

horticap

Growing Together



Supporting and educating
at Bluecoat Wood Nurseries

www.horticap.org

Autumn Issue 2018

Congratulations...

To all the students who received their City and Guilds award this year. Rachael Neild is a Lecturer at Craven College and she supports the students with their training and assessment at Horticap.

The course, Practical Horticulture Skills Level 1, helps to develop workplace skills and can also help students move into further education. It also enables the students to live more independently, provides goals and develops confidence.

A fantastic example of how education can help people to thrive is Arron (left). He comes to Horticap two days a week, but has just completed a year at college doing a Level 1 Introductory Diploma in Business where he achieved a double distinction.

He's continuing to study this year and is now doing a Level 2 Skills for Business Diploma. It's an incredible achievement and we wish him lots of luck.

What a talented bunch we have at Horticap.



Hello, and welcome to the turn of cyclamen, wallflowers, violas and primulas. Yes, autumn is here and our students have been potting up a selection of plants to keep your garden looking glorious after what has been a fantastic summer. While it's sad to say (a temporary) goodbye to the long warm days, autumn is always full of promise and at Horticap our plant and bulb selection PROMISE to give you a spectacular show for the rest of the year, so come and take a look.

And talking of shows...we enjoyed a double success at Harrogate Autumn Flower Show. To celebrate 30 years of exhibiting, we took a step back in time by re-creating our very first display garden, complete with the essential potting shed. And in a joint venture with Wack's Wicked Plants, we also created a garden border which included carnivorous plants tucking into bugs, grubs and flies. Delicious!

So summer may be fading, but we are still on the go...with sweaters on and flasks at the ready, we recently enjoyed a visit to RHS Harlow Carr, which was organised by our friends at the Rotary Club (below). We had a great day out despite the rain! In this issue we unveil our plans for the new shop and cafe, plus we take a peek at some of our summer highlights. We are open all year so there's no need to leave those pots and hanging baskets empty...we have plenty!

The Horticap Team



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

Contact Tim Axe on 01423 502 211 or email tim.axe@lcf.co.uk

LCF LAW™
BARBER
TITLEYS

LCF.CO.UK

It's been a wonderful summer...

In August it was time to head out to Pateley Bridge for the Harrogate MG Club rally. This was our annual visit to the show and Instructor Steve and student Mark were kept busy, selling lots of plants and spreading the message about the work we do here at Horticap.



The Hortibee's have been busy during the hot summer, and we are hoping for a bumper honey harvest which will be available in our shop.



The watering has been very important during the long hot spells and Pat has helped to make sure that our plants haven't suffered.



Well done to Dan and the team at Harrogate Gateway FC who had a fantastic year and came top of the league.



The annual Fewston Walk took place on a beautiful evening in August. Thanks to the Fewston Ladies for organising the walk and for baking the delicious cakes.



Yorkshire in Bloom is a voluntary regional organisation that administers the **RHS Britain in Bloom** Campaign in North, South, East, West and North Yorkshire. It's the largest horticultural campaign in Europe and each year it grows in size and importance and involves more people, groups and organisations creating lasting improvements to local environments. We are proud of the work we do and strive to create a welcoming and beautiful space for students, staff and visitors so we were delighted with a GOLD!



We have a lot of old photographs in albums at Horticap, and Dan, Leo and Jack have been scanning these in to the computer so that we have them in a digital format for future use.



Volunteer Pauline and student Andrew have been making cards to sell in the shop...using recycled greeting cards, they cut, stick and reposition to create new card designs and tags. They look fantastic!



It's always exciting when we start planting spring bulbs knowing that we will have a wonderful variety of crocus, daffodils and hyacinths for sale in spring 2019. Make sure you make a note in your diary.



Spot the students... we have been busy updating some of our signage on site and who better to help us!



We had a great time helping Pinewoods Conservation Group with their Fairy Door Woodland Walk. The doors, decorated by volunteers, local schools and youth groups formed a mystical walk for the summer period.

