

MEETINGS HELD AT
THE RHS GARDEN
HARLOW CARR
CRAG LANE, HARROGATE
HG3 1QB
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Royal Horticultural Society

## Newsletter

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## **EDITORIAL**

Another growing season is under way, bringing with it considerable changes to the NFG's modus operandi. It is hoped that the scatter to three main venues will mean that more members can join in on the practical/teaching/experimental side of the programme. We shall continue to hold meetings at Harlow Carr (RHS permitting) but the scope for practical work there is now very limited. At the two rented allotment sites we shall have the freedom to "do our own thing" with reference only to our members' needs and wishes, as there will be no visiting public. At Harewood we can develop a "model fruit garden" for the enjoyment and education of both members and visitors; we look forward to a "fruitful" co-operation with the staff there, to help realise their vision for the walled garden.

The fruit-trees-for-schools programme is taking off again, with several more schools wanting to join in. At the May meeting, Trevor and Clifford will expound on the history of the project and how it works. But each school does need a mentor, at least for the first two or three years; it isn't arduous and can be rewarding.

Diana Davis

## **PROGRAMME 2007**

SATURDAY 19th MAY. Study Centre, Harlow Carr.

10.30 Executive Committee Meeting

13.30 Talk: The "Yorkshire Fruit Trees into Yorkshire Schools" Scheme. Trevor Rogers and Clifford Cain.

SATURDAY 18th AUGUST. Visit to Ampleforth Abbey Orchards.

11.00 Executive Committee Meeting (a room will be available - details later).

14.00 Tour of the orchards led by Father Rainer Verbog.

Ampleforth was the first visit made by the fledgling NFG in 1996, when Stuart Murfitt was Orchard Keeper. A tad over 10 years on, with many more members, it seems appropriate to reprise the experience. Father Rainer now looks after about 2000 apple trees of 45 cultivars in the main orchard, started 60 years ago; also the remnants of the original orchard planted by the first monks at Ampleforth in 1802.

**Directions:** The Abbey and College are on a minor road between the villages of Oswaldkirk (at the junction of the B1257 and B1363, which heads south off the A170 at the big bend a mile south of Helmsley) and