

# About the Swiss Garden



Images © Hilary Davidson Photography

The Swiss Garden, Old Warden Park, Bedfordshire, was created in the 1820s by Lord Ongley. It is an outstanding example of the Regency fashion for creating landscapes in a picturesque 'Swiss' style, and has many buildings and features also designed in the alpine style. In the 1870s the 9-acre garden was bought by the industrialist Joseph Shuttleworth who introduced Victorian 'improvements', while retaining the original layout.

The garden has recently undergone a major restoration which has seen all of its structures completely refurbished, and extensive replanting according to original schemes. Come and rediscover this Regency gem and engage with the garden through new interpretation and activity programmes.

## Opening times

The garden is open to Friends year round, every day from 9.30am to 5pm, with some seasonal variations. Please refer to [www.shuttleworth.org](http://www.shuttleworth.org) for further details.

**Contact the Friends:**  
**The Friends of the Swiss Garden, Old Warden Park,**  
**Nr. Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, SG18 9EP**  
**Email: [friendsoftheswissgarden@outlook.com](mailto:friendsoftheswissgarden@outlook.com)**

**Registered Charity 1015724**

## How the Friends support The Swiss Garden

The Friends' main aims are to preserve, improve and promote the Swiss Garden for the education and enjoyment of the public. We do this by:

- raising funds for special purchases
- organising a range of activities which foster interest in the garden
- providing volunteers to work in the garden

## Membership rates and how to join

- £25 annual individual membership
- £40 annual joint membership
- £250 life membership (over 65 years)
- £350 life membership (under 65 years)
- £400 joint life membership (over 65 years)
- £560 joint life membership (under 65 years)

To become a member of the Friends, please complete and return the form overleaf, and either fill out the standing order form, or send us your cheque. Alternatively, you can transfer funds directly to our bank account and email us to tell us you have done so. Please find further details overleaf.

## Benefits of joining the Friends

- Unlimited free entry to the Swiss Garden during normal opening hours\*
- Regular 'Clippings' newsletter
- 10% discount in the Shuttleworth shop on purchases over £5
- the opportunity to join the Friends' committee, to attend the AGM, and to get involved with Friends social events in the garden and elsewhere
- Friends may bring two children into the garden free of charge. Any additional children must be paid for at the standard rate.

*NB Friends must show their membership card to claim these benefits.*

\* Excludes Airshow days, and some garden event days, when entry to the Swiss Garden is only available to those who have event tickets. Please see website for the dates of these events.

**Money raised by the Friends is used to conserve and promote this important historic garden, preserving its beautiful buildings and open spaces for the pleasure and education of future generations. If you would like to make a one-off donation to support the garden, please contact us at [friendsoftheswissgarden@outlook.com](mailto:friendsoftheswissgarden@outlook.com). All donations are very gratefully received.**