

RHS News

RHS Gardening Events 2011

February

15-16: RHS London Plant and Design Show

Marvel at a spectacular array of spring flowers and be inspired to turn neglected urban outdoor spaces into areas of beauty

RHS Horticultural Halls, Westminster, London

15: 10am-7pm, 16: 10am-5pm

More information and tickets: www.rhs.org.uk/flowershows

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March

19-20: RHS London Orchid Show & RHS Botanical Art Show

See rare and exotic orchids from across the globe and view magnificent botanical art from the RHS archives

RHS Horticultural Halls, Westminster, London

Both days: 10am-5pm

More information and tickets: www.rhs.org.uk/flowershows

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29-30: RHS Great London Plant Fair

Make a garden wildlife-friendly and see stunning spring plants in bloom

RHS Horticultural Halls, Westminster, London

29: 10am-7pm. 30: 10am-5pm

More information and tickets: www.rhs.org.uk/flowershows

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April

8-10: RHS Show Cardiff

The best of Wales and the best of spring all in one must-see show. Inspirational show gardens and nature trails make it a perfect family day out

Bute Park, Cardiff Castle

8-9: 10am-5.30pm, 10: 10am-4.30pm

More information and tickets: www.rhs.org.uk/flowershows

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12-13: The Daffodil Show

RHS Garden Wisley

12: 12pm-6pm, 13: 10am-4pm

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16-17: RHS National Rhododendron Show

RHS Garden Rosemoor

Both days: 11am-4pm

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26-27: Late Daffodil Show

RHS Garden Wisley

26: 12pm-6pm, 27: 10am-4pm

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May

The Harlow Carr Rhododendron Show

RHS Garden Harlow Carr

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12-15: Malvern Spring Gardening Show

Set against the backdrop of the beautiful Malvern Hills, this show has gained a reputation for pioneering and showcasing new garden design talent

TCAS Showground, Malvern

12: 9am-6pm (Floral Marquee 10am-6pm) 13-15: 9am-6pm

To book tickets call 01684 584900 or 01684 584 924

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24-28: RHS Chelsea Flower Show

The greatest flower show on earth. Nowhere makes gardening more fashionable, a catwalk of colour and creativity, the brightest new ideas, latest trends and the pinnacle of design makes this show the one the world wants to see

Royal Hospital, Chelsea, London

24-27: 8am-8pm, 28: 8am-5.30pm

More information and tickets: www.rhs.org.uk/flowershows

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June

15-19: BBC Gardeners' World Live

The NEC hosts the BBC Gardeners' World Live 2011 where visitors can take advantage of spectacular shopping experiences, special guest garden talks from a range of well-known names, and beautiful plants

NEC, Birmingham

9am-6pm

To book tickets, call: 0844 581 1340

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July

5-10: Hampton Court Palace Flower Show

UK's biggest gardening show, set against the magnificent backdrop of Hampton Court Palace, is a perfect day out for the family and great inspiration for gardeners of all abilities packed full of grow your own ideas and environmental initiatives for the home and garden

5-9: 10am-7.30pm, 10: 10am-5.30pm

More information and tickets: www.rhs.org.uk/flowershows

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20-24: RHS Show Tatton Park

Brimming with innovative ideas and incorporating quality craftsmanship with horticultural prowess, the show is a vibrant stage for fresh creative talent and celebrates the very best in community gardening

Tatton Park, near Knutsford, Cheshire

20-23: 10am-6.30pm, 24: 10am-5pm

More information and tickets: www.rhs.org.uk/flowershows

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August

Hyde Hall Flower Show "A Celebration of Plants"

RHS Garden Hyde Hall

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September

9-11: RHS Floral Event at the Inner Temple

Inner Temple, London

9-10: 10am-6.30pm (TBC), 11: 10am-5pm

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Wisley Flower Show

RHS Garden Wisley

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24-25: Malvern Autumn Show

The show is a beautiful mix of autumn flowers, harvest produce and family entertainment

TCAS Showground, Malvern

9am-6pm

To book tickets call 01684 584900

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October

4-5: RHS London Autumn Harvest Show

Celebrate the wonders and colours of autumn, a floral and foodie feast to tempt both the eye and palate

RHS Horticultural Halls, Westminster, London

4: 10am-7pm, 5: 10am-5pm

More information and tickets: www.rhs.org.uk/flowershows

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November

Late Fruit & Vegetable Show

RHS Garden Wisley

RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show 2011

5 - 10 July, Hampton Court Palace, Surrey, KT8 9AT

Tickets from Â£14.50 - Â£32.50. Children under 16 free with an accompanying adult

To buy tickets:Â www.rhs.org.uk/hamptoncourt 0844 338 7528

Alice in Wonderland Rose Marquee and Rose of the Year 2012

Lovers of roses and English literature will be thrilled by the treat in store for them when visiting the Rose Marquee at RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show as the inspiration for this year's festival is taken from Lewis Carroll's classic children's novel, Alice's Adventures in Wonderland.

