



July 27th 2018 Sarah Price & Alan Gray
Arboretum Home & Garden Heaven, Leighlinbridge

tv and radio gardeners
international garden designers
nature & tree trails | garden visits
free events | workshops

carlow garden festival

Friday July 27th - Monday August 6th 2018



August 5th 2018
Carol Klein
Duckett's Grove, Carlow

For novice gardeners to garden connoisseurs
and garden lovers of any age



t: 059 913 0411 

w: www.carlowgardentrail.com



friday 27th july

friday 27th july

opening event

saturday 28th july

wildtime forest school at leighlinbridge the garden village



nature walk and woodland fun

Wildtime founder Johanna Brown will lead this nature walk along the River Barrow in Leighlinbridge. Participants will be able to enjoy the surrounding nature and explore the wonders it brings. Prepare for your senses to be captivated and discover the flora, fauna and plants of this special area. Nature is a theme relevant to every generation so expect to get rooting in the hedgerows! The group will collect items along the way and create natural crafts at the end of the walk. Suitable for all ages.



Venue: The Parish Centre Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow GPS: 52.7362321, -6.9821963 Time: 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Session 1.5 hours. Admission: FREE Pre-booking is advised. www.carlowgardentrail.com Remember to wear suitable walking shoes.

sarah price and alan gray at arboretum home & garden heaven



plants first - plant driven design

Sarah believes in plant-driven design and her talk focuses on using plants - their shapes, forms and patterns - to compose her stunning gardens. Through an overview of past and current work, Sarah shows how her design process works, citing real examples. Her informative talk also focuses on the renowned gardens she created for the London Olympics in 2012. The designer, who according to Vogue, was tipped to be the talking point of the 2018 Chelsea Flower Show, discusses her experience of creating the Gold Medal M&G Garden. This is a rare opportunity to hear one of the gardening world's newest trailblazers.

Venue: Arboretum Home & Garden Heaven, Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow Time: 7.30 p.m.



history of the garden at east ruston old vicarage

East Ruston Old Vicarage and its garden are a reflection of the love, care and attention that Alan and his partner, Graham have invested over many years. Located in Norfolk, Alan explains the process of turning the site from a blank canvas into a stunning vista of creativity, featuring mixed hedgerows, banks, wild flower areas and ponds.

Venue: Arboretum Home & Garden Heaven, Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow GPS: 52.742832, -6.975890 Time: 7.30 p.m. Adm: €25 p.p. / Groups 10+ 10% discount. Tickets available from: www.arboretum.ie t: 059 913 0411 www.carlowgardentrail.com Enjoy late shopping in Arboretum Home and Garden Heaven until 10 p.m. Two course buffet meal with tea/coffee in Rachel's Garden Café, €16.95, 5 - 7 p.m. Choice of three entrées and choice from the dessert counter. Pre-booking necessary t: 059 972 1558 or e: info@arboretum.ie Warm clothing recommended for this evening event.

leonie cornelius at huntington castle and gardens



designing your dream garden

Have you ever wondered what it takes to design a dream garden? This talk by garden designer and interior architect Leonie Cornelius takes you on a journey from concept to completion. Focusing on topics such as conceiving your dream concept, exploring your site and finding your style.

Later that afternoon join Leonie, former winner of RTÉ's Super Garden, for a tour of the grounds. View the 17th century parterre, ornamental lakes, fish ponds, one of the oldest yew tree walks in the country and a stunning collection of champion Irish trees.

Talk at 12 noon, Garden tour 3 p.m.

