



INSPIRATION EDUCATION CONSERVATION

THE YORKSHIRE ARBORETUM

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2017

PLANT SALE

**Sunday 11th June
11am-3pm**

Please support our Member's Plant Sale by growing plants for sale or coming to pick up some treasures for your garden – or both!

Plants for the sale may be dropped off at the Visitor Centre from Monday 5th June, but not before please.



EMAIL

With the ever increasing cost of printing and postage we communicate with members using email whenever possible.

If you have email and are not receiving our monthly e-newsletter please email enquiries@yorkshirearboretum.org and we'll add you to the list. We promise not to inundate you with emails or to give our list to anyone else!

If you don't use email you'll still get occasional updates by post.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

As I write at the end of April it seems that we're having the wintry weather that we didn't have in winter, but luckily – so far – we have avoided any really damaging frost and the arboretum is resplendent in its spring colours. I know they're not the gardener's favourite, but the show of dandelions each year is spectacular and of huge importance to a wide range of flower-visiting insects. The camassias are well advanced, opening flowers several weeks earlier than usual and promising an excellent show through May.



For much of the spring Ben Paterson and the volunteer Tree Team have been planting hundreds of new trees. On the slope above the Dew Pond plants have been chosen for their ornamental qualities – magnolias and cherries mixed with rowans, birches and conifers, giving interest through the year. Most excitingly, we've started creating our new woodland garden in the former larch plantation above the lake (see p. 2). All this planting has been funded by our 2016 Open Gardens programme and will have a long-lasting effect on the arboretum's beauty. Please support this year's Open Gardens and Members' Plant Sale, to help us continue planting.

You may well have noticed the recent refurbishment and reorganisation of the Visitor Centre and Arboretum Café (more on page 3). Profits from the café and shop contribute significantly to our income and you can help us further when buying goods online by going through the Give as you Live site (see p. 2).

Another busy year of events is planned, including lots of summer activities for children, ideal for those looking after kids during the holidays. But there's something for everyone, and I hope you'll join us for one or more events. I'll be hosting Members' Mornings on 17th May and 28th September when you're invited to join me for coffee, a walk and a chat and the opportunity to ask questions and find out more about the arboretum.

John Grimshaw, Director
director@yorkshirearboretum.org

SPONSORSHIP



We have a stunning new display cabinet for our commemorative trees and benches books. Lovingly crafted by Mark Bennett, The Woodlark, of Malton from a Castle Howard Estate oak and a Chatsworth beech.

It is a beautiful object and a fitting place to display the books that record the trees and benches generously sponsored to not only mark a special person or event, but also to support our conservation and development work.

If you'd like to find out more about sponsoring options please email adoptions@yorkshirearboretum.org or contact the Visitor Centre and Nicola Hall will get in touch.

OPEN GARDENS 2017

The tremendous success of the Open Gardens programme last year, which raised over £6,000 for new plantings, has encouraged us to go even bigger and better this year. We're very grateful to all the owners for allowing us access to their private spaces and the chance to view their horticultural triumphs – and disasters!

A total of 27 gardens will open their gates exclusively for us on occasions throughout the summer, across a wide area of North and East Yorkshire.



They will all have great plants to see, many will offer tea and cake and you can be sure of a warm welcome at each. Last year many friendships blossomed as a result of regulars meeting each other repeatedly and a lovely sense of community developed.

The season ticket for £25 is great value, allowing access to all the gardens all season, but if you can only fit in a few visits a day ticket is £5. Tickets are available at the gardens or from the arboretum.

All the details are in the enclosed booklet. Any amendments will be announced on the website and the notice board at the earliest opportunity.

THE NEW WOODLAND GARDEN

Thinning the larch plantation west of the lake has given us a wonderful opportunity to create a new woodland garden and grow many new trees and shrubs for the first time. Over three hundred trees have gone in this spring, planned to give interest throughout the year with flowers, foliage, fruit or bark. Some are good standard red maples and red oaks, but there are also some real rarities, including the Chinese hornbeam *Carpinus fangiana*, with beautiful long tassels in fruit, or *Tilia endochrysea*, whose new foliage opens velvety red.

Once we've had enough rain – probably in autumn now – we'll start planting shrubs, herbaceous plants and bulbs between them. Without having to do anything we'll enjoy an incredible display of foxgloves there in early summer.

Funded by the 2106 Open Gardens programme The Woodland Garden will be a work in progress for many years to come but the area's transformation is already apparent.

The planting has mostly been done by our Tree Team volunteers, but we're looking to recruit further volunteers to help look after the area. This will mostly entail light gardening work, to keep the trees weeded and watered, and to help plant in future. Full details of the role are on the website – please do consider it if you love gardening.



