

KATHY BROWN'S GARDEN

THE MANOR HOUSE, CHURCH RD
STEVINGTON
 MK43 7QB ☎ 01234 822064



Afternoon tea with Kathy's Floral Cakes

AFTERNOONS

1-5pm Entrance £5 (Children free)

TUESDAYS

April 24th to September 25th

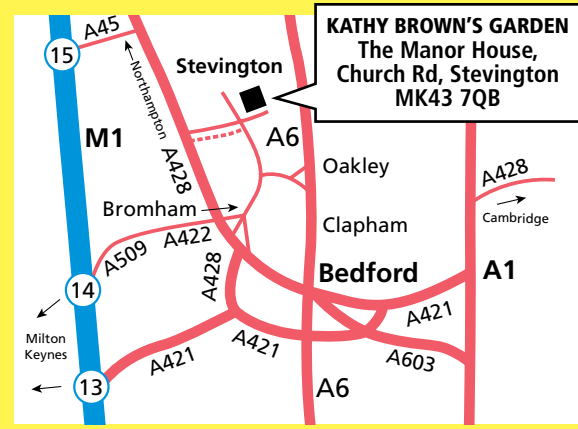
- MAY 7th Bank Holiday Monday**
- MAY 28th Bank Holiday Monday**
National Garden Scheme
- JULY 22nd Sunday**
Open Garden and Dog Garden Party with Canine Partners
- AUGUST 27th Bank Holiday Monday**

E: info@kathybrownsgarden.com
www.kathybrownsgarden.com

 www.instagram.com/kathybrownstev/

DIRECTIONS

5 miles NW of Bedford, off the A428. At the stone cross in Stevington, turn down Church Road. The Manor House is 350 metres on the left.



- Plenty of FREE parking available in field adjacent to garden.
- Coaches: The narrow road (shown dotted) directly off A428 is not suitable for coaches; please approach via Bromham.
- On arrival and leaving, please respect the privacy of my neighbours.
- For district and local maps see www.multimap.com using MK43 7QB postcode.

Making the Most of your Day

- Visit Stevington Windmill (ask for the key at the Royal George PH);
- or Walk past the Holy Well, then stroll along the Ouse Valley to Pavenham;
- Visit nearby Harrold Country Park where there is a lovely lakeside walk and café.



For Garden Design and Lectures, Group Bookings or Special Events, please contact Kathy direct by letter, phone or email.

☎ 01234 822064

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THE MANOR HOUSE GARDEN

4 ½ acres

Over the last 26 years, Simon and Kathy Brown have created the Manor House Gardens. They began with the Cottage Garden. Then they designed the Formal parterres to the east with their clipped jury scene and rose arbours. In recent years box blight ravaged the central topiary so it has now been replaced by lavender. In 2015 a new entrance has been cut into the top terrace. Gardens never stand still. The formality remains but in more contemporary style.

Over the past fifteen years they developed a series of Art Gardens inspired by the drama of Hepworth, Monet, Mondrian and Hokusai using Prairie style planting which provides such a long window of interest both in summer and winter. The Rothko and Matisse Gardens rely on clipped hedges in brooding reds and maroons.

Kathy's interest in cooking and baking led to the Edible Flower Border which provides a rich larder for her demonstrations and afternoon teas. Her book called Edible Flowers has been reprinted many times.

More recently Simon and Kathy have been developing a peony collection with tree peonies, herbaceous peonies and now an extended collection of intersectional peonies which promise to provide a wonderful spectacle near the drive in May and early June.



GROUP VISITS

This will appeal to Gardening and Horticultural Groups, Flower Arrangers, Camera and Photographic Groups, Ramblers and Walkers (we are in the midst of the Ouse Valley Walk) Painters and Art Appreciation Groups and all foodies!

- Entrance £5 each (minimum 15 in group for weekdays, or 25 for weekends).
- Please contact Kathy to choose morning, afternoon or evening but please avoid Tuesday afternoons.
- General introduction free.

Special options:

- Personal tour £1 per person
- Edible Flower Demonstration £5 per person
- Kathy's special home-made cake and drinks available £4 per person (very popular!)
- Vintage Floral Afternoon Tea, £12 per person. Ideal for birthday party celebrations and special occasion groups. Some need no excuse at all!

INFORMAL TUESDAYS

APRIL 24th to SEPTEMBER 25th 1-5pm

This is a chance to catch up with family or friends and watch the garden change with the seasons. No pre-booking required but if a party of 6 or more intend to come on these open days please phone beforehand, just to let me know so that I can make more cakes.

MAY Bank Holiday

Mondays 7th & 28th (NGS)

Early May is a wonderful time of year with blue camassias beneath the apple trees, tulips, lilac and early spring herbaceous plants.

