

The Lost Gardens of Heligan

Media Information



Doorway to the Flower Garden 1991 © Herbie Knott

www.heligan.com



CONTENTS



Media Department Contacts	3
Heligan Literature	4
Discovery & Restoration	5
The Lost Gardens Today	6
Why we are here	7
Funding of the garden restoration	8
Heligan Timeline	9
Area Descriptions:	14
Productive Gardens	14
Pleasure Grounds	15
The Jungle	17
Outer Estate	18
Wildlife Project and Horsemoor Hide	19
National Collection	20
SOD & Micropropagation	21
The Plant Hunters	22
Visitor Facilities	23
2011 Opening Times & Entry Prices	24
Friends of Heligan	25
Community	26
Waste Management & Sustainable Practice	27
2011 Events	28
Visitor Statistics	30
Awards	31
Quotes from Editorial	32
Visitor Comments	33
Fact File	34
Publications	35
FAQ's	36





MEDIA DEPARTMENT CONTACTS



Lorna Tremayne – Media and Marketing Manager

The Lost Gardens of Heligan, Pentewan, St Austell, Cornwall PL26 6EN

Tel: 01726 843740 **Fax:** 01726 844708 **Email:** pr@heligan.com

The media team here at Heligan aims to facilitate you with story ideas, press visits, information and image requests, fact checking, editorial content, arranging interviews, broadcast requests and much more. We aim to help journalists and media with filming and gathering information and images in an efficient, fun and friendly manner.

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HELIGAN LITERATURE



The Lost Gardens of Heligan Guide Book

Take a personal tour of the Gardens and Estate with Heligan's managing director, Peter Stafford. This definitive guide gives an intriguing insight into The Lost Gardens, featuring a forward by Tim Smit, suggested routes, maps, practical advice and illustrated with beautiful colour images of Heligan.

Guide Book is £3.95 available from the on-site Heligan Shop and www.heliganshop.com

Earlier Dutch and German editions £2.50 are also available.

Heligan History: Lost Gardens, Lost Gardeners

A Commemorative Album of Heligan through the Twentieth Century, providing an eagerly awaited snapshot of the past for all those curious about what happened at Heligan before the gardens were opened to the public. This latest award-winning Heligan publication tracks the history of this atmospheric place over the past century and features archived photographic and documentary material conveying both the inspiration and leadership of the Tremayne family and their dependence on a large and loyal staff. Historic Estates, such as Heligan, were closely connected not only with the local community but also with the wider world. Therefore stories from beyond its boundaries are also touched on throughout this evocative journey back in time. The stories of staff who served in the Great War are the main focus of the book, which was published on 11th November 2008, to mark the 90th Anniversary of the Armistice. Compiled by Heligan staff, in co-operation with descendants of the Tremayne family and local families whose relatives worked at Heligan.

The book concludes with images by Herbie Knott taken in 1991, soon after the derelict gardens were discovered.

Heligan History is £3.95 from the on-site Heligan Shop and www.heliganshop.com

If you wish to receive a complimentary copy of either publication please do not hesitate to contact us.





DISCOVERY & RESTORATION



Heligan, seat of the Tremayne family for more than 400 years, is one of the most mysterious estates in England. At the end of the nineteenth century its thousand acres were at their zenith, but only a few years later bramble and ivy were already drawing a green veil over this 'Sleeping Beauty'. After decades of neglect, the devastating hurricane of 1990 should have consigned The Lost Gardens of Heligan to a footnote in history.

Instead, events conspired to bring us here and the romance of their decay took a hold on our imaginations. Our discovery of a tiny room, buried under fallen masonry in the corner of one of the walled gardens, was to unlock the secret of their demise. A motto etched into the limestone walls in barely legible pencil still reads "Don't come here to sleep or to slumber" with the names of those who worked there signed under the date – August 1914. We were fired by a magnificent obsession to bring these once glorious gardens back to life and to tell, for the first time, not tales of lords and ladies but of those "ordinary" people who had made these gardens great, before departing for the Great War.

Currently, we have established a large working team with a distinct vision for our second decade. The award-winning garden restoration is already internationally acclaimed; however our lease now extends into 200 acres of Wider Estate meaning the project is far from complete. We intend Heligan to remain a living and working example of 'the best of past practice', offering public access into the heart of what we do. We also aim to make a valuable contribution to current debates on the future of our countryside.





THE LOST GARDENS TODAY



Descriptions of The Lost Gardens of Heligan today...

(Word count – 40)

Today the mysterious Lost Gardens and Heligan Estate offer over 200 acres for exploration. Discover restored Victorian Productive Gardens and Pleasure Grounds, a lush sub-tropical Jungle, ancient woodlands and a fascinating Wildlife Project offering an intimate view of native wildlife.

(Word count – 50)

The mysterious gardens and estate offer over 200 acres for exploration. Discover romantic Victorian Productive Gardens and Pleasure Grounds along winding paths laid out over two centuries ago. Adventure through a sub-tropical outdoor Jungle and explore ancient woodlands managed to promote wildlife, which is celebrated at a pioneering Wildlife Project.

(Word count – 150)

Unveiled in 1992 from under decades of overgrowth, the Lost Gardens were restored on a shoestring budget and hailed by The Times as “...the garden restoration of the century”. Today the mysterious gardens and estate offer over 200 acres for exploration.

Discover romantic Victorian Productive Gardens and Pleasure Grounds along winding paths laid out over two centuries ago. Step back in time and journey across the world beneath the historic rhododendron boughs of Sikkim, beside Maori-carved tree ferns in New Zealand, to explore our Italian Garden and Alpine inspired Ravine.

Get lost in our exotic outdoor Jungle whilst adventuring along raised boardwalks past giant rhubarb, banana plantations and through tunnels of towering bamboo.

The ancient woodlands and grazed pastures are managed to promote wildlife, which is also celebrated at our pioneering Wildlife Project, offering an intimate view of native fauna.

Heligan is so much more than a garden restored; its own special atmosphere encourages contemplation and inspiration, satisfying the broadest range of horticultural and wildlife interest.





WHY WE ARE HERE



The stewardship of this beautiful and mysterious place now lies with us. The dynamism and hard work of earlier generations here created an almost self-sufficient estate encompassing home farm, working woodlands, orchards, productive gardens and pleasure grounds brimming with newly imported, exotic species. In 1990, after 75 years of accumulating neglect, the Lost Gardens were discovered and thereafter restored on a shoestring budget by a small band of enthusiasts. We have inherited and broadened a continuing responsibility, to bring this estate back to life and to enable others to enjoy it.

Our chief interest is an exploration of man's relationship with the land, particularly the relationship between the land itself, the food we eat, the countryside which surrounds us and the wildlife within it.

We are not here simply to provide a historical perspective but to look both backwards and forwards at the same time; backwards to where our gardens and food came from and forwards to confront those issues facing us now. We try to combine 'the best of the old' with 'the best of the new' to see if there is a practicable and sustainable way forward for the use and management of our land and countryside within a modern context.

