

RHS Garden Wisley
Courses 2012



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Be inspired

Inspire • Involve • Inform • Improve

RHS Garden Wisley Courses 2012

The Royal Horticultural Society is the UK's foremost gardening charity, helping and inspiring millions of people to garden. We do this at our gardens and shows and through our scientific research, publications, libraries and our education and community programmes. We are entirely funded by our members, visitors and supporters.

RHS Garden Wisley offers a wide range of workshops and courses to inspire your experience and knowledge of plants and gardens, from pruning and propagation to art and photography. Most courses include a practical element and courses are offered at a range of different levels of experience. RHS Wisley offers the opportunity to learn alongside RHS horticulturists and experts in the amazing, unique setting of Wisley.

Our 2012 programme aims to provide horticultural sessions to suit everyone, whether you are just starting out with a garden or are an already confident horticulturist looking to broaden your skills base. We have added to our number of exceptionally

talented botanical art tutors and the subjects they offer to give you an increased breadth of skills, and are offering a course on painting and drawing outside in the fabulous setting of RHS Wisley for the first time. There have also been additions to our photography and floral art programmes catering for a variety of levels and needs, whether you need an overview of the basics or a focus on a specific subject. We hope you find a course to match your needs and look forward to welcoming you to the garden in 2012.





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Horticulture: Be inspired and discover new skills



Fundraising for your Garden Project

Wednesday 1 February 10.30am to 12.45pm

Tutor: Hayley Young

Are you part of a community group, school or similar organisation keen to get growing but lacking the funds to do so? This session will help to identify funding organisations that you may be able to approach to help with your project and will offer advice on putting together a funding application. Practical fundraising ideas to raise funds locally will also be covered.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8901

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 20 places

A Cut Above: All about Spring Pruning

Thursday 2 February 1pm to 3pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

February and March are busy times for pruning before growth begins in earnest in the spring. This talk and demonstration by expert RHS staff will teach you the theory behind pruning shrubs at this time of year and vital pruning principles which will allow your plants to look at their best and healthiest for the year ahead. General maintenance pruning of shrubs and climbers such as *Buddleja*, *Wisteria* and *Cornus* (dogwood) will be covered, as well as restorative pruning for overgrown shrubs you wish to renovate. This session will involve some walking outdoors and practical activities, so please come prepared with suitable footwear and clothing.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8902

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 20 places

A Thorny Issue: How to Prune and Care for your Roses

Thursday 9 February 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Do you love roses but are confused with their care? This course will cover all the major rose types including hybrid tea, floribunda, shrub roses and climbers and demonstrate the correct pruning and planting techniques to allow each one to reach its full potential. This talk and demonstration is with RHS expert staff and will involve some outdoor demonstration so please come equipped with suitable clothing.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8903

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 20 places



Garden Machinery and Tool Maintenance

Tuesday 28 February 1pm to 3pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

A bad workman blames his tools, so give yourself no excuse with this tool and machinery masterclass. Learn how to get the best performance out of your garden machinery including mowers, strimmers, leaf blowers and hedge trimmers, and how to keep old and new tools in pristine condition. This session will cover general maintenance and checks, storage, safety, sharpening and purchasing of machinery and tools, as well as their safe use, care and ergonomics. The course is run by RHS expert staff and will involve some outdoor demonstration, so please come equipped with suitable clothing.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8904

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 20 places

The Vegetable Garden in Spring

Wednesday 29 February 10.30am to 4pm

Tutor: Hayley Young

Spring is in the air and its time to get sowing for bumper crops to harvest in the summer and autumn. This day will focus on the vegetables which can be grown in spring months and how to sow and plant them. This time of year can often be a 'lean time' for harvesting so discussions will also cover crops to get in your garden this year for a harvest next spring. A range of practical jobs such as soil preparation and seed sowing techniques, such as intercropping will be covered. This is a practical day and attendees will have the chance to practise skills they are shown – so please come prepared with suitable footwear, outdoor clothes and gardening gloves.

Fee: RHS Members £40, Non-RHS Members £50.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8905

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 20 places

What Now?

Tutor: RHS Experts

Are you new to gardening and unsure what exactly you should be doing when, or are you a keen gardener wanting tips on your timings? Let the RHS experts help you through the gardening year providing a whistle-stop tour of techniques, tips, tricks and advice on seasonal tasks so that you know what you could be doing when. Sessions will vary in format including talks, practical demonstrations and walks around the garden at Wisley.

March and April

Thursday 1 March 10.30am to 12.30pm

Includes: Sowing seed and taking cuttings, staking, planting and lifting and dividing.

Event code: 8906

May and June

Tuesday 1 May 10.30am to 12.30pm

Includes: Coping with weeds, lawn care, bedding, pests and diseases and feeding.

Event code: 8907

July and August

Monday 2 July 10.30am to 12.30pm

Includes: Watering, dead-heading, propagating tender perennials and summer pruning.

Event code: 8908

September and October

Monday 3 September 10.30am to 12.30pm

Includes: Dividing herbaceous perennials, planting perennials and bulbs, protecting tender plants and cutting back.

Event code: 8909

November and December

Thursday 1 November 10.30am to 12.30pm

Includes: Rose pruning, winter propagation, mulching and digging.

Event code: 8910

January and February

Thursday 10 January 2013 10.30am to 12.30pm

Includes: Spring and renovation pruning, cutting back grasses, preparing for the year ahead.

Event code: 8911

Fee per single session: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: Beginner

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Includes tea & coffee on arrival
Maximum 25 places per session





Learn to Garden Weekend

Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 March 10am to 4pm

Tutor: Ray Broughton

Are you new to gardening and unsure where to start or simply want to brush up on your knowledge, skills and techniques? This full weekend will give you a crash course in how to get started on successfully tending your garden, the basics of how to understand your site and soil, plant care, maintenance and propagation, the best tools to use, basic pests and diseases and how to overcome any problems which may arise. This session will involve some walking outdoors and practical activities, so please come prepared with suitable footwear, clothing and gardening gloves.

Fee: RHS Members £100, Non-RHS Members £121

Skill level: Beginner

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8912

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 20 places

Making the most of it - Propagation in Spring

Tuesday 6 March 10.30am to 4pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Learn how to increase your stock of plants for free. This full day course will show you what you can propagate in the spring and the best techniques to produce the most successful results. It will include a demonstration of taking cuttings and sowing seed including those for summer bedding, with opportunities to try all the activities for yourself and take the results home for further nurturing. There will also be a guided tour around the propagation glasshouses of Wisley. This session will involve practical activities, so please come prepared with suitable footwear, clothing and gardening gloves.

Fee: RHS Members £40, Non-RHS Members £50.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8913

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 20 places

Getting Started in the Greenhouse

Saturday 10 March 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Whether you have recently acquired or are thinking of acquiring a greenhouse or would just like guidance and ideas on how to get started, this illustrated talk and practical demonstration by RHS expert staff will set you on the right track. The session will cover different types of greenhouses to suit your needs, gizmos and gadgets, setting the greenhouse up for spring, raising plants, growing early crops under protection and growing spring flowering plants.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Clore Learning Centre

Event code: 8914

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 25 places



Spring Walk and Talk with the Curator

Wednesday 21 March 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: Colin Crosbie, Curator

It's that time of year when the garden is springing back to life and preparing itself for an exciting year ahead. Join RHS Wisley's enthusiastic curator Colin Crosbie on a walk and talk around the garden. Learn about the plants that put on their show at this time of year and what to look out for in the coming months. This session will involve a considerable walk outside, so please come prepared with suitable footwear and clothing.