Late May is stunning for climbing roses, clematis, honeysuckles, peonies, iris, etc.



JULY 22nd 1-5pm

Parallel events in field and garden

1.30-4pm Dog Garden Party in support of Canine Partners with demonstrations, simple fun competitions and the chance for your dog to try 'agility' jumps etc in our field.

1-5pm For garden lovers the Late flowering clematis will be at their best, along with herbaceous borders, containers and art gardens while the prairie planting and wild flower meadow will be full of butterflies and bees.



AUGUST Bank Holiday

Monday 27th

Enjoy the orchard fruits, the Art Gardens and Container Displays. Apple pressing, apple cider and apple cider vinegar workshop at 2.30pm.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Limited places only so advanced booking is essential

EDIBLE FLOWER EXTRAVAGANZA

Monday May 14th
 Wednesday June 6th
 Wednesday July 4th

Morning 10.30am-2pm
 • private tour of the garden
 • an edible flower demonstration
 • vintage floral lunch

Cost £27 per person
 To check availability call 01234 822064
 or email info@kathybrownsgarden.com





APRIL 1-5pm Tuesday 24th

Spring bulbs such as snakeshead fritillarias under the birches, daffodils, tulips, Anemone blanda, muscari etc; early clematis; cherry and orchard blossoms; primroses and cowslips; spring containers with bulbs, herbs, edible flowers and early herbaceous plants.



MAY 1-5pm Bank Holiday Mon 7th & 28th Tuesday 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th

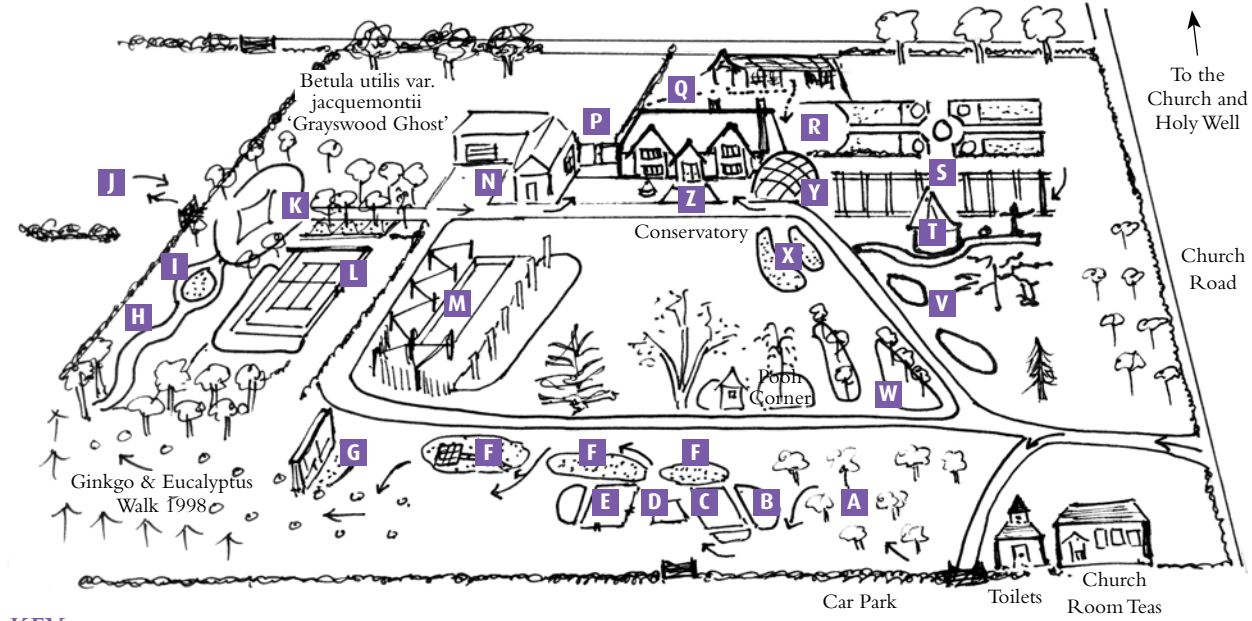
May is a wonderful time of year in the cottage garden, herbaceous borders and especially in the **Wisteria Walk S** where the arches look dreamy with yellow laburnum, pink and blue wisteria, plus white Clematis montana. Rippling waves of alliums and poppies add to the scene. Nearby, the **Gazebo T** is framed by the delicate Rosa 'Cecile Brunner'. Elsewhere Chinese Rosa banksiae, in soft yellow and fragrant white, link arms with blue wisteria on the house walls. In the **Courtyard P** dusky pink Clematis 'Broughton Star' steals the show. The white stemmed Himalayan birches up the drive shelter tree peonies. Nearby we have extended our peony borders with **Chinese Tree Peony** and **Intersectional Collections V**.



