

THE GARDEN
HISTORY SOCIETY

NEWS
SPRING 2010 85



events

conservation

agenda

forum

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Deadlines:

for *micro-news* 85a — 10 May

for *GHS NEWS* 86 — 1 August 2010

from the Chairman

With all the signs pointing to the likelihood of the government reducing funding across the heritage sector the GHS needs to be thinking and planning ahead. Once more I can say how heartening it is that we have such a professional team of trustees, volunteers and employees in place. Our financial position allows us to think ahead without panicking about where tomorrow's funding is coming from, a far cry from several years ago. However there are always issues to tackle and during 2010 we are hoping to put in place measures that would enable us to continue to carry out our core purposes in the event that government funding were to be reduced. We will look at different ways of doing things and consider how to engage new audiences.

We have invigorated the programme of free lectures offered to students of Horticulture, Landscape Management & Landscape Architecture; the purpose being to introduce students to the idea of historic parks and gardens as living places that resonate as much as contemporary designed landscapes. It is likely that they will encounter historic, protected parks and gardens at some time in their careers and we try to introduce them to the excitement and passion that we feel. If there are readers of this *NEWS* that would like to be considered for such a free lecture please get in touch.

Finally a plea from me to remind you that the most effective way to recruit new members is via existing member's enthusiasm; bring a friend to an event or give membership to a member of your family.

I look forward to seeing you during 2010,

Dominic Cole

contact us

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Front cover: The Temple of Neptune, Monrepos Park (Vyborg, Russia). The original Temple was built in the 1790s, renovated in the 1830s, destroyed in 1947 and was restored in 1999 by Russian and Finnish restorers. Photo by Julia Soultanova, February 2010. There will be an article about Mon Repos, its history and ongoing restoration, in the next edition, but I couldn't resist this picture... CB



- Project site boundary
- Arena
- Equestrian Cross Country Course
- Temporary event facilities

extracted from planning application 09/2598/F (Greenwich Park)

The Sixth GHS Annual Essay Prize

The Society has already launched its Sixth Annual Essay Prize, with a new, later, entry date to enable students to work on their submissions over the Easter holidays. This year's entries can be submitted up to and including **30 April 2010**. The prize is open to any student registered in a *bona fide* university or institute of higher education, or any student who has graduated from such an institute in the past twelve months.

Submissions must be 5000–6000 words and the only restriction on subject matter is that it must be of relevance to garden history. The prize was established to encourage vibrant, scholarly research and writing and these qualities are reflected in the winning entries (see *GHS NEWS* 83, 2009).

The prize includes a cheque for £250 (to be awarded at the GHS Annual Summer Garden Party), free membership of the society for a year and consideration for publication in *Garden History*. All previous winners have been accepted for publication and often the best of the non-winning entries are invited to submit to the journal; several entries from last year's competition are currently in preparation for publication in forthcoming issues.

Download the Entry Form and Rules for Submissions at: www.gardenhistorysociety.org/publications/6th-annual-essay-prize/

The Essay Prize is supported by NFU Mutual.

GHS Register of Research

You will find enclosed another form for the new *Register of Research*, which might have passed you by in our last mailing. The *Register* is intended to record research, in progress or completed, both by members of the Society and other affiliated groups, as a guide to their research activities and interests, and so to help avoid unnecessary duplication of effort, and promote the encouragement of information exchange.

To these ends the Society is willing to act as postal/email intermediary if requested, although normally members should contact contributors directly through addresses listed.

We apologise for the delay in migrating the previous version to the website, but this proved more complicated than expected. We are now gathering material for the new *Register*, with some members already having sent in completed forms. These are being collected at our London office, and will be passed on to the Registrar in due course.

The *Register* will be open to all people researching garden history world-wide, members and non-members alike, thus avoiding the need to consult several different registers. Amendments to existing entries, particularly email addresses, should be submitted by email to: register@gardenhistorysociety.org

GHS events 2010 and beyond...

Discovering Gilbert White's Garden **David Standing, Head Gardener,** **Gilbert White's Garden**

GHS lecture, Cowcross Street
6.30pm, Wednesday 10 March

Gilbert White, the eighteenth-century country parson and naturalist, created his garden at Selborne where he lived from the age of nine until his death in 1793. There he observed nature, experimented with horticulture and emulated

contemporary trends in landscape design. For a number of years the estate has been owned by a charitable trust which, in 1994, awarded Kim Wilkie, garden historian and landscape architect, the task of restoring the garden and landscape beyond. He was assisted by David Standing, who in this lecture will describe how a wide variety of evidence (including White's splendidly detailed journals and letters, garden archaeology and twelve water colours by Samuel Hieronymus Grimm) has been used over thirty years to piece together

the layout and planting of this famous and idiosyncratic garden.

Tickets: £8 for members in advance, £10 for non-members and members purchasing at the door, ticket includes one glass of wine. A booking form was included with the last edition of GHS micro-news, or can be downloaded from GHS website. Tickets, subject to availability, can be bought at the door on the night from 6pm (advisable to ring first on 020 7490 2974)

Study Day at Chiswick House **Saturday 20 March**

SOLD OUT, with a large waiting list.

Reputations **The GHS with/at the Garden Museum** **6.30 for 7pm, Wednesday 8 April**

The Museum's retrospective of Christopher Lloyd will be the backdrop for a debate about the reputations of great gardeners and garden designers after their death. In comparison to artists and architects the reputations of gardeners and garden designers have a uniquely short and uncertain 'half-life' in posterity. Why does Gertude Jekyll cast such a shadow over the present but Valerie Finnis and Cedric Morris have been all but forgotten? Will future generations do justice to Rosemary Verey? How does this ephemeral status impact upon the conservation of designed landscapes, particularly in changing urban environments or in gardens characterised by their planting. Penelope Hobhouse, Dominic Cole, GHS Chairman, and Christopher Woodward, the Museum's Director, will discuss the notion of heroes and heroines in the world of gardening.

Price: £10 for GHS/GM members; non-members: £15. Paying Bar. Contact: Jessica Turtle at the Garden Museum: 02071418865 ext *822 or send your cheque (with SAE) to her at: Events and Hire Venue Manager, Garden Museum, London SE1 7LB

Study Tour to The Gardens of Persia **Friday 23 April to Thursday 6 May**

There are still a few places available on the Iran Study Tour. However, the last date for contacting Daniel Moore of Distant Horizons, our travel



Courtesy of Houghton Library, Harvard University.
MS Eng 731.11.

A view of Selborne and hanger from the short Lithe by Samuel Hieronymus Grimm, 1776. The folding frontispiece to the first edition of The Natural History and Antiquities of Selborne, published in 1789

agents, is **Friday 12 March**, so as to allow him to acquire visas; see *GHS NEWS* 84 for full details of the itinerary.

The tour is limited to 20 people and led by Erica Hunningher, garden writer, lecturer and editor who knows Iran well. Gardens and the water that brings them life will be the main themes of the trip. Price: £2,680, includes round trip air fares from London, all domestic air and land travel, all hotel accommodation in de-luxe or best available hotels based on double occupancy, all meals, all tours, excursions, sight-seeing and portage. The single room supplement is £440 per person.

Contact Daniel Moore: info@distanthorizons.co.uk or: 0151 625 3425.

Visit to Highgrove with Sussex Gardens Trust **May**

A repeat visit to the gardens of Highgrove, the home of HRH The Prince of Wales, near Tetbury in Gloucestershire has been requested for May. Several of our members failed to secure a place on our oversubscribed visit last June. This year's visit it is to be organised in conjunction with Sussex Gardens Trust. Although we have asked for dates in the first half of the month, we cannot be certain which date we will be allocated until early March. Places will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis so please let us know if you are interested. It is appreciated that you may have to decline when you are informed of the date which might, after all, not suit you.

Tickets are £25 per person, an increase over last year since the donation per visitor to the Prince's

Charities has been raised. Email: Robert Peel: rma.peel@btopenworld.com or by post at: 34 Rodney Court, London W9 1TH.

Sussex Gardens Trust are delighted to welcome GHS members in Sussex to other events there, see www.sussexgardenstrust.org.uk for their full events listings.

**Study Day at Heythrop Park,
Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire**
10am for 10.30, Tuesday 11 May

In August 2009, Nick Owen and John Phibbs of Debois Landscape Survey Group held a workshop to see whether there was any interest in reviewing ideas about planting in 18th century gardens. It was called 'The trouble with shrubs'. The response of those invited was a clear yes to the review, only muted by puzzlement about the nature of the trouble.

This day is designed as an introduction to June's Painshill Conference (*see page 33*), organised by the Painshill Trust. Heythrop is a special site where new ideas about planting were being developed before the term 'shrubbery' had even been invented (a fuller description of the significance of Heythrop can be found *on pages 16 to 20*).

Registration will be from 10am at Heythrop (Park) which is now a very comfortable hotel. The programme, which may be altered by the weather, will start at 10.30 with talks about the landscape and the research that John Phibbs and Nick Owen have undertaken at Heythrop.

A shorter walk to the Cold Bath Terrace and the Grand Avenue before lunch in the hotel will be followed after lunch by a much longer walk: through the Little Wilderness to the bottom of the South Avenue, from the Great Wilderness, Kite Grove, the Archer bridge and back to the Bowling Green. We shall pass along the Serpentine Walk which, according to John, is 'on its own worth the money of any shrubo-mane'. Examples of layered shrubbery, coppice, open and closed groves, all from an Italianate design, are still legible, even though it may require an expert eye to point them out to the less observant. The afternoon will end with tea in the hotel

The price is £60 per person. For further information and booking forms, please contact Lucy Kilborn: LDaubeny@aol.com or Anne Richards: 01432 354 479.

Study Day: What to do with a Walled Garden?
Bolfracks Garden & Castle Menzies, Aberfeldy
Saturday 15 May

Our speakers will be: **Ken Cox**, Glendoick Nursery on *Walled Gardens of Scotland*; **Robert Grant**, National Trust for Scotland on *The Conservation of Walled Gardens* and **Paul Findlay**, Castle Menzies on *Restoring the Castle Menzies Walled Garden*.

Bolfracks is an interesting garden which has been cultivated for at least 200 years, despite its unpromising location on a north-facing slope. It includes a walled garden and is now run organically, as is the rest of the estate. Castle Menzies has a walled garden in the process of being restored.

Own transport, car share or the possibility of a coach from Edinburgh or Perth. Cost: £42 including coach transport and lunch. £20 without coach transport (prices here are provisional), please check the website or contact Sue Hewer: 01575 560 259, email: suehewer1@btopenworld.com, or by letter (with SAE) to: Clintlaw Farmhouse, Lintrathen, Kirriemuir, Angus DD8 5JF

The GHS Annual Summer Garden Party
Geffrye Museum, London
Tuesday 1 June

We are delighted to be holding our summer party at the **Geffrye Museum** again, now with added tube/rail station (Hoxton: London Overground). The summer garden party invitation/booking form will be sent out under separate cover in early summer, as usual.

**Study Tour to The Gardens of the
Channel Islands**
Friday 4 to Thursday 10 June

Tour now full.

**Study Tour of Northamptonshire Houses
and Gardens (and a Castle)**
Wednesday 9 to Friday 11 June

We shall be visiting historic houses and gardens, a castle and its gardens, archaeological sites and one modern garden.



