

Events at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE), Dawyck Botanic Garden, Logan Botanic Garden and Benmore Botanic Garden in September 2012

Special Events at RBGE

Thurs James Wong's Home Grown Revolution! 16+

Thurs 20 Sept 2012

3.30 pm - 6.45 pm, Real Life Science Studio, John Hope Gateway, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. No booking required, 16+ (Free), Tel: 0131 248 2909

James Wong is on a mission to change our attitudes about what we grow as fruit and vegetables. James will be talking about the many easy to grow edible plants that we currently overlook and promoting his book James Wong's Home Grown Revolution. James will give a 20 minute talk at 3.30pm and 6pm.

Doors Open Day

Sat 22 Sept 2012

10.00 am - 3.30 pm, Library and Herbarium Building, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Inverleith Row, Sign up on the day, Ages 8+, (Free), Tel: 0131 248 2909
Visit the globally important reference collection of preserved plants held at the Garden. Around 3 million specimens from a collection that is vital to exploring and explaining the world of plants. In partnership with the Cockburn Association.

Edible Garden - Harvest Festival

Sun 23 Sept 2012

11.00 am - 5.00 pm, Real Life Science Studio, John Hope Gateway, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. No booking required, All ages (Free), Tel: 0131 248 2909

See and taste produce from the Edible Gardening Project at the annual Harvest Festival. Fun activities, gardening advice, information about harvesting, cooking and storing crops, tasters and more. With the Edible Gardening Project.

I take Pictures of Beautiful Things.

Thurs 27 Sept 2012

7.30 pm - 9.30 pm, Lecture Theatre, Royal Botanic Garden. No Booking Required, £5 (£3 for Members, Prize Winners in the RBGE 2012 Photography Competition are invited to attend for free), Tel: 0131 552 7171

A lecture by Lynsey Wilson, the RBGE resident photographer, entitled: 'I take Pictures of Beautiful Things.' Before the Lecture Professor Stephen Blackmore will award the prizes to the winners of this year's Photography Competition.

Additional categories: Walks and Talks

Forager's Breakfast at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

Sat 29 Sept 2012

8.00 am - 10.30 am, The Garden and Earthy at Canonmills, To book phone

Education on 0131 248 2937, Ages 15+, £20

Join forager and author Miles Irving for an early morning walk around the more wild parts of the Garden in pursuit of edible plants. The walk will end with a breakfast inspired by foraged food at Earthy in Canonmills. In association with Earthy at Canonmills.

Cultural Events at RBGE

Big Craft Giveaway

Sat 22 Sept 2012

1.00 pm - 4.00 pm, Real Life Science Studio, John Hope Gateway, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. No booking required, All ages, (Free), Tel: 0131 248 2909

Join us for the first Big Craft Giveaway when thousands of craft objects are given away across Scotland. Ceramicist Lorna Fraser will be creating objects inspired by the Garden which visitors will have a chance to own. www.bigcraftgiveaway.org
Funded by Creative Scotland as part of Year of Creative Scotland 2012.

The Carbon Rush: Outdoor cycle-powered cinema with Take One Action

Weds 26 Sept 2012

7.00 pm - 10.00 pm, John Hope Gateway Decking , No booking required, Ages 14+, £6 (Concession £4), Tel: 0131 248 2909

Starting in Scotland, The Carbon Rush takes us around the world to meet the men and women on the front lines of carbon trading – visiting different projects set up to offset pollution created somewhere else. Screened as part of the Take One Action Film Festival, with support from Edinburgh Woodcraft Folk's Guerrilla Cinema.

Advance booking essential at http://TOA_TheCarbonRush.eventbrite.com

Chasing Ice: Outdoor cycle-powered cinema with Take One Action

Thurs 27 Sept 2012

7.00 pm - 10.00 pm, John Hope Gateway Decking, No booking required, Ages 14+ , £6 (Concession £4), Tel: 0131 248 2909

Join us for the moonlit screening of Chasing Ice – The story of one man's bold mission to gather undeniable evidence of our changing planet. This breathtakingly beautiful documentary is screened as part of the Take One Action Film Festival, with support from Edinburgh Woodcraft Folk's Guerrilla Cinema.

Advance booking essential at http://TOA_ChasingIce.eventbrite.com

Drop-in Events at RBGE

What's that Tree?

