

Community

Beeston and Chilwell Garden Trail *by the Editor*

'QUINTESSENTIALLY English' is the only way to describe the Beeston and Chilwell Garden Trail, which appears to be gaining more and more interest with each year that passes.

In a magnificent community team effort to raise funds for various charities, private local gardens are opened to members of the public for two three-hour sessions; the princely sum of £3 providing admission to all 12 gardens over one weekend in June.

Some of the garden owners choose to provide optional extras to boost the fund-raising efforts. These extras include, for example, cream teas, to be taken in the garden of course, with delicious homemade scones and cake: "Would you like both jam *and* clotted cream on your fruit scone?" "Um, let me give that some thought... yes, please!"

In other gardens could be found plants or pieces of craftsman-turned wood for sale, live music, activities for the children, strawberries and

cream... But all of the gardens were worth a visit, even if it was only to have a look at these oases of green-fingered devotion to their owner's ideal of a unique and often whimsical outdoor room.

In the splendid sunshine of Saturday and Sunday afternoon, streets in parts of Beeston and Chilwell were amply dotted with couples on foot, either standing, heads bent over the 'trail' street plan to see where they would visit next, or purposefully headed

towards their destination, street plan clutched in hand!

This year saw changes to the list of gardens open as new ones entered the event and some of those that have been open for a number of years on previous trails quietly retired.

One garden open on the Saturday afternoon had had in the region of 150 visitors through the gate. The 'gardens open for charity' weekend can involve a lot of hard work to get a garden into good

shape followed by a busy weekend playing the genial host to a stream of strangers.

Perhaps it's not my place but, on behalf of any *Beeston Express* readers who enjoyed the Garden Trail during the weekend of June 20 and 21, I would like to offer sincere thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make the 2009 event such a success.

July Programmes

Attenborough & Chilwell Women's Club

Wednesday at 7.30pm,
Douglas Taylor Room,
Attenborough Village Hall, Attenborough

July 1

Visit to Woodend Cottage
Private garden in Repton

July 8

An Auctioneer's Tale
talk by Mr Charles Hanson

Beeston & District Local History Society

Wednesday at 7.45pm, Chilwell Memorial
Hall, High Road, Chilwell

July 15

Between Stairs – the Life of a Ladies' Maid
costumed talk by Joanne Carter

Bramcote History Group

Monday at 8pm, St Michael's Church
Centre, Church Street, Bramcote

July 20

Visit to The Grove, Bramcote
led by Val Bird.
The Grove is now St John's College.

Inham Nook Leisure Hour

Wednesday at 2.30pm,
Inham Nook Methodist Church,
Pearson Avenue, Chilwell

July 1

Fellowship
led by Mrs Doreen Trembling

July 8

Amusing Readings
arranged by Mrs Brenda Hannam and
Mrs Maisie Short (followed by Faith Tea)

Mind Alert

Thursday at 2pm, Conservative Club,
Station Road, Beeston

July 2

A Victorian Dress
Marion Atkinson

July 9

Gentle Movement to Music
with Freda Hardstaff

Two O'clock Club

Thursday at 2pm,
Chilwell Road Methodist Church, Beeston

July 2

Games Afternoon

July 9

Summertime Tea Dance

*Please Note: Many of the 'Meeting People' groups are clubs,
and visitors may be charged an admission fee.*