

PREVIEW OF 2026 CHS SUMMER TRIPS

Thursday 21 May 8.15am – 6.30pm

We will visit two gardens in Pembrokeshire.

A morning visit to Cold Comfort Farm, Wolfscastle. There are five acres of wildflower meadow alongside a wrap around garden and a small plant nursery. There are also perennial beds and a rockery. The garden showcases planting ideas for windy and sloping areas of a garden. On a clear day there are outstanding views of the Preseli Mountains. We will have refreshments and a light lunch here.

In the afternoon we will visit nearby Treffgarne Hall. The hall is not open but it provides a formal backdrop to a garden of four acres with wide lawns and themed beds. There is also a walled garden, summer border and woodland to explore whilst visiting this garden.

Tuesday 16 June 8.00am – 7.00pm

This will be a full day trip to Ness Botanical Gardens, Cheshire. Based on the Wirral peninsula, Ness Gardens offers 64 acres of beautiful gardens with views of the River Dee and North Wales. Members are invited to visit different parts of the gardens at their leisure. Examples of areas to visit include a rock garden, terraces, water garden and a Mediterranean garden. There is a cafe on site and members can purchase refreshments and lunch. Some of you may wish to bring a picnic lunch.

Wednesday 8 July 8.15am – 7.00pm

This trip will take us to Herefordshire, to visit two gardens relating to our winter lecture programme.

Stockton Bury Gardens will be our first stop. Here there is an extensive collection of plants, many rare and unusual set amongst Medieval buildings. There are plenty of places to explore including an ancient pigeon house, tithe barn, garden museum, cider press and grotto. We will have lunch in the garden cafe.

We will then move on and visit Westonbury Mill Water Gardens. Along with streams, ponds and mature trees there are a mass of colourful moisture loving plants. Westonbury is well known for their unique follies which include the stone water tower with its water spouting gargoyle, the glass dome of 5,000 wine bottles and a giant water powered cuckoo clock. There may be opportunity to buy plants propagated from the garden.

Thursday 30 July 2.00pm – 8.00pm

An afternoon visit to Cae Hir Gardens, Cribyn, Lampeter. This is a Welsh garden with a Dutch history. At Cae Hir the natural meets the formal and riotous planting meets structure and form. In all there are five acres of fully landscaped gardens. On leaving the gardens we will proceed for an evening meal in Tregaron.

Friday 4 September 8.30am – 6.00pm

A day visit to Hampton Gardens, Hope under Dinmore, Leominster. This garden features a Victorian walled garden, stunning water features, a 1,000 yew tree maze, hidden waterfall pathways and vibrant borders. Members will have opportunity to explore the vast gardens at their own pace. There is a cafe serving a variety of refreshments and lunches. There's also opportunity to bring your own lunch to enjoy in a beautiful garden space.