exhibitions & events
March – September 2019
Events  March – September 2019

EXHIBITIONS
10th April - 6th May  Thomas Ryan PPRHA: The Call of the Palette
15th May - 9th June  Therese McAllister: The Colour of Nature
22nd - 30th June  An Óige Photography Exhibition
5th July - 12th Aug  Bill Fallover: For the Love of Trees
5th Sept - 18th Oct  Sculpture in Context

CONCERTS
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9th June  Contempo Quartet
12th June  Great Music in Irish Houses
17th July  National Concert Hall Gamelan Orchestra

SHOWS & FESTIVALS
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11th & 12th May  Sustainable Living Festival
20th & 21st July  RHSI Sweet Pea Show
27th & 28th July  Fuchsia and Pelargonium Society Dublin Show
17th Aug - 1st Sept  The Totally Terrific Tomato Festival
21st & 22nd Sept  Dahlia Show

THEMED TOURS
23rd & 30th March  Shamrocks and Shillelaghs
3rd March & 7th April  National Tree Week Walks
6th, 13th, 20th & 27th April  Floral Fascinations
27th April  Behind the Scenes: The Orchid House
4th, 11th, 18th & 25th May  Sensations – a sensorial tour of the Gardens
13th May  Biophilia
1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th June  Summer Biophilia
15th June  Behind the Scenes: The Rose Garden
6th, 13th, 20th & 27th July  Buds and Beats
10th July  Biophilia
13th July  Behind the Scenes: The Walled Kitchen Garden
3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st Aug  Pastimes in Past Times
22nd Aug  Biophilia
29th and 30th Aug  Behind the Scenes: The Museum and Herbarium
7th, 14th, 21st & 28th Sept  Sculpture in Context: Meet the Artists
7th, 14th, 21st & 28th Sept  Plants and Power: Botanical Imperialism
# Events March – September 2019

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<td>18th May</td>
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<td>Drop by Activities in the Children’s Garden</td>
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<td>8th June</td>
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<tr>
<td>15th June, 13th July &amp; 10th Aug</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd, 7th, 9th, 14th, 16th, 21st, 23rd, 28th &amp; 30th July</td>
<td>Drop by Activities in the Children’s Garden</td>
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## Kilmacurragh

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Exhibitions

**Wednesday 10th April - Monday 6th May**

**EXHIBITION: Thomas Ryan PPRHA – The Call of the Palette**

The National Botanic Gardens are delighted to present an exhibition of work by esteemed Irish artist Thomas Ryan PPRHA. Ryan has both painted and been associated with the Gardens for many years. For this exhibition, he will be showing a selection of works based on garden related themes including his famous rose paintings, landscapes and depictions of the long-dormant Waterlily House and lush depths of the Palm House, Ireland’s only tropical rainforest. Also on show will be rarely viewed works including ‘The G.P.O. 1916’, images of Marsh’s Library, the Pro-Cathedral and Castletown House.

For over half a century Ryan has been a well-known academic oil painter with his work residing in many major collections. Formerly President of the Royal Hibernian Academy (RHA) for 10 years, he has also served as Chairman of the RHA Trust, Honorary Member of the Royal Academy, London and Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh, Governor of the National Gallery of Ireland, President of the United Arts Club, Dublin, and President of the Limerick Art Society.

*Daily in the Gallery Space, Education & Visitor Centre*

**Wednesday 15th May – Sunday 9th June**

**EXHIBITION: Therese Mc Allister – The Colour of Nature**

Having trained at the renowned Studio di Nera Simi in Florence and in Ireland at the National College of Art and Design, Therese Mc Allister’s work is full of rich and vibrant studies of the National Botanic Gardens. She hails originally from the local area, and this latest exhibition, *The Colour of Nature* is a return to her Dublin roots. Come to the Gardens in the lead up to the exhibition, and you may even be lucky enough to glimpse the artist at work as she captures the spirit of the Gardens on her canvas.

*Daily in the Gallery Space, Education & Visitor Centre*

**Saturday 22nd – Sunday 30th June**

**EXHIBITION: An Óige Annual Photography Exhibition**

This annual visual treat, organised by the An Óige Photographic Group, is now in its 81st year! Featuring a wide range of prize-winning images, this year’s show includes a selection exploring the diversity of the National Botanic Gardens.

*Daily in the Gallery Space, Education & Visitor Centre*
Friday 5th July – Monday 12th August
EXHIBITION: Bill Fallover – For the Love of Trees
Bill uses a unique painting style to capture the essence of some of the wonderful trees growing in the National Botanic Gardens, Kilmacurragh, Co. Wicklow. He has worked in publishing, advertising and freelance design before becoming a film production designer for TV. He has lived in Ireland for the last 30 years, creating works of art, designing and making models for museums, film and television.
*Daily in the Gallery Space, Education & Visitor Centre*

Thursday 5th September – Friday 18th October
EXHIBITION: Sculpture in Context
Sculpture in Context will present a thought-provoking collection of work that bridges the gap between art and nature, organic forms and man-made objects. The magical natural setting of the National Botanic Gardens will play host to an impressive collection of contemporary works by over 120 Irish and international artists. Over 140 sculptures, from the surreal and simple to the fantastical, will be found nestling in the shrubberies and standing in the shade of the trees throughout the extensive gardens, as well as throughout the ponds, Great Palm House, and Curvilinear Range, with smaller works exhibited in the Gallery in the Visitor Centre.
*Daily throughout the Gardens and Gallery, Education & Visitor Centre*

Friday 8th March
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY LECTURE – Magic and Medicine: Women and the history of healing plants
This illustrated talk focuses on women’s cures for female concerns, such as fertility. Women healers and their folk knowledge of local flora were a mainstay of healthcare for generations in communities around the world. However, wise women were frequently feared, labelled and painted as witches through the biases of the age. This talk aims to untangle fact from fiction and highlight an important part of Ireland’s cultural heritage which has largely been forgotten.
*3.00pm. Education & Visitor Centre*

Thursday 14th March
LECTURE: Expanding the Collections at Mount Stewart
Neil Porteous is head of all National Trust gardens in Northern Ireland. He is also head gardener in Mount Stewart, where he has overseen the restoration and replanting of the famous garden originally laid out by Lady Edith Londonderry. Neil will be speaking to us about his travels and how these relate to the expansion of the collections at Mount Stewart.
*8.00pm at the Education & Visitor Centre*
Organised with the Irish Garden Plant Society and the Alpine Garden Society

Wednesday 20th March
LECTURE: Designing with Plants at Great Dixter
With Fergus Garrett, Head Gardener at Great Dixter House & Gardens in East Sussex, UK.
*8.00pm at the Education & Visitor Centre*
Members and students €5, non-members €8
Organised with the Royal Horticultural Society of Ireland

