

# First International Lavender Conference Final Information



Cambridge, UK  
6—11<sup>th</sup> September 2009

**The First International Lavender Conference will be taking place in the city of Cambridge, England hosted by Cambridge University Botanic Garden and Clare College.**

This conference is intended to appeal to all those interested in Lavender highlighting current research and advances in our understanding covering taxonomy, breeding work, oils and their uses. An emphasis will be placed on their importance to those growing and marketing lavender. A programme of lectures and workshops will be supplemented with visits to a lavender farm and nursery offering the chance to discuss some of the more practical aspects of growing Lavender and marketing its products.

# Key Themes

## Advances in Classification

The landmark monograph on *Lavandula* published in 2004 treated both wild and cultivated taxa and represented a major advance in the classification of the genus. Both authors will be speaking - Tim Upson will present the key findings and changes in classification and Susyn Andrews will talk on cultivated lavenders with particular reference to the history of the UK lavender industry. We are delighted that the leading authority on the family Labiatae, Dr Alan Paton from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew will present the latest research on the relationships of *Lavandula*. Anthony Lyman-Dixon, proprietor of Arne Herbs, will present his findings from his studies on the early literature relevant to lavender. Talks by Joan Head, editor of the Lavender Bag and Tim Upson will illustrate lavenders in the wild on the Cape Verde and Canary Islands respectively. There will also be a practical workshop on lavender identification using the collections at Cambridge University Botanic Garden with particular reference to the tender species that are often confused.

The conference also aims to promote understanding and best practice in the naming of cultivated plants. We are delighted that Dr John David, Head of Botany at the Royal Horticultural Society will speak on horticultural taxonomy and Simon Charlesworth, holder of a National Collection of *Lavandula* recently raised to scientific status, will highlight the various roles of plant collections and their importance in accurate identification.

## Breeding

To date most cultivated lavenders have been selections recognised as being different or superior variants. Others have been accidental hybrids that have arisen in gardens. The monograph provided a better understanding of the potential diversity in the genus and new plant breeding techniques are increasingly being used. The conference offers the chance to review some of these new developments in breeding including talks by Nigel Urwin of Charles Sturt University, Australia, Simon Charlesworth of Downton Nursery, UK and Mahmoud Soheil from the University of British Columbia, Canada. For growers this will give an insight into the use of modern breeding techniques and the new lavenders that may emerge in coming years both for oil production and as ornamentals.

## Pests and Diseases

Within the context of climate change some pests and diseases are becoming of greater concern to growers. Presentations from experts at the Royal Horticultural Society will focus on the Rosemary Beetle that has rapidly expanded its range in recent years and the root disease *Phytophthora* which is also becoming more common and is often confused with Shab.

## **Lavender around the World**

Lavender is now a major crop in many parts of the world from Europe, to North America, Australasia and South Africa. Various groups have arisen to represent the industry and to communicate information. We hope to hear from these regional groups about their work and lavender growing in their areas. We also invite lavender farms, nurseries and others to display information on their businesses to provide a snap-shot of the industry at the present time.

## **Oils and their uses**

Lavender oil is well known for its many uses and attributes. Demand for lavender oil is high and improved standards demanded. Several key talks will provide overviews of lavender oil by Noel Porter, formerly of the Crop and Food Research Institute, Lincoln, New Zealand, its biological activity by Professor Monique Simmonds of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and the use of oils in perfumery and fragrance. Other talks will then focus on the scientific research being undertaken into pharmacological uses with a key note presentation by Heather Cavanagh of Charles Sturt University, Australia.

There will also be a workshop run by Noel Porter to introduce the process of evaluating lavender oils and training the sense of smell. This workshop has to be limited in numbers and has an additional cost of £50 to cover the cost of the aroma evaluation kit. This can be booked when registering for the conference. Noel is well known for his work developing analytical techniques and evaluation systems for lavender oil.

## **Growing and Marketing Lavender**

Visits to two premier lavender businesses will offer the opportunity to discuss some of the more practical aspects of lavender growing and marketing. Norfolk Lavender the premier lavender farm in the UK operates a highly successful business and produces oil and lavender products widely sold throughout the UK. It is situated in Norfolk to the north of Cambridge about a one and half hour's drive from Cambridge.

Downderry Nursery has established itself as one of the finest nurseries in the UK priding itself on offering a wide range of accurately named lavenders. It is well known for its many gold medal displays at the Chelsea and Hampton Court flower shows. We can look forward to seeing their National Collection of Lavenders and see the whole production process from taking cuttings to marketing and tourism. It is situated to the south of Cambridge in Kent and again about one and half hours drive away.