A Day To Make a Difference



It was a warm sunny day in July and we were delighted to open our doors and welcome a group of volunteers from Lloyds Banking Group. The Group's volunteering programme "Day to Make a Difference" enables colleagues to spend at least one day a year volunteering for a charity or community project of their choice.



Swapping their office for the Horticap garden, the team set to work with the students. Clearing and mulching the paths, planting up primulas and bulbs around the nature trail and weeding and mulching around the rhubarb triangle. The wheelbarrows didn't stop and the mulch pile was disappearing fast! It didn't take long before the paths were left looking clear and tidy for our visitors and we could see the triangle again. The group have volunteered at Horticap before, in fact they helped to construct the rhubarb triangle back in 2015, and the students really look forward to their visits. A huge thank you to the Lloyds team for making a difference at Horticap and all in a day!



"Always a joy to come and help at Horticap, knowing that you are making a difference and knowing that all your effort is appreciated makes everything worthwhile. The staff and students are fantastic and a joy to work with!"

Our Students...Paul

Paul has been at Horticap for 33 years, which is an amazing achievement and one that he has been busy writing about. He has put together his own Life Story which charts his time at Horticap and is packed with photographs. He explains how he used to make dried flowers from cuttings when he first started at Horticap and that now he helps to make bird and butterfly boxes. He also enjoys helping Andy in the workshop, cutting the wood for sale in the shop and putting the tools away. Paul says that he particularly likes to keep Horticap tidy, sweeping up, washing the vans and making sure that the trailer and mowers are stored away. He's also happy to help out with the gardening contracts, and enjoys being outside and learning new skills. He's worked as a kitchen porter and washed glasses in the pub but says that Horticap is the best!



"I look after all the staff and I have been respectful to them all. I am trying to do my best for all of my best mates"

A Game of Two Halves...

Way back in July we welcomed a group of German students from the Harrogate Lions Club exchange. Last year our students visited Germany and this time it was our turn to return the favour. What a day...a BBQ, followed by a football match, a spot of bowling, physio Phil on hand for any injuries, and very nearly cricket (the bat snapped). It was a high scoring football match, and despite our trio of goalies in the Horticap defence, we lost track of the final count. I think we can safely call it a draw! Thank you to the Lions Club for organising these memorable events for the students, home and away!





It was a day of free crafts and Yorkshire characters galore at the Horticap Activity Day at Fodder in Harrogate. We set up a gazebo in the Fodder garden and welcomed children and parents inside for a make and grow experience.

The students really enjoyed helping the children to decorate their pots with glitter, stickers and paint, and the designs were amazing. It was then over to the wheelbarrow where the pots were filled with compost and cress, and after all that hard work the children could take their 'cress head' masterpieces home to watch them grow.



It didn't stop there though..the entertainment continued with a nature trail quiz, starring our very own paper mache characters, and with questions to test the children's (and parent's!) knowledge about wildlife and our Yorkshire stars. The answers were entered into a prize draw with the winner bagging a Horticap Christmas tree.

What a prize! Thank you to Fodder and their wonderful customers for joining us for a very crafty creative day.



THANK YOU to Harrogate Town AFC for treating our students to a day to remember. They kindly donated match tickets for the game against Bradford during the summer. The students had a

fantastic day out and they must have been lucky mascots because Harrogate won 7-2. The team also donated a signed shirt (modelled by Carl, above) which will take pride of place in our new mess room.



GREAT YORKSHIRE SHOW

Tuesday 9 - Thursday 11 July 2019
greatyorkshireshow.co.uk



Harrogate Birds of Prey... is a family business and Hannah just loves helping out. At Horticap she's happy to help with the gardening, but at home she helps to train, feed and fly the birds. This includes a very large Siberian eagle owl and a mischievous barn owl called Lunar which is one of Hannah's favourites.

The family arrange educational visits, photographic days, owl experiences and hawk walks and they also run children's birthday parties, where they take along a few other animals which include Severes the snake and two Pygmy hedgehogs called Degus and Pickle.