Venue: Huntington Castle and Gardens, Clonegal, Co. Carlow GPS: 52.690404, -6.649131 Adm: €5 each talk. Pre-booking advised but not essential. Tea rooms open for tea, coffee and light snacks. Experience a house tour escorted by a member of the Durdin-Robertson family (2-5 p.m. Adm. fee applies). Children's playground available. Contact: 053 937 7160 w: www.huntingtoncastle.com

sunday 29th july

sunday 29th july

monday 30th july

monday 30th july

helen dillon at rathwood
and rathvilly garden centre

shirley lanigan at patthana
gardens, kiltegan, co. wicklow

john anderson at delta
sensory gardens

fionnuala fallon at
the meadows



i wish i had done it years ago...

garden tour

my favourite gardens and plants

garden tour

Helen Dillon is a legendary plantswoman, author, international lecturer and creator of the famous Dillon Garden. Having moved house in 2016, Helen speaks about the challenges and opportunities when setting up a new garden. Helen also offers a personal reflection on the aspects of good design and the joys of her new garden.

Venue: Rathwood, Rath, Tullow, Co. Carlow
GPS: 52.796597, -6.660739
Time: 12 noon **Adm:** FREE Pre-booking advised but not essential. On-site restaurant with fresh wholesome food and baking.
Contact: 059 915 6285 www.rathwood.com

keeping the show on the road

From the challenges and triumphs she is facing in creating her new garden, Helen offers a personal and passionate account of gardening in small and difficult spaces. Helen's entertaining and witty style will appeal to all gardeners.

Venue: Rathvilly Garden Centre, Rathvilly, Co. Carlow **GPS:** 52.898638, -6.697199
Time: 2.30 p.m. **Adm:** FREE Pre-booking advised but not essential. **Contact:** 059 916 1296 w: www.carlowgardentrail.com

Patthana Gardens have been described by experts as one of the best small gardens in the country. Patthana is a small village garden set on two levels consisting of a lower courtyard area with a wildlife pond and upper garden featuring mixed borders with many unusual plants. Join Shirley Lanigan, the noted Irish author as she talks about the changing world of open Irish gardens, with reference to the growth of interest in things organic and responsible and will take parts of the garden as illustration.

If you are passionate about growing plants you cannot miss this wonderful tour where visitors will be amazed by the flamboyant perennials and striking foliage which create an opulent display of summer colour.

Venue: Patthana Gardens, Kiltegan, Co. Wicklow **GPS:** 52.9048235, -6.606162
Time: 5.30 p.m.
Adm: €5
Pre-booking advised but not essential.
Contact: m: 086 194 4547
w: www.carlowgardentrail.com



John Anderson, Keeper of the Gardens at Windsor Castle and Savill Gardens promises an interesting and informative talk looking over his career from Mount Usher to Inverewe, Exbury and now the gardens of Windsor Great Park, where he gardens for the Queen of England. This talk highlights the plants and gardens that have influenced John's passion for gardening and looks at those plants that can be found at the beautiful Delta Sensory Gardens.



Venue: Delta Sensory Gardens and Garden Centre, Strawhall Estate, Carlow
GPS: 52.844988, -6.924546
Time: 12 noon **Adm:** Adults €7, concessions €5, children free if accompanied by an adult. Pre-booking advised but not essential. Tea, coffee, lunch and snacks available in the on-site restaurant. **Contact:** 059 914 3527
w: www.deltasensorygardens.com

It is fitting that the exceptionally talented Fionnuala Fallon, *Irish Times* gardening correspondent, leads this tour around the garden of the great artist and painter Philippa Bayliss. The concept for this garden was based largely on 17th century Chinese landscape paintings so you can expect lots of jagged rocks, planting between rocks and into gravel, small trees and a recently installed stunning sculpture of a seed head. Visitors are promised lots of ideas that can be recreated in different contexts in a small space of a ¼ acre.

The Meadows is positioned in a small estate in Myshall village with views extending to the Wicklow Mountains, the Carlow Ridge and Mount Leinster. The plot slopes steeply into the hillside with the back shaded by sycamores. The back garden is planted with an informal hedge of shrub roses and some interesting trees interspersed with mostly herbaceous plants, set into gravel.

