



Biodiversity Events

November 2011 onwards

Biodiversity Events are for staff, students and the public. They include University activities, courses and volunteering opportunities linked to wildlife and biodiversity, gardening and horticultural interests.

Events are mainly organised by various University departments, including the Oxford Botanic Garden, Harcourt Arboretum, Wytham FAI Farm and Wytham Woods. Activities also include the OxGrow community edible garden project.

Also, have a look at the biodiversity-related lectures and talks throughout the year – most are free of charge and available to staff as well as students:

www.eci.ox.ac.uk/oxfordenv/index.php

If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please email **kate.aydin@oued.ox.ac.uk**

For more info about the University's biodiversity activity:
www.admin.ox.ac.uk/estates/environment/biodiversity

Do you want to advertise your event here? If yes:

✦ Email info by the **last working day** of the month to: **kate.aydin@oued.ox.ac.uk**

✦ Please ensure the **dates, times and locations** are correct

Interested in **volunteering**? Simply follow the gloves...



 All Botanic Garden and Arboretum events with ticket prices can be booked online
<https://www.oxforduniversitystores.co.uk>

November 2011

Every Sunday

OxGrow volunteering session (free)

1-4pm, every Sunday throughout the year



Gardening burns 250 calories an hour – so why not burn some off by volunteering to help transform OxGrow's Edible Community Garden on the former Corpus Christi Sports Ground? So far OxGrow has:

- Planted 1,000 trees and dug in lots of potatoes
- Made compost bins from unwanted wooden pallets and bicycle inner tubes
- Sown seeds for purple carrot, lettuce, chicory and land cress
- Sown a wildflower meadow of poppies, cornflowers and foxgloves

Staff and students can volunteer any Sunday from 1-4pm throughout the year – all tools are provided – just turn up!

For info & directions: www.oxgrow.org

Email oxgrow@oxfordhub

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21 November

Oxford Botanic Garden Science Lecture Series

Achieving food security and sustainability for 9 billion (£8 or £43 for series of six)

8pm, Monday 21 November 2011, Daubeny Lecture Theatre, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

To ensure food security for the increasing world population in a sustainable and environmentally friendly manner, we must double productivity on the same area of land and at the same time address the concerns associated with modern high input agriculture, declining water availability and the impacts of climate change. Join us to hear Chris Leaver talk about the importance of investing in science and technology – essential tools in increasing the efficiency of agriculture and attempting to reverse the impact of climate change. In his words “Doing nothing is not an option.”

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

24 November

Said Business School

Tony Kirkham: A cut above the rest (£12 per ticket)

8pm, Thursday 24 November 2011, Said Business School

This talk covers various subjects relating to the growing of trees in cultivation. It will remind the audience of where trees come from, the threats that they face today both in their natural habitats and in cultivation and we must use this knowledge to help us understand cultivation techniques such as planting, pruning and keeping trees stress-free.

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December 2011

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3 December

Big Botanic Christmas Tree

No need to book – just turn up (garden entry charge applies)

10:30am-12:30am, Sat 3 December 2011, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

Come and make natural decorations from seeds, leaves and pods – you can either take them home with you or leave them on the Botanic Garden's tree!

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

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<https://www.oxforduniversitystores.co.uk>

10 December

Department of Plant Sciences

Botanical course: Visit to the Druce-Fielding Herbarium (£18 morning inc. tea & biscuits)

10:30am-1pm, Saturday 10 December 2011, Department of Plant Sciences, South Parks Road, Oxford

What better way to liven up a December morning? Join Stephen Harris for a rare opportunity to see some of the wonders of the University Herbaria. Over 800,000 specimens of all taxonomic groups are stored here including some dating back to the first years of the Botanic Garden.