JUNE 1-5pm Tuesday 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th

June is a glorious month in the garden with generous swags of roses, clematis and honeysuckle in the **Wisteria Walk S** and also on the house walls and cottage garden pergolas. Many rambling roses adorn

the trees with Wedding Day and Pauls Himalayan Musk being two of my favourites. Great displays of purple Allium Christophii will grace the **Herbaceous Borders M**. Towards the end of the month masses of lavender will begin to flower in the **Edible Flower Border B** and **Formal Garden R** bringing tasty treats to the tea table. The **Cottage Garden Q** will be a picture with towering roses above while iris, nectarscordum, geraniums, poppies and foxgloves vye for the space below.



KEY

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|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| A Orchard | G Mondrian Wall 2000 & 2008 | M Sunken Garden (teas) | T Gazebo 1996 |
| B Edible Flower Border | H Winter Walk 2005 | N Barn Roses and Clematis 1992 | V Peony Borders 2014-8 |
| C Rothko Room 2002-3 | I Hepworth Garden 2003-4 | P Courtyard | W White Stem Birches |
| D Barnett Newman Obelisk | J Wild Flower Meadow 2000 | Q Cottage Garden 1991-2 | X Hokusai Wave 2006-7 |
| E Matisse Borders 2016 | K White stemmed Birch Walk 1998 | R Formal Garden 1994-5 | Y Solardome Borders 2014-5 |
| F Monet Borders 2008 | L Summer Dry Borders | S Wisteria Walk 1996 | Z Conservatory with Kathy Brown's Books and cards etc. |



JULY 1-5pm Sunday 22nd Tuesday 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st

July is very special for the late flowering clematis (over 80) which clothe the walls, shrubs and pergolas providing a wonderful show of colour. They are particularly successful over the **Zig Zag Pergola M** and obelisks which surround the sunken garden which has an exuberant display of containers including black Aeoniums, agaves, dasylyrions, echeveria, begonias etc. The **Formal Garden R** is graced by white regale lilies. Elsewhere **Prairie planting F, I, X**, contrasts with a native **Wild Flower Meadow J**. By now the avenue of **White Stemmed Birches K** is looking dramatic with its under planting of Acanthus spinosus.

The **Edible Flower Border B** continues to supply lavender, bronze fennel and marigolds, phlox and garlic chives.

- Why not join us for an **Edible Flower workshop** (free) with Kathy on our open days BH Mondays May 7th and 28th at 2.30pm or a more in depth demonstration on mornings of Monday May 14th; Wednesday June 6th and Wednesday July 4th (£27 with lunch, need to book).

INFORMAL TUESDAYS 1-5pm From April 24th to September 25th

Entrance £5 + Tea and Cake £4

- From 1pm, bring a lunchtime picnic to enjoy in the garden.
- 2pm Kathy will take a free tour which you can join if you wish (please arrive by 1.45pm), or wander at your leisure.
- 3.15pm onwards, enjoy Kathy's special cakes on the lawn.



AUGUST Bank Holiday Monday 27th Tuesday 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th



Early in August the late flowering Clematis are still prolific giving way more and more to the yellow clematis as the month advances.

The summer borders are becoming very vibrant and the containers have a wonderful exuberance. The **Rothko Room C** has dark brooding hedges. The **Prairie Borders I F X** are glorious now studded with various echinaceas including Green Jewel, Hot Summer, Virgin, White Swan and Fatal Attraction. This is the time to enjoy the bees and butterflies in the garden.



SEPTEMBER 1-5pm Tuesday 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th

The soft early autumn light makes this one of my favourite times of year to see the garden. The 'late, late' clematis are still a great show with species and yellows in great abundance. Enjoy the exciting containers around the old fish pond and colour in the herbaceous borders. The orchard **A** is laden with delicious apples, pears and crab apples.

The four large areas of **Prairie plantings F E I Z** have a strong emphasis on ornamental grasses with a just a few herbaceous plants. Echinaceas, Geranium 'Rozanne', sedums and heleniums are favourites. They have been used for the four **Art Gardens** based on individual works of **Monet F**, **Mondrian G**, **Hepworth I** and **Hokusai X** which seek to echo the emotion of each painting. The **Rothko Room C** draws on the Seagram Murals seen in Tate Modern.

Simon and I both share this passion for our garden. Come and explore it on one of our **Open Days** or arrange a **Group Visit**. We now have a new Garden Guide which we hope you will enjoy, £5.

