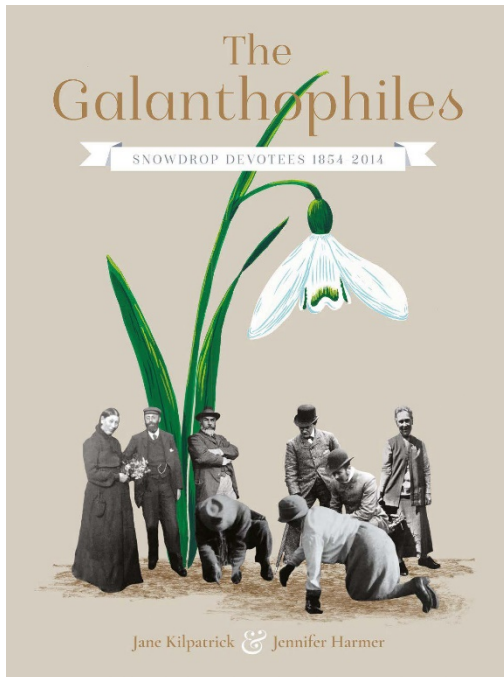


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Shepton Mallet Snowdrop Festival

Snowdrop Talk and book signing

Sunday 17 February 2019

At 3pm (registration 2.30pm)

St Paul's C of E Junior School,

Shepton Mallet, BA4 5LA

'The Galanthophiles'

160 years of Snowdrop devotees

By Jennifer Harmer and Jane Fitzpatrick

People have always been cheered at the end of winter by the welcome sight of the first snowdrops; but it was not until the 1850s that gardeners really began to pay attention to these heralds of spring.

This is a book which will appeal not just to modern galanthophiles but also to everyone interested in discovering about gardeners of the past whose knowledge and skill contributed to the development and preservation of the snowdrops we love today.

This is the first book to focus on the lives of snowdrop devotees during the years 1854 to 2014 when snowdrops came of horticultural age. It tells the stories of the most important individuals including Shepton's own James Allen, whose fascination with every aspect of the genus *Galanthus* ensured the survival of so many historic snowdrops. The narrative is interwoven with accounts of the introduction of new snowdrop species and new snowdrop variants and provides a history of *Galanthus* cultivation in Britain.

The Authors are both gardeners and they know that gardening is about people. It is people who make and maintain gardens, who sow seeds and take cuttings, who choose plants and nurture rarities, and it is people who pass on their knowledge and their best plants to others.

Tickets are £8 and are available from

- the Welcome stand in the Marquee on 16/17 February;
- on the door and
- [online](#) at
- <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/shepton-mallet-snowdrop-festival-14786523159>

Light Refreshments will be available

www.sheptonssnowdropfestival.org.uk