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January 2012

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For info & directions: www.oxgrow.org

Email oxgrow@oxfordhub

21 January

Oxford Botanic Garden

Botanical illustration – intermediate & advanced

(£60 inc. sandwich lunch)

10-4, Saturday 21 January 2012, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

Rosemary Wise, who has been the Botanical Illustrator for the University of Oxford since 1965, will lead these courses. Come along to benefit from her expertise and experience in the beautiful surroundings of the Botanic Garden.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

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26 January

Said Business School

Dan Pearson – A garden for a thousand years (£12 inc. glass of wine)

8pm, Thurs 26 January 2012

Nelson Mandela Auditorium, Said Business School, Oxford

The 240 hectare Tokachi Millennium Forest on Hokkaido, the northernmost island of Japan, is the brainchild of the media entrepreneur Mitsushige Hayashi, who acquired the land with a view to offsetting the carbon footprint of his national newspaper business, Tokachi Mainichi. Dan Pearson will describe the genesis of the Millennium Forest project, his involvement in the creation of the masterplan and the challenges faced in creating large scale massed perennial plantings and a monumental sculpture landform environment.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

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February 2012

Every Sunday

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1-4pm, every Sunday throughout the year



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9 February

Said Business School

James Wong – The gardens of Singapore (£12 inc. glass of wine)

8pm, Thursday 9 February 2012

Nelson Mandela Auditorium, Said Business School, Oxford

The 240 hectare Tokachi Millennium Forest on Hokkaido, the northernmost island of Japan, is the brainchild of the media entrepreneur Mitsushige Hayashi, who acquired the land with a view to offsetting the carbon footprint of his national newspaper business, Tokachi Mainichi. Dan Pearson will describe the genesis of the Millennium Forest project, his involvement in the creation of the masterplan and the challenges faced in creating large scale massed perennial plantings and a monumental sculpture landform environment.

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Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

18 February

Oxford Botanic Garden

Botanical course: Botanical latin (£18 morning inc. tea & biscuits)

10:30am-1pm, Saturday 18 February 2012, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

Join Stephen Harris for this session which will focus on the importance of names, how plants are named and why these names can change.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

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23 February

Said Business School

Elizabeth Banks – Gardening is happiness: window boxes to the president of the RHS (£12 inc. glass of wine)

8pm, Thursday 23 February 2012

Nelson Mandela Auditorium, Said Business School, Oxford

Join us to hear how a passion for plants led Elizabeth Banks from her own garden to her current role as President of the UK's leading gardening charity, the Royal Horticultural Society.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

27 February-11 March

Oxford Botanic Garden

Fairtrade Fortnight

No need to book – just drop in (Garden entry charge applies)

(Open during normal Garden opening hours)

Botanic Garden, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

Explore the tropical glasshouses, looking for plants that are grown around the world as Fairtrade crops.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

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March 2012

Every Sunday

OxGrow volunteering session (free)

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6 or 7 March

Oxford Botanic Garden

Study morning: Successful staking (£20 per ticket)

10:30am-1pm, Tuesday 6 March or Wednesday 7 March 2012

OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

Learn the skills of staking with the horticultural staff as they stake the herbaceous plants at the Garden using natural materials harvested from the Arboretum coppice.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

8 March

Said Business School

Isabelle van Groeningen – The Royal Garden Academy in Berlin: The revival of German Horticulture (£12 inc. glass of wine)

8pm, Thursday 8 March 2012

Nelson Mandela Auditorium, Said Business School, Oxford

In 2008 Gabriella Pape and Isabelle Van Groeningen re-opened the former Royal Gardeners Training Institute in Berlin. Europe's oldest surviving horticultural training establishment has a new lease of life and is the foundation for a new German Horticultural Society.

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Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

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13 March

Oxford Botanic Garden Study morning: Plant propagation (£20 per ticket)

10:30am-1pm, Tuesday 13 March 2012, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

This session will include the hows, whys and wheres of propagation, what equipment to choose and use, appropriate selection of materials, techniques, practical demonstrations and aftercare.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

17 March

Oxford Botanic Garden Botanical illustration for beginners (£60 inc. sandwich lunch)

10-4, Saturday 17 March 2012, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

Rosemary Wise, who has been the Botanical Illustrator for the University of Oxford since 1965, will lead these courses. Come along to benefit from her expertise and experience in the beautiful surroundings of the Botanic Garden.

