

Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of London
Livery Committee

Expressions of Interest are invited for a visit to
LEONARDSLEE GARDENS & AFTERNOON TEA

Leonardslee Gardens, Brighton Road, Lower Beeding, Horsham, RH13 6PP
on Monday 16 May 2022



In 2019, Leonardslee Lakes & Gardens opened its doors after a closure of 10 years, this magnificent Grade I listed garden was nearly lost forever and has been the subject of the largest garden restoration in England and possibly Europe.

With over 240 acres of English woodland gardens, set within a steep valley Leonardslee Lakes & Gardens consists of lakes, woodland areas, and the famous Rock Garden. The gardens are famed for outstanding displays of rhododendrons, azaleas, camellias, magnolias, bluebells and the beautiful ornamental rock garden.

Afternoon tea is set within the drawing room of the two-storey Italianate mansion, Leonardslee House, which dates back to 1801 and sits on a natural terrace above the steep west side of a valley. Guests are able to view the kaleidoscope of colour with impressive views over the gardens and South Downs.

(See www.leonardsleegardens.co.uk)

Location:

Located on the A281, 4 miles SE of Horsham, with extensive parking. The nearest rail station is Horsham with direct trains from London Victoria, London Bridge and Clapham Junction. Taxi fare from Horsham station to Gardens is ~ £13 each way.

Cost:

The event will be limited to 24 participants and will cost £60/person inclusive of entrance fee, garden tour and "Classic Afternoon Tea".

Outline of proposed visit:

10.45 Arrive.	Meet at Visitor entrance.
11.00 – 12.00 ish	Guided tour of gardens led by one of the gardeners.
12.00 – 12.55	Free to explore the gardens.
12.55	Meet at Leonardslee House for 'Afternoon Tea'
13.00 – 15.00 ish	'Classic Afternoon Tea'
15.00 – 17.00	Free to explore the gardens until they close at 17.00.

Accessibility:

Due to the sloping nature of the walks down to the lower gardens and lakes the visit is not suited to those with poor mobility. However, for the garden tour, one group of 12 could stay around the Rock Garden, vineyard and wallaby area all of which is fairly level while a second, more physically able group, could go down into the valley and lakes.

There is a buggy service from the bottom of the valley that enables visitors to avoid the climb from the lower gardens and lakes up to the restaurant, subject to availability.

Other attractions:

Dolls House exhibition, Sculpture park, Wallabies!

If you would like to express an interest in joining this event please contact the organiser: Lt Col Debbie Malins, email: drmalins@outlook.com

Final details and a booking form will be sent out to those expressing an interest nearer the time.