



Image: © Marcus Harpur

Visiting

Seasonal opening times

1 April – 30 September 2019

Wednesday & Friday | 2pm – 5pm

Sunday | 11am – 5pm

Enjoy tea, coffee and delicious homemade cakes in the Bothy tea room and take a look at the products we have for sale. Or take a bit of the Garden home with you by purchasing one of the plants propagated on site. There is disabled access to most of the garden but uneven surfaces, grassed areas, proximity to water and sloping ground limit access to some areas. Disabled toilet and tea room are fully accessible. Assistance dogs welcome.

Private visits from groups or clubs are available by prior arrangement. Please contact fullersmillgarden@perennial.org.uk

Adults Standard: £4.50 / Gift Aid: £5.00

Children (16 and under): Free

Volunteers

Fullers Mill Garden's team of garden volunteers assist the professional horticultural team with weekly jobs and play a huge role in maintaining the garden's immaculate presentation, so you always have the chance to see it at its very best. Our amazing team of volunteers are passionate and knowledgeable about the garden and its history. For those who prefer a less physically active role we also need volunteers to assist with gate admissions and the provision of refreshments in the Bothy tea room.

If you would like to join the volunteering team, we are recruiting throughout 2019. Please contact:

fullersmillgarden@perennial.org.uk

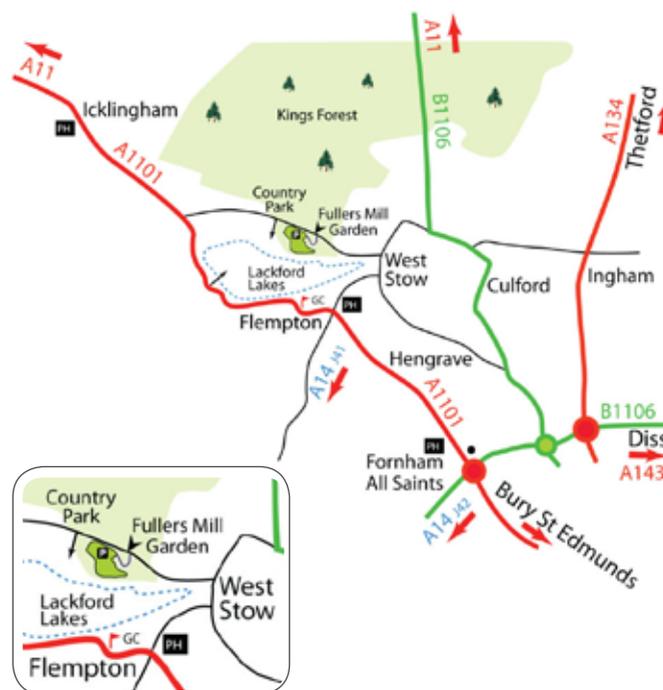
Fullers Mill Garden

How to find us

Fullers Mill Garden is 5 miles north-west of Bury St Edmunds. Turn off the A1101 (Bury to Mildenhall road) signposted West Stow Anglo Saxon Village.

Continue for 1.5 miles and the entrance is clearly marked.

Postcode: **IP28 6HD**



Join us online [#fullersmillgarden](https://twitter.com/fullersmillgarden)



Fullers Mill Garden
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www.fullersmillgarden.org.uk