Here at Heligan we strive for a stable business, being to generate sufficient income to ensure that we reduce our vulnerability to factors outside our control and to enable us to continue reinvestment in improvements and developments for the garden and estate. We seek to enhance Heligan as a destination in which our visitors will continue to delight, recommend and feel welcome to return to in years to come.

We are not here to make substantial profits for main stakeholders. Heligan's staff is its most valuable resource, being a committed team with a clear purpose; to care for this place and the creatures, plants and people within it.

We aim to provide full-time employment with fair rewards for all, as well as positive benefits for the wider community.

Our overall objective is to provide all our visitors with a stimulating experience, which gives value for money and food for thought.





FUNDING OF THE GARDEN RESTORATION



Restoration work started in 1991 and the gardens opened to the public in April 1992. Early achievements were funded by grants from the Countryside Commission 'Task Force Trees' initiative, set up to repair shelterbelt damage after the Great Storms of 1987 & 1990, and from the Rural Development Commission (RDC), supporting infrastructural renovation, eg- paths and working buildings like the old Paxton Glasshouse. A loan was also received from the RDC and Cornwall County Council.

Substantial amounts of public money got the project off the ground, being invested in major items of restoration – clearance, rebuilding and replanting. Since this early help the project has become self-supporting and an contributor to the local economy.

We were also supported by many local firms, which in the depths of recession, offered plants, materials and services free of charge. Much of the garden's early restoration was undertaken by volunteers through groups organised by the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers and individuals supervised by John Nelson; now retired to run the Crown Inn at St. Ewe.

We are indebted to the many local organisations and individuals who put their faith in us and supported the project in the early days, before there were any guarantees that it would succeed.



HELIGAN TIMELINE



12th Century

- Heligan Manor first built.

1569

- Sampson Tremayne completed purchase of Heligan.

1588

Spanish Armada.

1603

- William Tremayne built Heligan House Jacobean style.

1642 - 49

- Civil War – Tremaynes were Royalist supporters.

1692

- Sir John Tremayne rebuilt the house William and Mary style using Heligan bricks.

SQUIRE HENRY HAWKINS TREMAYNE 1766 – 1829



Henry Hawkins constructed the network of rides around the Northern Gardens & throughout the estate, the walls of the Flower Garden & the shelterbelts against SW gales.

1777

- William Hole map of estate.

1805

- Battle of Trafalgar.

Pre 1810

- Thomas Gray map of intended alterations.

SQUIRE JOHN HEARLE TREMAYNE 1829 – 51



Fully functioning Pineapple Pit, Heligan competes for biggest pine against other local estates.
Bee Boles & Melon Yard built. Home Farm thriving.

1813

- Married Caroline Matilda Lemon, establishing connection with plant hunters.

1832

- The new Long Drive to Heligan House planted with *Bethamia fragifera* (later *Cornus capitata*).

1839

- Tithe map.

1851

- Joseph Paxton built Crystal Palace.

1851

- Hooker Collection secured for gardens.



SQUIRE JOHN TREMAYNE 1851 – 1901



Development of planting of Northern Gardens and Japanese Garden using new, imported exotic species.

1880

- Peach House built.

1890s

- John's son John Claude built Ravine.

1891

- Severe blizzard would have destroyed new tender plants.

SQUIRE JOHN CLAUDE TREMAYNE 1901 - 49



Continuation of planting in Japanese Garden.

1905 - 07

- *Davidia involucrata* planted in Sundial Garden.

1906/7

- Italian Garden built.

1914 - 18

- First World War.
- Trees cut at Heligan to build ships for war efforts.
- Aug 1914
- Staff signatures on wall in Thunderbox Room.

1916 - 19

- Heligan House used as Convalescence Hospital for Officers.

1939 - 45

- Second World War.

1929 - 70

- Heligan House rented out, except during 2nd World War when occupied by American Officers.

1973

- Britain joins EEC.

1973 - 74

- House converted to flats, subsequently sold off.

1990

- Derelict gardens discovered by Tim Smit with John Willis (Tremayne descendant). John Nelson begins clearance.

1991

- British economy in recession.
- **Philip McMillan Browse**, then County Horticultural Advisor becomes involved in restoration.
- **Clearance of Melon Yard.**
- **BTCV** group clears Eastern & Western Rides.
- **Restoration of Italian Garden.**
- **BBC Gardeners' World** broadcasts from Heligan.
- Cornwall County Council planning **permission given to open to the public.**
- Grant Aid from Countryside Commission. "Task Force Trees."





1992

- **Lease signed** between Tremayne Estate & Heligan Gardens Limited.
- Easter '92 **Gardens open to public.**
- Replanted garden shelterbelts.
- **Restored Northern Summerhouse.**
- Cleared overgrowth from **Vegetable Garden.**

1993

- Clearance of Top Lake in the **Jungle** & building of the **boardwalk.**
- Restored structures in the **Melon Yard.**
- Rebuilt infrastructure of **Vegetable Garden.**

1994

- Five **Great Gardens of Cornwall** founder member.
- Restoration of **Flower Garden.**
- Half hour documentary on **Westcountry TV.**
- **First years planting** in Vegetable Garden and Melon Yard.
- Acquired pineapple varieties for **Pineapple Pit.**
- Clearance of **Head Gardener's office.**

1995

- **First cropping** in Flower Garden.
- Clearance of **Sundial Garden.**
- Initial clearance through **Lost Valley.**

1996

- Restored herbaceous boarder in **Sundial Garden.**
- Lakes restored in **Lost Valley.**

1997

- Opening of **Lost Valley** & charcoal burning began.
- 6-part **Channel 4 TV documentary** (later awarded "Garden programme of the year")
- Hosted Centenary **Spring Flower Show** of Cornwall Garden Society.
- **Eden project** awarded Millennium funding at Heligan.
- Private visit from **HRH Prince Charles**, Duke of Cornwall.
- **Ice sculpture exhibition** commemorating lost gardeners on 80th Anniversary of Armistice.
- First fruiting of **pineapples** - one delivered to the **Queen** for her 50th Wedding Anniversary.

1998

- Flora's Green covered in **snow** at Easter.
- New garden built at **Northern Summerhouse.**
- **Eastern Ride** drains re-cobbled.
- **Pencalenick Glasshouse** acquired & restored.
- **Gold Medal** at **Hampton Court Palace Flower Show.**
- **First fruits** from new vines in vinery.
- The Good Guide to Britain award "**Garden of the year**".
- **First mushroom crop.**
- **Wildlife survey** begins on Heligan Estate.
- Heligan purchases Watering Lane Nursery for **Eden Project.**





1999

- 2nd **Channel 4 TV** series “Return of the Lost Gardens”
- Partner in **The Times** “Grow Good Food campaign.”
- Start of Heligan Home Farm & **Wildlife Project**.
- New flock grazes pastures.
- Cornish hedges re-laid in **Wider Estate**.

