

# Community

## Nottingham & Notts Fuchsia Society

ARE you interested in fuchsias? Would you like to know more? If so, The Nottingham & Notts Fuchsia Society has options that you might like to consider on a number of levels.

Firstly, they are once again holding their Annual Show at Attenborough Village Hall over the weekend of Saturday, August 14 and Sunday, August 15 between 9am and 4pm. Admission is £1 and all are welcome.

Secondly, the society holds monthly meetings at St. Margaret's Parish Hall, Aspley, Nottingham, on the fourth Tuesday of every month except December, from 7.30p.m to 9.30p.m.

At the meeting, club members enjoy hearing from specialist speakers, chat with other fuchsia enthusiasts over a cup of coffee and browse around the club's mini-shop. Secretary Jayne Daykin said: "You could learn how to take cuttings, how to grow a standard or even how to grow a fuchsia to show specification."

Non-members are welcome at the meetings. For further details, contact Jayne Daykin on (0115) 875 8928.

Thirdly, members of the Fuchsia Society wonder if those involved in other clubs and societies might like to try something different and organise a

'Gardener's Question Time'.

"If you are interested, we have some willing volunteers who are enthusiast about their subject and would love to sit on the panel," said Jayne.

Again, Jayne is your point of contact for more details.

The Nottingham and Notts Fuchsia Society was formed in 1971 by a group of keen amateur gardeners in Nottinghamshire who all had an interest in the cultivation of fuchsias. This group developed and expanded, quickly becoming affiliated to the British Fuchsia Society.



## Attenborough Weather Notes

THE weather over Attenborough for the month of June, as provided exclusively for *The Beeston Express* by Andrew Shaw, Education Assistant at the Nature Centre.

The data has been collected at the reserve, and at least our retrospective weather report is accurate...

### Attenborough Weather Notes

The first two weeks were generally unsettled with spells of rain and often overcast conditions.

June 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> will be remembered for the impressive thunderstorms that produced almost half of the month's rainfall, with the water levels in the ponds quite high for a period afterwards.

Although temperatures were generally around the average mark, June 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> were particularly cold and gloomy; the former saw some damp children

enjoy a visit to the reserve (including puddle jumping) and the latter saw only 7kwh of electricity generated by the Centre's solar panels – a figure more usual for January!

From the 20<sup>th</sup>, high pressure took charge with sunny conditions and some very warm, even hot, days experienced out on the reserve. The weather was ideal for some of the reserve's wildlife, with a good show of wild flowers for the training course run by the Centre, and dragonflies were seen in significant numbers for the first time. Despite a brief thunderstorm in the early hours of the 29<sup>th</sup>, little rainfall was recorded after the 14<sup>th</sup> and dry and dusty conditions prevailed on the footpaths; along with the high temperatures and mugginess, this made it hard work for visiting school children and "can we have an ice cream" replaced the usual "when is it lunchtime" that Centre staff have become

accustomed to.

### Attenborough Weather data

From the weather recording station situated on Attenborough Nature Reserve.

**Highest temperature**  
28.3°C, June 27<sup>th</sup> (average June extreme max: 28.4°C)

**Lowest temperature**  
7.3°C, June 20<sup>th</sup> (average June extreme min: 6.0°C)

**Average temperature**  
16.6°C (daily min.+ max./2) - around average

**Monthly rainfall**  
68.3mm (116 percent of average 59.0mm)

## All life is here by Ben Grundy

PONDS are great. Gardeners and nature lovers agree that a pond is one of the best additions you can make to a garden.

A pond greatly increases local biodiversity – a whole range of interesting creatures are drawn in to live on, in, under, above and around the water. Much of this wildlife is of great benefit to the gardener. It is said that a garden with too many slugs is merely a garden with not enough frogs.

The wildlife pond at Stapleford's 'Dig In' community allotment is teeming with life, including tadpoles, frogs, fish, water boatmen, dragonflies and more. This is not to mention the small mammals that drink by the water's edge and the bats that feed above the surface on summer evenings.

If you'd like to explore and learn more, why not come along to the pond-

dipping open day between 10 am and 12 noon on Wednesday, August 11? A visiting expert from Attenborough Nature Centre will help to identify and explain the lives of the pond creatures as well as offering information and advice on setting up and maintaining a pond of your own.

Places are limited, so to book your place, or to find out more, call Kathy on (0115) 875 2095.

Children are welcome to enjoy and learn from this event, but will need to be supervised by a responsible adult carer. Please ensure that suitable clothing/ footwear is worn.

## Fairtrade Competition Winners!

THE winners and runners-up of the Beeston Fairtrade Window Sticker Competition, held in March, will be announced at Beeston Carnival on Saturday, July 10 at 2pm.

If your name is on the list below and you've been contacted, please come to the main Carnival arena at Broadgate Park on July 10 to collect your prize.

Winner – Jonie Mitchell  
Runners-Up – Kirsty Ranson (Fernwood School) and John Sullivan (Alderman Pounder)  
Rosie Keira Aimes  
Madeleine Beestin  
Reuben  
John Sullivan  
Timo  
Cerys Sullivan  
Timothy Robertson  
Ruby Ashdown  
Chung-In  
Jack Magner

Most of the entrants as listed above will have been contacted ahead of the Carnival - you know who you are! If you remember entering the competition in March, perhaps as a school project, we will be pleased to see you at Broadgate Park in Beeston on July 10.




### Summer Holiday Activities at Attenborough

*Summer Adventures for children aged 4+*

Go on a series of amazing adventures without even having to leave Attenborough!

3 and 5 Aug	Dig It!
10 and 12 Aug	The Jungle Book
17 and 19 Aug	A Pirate Quest
24 and 26 Aug	Robin Hood
31 Aug and 2 Sept	Underwater Journey

*Attenborough Explorers for children aged 8+*

Learn new woodland crafts and skills each week! Each Friday during the summer holidays:  
6th, 13th, 20th, 27th August and 3rd September

All sessions must be booked in advance and run from 10am to 12pm. £5 per child. All children user 8 must be accompanied by an adult.

*Summer Art Club for Teenagers -*  
Monday 26th July to Wednesday 28th July.

Please call the Centre on 0115 9721777 for further details and to book a place.  
[www.attenboroughnaturecentre.co.uk/news-events/](http://www.attenboroughnaturecentre.co.uk/news-events/)