Fullers Mill Garden

A waterside gem in the heart of Suffolk

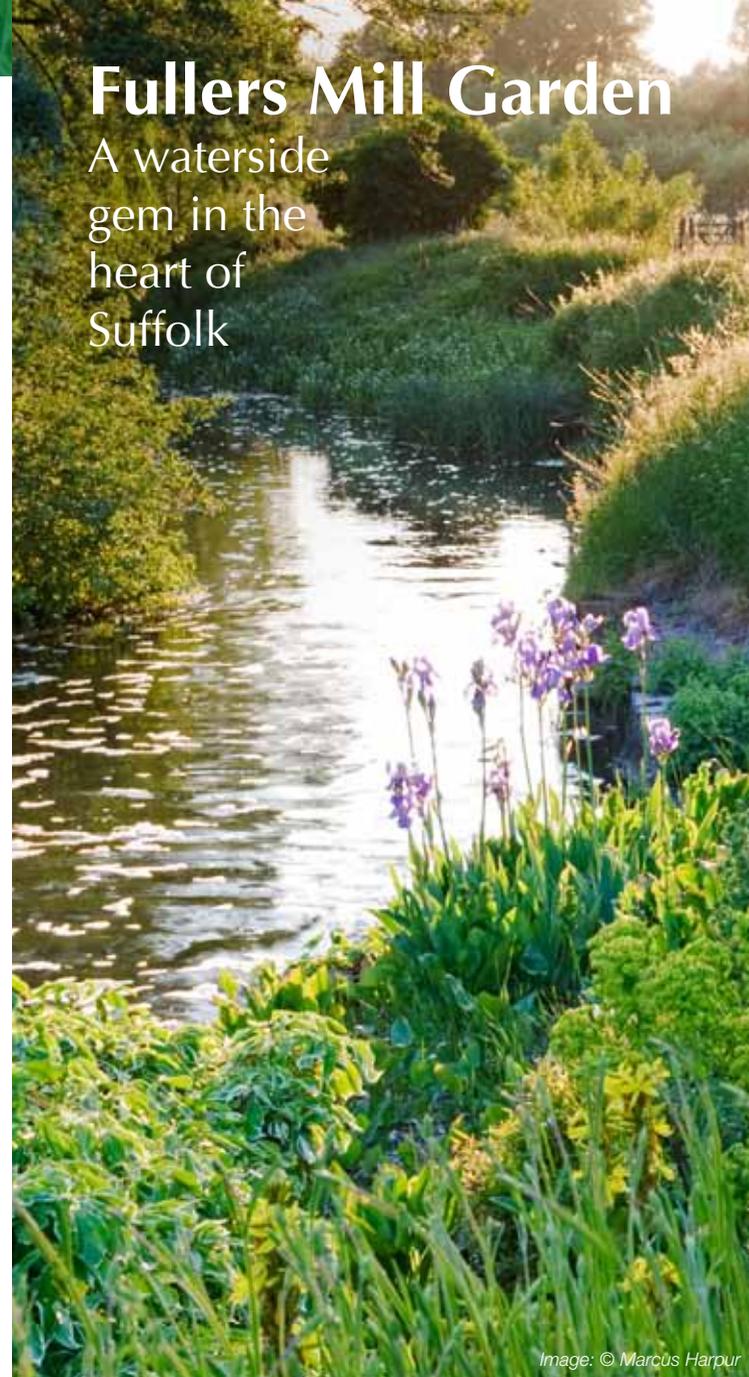


Image: © Marcus Harpur

About Perennial

Perennial helps anyone who makes or looks after gardens, parks, sports grounds, woodlands and other green spaces. If you work with plants, trees or grass, or know someone who does, Perennial can help. Our friendly and experienced team helps families through life-changing events with free and confidential personal support, for as long as it is needed.



People tell us we're a 'lifeline' as we're here for those we help throughout their working lives and into retirement. No problem or question is too big, or small, so don't let something that's worrying you or someone you know become a crisis. Call us to talk about how we can help.

Perennial believes no-one should be denied help simply because they do not know how to access it and during 2019 we need your help to spread the word to more people in horticulture than ever before.

Marek & Ann Marie's Story

Marek worked as a tree surgeon and conservation manager at a golf course. He had a young family, with a baby on the way. Marek fell from a tree while helping a friend at the weekend. His fall resulted in a severe brain injury and a medically induced coma.

In our short film, available to watch on the Perennial website, his partner, Ann Marie, talks about how the family was supported by Perennial - a charity she had previously never heard of - helping with financial arrangements and navigating the benefits system, as well as being there for emotional support.

Watch now at perennial.org.uk/marek

"They were like cuddly arms, giving you a big hug and taking away all the pressure of everything else that you have to deal with to survive. I can live this life day in day out as we are, but they're in the background there, so if I ever feel that I need some guidance, I've got them there as support"

Ann Marie, Marek's partner



www.fullersmillgarden.org.uk



Fullers Mill Garden

Fullers Mill Garden was gifted to Perennial in 2013 by the late Bernard Tickner, MBE. The seven-acre garden combines light dappled woodland with a distinctive collection of rare and unusual shrubs, perennials, lilies and marginal plants. Bernard spent over 50 years designing and making this tranquil waterside garden, working particularly with plant form and texture in addition to colour, to build a garden of truly year-round interest.