2000

- Steward’s House **Tea Room opens**.
- **First Heligan calves** born.
- Partner in **The Times** “Grow Good Food Campaign.”
- The *Which?* Guide to Tourist Attractions “**Best outdoor attractions**” 5 star award winner.
- Paths laid through pastureland.
- **Restoration** of Reservoir.
- **New Zealand garden** re-planted.
- Opening of **Butler’s Path**.
- **Vegetable Garden** cleared back to original size.
- First Heligan **Harvest display**.

2001

- Foot & Mouth.
- **Eden Project** opened.
- Tremayne Estate extends lease.
- Horsemoor Hide receives **first ‘Live’ images from bird boxes**.
- Propagation from old camellias started.
- Rebuilding of **Ravine** rockery.

2002

- **Queen’s Jubilee visit** to Heligan stand at CGS Spring Flower Show at Trelissick.
- **First Barn Owl chicks** viewed on camera from Horsemoor Hide.
- Wood Project began.
- Heligan Shop & Plant Sales extension.
- BBC Gardeners’ World vote Heligan “**The Nation’s Favourite Garden**”.
- Replanting alpine **Ravine**.
- October - Heligan Country Fair in Autumn.
- Heligan welcomes 463,000 visitors, **the busiest year to date**.

2003

- **Melon House** rebuilt.
- Heligan Library opens (by appointment only).
- Propagation Unit opened.
- Radio Times “**Britain’s finest garden**”, Heligan voted second only to Kew.
- Sponsorship of local wildlife Pathologist.
- Lobbs Farm Shop opens on site.

2004

- **Defra confirms SOD** on site - work to eradicate Sudden Oak Death.
- Jungle boardwalk totally rebuilt & extended.
- **Carved Tree Ferns** donated from Chelsea Flower Show for new New Zealand garden.
- Heligan’s first **Spring Celebration**.
- Heligan’s first **Bat Nights**.
- Wood Project’s first student residency.
- Heligan responds to **DDA requirements**.
- First **Big Draw Event** at Heligan.



2005

- New Look-out completed at top of **Jungle**.
- Entire refurbishment of **Melon Yard**.
- **3 millionth visitor arrived**.
- Heligan featured in “**The Painted Garden**” regional TV series.
- **Heavy snowfall** in November closes gardens for 3 days.

2006

- Heligan Wild Land Management practices.
- **New website** launched on-line – www.heligan.co.uk
- **Paxton Glasshouse** re-restored by Heligan staff.
- BBC Spring watch broadcast live footage of **Pipistrelle maternity roost**.
- Heligan features on **BBC 2 “Natures Calendar”**.

2007

- ‘Thank you Cornwall’ offer brings **15,000 residents visiting Heligan for free** over a 15 day period – initiative **wins Cornwall Tourism Gold Award**.
- Creators of The Mud Maid and The Giant, Sue and Pete Hill install a **new woodland sculpture –The Grey Lady** – on the Woodland Walk.
- Access to a new section of the **Georgian Ride** in the Wider Estate is **opened**.
- Heligan features on **BBC Springwatch** broadcasting live footage from Heligan’s wildlife cameras located across the site and in nest boxes.
- **Hannibal** the Heligan Barn Owl **eats his siblings alive** on BBC Springwatch.
- Heligan features on **Cbeebies Autumnwatch**.

2008

- Heligan is granted **National Collection Holder Status** by the NCCPG for collection: ‘Camellias and Rhododendrons Introduced to Heligan pre-1920’
- The **Duke of Kent visits** during the CRUSE Bereavement Care charity event and plants a commemorative camellia on Flora’s Green.
- The Heligan Tearoom wins **silver Café of the Year** at the Cornwall Tourism Awards.
- **BBC Springwatch** returns for an update on Hannibal the barn owl. Other Heligan wildlife features on the national television show as well as via live web cams shown on the Springwatch website.
- Otter spraint is found at the bottom of the Jungle, a motion detection camera set up and the **first Heligan Otter is captured on camera** by the Eco-watch team.
- **BBC Autumnwatch** returns to Heligan with Hannibal update and continues live web cam streams on the Autumnwatch website.
- A Walk on the Wild Side – **wildlife event** featuring Wild Talks **with BBC cameraman Ian McCarthy** and Wild Walks with Eco-watch.
- **Heligan Wildlife: On Film is released** on DVD to accompany the Wildlife Guide.
- On-line travel site **Trip Advisor votes Heligan in top ten** gardens in Britain.
- **The Telegraph** places Heligan at number four of the ten **best ‘Mothers Breaks’**.
- **Heligan History: Lost Gardens, Lost Gardeners** is published to mark the 90th Anniversary of the Armistice and to commemorate Heligan’s Lost Gardeners.
- Lenticular exhibition “**The Glasshouse Men**” by **Michèle Noach** is held to mark the 90th Anniversary of the Armistice and **to commemorate Heligan’s Lost Gardeners**.

2009

- New **wildlife website heliganwild.com** launched, web cams updated every 10 seconds.
- Pineapple Pits produce **first fruit in 3 years**.
- **BTCV celebrates their 50th anniversary** with a special event for volunteers and staff.
- **Heligan History: Lost Gardens, Lost Gardeners** book wins **Holyer An Gof award**
- ‘**X-ray art**’ studio set up, images on display at Horsemoor Hide.
- Heligan is awarded a **Gold Medal at the RHS Hampton Court Flower Show**.



2010

- Construction of Multi-species Tower.
- Philippa Forrester and Charlie Hamilton-James filming for new 1-hour BBC *Natural World* programme.
- Discovered late C18th Tremayne glass bottle and purchased silver salvers dated 1762.
- First written archive regarding Cornish Pasty relates to Heligan.
- Autumn visit by rare Green Heron from USA.
- 4 Millionth visitor.

AREA DESCRIPTIONS



PRODUCTIVE GARDENS

Acting as a window into the past, the award-winning restoration of Heligan's working Victorian Productive Gardens stand as a living memorial to Heligan's Lost Gardeners. The Productive Gardens encompass the Vegetable Garden, the Melon Yard and the walled Flower Garden, each displaying a glorious array of traditional crops and growing methods, whilst supplying the Heligan Tearoom with fresh, seasonal produce throughout the year.

Over 200 varieties of pre 1914 fruit and vegetable are lovingly tended, whilst the historical glasshouses reveal an intriguing range of exotic crops including peaches, melons, grapes and even pineapples. The restored Working Buildings offer an insight into their traditional use and embody the timeless atmosphere experienced at Heligan.

The heart of the Productive Gardens, both past and present, lies within the original walls of the Melon Yard. Here the relics of times gone by stand in living testament to the everyday life that revolved around Heligan and convey a fascinating sense of both horticultural and human history.

