

# Gatton Park

A beautiful historic parkland designed by Lancelot 'Capability' Brown with Edwardian gardens in Reigate, Surrey. Gatton Park is a privately owned estate being restored by the Gatton Trust and is home to the Royal Alexandra and Albert School. Stretching 260 acres, the estate lies within the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Many of Gatton Park's original features have been restored. Work is ongoing and the Gatton Trust continues to conserve this historic estate.



## Volunteer

The Gatton Trust is a registered charity and volunteers are vital to the running of Gatton Park. Our volunteers help with all aspects of running the estate from practical outdoor work to supporting our Education Team and helping to run events. Discover all that Gatton Park has to offer while acquiring new skills and being part of a friendly community. Get in touch to visit the park and learn more about joining the team. Contact our Volunteer Coordinator, [volunteering@gatton-park.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@gatton-park.org.uk).



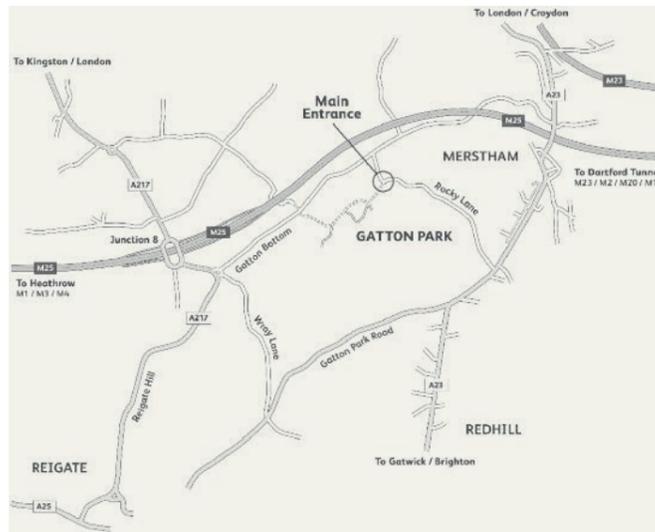
We also tailor volunteer projects for corporate groups. We love to collaborate with local companies and we can offer you a memorable team building experience at Gatton Park. The Gatton Trust offers corporate sponsors the flexibility of a bespoke partnership, whether you are looking to support the local community or motivate your employees.

## Opening times

The grounds are open to the public on selected days throughout the year. Open Days are on the first Sunday of the month from February to October 1-5pm. In addition, we have a programme of special events, workshops and children's activities. We also host school trips, group tours and birthday parties. All income supports the care and conservation of our heritage estate and our learning and community outreach programmes. The National Trust own part of the Gatton estate and their 'Gatton Park in our Past and Present' walk is open all year round.

## How to find us

Gatton Trust, Gatton Park, Reigate, Surrey, RH2 0TW



## Contact

[www.gattonpark.co.uk](http://www.gattonpark.co.uk)

**Education**  
Children's activities, schools, birthday parties  
01737 649066  
[education@gatton-park.org.uk](mailto:education@gatton-park.org.uk)

**Events and marketing**  
Open days, special events, groups, courses  
01737 649068  
[events@gatton-park.org.uk](mailto:events@gatton-park.org.uk)

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The Gatton Trust Registered Charity 1101467

# GATTON PARK



Gatton Park, Reigate, Surrey  
Open Days and Events  
January to July 2020



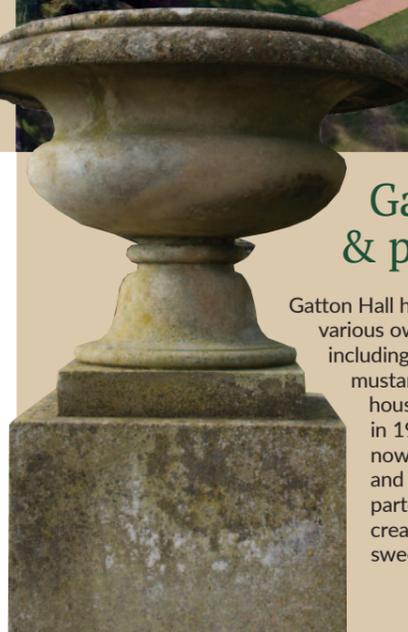
## Parkland

Gatton's awe-inspiring views were designed by renowned English landscape architect, Lancelot 'Capability' Brown between 1762 and 1766. The parkland features some of Brown's trademark designs including the main lake with pan-handle, serpentine canal, tree-clump planting and a cedar of Lebanon.



