



carlow garden festival

Saturday, July 24th – Sunday, August 1st 2021

PRE-BOOKING OF TICKETS ESSENTIAL

tv and radio presenters
nature & tree trails
garden visits
free events | workshops

Saturday, July 31st 2021 at 7.30 p.m.
Paul Smyth & Diarmuid Gavin
Arboretum Home and Garden Heaven



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

www.carlowgardentrail.com t: 059 913 0411



CARLOW
COUNTY COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHATHARLOCHA



IRELAND'S
ANCIENT EAST™
Wander Through Time

carlow
tourism



saturday 24th july

paul martin
delta sensory gardens



garden talk

Join Paul Martin, Gold Medal winner RHS Chelsea and Hampton Court Flower Shows, on a journey through the many wonderful gardens that have been created at Delta over the years including the Celtic Walk, the formal Rose Garden, the Five Senses Garden and the Stolen Child Garden. His talk also features an in-depth look at plant varieties used in the gardens and a personal tour of his own garden in Delta, the Iris O' Brien Garden, first created for the 2008 Bloom Garden Festival in the Phoenix Park, Dublin. In conclusion Paul discusses his ongoing involvement with the Delta Centre, in particular the development of the planting on the main avenue.

Venue: Delta Sensory Gardens and Garden Centre, Strawhall Estate, Carlow, R93 Y959
Time: 11 a.m. **Adm:** Adults €8. Take-away tea, coffee, snacks and light lunches from the on-site Café Thyme. **Contact:** 059 914 3527
w: www.deltasensorygardens.ie



sunday 25th july

éanna ní lamhna
leighlinbridge-the garden village



river walk & gardening for wildlife

Éanna Ní Lamhna, environmentalist and RTE personality leads a leisurely walk along the lovely banks of the River Barrow in Leighlinbridge, highlighting the history and heritage of this great river while identifying a wide variety of local flora and fauna. Éanna also provides practical, easy steps to garden for wildlife. Find out which plants attract songbirds, butterflies, frogs and other interesting wildlife. You can learn about the wild life reserve, home to a huge range of wildlife and flowers and the callow land on the opposite bank, important for winter migrant waders, including swans, ducks and geese. Éanna also explains the Pollination Vacation Resort, which supports climate action and biodiversity and gives simple steps to recreate a similar feature in your own garden.

Venue: Meet at the Garden of Remembrance, The Quayside, Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow
GPS: 52.735587, -6.973691

Time: 2 p.m. & 4 p.m. **Adm:** FREE
Contact: 086 602 7751



monday 26th july

mary keenan
delta sensory gardens



the all year garden

Most garden owners long to have a garden that looks good all year round. While there will always be a high and a low season in the garden, it should never look completely devoid of life, colour or interest. Join Mary, garden writer and owner of Gash Gardens in County Laois as she explores the diverse and inspiring series of multi-sensory gardens at Delta Sensory Gardens highlighting plants, techniques and design features. An informative and engaging talk is promised packed with practical tips and ideas.

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Time: 11 a.m.

Adm: Adults €8

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Contact: 059 914 3527

w: www.deltasensorygardens.ie



monday 26th july

patricia tyrrell
the meadows



planting for long term colour

Philippa Bayliss' garden, The Meadows is all about colour and vitality, and is the main inspiration for her beautiful paintings. Join award-winning gardener, Patricia Tyrrell as she explores the use of colour in the garden. Patricia's gardening philosophy centres on the belief that designed landscapes and gardens should encourage nature and fit into and reflect the surrounding natural landscape. At the height of summer gardens are filled with colour, but what of the rest of the year? Join Patricia as she explores planting for maximum effect for the longest possible period, without too much maintenance. Visitors are promised lots of ideas that can be recreated in different contexts in a small space, using the gardens at the Meadows which cover ¼ acre as an example.

Venue: No. 7, The Meadows, Myshall, Co. Carlow, R21 CF43

Time: 3 p.m. **Adm:** €5

Contact: 059 915 7530



tuesday 27th july

paul maher
altamont gardens



planning your future garden

Paul Maher, recently retired Curator of the National Botanic Gardens will discuss gardening techniques and thrifty design principles to allow you enjoy your garden for many years to come. Many of these design principles have been used in Altamont Gardens to great effect including structure, vistas, right plant in the right place, colour and working with the natural landscape rather than against it. Both young and old will learn a lot of from this very informative talk, delivered by one of Bloom's longest and most distinguished judges.

