



National  
Trust

# The Great Outdoors

## The Great Outdoors: Hardwick Portfolio

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### An introduction from Ian

Hello to you all. I am Ian Hunt the Outdoors Manager for the Hardwick Portfolio. I have worked for the National Trust for almost 22 years and I have seen some real changes to the park and garden at Hardwick in that time. I have to say though that everything the Outdoors team are doing at the moment is some of the most exciting stuff yet and hopefully you will see what I mean when you get out and about around the estate.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the first edition of 'The Great Outdoors', a quarterly round-up of what is happening out and about in the gardens, park and outdoor spaces. This will include information from the whole of the portfolio; Hardwick, Stainsby Mill and Eyam. I hope you enjoy reading this first in a long line of publications and if you have any comments or content then please contact Carl Smith, Gardener in the office, down at the nursery or via email [carl.smith@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:carl.smith@nationaltrust.org.uk).

Many thanks,  
Ian



### Hardwick park spring clean

During the winter of 2014 and spring 2015, the team have been busy preparing for the new season. As well as keeping the estate roadways open and clear of ice and snow they have been cleaning all the gates on the estate. They have also been tidying up windblown trees in the park.

Staff and volunteers have been installing new fences around the woodlands near to Astwith village, and also the clearance work and wetland creation near to the Park Centre as part of the Doe Lea project. Come and see the difference it's made on your next visit.



## A garden of interest

This year has been a busy winter and spring for the gardens team. Over the last few months they have constructed a stumpery near the winter border. We've used 80 ancient stumps from the estate and over 40 tonnes of topsoil to form the base on which to plant dwarf iris, wood anemones, ferns and many more varieties of plants. Please come along and have a look at this new garden feature.



The team have recently been pruning on the borders, preparing the herb garden for summer and sowing seeds in the greenhouse to produce plants for using this summer in the garden.

So far this year the team have produced plants and sold over 700 to visitors via the shop.

## Wetlands update

Between June and August 2014 we have created two new wetland areas around the overspill car park at the Hardwick Inn and on adjacent agricultural land. These new wetlands will help with flood water storage from Hardstoft Brook and Stanley Lane. They will also capture silts from the water before they head off in to Great Pond. Our Youth Ranger team with the help from the Eastern Moors Youth Rangers have planted marsh marigold, flowering rush, water mint, purple loosestrife and angelica and we can look forward to a colourful spring and summer.

Work has also been going ahead for the construction of a new reed bed area between Great Pond & Millers Pond at the side of the Park Centre. This is to help with the filtration of sediments and pollutants that are coming from the adjacent road network and agricultural fields. We hope to have the reeds planted over the next couple of months too.



## Ways to get involved

If you would like to volunteer to help, we would love to hear from you.

We are currently looking for;

Garden volunteers

Garden guides

If you are interested then please contact Marie Purdy, Senior Gardener

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hardwick/join-in](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hardwick/join-in)



## Find out more about the Portfolio

Hardwick

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hardwick](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hardwick)

Stainsby Mill

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/stainsby-mill](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/stainsby-mill)

Eyam Hall and Craft Centre

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/eyam-hall-and-craft-centre](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/eyam-hall-and-craft-centre)