## **Posters**

We invite delegates to show posters and there will be dedicated time in the programme. If you can't bring a poster we invite delegates to bring examples of their own literature for display.

# Programme

The conference will offer a mix of lectures and workshops each day with the opportunity to meet and talk lavenders with other delegates. Visits to two of the premier lavender farm and nurseries in the UK will allow us to explore the practical side of growing lavender. We do hope delegates will choose to participate in the full programme although the days are themed to allow delegates to attend individual elements.

As the details of the programme are constantly being updated a detailed programme will be posted periodically on the conference web site at [www.botanic.cam.ac.uk](http://www.botanic.cam.ac.uk). We reserve the right to alter the programme.

|                  | Sunday<br>6 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2009  | Monday<br>7 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2009   | Tuesday<br>8 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2009  | Wednesday<br>9 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2009            | Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup><br>Sept 2009 | Friday<br>11 <sup>th</sup> Sept<br>2009 |
|------------------|--|---|---|---|--|---|
| <b>Morning</b>   |  | <b>Advances in Systematics &amp; Horticultural Taxonomy</b>                                     | <b>Modern approaches to breeding</b>  | <b>Oils overview</b>                              | <b>Visit to Norfolk Lavender</b>       | <b>Visit to Downderry Nursery</b>       |
| <b>Lunch</b>     |  |   |   |   |  |   |
| <b>Afternoon</b> | <b>Arrival and registration</b><br><br><b>Optional tours of Botanic Garden</b> | <b>Collections &amp; identification</b><br><br><b>Identification Workshop at Botanic Garden</b> | <b>Pest &amp; Diseases</b><br><br><b>Lavenders around the World &amp; posters</b> | <b>Clinical uses</b><br><br><b>Oils workshop*</b> |  |   |
| <b>Evening</b>   | <b>Reception at Botanic Garden</b>   | <b>Dinner at Clare</b>  | <b>Punting Dinner at Clare</b>  | <b>Conference Dinner at Clare</b>                 | <b>Free</b>                            | <b>Free</b>                             |

\*as numbers will be limited for this workshop other activities will also be available for part of the afternoon.

## Social activities

The conference will open with a reception at the Cambridge University Botanic Garden on the Sunday evening. Some evenings will be left free to offer the chance to meet other delegates, and to explore the city. We hope delegates will join us in punting in flat bottomed boats along the River Cam offering a chance to see the city and its historic colleges from a unique perspective.

## Conference Venues

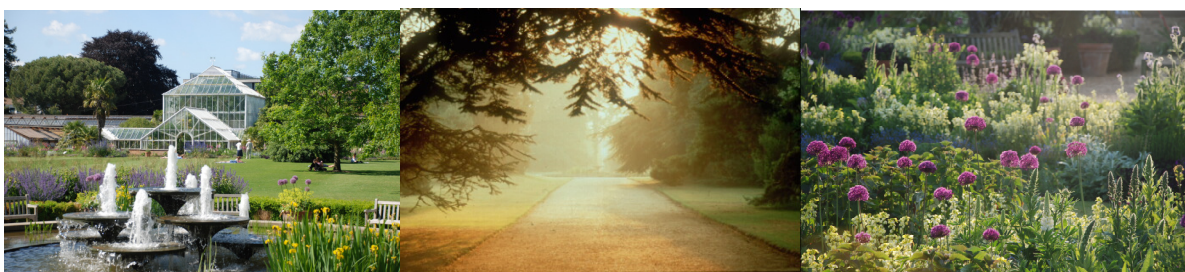
The conference will be held in Clare College in the recently completed conference centre and associated accommodation. The facilities and college can be viewed on the college website: [www.clare.cam.ac.uk](http://www.clare.cam.ac.uk). Several workshops will also be held at Cambridge University Botanic Garden. This is situated within an easy 20 minute walk from Clare College. For those with limited mobility transport between sites will be available.

Clare is the second oldest college in Cambridge dating from 1326 and is located adjacent to the world renowned Kings College Chapel. The college itself spans the River Cam with the 17<sup>th</sup> century Old Court linked through tree lined avenues to the 20<sup>th</sup> century Memorial Court containing both the accommodation and the conference facilities. Clare is situated in the heart of the city and within easy reach of the market, shopping centre and other historic colleges and University buildings.



From left to right: Kings College Chapel with Clare College to the left; double helix sculpture in the grounds of Memorial Court, Clare College, celebrating the discovery of its structure; Clare Bridge and punting on the River Cam.