Fee: RHS Members £12, Non-RHS Members £22.50

Skill level: General

Meeting place: The birdbath near the main entrance.

Event code: 8915

Maximum 20 places

Spring in the Alpine Department

Monday 2 April 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Good things come in small packages – get the inside line on some of Wisley's most precious spring interest alpine plants in this tour, talk and demonstration in our alpine department. Learn about our display houses, brand new crevice garden and go behind the scenes to see how the plants are expertly tended. This session will involve some walking outside so please come prepared with suitable footwear and clothing.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Meeting place: The alpine display houses

Event code: 8916

Maximum 20 places

Prickly Characters: A Beginners Guide to Cacti and Succulents

Tuesday 10 April 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Are you captivated by cacti or spellbound by succulents? Discover the particulars of keeping your xerophytic friends happy with correct composts, watering and feeding regimes, locations and propagation techniques. This talk and demonstration by RHS expert staff will also include a tour of RHS Wisley's cacti and succulent collection.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: Beginner

Venue: Clore Learning Centre

Event code: 8917

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 20 places



Stripes and Swords: Learn about Lawn Care

Saturday 14 April 10am to 12noon

Tutor: Ray Broughton

Keep your lawn healthy and happy throughout the year. Learn how to establish a lawn from scratch and how to renovate a grass area which is past its best. Yearly maintenance will be covered including feeding, mowing and weeding. Grass types for different situations will be looked at, as well as the best equipment for keeping your sward smart.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8918

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 20 places

Orchid Cultivation

Sunday 15 April 10am to 1pm

Tutor: Jim Durrant

Discover how to keep your orchids happy and healthy throughout the year in this talk and demonstration with orchid expert Jim Durrant of McBean's Orchids. Topics covered will include feeding, watering and repotting, as well as the correct site and situation for optimum growth and a few tips and tricks to get the most out of these very particular plants. Jim will give practical demonstrations of various aspects of orchid care before leading a behind-the-scenes tour of the orchid glasshouses at Wisley.

Fee: RHS Members £25, Non-RHS Members £35.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Clore Learning Centre

Event code: 8919

Includes tea and coffee on arrival

Maximum 20 places

Perfectly Postured - A Guide to Plant Supports and Staking

Tuesday 17 April 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

After investing time, effort and money into our perennials it is awful to see them battered by the breeze and recumbent after rain. Find out how to keep your plants upright, protected and looking their best in all weathers with some 'behind-the-scenes' invisible support. This talk and demonstration by RHS expert staff will cover staking and netting, link stakes, static obelisks and birch obelisks, showing you how we support different plants at RHS Wisley and the best time of year to do it. You will also have the opportunity to have a go yourself so please come prepared with suitable footwear, clothing and gardening gloves.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8920

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 20 places



Hanging Baskets and Container Gardening for the Summer

Thursday 26 April 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Discover how to create a tremendous container display and transform your patio into an attractive and eye catching space with visual impact throughout the seasons. The session will cover how to choose the right containers, hanging baskets and compost as well as plants and their aftercare. An RHS expert will lead the workshop with a presentation followed by a practical demonstration. This session will involve practical activities, so please come prepared with suitable footwear, clothing and gardening gloves.

Fee: RHS Members £20

Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8921

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 20 places



The Rabbit's Eye View: A Look at Long Term Plant Performance

Sunday 29 April 10.30am to 4pm

Tutor: Dr Noel Kingsbury

This full-day garden-based workshop by renowned plantsman Noel Kingsbury aims at encouraging participants to observe garden and landscape plants, focussing on their growth through the year, looking at how they compete with each other, how to assess prospects for their longevity and their suitability for a variety of garden locations. Gardeners and designers can then use their experience and knowledge of plants to plan for the maximising of interest and the minimising of maintenance at all seasons. Noel aims to get people thinking about how plants are linked to their natural habitats and ecology and how this connects to the way we use them in gardens.

Fee: RHS Members £58

Non-RHS Members £68

Skill level: Advanced

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 9018

Includes refreshments and

a light lunch

Maximum 25 places

The Vegetable Garden in Summer

Wednesday 2 May 10.30am to 4pm

Tutor: Hayley Young

It's not too late to get some vegetables growing for abundant crops this autumn and winter. This day will focus on what vegetables can be grown in summer months and how to sow and plant them. Harvesting, using and storing crops from spring sowings will also be covered. A range of practical techniques will be covered including seed sowing, successional sowing; weed, pest and disease identification and control techniques. This is a practical day and attendees will have the chance to practise skills they are shown, so please come prepared with suitable footwear, clothing and gardening gloves.

Fee: RHS Members £40, Non-RHS Members £50.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8922

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 20 places

Next Steps in the Greenhouse

Saturday 5 May 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Further your knowledge and skills, develop the use of your greenhouse and make your space more productive. This illustrated talk and practical demonstration will include advice on managing the glasshouse environment throughout the summer, growing flowering plants, summer salads, fruits and vegetables, a close look at feeding and watering and how to control pests and diseases.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Clore Learning Centre

Event code: 8923

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 25 places

Bugs and Beasts: Encouraging Wildlife into your Garden

Wednesday 9 May 2pm to 4pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Do you enjoy the fauna, as well as the flora in your garden? Discover from the RHS's Principal Entomologist Andrew Halstead how to encourage more insects, birds and mammals into your garden by providing attractive habitats and safe havens.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8924

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 20 places

Edible Containers

Wednesday 30 May 10.30am to 12.45pm

Tutor: Hayley Young

Would you like to grow edible plants but lack the space? Or want ideas to make your patio a feast for the senses? Come along to this half day session which will cover different types of containers, how to fill a container, moisture retention, the need to feed as well as giving a wide range of ideas for edible planting combinations including vegetables, fruit, herbs and flowers. As this is a practical day, attendees will then pot up their own container to take away so please come prepared with suitable footwear, clothing and gardening gloves.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8925

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 20 places



Introduction to Soft Fruit

Thursday 7 June 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Soft fruits are immensely rewarding to grow and can be incredibly productive even in minimal space. Learn how to get the taste of summer in your garden from strawberries to blueberries, raspberries and more. This session will cover different soft fruits and their care, planting, soils and siting, training, pruning and maintenance with RHS expert staff.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: Beginner

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8926

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 20 places



To Weed or Not to Weed: Weed Identification and Management

Friday 8 June 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Should it be there or shouldn't it? This session will help you to identify common garden weeds in various stages of growth and learn what to do with them. From hand weeding and spraying to suppressing, you will learn the most effective techniques for a variety of situations from RHS expert staff.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8927

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 20 places

Going up in the World: Climbers for Conservatories

Saturday 9 June 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

A conservatory provides all sorts of exciting opportunities to grow interesting plants. Learn how to make the most of your vertical space by growing plants that love to reach for the sky. Discover how to plant and care for your indoor climbers in this illustrated talk and demonstration. The session will include a look at growing systems, pruning and training, watering, feeding and managing pests and diseases, but most of all an opportunity to learn about the exciting range of plants that will thrive in this environment.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Clore Learning Centre

