

SHEFFIELD BOTANICAL GARDENS



A GUIDE TO LEAVING A LEGACY IN YOUR WILL



PLEASE CONSIDER
REMEMBERING THE
SHEFFIELD BOTANICAL
GARDENS TRUST
IN YOUR WILL

Donations and legacies to the Sheffield Botanical Gardens Trust (SBGT) are of enormous importance, enabling the Trust to keep the gardens in the finest state and to support new initiatives

Cover Image: The Sheffield Botanical Gardens. Photograph by Dan Arkle - www.danarkle.com
We also thank Rod Egglestone and Miles Stevenson for providing photographs for this publication.

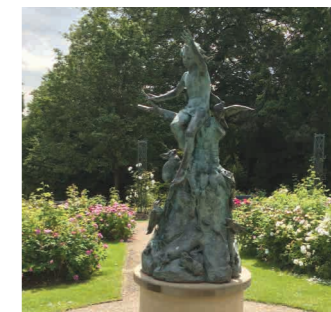
Second edition – 2018



If the Botanical Gardens are special to you - please think about leaving a legacy in your Will to support the work of the SBGT, a registered charity (No. 1162566). The Trust will apply any legacy to ensure that the gardens remain a jewel in Sheffield's crown and bring pleasure to thousands of Sheffielders and visitors alike.

The SBGT is now looking to fund additional projects to build on the restoration, to develop education facilities and to enhance further the gardens as a centre of horticultural excellence and beauty.

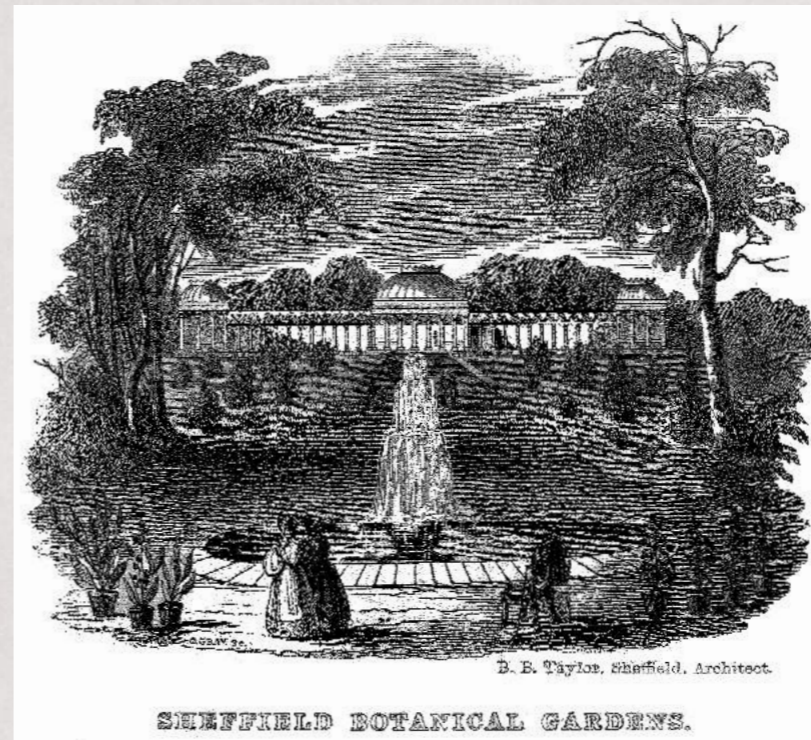
With your help - we can achieve these ambitions.



ABOUT SHEFFIELD BOTANICAL GARDENS TRUST

The SBTG was set up in 1996 at the same time as an ambitious Heritage Lottery funded project for “the repair, restoration and regeneration of both the Gardens and associated buildings and features”. A strategy was adopted to restore the Gardens to their late 19th century condition, reconstructing the spirit of the layout of that period, with its design intention, whilst at the same time adapting to modern requirements.

The first task of the Trust and the Friends of the Botanical Gardens (FOBS) was to raise £1.22 million required as matched funding to release a £5.06 million Heritage Lottery Grant, and to manage the fund tax-efficiently. With the unstinting support of FOBS and other donors (private, charitable and corporate), eight years of committed fundraising, with donations coming in from all over the world, meant that the three phases of restoration (buildings, glasshouses and landscape) were completed and the Gardens are once more magnificent. Indeed, at the time, the Sheffield Botanical Gardens were the only public open space in the country where the voluntary sector raised more than £1 million in matched funding. Sheffielders should take immense pride in this collective achievement - demonstrating what can be done when everyone pulls together.

