



INSPIRATION EDUCATION CONSERVATION
**THE YORKSHIRE
ARBORETUM**

NEWSLETTER

May 2018

PLANT SALE

Please support our Plant Sale on **Sunday 10th June (11am-3pm)** either by growing plants for sale, coming to pick up some treasures—or both! Last year we were given an amazing range of great garden 'doers' and some really choice specimens too and hope for the same this year.

Plants for the sale may be left at the Visitor Centre from Monday 4th June.



EMAIL ADDRESSES AND DATA PROTECTION

If you would like to receive our monthly e-newsletter and are not already doing so please email enquiries@yorkshirearboretum.org and we'll add you to the list.

As part of the new Data Protection laws everyone who we contact will shortly/will already have received a letter or email requesting permission to continue contacting them. If you would like to keep in touch please do give your permission by responding. We promise not to inundate you with emails or to give the list to anyone else. Thank you!

FROM THE DIRECTOR

As I write it seems that the long-delayed spring is finally and definitively here. The grass has greened up, trees are leafing out at a tremendous rate, the fritillaries and daffodils are magnificent and memories of the beastly winter are receding.

Wet conditions have made it almost impossible to do any work on the southern side of the arboretum for months, though we hope it will be possible to mow some of the paths soon. They've also prevented us getting back to the lakeside project, where any attempt to have started the landscape restoration would have resulted in devastation. We'll get on with it at the earliest opportunity. Our efforts have been concentrated on one of the few places we could work, the sandy soil of the new woodland garden above the lake, where we've planted over 500 trees and shrubs in a tremendous effort by volunteers and staff. We were joined for a day by a volunteer team from Defra led by Prof Nicola Spence, who'll be speaking to us in May wearing her Chief Plant Health Officer hat. We'll let you know as soon as we are able to open the lakeside and woodland garden again.

As you'll read elsewhere we are busy with the development year of our Heritage Lottery Fund project 'If Trees can Talk'. It's hugely exciting and I hope that many members and friends will take part in the activities being planned for the summer. A planning application has been submitted to Ryedale District Council for our proposed new operations centre adjacent to Castle Howard tree nursery, which is a long-needed and important development for us so we hope for a favourable decision.

The Yorkshire Arboretum offers a lot, as evidenced by the What's On brochure included with this newsletter and we'd love to see more members taking part in our events and activities.

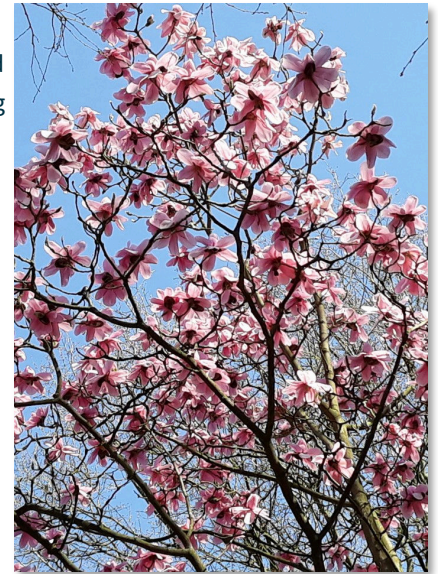
There really is something for everyone here. **John Grimshaw**

EXHIBITION PREVIEW

Thursday 3rd May 6-7:30pm.

Members and friends are invited to a preview of Jonathan Pomroy's brand new solo exhibition featuring his pictures of hawfinches at the arboretum along with other recent work. Come along and meet Jonathan over a glass of wine and nibbles.

Please book for catering purposes.



FRIENDS OF THE YORKSHIRE ARBORETUM

At the Garden Party at Sleightholmedale Lodge on 28th June we will launch our new group, the **Friends of the Yorkshire Arboretum**.

