



Sharing the best in Gardening

PRESS RELEASE

2 July 2015

Chatsworth and Royal Horticultural Society Partner for New Annual Flower Show

Spectacular addition to the summer social season starts in 2017

The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) and Chatsworth House Enterprises Ltd are delighted to announce that, in June 2017, a new annual RHS Flower Show will take place on the beautiful 1,000-acre parkland of the Duke of Devonshire's 300-year-old home in Derbyshire's Peak District.

Sue Biggs, RHS Director General, said: "We're thrilled that in 2017 we will be hosting an RHS Flower Show in partnership with Chatsworth on its breathtaking grounds. The amazing estate with its gorgeous surroundings has a rich gardening heritage and we're honoured and excited to soon be a part of it.

"RHS Chatsworth Flower Show will join our current portfolio of shows at Cardiff, Malvern, Chelsea, Hampton Court Palace, Tatton Park and London. It will be an incredible new show – a stunning addition to the flower show calendar, bursting with fresh ideas that will delight visitors. It's a fabulous opportunity for exhibitors and a great platform to showcase and sell their amazing plants to a new audience.

"The show will be held on the banks of the River Derwent, providing some of the most magnificent views in the country amid the landscape of 'Capability' Brown," said Sue. "The spectacular home of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire will give the event a dramatic and beautiful natural backdrop."

Nick Mattingley, RHS Head of Shows, said: "It's so exciting to be in the new role of Head of Shows at the RHS, as we announce the RHS Chatsworth Flower Show. The show will be full of innovation and fresh ideas – it will be unlike anything we've done in previous years.

"I can't wait to speak to exhibitors about being part of this fabulous new show – what an incredible time for the RHS, UK growers and nurserymen, garden designers and, of course, the public. RHS Chatsworth Flower Show will be like no other."

The Duke of Devonshire commented: "After our wonderful experience at this year's RHS Chelsea Flower Show, Amanda and I could not be more thrilled that the RHS has selected Chatsworth for its new show. There is so much happening in the garden at Chatsworth and we very much hope the RHS Flower Show will encourage more garden lovers to come to see us."

In May, Chatsworth exhibited at an RHS Flower Show for the first time. 'The Laurent-Perrier Chatsworth Garden', designed by Dan Pearson, was awarded Gold and won RHS Best Show Garden 2015 at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show.

The garden was a beautiful representation of a small – and less-trodden – part of Chatsworth Garden. Inspired by Chatsworth's ornamental trout stream and Paxton's rockery, the garden gave Dan an opportunity to demonstrate his passion for naturalism.

RHS Chatsworth Flower Show will be an annual event. It will take place for the first time on 7 – 11 June 2017. For more information, visit: rhs.org.uk/chatsworth-show

- Ends -

Notes to editors:

For more information, please contact Ed Horne in the RHS Press Office on 020 7821 3356 or email edhorne@rhs.org.uk.

Images of RHS Flower Shows are available on PhotoShelter. Registration is a simple process and free of charge. Please contact showspr@rhs.org.uk to gain access.

About the RHS

The Royal Horticultural Society was founded in 1804 by Sir Joseph Banks and John Wedgwood to inspire passion and excellence in the science, art and practice of horticulture. Our vision is to enrich everyone's life through plants, and make the UK a greener, healthier, happier and more beautiful place. We believe everyone in every village, town and city should benefit from growing plants to enhance lives, build stronger, healthier, happier communities and create better places to live.

We held our first flower shows in 1820, were granted a Royal Charter in 1861 and acquired RHS Garden Wisley, our flagship garden, in 1903. From our first meetings in a small room off London's Piccadilly, we have grown to become the world's largest gardening charity. At our gardens and shows and through our scientific research, publications, libraries and our education and community programmes we inspire a passion for gardening and growing plants, promote the value of gardens, demonstrate how gardening is good for us and explain the vital roles that plants undertake.

The RHS is committed to bring the joy of gardening to millions more people, inspire the next generation of gardeners and invest in the future to safeguard a £16.8 billion industry employing over 300,000 people. We are entirely funded by our members, visitors and supporters. RHS membership is for anyone with an interest in gardening. Support the RHS and help us secure a healthy future for gardening. For more information call: 0845 130 4646 (calls to RHS '08' numbers cost 5p per minute, plus your telephone service provider's access charge), or visit rhs.org.uk/join

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