Venue: No. 7, The Meadows, Myshall, Co. Carlow **GPS:** 52.6870338, -6.777797
Time: 3 p.m. **Adm:** €5 Pre-booking advised but not essential. **Contact:** 059 915 7530
www.philippabayliss.com

tuesday 31st july

cormac downey at
altamont gardens



garden tree trail & garden tour

This walking tour of Altamont Gardens is led by Cormac Downey, OPW Tree Officer and promises to be an exciting journey through a historic setting. With its fine plant collections, Robinsonian style landscapes synonymous with one of the great garden designers in Ireland's Ancient East, man-made lake and the ancient oak woodland, the tour will take in other magnificent specimens of trees to be found at Altamont Gardens. So why not take a journey back in time in this tranquil old world setting and experience one of the most magical gardens in Ireland.



Venue: Altamont Gardens, Tullow, Co. Carlow
GPS: 52.735129, -6.720966

Time: 11 a.m.
Adm: FREE Car park fee of €2 applies.
Pre-booking advised but not essential.

Contact: 059 915 9444
w: www.heritageireland.ie / www.opw.ie



tuesday 31st july

stephen anderton at
hardymount gardens



what makes a great gardener?

Stephen, gardening correspondent with *The Times*, looks at the lives of men and women, past and present, who have made great gardens that are admired worldwide. What drives them to work in this deliciously frustrating medium? Which gardeners were not only passionate plant-lovers but also nurserymen, painters, novelists, politicians and fashionistas? Which gardeners can design, structure and lay out a garden as well as cover the detail of the planting? Some of the names you will know, some will be a wonderful surprise. Afterwards take a stroll around the stunning walled garden of Hardymount.

Ireland's Ancient East is renowned for its local produce - there are few places that you will enjoy a more delicious afternoon tea than at Hardymount Gardens, where a sumptuous spread prepared by the Reeves Smyth family is enjoyed on the lawn area.

Venue: Hardymount Gardens, Tullow, Carlow
GPS: 52.798787, -6.762269 **Time:** 3 p.m.
Adm: €10 incl. afternoon tea. Pre-booking advised but not essential. Early arrival recommended due to large attendance. In aid of cancer research **Contact:** 059 915 1769



wednesday 1st august

charles dowding
at shankill castle



no dig organic growing workshop

Charles' talk explains the principles of a no dig approach, so that listeners can go home to apply the method, in whatever way suits their site and materials to hand. His workshop focuses on clearing weeds by mulching on top, without any soil disturbance. He explains different composts, and how to make your own while also discussing how mulches of organic matter work to feed soil life. Charles shows time saving ways to grow many different vegetables, from propagation and methods of planting to pest protection, and ways to harvest. In the garden afterwards participants will see mulching of weeds and sowing into compost.

Shankill Castle is a living museum in Ireland's Ancient East. Wander through time and explore its unique heritage and culture on a guided tour of the antique and art filled castle. Take a stroll through vibrant gardens and woodland.

Venue: Shankill Castle, Paulstown, Co. Kilkenny **GPS:** 52.686529, -7.021772
Time: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. **Workshop adm:** €25 including tea/coffee and garden tour. Castle tours available on the day €5.
Contact: 059 972 6145
w: www.shankillcastle.com online booking



wednesday 1st august

jimi blake at burtown
house and gardens



hunting brook through the
seasons

Join Jimi Blake, owner of Hunting Brook Gardens and one of the most acclaimed and accomplished contemporary gardeners of his time as he speaks about his garden through the seasons. Hunting Brook Gardens located in Blessington, Co. Wicklow, are acknowledged as one of Ireland's most dynamic, interesting and innovative gardens. Widely covered in the gardening press Hunting Brook has become a mecca for gardeners and hosts visitors from around the world every year.

Afterwards join Jimi for a tour of the wonderful gardens at Burtown featuring large herbaceous borders, shrubberies and a rock garden.