Saturdays 23rd & 30th March
THEMED GUIDED TOUR: Shamrocks and Shillelaghs – Irish Plant Folklore, Myths and Legends
The month of the feast of Saint Patrick brings this special Irish plants and folklore tour. Hear about the magical myths and legends surrounding Irish plants and trees from ancient to modern times. Find out which plant is ‘the real shamrock!’ Meet the Nobles of the Wood, and hear tales of fairies in the forests.
*2.30pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre*
€5 per person
Friday 29th March
CONCERT: Baroque Music Concert/Masterpieces of the 17th century Vasa’s Court
Chant21 returns to the Gardens! Soothe your soul with the finest selection of the best early 17th-century Italian and Polish music, composed under the patronage of the Polish kings of the Vasa dynasty. Join Jacek WisLocki (tenor), Theresa Burton (recorder) and Jerzy Zak (archlute) and let our music weave its magic...
8.00pm, Education & Visitor Centre
€18/€12 per person. Booking essential

Saturday 30th March
GARDEN WORKSHOP:
How to Create a Bountiful Back Garden
Get creative in the vegetable garden! Let organic gardening expert Niamh Donohoe show you how to get started with edible landscaping - how to mix flowers with vegetables, the benefits of companion planting and the delicious world of edible flowers.
2.30pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre
€25 per person. Booking essential
https://bountifulbackgarden.eventbrite.ie

Sunday 31st March - Sunday 7th April:
NATIONAL TREE WEEK

NATIONAL TREE WEEK WALKS FOR SCHOOLS - Booking Essential
Explore the Gardens for some fascinating tree tales and facts on native and exotic trees alike, while learning how to identify some of our most popular trees.
Suitable for 1st class and up.
Booking essential

Sunday 31st March and Sunday 7th April
NATIONAL TREE WEEK WALKS: Intriguing Trees
In celebration of National Tree Week, this tour visits many majestic and interesting old trees throughout the Gardens, exploring their secret world, their inner workings and even how they communicate with one another! Also taking place amongst the trees of the National Botanic Gardens, Kilmacurragh - please see Kilmacurragh section for more details.
2.30pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre

Monday 1st April
NATIONAL TREE WEEK LECTURE:
Are your Roadside Trees Safe?
Joseph McConville, President of the Tree Council of Ireland
Are street and roadside trees being removed unnecessarily, without being surveyed for safety? In a new leaflet for landowners throughout the country being launched today by The Tree Council, these issues and concerns are outlined and examined.
2.00pm. Education & Visitor Centre
**April 2019**

**DAILY GUIDED WALKS: Spring Blossoms**
This spring, take a rejuvenating guided tour amidst the splendid spring blossoms and foliage! Hear the stories of the cultivation, ecology and folklore of our beautiful plant collections. This enjoyable stroll features colourful tulips, delicate cherry blossoms and fragrant narcissi amongst many other delightful blooms, and is the ideal way to welcome in the new season.

*Monday – Saturday 11.30am and 3.00pm. €5 per person
Sunday 12.00pm and 2.30pm. Free of charge*

**Thursday 4th April**

**FLASH FICTION COMPETITION SHOWCASE: Writing for a Change**
The Irish Writers Centre, in partnership with the National Botanic Gardens and the Five Lamps Arts Festival, have just hosted a Flash Fiction and Creative Non-Fiction competition themed around Climate Change, asking writers to embrace this concept through short new pieces of contemporary writing which reflect or illustrate climate change in an innovative, relevant and illuminating manner. Come along to this showcase event where the winners will read their work alongside commissioned writers.

*7.30pm – 9.30pm, Education & Visitor Centre
https://irishwriterscentre.ie/products/writing-for-a-change-flash-fiction-competition*

**Saturdays 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th April**

**THEMED GUIDED TOUR: Floral Fascinations**
Throughout the ages, certain flowers and plants have intrigued, enchanted and even obsessed human beings. From orchidelirium to tulip mania, many of these preoccupations even have their own names. Hear tales of Victorian plant hunters in our beautiful historic glasshouses, of the current Instagram craze for succulents, and all about Hanami in Japan, where the Cherry Blossom forecast is the subject of national and international coverage.

*2.30pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre
€5 per person*

**Saturday 6th April**

**GARDENING WORKSHOP: Introduction to Organic Gardening**
Let loose the growing potential of your back garden! If you are new to gardening, or have been unhappy with the results of your earlier attempts, this class is for you. Join Organic Gardener Niamh Donohoe and learn the skills to grow your own organic fruit and veg.

*2.30pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre
€25 per person. Booking essential
https://introtoorganicgardening.eventbrite.ie*
Sundays 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th and Tuesdays 16th & 23rd April
EASTER KIDS DROP-BY ACTIVITIES
Join us for fun springtime garden activities in the dedicated Children’s Erasmus Garden! Check out our Facebook page to find out the week’s activity in advance.
Suitable from ages 4 and up. All children must bring their own grown-up!
11.00am, 11.30am, 3.00pm & 3.30pm
No booking required, first-come first-served

Saturday 13th April
IQUA OUTREACH TALK: Ireland and the Ice Age
The Irish Quaternary Association (IQUA) is delighted to offer a general public seminar on the ice age in Ireland, including presentations by Professor Pete Coxon of Trinity College Dublin (as seen on RTE’s ‘Secrets of the Irish Landscape’), regular contributor on climate issues in Irish media Professor John Sweeney of Maynooth University, and Dr Bethan Davies, MSc. course coordinator on Quaternary Sciences at London’s Royal Holloway University. The seminar will be chaired by the acclaimed journalist and environmental correspondent Lorna Siggins.
4.00pm – 6.00pm. Admission free.
Registration required: www.iqua.ie

Saturday 13th April
GARDENING WORKSHOP: Heavenly Herbs
Have you thought of creating a herb garden at home? Get started with some top tips from Gardener Ita Patton. Hear about traditional uses of herbs in medicine, cosmetics and in the kitchen, and learn how to propagate your own from cuttings in the nursery. A wide range of plants will be covered including annuals and perennials, featuring both familiar herbs and some lesser-known varieties.
2.30pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre €25 per person.
Booking essential https://heavenlyherbs.eventbrite.ie

Wednesday 10th April - Monday 6th May
EXHIBITION: Thomas Ryan PPRHA – The Call of the Palette
Daily in the Gallery Space, Education & Visitor Centre

Saturday 13th April
CHILDREN’S ART WORKSHOPS:
Budding Artists & Hardy Annuals
Join our budding artists, a creative workshop especially for younger children, or hardy annuals, a guided creative discovery of the natural world for older children. Under the attentive eye of artist Niamh Synnott, children are encouraged to take a closer look at the natural world all around them, to observe, engage and be inspired by their surroundings in fun art-making activities.
Budding Artists suitable for 4 to 7-year-olds.
11.00am – 12.30pm
Hardy Annuals suitable for 8 to 12-year-olds.
2.00pm – 4.00pm
€10 per person. Booking essential

