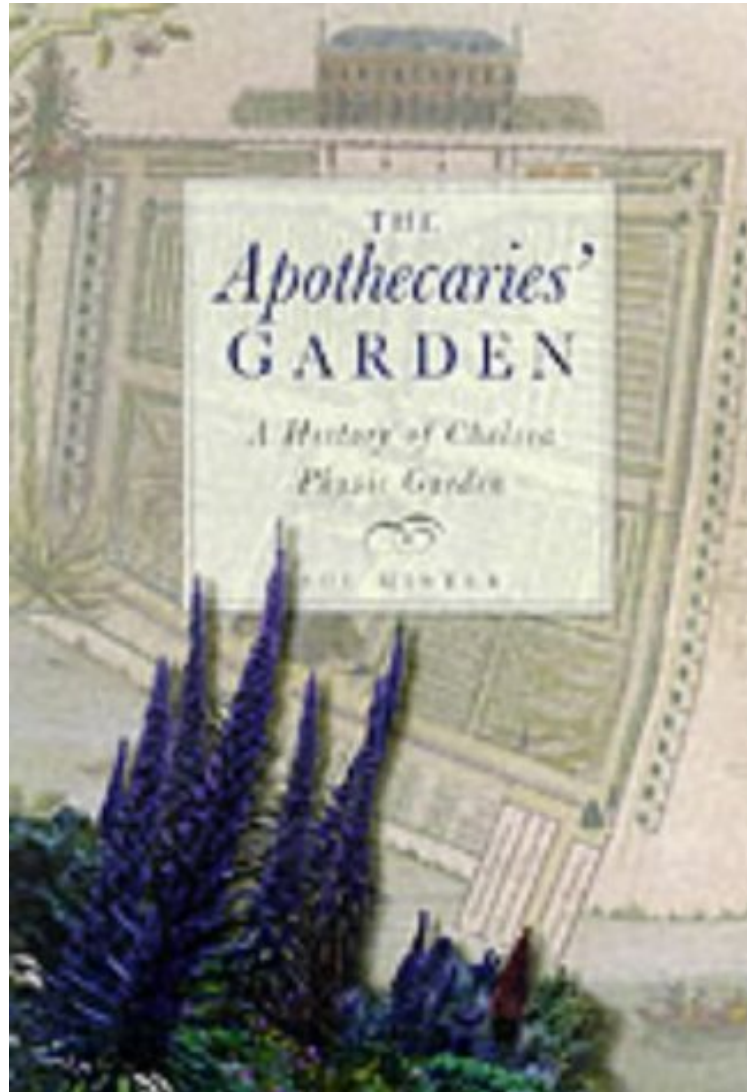


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# The Apothecaries' Garden: A New History of the Chelsea Physic Garden

*Sue Minter*

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**Sue Minter : The Apothecaries' Garden: A New History of the Chelsea Physic Garden** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Apothecaries' Garden: A New History of the Chelsea Physic Garden:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Tthe Apothecaries' GardenBy Janice TuckerThis book is just a gem for anyone interested in medicinal gardens and their histories. I planned a visit to the Chelsea Physic Garden and learned a great deal about the garden before my upcoming visit. The detail of the history of the Garden was very much

appreciated, making one wonder, at times, how the garden actually was able to continue for the hundreds of years that it has. It makes one thoroughly appreciate what we have there in Chelsea. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Before there were pharmacists

By Delores Taylor  
There was an infrastructure that lead the way in collecting plants. Some were of biological interest as ornament and some were collected and studied for treating medical conditions. It is a good historical document of the garden and the effort and dedication to preserve the past and such an important landmark. 1 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Not just Botany in the Physic Garden

By Furcifer  
Indeed, Botany was the reason the Chelsea Physic Garden was created and still remains, officially anyway, its *raison d'etre*, but hey, I am no Botanist, nor are the many, many tourists and locals who visit it during the year's opening months. It really is Chelsea's "best kept secret" and long may it remain so. For a start, the Garden is walled all around and there is an entry charge - however, an annual "Friends of the Garden" membership, which, for a flat fee, affords you full, unlimited access to the Garden throughout the year, is the best way to play it if you wish to be a regular visitor. So, besides the myriads of plants and trees which are all tagged for everyone to know what they are looking at, what else does the Garden offer? Well, a very pleasurable walk around the grounds where you come across benches by little streams with fish swimming in them for the romantics amongst us. There are such benches throughout the Garden, under the shade of trees, and there is a lawn too - pick your spot for a picnic of wine/champagne and the finest salads from nearby Harrods. Alternatively, why not use the Tangerine caf, offering everything from hot and cold food, fresh salads and desserts, to a selection of wines and beers and also afternoon pot of tea and cake. You may have it inside, but it's much better outside *al fresco* in a tent-covered area in front of the caf. There are greenhouses where you can walk in and browse. Exhibitions and "Special Occasion" days throughout the year and a very good Christmas Fair. Guided tours for groups by expert local guides. Don't belong to a group? No problem, attach yourselves to one. And there is the souvenir shop, no visit would be complete if you can't find something to buy: a book, or an exotic honey, an aromatic soap, and many more little items to take home with you and reminisce - until your next visit. This is super-classy Chelsea and, who knows, you may even catch sight of someone famous who lives in the locality, that is if you can recognise them. So folks, go for the plants, but be prepared for much, much more in Chelsea's own, lovely, Garden.

Founded in 1673 by the Society of Apothecaries, the Chelsea Physic Garden led the world for over 300 years in the research and classification of new plants. Sue Minter examines its history and many notable achievements.

About the Author  
Sue minter is currently Head of Living Collections at the Eden Project in Cornwall