

gardens OPEN

Shropshire gardens & churches open:

EASTER MONDAY Monday 9 April

MORVILLE TRAIL, Bridgnorth, Four gardens.

- (1) **The Dower House**, (Dr Katherine Swift) Morville Hall, 1 ½ acre sequence of gardens in various historical styles, including turf maze, 2pm-5pm (last entry) medieval garden, Elizabethan knot garden, formal vegetable garden, 17th century canal garden and wild garden. Scene of the 'Morville Hours' and 'Morville Year'.
- (2) **No. 1 The Gate House**, (Mr Ian and Mrs Pat Rowe), a ½ acre walled garden comprising kitchen, formal and woodland areas with colour-filled herbaceous borders.
- (3) **No. 2 The Gate House**, (Mrs Gillian Medland), a ¼ acre cottage style garden, with colourful borders.
- (4) **Poplar Cottage Farm** (Barry and Elizabeth Bacon), one-third-of-an-acre flower arranger's garden with 'rooms' giving year round interest and having a wide range of plants.

Morville Hall entrance on A458 midway between Bridgnorth and Much Wenlock or Poplar Cottage Farm ½ mile towards Much Wenlock from Morville on A458.

T (in the Church) **P W** (majority) **N/D**. Church: St Gregory the Great, Morville. Entry £5.00 Joint Ticket.

Sunday 13 May 12noon-5pm

MAWLEY HALL HOUSE AND GARDENS, Cleobury Mortimer DY14 8PN. Mr and Mrs Rupert Galliers Pratt.

The gardens were laid out in the 1960's and include rolling lawns, parterres, urns, monuments, a charming octagonal folly, a herb garden and a notable collection of ornamental trees. Magnificent views over the Clee and Malvern Hills.

The house dates back to 1730 and was designed by Francis of Warwick. The interior has beautiful plaster work by Francesco Vassalli and an Adam styled dining room.

1 mile north of Cleobury Mortimer on the A4117 and 7 miles west of Bewdley.

T W. Church: St Mary's, Cleobury Mortimer (in centre of town) DY14 8BX. Gardens: £3.50, House: £5.00.

2pm-5pm

LYNDALE HOUSE, Astley Abbots, Bridgnorth WV16 4SW. Bob and Mary Saunders.

Large garden. Pool with waterfall. Topiary. Replanted rockery with many unusual small trees & shrubs. Host of spring bulbs.

Off B4373 Bridgnorth/Broseley road, sign posted Astley Abbots and Colemore Green. Past church on opposite side of the road.

T P W. Church: St Calixtus. £3.50.

Sunday 20 May 2pm-5pm

GREDDINGTON, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 3DH. Lord and Lady Kenyon.

A charming garden of 16 acres including National Collections of Virburnum and Sarcococca. Many unusual trees and shrubs.

On the A539 between Hanmer and Penley.

T P W (partly). Church: St Chad's, Hanmer. £4.00.

2pm-5pm

THE CITADEL, Weston-under-Redcastle, Shrewsbury SY4 5JY. Mr and Mrs Beverley Griffiths.

4 acres with paths around and over a sandstone mound at its centre. Rhododendrons, Azaleas and Acers abound beneath a canopy of mature trees. Walled potager. Victorian thatched summer house with views to the Welsh mountains.

¼ of a mile out of the village of Weston-under-Redcastle on the road to Hodnet.

T P W (majority). Church: St Luke's, Weston-under-Redcastle. £3.50.

Sunday 27 May 11am-4pm

★ THE OLD FORGE, Baveney Wood, Cleobury Mortimer DY14 8JD. Jenny and Andy Vanderhook.

A garden with a difference. A conservationists garden designed with wildlife in mind. Bees, hay meadow, productive vegetable plot including greenhouse with resident vines and peach trees, large pond with waterside plantings.

On B4363 Cleobury Mortimer – Bridgnorth road, 2.75 miles, north east of Cleobury Mortimer.

T P. Church: St Mary's, Neen Savage. £3.50.

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1pm-5.30pm

SWALLOW HAYES, Rectory Road, Albrighton WV7 3EP. Mrs Pat Edwards.
2 acres, plantsman's garden. Many features. National Collection of Witch Hazels.
M54 Jct 3 – A41 towards Wolverhampton for 1 mile, Rectory Road on right.
T P W. Church: Donnington Church, Rectory Road. £4.50.

