



West Lodge Park
YOUR LONDON RETREAT

Beale Arboretum News Summer 2022

This summer has been the driest and hottest on record, with drought conditions from June onwards, and temperatures reaching 40° for the first time ever.

It has been a struggle for the trees in the Beale Arboretum.

The young specimens have suffered most of course, as their root systems are not as developed as those of more mature trees.

Although it has been a nice respite for the Gardens team on both grass cutting and weeding, the watering levels have gone up.

Thames Water imposed a hosepipe ban in August, but we have a water bowser, which is a large tank on a trailer towed behind our tractor – needless to say it has been in permanent use all summer!

If this is the new norm for summers in North London, then we advise against planting the following particularly thirsty species which have hitherto done ok on our Thames clay soil:

Rhododendron, Azalea, Liriodendron tulipifera (Tulip tree), Betula pendula (Silver birch), Nothofagus (Southern birch).



Some Rhodies have suffered badly [pics above]

The brown grass has thankfully recovered [pic right]



The **Cannas and Begonias** have done well with help from the sprinklers [pic right]



Silver birches (*Betula pendula*)
have not enjoyed 40 deg heat [pic left]

Pomegranate (*Punica Granatum*) copes well in the heat [pic right]



The cork oak (*Quercus suber*)
Has enjoyed the arid conditions [pic left]



Paul Baynes
Head Gardener

If you are interested in putting together a group for a **guided tour** of the Beale Arboretum, please contact Jane Gray - headoffice@bealeshotels.co.uk or 020 8216 3904 - Tours are free of charge midweek and £3.50 per person at the weekend.

The Beale Arboretum
West Lodge Park - Cockfosters Road - Hadley Wood - Herts EN4 0PY
www.westlodgepark.co.uk/arboretum/