Monday 22nd April
EARTH DAY KIDS DROP-BY ACTIVITIES
As part of Earth Day’s ‘Protect Our Species’ campaign, come along to the Children’s Education Garden and plant some bee-friendly seeds in recycled pots. Bring them home and plant in your own garden to feed bees, butterflies and other pollinators.
Suitable from ages 4 and up. All children must bring their own grown up
11.00am, 11.30am, 3.00pm & 3.30pm
No booking required, first-come first-served

Wednesday 24th April
LECTURE: The Terns of Rockabill – A Warden’s Perspective
Rare ocean travellers on an uninhabited island off the city’s coast, the roseate terns of Rockabill have a uniquely fascinating story. Brian Burke of BirdWatch Ireland discusses these birds, their life at sea and the conservation management of their breeding habitat on Rockabill Island, Co. Dublin.
7.45pm. Education & Visitor Centre
Organised with Birdwatch Ireland
Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th April
ORCHID FAIR
A wide variety of beautiful orchids take centre stage during the annual Orchid Fair at the Teak House. This event is of interest to novice and accomplished growers alike, and provides an opportunity to source orchids, books and sundries from the experts.

Also taking place will be talks on growing orchids, and a slideshow illustrating the orchid collection at Glasnevin during the time of former curator, Frederick Moore.

Daily in the Teak House

Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th April
DEMONSTRATION: Potting and Growing Orchids
Join Sarah Ritterhausen to learn all you need to know about orchid growing, potting and cultivation of orchids.

11.00am in the Teak House

Saturday 27th April
BEHIND THE SCENES GUIDED TOUR: The Orchid House
Take an in-depth look at the historic orchid collection at Glasnevin, housed in its award-winning restored Victorian glasshouse. Learn insider tips on how it is managed and maintained and get a special glimpse of some of the rare and remarkable specimens.

3.30pm. Education & Visitor Centre

Tuesday 30th April, Wednesday 1st & Thursday 2nd May
LIVE TV BROADCAST FROM THE BOTANIC GARDENS
Weather Live is back! The Teak House in Glasnevin plays host to Kathryn Thomas and some familiar faces from Met Éireann as we continue the conversation on one of our favourite topics - the weather! With evenings getting longer and temperatures rising, Weather Live investigates the science behind these annual changes with a mixture of conversation, experiments and audience engagement.

If you would like to attend one of these shows please contact weatherliveaudience@gmail.com
**May 2019**

**DAILY GUIDED WALKS: Bloomin’ Summer**
Walking through the Gardens in summertime when so many flowers are in bloom is a magnificent experience. Join our special guided tour and hear all about the plants, design and history of the stunning Herbaceous Border, Annual and Bedding Displays, the Rose Garden and much more.

*Monday – Saturday 11.30am and 3.00pm. €5 per person  
Sundays 12.00pm and 2.30pm. Free of charge*

**Continuing until Monday 6th May**
**EXHIBITION: Thomas Ryan PPRHA - The Call of the Palette**
Daily in the Gallery Space, Education & Visitor Centre

**Thursday 2nd May**
**MÉRA CLIMATE WORKSHOP**
MÉRA, a long-term dataset produced by Met Éireann, builds over time a complete and consistent weather and climate record; data which is then applied widely in renewable energy planning, insurance risk assessment, potato blight treatment, air quality measures and any other applications requiring climate observation data. This workshop comprises a series of presentations by users and an open discussion session where potential uses and future collaborations and plans will be discussed.

*9.30am – 3.30pm, Education & Visitor Centre  
Admission free. Booking essential  
www.eventbrite.ie/e/mera-workshop-2019-tickets-51462051381 (password mera2019)*

**Saturdays 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th May**
**THEMED GUIDED TOUR: Sensations – a Sensorial Tour of the Gardens**
We are constantly interpreting the world using at least one of our senses, and unconsciously use the others in combination throughout every single day. Explore the diverse world of the Gardens in a myriad of ways with this multi-sensory tour. View the beds in their array of blooming colour, listen to the rustle and swish of the grass garden, inhale calming lavender in the organic vegetable garden, run your hands over the warm bark of a Giant Redwood Tree, and learn how our senses work together to build the world we experience around us.

*2.30pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre  
€5 per person*

**Sundays 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th May**
**SUNDAY KIDS DROP-BY ACTIVITIES**
Kids, join us for fun activities in the dedicated Children’s Erasmus Education Garden! Each week we will have a different activity to help you to become an expert gardener. Sow your own vegetable and flower seeds, make seed bombs, design bug hotels or re-use everyday things to create your own piece of eco-art. Check out our Facebook page to find out the week’s activity in advance!

*Suitable from ages 4 and up. All children must bring their own grown-up!  
11.00am, 11.30am, 3.00pm & 3.30pm  
No booking required, first-come first-served*

**Saturday 11th May**
**CHILDREN’S ART WORKSHOPS: Budding Artists & Hardy Annuals**
See April 13th for details.
**Sustainable Living Festival**

A week-long conversation exploring the impact sustainable living can have on climate change and the environment.

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**Wednesday 8th May**  
**COMPOSTING WORKSHOP**
Join the ‘Master Composter’ team from the National Botanic Gardens for their informative tips on how to reduce food waste and succeed in producing top-quality organic compost at home.  
3.00pm. Admission free. Booking essential

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**Thursday 9th May**  
**CONVERSATION: The Great Food Debate**
We are what we eat. Not only do our bodies reflect what we eat but increasingly we are realising that what we put on our plates impacts on the world around us. There is a continuing discussion of the impact of what the meat industry has on the environment. If we eat more organic meat and vegetables, will this have any impact? Should we eat a vegetarian only diet or should we be all be vegan? Join the conversation with vegan and vegetarian food producers including Deirdre McCafferty of Cornucopia Restaurant and Christy Stapleton of The Green Door Market, well known organic vegetable grower.  
7.30pm. Education & Visitor Centre

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**Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th May**  
**SUSTAINABLE LIVING FAIR**
Living sustainably can be a challenge, with a complex range of choices available to lighten our impact on the earth. What changes can we make ourselves at home, at work and in our community? Take part in our festival and discover practical, affordable tips on how to reduce your environmental footprint with achievable effort. This two-day family-friendly event will showcase a fabulous range of demonstrations, market and food stalls, soapbox talks, kids’ activities and exhibits from a wide variety of community groups and businesses.  
Follow our website and Facebook page for further details  
10.00am – 5.00pm, Education & Visitor Centre

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**Saturday 11th May**  
**GARDENING WORKSHOP: Urban Vegetable Growing in Small Spaces**
Thinking of growing your own grub yet stuck for space? Why not start a miniature kitchen garden on your windowsill? Join Gardener Niamh Donohoe at this workshop demo and find out how to grow and tend to choice vegetables, salads and herbs that thrive in boxes.  
2.30pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre  
€25 per person. Booking essential  
https://urbanveggrowing.eventbrite.ie

