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Full payment due by 16 March.

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by Sarah Davies, Day Visits' Organiser

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The Japanese garden (right)



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..... and a bit later

NEW MEMBERS' TEA PARTY

All members who have joined the Club since mid May 2022 will receive an invitation to join me and the Organising Team for afternoon tea in the garden from 2 pm immediately preceding the plant sale (see right). Plants will not be sold before 3 pm. Full details will be sent nearer the date.

MEMBERS' PLANT SALE Saturday 13 May from 3 pm

The plant sale is popular and successful. Not only does it give the opportunity for a lovely social occasion in the garden, it raises money to supplement Club funds. Its success depends upon our being able to offer hundreds of good quality plants for sale. If you are able to contribute, please do. It's not too early to start planning.

Sadly, the cold snap in December finished off some of my cuttings when the temperature in my greenhouse fell to minus 6.9 degrees. Unreasonably, I chose to heat my bathroom instead of the greenhouse! But my first batch of pelargonium seed has germinated and is luxuriating in the guest bedroom!

Residential Tour to the Gardens of Cheshire

Including the new RHS Garden Bridgewater

4 days 8-11 June 2023

From £595 per person, DB & B (based on at least 30 passengers)

From £695 per person, DB & B (based on at least 20 passengers)

4* Cottons Hotel and Spa, Knutsford

(Single Supplement £135)

Day 1	Depart Henleaze approx. 8 am. Visit Trentham Estate in Staffordshire en route to our hotel situated in a rural location near Knutsford. Hotel guests have complimentary spa membership. At Trentham see the contemporary revival of the famous Italian Gardens which was led by Tom Stuart-Smith, the Rivers of Grass and Floral Labyrinth designed by Piet Oudolf and the Capability Brown designed Trantham Lake. The show gardens offer inspiration to gardeners on a more domestic scale.
Day 2	In the morning explore Tatton Park (Mansion and gardens). After lunch (not included) visit Arley Hall gardens where the double herbaceous borders laid out in 1846 survive to this day as one of the great garden sights of England.
Day 3	A full day to explore the brand new RHS Garden Bridgewater
Day 4	Return home via Biddulph Grange, a rare and exciting survival of a Victorian garden with tunnels and pathways leading you on a miniature tour of the world. The continue south via Ashwood Nursery and Private Garden of John Massey. Arrive back in Henleaze approx 7-7.30 pm

An e-mail with the brochure and booking form will be sent to members later this week.

The tour is available to club members and their spouse/partner/friend.

For any queries please contact Sophie Bindloss at: sophiejahore@outlook.com

All bookings to be made direct with Brightwater Holidays no later than 3 March when the deposit is due.

Full payment due by 16 March.

RHS AFFILIATION



Did you notice the new logo at the top right header of this Newsletter? HGC has obtained RHS Affiliation. This will enable the Club to take a group to one RHS garden annually without charge regardless of individual RHS membership. This has enabled us to offer our Day Visit to Wisley at an exceptional price (see below)

DAY VISITS 2023

by Sarah Davies, Day Visits' Organiser

Please note: Applications for Day Visits will open at the end of March

RHS Wisley Wednesday 14 June

Full day trip

Price £24.50 (price for RHS Affiliated Group annual visit)



Wisley is the flagship garden of the Royal Horticultural Society and one which I have visited many times. There is always something new to see and the last few years have seen major redevelopments with the new reception area, shop, garden centre and Terrace restaurant. You now approach through a broad avenue of cherry trees and there is a lovely lawned vista upon entering the garden. In summer 2021 RHS Hilltop was opened – The Home of Gardening Science, a state-of-

the-art science building surrounded by three spectacular new gardens which embrace the latest ideas in horticulture. I am looking forward to exploring this area in more detail, having only paid a brief visit last time I visited in 2022.

