

# horticap

*Growing Together*  
at Bluecoat Wood Nursery



Find us on...



## Hello

How quickly summer comes around. The Horticap gardens are now full of flowers and we have so much wildlife visiting. Butterflies are feasting on the buddleja, the pond is full of frogs and the Hortibeeps are busy collecting nectar, it really is the best time to be outside. Not only does it make us all happier, but it's positively good for you!

The students always enjoy getting back in the garden and having their lunch at the picnic tables, and Brenda and her team have been busy getting the plants in tip top shape. We have a huge variety of perennials to create colourful displays all year round so come and be tempted...

It's also time to celebrate! We had a fantastic time at the Harrogate Spring Flower Show and we were delighted to receive a Gold award for our show garden 'A Grand Day Out'. We were also presented with the Stephen H Smith Community Award for Outstanding Show Feature.

The show was spectacular, with lovely weather for the visitors and Wallace and Gromit were extremely popular. The rocket - made from recycled compost bins - also drew a lot of attention and smiles. And all home made at Horticap!

A big well done and thank you to the students, the staff, volunteers and to the show visitors who came to support us.

We hope to be back at the Harrogate Autumn Show with a new theme, but meanwhile you can see Wallace and his friends at The Great Yorkshire Show and they'll be visiting the Birstwith Show and Weeton Show in July. Please come and join us and have your own grand day out, see you there!

*The Horticap Team*







## Our Friends...The Blue Water Partnership

The Blue Water Partnership are a Harrogate based business who specialise in helping managers develop leadership, management and influencing skills. Established in 2000 they operate across the UK and work with organisations large and small. Part of their remit has always been voluntary support through their internal 'Making A Difference' initiative.

In 2005 they funded the building of a nursery school in the Gambia, West Africa through the Gambian Schools Trust, and they continue to support the school by the annual payment of staff wages.

In 2009 Blue Water sought to adopt a UK project and made contact with Horticap who are local to the Blue Water office in Harrogate.

Blue Water has supported Horticap by funding various initiatives and advising on issues around marketing and promotion. They have produced new signage at the entrance to Horticap to encourage customers to visit the garden and shop, and they developed special tree shaped information boards positioned around the Nature Trail. They also provide the time of their personnel, Kelly (on maternity leave) and Mel to manage an important element of social media promotion for Horticap, namely the Horticap Facebook page. They have introduced many of the students via their "Meet the Students" feature and are both regular visitors providing updates, news, and photographs.

From a start of 50 followers the page now has 700+ followers and keeps growing along with Horticap's profile. A big thank you to Blue Water, Kelly and Mel, and our congratulations go to Kelly and Garry on the birth of their daughter Cara Aliyah. We can't wait to meet her!

Visit [www.thebluewater.com](http://www.thebluewater.com), If you'd like to follow Horticap, please visit our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/Horticap](http://www.facebook.com/Horticap)



Kelly



Mel

## SWARM PROJECT

A selection of students took part in the 'Swarm Project' run by Professional Artist Laney Birkhead. The aim of this unique eco project is to educate and to raise awareness of the plight of our British honeybee population through the art of printing. By involving groups of people, Laney's aim is to print 40,000 bees; the same number of bees within one beehive, and to produce one enormous Swarm of Bees artwork. Each student made their own bee printing block and printed their bees onto a piece of calico that will become part of the finished work.

The students really enjoyed it and were extremely proud of their achievements. They were delighted to become part of the project which will culminate as part of an exhibition to be held at the Inspired Gallery in Whitby 22nd July to 9th August 2016. More details about this project can be found at [www.laneybirkhead.com/filter/Artwork](http://www.laneybirkhead.com/filter/Artwork)



## Insects Welcome!

We've been busy bees ourselves building a new insect hotel in the nature trail, so the wildlife will have five star accommodation. More photographs to follow when the roofing contractors have finished!



## We're getting there...

the sales area has now been relocated and the staff, students and volunteers have ensured that it has gone smoothly and that the displays are still looking great. The next step will be to sort out the drainage and demolish the old small greenhouse to make space for the new glasshouse which will start in July. Please bear with us during this busy time, the end result will be fantastic.

**NO IFS, NO BUTS.  
LAW, FAIR + SQUARE.**

Contact Richard Davis on 01423 502 211 or email [richard.davis@lcf.co.uk](mailto:richard.davis@lcf.co.uk)

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## Our Students...Keith

Keith is one of our longest serving students and has been part of Horticap since 1990. His favourite task is weeding and he can often be found in the sales tunnel crouching under a bench weeding between the paving slabs. Or you will find him outside removing the weeds on the paths and around the teashop area. He's our expert weeder and keeps Horticap clean and tidy.