Cambridge University Botanic Garden is situated to the south of the city centre. Founded in 1846, within its 40 acres it houses the research and teaching collection of the University. The many mature trees provide the setting for varied plantings including the historic systematic beds, restored glasshouse range and the famous winter garden. Amongst the 8000 plants cultivated are the research collections of lavenders and rosemary.



Views of Cambridge University Botanic Garden, left to right: fountain and glasshouses; main avenue; the bee border in spring.

This year celebrates the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin and the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the publication of *The Origin of Species*. Darwin has a close association with Cambridge where he studied at Christ College and was mentored by the Professor of Botany, John Henslow. It was Henslow who founded the present Botanic Garden and was responsible for the appointment of Darwin as the naturalist aboard the HMS Beagle. With many Darwin displays and exhibitions still running in September this will be a unique opportunity to explore the life and influences on one of the world's great scientists. More information on the University of Cambridge website:

[www.cam.ac.uk](http://www.cam.ac.uk) and following the Darwin link.

## **Accommodation and Meals**

We have reserved rooms at Clare College which offers the most cost effective package for staying in Cambridge within the unique setting of this historic college. The main accommodation offers single rooms with bathroom facilities shared with no more than 4 other people. En-suite single rooms are also available at extra cost. There are also a limited number of twin rooms available, again both with shared bathrooms or en-suite at extra cost. These will be allocated on a first come basis.

The registration offers several options including a rate for accompanying persons sharing a twin room. This includes bed and breakfast at a reduced rate and the three evening meals to be taken in college, including the conference dinner. Rooms within Clare College may also be available before and after the main conference. Please enquire if you wish to book rooms for extra nights.

The registration fee for delegates include breakfast and lunches on all days. The fee also includes evening meals on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in Clare College. Delegates are responsible for their own evening meals on Sunday, Thursday and Friday nights. Most meals including breakfast and the evening meal at 7.30 will be taken in the Old Court of the college. Lunch will be taken adjacent to the conference facilities.

For those who may wish to use other accommodation a range of hotels and bed and breakfast are available in the city. Listings can be found via the tourist Cambridge website:  
[www.visitcambridge.org](http://www.visitcambridge.org).

## **Arrival and Departure**

Rooms at Clare College will be available from Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Sept from 2.00 pm. There will also be the opportunity to register at this time. It is planned to offer tours of the Botanic Garden on the Sunday afternoon before the reception.

Rooms should be vacated by 10.00 am on the morning Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> Sept. The full day visit on the Friday means we will not return to Cambridge until early evening. Timings on the day should be taken as indicative in case of delays due to traffic. We have reserved rooms at Clare on Friday as it is likely to be more convenient for people travelling any distance to depart on the Saturday.

## **The city of Cambridge**

Described as one of the most beautiful cities in Britain, Cambridge is world famous for the university, its historic and modern architecture that includes the iconic Kings College chapel. There are a wide range of museums and galleries including the Fitzwilliam Museum with its world class collections of arts and antiquities to the modern art collection housed at Kettles Yard. Shopping ranges from the old market in the city centre to the newly opened Grand Arcade. This and much more is all within an easy walk of Clare College.

More information on Cambridge and local attractions can be found at [www.visitcambridge.org](http://www.visitcambridge.org) including a visitor brochure for 2009 which can be downloaded.



# Travel Information

Cambridge is easily accessible by road, rail and air. Car parking is very limited within the city but we are able to offer parking close to Clare College at £2 per day. This can be booked when registering.

For maps please see the University website: [www.botanic.cam.ac.uk](http://www.botanic.cam.ac.uk) or Clare college website: [www.clare.cam.ac.uk](http://www.clare.cam.ac.uk).

## Rail

Cambridge is less than an hour away from London by train with fast and frequent departures from King's Cross and Liverpool Street stations. Some direct services operate from Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester and Nottingham. Cambridge Station is about a 25 minute walk from Clare, but buses run every 8 minutes into the centre of Cambridge and taxis are available for hire at Cambridge Station.

Kings Cross and Liverpool Street stations are linked to Heathrow and Gatwick airports via the London underground network and rail services

## Coach

There are frequent services between London's Victoria Coach Station and Drummer Street Bus Station in Cambridge. Most services will terminate from Cambridge Bus Station, from here it is only a 5-minute walk to Clare Old Court. There are frequent coach services from the major airports to Cambridge.

## Road

Cambridge is linked to London and the M25 by the M11 motorway. Exit at junction 12 for Barton Road or Junction 13 for Madingley Road. Access from the Midlands and North is via the A14 and A1. From whichever direction you approach you should make for the A14 to the north of Cambridge.