A newly planted *Davidia involucreata* 'Sonoma', which starts flowering when very young

GIVE AS YOU LIVE



Did you know that you can help the Yorkshire Arboretum raise funds for **FREE**, just by shopping online? At Give as You Live, once you've signed up, the arboretum will receive a donation every time you shop at more than 4,000 retailers including Amazon, eBay, John Lewis and Expedia - and it won't cost you a penny!

Plus, if you shop through the Give as you Live website, you can access special offers so you can raise money for us and save money for yourself!

Please visit www.giveasyoulive.com/join/yorksarboretum to find out more.

VISITOR CENTRE REFURBISHMENT

In recent month the Visitor Centre and Arboretum Café have been repainted and reorganised. The café reorganisation looks great and is working well with a new, dedicated drinks preparation area, more display space and more room for staff to move around without tripping over each other!

Huge thanks are due to Roger Cowdy for undertaking the café and shop refitting, to Gill Woodhead for her generous donation towards new café furniture, and to the army of volunteers and staff who rolled up their sleeves to paint at short notice. By the time you read this, new hardwood entrance doors will be in place and the café furniture should have arrived. Look out for before and after photos in the next newsletter.



ARBORETUM PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2017

Are you a keen amateur photographer? Why not enter our 2017 photography competition?

There are three categories that you can enter:

- Landscape – views
- People and Place - members, visitors, volunteers
- Flora and Fauna – trees, flowers, birds and animals

There'll be an adult and an under 16 prize in each class, with each winner receiving a £25 voucher. Plus there'll be an overall prize of a £50 voucher (vouchers can be used for admission, in the shop or the café).

Images must be your own work, taken on site during 2017 and submitted digitally (maximum file size 5MB) to YAphotocomp@gmail.com by 14th January 2018. Please include your image title, the category you wish to be enter, your name, your contact details and your date of birth (if under 16 on 31st December 2017).

Shortlisted entries in each category will be displayed in the Visitor Centre next spring. Full terms and conditions are on the website and are available in the Visitor Centre.

WOOFS IN THE WOOD

Sunday 26th March proved to be a bright spring day and perfect for Woofs in the Wood, our joint fundraising day with Ryedale Dog Rescue. Fears that the date clashed with Mothering Sunday and the day the clocks went forward proved unfounded, and by 11am the Visitor Centre was reverberating to the sound of excited dogs and their owners queuing up to get into the event.

There were waymarked routes for participants to follow although most people just wandered where their noses took them, whilst being sure to finish up at the bottom of Main Vista where there were several charity stalls and an extra catering tent.

Thanks are due to all the helpers from Ryedale Dog Rescue, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, RSPB, Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, Holidays for Dogs and sponsors, Burgess Pet Foods, and our café staff and volunteers for making the day such a success.

Thank you too to all our members who came along and to those who had dogs with them for adhering to the request to keep all dogs on their leads on this day. With the large number of dogs that we had on site on the day it was essential that they stayed close to their owners.



VISITING WITH YOUR DOG



Please may we take this opportunity to remind dog owners of our 'Visiting With Your Dog' code, which applies at all times, as we are more frequently having to remind dog walkers of the requirement to keep their pets under close control even in those areas where they are permitted off the lead.

We cannot guarantee that the arboretum perimeter is escape proof and would be distressed if a dog were to be injured or lost. There are ten bins for the disposal of bagged dog waste. Please make use of these rather than hanging the bags in the trees or leaving them on the ground to be chewed up by the grass cutting machinery and sprayed onto our volunteers. If you need a reminder of the permitted off-lead areas or locations of the waste bins please pick up a map in the Visitor Centre.

Thank you for your cooperation.

WEDDING DATES

The Yorkshire Arboretum is a spectacular place to hold a wedding. Ceremonies usually take place at the Cruck House but for legal reasons, if the weather is inclement, they need to be moved into the Visitor Centre - often at short notice. Please be aware that on the following dates the Café and Visitor Centre may need to close early:

- Friday 12th May
- Saturday 10th June
- Saturday 24th June
- Saturday 1st July
- Saturday 15th July



COMING SOON

The 2017 What's On brochure is now available in the Visitor Centre and is packed with nearly 100 events for all to enjoy. Many of the events are free to members and the income generated goes towards the maintenance and development of the arboretum so thank you, in advance, for your support.



Events especially for our members include:

- Wednesday 17th May: Members' Morning
- Friday 19th May: Members' Friends Day
- Sunday 21st and Tuesday 23rd May: Ray Wood Spring Tours
- Saturday 8th July: Members' Picnic
- Thursday 28th September: Members' Morning
- Friday 6th October: Friends and Life Members' Afternoon
- Sunday 29th and Tuesday 31st October: Ray Wood Autumn Tours



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