Charles Boot

Herbaceous planting in the gardens at Kelmarsh Hall

Wednesday: A visit to eighteenth-century **Kelmarsh Hall**, the interiors and grounds of which were greatly influenced by Nancy Tree (later Lancaster), whose home this was in the late 1920s. Geoffrey Jellicoe designed the gardens immediately around the Hall. There will be a tour of the house, also of the exhibition of the original furniture commissioned by the Earl of Coventry for Croome Court, Worcestershire, in the 1750s. Guided tour of the gardens after lunch.

Then a visit to the **Old Rectory, Haselbech**. The grounds have fine trees, and the garden area itself includes an old walled garden, herbaceous borders, roses, a bog garden and a potager.

Thursday: A day with garden archaeologist Brian Dix. We visit **Holdenby** to see the footprint of the great Elizabethan mansion and the outlines of its extensive gardens, built by Sir Christopher Hatton from 1583 in anticipation of a visit by Elizabeth I. The house was largely demolished in the seventeenth century. Following a pub lunch, we visit the listed site of the old manor at **Harrington**, originally monastic, with its terraces and series of fishponds. In the evening we visit **Rockingham Castle**, which dates from about 1066. There are 18 acres of gardens, both formal and 'wild', and we have a tour of the gardens and the castle interior, followed by a candlelit supper.

Friday: An all day visit to **Boughton House**, home of the Duke of Buccleuch. Our tour of the great house, with its fine baroque rooms, will also include a look at the Chinese Pavilion made for Montagu House, the family's London home, in the eighteenth century. In the afternoon Brian Dix leads a tour of the extensive gardens. Begun in the 1680s, they were greatly enlarged in the

eighteenth century, and are presently the subject of a restoration programme which includes the new Orpheus design by Kim Wilkie (see **conservation, GHS NEWS 84**).

The cost for all three days is £155 per person which includes all entrances and guided tours, all lunches, teas on Wednesday & Friday and the candlelit supper at Rockingham Castle.

Accommodation and transport are not included, but a brief list of hotels and b&b's will be sent for those booking, together with further details of the visits, a map and directions. Numbers will be limited. To book please write, enclosing an A5 SAE to: Jennifer Meir, Jackson's Barn, Charlecote, Warwick, CV35 9EW or email: jennifer.meir@btinternet.com

Visit to Paxton House, Berwick upon Tweed, Scottish Borders

Saturday 19 June

Paxton House is situated on the banks of the river Tweed. It is a Palladian country house built by the Adam brothers in 1758 for the young Patrick Home. The planting of the woodland and the layout of the estate are based partly on a plan prepared by the landscape designer Robert Robinson, a follower of Capability Brown at about the same time as the house was designed. We shall visit both the gardens and the house.

Own transport, car share or the possibility of a coach from Edinburgh. Cost: c£42 including coach transport and lunch. c£20 without coach transport (prices here are provisional), please check the website or contact Sue Hewer: 01575 560 259, email: suehewer1@btpenworld.com, or by letter (with SAE) to: Clintlaw Farmhouse, Lintrathen, Kirriemuir, Angus DD8 5JF

Day Visit with London Parks & Gardens Trust to Taplow Court and Cliveden, Maidenhead, Bucks

10.30am, Monday 21 June

The properties are contiguous and not only share a spectacular site above the Thames, but were in common ownership of the Earls of Orkney in the 18th century. Taplow Court originated as an eleventh-century manor house, but the present house was built in the 19th century in Jacobean revival style in a setting of a Victorian formal garden with adjacent lawns and woodland walks,



Charles Boot

Trial replanting gets underway this autumn on Fleming's great parterre at Cliveden, high above the Thames

including a Cedar Walk probably laid out in the early 18th century by Lord Orkney. The first great house at Cliveden was designed in 1666 by William Winde for the Duke of Buckingham. The present mansion, by Barry for the Duke of Sutherland, dates from 1851. A Bridgeman amphitheatre, woodland walks, and some garden buildings survive from the eighteenth century, but the spectacular parterre overlooking the river was laid out for the Duke of Sutherland. Lord Astor, who bought the property in 1893, was responsible for the Water Garden, the Long Garden, and most of the large collection of sculpture. Norah Lindsay, Geoffrey Jellicoe and Graham Stuart Thomas all worked at Cliveden in the 20th century. The National Trust is carrying out extensive restoration work of the grounds. The house is a hotel.

10.30am Meet at Taplow Court, tour the gardens.

12noon To Cliveden for lunch in the Orangery

2pm Visit Cliveden Conservation (statuary conservators to the National Trust) with its director, Trevor Proudfoot. This will be followed by an exploration of the grounds led by Richard Wheeler, Curator of Parks and Gardens for the National Trust (south of England).

Travel: Taplow Court (Berry Hill, Taplow, near Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 0ER) is 1 mile north of the A4 on the outskirts of Maidenhead (travelling west) and about 2 miles from Taplow station, on the Reading line from Paddington. Taxis are available.

Cliveden (near Taplow, Maidenhead, Buckinghamshire SL6 0JA) is about 3 miles north of Taplow and 5 miles from Taplow station.

Cost: £35 including lunch (£28 to National Trust members, but you must have your card with

you). For further details and booking form, please contact Robert Peel after the middle of March: rma.peel@btopenworld.com or: Robert Peel, 34 Rodney Court, London W9 1TH

GHS AGM & Annual Conference

***Monasteries to Pharmaceuticals:
the Changing Face of Nottinghamshire's
Historic Parks and Gardens***

**Ancaster Hall, University of Nottingham
Friday 2 July to Sunday 4 July**

The conference will be based at **Ancaster Hall**, on the University Park campus, west of the centre of Nottingham and adjacent to Wollaton Park. Ancaster Hall provides *en-suite* single room accommodation together with conference facilities in which the AGM, lectures and meals will be held.

Friday: The main conference programme will begin with registration during the morning, then a self-service lunch followed by a welcome from Dominic Cole, the Garden History Society Chairman, and an introductory lecture. After a break, the AGM will take place 3 to 5pm then a reception and the AGM Dinner. A book-fair for members will take place in the Hall.



Chloe Bennett

Deer in the Park at Wollaton Hall

Saturday: The day will begin with a visit to **Wollaton Hall**, a sixteenth century Hall set within formal gardens and pleasure grounds of sixteenth, seventeenth, late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. It is fully described in *Garden History* 31:1.

We will drive to the centre of Nottingham to visit **Nottingham Arboretum, Church Cemetery** and **St Ann's Allotments**. Nottingham Arboretum was laid out in 1850–52 by Samuel Curtis (1779–

1860), nurseryman and publisher, later additions include a Chinese bell tower and Russian Sebastopol cannon. Church Cemetery, also known as Rock Cemetery, opened in 1856, was laid out by Edwin Patchitt around the sandstone rocks and old sandpits on the site. It includes catacombs and some fine Edwardian monuments. St Ann's Allotments, include 670 gardens over three connected sites including Hungerhill Gardens. The gardens are still in their original 1830s layout and are a rare survival of hedged plots or detached town gardens. For further information visit www.staa-allotments.org.uk

We will return to Ancaster Hall where the Conference Dinner will take place.



Chloe Bennett

One of many uses made of water at Newstead Abbey

Sunday: Visits will take place on Sunday to **Newstead Abbey** and **Papplewick Hall**. Sir John Byron purchased the Newstead estate which included both properties following the Dissolution of the Monasteries. The gardens and ponds of Newstead Abbey were laid out by the fourth Lord Byron in the early eighteenth century. The poet, George Gordon, sixth Lord Byron sold the estate in the early eighteenth century. Subsequent owners made further additions to the gardens in the nineteenth and early twentieth century. The present Papplewick Hall was built 1781–87 on the site for Frederick Montegu, a friend of William Mason, Thomas Grey and Horace Walpole who are thought to have influenced the design of the parkland. Throsby described the improvements in 1790 ‘... the ground, formed by nature into swells and declivities which slope smoothly into a plain with any abrupt or broken parts, has been laid out with infinite taste and judgement’.

Coaches will leave Papplewick by 4.30pm and

return to Ancaster Hall, Nottingham via the railway station. Please check rail times before booking.

Conference fee per person for the whole conference: **£310** (includes ensuite single rooms, all meals, entrances, lectures and coach travel)

Other options:

Early-bird Conference fee (to be paid by 2 April): **£295**. Non-residential Conference fee (as above except B&B): **£200**. Extra nights B&B (Thursday and Sunday) available pp/per night: **£55**

Optional visits: On Friday morning a visit is being arranged to **Holme Pierrepont** near Nottingham. Please tick the box on your booking form to be sent further details. Details of other places to visit in Nottingham see: www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk

The conference is for members only. The programme is provisional and may be changed. Local members can attend without booking accommodation and it will be possible to book individual days. All members are encouraged to attend the AGM even if they do not wish to participate in the rest of the programme. Nights can be booked before and after the conference. Bookings close on 5 June 2010 but it would be helpful if members could book as soon as possible.

In the event of cancellation we will not be able to return any costs incurred that cannot be recovered and any refunds will be at the organiser's discretion. Members are advised to take out personal travel insurance to guard against late cancellation, illness and protection of their personal effects.

To book the Conference (see booking form) or to find out further details please contact Chloe Bennett by email: chloe.bennett1@btinternet.com or SAE: Chloe Bennett, Dove House, 5 The Street, Thornham Magna, Eye, Suffolk, IP23 8HB. Your bookings and queries will be dealt with after 17 March 2010.

Study Day: The Development of Deer Parks **Reediehill Deer Farm, Auchtermuchty,** **and Falkland Palace, Fife**

Sunday 18 July

We will spend the morning in the company of John and Nichola Fletcher at Reediehill. John is specialist deer vet and Nichola is a cookery writer and chef. John will talk to us about the history of deer parks, followed by Nichola who will tell us something of the history of cooking venison.

Nichola will also provide us with lunch at the farm. In the afternoon we will visit Falkland Palace to look out over the deer park and related trenches from the viewing platform.

Own transport, car share or the possibility of a coach from Edinburgh or the possibility of a lift from the nearest station (Ladybank). Cost: £45 including coach transport and lunch. £25 without coach transport. Contact: Sue Hewer: 01575 560 259, email: suehewer1@btopenworld.com, or by letter (with SAE) to: Clintlaw Farmhouse, Lintrathen, Kirriemuir, Angus DD8 5JF

Jacobites and Tories, Whigs and True Whigs at Wentworth Castle, Barnsley, South Yorkshire Friday 6 August to Sunday 8 August

The conference will explore political gardening in Britain, c1700–c1760, in order to identify the symbolism and meanings embedded within the country estates of Tory and Jacobite landowners. The papers will discuss whether these landscapes can be distinguished from those of Whig politicians, and whether Tories and Jacobites created an iconography of dissent from the Whig governments that managed Britain on behalf of the Hanoverian Kings George I and George II.

The conference will be held in the Palladian wing of the mansion (built 1760–65), and delegates will enjoy meals within the Baroque wing (built 1709–14). Wentworth Castle is also the home of the Northern College for Residential Adult Education which will provide delegates with catering and modern student accommodation.

The Wentworth Castle estate was created by Thomas Wentworth, first Earl of Strafford (second creation) between 1708 and 1739, and further developed by his son William, the second Earl. Although a Tory minister in Queen Anne's government, Thomas Wentworth became a Jacobite conspirator after the accession of George I in 1714 and employed the Jacobite architect, James Gibbs, to design the interior of his new mansion. It is also likely that Gibbs designed garden buildings for Wentworth Castle (*see pages 20 & 21*).