But it's the country shows that Hannah likes the best...they take along their troop of guinea pigs - Dodger, Ginger Nut, Oreo, Muffin and Crumpet - and Hannah is in charge of these, getting them out for the children to hold and brush, making sure they are safe and ensuring that everyone uses alcohol gel on their hands afterwards.

Fantastic work Hannah, thank you for sharing your interest with us.

www.hbop.co.uk/about



Home Grown Carrots

The veg patch has been a huge success and Volunteer Craig was able to have his first full year with the new raised beds donated by Harrogate Flower Show.

The extra height has allowed the soil to drain well and coupled with a scorching summer, the yields have been excellent with plentiful supplies of tomatoes (seen here on the right with Scott), courgettes, beans and onions, with more leeks, carrots and parsnips due in the autumn.

The greenhouse once again provided a huge crop of tomatoes and chillies thanks to a new irrigation unit which was most welcome due to the very hot temperatures this year.

Next years onions have already been planted so the circle of vegetables continues!



The new mess room is well underway...

The foundations are in, the wooden structure has been built and the roof is on! It's been exciting to watch the space transforming over the last few months. There's still a lot of work to do, but at least it will be water tight before winter and we should be in by early 2019. We are looking forward to our first brew in this new extended room.



A BIG THANK YOU...

Regular readers will know about our plans to build a new shop and café at Bluecoat Woods. The latest plans can be viewed in the tea room and we're planning to start work in late summer of 2019 in order to minimise disruption. We're encouraging our customers to tell us what they'd like to see in the new café to make sure that we can make a complete success of the new venture and offer new experiences for our students, now and in the future. To make sure that the new building is exactly what we need, and that our future menus are exactly what our customers want, we are delighted that Rob Bath and Chris Walsh have volunteered to help us with the project.

Chris is both a freelance chef and a part time tutor at Harrogate College where he teaches the next generation of chefs (including some of our current students). As a professional chef he has worked in some of the most prestigious venues in the North of England including The Majestic Hotel and cooking lunch for Princess Anne at the Yorkshire Show. Chris will be advising us on menu choices, kitchen design and management and how we can best involve our students, both in what we prepare and how we serve our customers.



Rob lives in Harrogate and is the Commercial Director of Morrison Utility Services. Rob has over 30 years' experience with blue chip organisations undertaking construction, fit-out, refurbishment, full design and build, new build housing, repairs and maintenance, insurance, and civil engineering schemes. We are delighted that Rob has offered to support us, both with the design of the new facility and the management of commercial relationships with our architects and contractors.

Diary Dates

Paul Bowerdale, Photographer, Exhibition

Monday 29th October - Saturday 24th November

Preview Event Sunday 28th October 12-2pm all welcome!

Website: www.bowerdale.co.uk

Twitter: @bowerdaleuk

Instagram: @phowellphoto

Carol Sowden, Environmental Artist, 'Ice' Exhibition

Monday 26th November - Sunday 23rd December

Website: www.carolsowden.com

Twitter: @CarolSowden

Instagram: carol_sowden

Facebook: www.facebook.com/earthyelements123



"Autumn is the time to mulch your garden, so come to Horticap and get some of our bark chippings... your soil will love it!" Mark

Christmas Wreaths

Head to Horticap to place your order by Sunday 9th December

Christmas Trees

Our popular trees will be available from Saturday 24th November

Christmas Cards and Gifts

Available in the Horticap shop (hat modelled by Jamie!)

Horticap will be closed on Thursday 20th December for our Christmas Meal

Horticap Ltd

Bluecoat Wood Nurseries

Otley Road

Harrogate HG3 1QL

Tel: 01423 522876

info@horticap.org

Follow us on



Search for Horticap



@Horticap

Charity Registration No. 517234 Company Limited by Guarantee
Registered in England & Wales Company No 1782339

www.horticap.org