

## Wed 20 May - NYMANS (NT) & HIGH BEECHES, Handcross - self drive/car share

**NYMANS - A Guided Tour.** *Highlights at Nymans in May: "Tree buds have burgeoned into acid-green leaves that slowly surround long-empty boughs like a cloak; herbaceous perennials shoot skywards with surprising energy and bulk out over bare earth, while bluebells envelop the Wild Garden in a mesmerising haze of blue. Late spring is a time of accelerated growth in the garden, when every day brings something fresh, something new to admire."*

Further to our November talk, given by Joe Whelan, Nymans's Head Gardener, Joe has given us the opportunity to have a Guided Group Tour of the beautiful C20, Grade II Listed gardens at Nymans. Our group will be led by Joe, or an experienced and knowledgeable garden guide and the tour will include seasonal highlights, including stars of the Nymans collection. We will hear the Nymans story, which includes a brief history of the Messel family and their home, how the gardens were created and how they are being cared for now.

In his presentation, we saw the proposed scheme to create a new landscape feature inside the roofless shell which was formerly part of the house, a kind of 'indoor-outdoor space' with contemporary art installations. It will be very interesting to see how this work has progressed.

Once the tour ends around 12 noon, we will have some free time to explore further, or have refreshments in their café. Nymans allows picnics in some areas. However, if you're not quite ready for your lunch just yet, then you have another option as you could move on to High Beeches, our next port of call, where it MAY be possible to have lunch there instead (read further information given below).

If you feel that Nymans will provide quite enough walking for you, then you have the option of foregoing High Beeches as you choose.

Nymans Tours are for a max. number of 15 people. With more than 15 we will form an additional group(s).

**HIGH BEECHES - A Wonderful Watery Woodland Wander** If you would like to continue to fill your lungs with good fresh air in lovely surroundings, then please do join us at High Beeches Gardens. High Beeches is an outstanding example of an early 20<sup>th</sup> Century woodland and water garden, 27 acres in size and an oasis of peace and tranquillity. Many, if not all of you have probably visited this garden before, but May is the best time to visit; the bluebells should be in flower as well as the many azaleas and later flowering rhododendrons.....and the views are lovely too! A provisional booking has been made for our visit on a **non-public opening day** and there is a good chance that we will have the gardens all to ourselves.

The Tea Room has a good selection of reasonably priced meals, light bites and cakes and, although it is normally closed on a Wednesday, it may be willing to open for us if we can confirm that sufficient people intend to have refreshments and/or lunches there to make it a viable proposition for them. In anticipation of your interest, we have asked them to pencil this into their diary and if you are interested in joining us on this outing, please return your application quickly, so that we can advise the Tea Room how many people they can expect. Alternatively, whilst picnics are not permitted in the gardens themselves, one or two picnic tables are available for use near to the entrance should you wish to bring a packed lunch.

**N.B:** The High Beeches element of this outing is a Group Visit, for which any membership cards/discount cards you may hold are not valid.

**Accessibility.** Access at Nymans is generally good around the house and garden areas and the guided tour will take account of mobility scooters users. The paths around the garden at High Beeches are unmade and uneven, steep in places and slippery when wet. Wheelchairs are not recommended. The Tea Room (if open) is fully accessible. There are disabled toilets.

**BASIC ITINERARY:** **NYMANS:** 10.30am Meet at Reception Office - 11am to midday Guided Tour - Free time  
**HIGH BEECHES:** 2.30pm Meet at the Garden Car Park - free time until closure of Garden at 5pm

### Tickets

Nymans tour £3.20pp for a National Trust member or £15.20pp for a non National Trust member

High Beeches - £8pp

Combined ticket - £11.20pp for NT member or £23.20pp for a non NT member

An application form is attached to this newsletter. Please complete and return by 6/4

**Wed 24 JUN**

**THE SAVILL GARDEN & RIVER BOAT CRUISE** (Coach Outing)

*How do you fancy a stroll through the beautiful Savill Garden in midsummer followed by a cruise along the Thames among the majestic swans, with views of Windsor Castle..... plus a cream tea to boot? Well, we have provisionally booked this group day out for 50 lucky people (for which bookings will be taken on a first come, first served basis).*

