



HARROGATE FLOWER SHOW

23-26 April 2026

Common Ground

A small urban garden designed to bring people together

One of four APL Small Urban Feature Gardens at Harrogate Spring Flower Show 2026

Built by last year's Premier Gold winner, J Paxman Landscapes



**Be part of
the garden!**



Why not contribute your own hand-painted pebble?

Celebrate a memory, honour a loved one, or simply leave your creativity behind as part of Common Ground's story.

Your pebble will become part of the garden's journey long beyond the Show.

J Paxman
LANDSCAPES LTD

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THE IDEA

A garden for togetherness



Common Ground is a 5m x 4m adaptable garden room created to celebrate connection, inclusion and belonging within shared urban space.

Designed for growing, making, sitting, and gathering, the garden places community and sustainability at its heart. Centred around a modular parklet, oak bench, welcoming fire bowl, and reclaimed timber entranceway, the space also features hand-painted pebbles and a stunning collaborative mural.

Designed to live on

To help the garden live on beyond the show, British Recycled Plastic's modular Parklets were chosen for their safe, sustainable design and ability to be carefully relocated and rebuilt at Project Colt after the Show.

Designed to last, their black finish helps retain warmth for plant growth, making them a natural fit for a garden created for its next chapter.

Did you know?

The British Recycled Plastic Parklet was developed using 3D models, helping the team experiment with layouts and ensure the final design was fit for purpose.



www.britishrecycledplastic.co.uk



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From concept to community

Preparation for Common Ground began months before Harrogate, with designer and contractor working closely to refine planting, source resources and shape the final vision.



Planting inspiration

Multi-stemmed trees, woodland grasses, ferns and flowering perennials create a calm, natural setting, alongside herbs and vegetables grown by friends of the show team on their own allotments.

Community woven into every detail

- ✿ visitors are invited to decorate and leave their own pebble
- ✿ visitors are invited to leave their own pebble and memory
- ✿ herbs and vegetables were grown on friends' and team members' allotments
- ✿ the 'Together' mural was inspired by the Project Colt community and surrounding landscape
- ✿ Modular Parklets were designed to be relocated and live on at Project Colt

The Next Chapter

Built using reclaimed timber, recycled plastic modular parklets, and reusable structural elements, **Common Ground** was designed to be carefully dismantled, relocated, and rebuilt after the show.

Its story will continue at Project Colt, where it will live on as a permanent outdoor sanctuary supporting wellbeing, creativity and connection.

As a safe haven for people rebuilding their lives after addiction, mental health struggles or social isolation, Project Colt gives the garden a meaningful future rooted in community.

From hand-painted pebbles to the message of 'Together', every contribution made at Harrogate will live on far beyond the Show.



Did you know?

The collaborative mural draws its inspiration directly from Project Colt mill's location surrounded by resilient wildflowers and vegetation that climb the industrial stone walls and line the towpaths. Serena uses these plants as a metaphor for the human spirit.

"The vegetation surrounding the mill doesn't wait for permission to grow; it finds and makes its own way through. Our members at Project Colt are doing the same."

— Serena Rogers, artist

Follow the garden's next chapter with British Recycled Plastic

Scan here



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