Venue: Burtown House and Gardens, Athy, Co. Kildare (exit 3 off M9 motorway)
GPS: 52.996672, -6.870744
Time: 3 p.m. **Adm:** €8 Pre-booking advised but not essential.
The Green Barn Restaurant and Shop is open Wednesday to Sunday for lunch, evening dinner available Friday and Saturday - booking is essential. **Contact:** 059 862 3865
w: www.burtownhouse.ie

thursday 2nd august

seamus o' brien at borris house



garden tour

Borris demesne is a fine example of how a formal Baroque landscape has evolved over centuries into the impressive parkland setting visible today. Seamus O'Brien, manager of the National Botanic Gardens, Kilmacurragh in Co. Wicklow, will offer his unique insight into this mature estate with its many specimen trees, original Stew Pond and 18th century Ice House.

The big houses of Ireland's Ancient East tell the story of Ireland's gardens and their important role in our history and heritage. Discover this and more during your visit to Borris House.

Venue: Borris House, Borris, Co. Carlow
GPS: 52.598644, -6.926618
Time: 12 noon Adm: €5
House tours €10 p.p., craft gallery and lace garden available. Pre-booking advised but not essential. Contact: 059 977 1884 m: 089 233 2470 w: www.borrishouse.com



thursday 2nd august

fiann ó nualláin at kilgraney house and herb gardens



grow a longer, healthier, happier life

What is it about gardening that tends to lead to longer, more fulfilled lives? Yes it's the passion and rewards of gardening, how the joy of doing and creating actually energises the spirit but beyond that there are some wonderful healthy transformations that happen as you toil or smile outdoors. From the sounds of nature rewiring your brain, to daylight helping to fight off inflammatory diseases, certain cancers and many mental health issues. There are the benefits of natural aromatherapy and herbal harvests to be enjoyed. Fiann Ó Nualláin, author and gold medal designer explores how the garden heals on many levels and how we can maximise its benefits for health and happiness. Follow this talk with a stroll through the wonderful herbal gardens at Kilgraney.

Venue: Kilgraney House and Herb Gardens, Borris Road, Kilgraney, Bagenalstown, Carlow
GPS: 52.653681, -6.957602 Time: 3 p.m.
Adm: €10 Pre-booking advisable, tickets from www.carlowgardentrail.com
Some tickets for sale on the day subject to availability. Contact: 059 977 5283 w: www.kilgraneyhouse.com

thursday 2nd august

adam frost at VISUAL centre for contemporary art



my life in gardening

In his talk about 'A Life in Gardening', Adam Frost tells the story of his journey from a young boy uprooted from the city to live in North Devon, to an award-winning garden designer and television presenter. Adam talks about his sources of inspiration - nature, architecture, art, people and food - as well as drawing on memories, special places and people who have been influential to the way he designs.

Arrive before 5.30 p.m. and view Encountering the Land, an exhibition of photography, painting, film and performance, portraying the romance and rough of rural life. The Persistent Return, a new film work explores the history of the humble spud in the story of the northern hemisphere. FREE



Venue: VISUAL, Old Dublin Road, Carlow
Adm: Adam Frost €17 or 2 tickets for €30 from visualcarlow.ie or carlowgardentrail.com
Pre-booking advised. Time: 8 p.m.
Contact: 059 917 2400 info@visualcarlow.ie

friday 3rd august

chris beardshaw & fergus garrett at altamont plant sales



talk 1: creating floral rewards

Chris gives an illustrated talk which looks at creating floral rewards with less effort. Inspired by traditional herbaceous borders but with the aim of reducing the inputs and looking for a new style, Chris uses examples from his own schemes. Chris, a natural speaker will recount his experience of winning Best Show Garden at the Chelsea Flower Show 2018.

talk 2: designing with plants the great dexter way

Fergus will teach his audience how to combine plants considering their sense of place, colour, shape, texture and repetition. He will give examples from Great Dexter and other gardens of how to contrast one plant with another, as well as creating intimacy and movement.

