



NEWS RELEASE

BRISTOL GARDENS OPEN IN APRIL and MAY 2026

We advise all garden visitors to check the National Garden Scheme website for the latest information before setting out.

<https://ngs.org.uk>

APRIL

Wednesday 8th April

**Caisson House, Bath,
BA2 7EF
Amanda & Phil Honey,
info@caissongardens.com
Open 10 - 4 Adm £17, chd £6.
Pre-booking essential,
please visit www.ngs.org.uk
for information & booking.
Homemade Teas**

This is a wonderfully eclectic and romantic garden set in the most beautiful English countryside around a Georgian house built in 1815. It is a mix of herbaceous borders, topiaries, ponds and rills, a walled garden with fruit trees, greenhouses, flower and vegetable beds.

Thursday 9th April

**The Yeo Valley Organic Garden at Holt Farm, Blagdon, BS40 7SQ. Mr & Mrs
Tim Mead, 01761 462798
Open 10 – 5 Adm £8, chd £2. Light refreshments.**

One of only a handful of ornamental gardens that is Soil Association accredited, 6½ acres of contemporary planting, quirky sculptures, bulbs in their thousands, purple palace, glorious meadow and posh vegetable patch. Great views, green ideas. Around garden there are some grass paths and some uneven bark and gravel paths.

Photo The Yeo Valley Organic Garden at Holt Farm



Sunday 12th April

Watcombe, Winscombe, BS25 1BP. Peter & Ann Owen, 01934 842666

Open 2 - 5 Adm £5, chd free. Homemade Teas. Visits also by arrangement

$\frac{3}{4}$ acre mature Edwardian garden with colour-themed, informally planted herbaceous borders. Strong framework separating several different areas; pergola with varied wisteria, unusual topiary, box hedging, lime walk, pleached hornbeams, cordon fruit trees, 2 small formal ponds and growing collection of clematis.

Photo Watcombe



Sunday 26th April

4 Haytor Park Bristol, BS9 2LR. Mr C & Mrs P Prior, 07779 203626

Open 1 - 5 Adm £4, chd free. Visits also by arrangement

Lovingly created over almost 40 yrs. Wildlife in abundance with a pond and insect friendly plants. A totally peaceful haven in spite of being in a city suburb. Plenty of places to sit awhile and reflect, while spotting myriad plants for all seasons. Many arches lead to secret places, quirky features inc a bicycle wheel trellis.

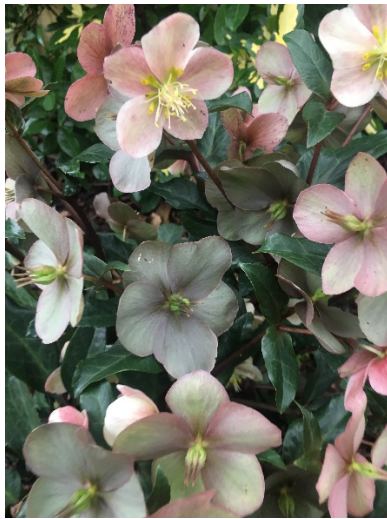
Sunday 26th April

Greystones Bristol, BS9 1JB. Mrs Pam Townsend.

Open 11 - 4 Adm £5, chd free. Home-made teas

Peaceful garden with places to sit and enjoy a quiet corner of Bristol. Interesting courtyard, raised beds, large variety of conifers and shrubs leads to secluded garden of contrasts - sunny beds with olive tree and brightly coloured flowers to shady spots, with acers, hostas and ferns. Snowdrops, hellebores, spring bulbs, naturalised daffodils. Small orchard, espaliered pears.

Photo Greystones



Sunday 26th April

Lucombe House, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, BS9 1DD. Malcolm Ravenscroft, 01179 682494

Open 1 - 5 Adm £4, chd free. Home made teas. Visits also by arrangement
For tree lovers of all ages! As well as a 260yr old Lucombe Oak - one of the most significant trees in the UK - there are over 30 mature English trees planted to create an urban woodland underplanted with various native ferns. An Arts & Crafts garden has now been completed in the front and a woodland path provides a behind the scenes look at the woodland. A trio of recorder players will entertain visitors. Rough paths in woodland area and steps to patio.

MAY

Sunday 3rd May

Court View, Bath, BA1 7HB.

Maria & Jeremy Heffer, www.thebathgreenhouse.com.

Drop off access only. Public car park in the village.

Open 10 - 4.30. Adm £6, chd free. Home-made teas.

2 acre, south-facing garden featuring a colourful mix of trees, shrubs, annuals, perennials and over 100 geums inc the National Collection of *Geum coccinea* and *Geum rivale cvs*. The garden offers spectacular views from terraced lawns, a box parterre, a small orchard, a productive cutting garden and a meadow area. The National Collection of *Geum coccinea* and *Geum rivale cvs* were exhibited at RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2025 as part of Plant Heritage's display - 'Beauty of the National Plant Collections'.



Photo Court View

Sunday 10th May

Stoke Bishop Gardens, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, BS9 1DD.

Open 1 - 5. Combined adm £7.50, chd free. Home-made teas at Oak Lodge.

4 HAYTOR PARK, MR C & MRS P PRIOR, 07779 203626,
P.L.PRIOR@GMAIL.COM

OAK LODGE, 44 STOKE HILL, BS9 1EX. JO POPLÉ.

