you to Harrogate and delighted that we are to be judged on this special day for our county. Being judged in Champion of Champions means it is one Yorkshire Day that will hold very special memories for all of us involved in this year’s campaign. Indeed it is an honour to have been selected. Harrogate is proud of its In Bloom successes and we are proud to be representing Yorkshire.

“You have a busy schedule as we take you across the town visiting many of the groups which make up Team Harrogate and who collectively make Harrogate worthy of being nominated in this elite category.”

### Introducing our judges:

Roger: with over 40 years’ experience in civic horticulture and now working as Scarborough Borough Council’s Community Environment Officer, Roger aims to promote the benefits of Bloom, raising the profile of volunteering and to help support and develop community horticulture as a means of delivering sustainable environmental improvement.



He has been a Britain in Bloom judge since 2003 and is currently Chair of the UK Judging Panel and is responsible for moderation of all the judging teams. This year he was awarded the BEM for services to the community in Scarborough.

Jim: served as an apprentice gardener with Derby Parks Department, and continued his training at RHS Wisley.

He moved to Birmingham in 1970, as Landscape Clerk of Works, and then to West Bromwich as Senior Technical Officer.



He served five years in Manchester as Parks Operational Manager and in 1981 a final move to Cardiff where he later became Assistant Director, Parks.

Since early retirement in 1995 Jim now works as a landscape/horticultural consultant. He chairs a local volunteer conservation group and has judged for Wales in Bloom for 18 years. He particularly enjoys talking to local groups, and passing on his experience for the benefit of others.

## Honey bees buzzing for Harrogate in Bloom

Our 'Rooting For Harrogate' campaign has 10,000 new recruits thanks to bee whizz Joanne Feltrup and her supportive colleagues at Harrogate Water.

Beekeeper Jo has installed her hive in the grounds of Harrogate Spring bottling facility on Harlow Moor Road.

Jo, who works as a microbiologist for Harrogate Water, said: "It is the perfect location, in a quiet spot of greenery, surrounded by wildflowers and trees.

"Bees play a vital role in the environment but sadly bee populations are in decline all over the UK, so it is wonderful to find a brilliant site outside my own office."

Jo, a member of Bradford Beekeeping Society, studied environmental conservation at Bangor University, where she also kept honey bees and is now studying for her masters at The University of York. She is addressing the impact of global warming on bumble bee species in the UK.

Harrogate Water managing director James Cain said: "We are delighted to welcome Jo's bees to our site and to support the essential contribution beekeepers make to the natural environment. It's terrific that the bees have arrived in time for Harrogate in Bloom and the 'Rooting for Harrogate' campaign."



Jo Feltrup and MD James Cain

## £8,500 raised from 1940s day

Jane Blayney had an excellent letter in the Advertiser on 6 July which is reproduced below.

Friends of the Valley Gardens had not only their 'hottest' event, their highest attendance of over 39,000 people coming into the Gardens on Sunday, 18 June but also their highest profits ever of £8,560. These monies are being put towards the restoration of the Green Park entrance on Valley Drive. Only £7,000 is now needed to start the restoration process.



Entrance to the Valley Gardens for the event is free and we are dependent on our revenue from stall holders, attractions, high quality performers, donors, volunteers and sponsors to make a profit.

I would like to make a special mention of our major sponsor Hales Bar for its generosity, management and service of the queues on this very hot day.

The Harrogate Lions once more marshalled the event with their usual efficiency. The RAF cadets also added to the smooth running of the event.

Our thanks to the community, for their very kind and supportive comments through the media and the vast numbers of donated cakes and tombola prizes.

Jane finished her letter by calling for more volunteers. Amazingly it is delivered by just five volunteers including Jane and her husband Peter. If you would be able to offer support for 2018 they would love to hear from you.

The Friends have raised £53,000 since planning permission was agreed last June but all £60,000 needed for the restoration has to be raised before work can start. The Friends have raised a staggering £200,000 for the Gardens since the group was formed in 2009.

## Law firms relationship blossoms

Harrogate law firm, LCF Barber Titeleys, has joined HIB's 'business buddy' scheme. Staff have volunteered to adopt the busy pedestrian passage between James Street and the Market Place by weeding, sweeping and generally making it look spick and span.