Venue: Altamont Plant Sales, Tullow, Co. Carlow
GPS: 52.735129, -6.720966
Time: Talk 1 at 12 noon (doors open 11.30 a.m.) & Talk 2 at 3 p.m. Adm: Day ticket €35
Pre-booking advised.
The Walled Garden Café in Altamont Plant Sales is open for tea, coffee and light snacks.
Tickets from: carlowgardentrail.com or Robert Miller m: 087 982 2135 or Carlow Tourism

saturday 4th august

saturday 4th august

sunday 5th august

monday 6th august

assumpta broomfield at burtown house and gardens

dermot o' neill at huntington castle and gardens

period garden party with carol klein at duckett's grove

elma fenton at delta sensory gardens



scenting & searching: the rose

garden tour and tree trail

my life and times as a nursery woman, gardener & tv presenter

garden tour and q&a

An extraordinary talk on the importance of the rose in art, politics and religion. It captivates listeners with tales of eccentric women and anecdotes about great explorers and collectors. The quality and variety of photographs amazes and the lecture is delivered with humour and fluency. Where did the hybrid tea rose come from? And what roses are best for your garden today? This incredibly well researched talk will provide the answers and will probably be the best rose talk you will ever hear. As a garden club secretary recently wrote "I have seldom heard so many compliments expressed by so many of the attendants at the conclusion of any address". Afterwards enjoy a tour of the gardens at Burtown House.



Burtown House is one of two 17th century houses in Kildare to never have been sold, and the only house that you can visit, and have guided tours by family members. It is the only original Quaker house in Ireland that can be visited that is still lived in by the family that built it from this period.

Venue: Burtown House and Gardens, Athy, Co. Kildare See talk Wed August 1st for details. **Time:** 11.30 a.m. **Adm:** €8 Pre-booking advised but not essential.

Dermot O' Neill, with us each year by popular demand since the start of the Carlow Garden Festival back in 2002, visits Huntington Castle for a garden tour taking in the many delights of this attraction, from the 17th century parterres to the ancient Yew Walk, the "Wilderness" woodland, the kitchen gardens, the Greenhouse and the recently restored Rose Gardens.



Venue: Huntington Castle and Gardens, Clonegal, Co. Carlow
See talk Sat July 28th for details.
Time: 3.30 p.m.
Adm: €5 Pre-booking advised but not essential.

Enjoy a garden party in the beautiful surrounds of Duckett's Grove Historic House and Walled Gardens. Featuring vintage dress, classical and musical entertainment, traditional activities for the children, picnics on the lawn, a talk with the highly talented and popular UK gardener Carol Klein and the opportunity to view the beautifully restored walled gardens. This is an event which all the family, from young to old will enjoy.

Carol will talk about her time as a nursery owner and gardener discussing her favourite plants and those she found difficult to propagate.



Venue: Duckett's Grove, near Carlow town
GPS: 52.858748, -6.812787 **Time:** Garden Party 12-5.30 p.m. Carol Klein talk 3-4.30 p.m.
Adm: €20 Carol Klein, €30 garden party & talk
€10 garden party only, children FREE
Contact: 059 913 0411   
w: www.carlowgardentrail.com

Elma Fenton, renowned Irish and international ecological landscape architect and garden designer promises an interesting and informative tour of the Delta Sensory Gardens. Visitors will have a unique opportunity to rest and indulge their senses of touch, taste, smell, hearing and visual delight on this wonderful garden tour.

Venue: Delta Sensory Gardens and Garden Centre, Strawhall Estate, Carlow
GPS: 52.844988, -6.924546 **Time:** 12 noon
Adm: Adults €7, concessions €5, children free if accompanied by an adult. Pre-booking advised but not essential. Tea, coffee, lunch and snacks available in the on-site restaurant. **Contact:** 059 914 3527 w: www.deltasensorygardens.com

For special accommodation offers during the Carlow Garden Festival visit www.carlowgardentrail.com

This project received grant aid from Carlow Local Community Development Committee under the Rural Development Programme Ireland 2014-2020 which is financed by the Irish Government and by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe Investing in Rural Areas.