Step back in time and wander through the blossoming apple arch in spring, be surrounded by the overwhelming scent and colour of the walled Flower Garden in summer and marvel at the horticultural landscape all year round.

PLEASURE GROUNDS

First laid out over 200 years ago the Pleasure Grounds, which surround the Productive Gardens, conceal an unusual series of romantic structures, unexpected features and a vast collection of historical horticultural plantings. Rambling rhododendrons, meandering paths and red brick walls divide the individual gardens.

Get lost among the tree fern crowned walls of the Crystal Grotto and Wishing Well; explore beneath the ancient rhododendron boughs of Sikkim and Flora's Green and take a journey across the world as you find Maori carved tree ferns in the New Zealand garden and a hidden Italian Garden, connected to the Alpine inspired Ravine.

The Pleasure Grounds are also home to Heligan's National Collection – 'Camellias and Rhododendrons introduced to Heligan pre-1920' (for further



information please see page 16). Let these magnificent yet vulnerable specimens

captivate you as they bless the gardens with a flood of vibrant spring colour.

With Beacon Path blooming in spring, the herbaceous borders of the Sundial Garden flourishing in late summer, and the Northern Summerhouse awash with tranquillity and sea views in winter, a special atmosphere awaits at every time of year.

PLEASURE GROUNDS - Flora's Green

A magnificent grassy sward surrounded by horticultural pleasures, Flora's Green provides a spectacular display of exotic specimens brought back by the intrepid Victorian Plant Hunters. The vast array of rhododendron species in this area boast specimens of approximately 150 years old, some forming part of the Hooker collection; specimens collected by the famous plant explorer Sir Joseph Hooker from Sikkim, Bhutan and Nepal. A grand show of structured foliage and architectural branches all year round is only beaten by their fabulous array of flowering colour in the spring.

PLEASURE GROUNDS - Northern Summerhouse

This little garden-within-a-garden lay completely concealed at the start of the restoration for over a year; shrouded in overgrown laurel, until the exact position of the mark on an early map was traced. The fine original cobbled floor of the Northern Summerhouse is thought to be the oldest structure in the garden dating back to the end of the eighteenth century. As with many of the gardens, the original design made the best use of its unique position. Facing east, it catches the morning sun and gives a spectacular aspect across St. Austell bay and down the coast toward Gribben Head.

PLEASURE GROUNDS - Crystal Grotto and Wishing Well

The perfect shady retreat on a hot summer's day this magical garden, shrouded by a blanket of moss, has an enchanting atmosphere. Tree ferns crown the twisting paths and walls and the crooked local white quartz homes self-set ferns in its clefts. The architecture of the Wishing Well is thought to incorporate ornamental stone from the Heligan Manor House and the local church in the village of St. Ewe. Whilst the position of the Wishing Well was determined by the location of a natural spring, the surrounding area was originally designed to be best enjoyed by night. It is believed the roof of the Crystal Grotto was set with local semi-precious stone, allowing candlelight to be reflected into the garden. Unfortunately the crystals are no more but tradition is annually recaptured during our Christmas Lantern Lit Tours, when the Grotto is lit with candles, allowing visitors to experience the Northern Gardens by night.

PLEASURE GROUNDS - New Zealand Garden

The New Zealand Garden consists of two parts, the old and the new, both drawing inspiration from planting native to New Zealand and its surrounding islands. The Treseder family of Truro imported the original tree ferns at the end of the nineteenth century as ballast on cargo boats from Sydney, Australia. Specimens in the new area were partly sourced by a donation from the 'Kia-Ora' garden, entered by the New Zealand tourist board at the 2004 Chelsea Flower





Show. The contrasts found here are echoes of the blending between old and new found throughout the plantings and practices of the modern Heligan estate.

PLEASURE GROUNDS - The Ravine

Originally conceived as a mountain-pass style garden, this giant Victorian rockery houses further evidence of the Victorian's elaborate garden designs. The sound of running water and the alpine plantings contribute to the mountainous atmosphere.

PLEASURE GROUNDS - Italian Garden

The Italian Garden was the first major project of the restoration and is a small, privately enclosed spot ideal for tranquil relaxation. Also previously known as The Suntrap, this Mediterranean styled retreat was specifically designed to catch the mid-day sun. The iron statue at its centre, 'Putto with a Dolphin', was cast from the original mould traced to a foundry outside Florence.

Whilst this was the first garden to be restored, it was also the final garden to be designed by the last resident squire, Jack Tremayne, in the early twentieth century. Its plantings today include a wide array of beautiful specimens; olives, jasmine, palms and two original kiwi plants introduced from China by E.H. Wilson.

PLEASURE GROUNDS - Eastern and Western Rides

Running adjacent to the Productive Gardens and making a substantial part of a tangled network of walks between the Pleasure Grounds sit the Eastern and Western rides. Each is home to many historical horticultural specimens and is lined on the outer side by traditional cobbled drains, restored to their original condition, serving as protectors from storm water erosion.

PLEASURE GROUNDS - Sikkim

Walking through Sikkim gives an impression of the garden's state pre-restoration. Here the trunks of old rhododendrons reach towards the sky and branches hang gracefully along the ground, capturing a truly lost atmosphere.

Many of the species in Sikkim are *Rhododendron arboreum* hybrids displaying a variety of pinks, whites, mauves and even Cornish Reds giving a glorious display of colour that peaks spectacularly in spring. Standing alongside the *R. arboreum* hybrids are magnificent specimens of *Rhododendron falconeri* and *Rhododendron sino grande* that capture the imagination with thoughts of the great Plant Hunters discovering these exotic specimens in far away lands.

PLEASURE GROUNDS - Sundial Garden

The chance discovery of an old photograph gave information on the original planting and hard landscape design of this charming 'English Garden' we know as the Sundial Garden. The Herbaceous border against the south facing wall of the Flower Garden was described in *Gardeners Chronicle* of 1896 as "the finest herbaceous boarder in England".

The Handkerchief Tree (*Davidia involucrata*) at the top of the garden, is likely to have been grown from seed introduced into this country in the early



twentieth century, and hangs elegantly at the head of the garden. A striking display of purple and white comes to a climax in late summer as the verbena bonariensis, agapanthus and Japanese anemones burst into bloom. With more than 75 shrubs now restored to their place, 'Lady Tremayne's Flower Garden' is again worthy of her namesake.

THE JUNGLE

An exuberant garden hosting a riot of luxuriant foliage and outstanding trees, exotic plantings and inspiring views, the Jungle draws the imagination on a journey far from our temperate shores.

The private Heligan House sits at the crown of this steep-sided sub-tropical valley garden, standing sentinel over a magnificent landscape crafted by man and nature into a horticultural triumph. When the Tremaynes originally laid out the garden and sourced the plants with a Japanese theme, the First World War interrupted their plans and the plant life was left to fend for itself. On its discovery in 1990 the original specimens peeked out of a sprawling tangle of self-seeded sycamore and bramble. Once cleared a captivating array of sub-tropical species began to emerge and have now reclaimed their rightful prominence in this excitingly exotic garden.