Event code: 8928

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 25 places



Budding and Grafting

Friday 29 June 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

For the more experienced gardener this is an opportunity to learn the technical skills of grafting to propagate and manipulate your plants with increased precision. Fruit trees and ornamental trees will be covered, including the techniques and aftercare of chip budding and side-veneer grafting. Selection of scion wood, rootstocks and the compatibility of the two will be covered, as well as the techniques used to achieve a successful graft.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: Advanced

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8929

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 20 places

Summer Pruning of Fruit Trees and Bushes

Saturday 21 July 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Your fruit trees and bushes spend their summer lavishing you with delicious treats and will reward you further for a little love and attention at this time of year. Discover how to correctly prune a range of fruit trees and bushes including restricted forms for maximum productivity in the current and coming years in this talk and demonstration with RHS expert staff.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8930

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 30 places

Summer Pruning of Fruit Trees and Bushes

Wednesday 25 July 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

See above for course description.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Skill level:

Event code: 8931

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 30 places



To book any of these courses please ring 0845 612 1253

Know Your Enemy: Plant Pests and Diseases

Wednesday 1 August 10.15am to 4.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Are you fed up with your plants being nibbled or keeling over without warning? Learn about the pests and diseases most likely to attack your plants, how to spot them and what to do about them. This session will cover the identification and control of a variety of common garden enemies including biocontrol – using the natural predators of pests. There will also be a walk around Wisley to show pests and diseases in context and the controls used.

Fee: RHS Members £45, Non-RHS Members £55.50

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Skill level: General

Event code: 8932

Includes a light lunch and refreshments
Maximum 20 places

What Shouldn't Be Growing Outside at Wisley?

Thursday 2 August 1pm to 3pm

Tutor: Matthew Pottage

Even given Surrey's recent harsh winters, Wisley provides a range of microclimates which allow 'half hardy' plants to survive. The garden is experimenting with different methods of keeping plants alive over the increasingly chilly winter months. Join Matthew Pottage, Garden Manager at Wisley, for a tour of the garden's most delicate specimens and those which have proved surprisingly tough. This session will involve considerable walking outside, so please come prepared with suitable footwear and clothing.

Fee: RHS Members £12, Non-RHS Members £22.50

Skill level: General

Meeting place: The birdbath inside the main entrance.

Event code: 8933

Maximum 20 places

Cultivate Some Colour: Propagating Tender Perennials

Wednesday 8 August 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Propagating your tender perennial plants (i.e. those which have the potential for longevity but can't survive our cold winters) saves you a lot of money and fills your garden with colour year after year. This half day course will cover the best use of tender perennials in a garden environment and how to take cuttings and care for them to ensure maximum success, including the control of pests and diseases. You will be able to practise the techniques yourself and take the results home to grow on so please come prepared with suitable footwear, clothing and gardening gloves.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: Intermediate

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8934

Includes tea & coffee on arrival
Maximum 20 places



Formative Tree and Shrub Pruning

Tuesday 21 August 1pm to 4pm

Tutor: Matthew Pottage

Ensure young trees develop a good shape to avoid poor branch unions and shapes in later life. This session also covers the correct pruning cuts and systems of pruning, without damaging the plants by incorrect technique or timing. The session also covers how to get the best from your shrubs, what to prune and when, and how to get a good show from your flowering shrubs. This talk and demonstration is with expert RHS staff and will involve a considerable walk around the garden, so please come prepared with suitable clothing and footwear.

Fee: RHS Members £25, Non-RHS Members £35.50

Skill level: Intermediate

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8935

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 20 places



Harvesting and Preparation of Seed

Thursday 30 August 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Harvesting seed from your own plants is a cheap and exciting way to increase your plant stock. Discover the best techniques and timings for harvesting, as well as when to sow and how to treat your seed to ensure maximum germination rates. This course will include behind the scenes tours of the seed department and propagation department at Wisley.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8936

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 20 places



Learn to Garden Weekend

Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 September 10am to 4pm

Tutor: Ray Broughton

Are you new to gardening and unsure where to start or simply want to brush up on your knowledge, skills and techniques? This full weekend will give you a crash course in how to get started on successfully tending your garden, the basics of how to understand your site and soil, plant care, maintenance and propagation, the best tools to use, basic pests and diseases and how to overcome any problems which may arise. This session will involve practical activities, so please come prepared with suitable footwear, clothing and gardening gloves.

Fee: RHS Members £100, Non-RHS Members £121

Skill level: Beginner

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8937

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 20 places

To book any of these courses please ring 0845 612 1253

The Vegetable Garden Autumn into Winter

Wednesday 26 September 10.30am to 4pm

Tutor: Hayley Young

Learn how to get more out of your vegetable garden all year round. This day will focus on what vegetables can still be grown in autumn and winter months and how to sow and plant them, plus harvesting and storage methods for existing autumn crops. A range of practical jobs such as soil preparation, composting and planning crops and rotation for the next year will also be covered. This session will involve practical activities, so please come prepared with suitable footwear, clothing and gardening gloves.

Fee: RHS Members £40, Non-RHS Members £50.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8938

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 20 places

Autumn Propagation

Thursday 27 September 10.30am to 4pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Learn how to propagate your plants in the autumn for maximum success. This day will cover equipment, techniques and aftercare for propagation by semi-ripe, hardwood and root cuttings and seed sowing of trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants. You will then put the techniques into practice yourself and take home the results for growing on. Lastly there will be a tour around the propagation glasshouses of Wisley to show how the propagation for the garden is managed. This session will involve practical activities, so please come prepared with suitable footwear, clothing and gardening gloves.

Fee: RHS Members £40, Non-RHS Members £50.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8939

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 20 places

The Winter Greenhouse

Saturday 6 October 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Learn how to make the most of your greenhouse during the winter months. This illustrated talk and practical demonstration will advise you on how to prepare your greenhouse for winter, how to successfully control the glasshouse environment, the most successful methods of over-wintering plants, how to extend the growing season and which plants are best to grow for winter interest.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Clore Learning Centre

Event code: 8940

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 25 places



Autumn and Winter Pots and Containers

Monday 8 October 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Discover how to make the most of your seasonal containers with plant suggestions and planting demonstrations. Learn about the correct care and maintenance of your containers for a fantastic display and create your own winter container to take home. This session is run by RHS expert staff and will involve practical activities, so please come prepared with suitable footwear and clothing.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8941

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 20 places



Autumn in the Alpine Department

Tuesday 9 October 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

When the remainder of the garden is preparing for a well-earned rest many alpine plants are just coming to life. Get exclusive access to some of Wisley's most precious alpinists in this tour, talk and demonstration in our alpine department. Learn about our display houses, new crevice garden and go behind the scenes to see how the plants are expertly tended. This session will involve some walking outside, so please come prepared with suitable footwear and clothing.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Meeting place: The alpine display houses

Event code: 8942

Maximum 20 places

Autumn Walk and Talk with the Curator

Thursday 25 October 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: Colin Crosbie, Curator

Join RHS Wisley's enthusiastic curator Colin Crosbie on a walk and talk around the garden to see the spectacularly vibrant autumn colour. Learn about the plants that put on a show at this time of year and what to look out for in the coming months. This session will involve considerable walking outside, so please come prepared with suitable footwear and clothing.