Venue: Altamont Gardens, Tullow, Co. Carlow, R93 N882 **Time:** 11 a.m. **Adm:** FREE

Contact: 046 942 386

w: www.heritageireland.ie

For pre-booked lunches contact Sugar and Spice Café at Altamont Plant Sales T: 053 937 6388 linda@sugarandspicebundlodj.ie or take-away tea, coffee, cakes and light snacks can be enjoyed on the day (limited outdoor dining spaces available).



tuesday 27th july

madeline mckeever
hardymount gardens



seed saving and save money

In these times when it is often much harder to get the seed you want, discover how to collect your own. Madeline McKeever of the Brown Envelope Seed Catalogue explains the joy and true essence of being a gardener by growing your own plants from seed or purchasing certified organic seeds. Madeline explains that with the right light and some simple equipment, it's easy to grow from seed to harvest. She also discusses other things to look for during seed cultivation including disease, insects and bad weather.

Venue: Hardymount Gardens, Tullow, Co. Carlow, R93 X524

Time: 3 p.m. **Adm:** Adult €10

Due to COVID restrictions an afternoon tea on the lawn will not be held in 2021. Visitors are welcome to bring their own picnic to enjoy on the lawns and grounds.

Contact: 086 124 2801

w: www.carlowgardentrail.com



wednesday 28th july

klaus laitenberger
shankill castle



grow your own food

Klaus Laitenberger covers how to grow your own organic vegetables, salads and fruit by choosing the right varieties, the best sowing dates and how to prevent pests and diseases as well as keeping weeds under control. Klaus also discusses some of the findings of his great vegetable trip through South America and other countries with a variety of curious old/new vegetables on display. Klaus delivers his talk from the organic vegetable garden in Shankill Castle focusing on in-season produce – cherries, raspberries, soft fruit, early potatoes, beetroot, swiss chard and tomatoes. Afterwards visitors can stroll around the gardens.

Venue: Shankill Castle, Paulstown, Co. Kilkenny, R95 T8X7

Time: 11 a.m. **Adm:** €10

The Coach House Café is open for take-away lunch, tea, coffee and cake.

For castle tours visit www.shankillcastle.com

Contact: 086 397 1748 / 087 780 2437

w: www.shankillcastle.com



wednesday 28th july

arthur shackleton
burtown house



effective garden design

Arthur Shackleton, shares his background in garden consultancy showing examples of his design approach to gardens he has worked on in the past and continues to work on today including Ashford, Dromoland and Glin Castles, Lyons Demesne, Coolmore Stud and Airfield House in Dundrum and Butler House in Kilkenny. The creation of Arthur's garden – Fruit Lawn – in Abbeyleix, Co. Laois over the past 20 years will be discussed in detail and his choice of plants talked about. He will show some of his favourite plants and explain how he uses them in his gardens.

Venue: Burtown House and Gardens, Athy, Co. Kildare, R14 KF63 (exit 3 off M9 motorway) **Time:** 3 p.m. **Adm:** €10

The Green Barn is open for lunch, tea, coffee and snacks (outdoors and indoors).

Pre-booking recommended.

Contact: 059 862 3865

w: www.burtownhouse.ie



thursday 29th july

thomas pakenham
borris house



remarkable trees

Experience the magnificent Borris House with Thomas Pakenham, exploring its many rare and unusual great trees including a number of beautiful specimen trees. Aside from the great collection of trees you are guaranteed to enjoy Thomas Pakenham's outright funny and entertaining manner! Explore the grounds of the estate taking in the Blackstairs Mountains and the Barrow Valley; stroll along the woodland paths, view the original Stew Pond and take in the original Victorian laundry, the restored granary and the 18th century Ice House. The Lace Garden illustrates the story of Borris Lace.

Venue: Borris House, Gardens and Woodland, Borris, Co. Carlow R95 Y2T1
Time: 11 a.m. **Adm:** €8. For details of house tours visit www.borrishouse.com Craft gallery and lace garden on-site. Take-away tea, coffee and snacks available.
Contact: 059 977 1884 / 089 233 2470
w: www.borrishouse.com



thursday 29th july

fiann ó nualláin
kilgraney house & 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. Then 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.