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20 March

Oxford Botanic Garden Study morning: Citrus care (£20 per ticket)

10:30am-1pm, Tuesday 20 March 2012, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

Come along to learn how to cultivate and care for citrus plants. Topics covered in this session include the selection of species and cultivars, year-round requirements, potting, feeding, pruning, pests and diseases of citrus.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk
Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

22 March

Said Business School Prof. James Hitchmough – Meadows at the Olympic park: Elysium in the east end? (£12 inc. glass of wine)

**8pm, Thursday 22 March 2012
Nelson Mandela Auditorium, Said Business School, Oxford**

The London Olympic Park includes very large scale native wildflower meadows, rather more cosmopolitan creations of South African Drakensberg grasslands and a North American prairie, in gardens that wrap around the Olympic stadium. Join James Hitchmough to hear how and why these vegetation types were conceived and designed, the process by which they were established on the ground and the role of his research over the past 15 years in minimising the risk of failure!

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27 March

Oxford Botanic Garden Study morning: Cacti and succulents (£20 per ticket)

10:30am-1pm, Tuesday 27 March 2012, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

You don't have to have a vast glasshouse to grow cacti and succulents successfully. Come along to find out which species are good for indoor cultivation, what their year-round requirements are, how to re-pot them, what and when to feed them and what pests and diseases may affect your plants.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk
Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

29 March

Oxford Botanic Garden Study morning: Vegetable growing – getting growing (£20 per session or £55 for 3 sessions in Nov '11 & June '12)

10:30am-1pm, Thursday 29 March 2012, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

This session will cover spring sowings, timings, techniques, spacings, staking and aftercare.

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April 2012

Every Sunday

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26 April

Harcourt Arboretum

Guided walk – legends in the bluebell wood (£15)

**6:30pm-8:30pm, Thursday 26 April 2012, Harcourt Arboretum
Nuneham Courtenay, Oxfordshire OX44 9PX**

Join Lynn for a walk through the wonderful bluebell wood at Harcourt Arboretum and learn some of the myths and superstitions associated with trees and woodland plants. Find out which trees to plant for good luck and protection, which plants to help ward off evil spirits and which tree you need to make yourself invisible.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

28 April

Harcourt Arboretum

Learn to charcoal burn (£70 inc. sandwich lunch & BBQ dinner)

**9am to 9am the following day, Saturday 28 & 29 April 2012
Harcourt Arboretum, Nuneham Courtenay, Oxfordshire OX44 9PX**

Alex Arthur from Chew Valley Charcoal will lead this course showing you the full process of turning wood into charcoal. Not only will you learn all about charcoal production but there will be a proper hot smoking BBQ at the end of the day!

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

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May 2012

Every Sunday

OxGrow volunteering session (free)

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10 May

Harcourt Arboretum

Guided walk – Chile and North Patagonia
(£15 or £40 for series of 3 geographical walks)

6:30pm-8:30pm, Thursday 10 May 2012

Harcourt Arboretum, Nuneham Courtenay, Oxfordshire OX44 9PX

Join Ben Jones to hear about the adventures of seed collecting, the plants, people, politics and places, then walk through the collection at the Harcourt Arboretum and experience the plants come to life.

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Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

12 May

Harcourt Arboretum

Native Tree ID in Spring and Summer
(£18 morning inc. tea & biscuits)

10:30am-1pm, Saturday 12 May 2012

Harcourt Arboretum, Nuneham Courtenay, Oxfordshire OX44 9PX

Stephen Harris will teach you how to recognise common native trees in late spring and early summer.

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17 May

Oxford Botanic Garden

Plant family evening walks at the Botanic Garden – Fabaceae: peas & beans

(£15 or £40 for series of 3 walks)

6:30pm-8:30pm, Thursday 17 May 2012, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

In these walks the Director of the Botanic Garden, Timothy Walker, will inspire you with a treasure trove of botanical wonders from each family.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

22 May

Oxford Botanic Garden

The Botanic Garden biodiversity lecture 2012:

Biodiversity conservation – using the past to manage the future

(£12 per ticket)

6pm, Tuesday 22 May 2012

Daubeny Lecture Theatre, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

Prof. Kathy Willis talks about how historical and palaeoecological records have much to offer to current conservation policy and practice. Palaeoecological records from some of the world's best known biodiversity hotspots will feature, including the Galapagos, Western Ghats, Madagascar and Mexico's Sierra de Manatlan. These examples will demonstrate how such records can provide a more scientifically defensible basis for conservation decisions than those based only on contemporary records. Drinks reception in the Botanic Garden from 6pm. Lecture starts at 7pm.