The Savill Garden is a hidden horticultural gem in the heart of Windsor Great Park. Since its creation in the 1930s, The Savill Garden has been an inspiration for all. The 35 acres of interconnected gardens should be glorious at this time of year. The roses should be in full bloom in the Golden Jubilee garden, where they are best viewed from the raised platform right in the centre; the borders will show a wonderful display of old fashioned musk roses inter-planted with shrubs and perennials and in the Dry Garden the water-wise gardeners will be able to take inspiration from the Mediterranean plants with their silver leaved foliage and herbal scents (look out for the great swathes of South African Angel's Fishing Rods).

In the afternoon our coach will shuttle us to Runnymede Boathouse for a 2-hour cruise along the river, with relaxed commentary along the way (no doubt we will hear all about the historic event of King John's sealing of the Magna Carta). A traditional cream tea is also included in the price of the outing for you to enjoy on our cruise; we will be able to scoff scones whilst waving at Windsor Castle, just in case anyone 'special' happens to be looking out of the window. On return to Runnymede, you could take a 'selfie' with Her Majesty the Queen (or, should I say, with the rather exquisite statue of her).

What about lunch? Picnics are not allowed inside the gardens themselves (for obvious reasons), but can be had on the Obelisk Lawn outside of the gardens, or alternatively, you can take advantage of all that's on offer in the Savill Building café.

**Accessibility:**

Due to the varied nature of the terrain, some areas of the gardens are more accessible than others and some wheelchair accessible areas require able-bodied assistance in places.

A map of the gardens showing all the accessible routes will be provided to us on arrival.

A limited number of non-motorised wheelchairs are available on a first come first served basis.

Accessible toilets are located in the Visitor Centre. Assistance will be provided for the transfer of scooter/ wheelchair users onto the cruise boat.

**ITINERARY:**

**8.00am** Meet outside United Reform Church, High Street, Lindfield to register. **Depart 8.15am sharp** arriving at The Savill Building Visitor Entrance at approx 10am. Free time in the gardens plus shopping before we leave for our cruise | **2.15pm sharp** Board the coach at Visitor Entrance for 15 min. shuttle to Runnymede for our cruise | **2.30pm** Arrive at French Brothers, Runnymede Boathouse **2.45 - 4.45pm** River Boat Cruise | **5.00pm** Depart Runnymede, returning direct to Lindfield, arriving at approx **6.30pm**

**TICKET PRICE: £45.00 per person**

**An application form is attached to this newsletter. Please complete and return by 12/5**

**Tue 7 JUL - THE HANNAH PESCHAR SCULPTURE GARDEN, Ockley** (Coach Outing)

## **Big Art, Big Heart!**

Heralded as one of the first of its kind in the UK, The Hannah Peschar Sculpture Garden has been exhibiting contemporary sculpture in a unique and magical environment for over 35 years. Set in the heart of the Surrey Hills, the garden is a work of art in its own right - designed by award-winning landscape architect Anthony Paul - and it is just as important as the sculpture on show. Bold groups of large-leafed plants and mature woodland trees support, frame and enhance a collection of contemporary sculptures in this stunning garden; a place where nature and art work in harmony to create a truly unique and magical environment.

On display, are 200+ pieces of contemporary works of art, the range varying from figurative to highly abstract and innovatively using contemporary metals, wire, glass, ceramics and plastics as well as the more traditional stone, wood and bronze. Each sculpture is placed in a carefully considered and meaningful relationship with the other featured works within the garden. The result is an inspired combination of peaceful, enclosed harmony and dramatic surprise vistas.

The overriding theme of the garden is the powerful relationship between art and nature. Neither one outshines the other; every piece is placed in harmony with its surroundings to create an amazing synergy within the environment.

We are lucky enough to have been given exclusive access to the garden on a non-public opening day, so we will have it all to ourselves to enjoy.