The Jungle is structured around a man-made water system, which runs down from the Northern Gardens, feeding through a network of mainly original Victorian pipes and drains, into four interconnecting ponds. These ponds act as the focus point for the lush plantings of the Jungle and have been adorned with fish to enhance this natural habitat, attracting various wildlife including herons, kingfishers and otters.

The geography of the Jungle creates a unique microclimate at least 5° warmer than the Northern Gardens and in this protected space the exotic sub-tropical plants, brought from across the world by the Victorian Plant Hunters, flourish in appreciation throughout the year.

Lose yourself amongst both towering bamboo tunnels and banana plantations, travel along the snaking boardwalk through 'giant rhubarb' and palm-lined avenues and discover a world of adventure in this lush and exhilarating landscape.





OUTER ESTATE

This is the largest area of the Heligan Estate, encompassing all that falls outside the boundaries of the Northern Gardens. This area includes the Lost Valley, sustainably managed pastureland, ancient broadleaved woodlands and beautiful Cornish countryside, all working in co-operation with Heligan's pioneering Wildlife Project and their own productive frameworks.

The 'Giant's Head', 'Mudmaid' and 'Grey Lady' wait to be discovered along the Woodland Walk. This sheltered path comes to life for children and adults alike as the woodland sculptures reveal themselves, emerging gently from the undergrowth in a beautiful natural landscape.

Pastureland at Heligan is home to our Dexter cattle who roam the fields of the Wider Estate. Low impact grazing and sustainable land management works toward preserving and promoting wildlife, as well as nurturing the intimate relationship between humans and nature.

The Lost Valley features traditional charcoal burning, ancient trees, a blanket of bluebells in spring and two tranquil lakes, which with their healthy supply of sticklebacks and clean watercourses provide the perfect spot for Heligan's otter and over-wintering kingfishers. This virtually un-touched landscape offers an ideal space for escaping the outside world.

While dead or fallen wood is often left in situ as a wildlife habitat, the productive uses of trees to be felled are also considered. Heligan timber is planked at our sawmill and furniture and smaller items are made in our workshop. These, as well as Heligan charcoal, are then sold from the on-site Heligan shop.

Focus of the Heligan Estate is upon bio-diversity and actively working toward the creation and protection of wide-ranging habitats that allow many common species, and some less common, to be observed in their natural environment.





WILDLIFE PROJECT AND HORSEMOOR HIDE

Horsemoor Hide lays at the heart of our pioneering Wildlife Project, offering the perfect location to enjoy Heligan's wildlife, both on screen and directly outside. Here you can view live and recorded footage, captured from across the estate by a network of innovative technology, witnessing intimate dramas of the natural world. These experiences allow fascinating wildlife interaction whilst limiting disturbance to the wild creatures being observed.

The gardens and estate are actively managed to encourage wildlife populations and you may observe many fascinating creatures from birds, insects and amphibians to moths, bats and even the famous barn owls that have featured on BBC Springwatch.

Also on display at Horsemoor Hide is a selection of images created in the 'x-ray studio' at Heligan. These 'see through' images taken from the natural world explore the intricate beauty of nature that is ordinarily hidden from sight. The pieces of 'x-ray art' display a unique collaboration between technical skill, natural beauty and an artistic eye, which combine to form amazing images, encouraging the viewer to take a closer look. The flora and fauna chosen for the x-ray pictures have generally recognisable shapes and forms but by looking inside and magnifying by up to 100 times a new world emerges, revealing the internal structure of the subject in perfect detail.

The latest edition to Heligan's evolving Wildlife Project is the Barn Owl Tower. This new structure, completed at the start of 2010, was built from sustainable Heligan timber to offer a new habitat for our resident wildlife. The tower mimics a working barn, providing the perfect spot for a new barn owl box, fitted with cameras which feed live images to Horsemoor Hide and our dedicated wildlife website – heliganwild.com. The tower also incorporates bird boxes and specially designed spaces to encourage bats, insects and invertebrates to populate this new habitat.



NATIONAL COLLECTION



In 2008 The Lost Gardens of Heligan was granted National Collection Holder status by Plant Heritage for its historic and unique collection: *Camellias and Rhododendrons Introduced to Heligan pre-1920*.

There are more than 70 veteran camellias and 350 ancient rhododendrons included in the collection found throughout Heligan. The earliest plantings date from around 1850.

During the garden and estate's period of decline, many plants, both wild and cultivated, flourished unrestrained. The specimens of Heligan's National Collection were given both time and the protection of surrounding overgrowth to mature into the magnificent specimens marvelled at today.

The rhododendrons and camellias of the National Collection are valuable living links to the horticultural past of the gardens and estate and play an integral role in the diverse and beautiful landscape. Whether they are forming stunning backdrops to walled gardens, rambling gracefully above paths, taking centre stage, or standing stately amid flourishing plantings, the breathtaking beauty of these ancient specimens is awe-inspiring to behold.

Squire John Hearle Tremayne made the earliest camellia plantings. These include varieties such as 'Althaeiflora', 'Anemoniflora' and 'Fimbriata'. Later plantings in the 1870s and 80s by Squire John Tremayne feature some of the continental varieties, 'Lavinia Maggi', 'Auguste Delfosse' and 'Eugenie de Massena', whilst the most recent varieties, 'Gloire de Nantes', 'Fleur Dipater' and 'Madame Martin Cachet' were planted by the last Squire of Heligan, Jack Tremayne.

The earliest rhododendrons in the collection include species such as *arboreum*, *niveum*, *grande* and *falconeri*. These were raised from seed collected by the great Plant Hunter, Sir Joseph Dalton Hooker, in India during his expedition of 1847-51. Twentieth century introductions include rhododendrons *decorum*, *griersonianum*, *ririei* and *sino-grande*.

Visitors may borrow laminated maps with plant lists to identify both the historic camellias and rhododendrons in the The Lost Gardens during their visit. The complete files containing photographs and research that has finally enabled us to name much of the historic collection can be viewed in the Heligan Shop.

In 2009 Heligan was invited to take a place in the Plant Heritage marquee at the RHS Hampton Court Flower Show. We created an interpretive display about our National Collection detailing the fascinating stories of individual plants from Heligan's collection. The display was awarded a Gold medal as a floral and educational display.



SOD & MICROPROPAGATION



Phytophthora ramorum was first identified in the mid-1990s when the disease caused widespread damage to the wild oak populations of California: it was also called Sudden Oak Death, or SOD.

Cornwall's mild and humid climate is perfect for *Phytophthora ramorum* and has resulted with the county having the highest number of infected sites in the UK. One of the most persistent hosts is the rhododendron, primarily *R. ponticum*.

Heligan has been working with DEFRA to control and understand the disease since it was first identified in the gardens during 2003. *Rhododendron ponticum* has now been eradicated from the garden and other methods of controlling the disease are taking place in the gardens to protect our historic collection.

