

Carshalton Lavender will be holding its 19th Annual Harvest Fair on July 28th & 29th 2018

Carshalton Lavender, an award-winning heritage community project, opens its gates to the public at its 19th Open Weekend on 28th and 29th July from 10am until 4pm both days. This popular community harvest, and London's only Pick Your Own Lavender event, will be held at the three acre Carshalton Lavender field at Stanley Road Allotments.

As well as picking their own lavender, visitors will be able to enjoy hot food, visit stalls selling lavender related products and have aromatherapy and reflexology treatments from qualified practitioners. A variety of lavender plants will be for sale along with cut lavender for floral, therapeutic or culinary use, or for drying for craft projects. The lavender harvest is an excellent opportunity for taking photos of friends and family in a beautiful outdoor setting. For younger visitors there will be face painting and other family activities available. It's also a great chance to make a study of bees and butterflies.

This weekend is the main opportunity for buying our *Carshalton Heritage Lavender* products, which contain our essential oil harvested from the field. We do not, and never have had, a shop so take care not to confuse us with any commercial or retail sites using very similar names to ours. Apart from the Harvest Weekend, other ways of obtaining our products are noted on our website, where a small number of select, official stockists and producers using our oil in their products, is listed

Carshalton Lavender has been distilling its own lavender essential oil at the field since 2009. The still will be in operation over the weekend and there will be opportunities to see demonstrations of the distillation process. Exclusive Carshalton Lavender essential oil and floral water will be available to buy.

In the early 1900s, blue fields of lavender could be seen all over Carshalton, Wallington, Mitcham, Waddon and Sutton. The Carshalton Lavender project has the aims of reviving and maintaining the heritage of this local lavender for future generations. The lavender plants grown on the field are all from cuttings taken from the lavender originally grown in the area. This is a unique feature of our field. The project is run solely by volunteers and proceeds from this harvest event keep the project running from year to year.

The field which is part of the Stanley Road Allotment site is behind the Day Centre on Oaks Way SM5 4NQ. It can be reached from Stanley Park Road via Balfour Road. Take care not to confuse us with other commercial lavender fields nearby. Just use the postcode above and you can't go wrong. Disabled parking only. Please come by public transport if you can as parking space in neighbouring residential roads is very limited. For a map and full details about the event <u>click here</u>.

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