1 Top Garden

In making the garden, Bernard recognised that the poor soil and dry conditions at Fullers Mill Garden resemble those of the Mediterranean region and consciously made use of plants naturally adapted to such places. Thus, the early flowering snowdrops from Greece – *Galanthus reginae-olgae*, start to flower in October. The wild *Tulipa sprengeri*, now extinct in the wild, is an unusual sight in late May. In winter the elegant birch grove of *Betula 'Silver Grace'*, which was originally discovered by the lake, brings great freshness to the Top Garden, and in summer it becomes a romantic, dream-like scene underplanted with silver and purple. In early summer the Top Garden is transformed by flowering shrubs, which later form the backdrop for majestic displays of lilies.



Tulipa sprengeri



Matteuccia

4 The Low Garden

To the west of the Mill Pond is the Low Garden, which was the first area of the garden to be developed. Recently the original planting has been rejuvenated with many choice new plants added. In late winter and spring the curious purple flower of toothwort – *Lathraea clandestina*, a parasitic plant which colonises willow roots, can be found at ground level scattered through this area. At the same time the birch bank is carpeted with *Crocus tommasinianus* followed by *Anemone blanda*, which in turn make way for *Galactites tomentosa* in summer. The raised terrace beds are packed with flowering bulbs, which in spring look over a wonderful fresh mass of the shuttlecock fern *Matteuccia*. Beyond this, in late June the giant lily *Cardiocrinum giganteum*, produces its stems of tall trumpet flowers. This bulb has very particular cultivation requirements and takes about seven years to flower and then dies. However, it leaves behind a ring of small bulbs to start the process again and we are fortunate to have a succession of plants of different ages to ensure a display of flowers in most years. The mix of shady areas and sunny glades in the Low Garden offers ideal conditions for a whole range of charming woodland plants in spring and summer together with lilies followed by displays of colour in autumn.



Lilium pardalinum



Betula 'Silver Grace'

2 The River and Mill Pond

The sound of rushing water draws the visitor to the weir and footbridge across the River Lark. This was formerly one of 23 locks enabling barges to bring mainly coal from the North Sea up to Bury St Edmunds and to take corn back. The Lark ceased to be navigable in 1900. When Bernard Tickner bought the property in 1958 the Mill Pond had disappeared under a tangle of fallen trees, brambles and nettles. Its southern bank had been washed away by the Culford Stream and it was impossible to recognise it as a pond. Much work has been done since then and now the area is planted with massed *Primula*, *Darmera* and the skunk cabbage *Lysichiton* along with other moisture loving plants. There were many fulling mills along the river. Each mill had a water wheel which powered a set of mallets, these were used to pound locally woven cloth, to make it more full and thicker. After fulling it was put out to dry on a flat tentering ground where it was secured with tenter hooks to stop it shrinking as it dried.



Primula

3 The Quandaries

Beyond the Mill Pond lie the Inner and Outer Quandaries, offering a sunnier more open aspect. A succession of snowdrops continues here in winter and early spring, with many large flowered varieties followed by *daphnes* and *paeonies*. In summer the air carries the spicy scent of *Spartium*, hinting at the Mediterranean, while the Indigo plant *Indigofera*, *Crocsmia*, arum lilies and a stunning white-flowered Angel's fishing rod *Dierama*, form an elegant display. The approach of autumn is detected by wafts of 'burnt sugar' given off by the tree *Cercidiphyllum*, while in October, a very large clump of *Persicaria* is a mass of sweetly scented bloom. Nearby, a massive *Euphorbia stygiana* from the Azores is a handsome plant throughout the year.