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Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

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24 May

Oxford Botanic Garden

The medicinal properties of plants (£15 or £40 for series of 3 walks)

6:30pm-8:30pm, Thursday 24 May 2012, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

Alison Foster, Senior Curator of the Botanic Garden, shows you a hidden world of chemistry which is all happening right under our noses in the plants in our gardens. Join Alison to find out more.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

26 May

Oxford Botanic Garden

Botanical illustration – intermediate & advanced
(£60 inc. sandwich lunch)

10-4, Saturday 26 May 2012, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

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29 May

Harcourt Arboretum

Botanical course: Meadow plants identification day
(£60 inc. sandwich lunch)

10-4, Tuesday 29 May 2012

Harcourt Arboretum, Nuneham Courtenay, Oxfordshire OX44 9PX

Led by the Director of the Botanic Garden, Timothy Walker, this day-long course will teach you basic plant identification skills and give you the chance to try these out on the meadow flora in the beautiful setting of the Harcourt Arboretum.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

31 May

Oxford Botanic Garden

Plant family evening walks at the Botanic Garden – Lamiaceae: mints & lavender
(£15 or £40 for series of 3 walks)

6:30pm-8:30pm, Thursday 31 May 2012, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

In these walks the Director of the Botanic Garden, Timothy Walker, will inspire you with a treasure trove of botanical wonders from each family.

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June 2012

Every Sunday

OxGrow volunteering session (free)

1-4pm, every Sunday throughout the year



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Email oxgrow@oxfordhub

1 June-29 July 2012

Oxford Botanic Garden

Garden secrets exhibition (free with entry to the Garden)

1 June-29 July 2012, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

An exhibition by professional artists of works created in paper, inspired by the Botanic Garden.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

Email: postmaster@obg.ox.ac.uk

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<https://www.oxforduniversitystores.co.uk>

2 June

Oxford Botanic Garden

Jean Mould Hart – Paper plus (£60 inc. sandwich lunch)

11am-3pm, Saturday 2 June 2012, Conservatory, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

This one-day workshop will explore the use of paper as a creative medium. A portfolio of beautiful papers will be made from specialist fibres as well as recycled sources.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

6 June

Harcourt Arboretum

Creating a wildflower meadow (£60 inc. sandwich lunch)

10-4, Wednesday 6 June 2012

Harcourt Arboretum, Nuneham Courtenay, Oxfordshire OX44 9PX

Join Charles Flowers for this course looking at the process of establishing a wildflower meadow. The day will include an illustrated talk and an outdoor session looking at Palmer's Leys, our newly restored meadow. Topics covered will include buying or collecting seed, propagating, the effect of soil type and pH, seedbed preparation, sowing and managing.

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Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

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7 June

Harcourt Arboretum

Guided walk – Middle Atlas mountains of Morocco (£15 or £40 for series of 3 walks)

6:30pm-8:30pm, Thursday 7 June 2012

Harcourt Arboretum, Nuneham Courtenay, Oxfordshire OX44 9PX

Join Ben Jones to hear about the adventures of seed collecting, the plants, people, politics and places, then walk through the collection at the Harcourt Arboretum and experience the plants come to life.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

12 June

Oxford Botanic Garden

Study morning: Vegetable growing – extending the season (£20 per session or £55 for 3 sessions in Nov '11 & March '12)

10:30am-1pm, Tuesday 12 June 2012, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

Join us to learn about extending your vegetable growing season. Topics covered will include tender and winter crops, harvesting, succession sowing, pests and diseases.

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Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

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14 June

Oxford Botanic Garden

**Plant family evening walks at the Botanic Garden – Asteraceae:
sunflowers & dandelions
(£15 or £40 for series of 3 walks)**

6:30pm-8:30pm, Thursday 14 June 2012k, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

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Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

21 June

Oxford Botanic Garden

**A paper quest – From rags to riches: a social look at the development of
paper (£8)**

8pm-9pm, 21 Jun 2012, Daubeny Lecture Theatre, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

Anne Willitts has trained in textiles and papermaking and has created a range of textile and handmade paper books. Join her to find out more about the social history of papermaking at this illuminating evening lecture.