## Japanese garden

The Japanese garden was created in 1909 when Japanese arts were at the height of fashion in England. The garden was reclaimed by nature until it was restored as part of the Channel 4 TV series 'Lost Gardens' in 1999. This tranquil garden features a Minka-style tea house, granite lanterns and an oriental bridge.



## Gatton Hall & parterre

Gatton Hall has been home to the various owners of the estate including Sir Jeremiah Colman of mustard fame. Sadly, the original house was destroyed by a fire in 1934. It was rebuilt and is now used for school boarding and events. The Victorian parterre has been restored creating an area to view the sweeping landscape.



## Pleasure gardens

The Wild Things Play Trail follows a path around the pleasure gardens and features play areas made from natural materials. The trail encourages children to climb, scramble and build dens. Instead of reinstating the finely mown lawns of the Edwardian pleasure gardens, meadows have been created to benefit wildlife in the park.



## Rock garden

The best spot to see stunning displays of snowdrops in February is the rock garden. The garden was constructed in 1912 by J Pulham & Sons who were experts at creating artificial rockwork which blended with the surrounding natural rock. The Pulhamite is a decorative inner wall within the main lily pond.

# Events & Courses

Please book all events in advance.

**Saturday 18 January**  
**Coppicing Workshop**

Come and learn about the traditional method of woodland management through coppicing in Temple Wood. Soup and roll lunch provided. 10am-4pm. £20 per person.

**Sunday 16 February**  
**Head Gardener Talk**

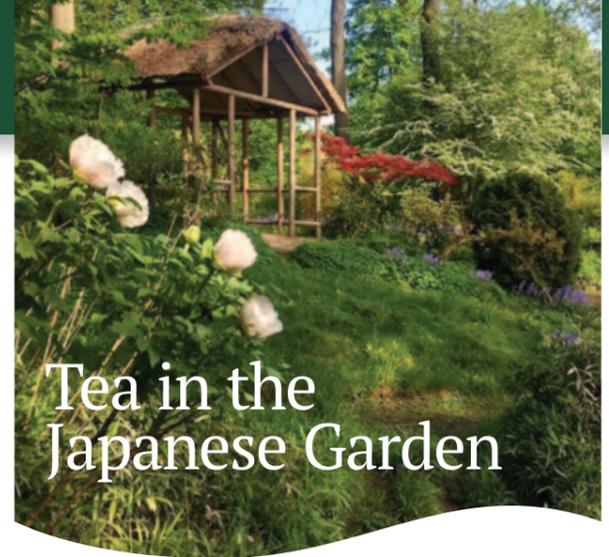
Come for a presentation on Gatton's rock garden by our Head Gardener, Dan Ryan. The talk will cover the history and restoration of the garden as well as future plans. Join Dan on a guided walk to the garden to learn about seasonal maintenance work. 1.30-3pm. £15 per person. Includes entrance to the grounds.

**Sunday 26 April**  
**Garden Structures Course**

A one-day garden structures course run by experienced under-woodsman, John Waller. Learn the weaves to craft an obelisk and a 'sunflower' plant support while enjoying views of the lake. Materials and tools provided. 10am-4.30pm. £60 per person.

**Sunday 3 May**  
**Green Woodworking Course**

Try your hand at green woodworking in our woodland workshop. Make simple items such as a beetle (mallet) using traditional tools and techniques. No previous experience necessary. 10am-2pm. £30 per person.



## Tea in the Japanese Garden

Enjoy a cream tea in our Japanese tea house with a lovely view and exclusive use of the garden. Buggy ride included.  
Monday 6 - Thursday 9 April  
Tuesday 26 - Friday 29 May  
10-11.30am or 2-3.30pm. Adult £15, child £7.50.  
Maximum six per group. £60 minimum charge.



### Gatton Community Theatre presents The Passion

Join the audience and walk with the cast around the beautiful surroundings of Gatton Park for this open-air promenade production with scenes played at various locations around the park and gardens.  
Thursday 16 - Sunday 19 July Wednesday 22 - Saturday 25 July Evening performance, 8pm.  
Tickets on sale from 1 June, visit [ticketsource.co.uk/GCT](http://ticketsource.co.uk/GCT)



## Open Days

No booking required

### Snowdrop Season

Park and gardens open to view the snowdrops. Open 1-5pm except where indicated. Tea and cake available to purchase. £5 entry, children go free.

**Sunday 2 February Snowdrop Day**

Park and gardens open to view the snowdrops.

**Sunday 9 February National Garden Scheme**

Park and gardens open as part of the National Garden Scheme. Soup and roll lunch available to purchase. Open 12-5pm.

**Sunday 16 February Snowdrop Day**

Park and gardens open to view the snowdrops.