1 SUNNYSIDE, BS9 1BQ. MRS MAGDA GOSS.

Three very different gardens all within ½m of each other. 4 Haytor Park has been lovingly created over almost 40 yrs. Wildlife in abundance with a pond and insect friendly plants. A totally peaceful haven in spite of being in a city suburb. Plenty of places to sit awhile and reflect, while spotting myriad plants for all seasons. Many arches lead to secret places, quirky features inc a bicycle wheel trellis. Oak Lodge is a country garden in an urban setting. On entering, the garden reveals its ½ acre size within a Georgian stone wall. It has herbaceous borders, hedging, mixed beds, privet trees, courtyard with potted plants, tennis court and lawns. A weeping silver birch provides a focal point whilst a shepherd's hut offers a quiet retreat. Sunnyside is an artist's C17 cottage in the heart of Stoke Bishop with part walled, cottage style front garden. Garden sculptures dominated by large magnolia, perennials, roses and spring bulbs. Courtyard garden with open studio at rear.

Sunday 10th May **NEW OPENING******

Yeo Meads, Congresbury, BS49 5JA.

Debbie Fortune & Mark Hayward, debbie@debbiefortune.co.uk.

Open 11- 4. Adm £5, chd free. Visits also by arrangement 1 May to 14 Sept for groups of 5 to 25. 1¼ acres, formally laid out in C17 inc 350 yr-old cedar of Lebanon tree which fell in 2007 but is now a living feature, and a 150 yr-old lime, which is now a folly with a seat inside the base. Other trees inc acacia, ginkgo, cypresses and beech.

Lead-lined pond with rill, large pond with 5 tier waterfalls, stone clapper bridge, Victorian pond, thatched summerhouse, kitchen garden, 2 greenhouses, folly, shed, orchard, herbaceous borders, rockeries.



Photo Yeo Meads

Sunday 17th May

Watcombe, Winscombe, BS25 1BP.

Peter & Ann Owen, 01934 842666, peterowen449@btinternet.com.

Open 2 - 5. Adm £5, chd free. Tea, coffee & cake. Gluten-free available.

¾ acre mature Edwardian garden with colour-themed, informally planted herbaceous borders. Strong framework separating several different areas; pergola with varied wisteria, unusual topiary, box hedging, lime walk, pleached hornbeams, cordon fruit trees, 2 small formal ponds and growing collection of clematis. Many unusual trees and shrubs. Small vegetable plot.



Photo Watcombe

Sunday 24th May

Mellowstones, Freshford, Bath, BA2 7WL.

Mrs Jackie Kennedy.

Open 11 - 4. Adm £6, chd free. Tea, coffee & home-made cakes.

Developed over the last 5 yrs, this 1 acre south facing hillside terraced garden is set in woodland, with wonderful views across the Frome valley. The upper level has cottage garden plants and yew hedges, a quarry kitchen and a grass path through wild flowers to the summerhouse. The Mediterranean terrace has olive trees, a gravel planting area with stepping stones across a corten steel pond. The lower terrace is a formal garden leading to a grass path which extends through the sloping

wildflower orchard. Woodland and valley walks. Short distance from the canal.
Featured in English Gardens.

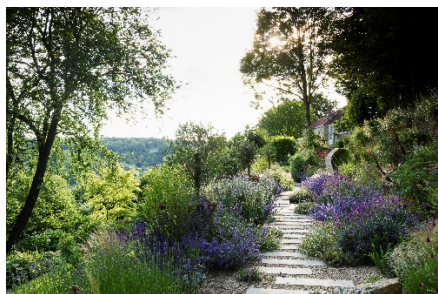


Photo Mellowstones

Saturday 30th May

Japanese Garden, Brislington, Bristol, BS4 4LS.

Martin Fitton, www.japanesegardenbristol.com.

Open 2 - 5. Adm £7, chd £3. Pre-booking essential, please visit www.ngs.org.uk for information & booking. Home-made teas.

As you walk through the gate you will be welcomed by Japanese Koi. Then take a step to another level to the relaxing Japanese garden room and tea house surrounded by acers and cloud trees. Walk past Buddha corner into the Bonsai and Zen water feature area. Continue to a Japanese courtyard through a gate to a peaceful Japanese tea garden. There you will find seating to enjoy the serene atmosphere. Please note steps to different levels means the garden is unsuitable for disabled access.

Sunday 31st May

81 Combe Lane, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, BS9 2AT.

Karl Suchy, 07873 588540, karl.suchy@icloud.com.

Open 12 - 5. Adm £6, chd free. Home-made teas.

Hidden Victorian walled garden. Substantial mixed borders contain traditional and contemporary planting. Large lawns, numerous seating areas, summerhouse and French inspired patio with coppiced lime trees. Parterre and large raised Koi pond surrounded by bananas and tree ferns. Garden featured on BBC Gardeners' World, in May 2025.

NOTES TO EDITORS

About the National Garden Scheme

The National Garden Scheme gives visitors unique access to over 3,300 private gardens in England, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands, and raises impressive amounts of money for some of the UK's best-loved nursing and health charities through admissions, teas and cake.

Thanks to the generosity of garden owners, volunteers and visitors we have donated more than £77 million to our beneficiary charities, and in 2025 made donations of over £3.8 million. Founded in 1927 to support district nurses, we are now the most significant charitable funder of nursing in the UK and our beneficiaries include Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie, Hospice UK and The Queen's Nursing Institute.

The National Garden Scheme doesn't just open beautiful gardens for charity – we are passionate about the physical and mental health benefits of gardens too. We fund projects which promote gardens and gardening as therapy, and in 2017, we launched our annual Gardens and Health Week to raise awareness of the topic. Our funding also supports the training of gardeners and offers respite to horticultural workers who have fallen on difficult times.

To find your perfect garden, visit [ngs.org.uk](https://www.ngs.org.uk), download the National Garden Scheme app or purchase the National Garden Scheme's Garden Visitor's Handbook, which is published annually and available via [ngs.org.uk/shop](https://www.ngs.org.uk/shop) and at all good book retailers.

For more see www.ngs.org.uk