

A. Kew information

1. Founded in 1840.
2. Kew Gardens has its own police force, Kew Constabulary, which has been in operation since 1847.
3. In July 2003, the gardens were put on the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites^[3] by UNESCO. A five-year, £41 million revamp of the Temperate House was completed in May 2018.^[24] It opened to the public on May 6.
4. The Hive is a multi-sensory experience designed to highlight the extraordinary life of bees. It stands 17 metres tall and is set in a wildflower meadow.
5. The Marianne North Gallery was built in the 1880s to house the paintings of Marianne North, an MP's daughter who travelled alone to the Caribbean, North and South America, South Africa and many parts of Asia to create her paintings.

B. Galleries at Kew Gardens

Marianne North Gallery - The walls of the gallery are covered with almost all of Marianne North's botanical paintings. After an exhibition in London in 1879, North had the idea of showing her paintings at Kew. She offered to build a gallery if Kew Director, Joseph Hooker, would agree to display her life's work in it. The gallery opened in 1882, built in a mix of classical and colonial styles. North had wanted tea and coffee served to visitors, however Hooker declined her request. Instead she painted a coffee plant over one entrance door and tea over the other.



Shirley Sherwood Gallery - **Shirley Angela Sherwood OBE** (born 1 July 1933) is a British writer, botanist and philanthropist. She is primarily a collector of and author of books about, botanical illustrations. *The Shirley Sherwood Gallery of Botanical Art*, opened on 19 April 2008, at Kew Gardens is named after her. It is the first gallery in the world dedicated solely to botanical art. Sherwood has been described as a "driving force behind a revival of interest in botanical art". Sherwood was educated at St Anne's College, Oxford. She is a Vice-President of the Nature in Art Trust. Her husband is railway and shipping magnate James B. Sherwood who featured in the 2004 Sunday Times Rich List. Sherwood was appointed Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the 2012 New Year Honours for services to botanical art.

C. Temperate House information

1. The Temperate House is known as the greatest glasshouse in the world.
2. The Temperate House is a grade 1 listed building and is a museum of plants.
3. In 2012 the building was nearly falling down. The glass was covered in algae and large wooden beams, which formed part of the main structure had rotted through. A £41million restoration was begun which was completed in 2018. The house was re-opened to the public in May 2018.
4. All the plants had to be removed in order to refurbish the glasshouse.
5. There are plants in the Temperate House which are extinct in the wild.
6. It is a centre of Science and plant exploration with a global reputation for botanical research and conservation.



D. Further reading

The Art of Botanical Painting by Margaret Stevens in association with the Society of Botanical Artists.

Flower Drawings (Fitzwilliam Museum Handbooks) by David Scrase

Treasures of Botanical Art: Icons from the Shirley Sherwood and Kew Collections by Shirley Sherwood and Martyn Rix

Treasures of the Royal Horticultural Society by Brent Elliott

Task: Learn/cover/write and self-check, Kew Information, Galleries at Kew Gardens, temperature house information and books for further reading