Fee: RHS Members £12, Non-RHS Members £22.50

Skill level: General

Meeting place: The birdbath inside the main entrance

Event code: 8943

Maximum 20 places

Trained Fruit Trees

Thursday 8 November 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Would you love to grow fruit but lack the space, or are you simply looking for a different decorative feature for your garden? Discover how to train fruit trees to shapes to suit your space, from fans and espaliers to cordons. You will learn how to select the optimum tree and how to train it when young to ensure maximum success in the future. Maintenance pruning at different times of year will be covered in detail to keep your trained trees happy, handsome and fruitful.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: Intermediate

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8944

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 30 places



Houseplant Cultivation

Wednesday 14 November 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Discover how to keep your plants happy and healthy indoors with this illustrated talk and practical demonstration by expert RHS staff. Learn about a range of plants for the home and conservatory, how to choose plants for every situation and allow them to thrive, creating seasonal displays, caring for your plants throughout the year and how to make new plants from old.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Clore Learning Centre

Event code: 8945

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 25 places



Care of the Fruit Garden in Winter

Wednesday 28 November 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

Do you have overgrown apples, unproductive pears and trees that only crop well every other year? How you care for your fruit garden in the winter determines its success for the coming year and for the future. Learn how to plant trees and bushes, correctly establish them in good forms and prune them every year for maximum productivity. This talk and outdoor demonstration is led by RHS expert staff.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8946

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 30 places

Care of the Fruit Garden in Winter

Saturday 1 December 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tutor: RHS Experts

See previous event opposite for course description.

Fee: RHS Members £20, Non-RHS Members £30.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event code: 8947

Includes tea & coffee on arrival

Maximum 30 places

A Tour of Wisley's Pinetum

Tuesday 11 December 1pm to 3pm

Tutor: Matthew Pottage

The Pinetum at RHS Wisley is an exciting place, housing a collection of mighty conifers some of which are over 100 years old. Learn useful identification tips on how to recognise this group of plants that commonly cause confusion; appreciate their many attributes while understanding how to use them effectively in the garden and the wider landscape. This session will involve a considerable walk outside, so please come prepared with suitable footwear and clothing.

Fee: RHS Members £12, Non-RHS Members £22.50

Skill level: General

Meeting place: The birdbath inside the main entrance

Event code: 8948

Maximum 20 places



Horticulture: Putting theory into practice



This set of courses is designed to provide experience of practical skills associated with the RHS level 2 and level 3 qualifications giving concise and up-to-date information. However, you do not need to be studying for an RHS qualification in order to attend, they are also ideal for keen gardeners who wish to develop their horticultural knowledge and practical skills on the subjects covered. The courses will cover important horticultural practices through hands on activities and associated theory. Guidance will be provided to support those candidates who are learning and practising new horticultural skills. The courses involve various practical activities so please come prepared with suitable clothing, footwear and gardening gloves.

Soil Testing and Safe Use of Garden Machinery

Friday 24 Feb 10.15am to 4pm

Tutor: Ray Broughton

Includes collecting and preparing soil samples for testing, distinguishing between soil textural classes and performing pH tests. The session will also discuss the importance of plant nutrition and root environments. A look at the safe operation of powered garden machinery will include health and safety considerations, how to carry out pre-start checks, controlling and adjusting the machines and general maintenance.

Fee: RHS Members £60,
Non-RHS Members £70.50

Skill level: Intermediate (level two)

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8949

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places

Identifying a Range of Plants, Weeds, Pests and Diseases and Establishing and Maintaining Plants

Friday 2 March 10.15am to 4pm

Tutor: Ray Broughton

This session includes tips on the identification of a range of plants and seeds. It will also cover plant health and the identification and control of weeds, pests, diseases and disorders. Establishing and maintaining plants will include information on the care of a range of plant types and forms, including health and safety, correct tool use, tree planting and pruning principles and practice.

Fee: RHS Members £60

Non-RHS Members £70.50

Skill level: Advanced (level three)

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8950

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places



Indoor and Outdoor Propagation Techniques

Friday 16 March 10.15am to 4pm

Tutor: Ray Broughton

This session will cover seed and vegetative propagation including preparing containers, techniques for sowing and growing a variety of seed, pricking out, collecting and preparing vegetative material for cuttings including stem, leaf and root cuttings and propagation by division. Preparing the ground for propagation outdoors will be covered including the correct tool use and techniques to achieve the required tilth and ground conditions. Establishing seeds and plants in soil will also be looked at including positioning, planting and aftercare to ensure healthy plants.

Fee: RHS Members £60

Non-RHS Members £70.50

Skill level: Intermediate (level two)

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8951

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places

Advanced Propagation Techniques

Friday 30 March 10.15am to 4pm

Tutor: Ray Broughton

This session will cover the effective planning of seed propagation, the selection of growing mediums, collection and storage of seeds, sowing, aftercare and environmental considerations. Vegetative propagation will also be covered including planning the timing and source of propagation material, collecting material, preparing material efficiently and effectively, selecting growing mediums and selecting suitable growing environments.

Fee: RHS Members £60

Non-RHS Members £70.50

Skill level: Advanced (level three)

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8952

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places



Identifying a range of Plants, Weeds, Pests and Diseases and the Care and Pruning of Plants

Friday 13 April 10.15am to 4pm

Tutor: Ray Broughton

This session will give you an understanding of how plants are botanically named and will cover the identification of a range of plants, seeds and weeds, plant health, the identification of common pests, diseases, disorders and beneficial animals and insects. The care and pruning of plants will include potting on your plants and providing aftercare and understanding pruning principles including the '3 Ds', formative and maintenance pruning.

Fee: RHS Members £60
Non-RHS Members £70.50

Skill level: Intermediate (level two)

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8953
Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places

Soil testing and management of green spaces

Friday 20 April 10.15am to 4pm

Tutor: Ray Broughton

This session will look at collecting and preparing soil samples for testing, analysing samples, pH testing, adjusting pH, identifying nutrient deficiencies and taking appropriate remedial action. Management of green spaces will cover landscaped areas and ornamental gardens including carrying out site surveys, assessing the management requirements of an area, producing management and maintenance plans for an area, understanding biosecurity and monitoring and maintaining health and safety.

Fee: RHS Members £60
Non-RHS Members £70.50

Skill level: Advanced (level three)

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8954
Includes a light lunch and refreshments
Maximum 15 places

Soil Testing and Safe Use of Garden Machinery

Wednesday 3 October 10.15am to 4pm

Tutor: Ray Broughton

Includes collecting and preparing soil samples for testing, distinguishing between soil textural classes and performing pH tests. The session will also discuss the importance of plant nutrition and root environments. A look at the safe operation of powered garden machinery will include health and safety considerations, how to carry out pre-start checks, controlling and adjusting the machines and general maintenance.

Fee: RHS Members £60
Non-RHS Members £70.50

Skill level: Intermediate (level two)

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8955
Includes a light lunch and refreshments
Maximum 15 places

Identifying a Range of Plants, Weeds, Pests and Diseases and Establishing and Maintaining Plants

Friday 12 October 10.15am to 4pm

Tutor: Ray Broughton

This session includes tips on the identification of a range of plants and seeds. It will also cover plant health and the identification and control of weeds, pests, diseases and disorders. Establishing and maintaining plants will include information on the care of a range of plant types and forms, including health and safety, correct tool use, tree planting and pruning principles and practice.

