

## Phil's Picture Posts 4: Flora



### **London 2012**

'Consider the lilies of the field' (Matt. 6.25-34). My knowledge of flowers is limited. I know that these are not lilies, but they are still 'clothed' with amazing colour. Jesus' words remind his listeners of the extent of God's care for us. These first two photographs were taken at the London Olympics.

## London 2012

'As for mortals, their days are like grass; they flourish like flowers of the field, the wind passes over it and they are gone' (Psalm 103.15-16). Human achievements are considerable – these photos were taken on 'Super Saturday' – but we need to hold them in perspective. Nations and empires pass, but God's love endures forever. The Olympic Park was designed as a venue for regeneration, but the new life God gives is witnessed in the cycle of the seasons. God's promise and his faithfulness can be relied upon at all times.



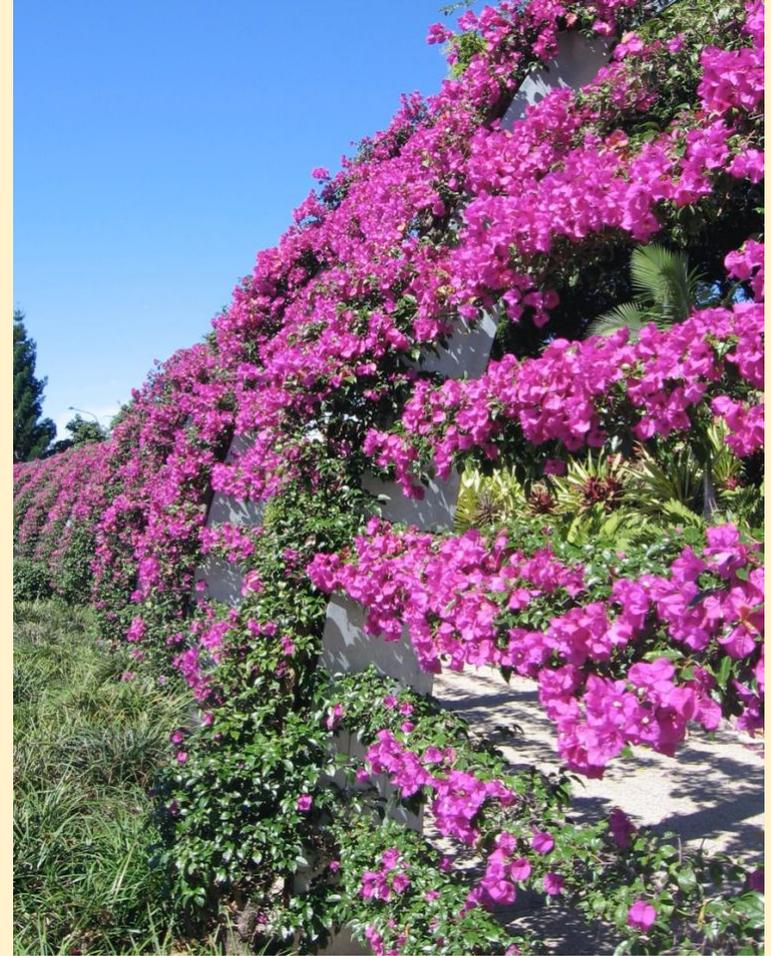


### **Swansea 2007**

I would count irises as being amongst my favourite flowers. The print on our sitting room wall reminds me that Van Gogh had an eye for them too. There is artistry and simple pleasure in the beauty of flowers. This photo was taken in the garden of a colleague during a time of retreat.

### **Brisbane 2010**

This arched walkway provided shade from the heat of the Queensland sunshine. The stunning colour of the bougainvillea flowers provides a vivid contrast with the clear blue sky above. Travelling to different parts of the world always brings the experience of seeing new plants and flowers, especially in the tropics where the climate is very different to the one which we have in the UK. You may be inspired to offer thanks to God for the beauty and variety of flowers from around the world: 'The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come' (Song of Songs 2.12).



**To think about:** The words flower and flourish are related. Ask God to help you to flourish even in a time of lockdown.

**Next time:** Resting