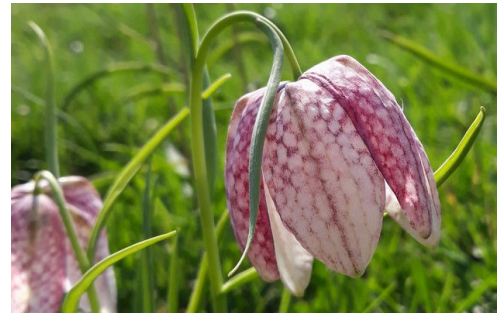
Taking their membership a step further, with a commitment to seeing the arboretum thrive and prosper, the Friends of the Yorkshire Arboretum will demonstrate this support by pledging an annual donation of £250 for a minimum of five years. Funds donated by Friends will be used to assist development projects in the arboretum – this year the designated Director's project will be the critically essential operations centre.

In addition to standard membership benefits Friends will enjoy the following privileges:

- An exclusive annual tea and guided walk led by the Director

- An annual outing to a private garden of note, with other special events from time to time
- Season ticket for the Yorkshire Arboretum Open Gardens scheme
- A leaf on our supporters' tree in the Visitor Centre

We hope you will join us for our Garden Party, whether or not you would consider becoming a Friend.



HLF PROGRESS

The development phase of the HLF project *If Trees Could Talk...* is moving along nicely. During this phase of the project we have funds to develop and cost a brand new and exciting heritage based programme of activities along with the infrastructure that will be needed to be able to deliver it. The tender for a Learning and Activity Centre has been issued and an appointment to commission plans is to be made in May.

Over the coming months we shall be trialling various pilot activities to see whether the ideas that have been developed so far, through workshops and discussions, are the types of things that people are interested in. The first of a series of Sunday morning 'Meetings with Trees' walks took place in mid-April and was well received by those who joined the walk with our tour guide, Caroline Hall. Please see the What's On leaflet for the dates of future walks.

For families, a new nursery-rhyme based trail will be ready to try out for May half-term, and another trail will be launched for the summer holidays. Also in May half term there will be a day of tree workshops for children and adults (see below).

Thank you to everyone who completed the online visitor survey earlier in the year. And please do take part in the various activities and let us know what you think. All feedback that we receive will be used to influence our final bid which will go to the HLF early next year.



TREE WORKSHOPS – *BEING TREE*

Thursday, 31st May 2018

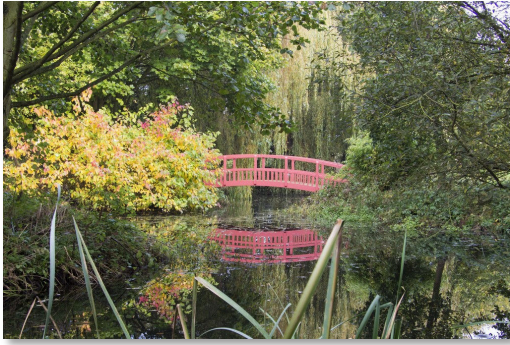
Use all your senses to get to know the trees of the Yorkshire Arboretum in these workshops led by language artist Camilla Nelson. A series of multi-sensory creative activities – making sound maps, stories, poems, rubbings and drawings – will help us imagine what it's like to be a tree. Take a sense of tree-being home with you. Normal admission applies.

10am – 12noon for 8-12 year olds

2-4pm for adults and older children

Please book at the Visitor Centre as places are limited. 01653 648598

OPEN GARDENS AND GARDEN PARTY



Once again we are grateful to the owners who have agreed to support our development by opening their gardens on behalf of the arboretum this spring and summer. There are several new and excellent gardens opening, including Ness Hall, Ellerker House and Jackson's Wold, as well as many old favourites. This year we have focussed the openings on weekends, and most are on the first weekend of the month. The price of a season ticket is just £20, making this a serious bargain, and a day ticket, for all gardens open on a particular day, is £5.

Tickets are available at the Visitor Centre or at the gardens when open. Please note that as this is a fundraising scheme there is no discount for Members.