Fee: RHS Members £60

Non-RHS Members £70.50

Skill level: Advanced (level three)

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8956

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places



Advanced Propagation Techniques

Friday 9 November 10.15am to 4pm

Tutor: Ray Broughton

This session will cover the effective planning of seed propagation, the selection of growing mediums, collection and storage of seeds, sowing, aftercare and environmental considerations. Vegetative propagation will also be covered including planning the timing and source of propagation material, collecting material, preparing material efficiently and effectively, selecting growing mediums and selecting suitable growing environments.

Fee: RHS Members £60

Non-RHS Members £70.50

Skill level: Advanced (level three)

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8958

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places

Indoor and Outdoor Propagation Techniques

Friday 2 November 10.15am to 4pm

Tutor: Ray Broughton

This session will cover seed and vegetative propagation including preparing containers, techniques for sowing and growing a variety of seed, pricking out, collecting and preparing vegetative material for cuttings including stem, leaf and root cuttings and propagation by division. Preparing the ground for propagation outdoors will be covered including the correct tool use and techniques to achieve the required tilth and ground conditions. Establishing seeds and plants in soil will also be looked at including positioning, planting and aftercare to ensure healthy plants.

Fee: RHS Members £60

Non-RHS Members £70.50

Skill level: Intermediate (level two)

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8957

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places



Identifying a range of Plants, Weeds, Pests and Diseases and the Care and Pruning of Plants

Friday 16 November 10.15am to 4pm

Tutor: Ray Broughton

This session will give you an understanding of how plants are botanically named and will cover the identification of a range of plants, seeds and weeds, plant health, the identification of common pests, diseases, disorders and beneficial animals and insects. The care and pruning of plants will include potting on your plants and providing aftercare and understanding pruning principles including the '3 Ds', formative and maintenance pruning.

Fee: RHS Members £60

Non-RHS Members £70.50

Skill level: Intermediate (level two)

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8959

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places

Soil testing and management of green spaces

Thursday 29 November 10.15am to 4pm

Tutor: Ray Broughton

This session will look at collecting and preparing soil samples for testing, analysing samples, pH testing, adjusting pH, identifying nutrient deficiencies and taking appropriate remedial action. Management of green spaces will cover landscaped areas and ornamental gardens including carrying out site surveys, assessing the management requirements of an area, producing management and maintenance plans for an area, understanding biosecurity and monitoring and maintaining health and safety.

Fee: RHS Members £60

Non-RHS Members £70.50

Skill level: Advanced (level three)

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8960

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places



Botanical Art: Plants inspiring art



Illustration by Anna Knights

Early Bulbs in Watercolour with Billy Showell

Monday 20 February 10.15am to 4.30pm

Tutor: Billy Showell

Capture the purity of spring flowers in this one day workshop with botanical artist Billy Showell. Covering colour mixes, wet-in-wet techniques and much more this is a course which aims to teach, encourage and support all levels of ability. Billy will be demonstrating techniques and providing guided support throughout the day to help you develop your skills. All levels are welcome but some previous watercolour experience would be an advantage.

Fee: RHS Members £75, Non-RHS Members £85.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8885

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 12 places

Beginners Guide to Coloured Pencil with Ann Swan

Wednesday 7 and Thursday 8 March 10.15am to 4.30pm

Tutor: Ann Swan

An introduction to the materials and basic coloured pencil techniques Ann uses for her botanical paintings. Learn the foundation skills you will need to produce realistic representations of flowers and fruit through demonstrations and guided practice. This two day workshop is suitable for complete beginners and those new to coloured pencil as a medium.

Fee: RHS Members £150, Non-RHS Members £171

Skill level: Beginner

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8886

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places

To book any of these courses please ring 0845 612 1253

Botanical Art with Jan Harbon

Tuesday 20 March 10.15am to 4.30pm

Tutor: Jan Harbon

A one day workshop covering the techniques of painting watercolour flowers in Jan's loose, flowing style. Her approach to watercolour is based on traditional techniques, but with a simple direct manner that produces clear, bright results. There will be an opportunity, if individual students require, to experiment with collage and gold leaf; materials will be provided for this part of the day. Both beginners and more experienced students will be catered for.

Fee: RHS Members £75, Non-RHS Members £85.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8887

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places



*Illustration by
Jan Harbon*

Botany for Botanical Artists with Liz Leech

Tuesday 3 and Wednesday 4 April 10.15am to 4.30pm

Tutor: Liz Leech

Learn the essentials of botany specifically for artists with renowned tutor and author Liz Leech. This two day course will teach you to understand, observe and record the botanically significant features of plants in order to more accurately represent them in your artwork. You will examine a broad range of plant material using microscopes and lenses to explore the features in detail. Annotated sketches and colour matches will then be produced for your own future reference.

Fee: RHS Members £150, Non-RHS Members £171

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8888

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places

Flowers in Coloured Pencil with Ann Swan

Thursday 3 and Friday 4 May 10.15am to 4.30pm

Tutor: Ann Swan

Discover how to create vibrant plant portraits in coloured pencil using layering and blending techniques. Develop your creative skills through observation and practice with additional guidance on composition. This two day workshop is suitable for improvers or those who have completed the beginner's workshop.

Fee: RHS Members £150, Non-RHS Members £171

Skill level: Intermediate

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8889

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places

Garden and Gazebo: Learn to Draw and Paint at Wisley with Naomi Lyons

A series of 5 workshops.

**Thursday 10, Thursday 17, Thursday 24,
Thursday 31 May and Thursday 14 June**

10.15am to 4.30pm

Tutor: Naomi Lyons

Do you enjoy painting and drawing but lack a little confidence? Make the most of Wisley's inspirational garden to develop your skills, have fun and unlock your creativity. Working in a small, relaxed and informal group you will have the opportunity to develop your skills in pencil, pen and wash and watercolour with renowned tutor Naomi Lyons whose motto is 'learning through laughter'. Each week, Naomi will demonstrate techniques before providing guided support as you capture Wisley's beautiful gardens for yourself. The workshops will take place outdoors with a covered space provided if the weather is inclement.

Fee: RHS Members £250, Non-RHS Members £300

Skill level: Beginner

Venue: In the garden

Event Code: 8895

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 12 places



Illustration by Naomi Lyons

Summer Blooms in Watercolour with Billy Showell

Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 May 10.15am to 4.30pm

Tutor: Billy Showell

A wonderful opportunity to paint beautiful summer blooms with renowned botanical artist Billy Showell. Capturing light on petals and subtle colour changes will be the main aim of this two day course including demonstrations and guided support by Billy. All levels are welcome but some watercolour experience would be helpful.

Fee: RHS Members £150, Non-RHS Members £171

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8890

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 12 places

Botanical Art with Jan Harbon

Thursday 5 and Friday 6 July 10.15am to 4.30pm

Tutor: Jan Harbon

A two day workshop covering the techniques of painting watercolour flowers in Jan's loose, flowing style. Her approach to watercolour is based on traditional techniques, but with a simple direct manner that produces clear, bright results. There will be an opportunity, if individual students require, to experiment with collage and gold leaf; materials will be provided for this part of the day. Both beginners and more experienced students will be catered for.

Fee: RHS Members £150, Non-RHS Members £171

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8891

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places

Soft Fruits in Coloured Pencil with Ann Swan

Wednesday 18 and Thursday 19 July

10.15am to 4.30pm

Tutor: Ann Swan

Discover how to capture the intricacies of soft fruit in coloured pencil using layering and blending techniques in this two day workshop with botanical artist Ann Swan. Ann will demonstrate her techniques and guide you as you develop your technical skill and composition. This two day workshop is suitable for improvers or those who have completed the beginner's workshop.

