

Let it snow ...

The north Yorkshire town of Harrogate saw its first fluttering of snow today, but it certainly didn't put visitors off attending Harrogate Christmas & Gift fair. Fortunately, this hasn't settled and roads remain clear and warmer weather looks set for tomorrow. On the third day of the event, buyers continued to fill the eight halls of the convention centre and according to exhibitors, were busy placing orders for the trending ranges on display.

This year, there are plenty of new ranges to see, with a few stand out themes for the 2024 season. Notably, the show welcomes back a number of exhibitors with greetings card, crackers and gift wrapping ranges. Personalised products also take pride of place this year, with everything from baubles and tree decorations to key rings, mugs and plaques.



Among the popular nutcrackers and gonks, there is a notable trend of festive dinosaurs; and lots of non-scary autumn Halloween themed products from door wreaths to artificial pumpkins. Many exhibitors have refreshed colourways with traditional reds, stylish silver and white and lots of pastel ranges with ice-cream pinks and blues.



This year, there are even food products and gifts, which are apparently proving popular with visitors. Hanan Samara of Terra Rossa, a specialist which imports traditional Arabian olive oils, herbs and spices and produces hand-made traditional sauces and relishes in the U.K. comments: "We have had a lot of interest in our products from garden centres with food halls and farm shops too. Our product range includes sauces and spreads with delicious flavours of the Levant and luxurious infused extra virgin olive oils. These are attractively packaged which makes them perfect gifts the whole year round."

There is still time for visitors to attend – as the show is open tomorrow (Wednesday) from 9am to 4pm.

For more information and a full exhibitor list, visit www.harrogatefair.com