

Bridgerule Open gardens raise £'s for Devon/Cornwall Air Ambulance

Enthusiastic gardeners in Bridgerule had a tremendous response on Sunday 6th June 2010 when they opened their gardens to raise money for the Devon and Cornwall Air Ambulance Trusts.

£1906 was raised in total, and a cheque for £953 will be sent to each Trust

Local people and holidaymakers were once again extremely generous in support of these 2 very worthwhile charities and were spoilt for choice!! For the entrance fee of £3.50 visitors could visit all 7 gardens

There was a large 4 acre garden with ponds and lakes with specimen trees and a delightful foal to see (along with the proud mum!). An older style "wildlife friendly" cottage garden with an orchard and hens roaming freely where you could buy lunches and rest awhile with a cuppa. Also visited was an old Mill which has a culinary and medicinal herb garden and is self sufficient in fruit and vegetables. Riverside meadows could be visited here and a huge selection of plants could be purchased. The ducks were so well fed here by the visitors that they haven't eaten since!! Two new gardens were involved this year, one from a "1/3 acre blank canvas" 9 years ago, and the other a moderately sized garden with beautiful borders, vegetable area and a stream. Another two returned after a year of "resting!!!", one which now has new raised beds, Berkshire pigs, and laying hens, and the other with lovely "cottage garden" style flowers and a large vegetable plot, so there was something new for everyone to see.

This year St Bridget's Church made and served the Cream Teas and other refreshments, while the local Methodist Chapel ladies sold home made cakes at the cake stall, which was well supported by the villagers. Light lunches were also served at one of the gardens.

All the gardeners agreed that the hard work was worth the effort and were delighted that the magnificent sum of £1906 had been raised for these two very worthwhile charities. This was the fifth year that the gardens had been opened and it is getting more successful each year, thanks to the generosity of the local people and visitors alike, some of which came from Worcester, Launceston and Barnstaple. It is hoped to repeat the event next Year.

More information can be obtained from Chris Hitchings 01288 381129