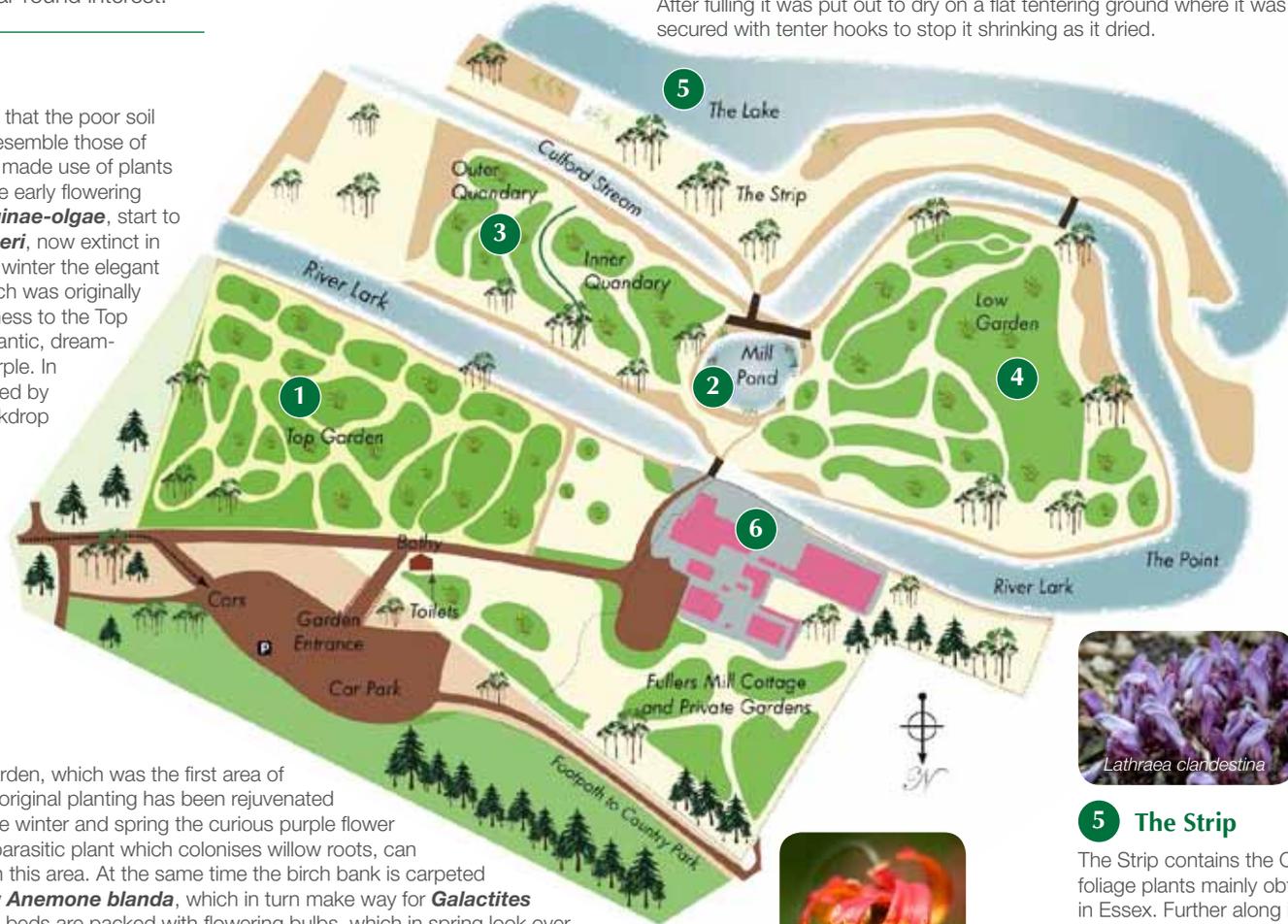
Lathraea clandestina

5 The Strip

The Strip contains the Chatto bed, planted with sun-loving foliage plants mainly obtained from Beth Chatto's superb garden in Essex. Further along is a lovely example of *Crataegus x prunifolia* and a huge Himalayan rose *Rosa brunonii*, which is covered with very sweetly scented flowers in June. There are views from here across the lake.

6 Fullers Mill Cottage and Private Gardens

This is not open to the public.



The Origins

The late Bernard Tickner MBE (1924-2017) moved to Fullers Mill in 1958 and made the garden you see today from rough scrub and woodland. In 2004 he and his wife Bess donated the garden to The Fullers Mill Trust, a registered charity, which was established to manage the garden and to ensure its future.

In January 2013 the garden was gifted to Perennial, The Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Society for its long-term preservation.

Plants introduced

Fritillaria pyrenaica 'Bernard Tickner'
Lunaria rediviva 'Honour Bright' AM
Euphorbia 'Redwing'
Euphorbia 'Blackbird'
Galanthus 'Marielle'
Iris cretensis 'Bess Tickner'

Friends of Fullers Mill Garden

By becoming a Friend of Fullers Mill Garden you will be helping Perennial to preserve and develop this beautiful garden.

Annual family membership costs just £20 and admits two adults. Individual membership costs £12. Children (16 and under) are entitled to free admission.

Friends of Fullers Mill Garden membership includes:

- Free entry into Fullers Mill Garden on all our public open days
- Invitations to private Friends' events
- Advance information about special events at Fullers Mill Garden
- Priority booking for Perennial's national special garden events
- Twice yearly 'Friends of Fullers Mill Garden' newsletter
- Twice yearly newsletter 'Perennial News'

To set up a direct debit via post or online

Please call us on **01284 728 888** or visit **www.fullersmillgarden.org.uk** or complete a form when you visit Fullers Mill Garden.