



Shere

OPEN GARDENS

SHERE OPEN GARDENS 2025

Your chance to discover over
20 private gardens & attractions

GARDENS & MAP



WELCOME TO SHERE OPEN GARDENS

We hope you will enjoy this opportunity to explore some of Shere's gorgeous private gardens, the village museum, St James' Church, and other historic buildings.

This year, at the far east of the village, we have a garden which has not opened before; the wildflower meadow of Netley House. Take care when crossing the A25. This has been mown to allow a variety of flowers to thrive including wild orchids. On the way there stop off and visit two completely different but wonderful water gardens, Old Netley Mill and Netley Mill House.

In the centre of the village grouped closely together we have charming cottage gardens at Forge and Manor Cottages and pretty courtyards at 2 and 3 Bank Terrace. 1 Vine Cottages, the oldest house in the village, has added interest with a shepherd's hut and colourful climbing roses. Strolling west up Upper Street pop into East Burdens and Upper Garth on the way to The Lodge's three-acre garden.

Close to the church and the beautifully decorated lychgate are 3 Church Cottages with its hand-built gazebo and sun terrace and charming Nunnery Cottage.

A little further on towards the south of the village are the Malt House, which is also an art gallery, Dial Cottage, Shuttles and Summerfold. All offering a huge variety of styles and planting.

If you take a wander past the allotments in Lower Street, you can peer over the wall and admire the beautifully laid out vegetable plots which include an ever-growing globe artichoke plant. Our allotmenters are happy to answer your questions.

For refreshment, visit the Cricket Club's Pimm's and Punch Stall by the river Tillingbourne or opt for homemade teas served in Shere Hall, by the parents of Shere Village School.

Outside Shere Hall, Cherry Trees respite care is running a plant stall offering you the opportunity to take home a souvenir plant. The museum has a display of medicinal plants inspired by Shere's lavender growing past.

The funds raised by Shere Open Gardens will support Cherry Trees respite care in Clandon as well as other local causes listed on the rear of this programme.

Thank you for coming. We hope you have a wonderful afternoon. Stay in touch by liking us on Facebook and sharing your photos or visit our website at www.shereopengardens.co.uk.

Fiona Davies
Chair, Shere Open Gardens



Please take care when visiting these gardens. They are not designed for public access and may contain the hazards of many of our own gardens such as uneven or slippery ground, narrow steps, and ponds. **Tread carefully!**

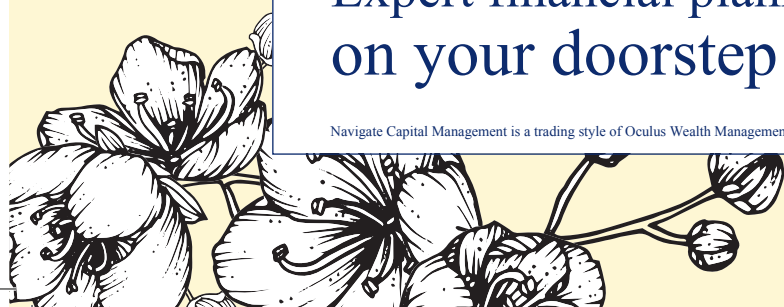


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GARDENS

THE ALLOTMENTS

Shared by 14 local families, the Shere allotments have been part of the village for centuries. A few of our keen allotmenters will be on hand to offer advice and answer your questions over the wall during the afternoon.

2 BANK TERRACE

A pretty sheltered courtyard garden with interesting features including an attractive wall fountain and an eclectic collection of pots and planters full of lush ferns, ornamental rhubarb and splashes of vibrant colour.

3 BANK TERRACE

A south-facing, walled courtyard bordered by a line of pleached photinia. Paved with raised beds bursting with lush planting including hostas and ferns and stone pots with seasonal flowers. This tranquil garden has a fountain providing the gentle splash of water as it falls onto pebbles.

THE BEE BUS STOP

Fox Cubs Pre-School Nursery has nature at the heart of its learning and play. They have a garden where the children get busy planting, weeding, sweeping and watering and here at the Bee Bus Stop, the 2, 3 and 4 year olds have collaborated with the staff to create a display of their bee artwork, reflecting what summer means to them.

CHERRY TREES

A mature family garden back and front, with wonderful shrubs and roses and many varieties of colourful hardy geraniums.