We're pleased to say that there is no tacky gift shop here and no noisy café with its smell of cooking chips either, but never fear, we will be fed and watered at the neighbouring Gatton Manor Golf and Country Club where we will start off our day with a morning coffee and a Danish pastry and where we will return in the afternoon to end our trip with a cream tea. (There is also a small area for picnics at Hannah Peschar).

**Accessibility:** Due to the nature of the terrain, being un-surfaced woodland paths with some steep slopes and steps, the majority of the gardens are not suitable for the use of mobility scooters or wheelchairs.

### **BASIC ITINERARY:**

**9.15am** - Meet outside United Reform Church, High Street, Lindfield to register

**Depart 9.30am sharp**

**10.30am** Arrive at Gatton Manor for morning coffee/tea - **11.30am** Coach shuttle to Hannah Peschar

Garden - **11.45am** Introductory talk & free flow around the garden - **3.00pm** Return to Gatton Manor for refreshments - **4.30-5.00pm** Depart Gatton Manor to arrive in Lindfield before 6.00pm.

**TICKET PRICE: £37.50 per person to include all snacks**

**An application form is attached to this newsletter. Please complete and return by 25/5**

**Wed 5 AUG - RHS HYDE HALL FLOWER SHOW, Chelmsford** (Coach Outing)

**(The Only Way Is Essex)**

Come and enjoy the lovely gardens at RHS Hyde Hall, nestled in the heart of rural Essex. The gardens, which are normally tranquil and peaceful, will actually be buzzing as it is the first day of their Annual Flower Show! And if last year's Flower Show at RHS Wisley is anything to go by, it promises to provide another fabulous day out for us, with specialist nurseries, gardening sundries, expert advice, craft and gifts, live music and tasty food and drink.

Each nursery will create a mini display garden, packed with ideas and inspiration for your own gardens.

You can pop in to the Garden Theatre to get some expert gardening tips and advice, gardening talks and a useful plant crèche ; enjoy a delicious array of food and drink from outlets around the show site, including the Lake View pop-up restaurant - serving drinks, snacks and tasty hot food; there will be live music in the afternoon as you browse; all this and we can enjoy a voyage of discovery in the gardens themselves.

The permanent gardens at Hyde Hall have an eclectic mix of traditional and modern styles which may give you a few ideas for your own. Highlights of Hyde Hall include the Dry Garden with its fantastic range of drought resistant plants and the Hilltop Garden with its roses and herbaceous borders, in addition to courtyard gardens, woodlands, herbaceous borders, global growth vegetable garden, ponds, island beds, lawns and much more. In fact, more than enough to keep us all on our feet for the entire day!

This outing is very reasonably priced as we are entitled to free admission for up to 55 people through our affiliation to the RHS. Therefore, the Ticket Price purely covers our travel costs. However, I'm sure you will find some lovely new plants to spend your money on.

**BASIC ITINERARY:**

<b>8.15 am</b>	Meet outside United Reform Church, High Street, Lindfield to register
<b>8.30am</b>	<b>Departure time</b>
<b>10.30am</b>	Anticipated arrival time at RHS Hyde Hall
<b>3.45pm</b>	Meet the coach at the meeting point as advised on the day
<b>4.00pm</b>	<b>Departure time</b>
<b>6.00pm</b>	Anticipated arrival in Lindfield

**TICKET PRICE: £19pp**

**An application form is attached to this newsletter. Please complete and return by 23/6**

**Monday 7 SEP - WORTH ESTATE & HAM COTTAGE** (Self-drive/Car Share)

**WORTH ABBEY AND GROUNDS - A Guided Tour** - To amplify his presentation on 'Worth and its Trees', in March, Dr Brian Doggett has kindly invited us along to Worth for a guided tour with him to admire the estate and trees for ourselves.

