



News Release

Ganton Hall Gardens open in a bid to beat the bugs

Includes details of a special garden opening at Ganton Hall on Thursday 28th June

The public is being invited to take a unique look at some beautiful gardens on a country estate and raise money to prevent antibiotic resistant infections – or superbugs.

The owners of Ganton Hall, a picturesque Grade II listed building near Scarborough, are opening the gates to their impressive gardens to help York based **Antibiotic Research UK (ANTRUK)** raise funds to develop new medications and beat the superbugs which kill around 700,000 people per year world-wide.

Pitching itself as the small charity tackling the world's biggest health problem, ANTRUK has warned that unless alternative treatments are found to our out-dated antibiotics, hospital operations could be cancelled for fear of infection and we could return to a pre-medicine age where people die from something as simple as a scratch.

“Discovered 90 years ago, antibiotics were the wonder-drugs of the 20th century, but it could well be that ours is the last generation who will enjoy their benefits” said ANTRUK Chief Executive, Professor Colin Garner. “New drugs simply haven't been developed and antibiotic resistance is on the rise. This could have dire consequences for future generations and any act of generosity – particularly on the scale of the event at Ganton Hall – could literally save lives.”

For just £5, visitors to Ganton Hall will be able to see not only the gardens, but contribute to a plant sale and enjoy refreshments. Car parking for the event is free. They will also be able to see an estate which reaches from the Derwent Valley to the Wolds. Famous for breeding horses and hosting countryside sports, it has been home to the Wrigley family since 1911.

“Opening up the gardens at Ganton Hall is typical of the philanthropic efforts of the family” said Charles Mitchell, a retired consultant physician and valued member of

ANTRUK's Education Committee as well as its local volunteer group. "Antibiotic resistance is one of the biggest health problems facing human kind and if we don't do something about it soon, we will be in trouble."

Formed in 2014, ANTRUK has begun to engage some of Britain's leading politicians, health and research charities and pharmaceutical companies in combating antibiotic resistance. Monies raised by the public – including during their annual flagship fundraising campaign The Great British Tea Party – have been ploughed directly into enabling researchers to create alternatives to today's antibiotics and fund a patient support programme.

Concluded Colin Garner: "Amongst the harrowing case studies we have heard recently has been that of a young woman who had to step away from her chosen career in nursing because of a superbug and a mother who perished after contracting an antibiotic resistant infection following relatively routine surgery. This is a very real problem which is affecting us now and is sure to blight our children and grandchildren's generations unless we act swiftly. We can all do our bit and I can think of no better way of saving lives than enjoying a summer afternoon in stunning surroundings!"

By kind permission of the Wrigley family, Ganton Hall gardens will open on:

Thursday 28th June

2-5pm

Ganton Hall

Scarborough

YO12 4NT

Tickets can be bought on the door or secure one now by emailing joy.richardson@antibioticresearch.org.uk

- Ends -

For further information

Please contact Peter Gibson on 0759 202 8142 or email peter.gibson@antibioticresearch.org.uk

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