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**Monday 13th May**  
**THEMED GUIDED TOUR: Biophilia**
Get outside and active on a summer’s day with this journey round the globe and through the senses! Find out how and why humans bond with the natural world the way we do, explore nature’s myriad gifts of physical health and mental wellbeing, and learn how we can share these benefits in our homes, gardens and communities to help us reconnect with natural rhythms and landscapes.  
2.30pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre  
€5 per person

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**Tuesday 14th May**  
**AFTERNOON LECTURE: Plants before Plastic**
Plastic pollution is a problem born in the mid-20th century. So what did we use before plastic? Bottles, toys, labels, and other everyday objects were made from plant material or even bone and antlers. Also, the majority of produce was raised locally and seasonally so there was less packaging needed. From bananas and palms to nettles and a great diversity of woods, find out about the natural alternatives to plastic with Charlotte Salter-Townshend, guide at the National Botanic Gardens.  
3.00pm, Education & Visitor Centre

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**Wednesday 15th May**  
**AFTERNOON LECTURE - Wiggly Worms: The Importance of Worms in your Garden**
Horticulture expert Dr. Paul Fitters gives an in-depth account of these unassuming yet essential soil animals, from microscopic nematodes to burrowing earthworms to their nemesis the dreaded New Zealand flatworm. Fascinating aspects of worm biology, behaviour and soil activity will be unearthed, as well as live worms on display to help ID them in your garden.  
3.00pm, Education & Visitor Centre

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**Sustainable Living Festival**  
A week-long conversation exploring the impact sustainable living can have on climate change and the environment.
**Wednesday 15th May – Sunday 9th June**

**EXHIBITION: Therese Mc Allister – The Colour of Nature**

*Daily in the Gallery Space, Education & Visitor Centre*

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**Wednesday 15th May**

**LECTURE: Birds of the Botanic Gardens**

Any visit to the Gardens reveals a colourful, charming and sometimes noisy array of our feathered friends. But how many types are there, and how do they live here? This lecture looks at the common birds to be seen in both summer and winter throughout the various habitats of the Gardens, some of which may surprise!

*7.45pm. Education & Visitor Centre*

*Organised with Birdwatch Ireland*

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**Saturday 18th May**

**FAMILY EVENT: Garden Bird Safari**

Join Glynn Anderson, Botanic Gardens Head Guide and author of ‘Birds of Ireland: Facts, Folklore & History’ for a guided walk uncovering the rich bird life of the Gardens and their fascinating stories. Bring binoculars if you have them, and take a closer look!

*10.00am. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre*

*Admission Free. Booking essential*

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**Friday 24th May**

**BIODIVERSITY WEEK: Twilight Nature Ramble**

Join us for a family-friendly twilight nature ramble through the Gardens, meeting up before sunset to hear the birds’ evening chorus, see what night roosts we can find and watch the birds heading to roost. Once the sun goes down we will look and listen for nocturnal creatures and then use a bat detector to listen for bats, weatherpermitting. Bring binoculars and bat detectors if you have them, and suitable outdoor clothes.

*7.30pm – 9.30pm*

*€5 per person*

*Booking essential*

*https://twilightnatureramble.eventbrite.ie*

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**Sunday 26th May**

**BIODIVERSITY WEEK: Bee Event**

As part of their ‘People for Bees’ programme, the Irish Wildlife Trust is delighted to be invited to the National Botanic Gardens for this wild bee monitoring and habitat creation workshop. Learn the basics of bumblebee identification as well as tips for pollinator-friendly actions you can take in your garden, through indoor and outdoor sessions.

*11.00am – 2.00pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre*

*Admission free. Booking essential contact conservation@iwt.ie*
June 2019

DAILY GUIDED WALKS: Bloomin’ Summer
Walking through the Gardens in summertime when so many flowers are in bloom is a magnificent experience. Join our special guided tour and hear all about the plants, design and history of the stunning Herbaceous Border, Annual and Bedding Displays, the Rose Garden and much more.
Monday – Saturday 11.30am and 3.00pm. €5 per person
Sundays 12.00pm and 2.30pm. Free of charge

Continuing until Sunday 9th June
EXHIBITION: Therese Mc Allister – The Colour of Nature
Daily in the Gallery Space, Education & Visitor Centre

Saturdays 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th June
THEMED GUIDED TOUR: Summer Biophilia
Midsummer heralds the return of our highly popular Biophilia tour, first brought to you in the depths of winter and now in full glorious summer colour! Take a journey around the globe and through the senses to find out how and why humans perceive the natural world as we do, the myriad gifts it bestows in the form of physical health and mental wellbeing, and some ways in which we can share these benefits in our homes, gardens and communities to re-forge our instinctive bond with nature and reconnect to its rhythms.
2.30pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre
€5 per person

Sundays 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th June
SUNDAY KIDS DROP BY ACTIVITIES
Kids, join us for fun activities in the dedicated Children’s Erasmus Education Garden! Each week we will have a different activity to help you to become an expert gardener. Sow your own vegetable and flower seeds, make seed bombs, design bug hotels or re-use everyday things to create your own piece of eco-art. Check out our Facebook page to find out the week’s activity in advance!
Suitable from ages 4 and up. All children must bring their own grown-up!
11.00am, 11.30am, 3.00pm & 3.30pm
No booking required, first-come first-served

Saturday 8th June
CHILDREN’S ART WORKSHOPS:
Budding Artists & Hardy Annuals
Join our budding artists, a creative workshop especially for younger children, or hardy annuals, a guided creative discovery of the natural world for older children. Under the attentive eye of artist Niamh Synnott, children are encouraged to take a closer look at the natural world all around them, to observe, engage and be inspired by their surroundings in fun art-making activities.
Budding Artists suitable for 4 to 7-year-olds
11.00am – 12.30pm
Hardy Annuals suitable for 8 to 12-year-olds
2.00pm – 4.00pm
€10 per person. Booking essential

Sunday 9th June
CONCERT: ConTempo Quartet
Having begun in Bucharest and quickly established themselves on the world stage, this supremely talented quartet now bring a feast of treats to the National Botanic Gardens in Dublin. Featuring favourites such as Bach’s Air on a G string, the Pizzicato Polka by Strauss, Four for Tango by Piazzolla and Bartok’s Romanian Dances to name but a few, this afternoon of botanical and musical indulgence is sure to put a pep in your step!
3.30pm. Education & Visitor Centre
€15 per person. Booking essential
https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/contempo-quartet-at-the-national-botanic-gardens-tickets-57382406322
Wednesday 12th June
CONCERT: Great Music in Irish Houses – The Pavel Haas Quartet
The National Botanic Gardens provides the picturesque background for a magical summer’s evening, a concert by the passionate and virtuosic Pavel Haas Quartet. Since making its Irish début at the 2007 Great Music in Irish Houses Festival, this Czech ensemble has gone on to cement its place in the top league, having been described by Gramophone Magazine as ‘the world’s most exciting string quartet’. Thrill to these exhilarating musicians performing classic chamber pieces by Beethoven, and their own compatriot Dvořák, in the beautiful surrounds of the midsummer Gardens.
8.00pm. Education & Visitor Centre
€30/€25 per person. Booking essential: www.greatmusicinirishhouses.com