2pm-5pm

STOKESAY COURT, Onibury, Craven Arms, Shropshire SY7 9BD. www.stokesaycourt.com
20 acre grounds laid out in 1892 by E.H. Milner over earlier landscaping. Includes a lake, fountain and grotto. Fine rhododendrons, arboretum, pools and cascades, woodland walks and remains of the victorian plant houses.
Off A49, south of level crossing on western side.
T W (partly). Church: St Michael, Onibury. £3.50, under 16 free.

Sunday 3 June
2pm-5pm

COUND LEASOWES, Cound, Cressage, Shrewsbury SY5 6AF. Robert and Tricia Bland.
3 acre garden planted with a wide variety of perennials, shrubs and trees together with woodland containing a series of ponds which is under development.
On the A458 – Cressage Straight between Cross Houses and Cressage. Shared entrance off main road with Oakleys.
T W. Church: St Peter's, Cound. £3.00.

Sunday 10 June
2pm-6pm

THE WHITE HOUSE and **LEE BRIDGE HOUSE**, Lee Brockhurst, Shrewsbury SY4 5QH.
The White House (Mr and Mrs Jeremy Lusby): Large part woodland, hillside garden on several levels with sandstone rock backdrop. Varied and unusual plants, fruit trees and vegetable beds. Lots of steps.
Lee Bridge House (Brigadier and Mrs Alan Hedley): A small walled garden and sandstone courtyard with a range of planting. Roses, shrubs, fruit and vegetable beds on different levels.
Halfway between Shrewsbury and Whitchurch on the A49. Turn over the bridge, signposted to Lee Brockhurst and Aston.
Lee Bridge House facing as you turn, The White House next to it.
T P N/D. Church: St Peter's, Lee Brockhurst. £3.50 (joint entrance).

2pm-5.30pm

★ **LEIGHTON GARDEN TRAIL**
An interesting selection of gardens, a variety of sizes with some of them having woodland at the end of their gardens and small ponds with wildlife.
Starting point: Leighton Village Hall. B4380 Shrewsbury – Ironbridge road midway between Eaton Constantine and Buildwas. In the old village school opposite the Kynnersley Arms (now boarded up).
T P W (partly) **N/D**. Church (is down the drive of Leighton Hall): St Mary's, Leighton. £4.00.

Sunday 17 June
1pm-6pm

★ **RUYTON XI TOWNS GARDEN TRAIL**
Ten gardens of varying sizes, featuring vegetable gardens, flowers, ponds and woodland.
Starting point: St John the Baptist School, Church Street, Ruyton XI Towns SY4 1LA.
T P W (some) **N/D**. Church: St John the Baptist, Ruyton XI Towns. £4.00.

Sunday 17 June
2pm-5pm

★ **BURLTON TRAIL**
The Grove: ¾ acre with pond, mainly shrubs, (recovering from frosts of 2010).
Old Farm: Lovely views across fields, herbaceous borders.
The Hawthorns: Fabulous borders.
Deans Cottage: Real cottage garden.
Start at The Grove in Burlton.
T P W (majority). Church: St Anne's, Burlton. £3.50.

Sunday 24 June
12noon-6pm

CARDINGTON GARDEN TRAIL, a group opening of a range of garden types by a band of enthusiastic gardeners. Set in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Cardington offers one of the most attractive group openings in the Marches: including immaculate cottage gardens with topiary, a 2 acre vicarage garden with magnificent views, self-sufficient vegetable and fruit gardens, formal and water gardens, a romantic roomed garden with wild flower meadow. Something for every taste!
Starting point: St James's Church.
T P W (majority) **N/D** (dogs on leads allowed in some gardens, ask owners). Church: St James's, Cardington SY6 7JZ. £5.00.

Sunday 1 July
1pm-5.30pm

★ **SHREWSBURY GARDEN TRAIL**
Six delightful gardens within the loop of the river, varying from large to quite small, with good views of the surrounding countryside, fascinating architecture and hidden passages.
Starting point: St Alkmunds in the centre of Shrewsbury – approach church via Butcher Row, Fish Street, Grope Lane or Church Street. Parking available at Town Car Parks.
T (in the Church) **N/D**. Church: St Alkmunds, Shrewsbury. £5.00.