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Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

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<https://www.oxforduniversitystores.co.uk>

28 June

Oxford Botanic Garden

Plants for papermaking – walk (£6 inc. entry into the Garden)

11am or 2pm, 28 June 2012, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

A guided walk around the Garden introducing you to plants used in papermaking. Anne Willitts will talk about how and when they were or could be used for making paper. She will show some small examples of paper and briefly include historical and geographical background information.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

28 June

Oxford Botanic Garden

Scented plants – what makes them smell?

(£15 or £40 for series of 3 walks)

6:30pm-8:30pm, Thursday 28 June 2012, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

Alison Foster, Senior Curator of the Botanic Garden, shows you a hidden world of chemistry which is all happening right under our noses in the plants in our gardens. Join Alison to find out more.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

 All Botanic Garden and Arboretum events with ticket prices can be booked online
<https://www.oxforduniversitystores.co.uk>

July 2012

Every Sunday

OxGrow volunteering session (free)

1-4pm, every Sunday throughout the year



Gardening burns 250 calories an hour – so why not burn some off by volunteering to help transform OxGrow's Edible Community Garden on the former Corpus Christi Sports Ground? So far OxGrow has:

- Planted 1,000 trees and dug in lots of potatoes
- Made compost bins from unwanted wooden pallets and bicycle inner tubes
- Sown seeds for purple carrot, lettuce, chicory and land cress
- Sown a wildflower meadow of poppies, cornflowers and foxgloves

Staff and students can volunteer any Sunday from 1-4pm throughout the year – all tools are provided – just turn up!

For info & directions: www.oxgrow.org

Email oxgrow@oxfordhub

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4 July

Oxford Botanic Garden

Heather Hunter – Tacketed books (£60 inc. sandwich lunch)

11am-3pm, Wednesday 4 July 2012

Conservatory, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

In this workshop we shall have fun constructing a non-adhesive binding (tacketing), using a method dating back to the 4th century. You do not need to be a bookbinder or have even thought of binding before. We shall use chamois or waxed thread for the tackets (stitches) and a heaving paper for the covers. The structure can be supported by simple decorative lacing patterns. This binding method is most suited for handmade papers and /or a mixture of papers.

Book online: <https://www.oxforduniversitystores.co.uk>

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Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

5 July

Harcourt Arboretum

Guided walk – Redwood forests of North California

(£15 or £40 for series of 3 walks)

6:30pm-8:30pm, Thursday 5 July 2012

Harcourt Arboretum, Nuneham Courtenay, Oxfordshire OX44 9PX

Join Ben Jones to hear about the adventures of seed collecting, the plants, people, politics and places, then walk through the collection at the Harcourt Arboretum and experience the plants come to life.

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14 July

Oxford Botanic Garden

Heather Hunter – Long stitch journal (£60 inc. sandwich lunch)

11am-3pm, Saturday 14 July 2012, Conservatory, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

This wrap-around journal is fashioned from sturdy handmade paper. The pages are made from different papers, thick or thin, handmade or not. The sections are hand-sewn into the cover in the style of an exposed long stitch, and attached without the use of adhesives. This functional book makes an excellent travel journal.

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Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

19 July

Oxford Botanic Garden

Plants for papermaking – walk (£6 inc. entry into the Garden)

11am or 2pm, 19 July 2012, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

A guided walk around the Garden introducing you to plants used in papermaking. Anne Willitts will talk about how and when they were or could be used for making paper. She will show some small examples of paper and briefly include historical and geographical background information.

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26 July

Oxford Botanic Garden

Jean Mould Hart – Paper plus continued: more experiments in papermaking (£60 inc. sandwich lunch)

11am-3pm, Thursday 26 July 2012, Conservatory, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

This one-day workshop will **further** explore the use of paper as a creative medium. A portfolio of beautiful papers will be made from specialist fibres as well as recycled sources, combining pulp with other materials such as fabrics and threads.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk

26 July

Oxford Botanic Garden

The chemistry of colour – nature's palette (£15 or £40 for series of 3 walks)

6:30pm-8:30pm, Thursday 26 July 2012, OBG, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ

Alison Foster, Senior Curator of the Botanic Garden, shows you a hidden world of chemistry which is all happening right under our noses in the plants in our gardens. Join Alison to find out more.

More info: www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

Email: tickets@obg.ox.ac.uk