Giant examples of an early rhododendron hybrid, the 'Cornish Red', surround Flora's Green and are around 150 years old. Several of these have tested positive for *P. ramorum* and have undergone substantial treatment to reduce infection and limit the spread of the disease.

A treatment that involves the raising of ground laying branches exposes the enormous sprawling boughs of the Cornish Reds, creating a sculptural effect, which not only protects their life span but also enhances their beauty.

The Micropropagation Project

A pioneering conservation project, started in 2004, is being carried out in association with Duchy College in Cornwall. The aim of the project is to ensure the future of significant historic plants threatened by diseases such as *Phytophthora ramorum*, using the technique of micropropagation. The Project was funded initially by Heligan and subsequently by DEFRA and other local benefactors.

Why Micropropagation?

1. It enables propagation from old plants that no longer produce suitable material for cuttings or layering.
2. The new plants are free from any viral or fungal diseases present in the original plant.
3. Very small amounts of plant material produce many hundreds of new plants.

Success Story...

The project began with Heligan's rhododendrons and by the end of the collecting season in 2006 material had been taken from 161 rhododendrons.

Since then seven mature rhododendrons at Heligan have either died or are dying. Three of these are lost completely but four have been successfully propagated and those young plants will be part of the future of the gardens for the enjoyment and interest of generations to come.



THE PLANT HUNTERS



In the first half of the 18th century horticulture developed into a means of displaying wealth and social standing. The Tremayne family at Heligan were keen horticulturists with three successive generations developing the gardens and estate throughout the 19th century.

Exotic specimens sent back by the plant hunters from across the globe were highly prized and their endeavours grew as transport developed and the world more accessible.

The plant hunters often had to collect specimens in wild and treacherous conditions at times risking their lives to secure a discovery. Both geographical and political dangers had to be faced.

Joseph Dalton Hooker (1817 ~ 1911) made perhaps the greatest impact on the garden flora of Cornwall whose soil and climate provided ideal growing conditions for his new plants. During an expedition into Sikkim, Hooker and his travelling companion Archibald Campbell were taken political hostages.

His exceptional contribution was not the number of new plants that he introduced, although this did include 43 new rhododendrons, but the sheer volume and variety of seeds that he sent back to England.

Ernest Henry Wilson (1876 ~ 1930) made his first adventure as a plant hunter for the Veitch nursery in 1899 and became one of the most successful plant collectors of the age. Wilson introduced various rhododendrons from China including *Rhododendron ririei*, which sits on the Dovecot Lawn at Heligan.

George Forrest (1873 ~ 1932) spent twenty-eight years plant hunting in western China during which time he collected numerous species including *Rhododendron griersonianum* and *Rhododendron sino grande*, both of which are found at Heligan. In 1905 Forrest was travelling in the North West of Yunnan when he became separated from his expedition and spent eight days in hiding from brigands.

William Lobb (1809 ~ 1864) the great Cornish Plant Hunter set out on his first expedition in 1840 sponsored by the famous Veitch Nursery of Exeter. Until 1857 he worked for Veitch and collected a huge variety of plants and seeds, which greatly enhanced the nurseries commercial success. His travels concentrated in South America and California with one of his most commercially significant achievements being to supply Veitch with large quantities of seed from the Monkey Puzzle Tree, *Araucaria araucana*, which was first discovered in South America by Archibald Menzies in 1795. Fine examples of the Monkey Puzzle Tree and other Lobb introductions can be found in the Jungle at Heligan.





VISITOR FACILITIES



All year round everyone can enjoy Free Entry to the Heligan Shop, Plant Centre and Tearoom. Although the gardens and estate are Heligan's main attraction, car parks, toilets, catering and retail facilities are essential in our customer care. Our car parks offer free parking for cars and coaches.

Heligan Shop

For the perfect gift or special treat take a visit to the Heligan Shop offering a wide selection of unique and beautiful items, displayed in a friendly and relaxed environment. Ranges include Heligan Timber, Gardening, Wildlife and Home Goods as well as an extensive book section and unique Heligan items. Many of these have been designed, produced, written, recorded or grown by staff on-site, providing exclusive gifts and special mementos of your visit.

Heligan Plant Centre

The Heligan Plant Centre offers the perfect opportunity to create your own piece of the Lost Gardens at home. Showcasing a wide selection of quality specimens, carefully nurtured on-site in the Heligan Nursery, the Plant Centre reflects the wonderful diversity and atmosphere of the gardens.

Our wide-ranging seed collections give you the perfect opportunity to take home some of the more unusual varieties grown at Heligan. We offer many of the traditional flowers, vegetables, salads & herbs you will see growing in the restored Productive Gardens, whilst the 'Heligan Head Gardeners Choice Seed Range' also includes some of the more exotic species that thrive in our Pleasure Grounds. We also have a large range of wildflower seeds, aimed to encourage both wildlife and beauty into the garden.

Heligan Tearoom

Our award-winning and licensed Tearoom provides a welcoming and relaxed atmosphere for morning coffee, Cornish cream teas and delicious home-cooked lunches.

Enjoy Cornish pasties and ice cream or a treat from our on-site Bakery, producing fresh bread, scones and cakes daily.

Experience the taste of Heligan as the kitchens use both our own and locally sourced meat and vegetables, creating a seasonally varying lunch menu.

Stewardry Tearoom and Exhibition Room

Sitting at the heart of the Heligan Estate, set within its own vibrant garden, the Stewardry provides light refreshments for garden visitors in the main season.

The elegant building is also home to an exhibition of artworks by Charles Tunnicliffe and Stanley Anderson, depicting traditional working rural scenes.

Dog Policy

Well-behaved dogs on short leads are admitted from 1st October to 31st March only. Guide Dogs are welcome all year round.





2011 OPENING TIMES & ENTRY PRICES



Open daily all year round (excluding Christmas Eve and Christmas Day)

Access and opening times may be affected by weather conditions at Heligan's discretion.

Main season: 1st April to 30th September 10am – 6pm (last tickets 4.30pm)

Winter Season: 1st October to 31st March 10am – 5pm (last tickets 3:30pm)

	Standard Admission	Group Admission**
	<i>Prices valid from 1st April 2010</i>	
Adult	£10	£8
Senior Citizen	£9	£7
Children (5 – 15)	£6	£6
Children (under 5)	Free	Free
Family (2 adults + 3 children)	£27	N/A

**Group rates apply to prior group bookings of 20 persons or more, where only one payment is made for the whole group.

LOCATION

Our closest coach and railway station is St Austell. Brown tourist signs mark the route from St Austell to Heligan along the B3273 towards Mevagissey.

The Western Greyhound bus route '526' links Heligan with Mevagissey, Gorran Haven, St Austell and Newquay. Find the official bus stop just inside Heligan's main Car Park.