Tim Axe, a Partner at LCF Barber Titeleys, said: "We are the solicitors for the Harrogate Flower Shows and we understand that the town relies heavily on its floral reputation for tourism and its wider economy. We have a council that sees the value of investing in its parks and gardens but, like all local authorities, its resources are reducing. It's heartening to see the support provided by local voluntary groups. We were therefore keen to help by 'buddying up' with Harrogate in Bloom, which along with Team Harrogate has an outstanding record, having won many floral awards, but the Champion of Champions competition is the pinnacle."

The idea for a 'business buddy' scheme was suggested by Harrogate's Mayor, Councillor Anne Jones, at HIB's business seminar held in May.



Planning work in the ginnel Pam Grant, Harrogate Mayor Cllr Anne Jones and Tim Axe

## Global volunteering

Students from around the world studying at Ashville College recently spent an enjoyable afternoon working with Pinewoods Conservation Group. The group of over 50 students, from as far as Hong Kong and Nigeria, spent part of their weekend litter picking, balsam bashing and planting around 100 foxgloves.

Neil Hind, chair of PCG said: "The group worked really hard on one of the hottest days of the year. A huge area of balsam was cleared with the foxgloves being added to those areas. A huge thank you to Ashville College, its students and the teachers who supported us."



*Ashville College students preparing to plant foxgloves*

## Woodlands Community Garden 'Sharing Ideas Day'

On Saturday 8 July Woodlands hosted its first 'Sharing Ideas Day'. Fifty representatives from fifteen different local voluntary organisations supported the event including Open Country, In Bloom groups, Pinewoods Conservation Group, Northallerton's Secret Garden, Harrogate and District Biodiversity Action Group, Ripon's Walled Garden and Woodfield Millennium Green.



*Sharing the sunshine as well as ideas*

The event gave people the chance to discuss topical issues like fundraising, recruiting volunteers

and to try garden activities like Tai Chi and willow weaving and to make pizzas in the garden pizza oven! Sixteen volunteers from Woodlands helped organise the day, making refreshments, demonstrating activities and giving guided tours.

## New shed for Community Garden

Volunteers from WCG recently constructed a new shed to store tools in, making it much easier for community groups and local people to garden and grow flowers, fruit and vegetables. It was funded by a grant from the North of England Horticultural Society using profits from the Harrogate Flower Shows, a donation from Woodlands church and fundraising events held at the garden.



taking part in activities including rhododendron removal, balsam bashing and litter picking in the Pinewoods; clearing vegetation at Rossett Nature Reserve and weeding adjacent road; planting scroll bed and working on the dahlia bed in the Valley Gardens; litter picking and balsam bashing at Grange Quarry; cleaning street furniture on Pannal Ash Road using a tank of borehole water from council's nursery; clearing vegetation from Bilton Cycleway and working on their own sensory garden planting, painting and generally tidying.

The students were all briefed about work they would be doing and about Team Harrogate and Champion of Champions. It really was a fabulous day and one we are keen to repeat next year.



*Students enjoying learning about the environment*

## Pinewoods Open Day

Neil Hind, chair of PCG, is inviting all groups to have a stand/presence at the Pinewoods Open Day on Saturday, 9 September 11am to 3pm. The event normally attracts a few hundred people with attractions such as tree climbing, digger driving, displays, stalls and much more. Groups can fundraise by selling products, tombola etc.

Let Neil know if you are interested by 4 August by email at [chair@pinewoodsconservationgroup.org.uk](mailto:chair@pinewoodsconservationgroup.org.uk)

## Rossett Transition Day

HBC's Parks and Environmental Services team jointly hosted a transition day with Rossett School. This involved 120 year 12 students

## Celebratory flowerbeds

HBC's Parks and Environmental Services Team design, grow and plant flowerbeds to mark special events. This year they include the Tercentenary of The United Grand Lodge of England and the Bicentenary of The Province of Yorkshire West Riding.

As well as this bed on Montpellier Hill, there's another in the Valley Gardens and two in Ripon. When the beds are over, the Freemasons are giving the council the four stainless steel interpretation stands

To further celebrate the Tercentenary, the Masonic Charitable Foundation will also be giving £3m to 300 charities operating across England and Wales. Eight charities have been nominated by the Province, two

of which are local: Paperworks (Harrogate) Ltd and Harrogate & District Society for the Blind which were put forward by The Spa Lodge.