In the beautifully dressed marquee visitors can see what happened when Alice followed the White Rabbit - complete with waistcoat and pocket watch, down the rabbit hole. Around the Marquee, Alice's exploits will be depicted in pop-up book style, based on the original drawings by John Tenniel for Lewis Carroll. The original illustrations were black and white line

drawings, so to add texture and interest colour has been added to the 2D cut-out characters.Â Â

Scenes depicted will include a shrunken Alice after sampling the 'œdrink me' bottle; taking tea with the Mad Hatter and sleepy dormouse; the hookah-smoking Caterpillar; Alice struggling to play croquet with flamingos and hedgehogs, watched over by the grinning face of the Cheshire Cat as he appears in the clouds, as well as meeting the Dodo and other animals.

In addition to the spectacle of Alice's adventures, the Rose Marquee will also highlight glorious rose displays by rose nurserymen from around the country.Â About 8 million rose plants were sold in the UK in 2010, proving that the love of the rose remains constant. New roses making their debut this year include Rose of the Year 2012, 'Moment in Time' and 'Camelot' and 'Pure Poetry', bred by Rosen Tantau and introduced by Pockocks Rises. The actress Virginna McKenna will receive the creamy-yellow shrub rose named for her by Harkness Roses.

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New roses at RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show 2011:

Rose of the Year 2012: 'Moment in Time' (Korcastrav) Introduced by Roses UK and Mattocks Roses

Bred by Kordes of Germany, this extremely healthy floribunda is proving to be a worthy winner of the Rose of the Year title. It repeat-flowers throughout the summer with an abundance of lightly fragranced, semi-double, intense ruby-red blooms.Â With dark glossy leaves, its compact and upright growth habit makes it an ideal option for containers as well as mixed borders and traditional planting schemes. The rose grows to a height and spread of 60x40cm and will be available from rose nurseries and garden centres nationwide from autumn 2011.

'Virginia McKenna' (Harsong) Introduced by Harkness Roses

A charming shrub rose that shares some of the qualities of the hybrid musks, created by the Rev. Pemberton in the early 1900s. There is similar, elegant habit, broader than it is tall, ideal for a mixed border, or as a flowering hedge. 'Virginia McKenna' flowers early and repeats reliably over a long season. In 5 years of nursery trials it was consistently easy to grow and willing to flower, showing hardly a trace of disease, despite not being sprayed at all. The rose grows to a height and spread of 120cm x 100cm.

Virginia McKenna is best remembered for the 1966 role of Joy Adamson in 'Born Free', in which her late husband Bill Travers played the role of naturalist George Adamson. Filming Born Free led Virginia and Bill to become active supporters of wild animal protection, and to found the organisation Zoo Check. In 1991 they established the Born Free Foundation with the aim of keeping wildlife in the wild. The Born Free Foundation will receive a royalty from sales of this rose.

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â€“Pure Poetryâ€™ (Tan04179) Introduced by Pococks Roses

A burgundy-red hybrid tea bred by Rosen Tantau of Germany. Spiral buds open to very fragrant full blooms, carried singly or in small clusters on stout stems. The leathery foliage is dark green with a lighter reverse. Suitable for containers, bedding and mixed planting, the vase life of the blooms is excellent, making this variety suitable for cutting. This rose grows to a height of approximately 80-100cm

â€“Camelotâ€™ (Tan05372) Introduced by Pococks Roses

The first of a new range of climbers bred by Rosen Tantau. The light-pink flowers are uniquely marked with dark pink veins, deepening towards the centre. Borne in small clusters, the spiral shaped buds open to double, rosette shaped flowers with a moderately sweet fragrance. Foliage is mid-green and glossy and stems are very pliable, making it easy to train this variety on trellises, arches, columns and gazebos. This rose grows to a height of approximately 3m.

â€“Truly Scrumptiousâ€™ (Smi35-4-02) Introduced by Style Roses

Bred by the late Edward Smith, the attractive blends of pink and orange with a very dark deep pink reverse petal make this an unusual Hybrid Tea. Foliage is a glossy bronze and olive green, which contrasts well against the glowing brightness of the flowers. With a long flowering period from early May to the first severe frosts and excellent disease resistance, this rose would be an eye catching addition to a mixed border or large container.

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â€“Norfolk Gloryâ€™ (Horregina) Introduced by Bill LeGrice Roses

A floribunda rose bred by Heather Horner and named for the Norfolk branch of the Womenâ€™s Institute. This stunning new variety produces an abundance of dark-orange lightly scented blooms, complemented by mid-green, glossy foliage.

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â€“Katieâ€™s Rose (Horrapture) Introduced by Bill LeGrice Roses

A further floribunda rose, this time bred by the late Colin Horner. Dramatic, dark purplish-red hybrid-tea type blooms with a slight fragrance are offset by very glossy mid-green foliage.

Â Other exhibitors in the marquee will include Blue Stevens (who has helped colour the Tenniel images) with a selection of Alice in Wonderland cards, prints and mugs and Wonderland Bronze with their exquisite bronze Alice characters.

Aliceâ€™s Adventures in Wonderland was written in 1865 by Lewis Carroll for the daughters of his friend, the Dean of Christ Church. Lewis Carrollâ€™s real name was Charles Dodgson. He studied at Christ Church, Oxford University and later became a mathematics lecturer there. He was very fond of puzzles and some readers have found mathematic jokes and codes in his Alice books. He was also an influential photographer of his time.