There is off-road access from the Coast and Clay Cycle Trail and via the public footpath from Mevagissey.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Visitors are advised to allow at least half a day for their visit to Heligan.
- Sensible shoes or boots in wet weather are recommended.
- Heligan is a working garden and from time to time certain areas of the site may be temporarily closed to the public without warning, for safety.
- Maps showing wheelchair accessible routes are available from the Ticket Office. Wheelchairs are available from Reception, on a first come first served basis.

General Enquiries:

Tel: 01726 845100

Fax: 01726 845101

Email: info@heligan.com





FRIENDS OF HELIGAN



Become a Friend of Heligan and visit The Lost Gardens all year round from only £20!

Benefits of Friendship

Explore the Lost Gardens for a whole year with unlimited free admission during normal opening hours.

Receive a 10% discount on most items in the Heligan Shop, Plant Centre and hot food counter in the Tearooms.

Visit for free the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew and Wakehurst Place, with our exclusive reciprocal relationship.

Enjoy early garden admission from 9am every Friday and Saturday morning during the main season.

Stay in touch with the latest events information and news updates via email.

Friendship Options

INDIVIDUAL FRIENDS' PASS £20 per annum

The Individual Pass will admit one named adult to Heligan, Kew or Wakehurst Place during normal opening hours.

JOINT FRIENDS' PASS £40 per annum

The Joint Pass will admit up to two adults to Heligan, when at least one is a named adult. It will also admit one or two named adults to Kew and Wakehurst Place.

FAMILY FRIENDS' PASS £50 per annum

The Family Pass will admit up to two adults to Heligan, when at least one is a named adult, plus up to three children 5-16 yrs. Only named adults plus three children 5-16 yrs are admitted to Kew and Wakehurst Place.

You may become a Friend of Heligan at any time of year and your pass will be valid for 12 months from the date of issue.

Give the gift of friendship

If you wish to treat a special family member or friend to unlimited free admission to the magical Lost Gardens, friends passes may be purchased in advance of the start date to ensure your gift is valid for a full 12 months.

Becoming a Friend of Heligan

You may enrol as a Friend of Heligan either by downloading the membership form at www.heligan.com, or in person at Visitor Reception. For full details about Friends of Heligan download the membership form or pick one up from the gardens.

Contact us

For any enquiries regarding Friends of Heligan membership...

Tel: 01726 845100 Fax: 01726 845101 Email: friends@heligan.com





COMMUNITY



We believe in sharing our good fortune with the surrounding community. The success of Heligan has undoubtedly had a positive effect on the local economy, not only providing around 70 permanent jobs and 20 more in the main season, but also customers for other businesses, particularly in the hospitality trade.

We have actively sought to improve local facilities, particularly transport and footpaths. We have been actively working with:

Cornwall County Council
Cornwall Highways
Sustrans
Western Greyhound Buses
Gorran Community Bus

We also offer ongoing support to local organizations and institutions, including:

Cornwall First Air Ambulance
Cornwall Hospice Care
Cornwall Wildlife Trust
Local schools, clubs, societies and numerous local charities

We are careful to offer support in ways that do not compromise the experience of our visitors on site, and often donate assistance, funds or items for raffle as appropriate.





WASTE MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABLE PRACTICE



With an expanding audience and a responsibility for the subsequent increase of waste, our commitment to the environment extends throughout all our operational activities. The Lost Gardens of Heligan continues its work with 'front of house' recycling for visitors. Whilst we already actively recycle waste from the restaurant, shop and offices, Heligan invites its visitors to join in the process with recycling collection points around the seating and service areas, combining an opportunity for both involvement and education. Fully biodegradable cutlery, cups and plates used in The Stewardry Tearoom will eventually be composted on-site. The result of such practices will hopefully prove a substantial reduction in the amount we send to land infill. Heligan is involving itself in the current campaign for Responsible Management of Waste against the backdrop of continuing the restoration of the gardens and estate. Our team of staff at Heligan endeavour to demonstrate the value of sustainable land management practices and respect for our natural resources, which previous generations understood so well.





2011 EVENTS



Please visit the events page on the Heligan web site at heligan.com for all event information 2011. Alternatively you may contact Lorna Tremayne or James Stephens by emailing pr@heligan.com or telephone 01726 843740.



VISITOR STATISTICS



Year	Total Visitors
2000	202,454
2001	300,848
2002	456,804
2003	411,158
2004	294,701
2005	247,871
2006	241,200
2007	227,326
2008	203,253
2009	208,025
2010	207,884

Visitor Statistics 2010

December	2,169
January	3542
February	2,862
March	6,125
April	20,719
May	26,834
June	32,957
July	31,968
August	34,047
September	27,687
October	15,509
November	3,865
Total	207,284



AWARDS



“Gold Medal for a Floral and Educational Display” – RHS Hampton Court Flower Show 2009

“Holyer An Gof award for Heligan History: Lost Gardens, Lost Gardeners” – Gorseth Kernow 2009

“Top Ten Best Public Gardens to Visit” – Trip Advisor 2008

“Mothers’ Ten Best Breaks” – The Telegraph 2008

“Silver Award Café of the Year” – Cornwall Tourism Awards 2008

“Gold Award Marketing Initiative of the Year” – Cornwall Tourism Awards 2007

“Silver Award Visitor Attraction of the Year” – Cornwall Tourism Awards 2007

“Gold Award” – Cornwall Healthier Eating and Food Safety 2006

“Britain’s Finest Garden” – Radio Times 2003

“Nation’s Favourite Garden” – BBC Gardener’s World 2002

“Best Outdoor Attractions 5 Star Award Winner” – Which? Guide to Tourist Attractions 2000

“Garden of the Year” – The Good Guide to Britain 1998

“Gold Medal” – Awarded at Hampton Court Palace Flower Show 1998

“The Lost Gardens of Heligan” voted BCA Illustrated Book of the Year 1998

“Garden Programme of the Year” – For the 6 part CH4 TV documentary

“Outstanding Gardener of the Year” – The Good Garden Guide 1996

“Gardener of the Year” – Country Life 1995

“Most recommended Garden” – Which? Magazine 1995



QUOTES FROM EDITORIAL



- **“It has a timeless, almost ghostly, atmosphere – as if at any moment a Victorian garden boy could scuttle out to the check the temperature in the pineapple pits.”** – *Kitchen Garden 2009*
- **“The extraordinary story of [Heligan] gardens holds such real-life intrigue that it’s as if they have their own personality and their own soul.”** – *Open Skies (Emirates In-Flight Magazine) 2008*
- **“A first view of the overpoweringly lush Jungle is a pleasurable shock ... it seems as if anyone foolish enough to venture into it would disappear forever.”** – *The New York Times 2008*
- **“The garden restoration of the century”** – *The Times*
- **“One of the most popular and enchanting botanical gardens in the UK, The Lost Gardens of Heligan are a delight.”** – *Good Homes (BBC Magazine) 2007*
- **“There’s an overwhelming tranquillity, but also a real sense of hard graft”** – *Western Morning News 2006*
- **“A Cornish jewel”** – *Cornwall Today 2005*
- **“The rediscovery of Heligan Gardens is, in gardening terms, as important as the unearthing of Pompeii was to Roman History”** – *The Daily Telegraph*
- **“Number 1 must-see location in the British Isles”** – *Country Living 2003*
- **“A different world”** – *Michelin Guide 2004*
- **“A slice of heaven”** – *New Zealand Herald 2002*
- **“Paradise Rediscovered”** – *Sunday Express 2004*
- **“Beauty created by the hand of God... tended by the hand of man”** – *BBCi 2004*
- **“The eighth wonder of the world” “A treasure trove of unusual flora” “[The Jungle is] Pure Indiana Jones territory”** – *Country Walking 2003*



VISITOR COMMENTS



Comments made by our visitors in 2009...