Saturday 15th June
CHILDREN’S EVENT: Pond Dipping
Explore the weird and wonderful diversity of insects and mini-beasts living in and around the ponds at the National Botanic Gardens. Perfect your technique with guidance from the experts, and learn how to identify some amazing underwater creatures. Once you’ve discovered this hidden world, you’ll never look at ponds the same way again!
Suitable for children age 8 and upwards
11.00am. Admission Free. Booking essential
Organised with the Irish Wildlife Trust

Saturday 22nd – Sunday 30th June
EXHIBITION: An Óige Annual Photography Exhibition
Daily in the Gallery Space, Education & Visitor Centre

Friday 28th and Saturday 29th June
ADULT WORKSHOP: Paper making
Explore the process of handmade paper-making in just 2 hours with this afternoon session especially for adults. Make pulp using recycled material and natural plant-based dyes. Infuse the paper with seeds to make plantable paper, or add pressed petals and leaves to give a decorative finish.
2.00pm – 4.00pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre
€25 per person. Booking essential

Saturday 29th June
THEATRE: A Midsummer Night’s Dream
Chapterhouse Theatre Company presents Shakespeare’s best-loved romantic comedy. Let yourself be whisked away on a thrilling journey to the most magical of forests and meet star-crossed lovers, playful fairies and hilarious travelling players. Beautifully designed Elizabethan costumes, a wonderful musical score, and enchanting woodland creatures come together to make this an evening of unmissable summer garden theatre.
7.00pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre
Booking essential www.chapterhouse.org
DAILY GUIDED WALKS: Bloomin’ Summer
Walking through the Gardens in summertime when so many flowers are in bloom is a magnificent experience. Join our special guided tour and hear all about the plants, design and history of the stunning Herbaceous Border, Annual and Bedding Displays, the Rose Garden and much more.
Monday – Saturday 11.30am and 3.00pm. €5 per person
Sundays 12.00pm and 2.30pm. Free of charge

Monday 1st – Friday 5th July
TEACHERS’ SUMMER COURSE: A Course Outdoors
This popular accredited course is designed for primary school teachers, and focuses on the outdoor classroom. It includes behind-the-scenes tours, seashore ecology and native plant and tree identification field trips.
Booking & information: acourseoutdoors@gmail.com

2nd, 7th, 9th, 14th, 16th, 21st, 23rd, 28th & 30th July
SUNDAYS & TUESDAYS KIDS DROP BY ACTIVITIES
Kids, join us for fun activities in the dedicated Children’s Erasmus Education Garden! Each week we will have a different activity to help you to become an expert gardener. Sow your own vegetable and flower seeds, make seed bombs, design bug hotels or re-use everyday items to create your own piece of eco-art. Check out our Facebook page to find out the week’s activity in advance!
Suitable from ages 4 and up. All children must bring their own grown-up!
11.00am, 11.30am, 3.00pm & 3.30pm
No booking required, first-come first-served

Friday 5th July – Monday 12th August
EXHIBITION: Bill Fallover – For the Love of Trees
Daily in the Gallery Space, Education & Visitor Centre

Saturdays 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th July
THEMED GUIDED TOUR: Buds and Beats
Come on a different type of tour in which we explore the relationship between plants and sound! Humans have used plants for centuries to make music; learn about some of these fascinating species and how they have inspired us, take a listen to some plants - and discuss whether they might be listening back!
2.30pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre
€5 per person

Wednesday 10th July
THEMED GUIDED TOUR: Biophilia
Get outside and active on a summer’s day with this journey round the globe and through the senses! Find out how and why humans bond with the natural world the way we do, explore nature’s myriad gifts of physical health and mental wellbeing, and learn how we can share these benefits in our homes, gardens and communities to help us reconnect with natural rhythms and landscapes.
2.30pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre
€5 per person

Thursdays 11th and 25th July
CHILDREN’S WORKSHOP: Budding Botanist – Collecting and Pressing Flowers
Ever wondered how to preserve plants, or wanted to start your very own plant collection? Get great tips and discover how you can become a plant hunter! Join our guides on an expedition through the Botanic Gardens, identifying and collecting suitable plants for pressing before constructing your very own flower press, or create some beautiful botanical designs with our pre-dried plants!
Suitable for age 6 and up
11.00am
Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre
Admission Free. Booking essential
Fridays 12th, 19th & 26th July
WORKSHOP: Beginner’s Photography with Eamon O’Daly of the Outdoor Studio
This three-day workshop covers all the basics of digital photography, how to understand your camera and use it to take better and more creative photographs. Suitable for all digital camera types, this workshop aims to improve your skills in landscape, flora and wildlife photography.
10.30am – 3.30pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre
€110 per person. Booking essential
www.skerriesphotography.com or call 01 849 2572

Saturday 13th July
BEHIND THE SCENES GUIDED TOUR: The Walled Kitchen Garden
Join Organic Vegetable Gardener Niamh Donohoe to learn the inner workings of the Walled Vegetable Garden. See how the many varieties of vegetables are grown and take a sneak peek at some behind-the-scenes plants. Explore polytunnels and propagation, visit the winery and meet the bees!
4.00pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre
€5 per person

Saturday 13th July
CHILDREN’S EVENT: Pond Dipping
Explore the weird and wonderful diversity of insects and minibeasts living in and around the ponds at the National Botanic Gardens. Perfect your technique with guidance from the experts, and learn how to identify some amazing underwater creatures. Once you’ve discovered this hidden world, you’ll never look at ponds the same way again!
Suitable for children age 8 and upwards
11.00am. Admission Free. Booking essential
Organised with the Irish Wildlife Trust

