

## Carshalton Lavender will be holding its 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvest Fair on July 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> 2017

Carshalton Lavender, an award-winning heritage community project, opens its gates to the public at its 18<sup>th</sup> Open Weekend on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> July from 10am until 4pm both days. This popular community harvest, and London's only Pick Your Own event, will be held at the three acre Carshalton Lavender field at Stanley Road Allotments.

Visitors can pick their own lavender, 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 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.

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 is run solely by volunteers and 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. Proceeds from this 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 our postcode and you can't go wrong. Limited parking, disabled spaces only. For a map and full details about the event visit www.carshaltonlavender.org

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