The speakers are: **Patrick Eyres** and **Jane Furse**, Wentworth Castle Heritage Trust; **David Lambert**, Parks Agency; **Tim Richardson**, garden historian and landscape critic; **Michael Symes**, Birkbeck College, University of London; **Carole Fry**, AHC Consultants; **Michael Charlesworth** and

Janine Barchas, University of Texas at Austin; **Terry Friedman**, architectural historian; **George Sheeran**, University of Bradford; **Susannah Fleming**, the Temple Trust. Afternoon tours will explore the mansion, gardens and park.

Full conference with meals, refreshments and two nights bed and breakfast in en-suite single room (limited numbers) or single room with shared facilities: £375. Early payment discount (if paid in full by 1 April 2010): £350. Other prices on application from Dr Patrick Eyres: patrickjeyres@googlemail.com or download the booking form from the GHS website.

Sugnall walled garden and *ferme ornée* September

A visit to Sugnall in Staffordshire, home of **David & Karen Jacques**, is being planned for September. We shall look at the restoration work in the walled garden (*see pages 21 & 22*) and explore the *ferme ornée* (which dates from the 1730's, older than The Leasowes), where David has been re-planting the hedges.

Details will be published in early summer's *GHS micro-news* and/or can be obtained from Pamela Paterson: pamelaathome@talktalk.net

Brogdale and Doddington Place Gardens Thursday 7 October

Following on from the successful 'Fruit in Historic Gardens' Study Day which the GHS organised in November 2008, there will be a visit to Brogdale Farm near Faversham in Kent to see the National Fruit Collection. Including more than 3,500 named varieties of apples, pears, plums, cherries, bush fruit, vines and cobnut cultivars, this is one of the largest collections of fruit in the world.

Dr Joan Morgan, pomologist and fruit historian, who lectured at the Study Day and is closely associated with the work being carried out at Brogdale, will take us on a guided tour of the orchards. There will also be a short talk by **Tom La Dell**, a director of Brogdale Collections that runs the public access to the fruit collections. Plans have been prepared to create a series of gardens showing the history of fruit cultivation, the origin of fruit cultivars and contemporary fruit growing: for more information see www.brogdalecollections.co.uk.

After lunch we will visit nearby **Doddington Place Gardens**, noted for the cloud-like yew hedges planted in the early 20th century, the woodland garden and Wellingtonia walk, the sunk garden, and rock garden with its series of descending pools, the lowest and largest of which was restored in 2003.

Contact Ruth Brownlow: 020 7607 5256, email: ruth.brownlow@gmail.com or write to The Garden History Society, 70 Cowcross Street, London EC1M 6EJ (please mark the envelope 'Brogdale' and include an SAE)

A Panorama of Parks

GHS/LOUDCE joint weekend at Rewley House, Oxford
Friday 22 to Sunday 24 October

The weekend will consider the development of parks physically and conceptually over the centuries, from medieval to modern and private to public. It includes a visit to the University Parks.

Contact: The Short Courses Administrator, LOUDCE, 1 Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2JA. Tel: 01865 270380, email: ppdayweek@conted.ox.ac.uk

GHSS Winter lecture

Avenues in the C17 and C18 landscape
Sarah Couch
Glasite Meeting House, Barony Street, Edinburgh
6.30pm, Monday 1 November

Sarah has expertise in heritage landscape, horticulture and architecture. She has made a particular study of the development of entrance and other avenues.

Members £5, non-Members £7.50 Payment on the door

Study Day at Hampton Court Palace
Ecology and the Designed Landscape
Saturday 13 November

A debate about the issues of nature and historic landscapes, the potential conflicts of interest and how these can be overcome. Speakers from each side of the argument will be those who meet these challenges in their working lives. It should be a lively but positive discussion. Fuller details will be

published in the next *GHS micro-news* due in the early summer.

GHSS Winter lecture

The Origin of Plants
Maggie Campbell-Culver
Royal Botanic Garden of Edinburgh
7pm for 7.30pm, Thursday 9 December

Maggie is a garden and plant historian, and a Fellow of The Linnean Society. In September 2001, after five years of research, she published *The Origin of Plants*, a chronology of the plants and people who have shaped Britain's garden history from the earliest times. The book was short-listed for a Guild of Garden Writers Award, and the paperback edition was published in Spring 2004. Maggie's talk will focus on historic plant introductions.

Members £7.50, non-members £10.00 Payment on the door

Very advance dates, 2011

There will be another **London Winter Lecture Series** in February & March, and a **Study Day on the Works of Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe** in April.

There will be a **Study Tour to Turin** in the late spring. This 4-day study tour is being planned to take in the gardens of the Savoy family, "La Corona di Delizie", now collectively a World Heritage Site, with other important gardens in and around Turin. The city will be celebrating the 150th anniversary of its becoming the first capital of a united Italy. There is another planned **Study Tour to Gardens in Cumbria** in September; and a final **Study Tour to Gardens in Mexico** is projected for October 2011. No itinerary is yet available, but we shall visit some of the works of Luis Barragan and hopefully Las Posas, the surrealist garden of Edward James. Andrew Semple is also exploring the possibilities of a **Study Tour to Gardens in and around Dublin** for the summer. If this comes about full details and booking details will be published in this Autumn's *NEWS* 86

The **AGM & Annual Conference** will be at University of Keele in Staffordshire in late July.

There will be Garden Visits to **Berkshire** in May, **Gilbert White's House** in August, and another Study Day in November. Full details of these and other events will be in our Autumn Issue.

Heritage Protection in England

It would be surprising if heritage protection featured as a major issue in the impending General Election; but the outcome of that event has the potential to have a significant impact on the way in which the historic environment is managed in England for many years to come.

With cuts of up to 20% in funding for the arts being forecast by some commentators, it seems impossible that funding for the heritage sector will not face similar constraints. Such a changed environment will inevitably force us to reconsider what The Garden History Society, in its role as a statutory consultee does, and how it delivers its work. Meeting this challenge will require constructive thinking both on our part, and on the part of partner organisations with broadly similar objectives.

As has been previously reported, the draft *Heritage Protection Bill* (2008) has been dropped from this Government's legislative programme. What is not yet clear is the extent to which an incoming Government of any political complexion would seek to implement its provisions.

Implementation of at least those sections of the Bill which deal with the streamlining and simplification of the heritage protection system becomes all the more desirable in an economic climate which favours de-regulation in the cause of economic growth, and where there can be a perception that heritage protection can be a brake on investment and development. Precisely this area is already the subject of two Government reviews; one being undertaken for the Department for Business, Industry and Skills and the other by the Department for Communities and Local Government.

In order to bring some clarity to the positions adopted by the different political parties prior to the Election, and to remind them of the importance, not least the economic importance, of the heritage sector, the Heritage Alliance (formerly Heritage Link) will be meeting with the three key shadow heritage and planning spokesmen.

Planning Policy Statement 15

Government is now considering the responses received to its consultation on the draft *PPS15*

and accompanying *Practice Guidance*. It appears likely that the final *PPS* will be published in mid-to late March without a further round of public consultation. The new document will supersede *PPG15* with immediate effect, but as yet the status of the *Practice Guidance* remains unclear. It seems likely that the *Guidance* will not, after all, take the form of a 'living draft', but will remain substantive for a period of two to three years before being revised. The *PPS* itself is unlikely to be revised for about five years.

In order to help local amenity societies and other interested parties to develop the 'local lists' created under the new *Planning Statement*, Heritage Alliance is planning training events; along with the Association of Gardens Trusts we are planning at least one similar event which will consider the specific issue of developing lists of locally significant designed landscapes.

Upgrades for historic cemeteries

We are very pleased that as a result of work commissioned last year, English Heritage has announced a significant revision of the grading of cemeteries included on the *Register of Parks and Gardens*. As well as upgrades to Grade I for major metropolitan cemeteries such as **Kensal Green** and **Highgate**, the revised grades also recognise the seminal influence of sites such as the 1820s



Jonathan Lovie

Golders Green Crematorium, London – laid out with advice from William Robinson from 1901, with later elements by Edward White of Milner, White & Son



Rousham, Kent's Mill and Eyecatcher, 'the views out are as important as those within the garden', Mavis Batey

devastating impact on the setting of the Grade II landscape at **Aynhoe Park** (recently rescued from inappropriate development proposals by a sympathetic new private owner), but would also seem to be visible in the key 'Kentian' vistas from the Grade I garden at **Rousham**. As members will no doubt recall, over the years there have been many threats to the integrity of this essential element of the internationally significant and seminal garden, including, for example, a proposed telephone mast to the east of Kent's Grade II* Listed Eyecatcher.

Despite these detrimental proposals, the designed landscape has survived and remains astonishingly close to Kent's original aesthetic intention. That moving rotor blades visible above the horizon should be allowed to intrude upon this quintessential eighteenth century landscape garden and its wider rural designed landscape is surely unthinkable and must be resisted with vigour. Once again the Society will make representations to the forthcoming Public Inquiry highlighting the impact of the scheme on the setting of both Rousham and Aynhoe.

Jonathan Lovie

St James' Cemetery in Liverpool. More surprisingly, perhaps, two twentieth century commemorative landscapes, **Golders Green Crematorium** (with grounds designed in part by William Robinson), and the **Stoke Poges Gardens of Remembrance** in Buckinghamshire have also been raised to Grade I status, while Thomas Mawson's 1920s **Saffron Hill Cemetery**, Leicester has risen to Grade II*.

This comprehensive re-assessment of the significance of all registered cemeteries is very much to be welcomed, and has removed many inconsistencies in the *Register's* previous designation of this landscape type. At the same time it is interesting, and also somewhat alarming, to note that Highgate Cemetery along with several other major London cemeteries, has been included on the *At Risk Register*.

Wind Farms: again

Following the report in the previous **NEWS**, we can report on two further potentially detrimental on-shore wind farm schemes. In both cases the local planning authority failed to comply with its statutory duty and neglected to consult The Garden History Society on the proposals.

The first scheme, near Yelvertoft in Northamptonshire, has the potential to affect views from and the setting of the Grade II landscape at **Stamford Hall** across the county border in Leicestershire. This scheme is to be the subject of a Planning Inquiry to which we shall submit evidence.

The second scheme is perhaps even more alarming. Four turbines proposed at the Fewcott site on the Oxfordshire-Northamptonshire border would not only have an immediate and probably

conservation notes from our officer in Scotland

Policy & Legislation

Over the past two years Historic Scotland (HS) has been withdrawing sections of the *Memorandum of Guidance on Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas* which was last updated in 1998. Section 5

'Gardens and Designed Landscapes' was superseded with the publication of *Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP)* 3 early in March 2008. Last autumn, under the title of *Managing Change in the Historic*

Environment, HS published the first of a suite of *Guidance Notes* to replace the *Memorandum*, for public consultation. We were disappointed that of the first fourteen guidance notes produced, ‘gardens and designed landscapes’ was not among them. Whilst the guidance notes relating to Setting, Boundaries and Demolition contain some material relevant to designed landscapes, we would hope that Historic Scotland would see fit to produce a more specific note in the near future. Autumn 2009 also saw the update of the now consolidated *SHEP* to include policy relating to Listing and Listing Building Consent. There were no changes to the policy for gardens and designed landscapes with this update.

Following the public consultation on the *Historic Environment Amendment Bill Scotland* earlier in 2009, the responses received suggested that two main areas of concern not addressed by the *Amendment Bill* were the lack of a statutory duty of care for the historic environment, and the lack of a statutory duty for local authorities to maintain *Historic Environment Records (HERs)* and *Sites and Monuments Records (SMRs)*. Discussion is now underway with the Built Environment Forum Scotland to see whether it might be possible to lobby for inclusion of these additional amendments to the *Bill*.

