



Duchess of Cornwall opens the Cowbridge Physic Garden

The official opening of the garden on June 26th 2008 by HRH Duchess of Cornwall is a landmark occasion for the project. The prodigious work of the last three years to bring about the Cowbridge Physic Garden had its ultimate reward in the visit by the Duchess, who clearly enjoyed the occasion immensely.

I regret that it became impossible to invite everybody because of restrictions understandably applied for security reasons. At the same time, I was especially pleased to see so many of you, our members and loyal supporters, at our annual members' garden party two days later. As was the case last year, this event was an outstanding success with the rain holding off, even if it was some way short of being a glorious summer's evening.

On the day of the Royal visit I took the opportunity to thank those organisations and people who have contributed so much to the success of this project. These included every one of those involved in the initial programme, from the conceptualisers and contractors through to you, the members and the volunteers who have turned this unique place into a show-piece garden to has become today. I'd like to congratulate each and every one of you for your involvement and support. The result is the increasing numbers of people who are visiting us annually, for in the last 12 months more than 50,000 people have been welcomed.

As time goes on we expect to build on this total and to enhance our Physic Garden further. Remarkably it is already being rightly described as Cowbridge's pride and joy. It is also clearly evident that people who live in the town and the wider Vale are bringing visitors and guests to see it as a first choice on their list of priorities, which is a truly encouraging trend.

All round, there is a cause for celebration and, with our membership steadily growing, we can look forward confidently to the future. We can be justifiably proud of the Garden that together we have created. May I therefore I urge you to encourage friends and relatives to become members with the rest of us because it is self-evident that membership is the very lifeblood of the Physic Garden.

Dan Clayton Jones, Chairman



Volunteers preparing for the official opening

The volunteers working on the final clean-up before the official opening. This included last minute checking of labels, weeding, brushing the paths and preparing for the Duchess to unveil the plaque, plant a tree and sign the visitors' book.



Waiting for the arrival of HRH The Duchess of Cornwall



Dorothy Jones ready to present a posy of flowers from the garden

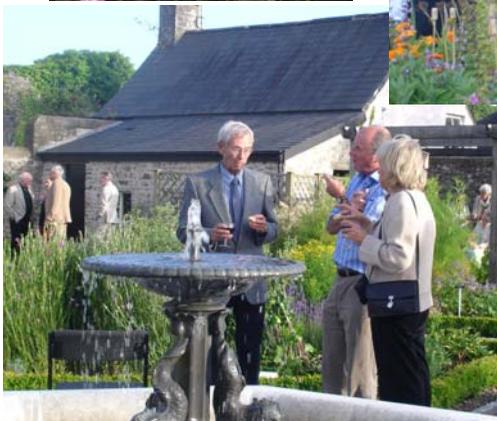
The Duchess and Members of the CPGT Enjoy the Garden





Members Evening

Music was provided by Azhaar and her keyboard-playing partner, Joe, who have played around the world, including Brazil, Costa Rica, the Montreux jazz festival and also appeared at Brecon Jazz





Photographs by Mile Wilcock and members of the CPGT

Cowbridge Physic Garden Christmas Cards and Notelets

We have a new Christmas card and notelets to sell this year with an exquisite botanical painting of the Christmas Rose painted by Gillian Griffiths who herself holds an RHS Gold Medal in Botanical Painting. Gillian is very involved in the Cowbridge Physic Garden. These cards will be sold in packs of ten for £5.00. They will be on sale at the members evening in Old Hall and in the garden during the Food Festival. They can also be ordered via Jo Homfray (01446774030) who can leave orders in the Garden Office for collection on a Thursday. We also hope to sell them in Cowbridge as we get nearer to Christmas.



The text inside the Christmas card is:

With Christmas Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year
Cyfarchion y Nadolig a Dymuniadau Gorau i'r Flwyddyn Newydd

We also have for sale on a Thursday in the garden:

Large CPGT umbrellas at £15 each

Pamphlet of plant descriptions and uses at £2.00 each

Always available in the Garden:

Plants (priced)

Children's activity sheets

New membership forms

Plans of the beds

Dates for your Diary

Art Exhibition. September 26th to October 18th, 10.30 am to 4.00 pm, Room 7, Old Hall, High Street, Cowbridge

A display inspired by the Cowbridge Physic Garden by the Cardiff Drawing Group entitled 'Drawn to the Garden'.

On October 10th there will be a CPGT Members evening from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm. Please join us and enjoy a complementary glass of wine while you view the drawings and talk to the artists,

Food Festival. Saturday October 25th in the Cowbridge Physic Garden. 10 am to 4 pm. Sale of plants, cards, umbrellas etc.

Events in 2009, dates to be announced

Gardeners Question Time. Spring

Plant Fayre. April. The fourth year of this popular event.