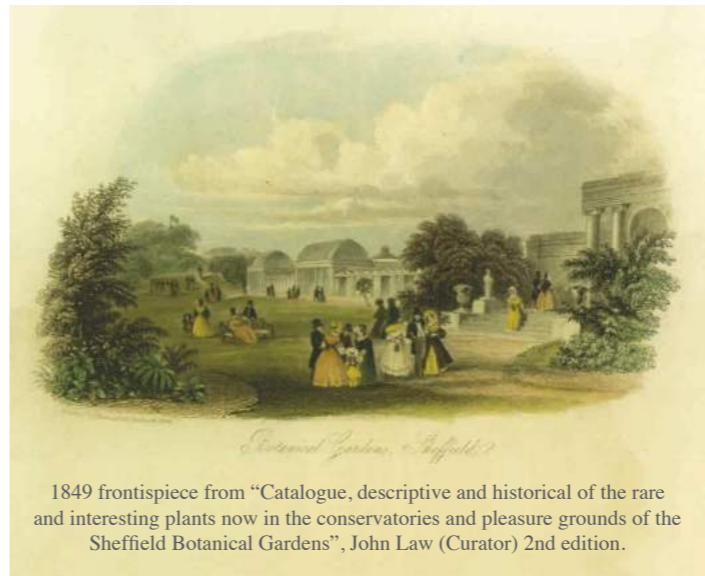


1836 (June) Floricultural Magazine Volume 1, Part 1, Plate 1 Fountain & conservatories.
Editor Robert Marnock (Curator) - architect Benjamin Broomhead Taylor, engraver C.Gray, Sc.

The Sheffield Botanical Gardens cover 19 acres and the site has fifteen different garden areas featuring collections of plants from all over the world, including Mediterranean, Asian, American prairie-style, woodland and rock-and-water plantings. The National Collections of *Weigela*, *Diervilla* and *Sarcococca* are sited here. The Gardens contain several listed buildings including the restored Grade II* listed curvilinear Glass Pavilions, some of the earliest ever built, which were officially re-opened by HRH The Prince of Wales on 1st September 2003. The Gardens' staff and FOBS volunteers continue to develop the plantings throughout the Gardens. Sheffield City Council provides tremendous support in the ongoing maintenance of these beautiful Gardens.

“I LOVE THE BOTANICAL GARDENS AND GO THERE REGULARLY TO ENJOY THE PEACE, TRANQUILLITY AND BEAUTY OF THIS MAGICAL PLACE. IT CAN BE ENJOYED IN ALL WEATHERS AND THE DISPLAYS CHANGE WITH THE SEASONS. IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE IT IS JUST OUTSIDE THE BUSY CITY CENTRE. IT IS SO SECLUDED AND GIVES YOU THE SPACE TO REFLECT, REFRESH AND REJUVENATE READY FOR LIFE’S CHALLENGES.”

Quote from Trip Advisor.



1849 frontispiece from "Catalogue, descriptive and historical of the rare and interesting plants now in the conservatories and pleasure grounds of the Sheffield Botanical Gardens", John Law (Curator) 2nd edition.



A LEGACY TO THE SBTG

For over 175 years, the Sheffield Botanical Gardens have provided enjoyment to generations of Sheffielders and visitors from all over the world. One of the earliest legacies to support the Gardens came in the early 1930s when Mr Harry Fisher bequeathed the sum of £3,000 to the Sheffield Town Trust. £1,000 was to be for the General Purposes of the Trust and £2,000 was to be invested and Mr Fisher directed that the income be applied by the Trustees “in the maintenance and improvement of the Botanical Gardens.”

“In recent years an increasing number of supporters have left legacies to the Sheffield Botanical Gardens Trust - including substantial bequests from long-standing FOBS members Mrs Barbara Holland and Miss Mildred Rushby, and also from local resident Mrs Dorothy Fox. These bequests enabled a new Education Centre costing £630,000 to be erected and officially opened by the Duke of Devonshire in March 2017. We are very grateful to all our supporters for their generosity and philanthropy. If, like me, you love these very special gardens, please leave a legacy to the SBTG.”

Dr Sue Kohler, MBE
President of the Friends of the Sheffield Botanical Gardens
Former Trustee of the Sheffield Botanical Gardens Trust.