Early in November we attended the Ministerial Summit on the Built Environment, organised by the then Scottish Minister for Culture and External Affairs, Mike Russell. Held at Glasgow University the summit attracted delegates from the wide range of heritage organisations across Scotland. A series of presentations was followed by discussions chaired by the Minister who encouraged very lively debate by roving through the audience with his hand-held microphone. This event was then followed up by a debate in the Scottish Parliament on the Historic Environment, recognising the value of Scottish Heritage as a resource.

Provan Hall, Glasgow

In September we were commissioned by Glasgow City Council to assess the significance of the surviving terraced gardens attached to Provan Hall in Garthamlock (*right*), to the east of the city. Parts of the building date back to 1575 and it is one of the oldest surviving buildings in Glasgow. Although little is known about Provan Hall, until

the early 16th century it is recorded as being attached to Glasgow Cathedral, and is illustrated on the Timothy Pont (c1583–96) and Joan Bleau (1654) maps as situated on the edge of the Bishop’s Hunting grounds, then on the outskirts of the city. Between the early 1500s and 1935 Provan Hall was largely in private ownership, apart from a period from 1667 to 1729 when family debts forced the sale of the property to the Burgh of Glasgow. From the mid 18th century the estate appears to have been managed primarily as a farm but in the late 19th and until the sale of the hall to the National Trust for Scotland in 1935, became renowned for its south facing terraced gardens; one observer even compared them with those at Drummond Castle!

By the mid 20th century both house and grounds had fallen into disrepair and the property surrounded by industrial development and a municipal tip. In the early 1970s Glasgow City Council embarked upon an ambitious reclamation scheme to create a new public park, Auchinlea, to the south and west of Provan Hall. Unfortunately, even as recently as the 1970s attitudes towards conservation were not what they are today, and the lower terraces of the gardens were bulldozed, levelled and incorporated into the new park.



Alison Allighan

Provan Hall from Auchinlea Park: remnants of terraced gardens show lack of connection to new Park layout

The only remnant of the lower gardens, the former orchard area, is a group of cherry trees, probably around 100 years old which still fruit prolifically. Whilst the creation of Auchinlea Park has undoubtedly improved the overall setting of Provan Hall, the retention of only the top terrace gives the impression of a fortified property with



Provan Hall's remnant gardens

little relationship or access to the park. Further, the loss of the much of the terracing has made it impossible to ascertain their date of construction or original purpose. As a result, a landscape which once may have been a candidate for the *Inventory* in Scotland can now only be accredited with Regional/Local interest owing to the age of the principal building.

Provan Hall is now leased by Glasgow City Council and used as an educational centre, and the council is giving some consideration to restoring the terraces. With so little information surviving on which to base a reconstruction, we have advised that this may not be the best course of action and perhaps consideration should be given to trying to visually and practically link Provan Hall to its new setting.

Other news

There can be no denying that the recession started to bite in Scotland in 2009 and this was reflected in the number of proposed developments about which we were approached for advice. However the quest for housing land within designed landscapes remains, with yet another application for housing within the designed landscape at Coodham, South Ayrshire. With **Coodham House** now restored with the help of enabling housing, and further planning permission for housing granted in March 2009, there can be no justification for this latest proposal. In 1994 Coodham was assessed to be worthy of inclusion in the *Inventory* and earmarked as a candidate site. However subsequent development has left this landscape now worthy of only Regional or Local significance.

At **Nisbet House** in the Scottish Borders, on a much smaller scale, but equally damaging for the landscape, is the proposal (which has now been granted planning permission) to construct two two-storey houses immediately adjacent to and overlooking the A-listed walled garden. The walled garden sits with a group of A-listed structures within the core of the landscape, including Nisbet House and the stable block. The owner has recently restored both the house and ornamental gardens; his next project was to be the restoration of the walled garden which is currently used for grazing. The scale of these proposed dwellings will dominate both the walled garden and the existing structures and their settings. We have joined with other heritage bodies and written to the Scottish Executive Planning Division to request that this application should be called in and decided by the Scottish Ministers.

The latter half of 2009 saw far more consultations resulting from the Scottish Rural Development Programme (SRDP) applications reaching the conservation office. This scheme has now been running for two years and is proving an important source of funding for woodland management in designed landscapes.

Our volunteers in East Renfrewshire have continued with their survey work, a further six garden of a least local significance recorded during the autumn. With the survey work now nearing completion on around a dozen gardens we shall begin the next stage of the work with a value assessment of the gardens before presenting the findings to East Renfrewshire Council. The data collection will also have then reached the stage when it can be submitted to the *UK Parks and Gardens Database* by the volunteers. At the end of September we held a training day in Dumfries for the second of our survey groups. A core group of around twenty individuals resulting from the training day and lead by GHS members Theo & Julian Stanning, and Janet Hannay are now recording the seven properties in the Nith Estuary National Scenic Area (NSA). When this initial stage is complete they hope to move on to the Fleet Valley NSA followed by the wider Dumfries and Galloway region. With such a vast area to cover they would welcome any interest from potential volunteers in Dumfries and Galloway to participate in this project.

Alison Allighan

agenda

a roundup of what's going on in garden history, parks and gardens

Why Heythrop?

John Phibbs

Impressive as the design of Heythrop is, it is its astonishing precocity that attracts the attention.

The early 18th century

While there were an earlier house and park on the site, we may say that Heythrop emerged as a landscape of national significance after 1705 when Charles Talbot, Duke of Shrewsbury, bought the estate after returning from Italy. By 1718, when he died, the bones at least of the landscape, the avenues, including the Grand Avenue, the follies and bridges, the plantations, were in place or about to go up. We also suspect that the Kite Grove cascades on the River Swere had been constructed.

No designer has been firmly linked with this layout. However, it might have been influenced by Alexander Pope and Matthew Prior (who visited in 1717), by Henry Wise (based at Blenheim and, as Royal Gardener, working to the Duke), by Stephen Switzer (who first visited in 1710), by Henry Boyle (statesman and botanist, whose position as the Duke's 'gardener' at his London house was mentioned by Macky), by Charles Bridgeman (who worked in some capacity with Wise and Switzer), by Thomas Archer (who had trained in Italy and designed the house), and by Joseph Addison, whom Charles Talbot met during his self-imposed exile in Italy. The design has elements that might have derived from any of these people, however in almost every case one might argue that these elements were first tried at Heythrop.

The **site of the house**, at the edge of a plateau on a promontory of land, is echoed in other contemporary house sites, for example Bramham and Matthew Prior's Down Hall. The former has very much the feel of a Switzer design, while Charles Bridgeman worked at the latter; at both, the deer park and ornamented landscape are broadly confined by the surrounding valleys. At all three it is the falling ground surrounding the ornamented landscape that is most planted (the idea that Charles Hamilton, among others, was to reverse in the 1740's).

The **Grand Avenue**, with its platoons and mixed planting, is most obviously paralleled by Wotton

and Hackwood (late 17th century), by Bridgeman's Eastbury (ca1718), Wise's Blenheim (1710–16), and the Holm Oaks at Holkham. There was another, similar, at Tatton, that survived long enough to be criticized by Humphry Repton in 1792, 'of all unnatural planting, the alternate mixture of two different and very opposite kinds of trees, is the most glaring. I first saw Tatton Avenue consisting of alternate Scotch-firs and Beech in the Autumn, when the latter had assumed the beautiful orange tint peculiar to the beeches foliage; which tho' violently contrasted, is not always out of harmony with the dark greens of the Fir or Pine tribes.' After these more or less contemporary beginnings, the system was continued e.g. at St Osyth's Priory and at Woburn (probably in the 1730's and the 1740's respectively), and under Brown's hand towards the end of the century at Tottenham and Springhill among others. That at Heythrop however has reasonable claims to be 'the first of the kind in England', as Mrs Lybbe Powys noted in 1778, and is the grandest and most elaborate (by way of comparison, Switzer did not use platoons even in his grandiose scheme for Paston, published in 1718). Given the prominence of the Duke of Shrewsbury, Heythrop is also likely to have been the most influential of these landscapes. The narrowing of the avenue, though it can be found in deer courses, is also unusual in a formal planting, but has occasional contemporary examples in Thomas Archer's house at Hale, Bridgeman's Gunton, John James' Warbrook, all of which are more or less contemporary.

The ear-like plantings, apparently drawn as shrubberies, at the **head of the avenue**, although they predate Lord Petre's experiments by a generation, also seem to be in his style.

The '**Tew Approach**', '**Road Enstone Approach**' and old '**Broadstone Approach**' were also planted with innovative designs. The last of these, with its serpentine line and serpentine avenue, is again found in Switzer (and of course in Brown's designs) but must be counted as among the first of its kind in England, even if it was not planted until the Road Enstone Bridge

had been built (there is some evidence for a date of 1728).

Within these avenues we also see among the first **clumps** to be planted in England. Ring counts suggest that London and Wise may have been responsible for clumps at Petworth, but it is as likely that there Brown moved trees planted by London and Wise into clumps later in the century. The clumps at Heythrop on the other hand remained a model for a planting style into the 19th century, with commentary by George Mason and William Sawrey Gilpin.

The **winding drive** through the coppices of Foxberry Wood, Fattingsfield Copse, Kite Grove and the Wilderness, shown on the 1791 plan but since simplified, is to be contrasted with the sinuous arabesques of the 'arti-natural' promoted by Batty Langley in the 1720's, found at Wanstead, among other places, and associated with Switzer (eg at Nostell Priory and Paston) at about the same time. However Heythrop's simpler and more enduring version had been built by 1718, as Switzer himself implied. Thomas Archer also built a serpentine drive through his pleasure ground at Hale, probably shortly after 1714. This more plain line is common to Brown's work (for example the walk around the lawn at Blenheim), later in the 18th century. The nervous-looking local sinuosities in the walk can be seen in Kent's edge to the canal at Chiswick, but again this is later. What it seems to represent is an early attempt to address the genius loci, by steering round and setting off impressive trees and stools, as well as, surely the earliest surviving evidence for the perception of coppice as beautiful in its own right. The cascades on the Swere, to which we would also like to give an early 18th century date, are constructions in the same spirit, and would in that case also be counted amongst the earliest ever made in England.

The **Serpentine Walk** itself, planted with flowering shrubs, bounded on both sides by banks and ditches, just as Switzer recommended, and running from the Octagonal Bowling Green to the Archer Bridge, has no precedents but of course the idea can be found in Addison, and was taken up by Switzer, finding mature expression with Philip Southcote a generation later. It is the single most iconic survival at Heythrop.

It seems certain that some of the **ha-has** at least had been built by about 1710 (the ha-ha below the pond on the South Avenue is a likely

candidate). While not necessarily the first of their kind in England, these would have been amongst the first. The earliest ha-has at Stowe, for example, are first recorded in about 1718.

On a similar, practical note, Heythrop is the earliest garden that we have recorded to have its **walled garden** at the far end of the pleasure ground from the house; another good Brownian detail, though one finds it also at Hale.

More significant still is Heythrop's **calling in of the countryside**, proclaimed in the design of the building itself, as Viscount Perceval, John Loveday and Mrs Lybbe Powys, among 18th century visitors, all noted, and in the locations of the 'Alcove Seat' and 'Talbot Seat'. Thus Heythrop has claims to be the first *ferme ornée*, as Switzer implied, and also the first to incorporate ordinary coppice, arable land, and even, perhaps, ordinary houses (the Woodman's Cottage) within the pleasure ground, as Addison prescribed.