Wednesday 17th July
CONCERT: National Concert Hall Gamelan Orchestra
Hailing originally from Java and Bali, the Gamelan is a fascinating ensemble comprising an array of gongs, bells, and xylophone-type instruments which together produce a magical and evocative music, a true summer sound. The National Concert Hall Gamelan Orchestra has performed at festivals around Ireland, the UK and Indonesia including the Electric Picnic, the Bray Jazz Festival, and the Yogyakarta International Performing Arts Festival in Java. In August 2018, the orchestra were delighted to be invited to represent Ireland at the International Gamelan Festival in Java. This year, we are delighted to host their performance once again in the beautiful surroundings of the National Botanic Gardens.
6.00pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre
€10 per person. Booking essential
https://nchgamelan.eventbrite.ie
Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st July
SWEET PEA SHOW
The Gardens are delighted to host the Royal Horticultural Society of Ireland’s Annual Sweet Pea Show, a wonderful opportunity to view displays of sweet peas on cordons by more than a dozen leading growers from all over Ireland. They arrive at the Teak House on Saturday morning, transforming it into a sweet pea wonderland to be judged, awarded and admired. Saturday 12.30pm – 5.30pm, Sunday 10.00am – 5.00pm
Organised with the Royal Horticultural Society of Ireland

Saturday 20th July
CHILDREN’S WORKSHOP: Origami
Come and get creative with paper at our children’s origami workshop, and learn about the ancient Japanese art of paper folding. Did you know ‘Ori’ means fold and ‘Kami’ means paper? Having mastered the basics of this elegant art, you can then transform a sheet of paper into something exciting like an animal, tree or flower. Materials supplied.
Suitable for ages 8 to 12
2.30pm Admission Free
Booking essential

Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th July
FUCHSIA & PELARGONIUM SOCIETY DUBLIN SHOW
The Gardens are delighted to host the Annual Dublin Show of the Irish Fuchsia and Pelargonium Society, a fantastic opportunity to see the highest standard of species, hybrids and cultivars of these beautiful plants competing for awards. Also included is a non-competitive category of ‘My Favourite’. On Friday afternoon and Saturday morning, Society members fill the show benches in the Teak House and wait in anticipation while displays are judged. Members of the Society will be on hand for questions and advice throughout.
Saturday 11.30am – 5.30pm
Sunday 10.00am – 5.30pm

August 2019

DAILY GUIDED WALKS: Bloomin’ Summer
Walking through the Gardens in summertime with so many flowers in bloom is a magnificent experience. Join our special guided tour and hear all about the plants, design and history of the stunning Herbaceous Border, Annual and Bedding Displays, the Rose Garden and much more.
Monday – Saturday 11.30am and 3.00pm. €5 per person
Sundays 12.00pm and 2.30pm. Free of charge

Continuing until Monday 12th August
EXHIBITION: Bill Fallover – For the Love of Trees
Daily in the Gallery Space, Education & Visitor Centre

Thursdays 1st and 15th August
CHILDREN’S WORKSHOP: Budding Botanist – Collecting and Pressing Flowers
Ever wondered how to preserve plants, or wanted to start your very own plant collection? Get great tips and discover how you can become a plant hunter! Join our guides on an expedition through the Botanic Gardens, identifying and collecting suitable plants for pressing before constructing your very own flower press, or create some beautiful botanical designs with our pre-dried plants!
Suitable for age 6 and up
11.00am
Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre
Admission Free. Booking essential
Saturdays 3rd, 10th & 31st August
THEMED GUIDED TOUR: Pastimes in Past Times
Join us for a stroll through the gardens where we'll take a look at plants that have inspired hobbies and pastimes in the past. What plants did the ancients use for weaving? How did the Victorian craze of fern-collecting affect our ferns in Ireland? What sort of things did people collect in the garden? Join us for a fascinating look at plant-related hobbies and pastimes in times past including mushroom collecting, jam-making, wood for sports, musical instruments and exotic plant growing, to name but a few.
2.30pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre
€5 per person

Saturday 3rd August
CHILDREN’S WORKSHOP: Origami
Come and get creative with paper at our children's origami workshop, and learn about the ancient Japanese art of paper folding. Did you know ‘Ori’ means fold and ‘Kami’ means paper? Having mastered the basics of this elegant art, you can then transform a sheet of paper into something exciting like an animal, tree or flower. Materials supplied.
Suitable for ages 8 to 12
2.30pm. Admission Free. Booking essential

4th, 6th, 11th, 13th, 18th, 20th, 25th & 27th August
SUNDAYS & TUESDAYS KIDS DROP BY ACTIVITIES
Kids, join us for fun activities in the dedicated Children's Erasmus Education Garden! Each week we will have a different activity to help you to become an expert gardener. Sow your own vegetable and flower seeds, make seed bombs, design bug hotels or re-use everyday items to create your own piece of eco-art. Check out our Facebook page to find out the week's activity in advance!
Suitable from ages 4 and up. All children must bring their own grown-up!
11.00am, 11.30am, 3.00pm & 3.30pm
No booking required, first-come first-served

Tuesday 6th - Saturday 10th August
CHILDREN’S ART CAMP
Come to the Gardens for a week of art! Children will be encouraged through a variety of fun art activities to observe, engage in and be inspired by their natural surroundings.
4 to 7-year-olds: Time 11.00am – 12.30pm
8 to 12-year-olds: Time 2.00pm – 4.00pm
€60 per person. Booking essential

Saturday 10th August
CHILDREN’S EVENT: Pond Dipping
Explore the weird and wonderful diversity of insects and mini-beasts living in and around the ponds at the National Botanic Gardens. Perfect your technique with guidance from the experts, and learn how to identify some amazing underwater creatures. Once you’ve discovered this hidden world, you’ll never look at ponds the same way again!
Suitable for children age 8 and upwards
11.00am. Admission Free. Booking essential
Organised with the Irish Wildlife Trust

Saturdays 17th & 24th August
HERITAGE WEEK TOUR: Pastimes in Past Times
2.30pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre
Further information on additional events at the National Botanic Gardens check out our Facebook page, www.botanicgardens.ie and www.heritageweek.ie

Saturday 17th August – Sunday 1st September
THE TOTALLY TERRIFIC TOMATO FESTIVAL
This year we are delighted to once again host the Totally Terrific Tomato Festival, and share the remarkable story and sheer variety of this amazing fruit - last year’s festival featured a World Record breaking 256 cultivars! The display runs in the Teak House until Sunday 1st September, alongside a series of tomato talks and fun activities for children.
Entries accepted Friday 16th August 9.00am – 4.30pm & Saturday 17th August until 10am only
Open to the public in Teak House Saturday 17th August from 2.00pm
**Wednesday 21st August**  
**WILD CHILD DAY: Seed Bomb Activity**  
Get your hands messy in our Children’s Erasmus Education Garden on Wild Child Day! Come along to make your own seed bombs filled with Irish wildflower seeds - brilliant for encouraging bees, butterflies, birds, moths and other precious Irish pollinators into your own garden.  
*Suitable from ages 4 and up. All children must bring their own grown-up! 11.00am, 11.30am, 3.00pm & 3.30pm  
No booking required, first-come first-served*

**Thursday 22nd August**  
**HERITAGE WEEK THEMED GUIDED TOUR: Biophilia**  
Get outside and active on a summer’s day with this journey round the globe and through the senses! Find out how and why humans bond with the natural world the way we do, explore nature’s myriad gifts of physical health and mental wellbeing, and learn how we can share these benefits in our homes, gardens and communities to help us reconnect with natural rhythms and landscapes.  
*2.30pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre  
€5 per person*

