

THE ROSE GARDEN



The Rose Garden was created in 2007-2008 to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Garden Organic.

The garden contains over 50 types of roses, specially selected for their repeat flowering and attractive scents. In addition many of them produce attractive hips in the autumn and winter

Looking after the Rose garden

Good horticultural practices are used to keep plants growing healthily. These include;

- Keeping the surrounding hedges low to encourage good air circulation. The hedge has been reshaped to allow better views into the gardens
- Pruning out diseased or dead material
- Clearing away fallen leaves that could harbour fungal spores

The rose beds are numbered in the centre of the garden beneath the pergola

Bed 1

The Mayflower
Princess Alexandra of Kent
Darcey Bussell
Queen of Denmark
Wild Eric
The Alnwick Rose
Wildev
Claire Austen
Crocus Rose
Sweet Juliet
Golden Celebration

Bed 2

Darcey Bussell
Rose de Rescht
Harlow Carr
Lady Emma Hamilton
Madame Plantier
Celsiana
Strawberry Hill
Grace
The Pilgrim
Penelope
Comte de Champbord

Bed 3

Grace
Charlotte
Rosy Cushion
Bonica
Madame hardy
Cornelia
Isaphan
Rosemoor
Gertrude Jekyll
Sophy's Rose

Bed 4

Molineux
Port Sunlight
Queen of Sweden
Crown Princess Margareta
Gentle
Hermione
Wisley
Felicite Parmentier
Imperatrice Josephine
Mortimer Sackler
Sophy's Rose

Bed 5

Molineux
Lady Emma Hamilton
Crocus Rose
Scepter'd Isle
Jubilee Celebration
Therese Bugnet
Mundi
Rose de Rescht
Tuscany Superb
Scarborough Fair

Bed 6

Tea Clipper
Blythe Spirit
Teasing Georgia
Harlow Carr
Queen of Sweden
Hyde Hall
Wildev
William Lobb
Benjamin Britten
Rose de Rescht

Bed 7

Tess of the d'Urbervilles
Rosaie de l'Hay
The Mayflower
Alba Semiplena

Bed 8

Tess of the d'Urbervilles
Charles de Mills
Isaphan
Jubilee Celebration

Wild Edric
The Generous Gardener
Molineux
Port Sunlight
Tea Clipper

A Shropshire Lad
Rugosa Alba
Crocus Rose
The Pilgrim
Golden Celebration



Roses Through the Ages

Clay tablets excavated in the temples of Ur in Iraq speak of the delivery of rose water intended for the Sultan of Bagdad. The Sultan used no fewer than 30,000 jars of rose water a year, to make his rooms smell nice for his extensive harem.

The Saracen general Saladin sent camel caravans loaded with rose water through his empire to cleanse the mosques after “impure” crusaders had occupied the prayer rooms.

Until the early 19th Century dried rose petals were believed to have mysterious powers. Napoleon gave his officers bags of rose petals to boil in white wine, to cure lead poisoning from bullet wounds. Even today, rose water is still used to refresh the hands before a feast or festive greeting, from the Middle East to northern India.

There is a special rose language invented as a secret means of communication between lovers who were not allowed to express their love for one another in the harems of the Middle East. In the mid 18th century Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, the wife of the British Ambassador in Constantinople, described this in her letters, which were published after her death. These letters inspired many books on the language of flowers, each describing the secret message hidden in each flower. A red rose bud stands for budding desire, while an open white rose asks “Will you love me?”. An open red rose means “I’m full of love and desire”, while an open yellow rose asks “Don’t you love me anymore?”.

(The above extract is from The Flowers & Plants Association website www.flowers.org.uk)

Until the 1980’s growing roses organically wasn’t too popular as gardeners found it frustrating trying to grow the new species without the systematic use of fungicides. A resurgence of interest in the old rose varieties, with their superior health and hardiness grew out of gardeners’ frustration with modern roses and nostalgia for the characteristics of the old shrub roses. Today it is possible to choose from a wide selection of old and new rose varieties that you can grow successfully using organic methods.

Our supporters

The roses used in the rose garden were donated by
David Austin Roses Ltd
Bowling Green Lane
Albrighton
Wolverhampton
WV7 3HB
www.davidaustinroses.com

Many of the roses planted in the garden are available in the Plant Area – please ask for assistance
The pergola at the heart of the garden was designed and donated by
Room in the Garden
1 River Ground Stables
Cowdray Park
Midhurst
West Sussex
GU29 9AL
www.roominthegarden.co.uk

Further Reading

Garden Organic Fact sheet DC12 – Rose Powdery Mildew
Barbara Wilde – Growing Roses Organically ISBN: 0-87596-880-5

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