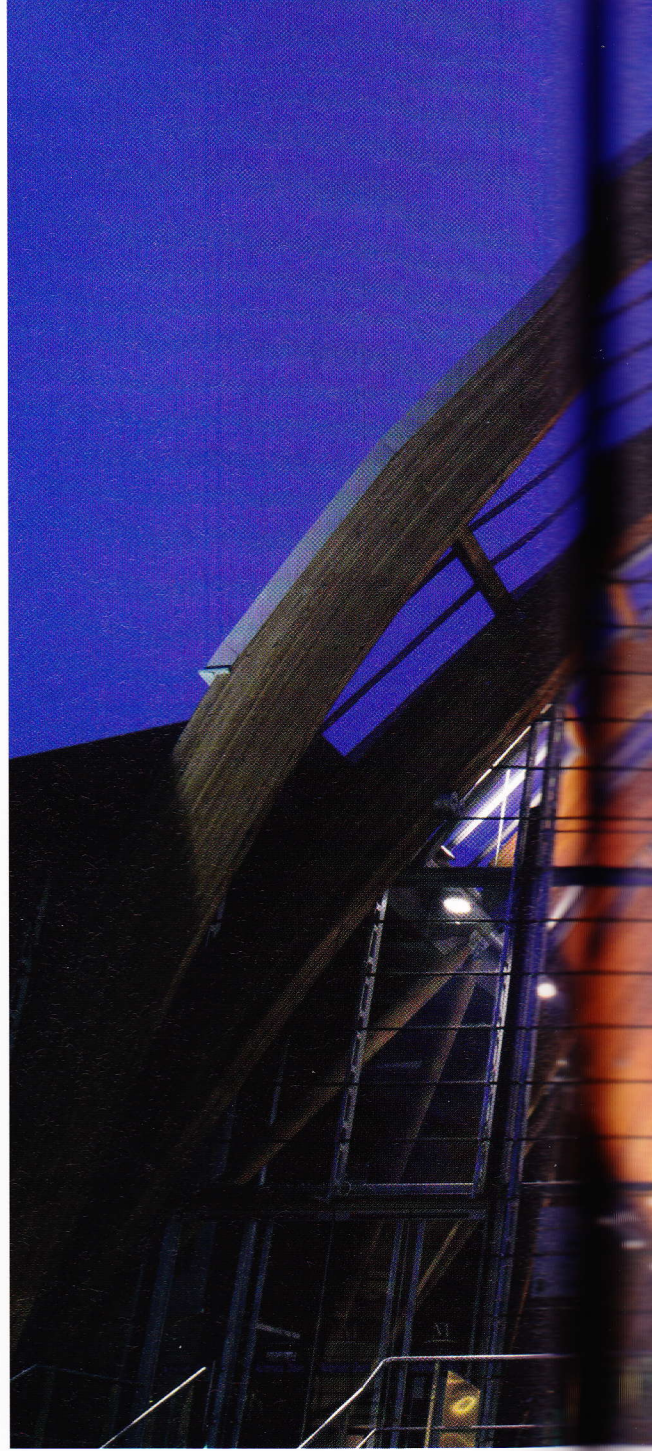


# The magnificent seven

Trish Colton takes readers on a tour of some of Yorkshire's best public gardens



Burnby Hall Gardens



Sheffield Winter Gardens

**N**o matter where you are in Yorkshire, you won't be far from one of the lovely gardens that are open to the public. A few have a history stretching back centuries, others have only recently been created.

Valley Gardens in Harrogate are only a mile away from the Royal Horticultural Society's Harlow Carr Gardens. However, unlike Harlow Carr they cost nothing to visit. In addition to plants, you get a bonus in this garden – more mineral springs surface here than anywhere else in the world. In fact, part of Valley Gardens is known as Bogs Field because almost half of Harrogate's mineral wells are there and the gardens were voted the country's Best Public Park in the 2009 'Britain in Bloom' competition.

The circular flower beds, some with decorated well heads in the middle, were put in this English Heritage Grade II Listed garden in the 1920s. About a decade before that, one very determined city father, Alderman Binns, was so adamant that the park's boundary should be extended, he rolled his sleeves up and, under cover of darkness, personally knocked down the dividing wall.

Staying in North Yorkshire, Parcevall Hall Gardens were the home of the late Sir William Milner, an admirer of Arts and Crafts gardeners such as Gertrude Jekyll.



Lady Lucy's Walk at Wentworth Castle Gardens





## Visitor information

**Valley Gardens**, Valley Drive, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 2RY.

**Parcevall Hall Gardens**, Skyreholme, Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 6DE. Tel: 01756 720311. While the public are welcome to visit the garden, a visit to the house itself is not possible.

**Sheffield Winter Gardens**, Surrey Street, Sheffield S1 2LH.

**Wentworth Castle Gardens**, Lowe Lane, Stainborough, Barnsley S75 3ET. Tel: 01226 776040.

**Hunmanby Grange**, Wold Newton, Driffield YO25 3HS. Tel: 01723 891636. Opening times are limited, but you can make an appointment to view.

**Burnby Hall Gardens**, The Balk, Pocklington, York YO42 2QF. Tel: 01759 307125.

**York Gate**, Back Church Lane, Adel, Leeds LS16 8DW.  
Tel: 0113 2678240. Open 2 pm – 5 pm, April – September, on Thursdays, Sundays & Bank Holiday Mondays, plus a few evenings. Phone to arrange a visit outside these times.