Favourite areas for me are the Exotic Garden (right), opened in 2017, where palms, hardy bananas and cannas and splashes of colour from dahlias give the feel of a Caribbean garden; the Rock Garden, one of Wisley's oldest and most impressive features; the Walled Garden where you can see some really interesting planting suggestions as an alternative to box. In June, when we visit, the Bowes-Lyon Rose Garden will be a must-see. There are so many areas to see that you may want to plan your visit in advance by visiting

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/wisley/garden-highlights>

Plenty of choices for eating with various cafes in the garden and plenty of spaces for enjoying your own picnic.



The Newt in Somerset

Tuesday 4 July. Full day

Cost: RHS members £18, non-RHS members £36



A very special opportunity to visit the exciting new garden which has been created around the former Hadspen House, where the Hobhouse family, most famously Penelope Hobhouse, developed the gardens which drew worldwide acclaim. Normally only available to visit by annual membership, the latest incarnation of the gardens, created by the Italo-French architect Patrice Taravella, has mixed ornamental and edible plants in a lavish design surrounding the house, now a luxury hotel. At the heart of the new garden is the Parabola, a walled garden containing a vast collection of apple trees. There are acres of formal gardens to explore as well as the wider parkland and woods. On arrival, we shall have time for a quick drink from the Cyder Bar and orientation of the site before splitting into two groups for our 45-60 minute tour of the Parabola, edible and ornamental gardens. After this, you are free to explore the gardens. Within the estate, you may like to visit The Story of Gardening, an interactive museum of gardening, or The Beezantium, which is an exhibition devoted to bees. These are free of charge, but we will only have a certain number of pre-booked slots to offer members.

Catering: Picnics for two people can be pre-booked at an estimated cost of £32. Blankets are provided. PLEASE NOTE: picnics brought from home are not allowed anywhere in the grounds.

Takeaway food can be pre-ordered from the Cyder Bar to be eaten either in the picnic area, or, if wet, in the Glasshouse which has tables and chairs.

If you want to push the boat out, you can book a table for lunch or afternoon tea at The Garden Café.

The estate only accepts card or contactless payments in their eateries and shop. No cash.

The Japanese garden (right)



The Gardens at Miserden and Painswick Rococo Garden

Thursday 13 July. Full day

Cost: RHS members £23, non-RHS members £32

We shall first visit the **Garden at Miserden**, voted Historic Houses Association's Garden of the Year 2018. This lovely, timeless garden, with spectacular views over the deer park and rolling Cotswold hills beyond, was designed in the seventeenth century and still retains a wonderful sense of peace and tranquillity. There is a notable topiary yew walk as well as some magnificent mixed borders, containing roses, clematis, shrubs and herbaceous plants which provide colour from spring to autumn. There is an ancient mulberry tree, believed to be planted in 1620, and, more recently, a rill with fountain and stone summerhouse were built to commemorate the Millennium.



During the summer a Sculpture Exhibition is planned to be running again in the garden and this will be available for us to look at as we explore.

Catering: you may bring your own picnic, though this may not be eaten in the gardens. Instead, there is a canopied area with picnic benches near the café.

Lunches from the Glasshouse Café should be prebooked. We are still waiting for full details of this year's group catering offer, but have been given an estimated cost of £15, for which there will be quiche and salad, a piece of cake and tea/coffee.

After an early lunch, we go to nearby **Painswick Rococo Garden**. Designed in the 1740s as a fanciful pleasure garden for the owner of Painswick House and its guests, today it's a garden full of interest throughout the year. Although very well known for its display of snowdrops, there is much to enjoy during the summer. Situated in a hidden valley full of follies, there are shady woodland walks and views of the Cotswold countryside. There is plenty of colour from heritage roses, hollyhocks, sweet peas and bergamot. The kitchen garden will be full of produce in July. The maze is fully-grown now and fun for adults as well as kids.



NB: The former reception, café and toilets closed in 2022 and temporary facilities are currently in place. We should have more details nearer to the time of our visit.

