



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

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Royal Horticultural Society*

# NEWSLETTER

NO 39 JULY 2007

## EDITORIAL

The weather has not been kind to us fruit-enthusiasts this spring/summer. Dry and hot just when we needed gentle rain and mild temperatures, then continuous downpours and flooding. My orchard and veg, down at the bottom of the slope, disappeared under 2-4ft of muddy water three times in 10 days. The trees don't seem bothered and amazingly the runner beans are still climbing the poles. Our allotment sites have been affected by the excess water, especially the one at Hexthorpe, right beside the River Don. Luckily Harewood Walled Garden is not on a flood plain! I sincerely hope no members were flooded out of their houses. A saturated garden one can cope with and it recovers, a saturated house is a different matter.

The persistent wet is likely to affect the soft fruit and make the task of provisioning the Show stands rather difficult. The organisers will be grateful for anything they receive from members.

Finally, please be aware that there may be some changes in the Newsletter issue dates over next winter, due to probable disruptions in the Production Department -- holidays; the editor's anticipated hip surgery. This number takes us up to the end of the year and we hope to get something out before Christmas with the dates for early next year.

Diana Davis

## PROGRAMME 2007

**SATURDAY 18th AUGUST.** Visit to Ampleforth Abbey Orchards.

11.00 Executive Committee Meeting in the Postgate Room.

14.00 Tour of the Orchards, led by Father Rainer Verbog.

See Newsletter 38, April 2007 for full details. The Abbey and College are on a minor road between the villages of Oswaldkirk and Ampleforth, south of the A170 Thirsk to Helmsley road. There are two entrances marked by green signs; the main Abbey Entrance is nearer to Ampleforth village; the College Entrance, **which we should use**, is nearer to Oswaldkirk. Follow the College Drive and park on the Theatre Square. (Committee members go to Reception and enter the Main Hall; some stairs lead down to the Postgate Room. DIY tea/coffee provided.)

**SATURDAY 8th SEPTEMBER.** NFG Show, Harlow Carr Study Centre. Schedule enclosed. A few helpers will be needed to set up from about 10.00, please contact Sharan Packer to volunteer.