“It is without doubt, the most beautiful place I have ever visited.”

“6 hours of magic.”

“Gets better every time.”

“The very best of its kind.”

“It just keeps on getting better.”

“What a peaceful and wonderful day.”

“So glad they were found.”

“One of life’s great experiences.”

“Not just restored, but restoring for the heart and soul. Whether as gardener, artist or wildlife fan, it is endlessly enthralling, inspiring and instructive.”

“Such peace and tranquillity.”

“Breathtakingly beautiful.”

“A stunning experience.”

“Always wonderful and reviving.”

“Well worth the 15 year wait.”

“We got lost!”

“Gorgeous – why did I wait so long?”

“I have to be bullied into mowing the lawn so as for being in any way interested in flora and fauna, forget it! Until my visit to Heligan.”



FACT FILE



The Lost Gardens of Heligan...

- Offers over 200 acres for exploration.
- Is the most visited private garden in the UK welcoming over 200,000 visitors every year.
- The gardens were first discovered in 1991 and first opened to the public in 1992.
- Has received two Gold Medals at the RHS Hampton Court Flower Show. The first in 1998 for a Show Garden, the second in 2009 for a Floral and Educational display.
- Has a National Collection of 'Camellias and Rhododendrons Introduced to Heligan pre-1920'.
- Is home to a magnificent collection of rhododendrons over 150 years old.
- The largest garden restoration in Europe.
- Tends the largest collection of tree ferns in the UK.
- Grows over 200 varieties of fruit and vegetables.
- Houses the only working manure heated pineapple pit in the UK. The first fruit was harvested in 1997.
- Cultivates vines and citrus trees in the only working Paxton greenhouse in the UK.
- Featured as a live wildlife location on BBC Springwatch 2006, 2007 and 2008.
- Boasts the most hi-tech and interactive site for experiencing wildlife.
- Is the first location to transmit live high-resolution images of nesting and roosting wild barn owls to the public.
- 'Heligan' translated from Cornish means 'Willows'.
- The Jungle garden has its own micro-climate at least 5 degrees Celsius warmer than the Northern Gardens.





PUBLICATIONS



- The Lost Gardens of Heligan** – by *Tim Smit*, 1997
ISBN: 0575402458
- Heligan Wild** – by *Colin Howlett*, 1999
ISBN: 0575067519
- Heligan the Complete Works: Secrets Locked in Silence** – by *Tim Smit*, 1999
ISBN: 0752217348
- Heligan Vegetable Bible** – by *Tim Smit and Philip McMillan Browse*, 2000
ISBN: 0575071206
- Heligan: A Celebration** – by *Sue Lewington*, 2001
ISBN: 1850221553
- A Taste of Heligan** – by *Paul Drye and Richard Qusted*, 2002
ISBN: 1850221693
- Heligan a Portrait of the Lost Gardens** – by *Tim Smit and Tom Petherick*, 2003
ISBN: 0297843443
- A Taste of Heligan: The Best from the Bakery** – by *Tina Bishop and Paul Drye*, 2003
ISBN: 1850221774
- Heligan Harvest** – by *Sue Lewington*, 2003
ISBN: 1850221766
- A Taste of Heligan: Fish, Meat, Chicken and Game** – by *Paul Drye*, 2004
ISBN: 1850221871
- Heligan: Fruit, Flowers and Herbs** – by *Philip McMillan Browse*, 2005
ISBN: 0906720400
- The Mud Maid** – by *Sandra Horn*, 2005
ISBN: 0954925602
- Heligan Days: A Perpetual Diary** – *Mally Francis*, 2005
ISBN: 0906720478
- The Giant** – by *Sandra Horn*, 2006
ISBN: 0954925629
- The Kitchen Gardens of Heligan** – by *Tom Petherick*, 2006
ISBN: 0297844059
- Heligan Survivors** – by *Philip McMillan Browse*, 2007
ISBN: 9780906720530
- Heligan Keepsake** – by *Andrew Pearce*, 2007
Available exclusively from Heligan



FAQ'S



Who owns the garden?

The Tremayne family has owned the gardens and estate for over 400 years. It leases the gardens to Heligan Gardens Ltd. Heligan house is separately owned and is not open to the public.

How big are the gardens?

Over 200 acres of Heligan's 300-acre lease are open to the public.

Why are the gardens still called Lost?

The meaning of the word lost has many different connotations for both our visitors and staff alike. We retain the evocative word in our name primarily to describe the lost Victorian traditions, which Heligan strives to remember through horticultural practice and by telling the stories of this period through our unique and historical garden experience.

Who made the mud sculptures?

Local artists, Sue Hill and her brother Pete created the sleeping Mud Maid and the Giant's Head. The sculptures were designed to enhance the woodland experience, following the fashion of Victorian ornamentation. They have become the inspiration for two Heligan themed children's books written by Sandra Horn, beautifully illustrated by Karen Popham.

Is Heligan Organic?

At Heligan we try to adhere to the principles as laid down by the International Federation of Organic Agricultural Movements (IFOAM). However whereas we subscribe to the key points of their definition of 'organic' we have chosen not to apply for formal certification as an organic producer. The reasons for this are simple. We believe that the strict codes imposed by the certification do not allow for the flexibility required to effectively – and sensitively – manage both animals and period correct vegetable crops. For example, it is counterproductive to prevent spraying against potato blight or vaccination of animals against certain infections. We certainly manage better than the Victorian gardeners who used anything they could get their hands on; fortunately we manage to refrain from the use of nicotina and arsenic!

Does Heligan hold any special events?

Heligan is host to a wide-ranging programme of seasonal events. Visit the Heligan website for up to date listings: www.heligan.com

How can I stay in touch with The Lost Gardens of Heligan?

There are various ways to keep up to date with the Lost Gardens. Visit these websites to find out more...

www.heligan.com

www.heliganwild.com

www.lostgardensofheligan.blogspot.com



A decorative frame with a double-line border and a scalloped, ornate shape. It contains the title text.

The Lost Gardens of Heligan

Media Information
Updated January 2011