Fee: RHS Members £150, Non-RHS Members £171

Skill level: Intermediate

Venue: Clore Learning Centre

Event Code: 8892

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places



Realistic Fruit Painting in Watercolour with Anna Knights

Tuesday 11 and Wednesday 12 September

10.15am to 4.30pm

Tutor: Anna Knights

Develop your watercolour techniques to capture the vibrancy and luminosity of seasonal fruit and create paintings good enough to eat! Learn how to observe light, shade and colour in your subjects and layer up watercolour to achieve a three dimensional quality to your work.

Fee: RHS Members £150, Non-RHS Members £171

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8893

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places

Seeds and Seed Pods in Coloured Pencil with Ann Swan

Wednesday 10 and Thursday 11 October

10.15am to 4.30pm

Tutor: Ann Swan

In this workshop Ann will demonstrate ways of capturing the detail of seeds and seedpods in coloured pencil using layering, blending and underpainting techniques. She will help you to hone your skills and give guidance on composition. This two day workshop is suitable for improvers or those who have completed the beginner's workshop.

Fee: RHS Members £150, Non-RHS Members £171

Skill level: Intermediate

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8894

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places

Photography in the Garden: Capture the moment



An Introduction to Digital Photography

Saturday 25 February 10am to 4pm

Tutor: Adrian Davies

A course aimed at those people who have a digital camera (DSLR or compact) and would like to know how to get the best from it. The day will look at camera settings, lenses, file formats, basic image processing and printing. Little prior knowledge is assumed. There will be some time allocated for photography in the garden or glasshouse. Please bring your own camera.

Fee: RHS Members £85, Non-RHS Members £95.50

Skill level: Beginner

Venue: Clore Learning Centre

Event Code: 8879

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places

Next Steps in Digital Photography

Saturday 19 May 10am to 4pm

Tutor: Adrian Davies

A course for the more experienced digital camera user (mainly DSLR, though compact cameras can be covered). The course will look at some of the more advanced features of cameras, lenses, and how to develop an efficient and consistent workflow for your photography. Issues such as colour management will also be discussed. Please bring your own DSLR or compact camera.

Fee: RHS Members £85, Non-RHS Members £95.50

Skill level: Intermediate

Venue: Clore Learning Centre

Event Code: 8880

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places



To book any of these courses please ring 0845 612 1253



Getting Started with Plant and Wildlife Photography

Saturday 16 June and Saturday 30 June 10am to 4pm

Tutor: Adrian Davies

A two day introductory course looking at both plant and wildlife photography with digital cameras. There will be at least two sessions in the garden where camera settings, lenses and camera supports will be demonstrated whilst photographing plants, insects and other natural history subjects. Sessions indoors will include an introduction to natural history photography, basic image processing and printing. Please bring your own camera.

Fee: RHS Members £160, Non-RHS Members £181

Skill level: Beginner

Venue: Clore Learning Centre

Event Code: 8896

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places

Garden Photography Masterclass

Tuesday 24 July 10.15am to 4pm

Tutor: Clive Nichols

This course begins in the morning with an illustrated lecture which is followed by practical sessions in the garden where students can learn about the techniques honed by Clive over a twenty year career as a professional flower and garden photographer. Clive is a very experienced teacher and will show you how to get the most from your camera no matter what your skill level. Bring your own camera – a digital SLR camera is preferable.

Fee: RHS Members £110, Non-RHS Members £120.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8881

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places

Close-up Photography

Saturday 25 August 10am to 4pm

Tutor: Adrian Davies

A one day course aimed at more experienced camera users (DSLR or compact) concentrating entirely on close-up photography and how to achieve the best results. There will be at least one session in the garden or glasshouse, where camera settings, different lenses, and the use of flash will be covered. The course includes a free copy of Adrian's book *Close-up and Macro Photography*. Please bring your own camera.

Fee: RHS members £95.00, Non-RHS Members £105.50

Skill level: Intermediate

Venue: Clore Learning Centre

Event Code: 8882

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places

Garden Photography Masterclass

Thursday 13 September 10.15am to 4pm

Tutor: Clive Nichols

This course begins in the morning with an illustrated lecture which is followed by practical sessions in the garden where students can learn about the techniques honed by Clive over a twenty year career as a professional flower and garden photographer. Clive is a very experienced teacher and will show you how to get the most from your camera no matter what your skill level. Bring your own camera – a digital SLR camera is preferable.

Fee: RHS Members £110, Non-RHS Members £120.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8883

Includes light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places

Getting the Most out of your Compact Camera

Saturday 29 September 10am to 4pm

Tutor: Adrian Davies

This course for beginners will concentrate solely on how to get the best from your compact camera, and will look at camera settings and other camera features, basic image processing and printing. There will be some time allocated for photography in the garden or glasshouse. Please bring your own camera.

Fee: RHS Members £85, Non-RHS Members £95.50

Skill level: Beginner

Venue: Clore Learning Centre

Event Code: 8884

Includes light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 15 places



Floral Art:

Be inspired by flowers



Floral Art: A Beginner's Guide

Tuesday 27 March 10.15am to 4.15pm

Tutor: David Ragg

This course is for those starting out or inexperienced in floral design. David will demonstrate how to create some of his fantastic pieces of contemporary floral design. He will then provide guidance as you recreate some of the arrangements to take home.

Fee: RHS Members £95, Non-RHS Members £105.50

Skill level: Beginner

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8897

Includes a light lunch and refreshments
Maximum 26 places

Next steps with Floral Art

Thursday 5 April 10.15am to 4.15pm

Tutor: David Ragg

Have you had some previous experience of floral art but wish to learn more? David will cover some more advanced techniques of floral design and provide guidance as you create your own arrangements to take home.

Fee: RHS Members £95, Non-RHS Members £105.50

Skill level: Intermediate

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8898

Includes a light lunch and refreshments
Maximum 26 places

A Focus on Spring Flowers

Saturday 28 April 10.15am to 4.15pm

Tutor: David Ragg

David will demonstrate contemporary floral design using fresh spring flowers. You will then be able to create your own arrangements under his guidance to take home.

Fee: RHS Members £95, Non-RHS Members £105.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8899

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 26 places



Christmas Inspiration

Friday 30 November 10.15am to 4.15pm

Tutor: David Ragg

Join RHS Chelsea Gold Medal Winner, David Ragg, for a festive workshop exploring contemporary Christmas floral design packed with natural inspiration and interesting techniques. David will demonstrate fantastic pieces of contemporary floral design and provide guidance as you use seasonal flowers to recreate one of the arrangements to take home.

Fee: RHS Members £95, Non-RHS Members £105.50

Skill level: General

Venue: Hillside Events Centre

Event Code: 8900

Includes a light lunch and refreshments

Maximum 26 places



Tutor Information

Ray Broughton

Ray started his horticultural career by training at Wisley Gardens in the early 1970s. For the last thirty years he has been teaching horticulture at Sparsholt College in Hampshire and has been Head of Horticulture at the college for seventeen years. Ray has had a long connection with the RHS and teaches staff and students at Wisley Gardens in both theory and practical horticultural classes. He is also heavily involved with the RHS practical and theory qualifications. In 2000 the Institute of Horticulture awarded Ray the Fellowship of the Institute in recognition of his services to horticultural education.