Finally we have the '**Cold Bath Terrace**', south of the house, a design so idiosyncratic in the way that it addresses its setting that it has to be regarded as an early experiment. This must rank with a number of Bridgeman's designs (particularly Langley, Essex, which may also have had cascades in the river) and places such as Sherborne Castle, where Pope advised, as a cradle of the English Landscape Garden. However its influence on Rousham (the use of 'Roman' architecture, the combination of formal terrace and informal rill, pool and planting) will always seem likely and once again sets the landscape at Heythrop apart.

This list of firsts is so long already as to test credibility, but there are further elements (the



John Phillips

The Serpentine Walk, shown here, ran from the Bowling Green to the Archer Bridge

Fishing Lakes, the Wilderness Walks, the Moss House) for which we have no date, and which we have attributed to the mid-18th century only because they fit that later period stylistically and because reason insists that Heythrop can not have initiated so many different elements of the English style. Neither of these arguments can be regarded as persuasive however.

How then are we to account for this achievement in a garden still regarded as unfinished at the Duke's death? Three possible influences have already been canvassed by others: the military (in the design of the avenues), the political (that is to say, Toryism, and particularly Shrewsbury's friendship with St John and Bathurst), and Italy (gained from his own experience and from his wife Adelaide).

The **military**, as a theme in gardens has been explored by Jane Brown (*In pursuit of Paradise*, 1999, pp.83–105) and the Grand Avenue at Heythrop looks like nothing so much as an army on the move, with its scouts and light-armed forces deployed around the columns of men, however Charles Talbot was not a military man and is not known to have fought any battles. Heythrop's Grand Avenue is marching in the direction of Victory at Blenheim, but we are unclear as to Talbot's relations with Marlborough during the years 1706–10, when the house was constructed.

Italian influence on the English landscape tradition has been urged most strongly by John Dixon Hunt (*Garden and Grove: the Italian Renaissance garden in the English Imagination 1600–1750*, 1986). It is a great shame that he did not explore Heythrop in the course of that book. This influence can be traced today in the architecture of the buildings: not only the house, but also the bridges, the Cold Bath and the nymphaeum-like 'Three Arched Screen', but more significant here is the influence of *villeggiatura* on the landscape: siting the house in the middle of a working landscape and calling in the countryside. Heythrop does provide evidence for a link between Italy and the English landscape style that is as persuasive as anything John Dixon Hunt has found. Thus in 1718 Switzer recorded the birth of the English style at Heythrop in terms that plagiarise Addison's essay of 1712; an essay that promoted the ideal of the *ferme ornée* as French and Italian in style. Addison is likely enough to have visited Heythrop himself before 1712, for he had met the Duke

in Italy, and was presumably acquainted with him through Henry Boyle. Finally the Duke and Duchess evidently had an interest in things Italian.

Lastly there is the **Stoic Toryism** usually associated with St John (Lord Bolingbroke), with Riskins, Bucks, and Dawley Farm, Middx. Aping Cincinnatus, this mock-agrarian movement was consciously intended both to resettle the suspect Tories as loyal Englishmen in England and to show them turning their backs on power and the trappings of power. Heythrop undoubtedly does sit with these landscapes, though it does appear to be the earliest as well as very much the most intact, and, probably, the most influential of them. It has its two faces, the military magnificence of the Grand Avenue to the north is in complete contrast to the rough-hewn Italianate pleasure ground to the south of the house, the combination of the two, greatness in simple retirement, is the stuff of the way the Tories sought to reposition themselves.

The mid-18th century

It appears that the Archer bridge on the 'Tew Approach' was sunk by the construction of the **Fish Ponds** in 1750, and it is stylistically likely that the **cascades** and **Moss House** were added at the same time. For practical reasons it is likely that the '**forcing wheel**', praised by Loudon in 1806, was a part of these water-works, indeed it may have been a cause. Even with this mid-18th century date, the sinking of the Archer bridge does precede Brown's more famous exploit at Blenheim, from 1764, and once again, given the proximity of the two parks, seems likely to have influenced it.

The fishing lakes are first referred to in the



The highly italianate Nymphaeum or 'Three Arched Screen', on the Cold Bath Terrace

1759 plan schedule and we therefore regard this campaign (if such it was) as complete by that date.

The **Wilderness Walks**, east of the Cold Bath, are first specifically mentioned in the 1794 plan schedule, the lightly serpentine walk, well away from the ha-ha and accompanied with loose shrubberies, is so much of a piece with mid-18th century landscape that we also attribute it to this period – if carried out during the Duke's lifetime, as most modern authorities on Heythrop have supposed, they would rank as prototypes.

If we have dated these works correctly, then they are stylistically of a piece with Capability Brown's early landscapes, with which they would be contemporary. Another influence might be Shenstone's the Leasowes; however there is no evidence of any involvement either way there.

After 1870

Although the Society's Heythrop Study Day (see p6) will concentrate on the 18th century landscape, the C19 Brassey improvements embellished and in some ways completed the early design, and it seems that Albert Brassey immediately employed Broderick Thomas ('Mr. Thomas was down at Heythrop for a couple of days at the commencement of the week, for the purpose of laying out the approaches etc, and he discovered a very pretty and easy line for the road to take from Enstone following the course of the brook from Heythrop right down to the Mill at Enstone'), to whom may be attributed both this approach, and the other woodland replanting around the parkland (most share characteristic species, relationship to slope, and the scatter of ornamentals on the lower edge), as well as the rebuilt terraces and gardens themselves. As a designer, Broderick Thomas was a forerunner of William Robinson, and his work at Heythrop was warmly commended by Robinson. Sandringham is one of the other places where he worked in the 1870's. However Broderick Thomas is little known today, he has had no biography or research and there is not even a list of his works.

Assessment

Two final factors must qualify the assessment of this spectacular landscape. First the numbers of other similar landscapes surviving in the country, and second the condition of the landscape at Heythrop.

First then, there are very few early 18th century

designed landscapes that have not been extensively over-written, either by later 18th century improvements or early 19th century 'restoration'. This goes for most the landscapes thus far mentioned in this assessment, as well as for other famously early survivals (eg Inkpen Rectory and St Paul's Walden). Among other contenders would be Dunham Massey, Cirencester and Leeswood. The first has a relatively unimaginative design, but the last two do rank in interest with Heythrop (though Cirencester is essentially a forest landscape, rather than a parkland, and Leeswood is in Wales). There will therefore be very few contemporary English landscapes indeed that survive, have equal historic interest and have had the influence that we may attribute to Heythrop.

Second, there is the condition of the landscape, or rather, those works carried out there that do not contribute to the embellishment of the landscape. These would include much of the Brassey planting outside the garden, where earlier coppices, presumably ornamented in the style that Shenstone was to develop, were replanted as stands of mixed timber, and particularly the 20th century works, including the poor additions to the house, the scatter of National Westminster Bank buildings, the new houses built across the avenue on the edge of the village, the car park in the Rosary and the golf course. Of these works, the bank buildings are intrusive (they are not hidden in any way and their exteriors fail as architecture), however in the main they have not been destructive (that is, they were not built in archaeologically sensitive parts of the landscape). The abject village houses are frankly an inexcusable disgrace. The car park and its access are poorly executed and have no sensitivity to the setting. These last are unfortunate developments in the heart of the landscape, but their damage is at least confined to one part of the pleasure grounds (the Rosary).

Such negatives must be set against the number of parkland and avenue trees that do survive from the 18th century, together with the earthworks, particularly in the Wilderness and on the Grand Avenue.

Details of the Society's Study Day at Heythrop, on Wednesday 12 May, can be found on page 6 of this *GHS NEWS*. June's Painshill Conference is outlined on page 33.

Restoration continues at Wentworth Castle

Patrick Eyres

The Wentworth Castle Heritage Trust recently welcomed its new heritage director. Vicky Martin was previously the director at Wollaton Hall, Nottingham, where she had oversight of the house, gardens and park. Her arrival signals renewed optimism after a year overshadowed by the tragic death of her predecessor, Steve Blackbourn. Sadly, at the end of last February and just over six months into his post, Steve died in his sleep from no apparent cause. He was thirty-seven. The impact of this tragedy on his family can only be imagined. Trustees, staff and volunteers at Wentworth Castle were desolated by his unexpected loss.

During his brief time with the Trust, Steve Blackbourn sustained the momentum of restoration. Deer were re-introduced into the park and, with funding from Yorkshire Forward, the Orangery (c1730) in the walled garden was surveyed and two further projects were completed, the Palladian Bridge (1759) whose stone balustrade had been missing since the Second World War, and Lady Mary's Obelisk whose crowning golden feature had vanished before the age of photography had had the chance to record it. This symbol of the enlightenment is only fleetingly referred to in a bill for repairs during 1746. After scrutinising obelisks throughout Europe, Hall Conservation empathetically created the golden ball that evokes the obelisk's original naming as the Sun Monument. The obelisk is popularly known as Lady Mary's due to the inscription that commemorates the medical innovation of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, who in 1720 had introduced from Turkey the practice of inoculation against smallpox.

Steve Blackbourn's principal legacy is the success, announced last autumn, of the Phase Two (Part One) application to the Heritage Lottery Fund for the popularly cherished but ruinous Victorian conservatory. The Trust had been obliged to omit the conservatory from the successful HLF application in 2003 because the building had already been selected for that other publicly funded event, BBC TV's *Restoration*. So, when Wentworth Castle was voted third out of the thirty sites, the conservatory narrowly missed the prize of restoration. Even though the Phase One

restoration project (2004–08) had, with £15m of HLF and match funding, plucked the estate from



Giles Rotholl

Wentworth's restored Palladian Bridge



Patrick Eyres

Installing the golden ball atop the Obelisk, 9 July 2009

the very brink of oblivion by encompassing the mansion, gardens, park, monuments and home farm, the conservatory has had to linger on in a state of spectacular dereliction. Since her arrival Vicky Martin has set in train work towards the Part Two HLF bid. The Trust remains optimistic that this will also be successful, and that the restored conservatory will be opened to the public in 2012.

In the meantime the Trust continues to attract grants for exciting developments; most recently from Natural England, for the reconstruction of the northern ha-ha, and English Heritage, for the new roof for the parkland rotunda and repairs to the roof of the pillared barn. Match funding for these two buildings has been provided by the East Peak Innovation Partnership. EPIP has also funded the publicity for the conference that the Trust will

The Yorkshire Gardens Trust has just published a splendid volume edited by Susan Kellerman and Karen Lynch, *With Abundance and Variety: Yorkshire Gardens and Gardeners across Five Centuries* (2010). One of the eight chapters is by Patrick Eyres, 'Jacobite Patronage: Lord Strafford, James Gibbs, Wentworth Castle and the Politics of Dissent'. Wentworth Castle's Georgian landscape has already been thoroughly explored in the *New Arcadian Journal* (2nd ed., no. 63/64, 2008) by Michael Charlesworth, Patrick Eyres, Wendy Frith, Jane Furse, Christopher Margrave and Jan Woudstra.

host, with the GHS, in the mansion in August, *Jacobites and Tories, Whigs and True Whigs* (see p9 or GHS website).

Sugnall Walled Kitchen Garden

David Jacques

The Sugnall walled kitchen garden has been written about in *Garden History*, 9:1 (1981). It was created in 1738, is just over two acres in extent, and was taken in hand at the start of 2006 with restoration in mind.

