

Thank you for visiting today. We hope that you have enjoyed the garden.

Please stay for a cup of tea and a slice of homemade cake served by our tea ladies Jean & Di.

Plants are available to buy from the plant stall.

All the money taken goes directly to the NGS for distribution to their chosen charities.

We are happy to arrange special openings for groups between April and June

Our web address is:
www.southlodgegarden.co.uk

South Lodge Clearwell

Welcome to South Lodge garden. We hope you enjoy your visit.



We have lived here since September 1999 and have been opening for the National Garden Scheme since 2007.

ngs gardens open
for charity

We garden organically and encourage wildlife, particularly birds, with the variety of planting and with insect friendly plants. We try and plant native trees whenever possible.

The house faces South West and so benefits from a lot of sun. The soil is slightly acidic with thin topsoil over clay or rock. The garden has evolved in the time that we have owned it. There was no master plan and each part was developed separately and joined to other bits.

When we first moved in there was over 300 tons of builders rubble and very large areas of well established perennial weeds.

There are large herbaceous borders along the house and facing west in the garden. These are planted with mainly traditional plants such as Delphiniums, Hollyhocks, Geraniums, Salvias, Poppies and Roses.

The large island bed at the Western side of the garden was completed in 2013. We have excavated a great deal of rock and have been attempting to improve the soil with horse manure and compost.

We have utilised the high stone walls around the garden and planted them with a variety of climbers including Wisteria, Clematis, Roses and Honeysuckle.

The vegetable garden was created in 2004 and is bordered on one side by a native British hedge.

The wildlife pond was excavated in 2002 and is home to a variety of wildlife and water plants.

The fernery was created in 2007 after we bought a Dicksonia Antartica. We introduced quite a few ferns, Hostas, Bamboos and Musa. The area was barked and white Daffodils, Lily-of-the-Valley and Snowdrops flower in the Spring. The original Dicksonia succumbed to the severe weather in 2010. Shade to the area was provided by the old Chestnut Tree which had to be pollarded in 2008 as it had become unsafe. The barked area under the tree is under planted with English Bluebells, Snowdrops and autumn Cyclamen.

The orchard at the top of the garden contains a variety of Apple, Plum, Pear and Crab-apple trees. There is also a Medlar, Mulberry and Damson Tree. The area is under planted with Spring bulbs. The far corner of the garden has a small Willow arbour and a native Briar Rose hedge. Each Spring we plant native wild flowers.

The large area on the slope in the garden was full of rubbish and weeds. The angle and heavy clay soil made it difficult to develop. The Catalpa tree was planted in 1994. We decided to remove the rubble and weeds and import topsoil and plant a variety of trees and shrubs. The grass is left slightly longer and paths are mown through it. The Rose pergola with English climbing Roses and Clematis went up in 2010.

The North facing area of the garden is planted with trees and shrubs. It is underplanted with Primroses, English Bluebells, Foxgloves and Hellebores.