Meticulous and patient, and handy with a sweeping brush, Keith enjoys working with Brenda and the team in the greenhouse. He always has his diary with him, recording the tasks he has completed and who he has been working with and when he's not at Horticap Keith loves steak pie, wagon wheels, trips to Blackpool, roses and dancing. Oh and watching his favourite TV programmes, Midsomer Murders, Paul O'Grady's "For the Love of Dogs" and Surprise Surprise because...

*"I like Holly Willoughby"*

## Welcome to our new Starters...



David



Hannah



Dan

This month the Horticap Bunnies are going on a new adventure. They are joining Tim Peake in space whilst also celebrating The Queens 90th birthday. Bring your little ones to Horticap and pick up the Bunny Trail quiz sheet at the shop, then discover their destination in the nature trail set up by volunteer Joan and student Hannah.

The quiz is running through term time as well as over school holidays, weekends and weekdays.



## Bunnies In Space!

## A Happy Retirement!

Pauline began her journey with Horticap 23 years ago. With a background in social services and her knowledge of plants from a family nursery, she took the role of Administration Assistant at a time when the 'office' was in the mess room and the invoices were handwritten. She became the Administration Manager some years later, and the role has grown considerably. Her knowledge of the business, the people and our supporters has been invaluable and with her friendly smile and helpful approach she has been the welcoming face of Horticap.

Not only has her commitment and dedication assured our success into the future, but Pauline has been a huge part of all the pivotal changes. Over the years, she has welcomed more than 25 new students, seen the new vans and glasshouses arrive



and watched the new educational building being built. She was proud to be involved in the Nidderdale Walk and has been integral to all our fundraising events and shows.

She bravely swapped jobs for a day with the Instructors, causing confusion for the students who were not used to seeing her digging in the wood chip pile in her wellies!

A retirement party was held in the mess room with a buffet lunch provided by one of the volunteers, and Pauline was presented with gifts which included a framed signed message from our Patron. The students made speeches in what was an emotional but wonderful celebration. "It's the people who make Horticap such a special place" explains Pauline and she has certainly been one of those exceptional people.

We wish her all the best in her new adventures and will miss her.

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## Dates for your Diary

- **2nd July – 31st July**  
**Student Exhibition at Horticap, Harrogate**  
 The students' work will be on display and can be purchased for a donation. Come and see their fantastic designs.
- **12th July - 14th July**  
**Great Yorkshire Show**  
 Come and see Wallace and Gromit in a remake of 'A Grand Day Out' at the Great Yorkshire Showground.  
[www.greatyorkshireshow.co.uk](http://www.greatyorkshireshow.co.uk)
- **Saturday 30th July Birstwith Show**  
 Held in the Show Field, Birstwith.  
 Plenty to do for all the family.  
[www.birstwithshow.com](http://www.birstwithshow.com)
- **Sunday 31st July Weeton Show**  
 Gates open at 8.00am at Weeton. The day is packed with events including races, brass bands, children's shows, traditional craft and skills, demonstrations and much more.  
[www.weetonshow.co.uk](http://www.weetonshow.co.uk)
- **3rd September - 30th October**  
**'Beyond Landscape' Exhibition at Horticap, Harrogate**  
 Horticap will be exhibiting a series of works on paper by artists Carol Sowden and Paula Hickey, exploring the materiality of place and space within the natural landscape.  
 Preview 12-2pm Saturday 3rd September.
- **16th September - 18th September**  
**Harrogate Autumn Flower Show**  
 9.30am – 5.30pm (4.30pm Sunday)  
 We'll be back at the Great Yorkshire Showground with an autumn inspired show garden and an indoor stand selling our plants.  
[www.flowershow.org.uk/show-info](http://www.flowershow.org.uk/show-info)



**Horticap** is a charitable organisation which depends on sponsors and friends to enable it to keep helping adult students with learning disabilities. They are at the heart of what we do.

Qualified staff and a team of volunteers provide our students with training in horticulture, allied crafts and rural skills.

We are always grateful for donations however small and we welcome any fund raising.

*"I can think of no gardening organisation that deserves our support more."*

Our Patron, **Alan Titchmarsh**

Thanks to the George A Moore Foundation for their support



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