



Celebrating Cheshire's Year of Gardens 08

www.yearofgardens08.com

Highlight Events

16th & 19th January at Ness Botanical Gardens

Snowdrop Walks

Ness Gardens, Tel: 0151 353 0123, www.nessgardens.org.uk

12th-17th February at Chester Zoological Gardens

Orchid Festival

Chester Zoo, Tel: 01244 380 280, www.chesterzoo.org

Visit the exquisite orchid displays throughout the Zoo including guest services, Realm of the Red Ape, Tropical Realm, Oakfield Manor and the Grow Zone by the Ark Restaurant.

2nd February – 2nd March at Rode Hall

Snowdrop Walks

Rode Hall, Tel: 01270 873 237, www.rodehall.co.uk

March at Ness Botanical Gardens, Tatton Park, Little Moreton Hall, Combermere Abbey, Arley Hall & Gardens

Something Beautiful

Five Cheshire gardens will reveal commissioned sculptures by local artists. Hundreds of Cheshire residents will also be encouraged to design and build beautiful objects in their own gardens.

April at Quarry Bank Mill

Secret Garden Opens

Quarry Bank Mill, Tel: 01625 527 468, www.quarrybankmill.org.uk

The National Trust will open a unique late 18th century garden at the heart of the Georgian Quarry Bank Mill estate at Styal in Cheshire as part of Cheshire Year of Gardens 2008.

April at Arley Hall & Gardens and Capesthorpe Hall

Bluebell Festival

www.arleyhallandgardens.com / www.capesthorpe.com

A chance to see vast displays of bluebells in beautiful surroundings.

8th May–September at Tatton Park

Tatton Park Biennial

www.tattonparkbiennial.org

An outstanding array of specially commissioned artworks from emerging and established artists.

5th June at Jodrell Bank

Skies Eye View

Jodrell Bank, Tel: 01477 571 339, www.jb.man.ac.uk

On World Environment a 'GPS Drawing' events series centred on the Jodrell Bank Arboretum will be launched. With a dedicated website for the image downloads trackers will be able to see their walks online. Only pictures 'drawn' in our Arboretum will be loaded onto the website.

7th – 15th June at Tatton Park

Orchid Festival

Tatton Park, Tel: 01625 374 400, www.tattonpark.org.uk

Experience the delights of Orchids at Tatton's First Orchid Festival, part of Cheshire's Year of Gardens 08 programme of Orchid Events

21st June at Chester Zoological Gardens

Mid Summer Cycle

Chester Zoo, Tel: 01244 380 280, www.chesterzoo.org

A chance to explore Chester Zoo's 110 acres of beautiful grounds by bicycle.

28th & 29th June at Arley Hall and Gardens

Arley Garden Festival 2008

Arley Hall & Gardens, Tel: 01565 777 353, www.arleyhallandgardens.com

One of the highlights of the horticultural year in the Northwest.

28th & 29th June at Adlington Hall

Legends Tennis

Adlington Hall, Tel: 01625 829 206, www.adlingtonhall.com

A quintessentially English garden party accompanied by tennis from some of the world's great champions as they compete in the Boodles 2008 Nations Cup.

June & July at Ness Gardens

The Four Seasons

Ness Gardens, Tel: 0151 353 0123, www.nessgardens.org.uk

Music inspired by the 15,000 plants gathered from around the world.

July–August

Gawsworth Hall Outdoor Theatre

Gawsworth Hall, Tel: 01260 223 456, www.gawsworthhall.com

An all new concert in addition to the existing theatre season at Gawsworth Hall.

19th July at Cholmondeley Castle Gardens

Garden Party Concert

Cholmondeley Castle Gardens, Tel: 01829 720 383

Outdoor concert with fireworks in the Castle gardens.

23rd -27th July (23rd RHS Members only)

RHS Flower Show at Tatton Park

Tatton Park, Tel: 01625 374 400, www.tattonpark.org.uk

Celebrating its 10th anniversary, this year's RHS Flower Show at Tatton Park offers a truly unique day out for all garden lovers.

11th - 26th October at Chester Zoological Gardens

Pumpkin Festival

Chester Zoo, Tel: 01244 380 280, www.chesterzoo.org

Each child that brings a carved pumpkin with them receives free entrance to the Zoo. In addition to this the Twilight Zone is transformed in to a 'Horror Corridor' and whilst the bats are inside flying around the visitors heads, the elephants are out on their paddock smashing pumpkins!

25th & 26th October at Arley Hall and Gardens

Pumpkin "Olympics"

Arley Hall & Gardens, Tel: 01565 777 353, www.arleyhallandgardens.com

A horticultural show featuring such competitions such as best, biggest and ugliest pumpkin and athletic games with pumpkins

October at Norton Priory

Quince Festival

Norton Priory Museum & Gardens, Tel: 01928 569 895, www.nortonpriory.org

Norton Priory is the proud guardian of the National Tree Quince Collection, and this weekend will give visitors the chance to find out more about one of the most traditional of English fruits, what they look like and what to do with them! There will also be music, tours, story telling and family activities.

December

Something Wishful

A large celebratory event bringing Cheshire's Year of Gardens 08 to a close, with lantern parades, music, street arts, dance and fireworks.