Sat 1 - Sun 2 Sept 2012

1.00 pm - 4.00 pm, Real Life Science Studio, John Hope Gateway, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. No booking required, Ages 5+, (Free), Tel: 0131 248 2909

Meet some common trees and find out how you can identify them using a simple key.

Scottish Beavers

Sat 8 - Sun 9 Sept 2012

1.00 pm - 4.00 pm, Real Life Science Studio, John Hope Gateway, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. No booking required, All Ages, (Free), Tel: 0131 248 2909

Beavers are back in Scotland thanks to a recent reintroduction. Find out the latest on how these outsize rodents are doing and how their engineering skills create habitats for other wildlife.

With the Scottish Wildlife Trust.

Tree Treasures

Sat 15 - Sun 16 Sept 2012

1.00 pm - 4.00 pm, Real Life Science Studio, John Hope Gateway, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. No booking required, Ages 5+, (Free), Tel: 0131 248 2909

Have fun exploring new ways to transform the colourful treasures of autumn into beautiful pieces of art.

With Greengage Arts.

People's Postcode Edible Garden Tours

Sat 15 Sept 2012

12.00 noon - 3.00 pm, Demonstration Garden, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. No booking required, All, (Free), Tel: 0131 248 2909

Visit the Edible Garden's polytunnel, fruit area and vegetable plots for advice and inspiration. Free tours available at 12 noon and 2pm, there are limited spaces so arrive early to avoid disappointment.

Part of the Edible Gardening Project funded by the People's Postcode Lottery

Talking Trees Storytelling

Sun 16 Sept 2012

2.00 pm - 3.30 pm, Ground Floor Tent, John Hope Gateway, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. No booking required, 5+ (Free), Tel: 0131 248 2909

Let the Talking Trees transport you to another place with their stories from around the world.

Eating on the Wild Side

Sat 29 - Sun 30 Sept 2012

1.00 pm - 4.00 pm, Real Life Science Studio, John Hope Gateway, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. No booking required, All ages, (Free), Tel: 0131 248 2909

Autumn is a great time to get out and look for wild food. Come along to see what is available now in your neighbourhood and get some tips on what to start with if you are new to foraging.

Exhibitions at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

Hard Rain: Whole Earth?

Wed 14 Mar - Sun 30 Sept 2012

10.00 am - 6.00 pm, Fossil Courtyard, No booking required, All Ages, Tel: 0131 248 2909

Don't miss this amazing thought-provoking outdoor photographic exhibition by Mark Edwards.

2020VISION - open-air exhibition

Fri 6 July - Sun 30 Sept 2012

10.00 am - 6.00 pm, John Hope Gateway Decking and Inverleith House Lawn, No booking required, (Free), Tel: 0131 248 2909

20 Photographers. 20 Assignments. 1 mission ... to make the most compelling case yet for rebuilding our natural home. 2020VISION is one of the most ambitious nature photography projects ever.

Philip Guston (1913-1980): Late Paintings

Wed 25 July - Sun 7 Oct 2012

10.00 am - 5.30 pm, Inverleith House, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. No booking required, (Free), Tel: 0131 248 2849

Featuring major works from 1969 to 1978, this is the first museum exhibition of late paintings by the great American artist to be staged in Scotland. With support from the Estate of Philip Guston. Edinburgh Art Festival exhibition 2012.

Paradise Restored

Sat 4 Aug - Sun 30 Sept 2012

10.00 am - 6.00 pm, John Hope Gateway Ground Floor, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. No booking required, (Free), Tel: 0131 248 2909

Exploring the regions of Iraq, Iran, Turkey and surrounds through their culture, mountains, marshes and deserts this exhibition aims to highlight positive stories of people and plants from past and present, and future hopes.

The Nature of Iraq

Sat 4 Aug - Sun 11 Nov 2012

10.00 am - 6.00 pm, Gateway Gallery, upstairs at the John Hope Gateway, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. No booking required, (Free), Tel: 0131 248 2909

This photography exhibition seeks to convey the 'other side' of the news-reported life in Iraq - that of scenery, wildlife and traditional culture. Images were taken by Nature Iraq biologists/photographers as they documented Iraq's Key Biodiversity Areas.