3 CHURCH COTTAGES

This lovely family garden starts with a stone patio and then climbs upwards on curved stairs to two upper lawns with pretty colourful borders, ending in a well-tended vegetable garden. The terrace and gazebo have been hand-built by the owner and are perfectly positioned to catch the last rays of sun.

DIAL COTTAGE

A traditional cottage garden at the front with potager beds mixing flowers, vegetables and herbs. The rear garden has been created to give a sense of peace and tranquillity and includes a rose bed filled with pink blooms, lovely variegated maple trees and an unusual weeping cherry which veils a secluded summerhouse.

EAST BURDENS

Since it was last opened there has been much work on the garden at East Burdens. Framed within a listed wall and leylandii hedges, the garden now features a new Italianate patio with summer house and kitchen garden; a rose arbour; a newly planted, formal parterre with fan-trained fruit trees and colourful, traditional cottage borders.

FORGE COTTAGE

Discover what lies beyond the rambling rose: Forge Cottage is a 15th century hall house, probably divided in the 16th century to create a shop and a cottage. The front garden is a Tudor knot garden with medicinal plants. Past the wall is a quiet cottage garden notable for euonymus and acer.

LYCHGATE OF ST JAMES'S CHURCH

Wedding inspired decoration by Kingfisher Florist & Farm Shop in Abinger Hammer. The lychgate was designed in 1902 by Sir Edwin Lutyens who lived in Shere in the early 20th century and designed many Shere cottages as well as the Cenotaph in Whitehall, London and many important buildings around the world.

THE LODGE

An elegant three-acre garden with striking sculptures, beautiful roses, lavender and hydrangeas. Includes a sheltered sunken courtyard with wonderful dry stone wall, contemporary water feature and attractive kitchen garden.

MAD JAK

This iconic Shere boutique, tailor and haberdasher is displaying a colourful collection of pots and planters.

THE MALT HOUSE

aka The Gallery with Garden

The design was inspired by the old trees, each shaped by adapting to survive and reaching for the light. The attractive 'weeds' remain for the native wildlife. The birds in turn have given cotoneaster, thornless blackberries, wild roses and endless delight.

MANOR COTTAGE

At the centre of the village but hidden behind a listed wall this cottage garden has an abundance of roses and lavender. Also featured in the herbaceous borders are clematis, geraniums and astrantia. The garden has fruit trees including espaliers and step overs. There is a small area with herbs and a fruit cage with raspberries, strawberries and currants. A wildlife pond is home to tadpoles, frogs and dragonfly.

NETLEY HOUSE

Netley House was originally built in the late 16th century but has been remodelled a few times and the current appearance dates to the 1890s when much of the grounds was planted. The estate is owned by the National Trust and is not generally open to the public, but today you can cross the main road and visit its wildflower meadow which has been mown to allow appreciation of the flowers together with many varieties of wild orchid. You can also see the old English orchard with some trees dating back to the early history of the house.

Shere Open Gar

FROM GUILDFORD → A25 SHERE ROAD



UPPER STREET

CHANCERY LANE

CHANCERY LANE

The Lodge

Upper Garth

East Burdens

UPPER STREET

LONDON LANE

Vine Cottage

Manor Cottage
Forge Cottage

Dabbling Duck

Pimms Stall



PS

MIDDLE STREET

Shere De

Hilly's

THE SQUARE

The White Horse

The William Bray

The Malt House

Dial Cottage

Mad Jak

Shuttles

Sum

PILGRIMS WAY

SHERE LANE

Tillingbourne River

Allotments

LOWER STREET

ORCHARD ROAD

MILTON WALK



Public Toilets



Public Parking



Disabled Parking



Public House

NO DOGS except GUIDE DOGS



CAUTION

Gardens may contain slips, trips & hazards.

Please take care as we do not accept liability for accident, damage or injury



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GARDENS

NETLEY MILL HOUSE

The Tillingbourne stream is tamed and shaped in this lush, landscaped, water garden. There is an air of calm with the gentle tinkle of water tumbling down little waterfalls and weirs on its meandering way. The garden has an array of shade loving plants from giant gunnera to various hostas and ferns and is home to wildlife including dragonflies and damselflies, families of ducks and geese and many shy residents. There is a large deck overlooking a natural pool from where you can sit and contemplate.

NUNNERY COTTAGE

A pretty and colourful cottage garden on a slope where nature takes centre stage. Accessed by several sets of steps.