**Thursday 29th & Friday 30th August**  
**BEHIND THE SCENES GUIDED TOUR: The Museum and Herbarium**  
Join us for a behind the scenes peek at some of the remarkable items in our Herbarium and Museum collections. With over 600,000 pressed plants the herbarium provides a unique and astonishing view into the past. More than just dried specimens, these are a vital record of what grew where, and when, and who collected them. Other treasures in our collections include artefacts made from plants collected from all over the world in our ethnographic museum.  
*11.30am & 2.30pm. Meet at the Education and Visitor Centre  
€5 per person*
DAILY GUIDED WALKS: Autumn Colour
Autumn in the gardens is an incredible experience. Join us for a special guided tour through the autumn leaves and herbaceous borders savouring the seasonal colour and viewing some of the sculptures dotted throughout the gardens along the way.
Monday – Saturday 11.30am and 3.00pm. €5 per person
Sundays 12 noon and 2.30pm. Free of charge

SUNDAYS KIDS DROP BY ACTIVITIES
Kids, join us for fun activities in the dedicated Children’s Erasmus Education Garden! Each week we will have a different activity to help you to become an expert gardener. Sow your own vegetable and flower seeds, make seed bombs, design bug hotels or re-use everyday items to create your own piece of eco-art. Check out our Facebook page to find out the week’s activity in advance!
For ages 4 and up. All children must bring their own grown-up!
11.00am, 11.30am, 3.00pm & 3.30pm
No bookings required, first come first served

THURSDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER – FRIDAY 18TH OCTOBER
EXHIBITION: Sculpture in Context
Daily throughout the Gardens and Gallery, Education & Visitor Centre

Saturdays 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th September
GUIDED WALK: Sculpture in Context – Meet the Artists
On Saturdays throughout the exhibition, you will have a rare opportunity to join one of the participating artists for a guided tour through the exhibition to gain an insight into Ireland’s largest outdoor and indoor sculpture exhibition.
3.15pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre

For further details on upcoming events please see our website: www.botanicgardens.ie or facebook page: www.facebook.com/nationalbotanicgardens

Saturdays 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th September
THEMED GUIDED TOUR: Plants and power – Botanical Imperialism
‘The greatest service rendered to any country is to add a useful plant to its culture’ – Thomas Jefferson, 1800.
Throughout history, plants have supplied us with food, medicine, and other essentials; as empires expanded and fell, staple crops failed or flourished. From the key role of botany in European empire-building, to the ‘Colombian exchange’ of American tomatoes, tobacco, and maize with ‘Old World’ grapes, sugar cane and dandelion, these changing global fortunes and power relations are represented in our collections. Explore through this tour a fascinating cornucopia of species both familiar and strange from our organic vegetable garden, exotic tropical glasshouses, and herbarium artefacts collection.
2.30pm. Meet at the Education & Visitor Centre
€5 per person

THURSDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER – FRIDAY 18TH OCTOBER
SCULPTURE TRAIL FOR SCHOOLS
A chance for both primary and secondary schools to explore the exciting outdoor sculpture exhibition. Come and collect your self-guided trail at the Education and Visitor Centre.

SATURDAY 21ST & SUNDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER
THE DAHLIA SHOW
We are delighted to host the return of the Royal Horticultural Society of Ireland’s Dahlia Show. When it comes to dahlias, can you tell a pompom from a semi-cactus, or a decorative from a peony dahlia? Join us to find out all about these fabulous late summer beauties, which will be at their best on display in the Teak House for the annual Dahlia Show.
Saturday 2.00pm – 5.00pm & Sunday 10.00am – 5.00pm
Organised with the Royal Horticultural Society of Ireland

WEDNESDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER
EVENING LECTURE: Making a New Garden Late in Life
Helen Dillon, celebrated TV gardener and author, will talk about her exciting new gardening project.
8.00pm, Education & Visitor Centre
Organised with the Royal Horticultural Society of Ireland
Booking essential www.rhsi.ie
Welcome to our events section for the National Botanic Gardens, Kilmacurragh. Located in Kilbride, east Co. Wicklow (Junction 18 on the N11), it is the centrepiece of an eighteenth-century estate and is famous for its conifers, rhododendrons, meadows and double-borders.

Free Guided Tours
Twice daily until the mid-October, at 12.00pm and 3.00pm. Please check the website or locally for seasonally themed guided tours and trails.
Group tours should be pre-booked.
Meet at the car park entrance to the Gardens for all events.
April-October: Tel: 0404 48844
November-March: Tel: 01 857 0909/ 804 0319

Sunday 31st March and 7th April
NATIONAL TREE WEEK WALKS: Intriguing trees
In celebration of National Tree Week, we will be exploring the stories of many of Kilmacurragh’s majestic and interesting old trees.
3.00pm. Meet at the Car Park

Friday 12th April
WORKSHOP: Beginner’s Photography with the Outdoor Studio
Join us for a one-day Photography Workshop in the beautiful setting of Kilmacurragh Gardens. Combining stunning spring flowers with beautiful garden views and woodland walks, this outdoor event provides excellent photo opportunities combined with relaxed learning. The course is suitable for beginners to enthusiasts, with all camera types.
10.30am – 3.30pm
£35 per person. Booking essential
www.skerriesphotography.com or call 01 849 2572

Saturday 4th May
FAMILY EVENT: Garden Bird Safari at Kilmacurragh
From dippers to kingfishers, come along for a guided bird walk with Glynn Anderson, Botanic Gardens Head Guide and author of ‘Birds of Ireland - Fact, Folklore & History’, and see what feathered friends you can spot. Bring binoculars if you have them, for a closer look.
11.00am. Meet at the Car Park
Admission Free. Booking Essential

Saturday 25th May
GUIDED TOUR: Biophilia
Get outside and activate your senses on a journey around the beautiful gardens of Kilmacurragh! Find out how and why humans bond with the natural world the way we do, explore nature’s myriad gifts of physical health and mental wellbeing, and learn how we can share these benefits in our homes, gardens and communities to help us reconnect with natural rhythms and landscapes.
2.30pm. Meet at the Car Park

Saturdays in June & July
GUIDED TOUR: Meadows and Hedgerows
Join our expert guides on a stroll through the summer meadows. From wild Irish orchids to yellow rattle, discover the many wonderful plants growing in our regenerated meadows.
2.30pm. Meet at the Car Park