Tax-free status

The Sheffield Botanical Gardens Trust is a Registered Charity (No. 1162566). This means that it pays no tax on gifts of money or property made in your lifetime or after your death. So any legacies left to the Trust are given in their entirety and are not subject to inheritance tax.

What words should I use?

Pecuniary bequest: “I give to The Sheffield Botanical Gardens Trust (Registered Charity 1162566) the sum of £..... (in words and figures) free from all taxes and duties, to be applied to the general purposes [or your preferred area] of the said Trust and I declare that the receipt of the Chairman of the Trust or other authorised trustee for the time being of the Sheffield Botanical Gardens Trust shall be good and sufficient discharge to my executors.”

Residuary bequest: “I give to The Sheffield Botanical Gardens Trust (Registered Charity 1162566) all [or a percentage or share] of my residuary estate to be applied to the general purposes [or your preferred area] of the said Trust and I declare that the receipt of the Chairman of the Trust or other authorised trustee for the time being of the Sheffield Botanical Gardens Trust shall be good and sufficient discharge to my executors.”



Specific bequest: “I give to The Sheffield Botanical Gardens Trust (Registered Charity 1162566) my [description of property] free from all taxes and duties, to be applied to the general purposes [or your preferred area] of the said Trust and I declare that the receipt of the Chairman of the Trust or other authorised trustee for the time being of the Sheffield Botanical Gardens Trust shall be good and sufficient discharge to my executors.”

Contact for solicitors and executors

The Chairman of the Sheffield Botanical Gardens Trust can be contacted c/o The Curator, The Sheffield Botanical Gardens, Clarkehouse Road, Sheffield S10 2LN.

Recognition

The Trust will honour the names of people who leave a legacy on their Donor Honour Roll which will be displayed in the Botanical Gardens.

Other ways in which we can help

If you need any further assistance or would like to discuss your legacy intentions, please contact: The Sheffield Botanical Gardens Trust – Legacy Trustee, c/o The Curator, The Sheffield Botanical Gardens, Clarkehouse Road, Sheffield S10 2LN.



The Conservatories from the collection of Meg Jullien.

THE IMPACT OF LEGACY GIFTS

The Dorothy Fox Education Centre was formally opened on 15th March 2017 by the Duke of Devonshire, a Patron of the SBTG.

It had long been envisaged that an Education Centre would be a vital part of the Gardens. Constant fundraising by the Sheffield Botanical Gardens Trust (SBGT) and the Friends of the Botanical Gardens, Sheffield (FOBS) made this centre a reality. The trustees would like to record their enormous thanks to three major legacy donors – Dorothy Fox, Mildred Rushby and Barbara Holland – whose gifts were instrumental in creating the centre for the benefit of their fellow Sheffielders. Their names are recorded on a plaque in the entrance to the centre which was unveiled by the Duke.

The Trust would also wish to thank The Sheffield Church Burgesses, The J.G. Graves Charitable Trust and The Freshgate Trust Foundation for their grants. Tremendous support also came from Sheffield City Council which co-ordinated the building project.

The new centre will transform the use of the Gardens for residents and visitors alike. It has a library and three flexible classroom areas which can be combined to create a large lecture area. The centre offers educational opportunities for schools, practical courses for adult learners, as well as a programme of lectures, demonstrations, art classes and photography courses.



The new Education Centre.

