

# Plenty to see and lots to do

**T**here can be few towns with more to offer in the middle of January than Harrogate and if you can drag yourself away from the attractions contained in our four huge halls, or are looking for somewhere to spend an evening, Harrogate will not disappoint.

With Harrogate International Centre bringing people to the town on a regular basis it has ensured that it plays home to a variety of entertainment normally only sustained by towns and cities much larger than Harrogate.

A visitor could easily spend an entire holiday, not travel more than 10 miles from the centre of Harrogate and still feel they have had a rewarding break.

Following some intensive research from within BIGGA staff members who reside in the Harrogate and surrounding area the following facts about the town were established:

1. Agatha Christie chose the town, and the Old Swan Hotel in particular, for her now famous disappearance when at the height of her literary powers.
2. Norman Lamont was a beaten parliamentary candidate at the last election.
3. The town is the home of the world famous Betty's tea room and Taylor's Tea and Coffee.
4. The water of the town have special healing powers and the Pump Rooms offer traditional Turkish Baths and more modern spas.
5. Harrogate is the home of the Northern Horticultural Society and hosts a twice yearly flower show which attracts visitors from far and wide.
6. A new swimming pool is soon to be built in the town.
7. The town has three fine golf courses, Pannal, Harrogate and Ridding Park which was the '96 winner of the National Golf Environment Competition.
8. The town houses the excellent Black Sheep Brewery Visitors' Centre.
9. Old Mother Shipton's Cave is in nearby Knaresborough.
10. You will bump into a large number of greenkeepers and members of the greenkeeping industry during a certain week in January.



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