Thursday 27th June
THEATRE: Pride & Predjudice
Take a step back in time with Chapterhouse Theatre Company to meet Elizabeth Bennet, Jane Austen’s notorious heroine. When Elizabeth meets the terse and abrupt Mr. Darcy, she loathes him at first sight. But is there more to him than meets the eye? Brought to life by award-winning writer Laura Turner, this adaptation has been a favourite of Chapterhouse audiences for years and will be a joy to perform in the company’s 20th year of touring. Join friends and family for an evening of theatre beneath the stars, basking in the glow of this timeless classic.
3.00pm. Booking essential www.chapterhouse.org

For details about further events please check our website:
www.botanicgardens.ie

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram & Twitter.
National Botanic Gardens of Ireland
A variety of specially themed guided tours and workshops are available free of charge to school groups.
All school visits should be pre-booked at the Education & Visitor Centre - 01 8570909 / 01 8040319

GREEN-SCHOOLS BIODIVERSITY FLAG
We offer support to both Primary and Secondary schools in achieving Green Flag status. Join our expert guides exploring the Gardens on our Biodiversity Tour and discover the importance of our native plants and animals. This is followed by a hands-on workshop in our Children’s Garden, where you will get some practical advice on what to do in your own school garden to help biodiversity. Each Green Flag Session lasts approximately 2 hours.
While you are there, check out our butterfly/pollinator bed, bog bed and sow some seeds in your own newspaper pot to bring back to your own school garden, and explore the Botanic Gardens with our self-guided Trails.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS
Guided Tours
The Rainforest – Explore Ireland’s only tropical rainforest in the Great Palm House, and find out about plants from all over the world. Available year round

Irish Plants – Hear all about Irish plants and trees, their uses, folklore, and how to identify them. Visit the Viking House and find out what plants they grew for food, clothing, and shelter. Available year round

Biophilia – Nature’s good for us, and we need it! Take a journey round the colours, scents and textures of the Gardens to find out how and why we sense and interact with the natural world the way we do, the many benefits of nature for our health and wellbeing, and how we can share these in our homes and gardens to connect with natural landscapes and rhythms. Available year round
Tree-Mendous Trees – Discover the lives of our great trees – how they produce their food, survive the seasons, and help us in our daily lives. Available year-round

National Tree Week Walks for Schools – Booking essential. Hear some fascinating facts and tales about native and exotic trees alike, and also learn how to identify some of our most popular trees. Suitable for 1st class and up. Monday 1st – Friday 5th April

Workshops
Delve Deeper – Take a tour of the Gardens and collect samples with our intrepid guides, then return to the Education Centre to experiment with our special user-friendly, handheld digital microscopes. See what leaves, seeds, and even miniscule bugs look like close up! Available year-round

Hands-on Vegetable Garden Workshop – Come along for a hands-on workshop and get practical advice about planting up your School Garden to taste a seasonal harvest all year round. Sow food and flower seeds to bring back for your school garden. Available year round

SECOND LEVEL

Guided Tours
Plant Adaptations – This guided walk looks at some of the amazing adaptive features which plants have adopted to cope with everything from predators and parasites to habitat loss and climate change. Available year-round

Biophilia – Nature’s good for us, and we need it! Take a journey round the colours, scents and textures of the Gardens to find out how and why humans sense and interact with the natural world the way we do, nature’s many benefits for our physical health and mental wellbeing, and how we can share these in our homes, gardens and communities to grow our instinctive connection with the landscape and its natural rhythms. Available year-round

Workshops
Delve Deeper – Take a tour of the Gardens and collect samples with our expert guides, then return to the Education Centre to experiment with our special user-friendly, handheld digital microscopes. See what leaves, seeds, and even miniscule bugs look like close up! Available year-round

Ecology Workshop – Explore the world of ecology while taking an expedition through the Gardens exploring ecological concepts such as nutrient cycling, climate and soil adaptation, and habitat structure. This workshop combines an interactive classroom session with a tour of the Garden’s native and exotic plants. It also features activities such as - stepping from tropical to desert biomes to explore plant adaptations to the world’s climate and environmental factors - searching the garden’s amazing plant collection for fascinating living examples of ecological relationships such as competition, predation, parasitism, and symbiosis. Students will also get a chance to study plants at the centre of real conservation projects, and even see rare plants that are extinct in the wild. This workshop is based on the curriculum needs of the Leaving Cert Biology Sub-Unit General Principles of Ecology, but will also cover other aspects of the Leaving Cert Biology and Geography Curricula. Available year round

Hands-on Vegetable Garden Workshop – Come along for a hands-on workshop and get practical advice about planting up your School Garden to taste a seasonal harvest ALL year round. Sow food and flower seeds to bring back for your school garden. Available year round

Workshop for TY Horticulture Participants
Food Glorious Food – Join us for this half-day session in finding out all about the food we eat from tropical bananas to tomatoes and potatoes. Visit the organic garden to see what is growing outdoors, take a self-guided trail and discover the tropical economic plant crops which we use in our everyday lives, plant your very own food crop and take it back to your school garden. Available year round
### WORKSHOPS BOOKING FORM

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### Please ✓ event and or age group required

#### Children's Art Workshops:

- **Budding Artists (4-7 yrs)**: €10 | Sat 13 Apr  
- **Hardy Annuals (8-12yrs)**: €10 | Sat 11 May  

#### Garden Workshops:

- **Bountiful Back Garden**: €25 | Sat 30 Mar  
- **Intro to Organic Gardening**: €25 | Sat 6 Apr  
- **Heavenly Herbs**: €25 | Sat 13 Apr  
- **Composting Workshop**: Free | Wed 8 May  
- **Urban Vegetable Growing**: €25 | Sat 11 May  
- **Bird Safari, Kilmacurragh**: Free | Sat 4 May  
- **Bird Safari, Glasnevin**: Free | Sat 18 May  
- **Twilight Nature Ramble**: €5 | Fri 24 May  
- **Pond Dipping (age 8+)**: Free | Sat 15 Jun  
- **Papermaking Workshop**: €25 | Fri 28 Jun  
- **Budding Botanist - Collecting and Pressing Flowers (age 6+)**: Free | Thu 11 July  
- **Origami Workshop**: Free | Sat 20 Jul  

### Further details

*Tel: 01 8570909 / 8040319 or Email: botanicgardens@opw.ie*
Opening hours

GUIDED TOURS
Sundays at 12.00pm & 2.30pm all year round. Admission free.
Monday – Saturday 11.30am & 3.00pm. €5 per person.
Pre-booked groups by arrangement. €5 per person.

OPENING HOURS
SUMMER (MARCH – OCTOBER)
Monday – Friday 9.00–5.00pm
Saturday/Sunday 10.00–6.00pm

WINTER (OCTOBER – MARCH)
Monday – Friday 9.00–4.30pm
Saturday/Sunday 10.00–4.30pm

Telephone: 01 857 0909 / 01 804 0319
Email: botanicgardens@opw.ie
Website: www.botanicgardens.ie

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram & Twitter.
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To receive email updates please contact botanicgardens@opw.ie