OLD NETLEY MILL

This is a 'must see' garden. There has been a water mill here since before the Domesday Book and this, the most recent building (1840) was designed to resemble a Gothic ruin by its owners who resided at Netley House (also open today). The landscaped garden that surrounds it, incorporates a large mill pond and several islands, planted with gunnera, daisies and reeds. To the side of the house are swathes of purple, pinks and whites and there is a generous deck overlooking the mill pond bordered with hot pinks, yellow and purple, with seating to relax, watch the damselflies and soak in the tranquillity.

SHERE MUSEUM

Inspired by the Shere Lavender Farm (a permanent exhibition in Shere Museum) that used to exist, we have documented other useful plants that grow in all the beautiful gardens in our village and have researched the role they play in keeping us healthy today. Come and learn how plants can be used as medicine at Shere Museum.

SHERE INFANT SCHOOL, HEDGEHOG GARDEN

Allotment garden of flowers and vegetables tended by the children. Featuring an outdoor mud kitchen, summerhouse and a bug hotel which enhance education and play.

SHERE INFANT SCHOOL'S NATURE GARDEN

Proceeds from previous Shere Open Gardens events have helped to support the Nature Garden Project, which has revitalised a disused area behind the BT exchange and created a secure outdoor learning environment for the children of Shere School. The garden aims to foster a deeper connection with nature and promote awareness of habitats and the environment.

ST JAMES'S CHURCH

This unique 12th century church lies in the heart of Shere and has been a Pilgrimage Church for centuries. You are warmly invited to drop in and experience a 21st century welcome. As you explore the gardens of Shere, take a moment for rest and reflection. The flower arranging team have created some seasonal arrangements.

SUMMERFOLD

This small, but very elegant, partly walled garden has colour themed borders, lawn, terraces, and lovely views to the North Downs. There is a pretty summerhouse, custom-built greenhouse, water feature built around an old millstone and many lovely pots full of interesting and unusual plants.

SHUTTLES

A well-established country garden on three levels full of interest and colour provided by acers, roses, geums and geraniums. There are wonderful views across to the North Downs, The Manor House and the Church from the terrace. Please note the entrance to the garden is narrow and care must be taken on the steps to lower levels.

I VINE COTTAGE

Through the Iceberg rose draped door you enter a surprisingly spacious village centre garden offering wide herbaceous borders with cottage planting in tones of pink, purple and white with nepeta Six Hills Giant forming an impressive frontier between levels. There is also a charming shepherds hut and stumpery. The cottage dates from the mid-14th century and is adorned with Compassion and Generous Gardener roses.

UPPER GARTH

A very private, secluded, partly walled garden with much to see:

Look down at your feet and find Rex and Pat,

Turn a corner to see the bird on a tap,

Then look at the poppies to find the bees,

Over the garden wall to the canopy of trees,

The beech with a bend in its trunk,

You may wonder for a moment, is it me, am I drunk?



BENEFICIARIES

The proceeds from Shere Open Gardens 2025 will be shared between:

- Shere Infant School and Nursery
- Cherry Trees – respite care in Clandon
- SALV – Shere and Local Villages Health Trust
- Shere Cricket Club
- Shere Enhancement Fund
- Shere Museum
- Shere over 65s Christmas Party
- Shere and Gomshall Scouts
- Tanyards Hall Drop-in Centre

Shere Open Gardens website
www.shereopengardens.co.uk

THANKS

We would like to thank our generous sponsors: Navigate Capital Management, Terra Cotta Estate Agents, The Dabbling Duck, Shere Delights, KLB Homes Architectural Design, Kinghams Restaurant, Surrey Villages Art and Craft Fairs, Simon Best Associates Architectural Design, and Surrey Wood Products for helping pay for all the costs associated with running Shere Open Gardens.

Organisers and volunteers

A very big thank you to all the volunteers who have been selling tickets, cakes and teas, Pimm's and punch and marshalling the car parking. We couldn't hold this event without their support.

The organising committee included Fiona Davies, Annabel Alford-Warren, Debbie Brown, Cathy Mead and Emma Palmer. Financial and website assistance was provided by Amice Tiernan and David Galloway. Parking management assistance by Rob Arrow and Shere and Gomshall Scouts and Christian Staunskjaer.

Shere Hall

Thank you to the committee of Shere Hall for allowing us to use their unique venue for teas and refreshments and for loaning us the ticket desks.

Treacle Media

Thank you for all their invaluable help with design including for this programme.

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