

Moylgrove Open Gardens 2019

Welcome to Moylgrove. We hope that you enjoy your time with us exploring these beautiful and varied gardens. While the middle of Moylgrove nestles in a sheltered valley, sea breezes are just a short walk away at Ceibwr Bay and the Pembrokeshire Coastal Path.

The loamy soil, rich in boulders, was dumped by the glaciers from the north over ten thousand years ago. Underneath the soil are the crumpled strata that provide the iconic views at the coast, made from the sediments of an ancient sea 400 million years ago.

The event is organized by Cymdeithas Trewyddel, a registered charity that manages the Old School Hall on behalf of the village, and organises activities for the Moylgrove community. Money raised from this event will help towards the upkeep of the Hall.

Access

Access for wheelchairs is limited. Many of the gardens have steps and boggy areas.

Dogs

Well behaved dogs are welcome on short leads in most gardens, but not in the Forest Garden, nor inside the Old School Hall.

Caution

Please be aware that you enter each garden **at your own risk**. Many of the gardens have steep banks, deep water, uneven paths, slippery steps, boggy or muddy areas, and other hazards.

No liability for injury or loss can be accepted by the owners of the gardens or by the event organiser (Cymdeithas Trewyddel).

Your children must be under your supervision at all times.

Maes y Mor — The Forest Garden

Guided tours every hour lasting ¾ Hr. Book at Hall.

The garden was started in 2002 and spreads over four acres on a gentle north-facing slope.

Previously used for grazing, it has been designed to utilise the seven growing layers and to mimic immature woodland with a number of windbreaks across the site. The plants are a mixture of berries, edible flowers, bamboos, nitrogen fixers, climbers, tubers, coppice and nuts with some interesting, unusual and rare species.

The garden demonstrates just how efficient forest garden designs can be at producing plant-based food. Besides food producing plants, other elements are produced here such as firewood, wood for craft (via coppicing), cordage, saponins, weaving materials and medicinal herbs.

Access

The garden is on an uphill slope and consists of mainly grass paths which are uneven in places. Not suitable for wheelchairs.

Please don't eat any fruit you see, as I do not have any information on any potential allergens they may contain.



Ar y Banc

A garden with a view.





Gardd Yr Ydlan

In 2000 my wife Barbara and I bought a field. In fact we bought a house, Yr Ydlan (The Rickyard) and the field came with it. That year Barbara was diagnosed with cancer. We continued to live in Merthyr Tydfil for the sake of her health care, and visited as often as we could. For three years the grass in the field was cut for hay, and produced thirteen large roll bales.

In 2003 we began to work on the field. I cut two quadrant beds for Barbara to grow her favourite roses, and four rectangular beds for vegetables.

The garden's development was relatively unplanned, but each

positive visit to Velindre Hospital in Cardiff gave us enough enthusiasm to do a little more.

We planted all the trees, not just for their beauty—particularly the lovely silver birches—but also to encourage birds into the garden. A number of small oaks have grown from acorns we collected in Brittany. With some help we dug a pond, which as I write is alive with frogs and newts. We visited gardens and nurseries all over the country to plant a variety of shrubs.

We were able to work on this project together for twelve years. Gardd Yr Ydlan is a celebration of Barbara's love of flowers and gardening, and of her courage and determination.



Bryn y Mor Woodland Walk

A 500 metre circular walk through woodland containing a wide range of native species including hazel, silver birch, willow, maple, walnut and ash. There is also a range of wildflowers in bloom such as red campion and meadow sweet.

At the start of the walk you pass a fenced off wildlife pond. Next to this is an area of old goat willow trees that have remained undisturbed for over 25 years.

Look out for the medieval wall, which runs along the edge of the woodland and provides a habitat for many plants and ferns.

Ty Penwern

Ty Helyg - the Willow House

The wonderful views across the Irish Sea make it a breath-taking spot but made it our first priority to provide windbreaks. Fencing was erected and meshed so that a variety of hardy bushes could be established. After the successful planting of a willow hedge, we decided to create a house or den.

Willow whips were planted in a circle with alternate ones at an angle and allowed to grow for a season before beginning the weaving process. Over the seven years since, new growth has been woven back into the structure twice a year, creating a strong dome with the strength of a living basket. The willow house creates a secret den in our garden, enjoyed for a shady snooze or overnight sleep outs by our grandchildren.

We welcome you to come and enjoy this hidden spot, our beautiful views and our flock of sparrows who also claim cownership of the willow.



Pant y Wylan

We like to think of this as an informal garden; though some might call it unkempt! We like the wild flowers, keep the brambles and creepers at bay, plant hedges for shelter, and try to grow fruit trees, veg, and a few other things we like.

Sea views come with strong, salt-laden winds. In our seven years here, the worst has usually been in the autumn. But this year, a salty gale came in the spring, while we were on holiday. We returned home to find most of the tree leaves brown and burnt. What a disaster! We're hoping things will recover.

The fruit trees are mostly from the St Dogmaels planting project.

The larger pond has newts and occasionally visiting ducks.

The walled garden in front of the main house has a more formal layout with raised beds either side.

The old cottage and its outbuildings were the original Pant y Wylan. It hasn't been occupied for fifty years or more, and though repaired, it hasn't been altered much. If you'd like to see inside, please ask us to show you around.

The field to the west is open as a short-cut to the road today. Uphill from this field, you'll see a wood planted five years ago, of mixed native species.