Adrian Davies

Adrian is a wildlife and natural history photographer, author and lecturer. He was one of the first people in the UK to use a digital camera nearly twenty years ago and has been an advocate of digital imaging ever since. His pictures have appeared in hundreds of publications and he has written several books and articles for various magazines. Adrian is currently working on a new book: 'Digital Plant Photography'.

Jan Harbon

Jan's approach to watercolour is based on traditional techniques, but with a simple direct manner that produces clear, bright results. She is well known in the UK for her paintings of flowers and animals, reaching a wide audience with many greetings card designs published across the world. She exhibits original paintings and limited edition prints nationally and regionally, notably at a variety of prestigious venues such as the RHS Chelsea Flower Show and exhibitions as a member of the Society of Floral Painters and the Society of Botanical Artists.

Dr. Noel Kingsbury

Noel is recognised internationally as a leading innovator in horticulture and landscape through his many books and journalism. His main area of interest and expertise is nature-inspired planting design, and the application of plant ecology to landscape design and garden management. He also writes and speaks about the culture and politics of gardens and about global agriculture. Based near Hay-on-Wye he is actively involved in creating a wild-style gardening, plant trialling and vegetable growing.

Anna Knights

Anna aims to create botanical art with a difference. Her realistic watercolours possess a vibrancy and immediacy that transcend tradition. They are a striking blend of sensuality and skilful composition, bringing a fresh perspective to a beautiful and timeless art form. Her work has been awarded an RHS Gold Medal and is held in the Shirley Sherwood and RHS Lindley Library collections. Anna is based in West Sussex, England and exhibits at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show every year.

Liz Leech

Liz is a trained botanist and ecologist, an experienced teacher, botanical artist, founder member and honorary botanical advisor of the Hampton Court Florilegium Society and a member of IAPI (Institute of Applied Plant Illustrators). She has developed short courses to enable students to develop their observational skills and botanical knowledge and to apply these to their botanical painting and illustration. She has an easy, humorous style of teaching and understands the detail required by botanical artists. Her book, 'Botany for Artists', is due to be published soon.

Naomi Lyons

Naomi has been teaching art to adults for over twenty years. She trained at Hammersmith College of Art and Building as well as at Ealing Art School and since then has regularly exhibited her work around the country. For many years she has written and illustrated children's books, written a book on drawing and designed greetings cards. She now enjoys sharing her passion with others through a relaxed style of teaching to allow creativity to flourish.

Clive Nichols

Clive is one of the world's most successful flower and garden photographers. He has won many awards for his work and in 2005 was voted 'Garden Photographer of the Year' by the Garden Writers Guild. His work has appeared in countless magazines, books and calendars throughout the world and he is in constant demand as a lecturer and teacher. He has appeared on British and Japanese TV and is a judge for the 'Garden Photographer of the Year' competition.

David Ragg

David's work has been influenced over the years by many different sources. Art and architecture, nature, interior design, fashion and even music, all form very important aspects of the design procedure. Whilst also being heavily inspired by many other European Floral Designers, David has created a style of his own – strong forms, bold textures and quirky detailing; all of this creates surprise after surprise. In 2000, David was crowned the Interflora Florist of the Year in UK and Ireland. Of his work David says, "...my philosophy is simple, working with flowers should be fun and inventive, and with this in mind we should never stop learning from each other!"

Billy Showell

Billy aims to give a modern edge to botanical painting. She is a widely exhibited botanical artist and illustrator as well as a popular author on the subject. With her eye for detail and creative compositions, her pictures are both beautiful and botanically accurate. She also produces illustrative cartoons for logos, magazines, cards and for individual commissions.

Ann Swan

Ann works primarily in graphite and coloured pencil, creating strikingly realistic works in vibrant colours and a contemporary style. Coloured pencils, in her view, are easy to master, forgiving and accessible. Her work has been shown around the world and she regularly exhibits with the Society of Botanical Artists and at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show. She has recently completed a book entitled 'Botanical Painting with Coloured Pencils' and enjoys spreading her love of the medium to her students.

Hayley Young

After training with the RHS at Wisley, Hayley worked for six years as part of the RHS Outreach Team in schools. Hayley has been teaching gardening to pupils aged 4 -16 and training their teachers in both mainstream and SEN schools. Her horticultural passion is growing edible crops in both her garden and on her allotment. Hayley delivers teacher and adult education training days for the RHS and is also an examiner for the RHS Level 2 exam on the Outdoor Production of Fruit and Vegetables paper.

RHS Experts

Peter Anderson

Peter worked in the construction and agricultural industries as an engineer for 25 years before joining the RHS as a Horticultural Engineer in 2000. He now looks after a fleet of over 230 machines, including tractors, lawn mowers, hedge cutters and trimmers. He has always had a keen interest in machinery and among my many hobbies collects and restores vintage tractors and has written two books on the subject.

Jim Arbury

Jim is Wisley's Fruit Specialist having worked in fruit growing at the garden since 1982. This includes all aspects from propagation to pruning and harvesting. He is responsible for fruit identification for the RHS. He has written articles on fruit growing and contributed to RHS books including the RHS Vegetable and Fruit Growing. Jim has particular interest in plums and pears and his leisure interests include allotment gardening and bee keeping.

Paul Cumbleton

Paul is team leader of the Alpine department at Wisley, responsible for both the rock garden and the alpine display houses. He has grown alpine for over twenty-five years and is well known in the Alpine world through his "Wisley Log" and various articles for alpine journals, 'The Garden' and 'The Plantsman' magazines. His own particular plant passions are for *Pleione* and winter growing South African bulbs – though he is a general plantaholic too!

Michaela Freed

Michaela originally trained at Wisley as a student before moving to the Chelsea Physic Garden for a short time as a gardener. Wisley tempted her back to work in the glass department before she moved to the Plant Centre as Team Leader of the Hardy Sales Area.

Sam Gallivan

Sam is the Team Leader of Wisley's Propagation Department and has worked in the garden since 1996 keeping it well stocked with plants. Prior to Wisley Sam worked in commercial growing environments and enjoyed collecting various qualifications on the subject.

Andrew Halstead

Andrew is the RHS Principal Entomologist and has forty years experience of identifying and dealing with garden pest problems. He has contributed pest information to many books and is co-author of the RHS Pests and Diseases book. He is a past president of the British Entomological and Natural History Society and also has a keen interest in all those other insects that are not pests.

Nick Morgan

Nick is Wisley's Glasshouse Specialist, as well as a writer, lecturer and horticultural consultant. He is a former Superintendent and assistant Curator at Wisley and has written for garden magazines and contributed to many RHS publications. He has lectured throughout the UK and abroad and maintains a busy schedule of lectures and talks to garden clubs, further education classes and professional organisations.

Suzanne Moss

Suzanne currently co-ordinates the adult learning courses at Wisley and has previously worked at Wisley as a horticulturalist for three years, most recently looking after the front of house, formal canal and walled garden areas. She won The Institute of Horticulture's prestigious Young Horticulturist of the Year Competition in 2011.

Janette Paterson

Janette has been a horticulturist for ten years working in various gardens and has a particular passion for formal and historic gardening and propagation. She currently manages Wisley's iconic Mixed Borders.

Matthew Pottage

Matthew has worked at Wisley for just over seven years, during which time he has achieved the prestigious RHS Master of Horticulture qualification. He is Garden Manager for the Hardy Ornamental department which covers all of the herbaceous and woody plant collections throughout the garden. He has strong interests in palms, *Yucca* and conifers.

