

## How it's done



Volunteers plant, prune, deadhead, weed, improve the soil and edge the beds on Tuesday mornings and the 4th Saturday of the month between 10am and 12 noon. A smaller group fundraises and promotes the collection as a unique visitor attraction in Derby, and guided by Plant Heritage, we identify, document and preserve our specialist interest plant group, *Hydrangea paniculata*, some of which are in danger of being lost from cultivation.

The annual Open Day is at the beginning of August.

Hydrangea Derby works in partnership with Derby City Council and Plant Heritage. Community Payback help us with mulching the beds and keeping the paths clear.

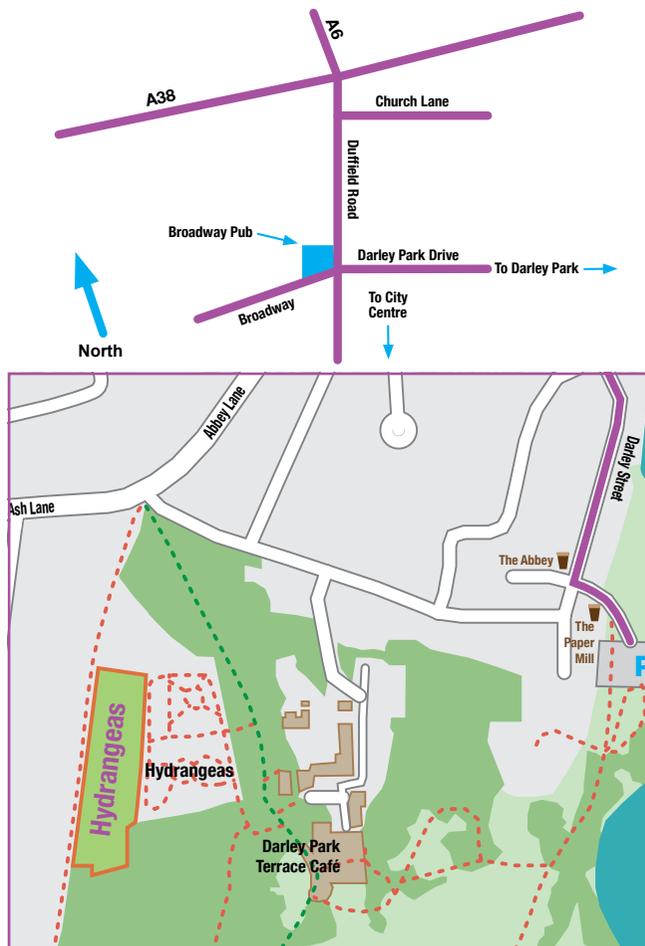
## Funding and Donations

Hydrangea Derby is completely self-funded and needs your help to continue. Sponsors are most welcome. Donations can be put in the green Hydrangea Derby post box in the Darley Park café. Make contact with us through our website and watch our Facebook and Twitter pages for the latest news.



## How to find us

We are in Darley Park, Derby, just off the A6 in a walled garden near the Terrace and Café.



There are free car parks at Darley Park Drive DE22 1EN and Darley Street DE22 1DX. The garden is accessible by wheelchair and buggy but is on a slope with some grassed paths.

## Opening Times

The walled garden is open between the end of July and the beginning of November when the hydrangeas are in flower. The outer garden is open all year. Hydrangea Derby is part of Darley Park and is free to all visitors.

[www.hydrangeaderby.co.uk](http://www.hydrangeaderby.co.uk)

Follow us on  

# Hydrangea Derby



A secret walled garden with more hydrangeas than anywhere else in the UK

Home to the National Collection of *Hydrangea paniculata*

## Hydrangea paniculata

These large deciduous plants with panicle (cone shaped) flower heads, which can be dense with infertile showy florets or lacey and open with different ratios of fertile and infertile florets, are becoming more popular in the nursery trade. Hardy throughout Britain, they put on a vigorous display from August to November.



Exciting new cultivars adding pinks and greens to the flower

head and deepening in colour as the season progresses are coming to the market; as are more compact varieties more suitable for smaller gardens and borders.



Flowers will grow on this year's growth so prune in March. For many small flower heads, deadhead only;



for not so many but larger heads, prune to 5 buds; for fewer and much larger heads, prune to two buds.

**Our other hydrangea species** all flower between July and November. Here is a selection..

**Macrophylla** are large leaved and, depending on the ratios of fertile and infertile florets, have either mophead or lacecap



flower heads. These grow on last year's growth so only prune for size and shape. Pink blooms require alkaline soil and blue blooms, acid soil.

**Serrata** have a serrated edge to their leaves, produce lacecap flower heads on last years growth and are happiest in cooler and more shady environments. Prune for size and shape.



**Aborescens** have creamy white flower heads with varying ratios of fertile and infertile florets. They can endure colder climates and are drought resistant when planted in the



shade. Newer cultivars can be green or pink and some have heads so large that they need support. Prune down to the ground in March.

**Quercifolias** have oak-shaped leaves which can turn dark red and purple in Autumn. The cone-shaped flower heads start white or cream and can develop antique pink tones. Grown in shade or sun, they can suffer root rot if the soil is too wet.



**Aspera** are large robust and prefer shade. The lacecap flower heads have perfectly matched purple fertile florets surrounded by a ring of pink infertile sepals. Large bristly leaves add drama.



**Anomala petiolaris and Seemannii** These self-clinging climbing hydrangeas, which grow from 30 to 80 ft, have heart-shaped leaves and, sometimes fragrant, lacecap flower heads. A north or east aspect is best for them and because of their aerial roots they are sometimes used as ground cover. Prune for size and shape.