The aims were to repair the historic framework of walls, paths, etc, but to create a twenty-first century kitchen garden within it. Fortunately the historic walls were virtually intact. The path layout remained, being a cross intersecting at a central dipping pond, and others adjacent to the wall fruit borders. However the last vestige of the original box was uprooted about 1995, and the path surfaces had been badly damaged. There had been over 200 dwarf pyramids around the quarters, but only a handful remained in 2006. There had been about 50 wall fruit, but only one pear survived.

Brian Dix found a number of original path edges which fixed the geometry. The new paths were finished off with a hoggin of local materials, a mix of gravels bound with a marl and sharp



Sugnall's walled kitchen garden, showing the revived layout

sand matrix that has certainly been strong, even if the marl has gravitated to the surface requiring remedial action. The intention is to recover the box edging, and cuttings are being taken from migrants in tenant's gardens. Lavender is temporarily being used, and is highly decorative as well as popular with a cloud of bumble and honey bees.

The dwarf pyramids were replaced with a full complement of new trees, 50 pears, 100 eating



David Jacques

Sugnall's newly planted central Pear Walk

apples and 50 cookers. The supplier, Nigel Dunn of Frank Matthews of Berrington Court near Tenbury Wells, suggested the best of the old varieties and the best of the new. The wall fruit includes a few pears, but otherwise is entirely stone fruit, with peaches, nectarines and apricots on the warmest walls, plums and gages on the next warmest, and morello cherries on the north facing ones.

Modern plants and methods are being used in the quarters. There was severe weed infestation, and there might have been water problems if it had not been for the recent wet summers. Hence permeable membrane has been used extensively. The vegetables and soft fruit are planted along the joins. Fifteen water taps were installed so that nowhere is more than 50 feet from a tap, the length of pipe that can be carried around easily on a reel. On the vexed question of 'organic', it was decided to use organic principles in most respects, but not to forego the use of glyphosate. Most of the six new bunkers round the back of the garden are for composting and there is one for sand, and another for woodchip, invaluable in improving the appearance of the areas of membrane.

The cost so far has been substantial. Repairs and infrastructure have been only part of them, because labour costs over the four years to date in bringing the garden into production have mounted up. On the income side, it is accepted that modern methods and imports will always be cheaper. A handful of walled gardens have survived with continuous production to the present, but as loss-making elements of a wider estate economy. Restorations have been few, but have been embarked upon at some places open to the public such as West Dean, Tyntesfield and Shugborough.

A private owner could never justify a walled kitchen garden, let alone meet the costs of restoration, unless it is linked to other enterprises such as a tearoom or plant sales. Starting them off incrementally is not an option because of the heavy initial investment in the walled garden startup. Grants, though, can help to alleviate the capital costs. The National Trust has been highly successful in attracting them for Tatton. The private owner can apply for EU grants for farm diversification, channelled through the Rural Development Programme for England.

At Sugnall a number of income streams are being started which revolve around the walled garden. The produce is being converted into jams, chutneys and soups in a kitchen on-site. A shop which is also a tearoom is the principal outlet. Plants and garden furniture from a forge within the garden are also sold there. There are guided tours, rooms or the garden can be hired out, and schools parties are being catered for in a classroom and with teacher's packs. The EU grant would enable us to have a restaurant.

Fingers crossed. Opening at Easter.

Sugnall is in Staffordshire, 2 ½ miles NW of Eccleshall on the B5026. www.sugnall.co.uk

Waltzing with Wisdom in the Fabyan Japanese Garden

Amber Hare

In a period perhaps best characterized by social and economic pandemonium, one must not only prepare for the impending havoc, but also take a moment to savor that delightful quiet preceding any storm worth a salt. With this in mind, there is no time like the present to dip one's toes in the pond of conjecture...

This dabble with visualization begins in the early-20th century. Imagine you're a shrewd magnate looking to spruce up your yard. Colonel George and Nelle Fabyan deemed a Japanese Garden the idyllic compliment to their Riverbank estate, in Geneva, near Chicago, which was already nothing less sumptuous. The couple hired

landscape designer Taro Otsuka to construct the site sometime between 1910 and 1913 and upon completion, Susumu Kobayashi for maintenance and periodic cultivation. As an emotive result of personal expression applied to one's environment, gardens serve as tribute to the natural world and the human condition. An internationally celebrated art, gardens are cultural reflections of the individual gardener and their community. Spectacular personal touches, paired with the landscape's precision, make the Fabyan's Japanese Garden marvelously captivating.

After centuries of evolution, Japanese Gardens are an amalgamation of social and religious ideologies. The influence of Zen theory transformed flowers into signs of frivolity. Subsequently, Japanese Garden flora is now typified by a quixotic interplay amongst immeasurable shades of green. Conifers, symbolizing self-discipline and eternity, have since reined champion as the choicest specimens. The contemplative journey is intended to inspire serenity and humility through a heady fusion of natural and man-made elements. The symbolic significance of any given feature is cumulative and thus, not disparate from that of the garden as a whole. Thoughtful compositional intricacies make Japanese Gardens an ideal setting to seek intellectual and spiritual sanctuary.



The 'Moon Viewing Area' of the Tea House

One must pass through the Gateway to Heaven or *Torii* gate, traditionally used to demarcate a Shinto shrine, to enter the Fabyans' garden. An appreciation of the landscape is realized by the garden path composed of various mediums to strategically moderate one's gaze and pace. Since the garden is not passively experienced, interpretation occurs on a personal level. Upon embarking, one meets the Waiting Bench Chamber. A sanctum of calm acceptance and understanding of oneself and nature, the Chamber



Courtesy of PPFV

employs both a circular and a square window to restrict vistas and manipulate one's perspective.

The expedition continues on to the Buddhist center of the universe, Mount Sumeru. Its summit and the wooden bridge crowning it are dauntingly steep, an effort taxing to mind and body that dramatically slows one's passage. These ingredients emphasize the panorama granted upon surmounting the peak. Moreover, mountains, among other natural structures, were traditionally viewed as the residence of celestials.

One must forge a meandering stream, an existential nod to the stages of life, to reach the next destination. For just as human existence can be categorized by birth, maturity and death; water, too, transforms from torrential waves to placid silence. Once across, one has reached the Tea House situated in the most hallowed area of the garden, whose layout is intended to represent a piece of (Japanese) calligraphy. Launched in Japan during the 9th century, by Chinese Buddhist monks, the custom of drinking tea was a celebration of spiritual and social tradition. This

Courtesy of PPFV



Kelly Naitak

Fabyan's Moon Bridge after recent snowfall

rite animated standards of decorum, occurring in the *chashitsu*, a room utilized for the service alone.

The Fabyans' Tea House is ornamented with a droll little porch with a big name; the 'Moon Viewing Area' forms a perch from which to note phases of the moon. Because it does not contain a tea-preparation kitchen or separate entrances for visitors and the Tea Master, the building is not entirely accurate in terms of conventional guidelines. However, the structural discrepancies could be a result of how the space was used, as accounts from the era indicate that the Fabyans' Tea House was primarily used for entertaining.

From here, one next encounters the Moon Bridge, known as such due to its reflection in the water below creating a 'full moon'. Representing eternity through its intrinsically globular shape, navigating the incline requires a steely discipline. The proverbial path to enlightenment is not all

roses and this venture symbolizes the arduous route between mortal and divine worlds. The bridge also draws attention to the elixir of existence: water.

Given that Japan is an island, water is an essential garden element and the Fabyans' garden is home to a relatively large crescent shaped pond. Portraying the surroundings is a central mandate to Japanese Gardens and thus, the Moon Bridge is accessorized with a lantern-like version of Mount Fuji. The peak's eloquent formation denotes halcyon days and is, therefore, an allegorical badge of prosperity.

Emerging from this foray, one is a token wiser, and infinitely more aware of nature's genius. Having survived a fling down the gauntlet of consciousness with one of the 19th-century's most bewitching couples, one can now unequivocally state that the Fabyan Japanese Garden is an intoxicating study of basic truths. The quintessence of elegance, this is a space where imagination can flourish.

Fabyan Japanese Gardens are open 3 May to 15 October, on Sunday 1 to 4:30pm, And Wednesday 1 to 4pm (from June), at other times by appointment. Admission by donation: \$1! The Fabyan Villa Museum and Japanese Garden are located 42 miles west of Chicago, in Geneva part of the Fabyan Forest Preserve, on Route 31 (1511 Batavia Avenue), 1¼ miles south of downtown Geneva. IL 60134. The main entrance is on the east side of Route 31, just north of Fabyan Parkway. More at: www.ppfv.org/fabyan.htm

Contrasting approaches to conservation in Mallorca

Jonathan Lovie

The Balearic island of Mallorca is perhaps not best-known for its historic gardens. That some survive is beyond doubt: the 'Moorish' gardens of Alfabia on the road from Palma to Soller have long been a destination for tourists' coaches; but other gardens, or in some cases more extensive designed landscapes, remain largely unknown, even, it seems, to Mallorquins.

Set back on the opposite side of the road from Alfabia, somewhat nearer to Palma, is the estate of Raixa. Here, in the 1790s, Cardinal Antonio Despuig (1745–1813) set about remodelling his ancestral seat and its eighteenth century garden along the lines of the villa gardens he had

known in Rome, and to provide a setting for his extensive collection of neo-classical sculpture and architectural fragments (now mostly on show in the Castell de Bellver in Palma). In order to create the elaborate water effects necessary for this evocation of Italy, significant engineering works were required including the construction of a huge 1,400m² holding tank resembling an aquatic terrace on the steep slope above the house. A water staircase, fountains and terraces help to complete the illusion that one is at Tivoli or Frascati rather than in Mallorca.

By the 1980s both the villa and garden were in disrepair. However, in 1993 the site was declared



Jonathan Lovie

Raixa: the staircase flanked by fountains built by Cardinal Despuig and his brother, in the early C19

an 'Asset of Cultural Interest' for its historic and aesthetic interest, and in 2002 the estate was purchased jointly by the National Park Foundation and the Council of Mallorca. Four years later, in 2006, the site was transferred to the care of the Fundacion Biodiversidad within the Ministry of Rural and Marine Environment. An ambitious programme of restoration began in 2003 with the aim of turning Raixa into an historical and environmental interpretation centre. Work on consolidating the villa was completed in 2008, and the second phase including work on the gardens and farm buildings was begun in 2009. A relatively small area of the garden was open to the public in September 2009, but as work progresses Raixa will offer a significant opportunity for visitors



Jonathan Lovie

Raixa: the villa's terraced gardens, temple and Moorish kiosk ascending the hillside

to understand something of the cultural, historic and aesthetic riches which survive alongside the modern tourist resorts.

The northern coast of Mallorca between Valldemossa and Deia has an outstanding naturally 'sublime' landscape. It was this, together with the warmth of the local people, which attracted the Hapsburg Archduke Ludwig Salvador (1847–1915) to acquire a group of some six villas and estates, of which two, Son Marroig and the former monastery of Miramar are open to the public; a third estate, S'Estaca, is now the private property of the actor Michael Douglas and Mrs Diandra Douglas, and has been admirably restored under the direction of Craig Wright of Quatrain, Los Angeles.

The larger of the publicly accessible sites, **Son Marroig**, has a relatively conventional terraced garden, the principal feature of which is a large Cararra marble rotunda.



Jonathan Lovie

Son Marroig: the rotunda and coastal views

The simplicity of the garden serves to emphasise the spectacular coastal views, especially those of the bizarre Sa Foradada, the 'rock pierced by a hole', near which the Archduke and his royal and imperial guests (including his cousin, the Empress Elizabeth of Austria, and King Edward VII) moored their yachts.