James Poulton

James is a Level II Horticulturist on the Woodland Ornamental team at Wisley. He joined the RHS in 2010 following studies at Writtle College in Horticulture and Landscape Management and looks after the Battleston Broadwalk. James' horticultural interests include woody plants and wildflower meadows.

Russell Rigler

Russell looks after the new Bowes-Lyon Rose Garden at Wisley. He began his RHS career at Hyde Hall getting hands on with their impressive shrub rose collection. He has a foundation degree in Landscape and Amenity Management and has previously worked at a number of gardens including Audley End, Essex and the Savill and Valley Gardens, Windsor.

Alistair Robinson

Al has worked at Wisley since 1996 in various departments, notably maintaining the renowned Mixed Borders for nine years. He is now the Team Leader of the Formal Ornamental department overseeing many of the floral areas of the garden including the completion of the new Bowes Lyon Rose Garden.

John Scrase

John has over twenty years experience in the diagnosis and control of plant diseases, both in gardens and in commercial agriculture and horticulture. He has worked for ADAS, Fera & Defra – as well as for the RHS. He lectures in Plant Pathology to the students on both the RHS Diploma in Horticulture and the Kew Diploma in Horticulture.

Cara Smith

Cara originally trained in horticulture with the National Trust before moving to the RHS five years ago. She began her career at Wisley working outside with hardy ornamental plants before moving to the glasshouse to specialise in her first love of xerophytic (arid tolerant) plants. Cara has a particular interest in South African flora and visited South Africa in 2010 to study succulent plants in their natural habitat.

Sabatino Urzo

Sabatino works in Wisley's Formal Ornamental department and is highly qualified with experience across the UK and Italy. He has worked in a garden maintenance company, plant nursery and historical botanic gardens. He has supervised university research projects and has created and developed various private gardens across Italy and England.

*Photographs by:
Jon Enoch, Fiona Secret, Carol Sheppard,
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How to book

All courses and workshops should be booked more than two working days in advance of the event through RHS Events Booking (0845 612 1253). RHS members may bring one guest at the discounted members' rate.

By Telephone:

0845 612 1253 (local rate)
(9am-5pm Monday to Friday)

By Post:

Send a cheque made payable to the RHS including your daytime telephone number, event code number and, if applicable, membership number to:

Events Booking
RHS Membership Department
PO Box 313
London SW1P 2PE

Further Information

Any updated information can be found on the courses section of the RHS website at rhs.org.uk

Ticket Information:

- All tickets must be booked in advance.
- Your tickets should arrive within 10 days of booking. In the unlikely event that they fail to arrive or you have a query regarding your tickets, please telephone 0845 612 1253 between 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday.
- Non-Members may become a member of the RHS at the time of booking and pay the members' price.
- Tickets are non-refundable unless the event is cancelled.
- RHS Garden Wisley reserves the right to cancel an event and in these circumstances will fully refund course fees.
- All events will run subject to a minimum number of students. The decision as to whether the course goes ahead is made one week in advance of the event; therefore you are strongly advised to book before this time.
- Circumstances may require that event tutors change from those named in this brochure. Provided a tutor of equal standing is secured, participants will not be notified in advance. Refunds will only be given in the unlikely event that a replacement tutor is unavailable.
- All the events are non-residential; details of local accommodation are available on request.
- If catering is provided and you have specific dietary requirements or food allergies please let us know in advance of the event. It may not be possible to accommodate your request on the day.
- Unless specified, the events are run specifically for adults. We regret that we are unable to admit children under 16 to any event.



Access:

Our facilities are accessible for wheelchair users. Please contact the adult learning team on 01483 479748 or at adultlearning@rhs.org.uk if you have any specific needs or requirements.

- **Wheelchairs:** RHS Garden has a number of manual wheelchairs which are available to borrow at the garden entrance.
- **Mobility scooters:** Three scooters are available for use which must be pre-booked by ringing 01483 224234. A £5 returnable deposit is payable. There will be a short questionnaire and trial before hire so it is advised that you allow extra time.
- **Facilities:** Hillside Events Centre and the Clore Learning Centre are both fitted with a hearing loop and have accessible toilets.

Please note that due to a site policy change we are no longer able to allow cars into the garden. If you have impaired mobility and feel you may need assistance from your car please contact the adult learning team in advance on the number above who will be happy to assist with arrangements.

Admission:

Admission to RHS Garden Wisley is included in the price of the course ticket.

Weather:

Many of our courses include outdoor activities. Please ensure that you dress appropriately for the weather with suitable footwear.

First aid:

In the event of an emergency there will always be a trained first aider on site.

Parking:

Car parking is free. We regret that we are unable to allow cars into the garden but if you need help with equipment or transport from the garden entrance to the course venue please contact the adult learning team in advance who will be happy to help.

Coaches may park or drop off passengers in the coach parking area – only a short walk to the garden entrance.

RHS Wisley Plant Centre Events 2012

28 January – Wonderful Witch Hazels

Talk at 2pm. To book, call 0845 612 1253 (lines open Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm). National collection holder Chris Lane will talk about the allure and cultivation of these marvellous winter-flowering shrubs. There will be a huge range of varieties to buy, including many grafted specially for us by Chris himself.

29 January – Snowdrop Splendour

Talks at 11:30am and 2pm. No booking required. Bulb expert Lady Christine Skelmersdale describes the many attributes of these jewels of the winter garden. Reliable species and unusual varieties to purchase.

18 & 19 February – Orchid Festival

Talks at 11:30am and 2pm both days. No booking required. Grower Jim Durrant with an insight into the fascinating world of orchids, as well as practical cultivation advice. The Plant Centre will be decked out with these tropical beauties of all shapes and sizes for you to buy.

11 March – Spring Showcase

Talks at 11:30am and 2pm. No booking required. Chelsea gold medal winner Richard Bramley on a panoply of early delights. His talk will range over bulbs, perennials and shrubs, picking out the best plants of the season and how to best use them together.

17 March – Woodland Gems for your Garden

Talks at 11:30am and 2pm. No booking required. Nurseryman Hugh Nunn speaks about the aristocrats of the woodland garden: trilliums, trout lilies & other treats. Learn cultivation secrets from a master grower. Not to be missed for the lover of plants for shady places.

14 & 15 April – Auricula Spectacular

Auricula display 10am to 5pm both days. No booking required. Amazing display by Chelsea gold medallist Bill Lockyer. These jewel-like plants have always been an attraction at Wisley. Bill will be on hand to provide informal cultivation advice.

22 April – Sustainable Gardening with Impact

Talk at 2pm. No booking required. Designer Alice Bowe on greener gardening: how to make a great garden while respecting the environment, based on her book 'High-Impact, Low-Carbon Gardening'.

Contact the Plant Centre for further information 01483 211113

How to contact us

By post

Adult Learning
RHS Garden Wisley
Woking
Surrey
GU23 6QB

By telephone

01483 479 748 (Information and enquiries)
0845 612 1253 (Booking line, 9am – 5pm, Monday to Friday)

By e-mail

adultlearning@rhs.org.uk

rhs.org.uk

RHS registered charity no: 222879/SC038262

How to find us

The garden lies between Cobham and Ripley in Surrey, off the main London to Portsmouth road (A3) south of Junction 10 off the M25. Follow the brown tourist flower signs on the A3 and M25 to RHS Garden Wisley. Parking is free.