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- 1pm-5.30pm **★ SAMBROOK GARDEN TRAIL**, 3 gardens within walking distance.
Sambrook Manor: Wide selection of herbaceous plants and roses, new development leading to the river along the edge of the garden.
The Briars: Long garden with interesting well stocked pool, several rounded borders with wide range of herbaceous plants.
The Mill House: Undulating garden, opposite old corn mill millenium bridge at the mill and other interesting features.
Starting point: Sambrook Manor. Between Newport and Market Drayton on the A41.
T (in the Church) **P N/D**. Church: St Luke's, Sambrook. £4.00.
- Sunday 8 July** **SHERIFFHALES GARDEN TRAIL**
1.30pm-5.30pm
8/9 gardens around the village, each with its own character and interest.
Starting point: St Mary's Church, (map available in church). Just off A5 East of Telford.
T P. Church: St Mary's, Sheriffhales. £3.
- Saturday 14 July** **★ UPTON CRESSETT HALL**, Bridgnorth Shropshire WV16 6UH. William Cash. Email: enquiries@uptoncressett.co.uk
11am-5pm
Elizabethan and traditional English gardens with topiary and moated garden walk set within historic setting of Upton Cressett Hall, featured on the cover of Shropshire Magazine and awarded best "Hidden Gem" at the National 2011 Hudson's Heritage Awards. Described as a "Secret Jewel" of the county by Shropshire Star.
Starting point: Upton Cressett is located 3 miles west from Bridgnorth off A458 towards Shrewsbury. Signposted off A458.
T W (partly). Church: St Michael's Upton Cressett, fine 12th century Norman church with frescoes. Garden: £3.50. House & Garden: £6.50.
- Sunday 22 July** **POPLAR COTTAGE FARM**, Morville. Barry and Elizabeth Bacon.
2pm-6pm
A fine example of a flower arranger's garden (one-third-of-an-acre) with 'rooms' giving year round interest, containing a wide range of plants.
On A458 about ½ mile North West of Morville.
T P W N/D. Church: St Gregory the Great, Morville. £3.00.
- Sunday 5 August** **CLEOBURY MORTIMER GARDEN TRAIL**
12noon-5pm
A garden trail that winds its way around 6 or 7 delightful gardens of all shapes and sizes.
Starting point: St Mary's, Cleobury Mortimer. Midway between Kidderminster and Ludlow on A4117.
T P W. Church: St Mary's, Cleobury Mortimer and St Mary's, Neen Savage. £4.00.
- Sunday 19 August** **HARNAGE – TWO GARDENS OF GREAT INTEREST**
11am-5pm
Harnage Farm (Ken and Ann Cooke): Half-acre garden with wide range of herbaceous plants and shrubs, small vegetable plot. Fine views over Severn Valley. 15-minute walk through fields to Conservation Wood and Ian's Wildlife Pool.
T W N/D. Church: St Peter's Cound.
£5. Joint entrance with:
Stevenshill (Roland and Gay Bream): One acre on hillside with stunning views and a wealth of unusual trees, shrubs and plants. National Collections of Roscoea and Cautleya (several species will be in flower). Water feature and bog garden, Mediterranean patio and caged vegetable gardens.
P W N/D. Church: St Peter's, Cound.
Start at either garden (½ mile apart) A458 about 2 miles south-east of Cross Houses. Take the Cound/Harnage turn, cross bridge and immediately drive straight up hill, leaving War Memorial on the right.
- Sunday 23 September** **THE PATCH**, Acton Pigot, Acton Burnell Shrewsbury SY5 7PH. Mrs Godfrey Owen
11am-5pm
A plantsman's conservation garden with 4 National Collections of Camassias, Dictamnus, Veratrum and Nerine. Hardy species hybrids and cultivars. Plus many rare trees, plants and late lilies, roughly 1 ½ acres.
Well signposted from the A49 and A458.
T (in the Church) **P W N/D**. Church: St Michael and All Angels, Pitchford. £3.00.

KEY:

- T** = TEAS
P = PLANT STALL
W = PARTS SUITABLE FOR WHEELCHAIRS
N/D = NO DOGS (EXCEPT GUIDE DOGS)
If not stated, dogs allowed on lead
★ = NEW GARDENS TO THE LIST



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