The more observant visitor to Son Marroig will notice intriguing paths and tracks (all now barred) leading off beyond the gardens. These are part of the extensive network of walks and rides created by the Archduke linking his estates, and originally affording a succession of picturesque and sublime incidents. Some of these paths, such as that from

agenda

Valldemossa to Puig d'es Teix can still be walked today, and some of the picturesque incidents such as fountains, wells, and the cave of William the Hermit add to the natural scenery.

The garden of **Miramar**, along the coast a little west of Son Marroig, is particularly intriguing. Away from the villa the evidence of the coastal walks is particularly clear: in one direction leading to a belvedere and curious water tank; and in the other to a mirador or view point which looks back towards Son Marroig and the Foradada. Adjacent to this path are the remains of a rocky pool on the cliff-top; and while it is tempting to imagine the Empress Elizabeth loosening the Imperial stays in this sublime setting, it was more probably used to accommodate part of the Archduke's collection of Mallorquin plants. Views to the west are focused on a ruined tower on the adjacent **S'Estaca** estate, the design of which was inspired by the Gothic Tower of St Martin at Prague.

The Archduke's visitors, and especially the Empress Elizabeth, were clearly impressed and inspired by what they found in Mallorca. The garden of the Empress's Villa Achilleon on Corfu, completed in 1892, has strong parallels with the Mallorquin landscapes, as does that of her castellated villa, Miramar, outside Trieste. Thus, this largely forgotten designed landscape on the Mallorquin coast assumes a key place within an international group of Imperial gardens.

The contrast between Raixa and the Archduke's gardens could not be stronger. Not only is the underlying aesthetic very different, but so too is the ambitious scale of this landscape. Sadly, there seems to be little, if any, interpretation of



Miramar: pool and belvedere below the villa

the Archduke's landscape available for visitors. In part this may be because much of his former estate passed into the management of ICONA, Mallorca's organisation for natural environment conservation in 1967; and in part the picturesque and sublime aesthetic principles underlying its creation may just be unappealing to Mallorquins. The landscape, despite the southern sunshine, does have a distinctly Gothic, one might almost say Wagnerian quality, perhaps inimicable to the Southern European temperament. But this should not be allowed to obscure both its intrinsic strength and significance, and its international importance. A better, and more deserving, case for a unified approach to conservation management would be hard to find.

If you visit Mallorca to recover from the British winter, take the road from Valldemossa to Deia and discover the evocative remains of the Archduke's landscape while it is still intelligible. It is unlikely to disappoint.

The Renaissance of Hardwick Park

Kate Harwood

Hardwick Park just outside Sedgfield, County Durham is rising from its dereliction towards its former splendour and has many parallels with Painshill in Surrey, from the fate of its owner to the meticulous archival and archaeological research undertaken before restoration was even attempted. The progress over the last four or five years has been remarkable and this unsung gem is well worth visiting.

The grounds were laid out in the 1750s by

John Burdon who inherited money from his father's saltpan business and increased it by all sorts of schemes. He wanted a landscape with a circuit walk and that is what he laid out, with a meandering walk from gothic feature to classical then back to gothic, nine in all. Each feature was laid out so that the sight-lines from any one feature to any 2 others were exactly $22\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ but the only place to see it all at once was from the top of the tower of the Gothic Ruin. The buildings

were designed by James Paine and workmen such as the stuccatore, Guiseppe Cortese, John Bell, a local builder, Francis Hayman & Samuel Wale for frescoes and paintings, were brought in to produce a sumptuous feast. All these are commemorated on the banqueting table, one of the quirky seating areas dotted around the landscape.

In truly Hamiltonian style Burdon also ran out of money before he could build his grand house and had to sell up. By the late 19th century the estate fell on hard times and the banqueting house, gothic seat, bathhouse all disappeared, the rest of the buildings were barely there, the lake silted up and the views long gone.

The knight in shining armour who rode to the rescue was Durham County Council who ran part of the site as a Country Park. In 1999 they commissioned research into the history of the park, supported by the HLF, leading to the upgrade of the Park to II* and to DCC acquiring the 108 acre East Park and more of the gardens. More HLF money has restored the gardens; trees have been cleared, the gothic seat and splendid Temple of Minerva (although without the statues and frescoes as yet) rebuilt and the planting of formal hedges and eighteenth century 'shrubberies' is underway.

The view along the grand terrace between the bathhouse and Sedgfield church is restored and the cascades are running again. The Serpentine River is now presided over once again by Neptune and the lake is a mirror of tranquillity. The not-for-sitting 'seats' dotted around the landscape are all painted white and range from the banqueting table and chairs, to a pair of library steps, to a chaise longue, to an artist's easel and stool. And they all have aphorisms painted on them such as 'Lady Hamilton. She sent a servant to enquire whether it was convenient



Kate Hamood

The restored Temple of Minerva, Hardwick Park

to view the park —' and, 'My brother has just returned from the Grand Tour and tells me that the views at Hardwick are just as good as Italy, so I come here twice a week, as Mama always says, a true Lady sketches on Mondays and Thursdays'.

There is more still to do; the grotto, a forlorn pile of stones cries out for some archaeologist to dig into the hillock and find the subterranean chamber which other masonry on the site hints

at. Not all is to be restored, the façade of the Bono Retiro is to be consolidated. A shame as it must have been the perfect place for the library which was there in Burdon's day. Others, such as the magnificent neo-classical bathhouse with Doric columns will remain just as foundations.

More heartening is the involvement of the Hotel which occupies the house Burdon never got round to replacing. The grounds between the two are marked by a simple estate railing, with a small gate for weary tourists (of whatever era) to wend their way to the house and sip tea, or something stronger, looking over the lake to the Temple as John Burdon must have done.



Kate Hamood

A not-for-sitting 'seat'; an artist's easel and stool

Inevitably there is too much material to publish here, and so we will be putting it up on the GHS website in the near future. We can also publish more pictures there, especially 'Gardens Under Snow', which brought in some fabulous images. But please, keep those contributions coming. *Charles Boot*

Anthony du Gard Pasley

Anthony Pasley, who died on 2 October 2009, was above all a garden designer, but he was also a landscape architect, lecturer, teacher, author, garden judge, restorer of old houses and a confirmed Scotsman. Indeed he died in what he had come to think of as his real home, Moffat in the Scottish Borders near to the roots of his beloved Paisley clan, though a considerable distance from his other home near Tunbridge Wells.

Anthony was an instantly recognisable figure, whether in thorn-proof plus-fours, cape & deerstalker complete with monocle, or in the smartest kilt and jacket, his signature upward pointing moustache 'giving a pleasant countenance'; always immaculate, but never aloof. A twinkle in his eye revealed his mischievous sense of humour, which always outshone his military bearing; presumably refined during his period in the Royal Army Service Corps.

To pursue a career in garden design, he initially served as a paying pupil under Brenda Colvin, first at her Baker Street office and then at 182 Gloucester Place, the office she shared with Sylvia Crowe. He then left to work for a period with landscapers Wallace & Barr of Tunbridge Wells, as he related in his recent GHS talk. He then returned to London to resume working for Miss Crowe, who had a mixed clientele combining very grand gardens but also new-towns, forestry, reservoirs and power stations, in the period when landscape architecture began to break away from its horticultural roots. This work is recorded in the books he helped see to press, Miss Crowe's *Garden Design*, *Landscape of Power* and *Landscape of Roads* (all 1958). It was in this period that John Brookes came to work in the office, forming a friendship that was to last for fifty years.

Anthony's garden design work was characterised by an understanding of space, a control of plant texture and form (decisions on colour came last) and a willingness to remain involved with a garden for many years, perhaps most notably at Pashley Manor in East Sussex. He seems to have been as happy working in gardens in need of restoration as new gardens, and was unafraid of modern materials. Other gardens he designed that are often open include Old Place Farm, in Kent and Parsonage Farm, in West Sussex.

Anthony's design for his then front garden appears in *Modern Private Gardens*, Susan and Geoffrey Jellicoe's 1968 survey of contemporary gardens, and it was Susan Jellicoe who encouraged him to write

more. Many of his gardens in the UK, France, Switzerland and elsewhere, were later written up in the pages of *Country Life*, always in the third person, often discreetly critical of the designer, himself. He specialised in articles about particular aspects of gardens, reflecting his teaching role. He also wrote for the *Observer* and the *Architectural Review* amongst others, and he wrote two books, *Summer Flowers* in 1977, and *The English Gardening School* (1987), with Rosemary Alexander.

Anthony lectured on gardens at various of London's polytechnics, the School of Architecture in Canterbury, and later at the AA and the Inchbald School of Design in London for John Brookes, and internationally. In 1983 Rosemary Alexander set up the English Gardening School, based at the Chelsea Physic Garden, where Anthony encouraged another generation of garden designers. Visits to gardens where he had been involved were an important part of the teaching process; perhaps most stimulating was his own garden in Tunbridge Wells where he was unbound by the restraints imposed by clients. That same front garden, now mature, showed his particular talent for using foliage. The more expansive main garden was a vision in pale mauve, pink and violet poppies, at least in my memory. The interior was as carefully thought out as the garden; curtains opening on to the garden formed part of the overall colour scheme for both indoors and out.

He became a principal judge of garden design at the Chelsea Flower Show, and was an active member of the Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society. Members of the GHS will remember his presence on many study tours and at the AGM and Annual Conference,





Lettitia Newman

An Anthony Pasley 'white garden', near Henley

where he formed a genial double act with John Rotheroe of Shire Books on a stall trading as 'Pasley & Rotheroe; Booksellers to the Horticultural Gentry'. They sold not only those ubiquitous slim volumes, but also acted as agent to other members who relied on them to sell their own titles, which certainly added to the bookkeeping side of the undertaking. He spoke to the GHS as part of our Winter Lecture Series in March 2007, without notes, or slides, for over an hour, and then at the GHS Study Day in November 2007 on Sylvia Crowe as part of the day's programme on post-war landscape designers. He led several Society visits to gardens in which he was involved, notably to Pashley Manor and more recently to gardens in the Hambleden Valley and near Henley.

Anthony celebrated his eightieth birthday last August, in Moffat surrounded by friends. Although recently unwell, he died not too long after of short, unexpected, illness.

CB

Mavis Collier

Mavis Collier who died on 7 May 2009 was for many years the archivist at Painshill Park, Cobham. I hope the following brief summary of her life is accurate but, as Mavis was a very private person, not given to talking much about personal things, please forgive any errors.

Mavis was an only child and towards the end of World War II joined the Wrens. Her association with the sea continued after the war when she worked as a steward on cargo ships visiting many ports including those on the Baltic coast. It was while working as a steward that she met her future husband Tom. They had no children and together, after they found a land base

in Egham, ran a successful courier/taxi service for many years. Mavis also worked as a lab technician, studied the history of art, being especially interested in medieval architecture. She was a member of many organisations including The GHS, Surrey and Avon Gardens Trusts, and Medieval, Post-medieval, and Surrey Archaeological Societies. She volunteered on many digs in Surrey and for many years was a valued volunteer at Egham Museum.

Mavis came to work as a researcher and ultimately the archivist at Painshill in 1983. She took up where research and field survey undertaken by John Phibbs *et al* left off. She collaborated with authors on many published articles associated with Painshill, most notably one on the Turkish Tent for the *Garden History* (21:1, Summer 1993) with architect David Wrightson. Her work is now deposited at the Surrey History Centre along with the rest of the Painshill Archive. When funding for her post at Painshill dried up she continued her work on a voluntary basis until organisational changes made it difficult for her to continue.

