

Everything rosy in Selly Manor garden

After months of hard work, the garden re-design at Selly Manor is complete.

The design - by Jane Fearnley-Whittingstall - includes many stunning features:- brick paths, oak barrel water butts, a revamped kitchen garden, composting areas, herbaceous borders, a box spiral hedge, turf seat, willow hedge, wildflower border and rose arch. More than 500 visitors came to the grand garden opening in July. The opening was officially undertaken by Mrs Veronica Wooten, on the extreme right of our photograph, a former chair of BVT and now a member of the Trust's Heritage Committee. More than 300 different plants from the 17th and 18th Century have been planted. Selly Manor staff have said a very big "thank you" to everyone who has helped them and for all the kind comments from the local community.



• More than 500 visitors attended the grand opening

Elm Road
Bournville
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READER'S LETTER



Dear Editor

I would like to express my thanks to all the neighbours and friends who supported our garden party on June 9. We were lucky to have the one day in June with lovely weather and raised £437.99 for St Mary's Hospice.

We were also lucky to have the assistance of Mrs Vicki Hollingworth who works for Severn Trent Water who operate a matched-giving scheme. As Vicki had helped us Severn Trent matched our figure of £437.99 which brought the total to £875.98 for the hospice.

As well as the garden party Mrs Pat Smith, of Elm Road, had a cream tea for neighbours and friends in her garden. The rain came down in sheets, so we couldn't go in the garden but had a cosy afternoon in her house, and £142 was raised on that wet day last summer.

So the total raised from Elm Road came to £1,017.98.

My thanks to the hard work put in by the Elm Road Garden Gang and Severn Trent Water for their generosity.

Yours faithfully

June Wright (Mrs)

Ensure you are insured!

Many people find their household contents are worth more than they think.

It's important to realise that your landlord does NOT insure your furniture, belongings or decorations against theft, fire, vandalism, burst pipes and other household risks.

The National Housing Federation "My Home" contents insurance scheme offers all residents the chance to insure their homes in an easy and affordable way.

To find out more about this you can pick up a leaflet from your Area Office.



Keeping the village attractive

In the second of our series on the work of some of the committees which deal with the policies and business of BVT, we take a look at the Estate Management and Scheme Committee (EM&SC)



• Chairman Roger Cadbury

The Committee has a dual role: looking after standards of appearance and amenity on the Bournville Estate, and recommending policy and monitoring estate control measures.

The committee meets five times a year. It's chaired by the Chairman of the full Trustees - Roger Cadbury. The following Trustees also serve on the committee: Bronwen Lilley, Mary Penny and Michael Thomas. To ensure that residents' views are fully taken into account, there are four resident representatives, one from each of the recognised resident group areas. They are currently Graham McCauley, for the Weoley Hill area, Wilma Allen (Bournville), Derek Hammond (Shenley Court) and Sandra Richards (Shenley Manor).

The EM&SC is responsible for drawing up and implementing the rules which apply to alterations to properties on the Bournville Estate. For example, any resident wishing to make any alterations affecting the external appearance of their property (from extensions to window replacements and driveway alterations) must first obtain permission from the Trust before carrying out any work. This consent is over and above any permission which may be required

under planning law from the local authority. BVT charges a modest administration fee for dealing with applications for alterations and additions. All the detailed information is given in the Trust's Design Guide, available free of charge from the Estate Office, and on our website: www.bvt.org.uk

In 2006 the Committee made changes to the policy on the use of PVCu for windows and doors; re-affirming their preference for timber across the Estate and confirming in particular that PVCu would not be permitted in the Bournville Village Conservation Area, Bournville Tenants Ltd Conservation Area, Bournville Works Housing Society area and at Meadow Rise. Elsewhere PVCu will be allowed, but timber is encouraged.

The EM&SC also considers other development schemes on the Estate. In this way, we aim to keep the special unique character of the Estate, which attracts so many people to want to live here.

Bournville Village Landscapes (BVL) is our in-house grounds maintenance service, which is responsible for the upkeep of the Trust-owned open spaces on the Estate. BVL forms part of the Estate Management team, which is headed by Carol Priest, Director of Estates.



• Example of an approved house extension

The Trust has recently set up a similar Committee in Shropshire, to preserve the appearance and amenity of Lightmoor Village, in Telford. This committee comprises two Trustees, plus a visiting Trustee on occasions, one tenant representative from the Shropshire Housing Committee and representatives of the Lightmoor community. Duncan Cadbury, Trustee, chairs the Committee which meets five times a year.

This Committee also sets and administers the maintenance charge paid by residents, and the sinking fund for future major works. By having effective control over buildings and the landscape in Lightmoor, BVT will ensure the environment of the Village retains its attractive appearance for many years to come.



• Weoley Hill Parkway