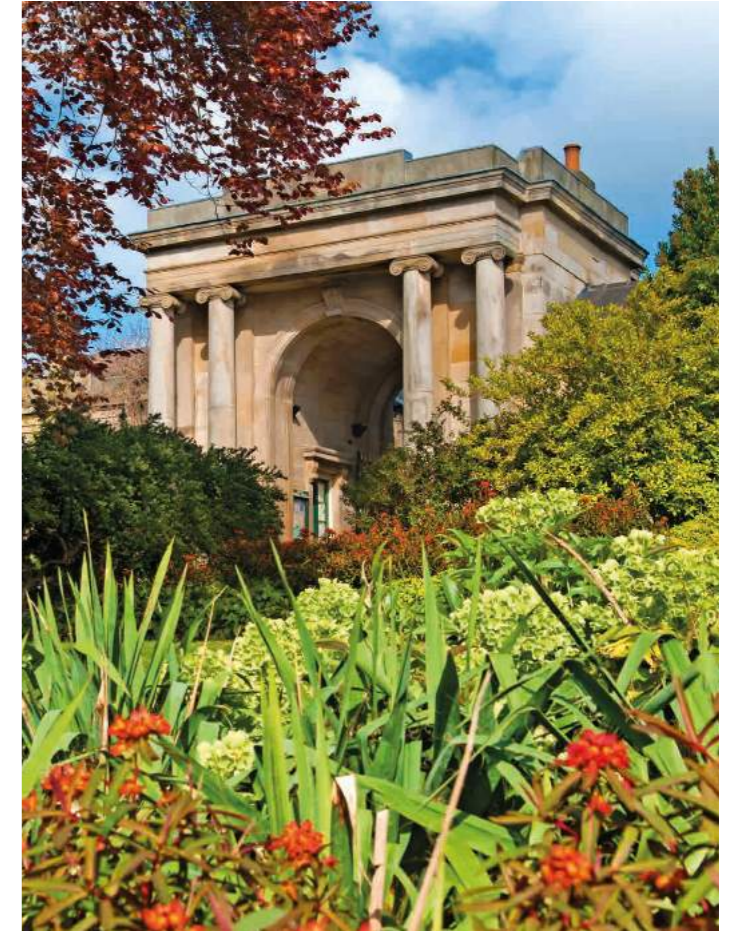


In 2016, the Sheffield Botanical Gardens Trust was reorganised to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and it was given a new charity number: 1162566. The original 1996 Charity (No. 1057845) is still part of the new CIO – but supporters should now quote the new charity number (1162566) when preparing any legal documents such as new Wills.

Legacies to the SGBT ensure that the ongoing maintenance and up-keep of the Gardens, and its historic buildings, can be supported for the delight of all visitors.



The Education Centre is officially opened by the Duke of Devonshire.



A SHORT HISTORY OF THE SHEFFIELD BOTANICAL GARDENS



1850 Lithograph by R. Groom from a drawing by I. Shaw.
Credit - Sheffield Local Studies Library (Ref. s22684).

Sources

R. Alison Hunter, 2007 "Sheffield Botanical Gardens - People, Plants & Pavilions".

Jan Carder, 1986 "The Sheffield Botanical Gardens - a short history".

In 1833, the Sheffield Botanical and Horticultural Society was formed to promote both healthy recreation and self-education, through the development of a botanical garden. A period of fundraising followed to raise £6,000 in 300 shares of £20 each. 18 acres of land in the valley of the river Porter were purchased from the Wilson family, the Sharrow snuff-makers.

In 1834, the Society appointed Robert Marnock, gardener of Bretton Hall, Wakefield (now the Yorkshire Sculpture Park), to design the Gardens and act as their first Curator. He laid out the Gardens in the then highly fashionable Gardenesque style, where each plant was displayed to perfection in scattered plantings. The entire garden was "enclosed with a substantial wall of stone". The Gardens were only open to the general public on four Gala days per year - otherwise admission was limited to shareholders and annual subscribers paying 10s. 6d. The Gardens were finally opened by the Duke and Duchess of Norfolk on 29th June 1836. Over 4 days in June and July 1836, more than 12,000 people visited the gardens.

In 1844, financial problems led to the failure of the first society but the Gardens were rescued with the formation of a second society (also known as the Sheffield Botanical

and Horticultural Society). The conservatories were extended, a tea pavilion and the present Curator's House were constructed within the succeeding ten years. A period of steady development and growing international renown followed for the next thirty years.

In 1897, falling income, competition from the new free city parks and residential development in the area meant that the Gardens were in danger again from property speculators. Fortunately, the Sheffield Town Trust came to the rescue and saved the Gardens for the city in 1898. It was then that free admission was introduced and continues today. The Gardens thrived until World War II, when extensive damage left the Sheffield Town Trust unable to afford the repairs and restoration required.

In 1951, the Sheffield Town Trust offered the Gardens to the Sheffield City Council for a peppercorn rent. The Council instigated repairs to the domes, later creating an Aviary and an Aquarium, and restored the Gardens to their former glory. However, a downturn in the economy during the 1980s meant a severe reduction in funding and once again the Gardens were on their way to dereliction. In 1984 the Friends of the Botanical Gardens, Sheffield (FOBS) was founded as a support group.

In 1996, the Sheffield Botanical Gardens Trust was formed and, in partnership with the Sheffield Town Trust, the City Council, the Landscape Department at the University of Sheffield and FOBS, was successful in obtaining a major Heritage Lottery grant.



AS WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE,
PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT
THROUGH DONATIONS AND LEGACIES
WILL BE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE
TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE
THESE BEAUTIFUL GARDENS



Thank you