**Monday 17 - Friday 21 February Snowdrop Week**

Park and gardens open every afternoon in February half term to view the snowdrops.

**Sunday 23 February Snowdrop Day**

Park and gardens open to view the snowdrops. 20% off entry for members of the Surrey Hills Society.

On our monthly Open Days visitors can enjoy the park all afternoon. Our bird hide is open and there is a small plant sale as well as free guided tours and activities for children. Tea and cake are available to purchase in Gatton Hall. Open 1-5pm. £5 entry, children go free.

**Sunday 1 March Open Day**

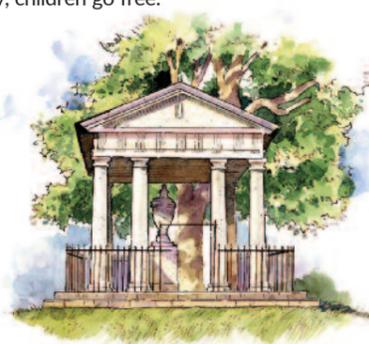
**Sunday 5 April Open Day**

**Sunday 3 May Open Day**

Music by the Royal Alexandra and Albert School.

**Sunday 7 June Open Day: Great Gatton Mouse Hunt**

Join the Great Gatton Mouse Hunt! Find knitted mice in the grounds.



## GATTON COUNTRY FAIR



Sunday 5 July

A great day out for all the family. Enjoy animal displays including birds of prey and working Newfoundland dogs, country crafts and a fun dog show. There will also be live music, tractor rides and a children's fairground. 12-5pm. £8 entry, children go free.



## Children's Activities

See website for full range of activities. Booking essential except where indicated.

### FEBRUARY HALF TERM

**Monday 17 February**  
**Forest Fun 2+yrs**

Join us in our Forest School area to explore Cedar Wood, make woodland crafts and enjoy a snack around the fire. 10am-12pm or 1.30-3.30pm. £8 per child.

**Wednesday 19 & Friday 21 February**  
**Trails and Tales: The Gruffalo's Child 2+yrs**

Enjoy the story of The Gruffalo's Child by Julia Donaldson and go for a walk in the park to bring the book to life. Return to create artwork linked to the story. 10-11.30am or 1.30-3pm. £8 per child.

**Thursday 20 February**  
**Junk Modelling: Build a House 4-7yrs**

Make a doll's house, a haunted house or a princess palace! 10-11.30am or 1.30-3pm. £8 per child.

### EASTER HOLIDAYS

**Monday 6 April**  
**Birds, Nests and Eggs 4-7yrs**

Explore the grounds and enjoy crafts about birds that make their home at Gatton. 10am-12pm or 1.30-3.30 pm. £8 per child.

**Wednesday 8 & Thursday 9 April**  
**Trails and Tales: The Troll 2+yrs**

Enjoy the story of The Troll by Julia Donaldson and go for a walk in the park to bring the book to life. Return to create artwork linked to the story. 10-11.30am or 1.30-3pm. £8 per child.



Forest School every Monday

Trails and Tales every Friday



**Easter Sunday 12 & Monday 13 April**  
**Easter Egg Hunt**

Come for a springtime stroll and join the hunt over Easter weekend. Easter trails, craft, face painting and games. Refreshments available to purchase. 1-5pm. Adult £5, child £3. No booking required.

**Wednesday 15 & Friday 17 April**  
**Trails and Tales: We're Going on a Bear Hunt 2+yrs**

Enjoy the story of We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen and go for a walk in the park to bring the book to life. Return to create artwork linked to the story. 10-11.30am or 1.30-3pm. £8 per child.

**Thursday 16 April**  
**Forest Fun 2+yrs**

Join us in our Forest School area to explore Cedar Wood, make woodland crafts and enjoy a snack around the fire. 10am-12pm or 1.30-3.30pm. £8 per child.

### MAY HALF TERM

**Monday 25 May**  
**Fairytale Treasure Hunt**

Discover fairytale characters around the park and hunt for treasure. Refreshments available to purchase. In collaboration with Gatton Community Theatre. 1-4pm. £8 per child + accompanying adult free, additional adults £8. No booking required.

**Tuesday 26 May**  
**Forest Fun 2+yrs**

Join us in our Forest School area to explore Cedar Wood, make woodland crafts and enjoy a snack around the fire. 10am-12pm or 1.30-3.30pm. £8 per child.

**Wednesday 27 & Friday 29 May**  
**Trails and Tales: Detective Dog 2+yrs**

Enjoy the story of Detective Dog by Julia Donaldson and go for a walk in the park to bring the book to life. Return to create artwork linked to the story. 10-11.30am or 1.30-3pm. £8 per child.