*Culmination of six months' hard work by HBC Parks and Environmental Services Team, especially Horticultural Officer Sue Wood and Harlow Hill Nursery Operations Manager Barrie Stringer and his team, when the Mayor of Harrogate Cllr Anne Jones and Provincial Grand Master David S Pratt, performed the final bedding out of some 7,500 plants.*

The other long bed in the Valley Gardens is representing various gardening charities or programmes: 90 years of the National Garden Scheme, 70 years of BBC Radio 4 Gardeners' Question Time and 50 years of Gardeners' World. There's also the War Memorial 'poppy' beds and the bed outside Betty's is for the Lions International 100th anniversary and Harrogate Lions' 60th anniversary.



## PET bottle recycling campaign

Amid growing concern about plastic litter, Keep Britain Tidy has teamed up with Harrogate Spring Water to promote the

recycling of plastic water bottles. It follows jointly commissioned independent research which shows that while 95 per cent of consumers are likely to recycle plastic bottles at home, the figure falls by more than half when they are out. Rather than simply disposing of bottles in street bins, 'The Incredible Shrinking Bottle' campaign encourages consumers to 'twist it, cap it, recycle it', making bottles small enough to carry home for recycling.

All Harrogate Spring Water PET bottles will carry the Shrinking Bottle logo.



*Keep Britain Tidy CEO Allison Ogden-Newton and Harrogate Water MD James Cain demonstrate just how small a plastic water bottle can shrink in size*

## News in brief

Rossett School's sensory garden has been shortlisted in the Prince's Trust Achieve Awards in the Community Impact category.

To mark 50 years of Harrogate International Festivals, the arts charity has joined forces with Bettys and Taylor's to plant 50 trees.

Horticap recently hosted an exhibition focussing on natural well-being called 'Green Health'.

## Dates for diary

**20 August**  
Allotment Show Valley Gardens

**9 September**  
Pinewoods Open Day

**24 September**  
Harrogate in Bloom Awards Afternoon Old Swan Hotel

# ROOTING FOR HARROGATE... ...this Yorkshire Day!

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
**HARROGATE**  
SPRING WATER

**Harrogate is flying the flag for Yorkshire...**  
as we are the only town in the county entered in this elite national category of **Champion of Champions**

### Judging takes place on Yorkshire Day, 1st August, 2017

**Support Team Harrogate:**

- ✓ Keep your garden tidy
- ✓ Don't drop litter, collect litter
- ✓ Wear a white rose

**Follow Team Harrogate:**

[f /teamharrogate](https://www.facebook.com/teamharrogate) [@harrogateinbloom](https://www.instagram.com/harrogateinbloom)

[www.harrogateinbloom.org.uk](http://www.harrogateinbloom.org.uk)

#### THE JUDGES ROUTE

Leave Yorkshire Showground along Railway Road to Wetherby Road walking down all Cemetery

Back onto Wetherby Road to Showground via new gates and passing new Flower Hall - Home Showground onto Hockelaine Wood Road

Visit Hockelaine Wood - Hockelaine Wood, High Hill to Beckwith Drive, turning left into Wetherby Road to visit Woodlands Community Garden

Back onto Wetherby Road past St John's Well turn right at Empress Roundabout past 'Stay close' sign Round to Trained Waters roundabout

Along Otley Road turn left into Airbar's Avenue

Visit Rossett Nature Reserve, Leave via Richmond Avenue - turning left onto Forest Hill Road

Left into Leazes - Enter via Rossett School - sensory Garden - Pastoral Ayn Road to Beckwith Road

Right into Beckwith Avenue to visit Harlow Hill grounds

Return up Beckwith Ave to Beckwith Road onto Otley Road

Visit Harrogate town via Otley Road and turn left into Harlow Moor Road

Visit St Andrews

Harrogate Spring Water turn left along Harlow Moor Road and right into Cornhill Road

Enter Valley Gardens via Cornhill Road

Leave Valley Gardens at Pump Room entrance

Walk past Crown Hotel up Mortgate Hill pass Betty's to War Memorial, onto James Street

Visit Victoria Shopping Centre Home at Jubilee entrance onto piazza

Station Parade, right into Victoria Avenue, onto West Park to Yorkshire Hotel