Gaerwen

The gardens at Gaerwen have a beautiful situation with Ceibwr beach and the sea in the front and the river and woods behind.



We have a favourite picnic

spot with a bench just above the beach which can be reached by walking through the fields in front of the house. This is a great place to watch the sun set over the sea. The wind and salt at the front limit what we can grow but over the years we have planted many trees and tried different herbaceous plants. The Spring bulbs do well here from drifts of snowdrops to daffodils with primroses underneath. We have managed to grow a climbing rose at the front sheltered a little by the low wall.

Behind the garage we have our greenhouse and raised vegetable beds with herbs and soft fruit bushes.

The land at the back of the house sloped steeply down to the river but has been terraced to provide a patio and raised beds. There are many mature shrubs and trees that have been planted along the edge of the wood. The garden has areas that have been left to go wild and the brambles, nettles and other wildflowers have taken over. Our formal planting areas have lots of perennials, grasses, bulbs, roses and shrubs. We don't use a lot of annual bedding plants but grow sweet peas, cosmos etc from seed.

Penrallt Ceibwr

When I arrived at Dot and John's house to chat with Dot about her garden for this guide, I was greeted by the aromas of baking, a Chelsea bun and a cup of tea. Dot and John have been married for 66 years and have been here since 1963. The garden centre, house and garden have been a hub of activity for her since then, making many fond memories for four children, 30 grandchildren and a plethora of guests who love to return for a bit of nostalgia and relive childhood holiday memories.

Dot's love of gardening stems from her mum, and later when she was a nurse in Birmingham she loved to have a windowsill full of plants with views out and lots of light streaming in.

Her favourite part of the garden is the little rose bed, but that's just a small part of it. Dot has made a tranquil oasis in a small space. It is bursting with colourful containers, beautiful beds and productive greenhouses.

Dot tries to find time to sit in her garden but her life is very busy. Come and be inspired by this amazing lady, wander though her beautiful garden or just sit and take it all in.



Glanawen

A two and a half acre garden in the valley of the Awen stream. It features a maze of paths meandering through acer, heather and bog gardens leading to wildlife ponds – one mature and the other recently established, which is overlooked by a gazebo.



Ann has done everything herself—including creating stone steps, a wooden bridge, benches, a swinging seat, and pergolas making pretty nooks and walkways; and playhouses for the grandchildren.

Pembrokeshire Online says: "One of the nicest gardens in the county ... a really good idea of design, an artistic and creative soul with an absolute determination to get things done!"

Access Sorry, but the storms have closed the woodland walks. Limited wheelchair access.

Please note that the stream and ponds are NOT fenced. *After...*



Tal y Bont

The name relates to the nearby bridge crossing Nant Awen, the small river forming the northern boundary of the garden.

We bought the property in 2011 when the garden was a long narrow runway of low maintenance lawn.

We have attempted to create a more interesting layout, dividing the garden into three main areas by cutting across the lawn with diagonal slanting beds. Planting has now matured to provide height, interest and privacy. Lawn pathways curve around the beds, and timber sleeper pathways cut through them. The diagonal line of the beds gives the illusion of width to what is a relatively narrow space.

The wildlife pond, riverside decking, and pergola provide eye





catching points of interest, especially from the lane—a consideration when the garden layout was being designed.

Round the back is Cluckingham Palace, currently home to 11 hybrid hens.

Recently several apple trees were planted in the garden by the St Dogmaels People's Orchard Project.

One of us is a volunteer at Hedgely Hedgehog Rescue at Abercych. Please do come in and have a chat with Team Hedgehog in the Conservatory.

Access

The narrow and sloping access down to the garden makes it probably unsuitable for pushchairs or wheelchairs.



Ty Newydd

We are two years into a project to turn our field back into a wildflower meadow. By managing the grass and cutting back the encroaching bramble and willow, we aim to create better conditions for the native flora to thrive.

Primroses, violets and bluebells in Spring are followed by buttercups, meadowsweet and knapweed, while marsh marigolds flourish in the damp areas. Ragged robin and orchids have also begun to appear. The various grasses provide interest, too, and in warm weather the seed heads are a magnet for butterflies.

Sloping site, damp in places, unsuitable for wheelchairs. Unfenced river bank. Please keep to mown paths.



Weirglodd

From a mudpatch in 2007, the garden has just evolved - I can't design on paper! - starting with disguising the tin shed. The soil is clay with boulders (good for borders, but not mowers!) on shale rock with lots of springs, very nutritious with a pH of 5.5 - so good for roses and acid-liking plants. I've improved it considerably with home-made compost, along with sand and grit for drainage.

It's a windy spot with a lot of salt in the air. Much as I love trees, I don't want to block my view, hence all the hedges for shelter. I like curves rather than straight lines and like plants right up to the house to blend in and give me an excuse for dirty windows! I do think a lot about birds, bees, perfume and texture in my choices. A lot of the plants I have taken from cuttings, begged and borrowed, but I can never remember their names! We grow a lot of our own vegetables and fruit; although Mr Black & White insists on helping with the digging and eating, especially of carrots. I think I have at last blocked his route. We hope you enjoy your time in our garden.

If anyone can identify the small tree by the compost heap, identified with a big white tab, I would be very pleased.





Drivable, but limited parking Footpath – may be muddy!

Parking

Approximate walking time in the direction shown

Keep the History Map open as you walk round: http://bit.ly/moylgrovewalk