

## NEW MEMBERSHIP FORM

Memberships(s) till March 2019 @ £2: £:

Memberships(s) till March 2021 @ £5: £:

Donation: £:

Total: £:

Cheques to Friends of Caversham Court Gardens

### CONTACT DETAILS — please print clearly

Name(s):

Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

### DATA PROTECTION - please tick

I/we give consent for my/our personal data to be collected and retained by FCCG for the purpose set out in its data privacy statement:

HOW YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP                      yes / no

Committee member or support

Website/publicity

Events/Tours

Gardening

Send to: FCCG, c/o The Head Gardener,  
Caversham Court, Church Road Caversham,  
Reading RG4 7AD

E-mail: [friends@fccg.org.uk](mailto:friends@fccg.org.uk)

01/01/2018

## Visiting Caversham Court Gardens

Winner of Green Flag and Green Heritage Site Awards every year from 2010 to 2017

**Opening:** Open free daily 8am to dusk

**Location:** RG4 7AG on Church Road (A4074) short walk from Caversham Bridge. Buses 22, 24, 27, X39/X40 all stop at Caversham Bridge.

**Parking:** very limited nearby in The Warren. Disabled parking at main gates.

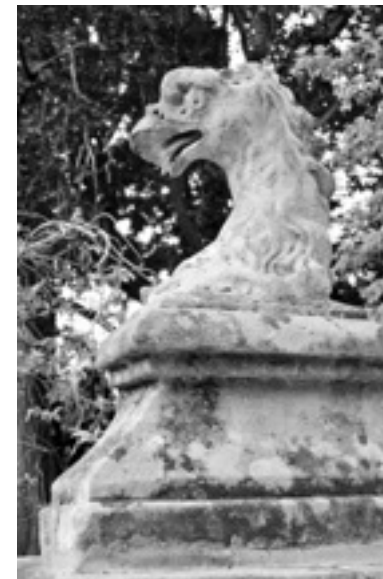
**Volunteer guides** will be on hand on the first Sunday of the month from April to October from 2.00-4.30 to answer questions and give informal tours.

If your organisation would like to book its own tour or talk on a day and time to suit, contact us by e-mail [friends@fccg.org.uk](mailto:friends@fccg.org.uk) or by post. Special sensory tours available for the visually or hearing impaired.

**Refreshments:** Tea Kiosk run by local charities open Tuesday–Sunday, 11am–5pm March–May, September–October, 11am–6pm June–August.

**Toilets** including disabled toilet and baby changing facilities

## Friends of Caversham Court Gardens



Photograph courtesy of Alison Hewitt, Freeze Frame Photography

Friends of Caversham Court Gardens  
c/o The Head Gardener  
Caversham Court Gardens  
Church Road  
Caversham Reading RG4 7AD

[www.fccg.org.uk](http://www.fccg.org.uk)

E-mail:  
[friends@fccg.org.uk](mailto:friends@fccg.org.uk)

## What to see

- **Foot prints of Tudor and Victorian houses** showing their layouts
- **Gazebo** built in 17<sup>th</sup> century, unique on the Thames, Grade II listed
- **Causeway to gazebo** – built over earlier 16<sup>th</sup> century chalk wall. Timeline shows names of residents of house against events in history
- **Alcove wall** – between Caversham Court and St Peter's churchyard, sheltering heritage fruit trees
- **Stanton shelter** – public air-raid shelter built during WW2
- **Griffin steps with views to St Peter's Church** – a new griffin has been carved to match the original
- **Trees** – include large yews, one forming a layered 'family', and yew hedges dating from the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries; a veteran copper beech with a huge spreading canopy; and a variegated Tulip Tree. A Giant Sequoia (Wellingtonia) is the tallest tree in the gardens. A fine Bhutan Pine stands near the tea kiosk and a number of black mulberry trees beside the entrance.

## Caversham Court History

Caversham Court gardens is listed in the English Heritage 'Register of Historic Parks and Gardens of special historic interest in England'

12<sup>th</sup> century - a Rectory was built here for St Peter's Church. Later the house was leased to lay families.

17<sup>th</sup> century - Civil War raged near the house when in 1642 Caversham was caught between the armies of Charles I and Cromwell.

18<sup>th</sup> century -The Loveday family who lived here from 1665 until 1799 planted the yew hedge along the long walk.

19<sup>th</sup> century – The Simonds family of bankers and brewers remodelled the house into a splendid Gothic mansion.

20<sup>th</sup> century – Occupants included Lady Elizabeth Mosley, grandmother of Fascist leader, Oswald Mosley. The house was bought by Reading Corporation and the gardens opened to the public in the 1930s.

21<sup>st</sup> century – The gardens reopened in 2009 following extensive refurbishment supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

## Why you should join

### Friends of Caversham Court Gardens

- To support the preservation of one of Caversham's best loved open spaces
- To publicise Caversham Court Gardens in Caversham, Reading and beyond
- To input into future developments and activities taking place there
- To take part in members' events
- To promote the understanding of the history of Caversham Court and of its trees and plants

Details of upcoming events can be found on our website: [www.fccg.org.uk](http://www.fccg.org.uk) and on the display board at the entrance to Caversham Court Gardens

Data Privacy Statement: FCCG hold your contact details only for the purpose of keeping you informed about matters relating to the Gardens. These details will be held for a maximum of 18 months after your last active paid membership. We keep no financial information about you and never share your personal details with any other organisation. Should you wish to request access, corrections or removal of your personal information, please contact us by email or post at the address overleaf.