The beautiful 500 acre estate, once owned by Lord Cowdray, has many stately specimen trees which frame magnificent views across wooded hills. Dr Doggett believes that "trees are things that everyone sees but few notice" and he hopes to bring these tall treasures the attention they deserve. Other delights in the grounds include the Grade II listed Abbey Church, the compact Pinetum and the monks' Quiet Garden. Our viewing of Worth grounds promises to be a rare chance to get close to forest giants.

**HAM COTTAGE GARDEN (NGS).** The landscaped gardens at Ham Cottage, in Hammingden Lane, Highbrook, have been created from agricultural land over the last 30 years by LHS members Andrea and Peter Browne who are opening their garden gates exclusively to us for the afternoon so that we can explore their lovely garden and **enjoy teas, coffees and yummy cakes!**

The 8-acre garden is well established with year round colour bursting from the many borders and has a large bog and winter garden. A gentle stream flows down over the waterfalls into the woods beyond. Above the arboretum there is an amphitheatre within an old sandstone quarry.

**Optional Lunch** We thought you might like to stop for lunch between venues, so have made a provisional reservation at The Crown, Turners Hill, which will also give you the opportunity to socialise with any other LHS members who take up this option. For simplicity, the lunch we are offering is your choice from the sandwich menu (you can be assured that the sandwiches are really nice and filling). Refer to the Application Form for choices. NB No drinks are included in our ticket price and gratuities are at your discretion.

Please feel free to opt out of the sandwich lunch if you wish. You could order a meal from their full menu and pay independently, or alternatively, you can make your own arrangements during this period and reconvene with our party at Ham Cottage at 2pm.

**Accessibility: Worth:** The areas around the school buildings and abbey church buildings are accessible on hard surfaced paths, but the woodland walks and the quiet garden are un-surfaced and may be difficult to negotiate for wheelchair and mobility scooter users. **Ham Cottage:** The garden is reasonably accessible for wheelchairs and mobility scooters, although some areas may be difficult to negotiate.

**BASIC ITINERARY:** 10.00am Meet our escort at Worth in the Abbey Church Car Park, off Paddockhurst Road B2110 | Refreshments in the Barlow Room | 10.30am 1-hour Guided Tour of the grounds | 11.30am Visit to Worth Abbey Church | 12.00 noon Depart for lunch  
**Ham Cottage** 2.00pm Meet at Ham Cottage (field car park) | 5.00pm Garden closes

**COMBINED WORTH/HAM COTTAGE TICKETS PRICES:**

**£10.00pp** (excluding lunch)/**£16.95pp** (including a sandwich lunch, details of which are detailed on the Application Form which is towards the end of this Newsletter)

An application form is attached to this newsletter. Please complete and return by 26/7

## LHS OUTINGS APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. Please complete the specific form and send a separate cheque in favour of LHS for each outing.
2. I will acknowledge receipt of your application if you are able to include an email address.
3. Cheques will not be banked until it is certain that an outing is viable.
4. Tickets are initially only open to members of Lindfield Horticultural Society (LHS). If you have friends or family who would like to come on one or more of the outings, you are welcome to enclose a note giving me their names and I will put them on a waiting list for spare tickets. These additional applicants will be considered after we have reached the 'reply by date' as provided on each outing information sheet. Short notice enquiries on availability are always welcome.
5. I will send out 'virtual' tickets by email if you have provided an email address. If not, I will post to you providing you enclose a self-addressed and stamped envelope with your application.
6. Tickets will show the departure and approximate return times. Coach pick up point is usually the bus stop by the United Reform Church, Lindfield High Street, unless stated otherwise.
7. Ticket price covers the coach travel, the driver's tip and entry to the venues. Unless stated, nothing else is included.
8. If you have purchased a ticket based on your membership of the National Trust, RHS, HHA, Kew, Wakehurst or any other organisation, you must have your valid membership card with you on the day. If not, you may be liable to pay the full entrance fee.
9. Once your application has been received and acknowledged, if you then cancel, your fee is non-refundable unless we are able to resell your ticket.
10. Where appropriate, anyone going on an Outing should clearly detail allergies/dietary requirements on application forms

**Any problems, queries or comments do please contact Heather Hitchcock**

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