New this year, as an extension to our fundraising activities, is the opportunity to join us for a **Fundraising Garden Party** in Patrick and Natasha James' lovely garden at Sleightholmedale Lodge on Thursday 28th June from 5-8pm.

Tickets at £25 each include drinks and canapés and can be booked at the Visitor Centre. Open Garden Season Ticket holders are offered a 10% discount.

A brochure, generally sponsored by Vertigrow, giving details of the open gardens and garden party is enclosed with this newsletter.



RAY WOOD

The restoration and maintenance work in Ray Wood continues under the leadership of Jonathan Burton with generous sponsorship from Foundation Arboretum Wespelaar.

Writing in late April Jonathan noted some particular highlights:

'From the top of the Himalayan slope, between the reservoir and Boat House Café, you can currently enjoy the splendour of the large magnolia flowers reaching up into the canopy in the distance. *Magnolia* 'Charles Raffill' is burgeoning with flower buds which shed their downy buff gold scales to reveal deep pink tepals. This year 'Charles Raffill' seems to be on the way to be performing as well as it did several years ago with abundant blooms.'

'Descending the slope notice the unusual backswept daffodils, beautiful blue wood anemones and archways of camellia flowers before being clobbered by the scent of wild garlic that dominates the woodland's hollow. Beyond here the sensitive ferns are unfurling their translucent green fronds. Back-lit translucency is repeated throughout the collection, with striking vernal leaves packed with protective

compounds racing to capture the season's welcome light. One of the most joyous things to see in Ray Wood is the morning light streaming through the Japanese Katsura's new leaves in Spring – now is the time!'

If you haven't visited Ray Wood lately, do take the opportunity of the members' free tours on the 13th and 15th May. The hard work of the past five years has really paid off and the garden is looking really good once more – a huge credit to the team.



VOLUNTEER NEWS



We are extremely fortunate and grateful to have such a generous band of well over 100 active volunteers who support the arboretum in many ways and without whom this beautiful place simply could not function. We are the envy of many other organizations and are hugely indebted to all our volunteers for their dedication, skills and enthusiasm.



15 volunteers have each clocked up over 10 year's service and those attending our pre-season get together in February were presented with certificates of thanks by director, John Grimshaw.



Thanks are also due to Education Team Volunteers, Frank and Rosie Adcock, who have been busy making wildlife boxes for us. They made some for small birds and bats and then some very large ones for tawny and barn owls. The Howardian Hills AONB provided a grant to enable us to buy the wood and a generous donation from one of our life members allowed us to pay for the services of a professional tree climber to erect the owl boxes.

Openings exist for new volunteers in the recently formed Friday Tree Team and, elsewhere; if you might be interested please take a look at the volunteering section of the website (www.yorkshirearboretum.org/volunteering) or contact our friendly Volunteer Coordinators (volunteer@yorkshirearboretum.org).

EVENTS COMING SOON

This season's What's On brochure with details of nearly 100 events to take part in is included with this newsletter and can also be collected from the Visitor Centre.

FOR MEMBERS

Ray Wood Spring Tours

Sun 13th and Tue 15th May - 10.30am

Members' Friends Day

Sat 19th May 10am - 4pm

Members' Morning

Thurs 27th September 10:30 for 11am

Friends' and Life Members' Tea

Fri 12th October 2-4:30pm

Ray Wood Autumn Tours

Sun 21st and Tue 23rd October - 10.30am

FOR ALL

Talk: Plant Biosecurity and Tree Health

Thurs 10th May 7:30pm

Free Entry Days

Fri 11th and Sat 12th May 10am - 4pm

Free entry to anyone who has a YO postcode. Please tell family and friends to come along with proof of their address!

Dawn Chorus Walk

Sat 12th May 5-7:30am

... and much more!



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The Yorkshire Arboretum is indebted to the many talented photographers whose work illustrates these pages.

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