Venue: Kilgraney House & Herb Gardens, Borris Road, Kilgraney, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow R21 W527
Time: 3 p.m. **Adm:** €10
Gallery open.
Contact: 059 977 5283
w: www.kilgraneyhouse.com



friday 30th july

seamus o' brien
altamont plant sales



my favourite plants

Seamus O' Brien, internationally renowned plantsman and Curator of the Botanic Gardens in Kilmacurragh picks out his top plants from surprising novelties to rising stars for your garden. Some of these plants he may have seen himself in the wild during his extensive plant hunting expeditions abroad. A talk by one of Ireland's finest plants people, this will be one of the highlights for those seeking to add something a little unusual to their garden.

Venue: Altamont Plant Sales, Tullow, Co. Carlow R93 N882
Time: 11.30 a.m. **Adm:** €5
For pre-booked lunches contact Sugar and Spice Café at Altamont Plant Sales T: 053 937 6388 linda@sugarandspicebundocly.ie or take-away tea, coffee, cakes and light snacks can be enjoyed on the day (limited outdoor dining spaces available).
Contact: Robert Miller 087 982 2135
w: www.altamontplants.com



friday 30th july

seamus o' brien
huntington castle



new plants in an old demesne

Seamus O' Brien explores the evolution of the gardens at Huntington Castle focusing on both historic and new planting, including the planting of acid-loving rhododendrons under his advice in recent times. These gardens were mainly laid out in the 17th century by the Esmondess. They include the French limes on the Avenue, the "parterre" or lawns to the side of the house, the fish ponds on either side of the centre walk through the wilderness and the majority of Yew trees which comprise the Yew Walk. Larger plantings have resulted in Huntington possessing a number of great Irish trees.

Venue: Huntington Castle and Gardens, Clonegal, Co. Carlow Y21 K237
Time: 3.30 p.m. **Adm:** €10
For details of house tours visit www.huntingtoncastle.com
Take-away teas, coffees, cakes and light snacks from the on-site Victorian tea rooms and gift shop. **Contact:** 053 937 7160



saturday 31st july

paul smyth and diarmuid gavin
arboretum home & garden heaven



► gardening together

Garden designer Diarmuid Gavin and Carlow plantsman Paul Smyth tell the story of their Garden Conversations lockdown broadcasts, introducing us to the community of gardeners around the world who it built, while also sharing an invigorating tour of their respective plots in this light hearted and informative talk.

Both will recount how their gardens evolved into the dramatic plant filled spaces they are today. Diarmuid's various trips to the Chelsea Flower Show and Paul's plant hunting expeditions to Vietnam have influenced their own gardens and each casts a humorous eye over the others endeavours.

In this talk both will chat about the background to Garden Conversations and reveal how it ended up inspiring a TV series, a book and a brand-new podcast called Dirt!

Venue: Arboretum Home & Garden Heaven,
Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow R93 P9F4

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Adm: €20 p.p. / Groups 10+ 10% discount.

Tickets bookable in groups of 2, 4 or 6 to facilitate social distancing.

Contact: 059 972 1558 or e: info@arboretum.ie
Warm clothing recommended for this evening event.

Enjoy late shopping in Arboretum Home and Garden Heaven until 10 p.m. Dining options available.



sunday 1st august

shirley lanigan
duckett's grove



► garden tour

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 riot of colours in the borders. Once a grand mansion, Duckett's Grove is now one of the most photographed ruins in the country. In recent years, the adjoining walled gardens have undergone an exciting restoration. The Upper Walled Garden, hedged with boxwood, is planted with historical varieties of shrub roses, a great range of hardy and tender perennials and choice flowering shrubs. The Lower Walled Garden, once the site of the old orchard, contains a wide variety of fruits.

Venue: Duckett's Grove, Kneestown, near Carlow Town, R93 RF80 **Time:** 2.30 p.m.

Adm: €10. Take-away teas, coffees and light snacks available. **Contact:** 059 913 0411



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For more information on
County Carlow visit the
Carlow Tours app, available as a
free download from the Google
app Store or log onto
www.carlowtourism.com

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

Carlow Garden Festival is organised by the
Carlow Garden Trail Committee in partnership
with Carlow Tourism with the support of
Carlow County Council and Bord Bia.



carlow
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The Carlow Garden Festival wishes to acknowledge the support of
Kilkenny County Council and Kildare County Council



Visitors are asked to adhere to all COVID-19
safety precautions at each venue and to follow
the instructions at each talk / workshop. For a
full list of safety measures in place, visit www.carlowgardentrail.com