Park and Ride services offer the easiest means of parking and accessing the city centre. The Trumpington Park and Ride situated adjacent to junction 11 of the M11 motorway passes by the Botanic Garden and terminates in the city centre within a few minutes walk of Clare College. Car parking is offered close to college at a cost of £2 per day.

## Air

Stansted Airport is located just 30 miles south of Cambridge, is 35 minutes away via the M11 motorway and is the most convenient international airport with regular flights from most European destinations. Heathrow and Gatwick are both approximately 2 hours away by road or rail, and there are frequent coach connections to Cambridge (Drummer Street Bus Station) from all three airports. ***NB: If taking a taxi be sure to ask to be dropped off at Clare College, Memorial Court in Queen's Road.***

# Conference Fees and Registration

The conference facilities and accommodation offered by Clare College enables us to offer an economical package, keeping fees as low as possible. The conference cost is inclusive of all major costs so spending for delegates during the week should be minimal apart from some evening dinners, punting, drinks and souvenirs.

A small number of twin rooms (i.e. rooms with two single beds) are available both standard and en-suite. These rooms will be allocated on a first come basis. This includes a reduced B&B rate for accompanying persons that includes dinner with delegates at Clare College on 3 nights (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday).

## Registration

Electronic registration is available via the Cambridge University Botanic Garden web site – [www.botanic.cam.ac.uk](http://www.botanic.cam.ac.uk). This allows electronic payment based on the options outlined below. We hope that the options below will cater for most people's needs. Please direct any queries to [lavender2009@botanic.cam.ac.uk](mailto:lavender2009@botanic.cam.ac.uk).

### Cancellation and refund policy

Refunds for payments made by debit/credit cards will be actioned on the original card. Refunds for payments made by other methods will be returned by cheque. Cancellations before 26<sup>th</sup> July incur 25% refund charge. Refunds after 26<sup>th</sup> July will incur a 50% refund charge. Cancellation after 16<sup>th</sup> August cannot be refunded.

## Conference fees options

### Option 1 - Conference fee for single standard room

The full conference fee includes six nights accommodation at Clare College from the afternoon of Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September until the morning of Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September in standard single study bedrooms with shared bathroom facilities and breakfast. Refreshments, lunch, use of the conference facilities and reception at the Botanic Garden on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> are all included. Dinner at Clare College is included on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights. Principal exclusions are dinners on the Sunday, Thursday and Friday evenings for which delegates will be responsible. Punting will also be extra. An option is available for those wishing to leave on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> but please note that the expected return from the day trip scheduled for 6.00pm is dependent upon traffic and cannot be guaranteed.

Full conference fee for single standard room - £595

Full conference fee for single standard room leaving on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Sept - £550



### **Option 2 - Conference fee for single en-suite room**

As above for single room with en-suite facilities

Full conference fee for single en-suite room - £745

Full conference fee for single en-suite room leaving on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Sept - £700

### **Option 3 – Conference fee for twin standard room**

Conference fees covering option 1 for twin standard room with shared bathroom facilities. This also includes an option of B&B for an accompanying person (i.e. not attending conference sessions and excluding lunch) but includes evening meals at Clare College (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday)

Full delegate conference fees for standard twin room - £535

Full delegate conference fee for standard twin room leaving Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Sept - £490

B&B for accompanying person in twin room including 3 evening meals - £385

B&B for accompanying person in twin room including 3 evening meals, leaving Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Sept – £340

### **Option 4 – Conference fee for twin en-suite room**

Conference fee covering option 1 for shared twin en-suite room. This also includes an option of B&B for an accompanying person (i.e. not attending conference sessions and excluding lunch) but including evening meals at Clare College (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday)

Full delegate conference fees for en-suite room - £685

Full delegate conference fee for en-suite twin room leaving Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Sept - £640

B&B for accompanying person in en-suite twin room including 3 evening meals - £500

B&B for accompanying person in en-suite twin room including 3 evening meals, leaving Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Sept – £455

### **Option 5 - Day Rates**

The day rate will be £80 for those wishing to attend on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. This includes use of conference facilities, teas/coffees and lunch. The day rate for the trips on Thursday and Friday are £30 per trip.

**Oil Workshop**

Participation in the oil workshop run by Noel Porter for which there is an extra charge of £50 to cover costs of materials. There are a limited number of places available which will be offered on a first come basis.

**Parking**

Car parking is available close to Clare College at a cost of £2 per day bookable on registering

# Registration Form

This should be filled in electronically when registering and is included here for information.

Title: ..... First Name: .....

Second name: .....

Name to be used on label: .....

Company/Institute (if applicable): .....

Dietary needs: .....

Mobility needs: .....

## Contact Details

Postal Address (including postcode and country): .....

.....

e-mail: ..... Fax (if applicable) .....