For more information visit www.natureiraq.org

RBGE Graduate Diploma Show 2011/12

Fri 14 - Fri 28 Sept 2012

10.30 am - 4.00 pm, Fletcher Building, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. No booking required (Free), Tel: 0131 248 2909

This exhibition is a showcase of work from the RBGE Diplomas in Botanical Illustration, Herbology and Horticulture with Plantsmanship from the 2011/12 academic year.

Short Courses at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

Cocktails, Canapés and Courses!

Thurs 6 Sept 2012

6.00 pm - 8.00 pm, Conference Room, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. No booking required, this is a free drop in event. An informal evening to share a cocktail or two, nibble on something yummy, and discover our latest range of courses for everyone – from one day workshops to professional qualifications.

Botany Courses at RBGE

Botany for Artists

Sun 23 Sept 2012

10.00 am - 4.00 pm, Teaching Lab, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. Booking required. Please call the education office on 0131 248 2937. £50 (£45 for Members)
Have you ever painted a plant in a vase, only to find out later that the flowers are technically upside down? Are you using plants for artistic inspiration? Could your plant knowledge benefit from an introduction to botany? This is the course for you.

Botany for Beginners

Thurs 27 Sept - Thurs 22 Nov 2012

7.00 pm - 9.00 pm, Teaching Lab, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. Booking required. Please call the education office on 0131 248 2937. £77 (£69.30 for Members)

Aimed at the complete beginner and using living plants from the garden, this eight-week course investigates the identification, function and ecology of familiar plant species. Useful as a pre-course to the RHS Level 2 Certificate in Horticulture. Taught by Emily Wood.

Fabulous Fungi - Beginners

Sun 30 Sept 2012

10.00 am - 4.00 pm, Teaching Lab, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. Booking required. Please phone the Education Office on 0131 248 2937. £50 (£45 for Members)

An introduction to the identification of fungi. You will be introduced to the different field characteristics of each of the families and their genera, how to apply these to identification keys, and good practice for collection.

Horticulture Courses at RBGE

RHS Level 2 Certificate in the Principles of Horticulture (Distance Learning) *ILA from www.rbge.org.uk/rhslevel2, 16+, £400

This internationally recognised qualification provides a broad-based understanding of horticultural techniques and plant biology.

This course is also eligible for £200 in ILA funding. To find out how to apply for an ILA account please call 0808 100 1090 or see the website www.ilascotland.org.uk

Introduction to Horticulture

Wed 26 Sept - Wed 5 Dec 2012: 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm

Or Thurs 27 Sept - Thurs 6 Dec 2012: 10.30 am - 12.30 pm

Board Room Annex, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

Booking required. Please phone the Education Office on 0131 248 2937. £99 (£89.10 for Members)

A ten-week theoretical course covering a range of topics, from soil science to pruning to plant anatomy. Suitable as an overview of horticulture for absolute beginners, or as a stepping stone to the RHS (level 2) Certificate in Horticulture.

Grow Your Own Vegetables

Sat 29 Sept 2012 - Sat 11 May 2013

10.00 am - 4.00 pm, Fletcher Building Classroom, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

Booking required. Please phone the Education Office on 0131 248 2937. £120 (£108 for Members)

Want to grow your own vegetables but don't know where to start? Join Cath Evans and Laura Cohen on this mini three day course through the growing year to find out how easy it is. This course takes place on 3 Saturdays throughout the year.

This is a 3 part course

Botanical Illustration Courses at RBGE

Beginning Botanical Illustration

Mon 24 Sept - Mon 3 Dec 2012: 10.30 am - 1.00 pm, Patrick Geddes Room, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

Mon 24 Sept - Mon 3 Dec 2012: 6.30 pm - 9.00 pm, Teaching Lab, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

Tues 25 Sept - Tues 4 Dec 2012: 2.00 pm - 4.30 pm, Conference Room, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

Booking required. Please call the education office on 0131 248 293. £99 (£89.10 for Members)

This class introduces students to techniques in botanical painting. Students will develop drawing skills, learn to use watercolours and pen and ink effectively and create work inspired by fresh material from the Garden.

Expressive Watercolour & landscape - Mixed level

Mon 24 Sept - Mon 3 Dec 2012

1.30 pm - 4.30 pm, Conference Room, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. Booking required. Please call the education office on 0131 248 2937. £110 (£99 for Members)