



GARDEN VISITS & LECTURES SPRING PROGRAMME

January to April 2020

DGT Events Committee

LECTURES & VISITS TO GARDENS – CONTACT:

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DGT Website <http://www.dorsetgardenstrust.co.uk>

Booking for these events will be online only through the DGT website, starting on Wednesday 1st January 2020 (see booking instructions below)

There will be **no refunds** on tickets however tickets can be passed onto other members only.

Due to the popularity of garden visits, tickets are for members only. Lectures and study days are open to all. To help us make arrangements in advance we have introduced a surcharge for “on the door” tickets over those bought online.

For more information on membership please see the DGT website <http://www.dorsetgardenstrust.co.uk>

Committee: Annie Atherton, Carol Carsley, Wendy Cartwright, Henry Digby, Sandra Woods, Alan Eason, Phil Broomfield, Susan Collins

Thursday January 23rd

LECTURE

2:30pm *Banks' Florilegium* by Joe Studholme

Joseph Banks was a scientist and artist who accompanied Captain Cook on his 1771 voyage to observe the transit of Venus in the southern Pacific. This talk will describe his voyage and collection of exotic flora, recorded in meticulous artistic work at the time, and the road to publication. On his return to London in 1771, Banks determined to publish a grand scientific record of his botanical collection as a Florilegium. Over thirteen years, Banks employed five artists to

complete the field sketches drawn on board ship from the fresh specimens and eighteen engravers to create exquisite copper plate line engravings from the drawings. All of the 743 plants included for publication were new to European botany. Joe Studholme will bring with him examples of the original engravings and one of the plates, he was closely involved with British Museum with cataloguing and publishing these drawings. In 2017 Thames and Hudson published an edition of the Botanical treasures from Cook's first voyage and there will be an opportunity to see and buy this book and limited edition prints.

Venue: Durweston Village Hall Church Rd, Durweston, Blandford Forum
DT11 0QA

Cost: £10.00 online, tea and coffee included
£12.00 on the door, tea and coffee included

Tuesday February 11th QUIZ and Cream Tea
2:00pm – 4:00pm

This is a new venture for the Dorset Gardens Trust and we hope you and maybe your non-member friends will support it! There will be questions on gardens and horticulture, as well as some general knowledge questions, some easy, some difficult. There will be a small prize for the winning team. A cream tea will be served at half time.

We suggest teams of 4 to 6 people (6 maximum) per table. Book a whole table, part of a table, or if you would like to join a table or make up numbers for a table please contact as below. **Please note this event is not bookable through the web site (see below) and you should be prepared to pay in cash at the door (from 1.30pm)**

Venue: The Butterfly House, Castle Garden Centre, Sherborne Castle New Road, Sherborne DT9 5NR. There is plenty of free parking.

Cost: £6 per person (cash please) for tea and quiz.

Booking:

ha.atherton@gmail.com or 01305 549300

Wednesday March 11th

LECTURE

2:30pm *Russell Page and The Education of a Gardener* by Christopher Woodward
Director of The Garden Museum in Lambeth.

Russell Page (1906 - 1985) was the elusive genius of modern garden design. He designed over 500 gardens, from Turin to Caracas, from Badminton to Texas, and divided his life between high society and a rigorous, private Sufism. But apart from his book 'The Education of a Gardener' (1962) little was known about Page until the deposit of 3,000 design drawings in the Garden Museum Archive, together with the incomplete manuscript towards a second book on design. Christopher Woodward shares Page's life, and work, and his own journeys to discover Page's masterpieces with fresh eyes.

Christopher Woodward , director of the Garden Museum in Lambeth since 2006, master minded the eighteen month reconstruction of the Garden Museum. The Garden Museum (formerly known as the Museum of Garden History) in London is Britain's only museum of the art, history and design of gardens. The museum re-opened in 2017 after an 18-month redevelopment project.

If there is sufficient interest a coach trip might be arranged for later in the year to visit the Garden Museum.

Venue: Brownsword Hall, Poundbury, Dorchester DT1 3GW

Cost: £8.00 online, tea and coffee included
£10.00 on the door, tea and coffee included

Monday April 20th

VISIT

2:00pm Bloxworth House, Bloxworth, Wareham BH20 7EF

By kind permission of Mr and Mrs Mark Gearing

Bloxworth House is a beautiful Grade I Jacobean manor house surrounded by a remarkable garden which is lovingly cared for by its current owners, Mark and Claire Gearing. We are very fortunate to have been invited to visit the garden which is rarely open to the public. Built in 1608, Bloxworth House is reputedly the earliest domestic use of brick in Dorset. It was acquired by Sir John Trenchard in 1689 and, following the marriage of his grand-daughter Henrietta to Jocelyn Pickard, it remained within the ownership of the Pickard family and their descendants until the mid 1960's when the estate was sold and broken up. The gardens at Bloxworth were extensively remodelled in the late 1990's by Martin Lane Fox, the landscape and garden designer.

We shall be visiting Bloxworth in the Spring. The entrance drive sweeps past mature trees and drifts of narcissi, fritillaries and other bulbs to a parking area near the house. The front overlooks a striking ornamental canal flanked by Mediterranean pines, with a Grade II walled garden in one corner, and to the side there is a parterre and courtyard garden by the stable block. A gravel garden lies immediately to the south, filled with sun loving plants, followed by a series of terraces lined with holm oak standards and pleached limes together with a rose garden. To the west, a grass slope filled with more narcissi and primroses leads up to the boundary woodland where a large and varied collection of magnolias, camellias, cornus, azaleas and other ericaceous shrubs flourish in a pocket of acidic soil, unusual for this part of Dorset. The gardens at Bloxworth also feature a number of splendid mature trees. A climb through the wood is rewarded by a wonderful view back over the house and gardens and out to the Dorset countryside beyond.

There is limited parking so numbers limited to 40 (please car share where possible). The gardens include some steps and steep paths.

Bloxworth is about 5 miles from Athelhampton House with a restaurant and gardens open to the public which would make a pleasant morning visit.

Cost: £12.50 including refreshments

How to book tickets

Please note tickets are available to buy online via the link below from 1st January 2020 .

1. Click on the link below to take you to the online booking site:
<https://dorsetgardenstrust.eventcube.io/events>
2. From the online booking site, click into the event you would like to book tickets for.
3. Select the number of tickets you would like to purchase (maximum 2 per event; tickets for garden visits are for members only) and click **BUY TICKETS**, which will add them to your "basket".
4. To select additional tickets for a different event, click on **EVENTS** in the top left side of the webpage. This will return you to the main page listing all the events. Then repeat steps 2, 3 and 4 until you have chosen all your tickets.
5. Once you have chosen all your tickets, click on the **BASKET** button in the top right hand of the screen and select **CHECKOUT**.
6. Follow the instructions to complete the purchase of your tickets.
7. Once your ticket purchase is complete, you will be offered the option to download and print your tickets. You will also be emailed an e-ticket and can download and print your tickets from your email.
8. Print the full ticket to bring on the day for entry, unless you have a smart phone and can access your email from it to show the e-ticket upon arrival.

Please note that all garden visits are for members only as there are limited places on each visit. Lectures are open to members and non-members.

Advance notices

The Dorset Gardens Trust Annual General meeting will take place on 28th April at Wimborne St Giles Village Hall.

There will be a free guided tour of the St Giles House gardens. More details will be disseminated by email and on the website in due course.

We have visits already organised for May 2020, viz: Duck Pond Barn (am) and Belombe House (pm) near Bradford on Avon on May 6, and Edmonsham House on May 15th (am)

Booking will be with the summer programme available from early April, but you may like to note those dates.