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Friends of St Thomas à Becket Church 2020 Events

Hergest Croft Gardens by Elizabeth Banks CBE, DL

Saturday 4th April, 7.30 pm Huntington Village Hall



Elizabeth's Talk will describe the creation of Hergest Croft Gardens, an internationally renowned garden and plant collection located in the heart of Kington.

She will explain how five generations of the Banks family developed the Gardens over the last 170 years while sharing their exploits and adventures along the way.

She will also explore how the Banks family contributed to the world of natural sciences. Elizabeth and her husband, Lawrence have been closely involved with the Royal Horticultural Society for many years, Lawrence as Treasurer in the 80's and Elizabeth as President in the early 21st century.

Elizabeth is a landscape architect who set up her own business in 1985, initially specializing in historic landscape restorations, including the restorations of many parks following the 1987 storm. She designed Rosemoor Gardens for the RHS in 1987 and six Chelsea Flower Show gardens, five of which were awarded gold medals. She worked internationally in Europe and the United States. She was elected first woman president of the Royal Horticultural Society in 2010- its only female president and was the first professional horticulturalist to hold the role.

[Buy Tickets for Elizabeth Banks' Talk](#)

The Lay Clerks Choir

Saturday 9th May, 7.30 pm, Huntington Church



For over 150 years the Lay Clerks have provided the alto, tenor and bass voices of Hereford Cathedral Choir. As members of the Cathedral Choir, the Lay Clerks have performed in the Low Countries, South Africa and the USA. In June 2018 they visited Rome, giving a concert in the Sistine Chapel and taking part in the Papal Mass on St Peter's Day. They were privileged to sing at the Royal British Legion ceremonies in Bayeux on 6th June 2019, commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings in Normandy, broadcast live across the World.

In addition to their singing duties, they are employed in a range of professions including teaching, retail, administration and property management.

The concert's programme will feature sacred music from the C16th to C20th, followed by a selection from the Lay Clerks' wide range of lighter music.

[Buy Tickets to the Lay Clerks' Choir](#)

Open Garden Lower Gaer, Huntington HR5 3QB

Sunday 2nd August 2020 2pm - 5pm



Set against a stunning backdrop with panoramic views of Hergest Ridge, the rolling hills of Huntington and Disgwylfa Hill, Lower Gaer's beautiful two-acre garden is full of interest, originality and surprises. The garden was developed from scratch by Sue and Mark who moved to Lower Gaer nine years ago. They began planting among the old barn ruins adjacent to the house and are now transforming the field below with themed borders, including stream and pond borders, shrubberies, a white garden, colourful herbaceous borders, a rose pergola, an orchard and vegetable plot. It is a work in progress. As the garden matures new additions are created and the field retreats!

The garden will be open from 2:00 until 5:00 on Sunday 2nd August, with ample parking in the field opposite Lower Gaer. Tea, coffee and cakes will be served throughout the afternoon. There will also be an opportunity to purchase an assortment of plants from the Plant Stall, many of which you can see growing in the garden. Admission is £5 per person.



Please note, there is lawned access to the majority of the garden. However, the barn gardens and white garden (both containing steps) are via a gravelled courtyard and therefore unsuitable for wheelchair access. Toilet facilities are via several steps.

[Buy Tickets to the Garden Opening at Lower Gaer](#)

Heiptrw Hw! Droving in the Brecon Beacons By Mark Davis

Saturday 17th October, 7.30 pm Huntington Village Hall



Mark's talk will explore the history, culture and practice of droving. The Brecon Beacons National Park has a rich droving heritage, being one of the main routes running from west to east across the country. He will delve into the challenges and considerations that drovers had to deal with when selecting their route to market. Clues to the routes the drovers chose may lie in place names, geographical features and the traces they left behind. These sparse jigsaw pieces will be used to identify possible routes that may have been taken through the Brecon Beacons to bring prized Welsh livestock to the lucrative English markets. Mark will also trace routes in and around Huntington from his own research carried out for tonight's talk.

Mark worked as a researcher and lecturer in exercise and health science at University of Bristol. His love of the Brecon Beacons was the deciding factor in moving to live in this historic landscape. Mark is one of a growing band of 300 Brecon Beacons National Park Ambassadors – people with businesses or holiday accommodation, who are provided with training by the National Park to help promote the park.

[Buy Tickets for Mark Davis' Talk](#)



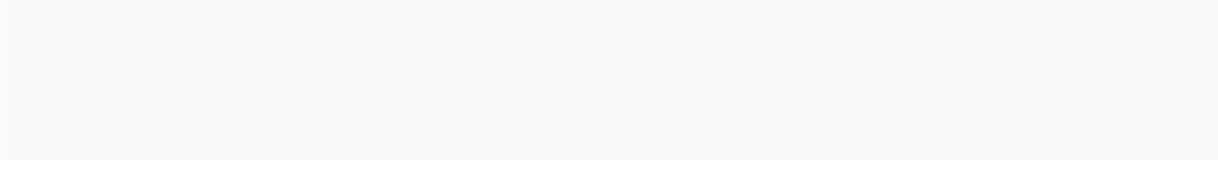
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