During the three years I worked at Painshill, Mavis and I became friends and travelling companions, exploring many areas of England together. The focus of our trips was inevitably gardens, and, in this respect, the Society's AGM was often our ultimate destination. This friendship continued after I left Painshill with Mavis taking a keen interest in the many projects that I, as an archaeologist, was involved in. I always valued her knowledgeable and helpful comments and many times she would send me a valuable reference to a site that I was working on.

Increasing ill health made it impossible for Mavis to live alone. Tom had died many years earlier and the last three years of her life were spent in a Nursing Home in Hindhead where she died in her sleep. I was never sure how old Mavis was, to me she was ageless but, given her service in the later stages of WWII, she was probably in her eighties when she died.

*Lesley Howes,
Archaeologist at Painshill 1983–86*

This first appeared in the *Surrey Gardens Trust Newsletter* (Autumn 2009, no. 37).

other events

exhibitions, lectures, seminars and study days

Mrs Delany and Her Circle

Exhibition at the Sir John Soane Museum
Until 1 May

Mrs Delany, née Mary Granville (1700–88), was a significant figure in the practice of natural history in Georgian England and, in the words of Edmund Burke, ‘the woman of fashion of all ages.’ During her long life she was a pattern of accomplishment and curiosity for her contemporaries and became a model to subsequent generations. This exhibition, organised with the Yale Center for British Art, is the first to survey her entire life and to essay the full range of Mrs Delany’s creative endeavours; art, fashion, and science.

Museum is open 10 to 5pm, Tuesday to Saturday.

Historic Garden Management Master Class

9.45am to 3.30pm, Thursday 11 March

The National Trust for Scotland and Scotland’s Garden Scheme have organised the first in a series of National Trust for Scotland garden conservation master classes, at Wemyss House, 28 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh. The day is chaired by **David Mitchell**, Curator, RBG Edinburgh. Speakers include: **Robert Grant**, NTS Head of Gardens & Designed Landscapes; **Christopher Dingwall**, Garden Historian; **Ann Steele**, NTS Gardens Adviser, West & Highlands; **Benedict Lyte**, Former NTS Plant Collections Adviser. A light lunch is followed by: **Dr Shannon Fraser**, NTS Archaeologist, East; **Melissa Simpson**, NTS Gardens Adviser, South & East.

Tickets £45.00 including lunch, available by booking in advance. Contact: Veronica Barrington, the National Trust for Scotland, Wemyss House, 28 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh or: 0844 493 2431 or email: vbarrington@nts.org.uk. Cheques payable to The National Trust for Scotland

A Garden Within Doors: Plants and Flowers in the Home

Exhibition at the Geffrye Museum
Tuesday 30 March to Sunday 25 July

How were plants and flowers displayed in the home over the last 400 years? Why they were so

Two centuries of London connections with parks and garden at the Institute of Historical Research

The Villa Garden, 1790–c1870

Jane Bradney

5.30pm, Friday 19 March

Is there such a thing as a Gothic Garden?

Michael Symes, Birkbeck College

5.30pm, Friday 23 April

*Parks and Gardens in the Art of Paul Sandby,
1760–1800*

Stephen Daniels, University of Nottingham

5.30pm, Friday 7 May

The New Spring Gardens:

a Patriot Elysium at Vauxhall 1732–51

Suzannah Fleming, the Temple Trust

5.30pm, Friday 21 May

Still to be confirmed...

5.30pm, Friday 4 June

*Medicinal apothecaries and gardens in Venice
and London in the 16th century*

Valentina Pugliano, Oxford University

5.30pm, Friday 18 June

These seminars welcome anyone interested in researching garden history. They are held in the Wolfson Room, The Institute of Historical Research, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU.

Further information from the Convenor,
Dr Janet Waymark, Senior Research
Fellow, Institute of Historical Research:
janetwaymark@yahoo.co.uk

valued, who chose and created the display, what did flowers, plants and floral displays mean at the time and which of the decorative arts reflected all this? The strong links between home and garden will be highlighted by special displays in all of the museum’s period rooms, which span in date from 1600 to 1998; in these spaces the houseplants and flower arrangements appropriate for the time will be displayed and set in their historical context. The main exhibition gallery will focus specifically on the long nineteenth century (1800–1914), a

period when domestic gardening and an interest in bringing plants and flowers indoors grew dramatically. The museum's period gardens will boast two special features, created specially for the exhibition: an eighteenth century 'auricula theatre' and a 'pelargonium pyramid'. The pelargonium pyramid is based on a suggestion made by horticultural writer and advisor Shirley Hibberd, who published a drawing of such a feature in his book *The Amateur's Flower Garden* (1878).

Tuesday to Saturday, 10am to 5pm, Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays 12noon to 5pm: Free

Christopher Lloyd: a Life at Great Dixter Exhibition at the Garden Museum Thursday 1 April to Sunday 12 September

Following on from 2008's retrospective on Beth Chatto, the exhibition will endeavour to place Christopher Lloyd's work in context; asking why he was such an influential figure in 20th century gardening and whether his posthumous reputation will continue to endure.

Open: 10.30 to 5pm, most days (except the first Monday of the month), Saturdays: 10am to 4pm. Entry: £6, usual concessions.



Charles Boot

Groups of pots are used to great effect at Great Dixter

A Royal View at Het Loo

Easter Sunday, Easter Monday (4 & 5 April), Queen's Day (30 April), Ascension Day (13 May), Whit Sunday and Whit Monday (23 & 24 May), Wednesdays in June, July and August

Het Loo Palace will be opening the palace roof to visitors. Once a view reserved in the seventeenth century for the elite, now a spectacular experience for everyone. The staircase through the attic of the

Christopher Lloyd: A Life at Great Dixter will be accompanied by a series of events at the Garden Museum

Reflections on Christopher Lloyd

Fergus Garrett and Anna Pavord

6.30pm, Thursday 1 April

Tickets £20, or £15 Museum Friends

Reputations: How Are Gardeners Remembered?

Penelope Hobhouse, Dominic Cole
and Christopher Woodward

6.30, Thursday 8 April (see page 5)

£15, or £10 Museum Friends & GHS Members

Christopher Lloyd: Friend and Host

Mary Keen & Frank Ronan

6.30pm, Tuesday 13 April

Tickets £20 or £15 Museum Friends

Christopher Lloyd: the Biography

Stephen Anderton launches his new book

6.30pm, Thursday 22 April

Tickets £20 or £15 Museum Friends

Tickets can be booked in advance:

0207 401 8865 ext*822

www.gardenmuseum.org.uk

palace comes out in the pavilion of Queen Mary where she used to drink tea with her ladies-in-waiting. From the roof you have an unexpectedly wide view of the gardens and the surroundings of the palace. The view of the hornbeam *berceaux* or arcades are particularly splendid.

The gardens are open from Tuesday to Sunday inclusive, on public holidays from 10am to 5pm. Admission: € 10.

Larachmhor Garden: its Creation, Development, Demise, Restoration & Conservation

Rhododendron Species Conservation Group
Conference at Astley Hall, Arisaig, Lochaber
Saturday 10 April & Sunday 11 April

In the annals of rhododendron gardens few wild gardens capture the imagination as the mythical garden of Larachmhor set in a glen on the legendary 'Road to the Isles.' Why did this wild, remote and rocky location intrigue so many key rhododendron personalities of yesteryear, and then become a mecca for later generations of

Cambridge University Botanic Garden Talks Series

Doing it for themselves:

the Victorian amateur gardener

Dr Twigs Way

10am to 12noon, Friday 9 April

£20, payable in full on booking

Murder in the shrubbery:

gardens in Victorian literature

Dr Twigs Way

10am to 12noon, Friday 14 May

£20, payable in full on booking

Innovation, invention & ingenuity:

technology in the Victorian garden

Dr Twigs Way

10am to 12noon, Friday 11 June

£20, payable in full on booking

A plethora of plants:

the impact of Victorian planthunters

Patrick Harding

10.30am to 3.30pm, Friday 9 July

£40, payable in full on booking

To book call: 01223 331 875 or email:
education@botanic.cam.ac.uk

enthusiasts? The trials and tribulations of caring for, and maintaining an enchanting and beautiful garden, created against all the odds in a remote location on the Morar Peninsula in the West Highlands, John Holms overcame all manner of obstacles to create one of the most important rhododendron gardens in Scotland. His long-time Head Gardener, John Brennan, resided in the garden bothy for thirty years, twenty of which was to personally care for the garden after John Holms had passed away. Speakers are: **Ian W.J. Sinclair**, President; **John M. Hammond**, Hon Secretary; **Alan Bennell**, Royal Botanic Gardens; a conducted tour of Larachmhor Garden led by Ian Sinclair and Alan Bennell. Astley Hall, is a traditional Victorian *ceilidh* hall designed by Phillip Webb.

The Conference is followed by tour of gardens along the shores of Loch Linnhe on Sunday: **Conaglen House Garden**, Ard-Daraich House garden (with lunch) and **Brecklet House Garden**. It is around a 2½ hour drive from Ballachulish to Glasgow Airport.

Contact: John M. Hammond, Hon. Secretary, The Three Chimneys, 12 Cockey Moor Road, Starling, Bury, Lancashire BL8 2HB, or: 0161 7641116 or email: hammondsrhodies@supanet.com (mention your membership of the GHS).

From Seed To Plate

A Talk by Paolo Arrigo of Seeds of Italy

St James Hall, London

7.30pm, Tuesday 13 April

The whole cycle of the vegetable seed from its birth, and planting, to its arrival onto the plate. Paolo is a member of Slow Food and of the Guild of Food Writers. Seeds of Italy (Franchi Seeds) are RHS Bronze medal winners at Hampton Court; not gold unfortunately but they are aiming for that this year! Refreshments provided by Slow Food London.

At St James Hall, Prebend Street, Islington N1 8PF Tickets: £5.00 Booking essential: 0207 404 9936 or email: miriamjacob@blueyonder.co.uk For full details see London Group events on: www.nccpg.com

No Visible Means of Support

A Study Day on 1950s Style

The Institute for Garden and Landscape Studies at Bristol University

Saturday 24 April

The conference examines Britain in the 1950s to see if the decade produced a unique and distinctive style. The title recalls a response to the Skylon, the futuristic sculpture that epitomised the 1951 Festival of Britain; predictably, the phrase was soon applied to the nation itself. Examining major figures in visual arts, architecture and garden design we will attempt to tease out preoccupations, themes and motifs to determine if there really is a 50s style, and if so, what it looks like. Speakers include **Frances Spalding** on John Piper, **Rachel Flynn** on Graham Sutherland, **Anne de Verteuil** on Sir Frederick Gibberd, **Trish Gibson** on Brenda Colvin, **Jeremy Gould** on Suburban architecture of the period, **Timothy Mowl** on the architecture of the Festival of Britain, and **Paige Johnson** on atomic gardens.

Venue: Clifton Hill House, University of Bristol. For application forms or further information, contact: katie@gardenhistoryinstitute.co.uk

**Plant Heritage
London Group Spring Plant Fair**
10am to 4.30pm, Saturday 8 May

At least 15 specialist nurseries from around southeast England will be selling a fabulous array of plants at St Michael's Primary School, North Road, Highgate, London N6 4BG. Autumn Plant Fair to be held on 4 September.

Cost: £2.50, www.nccpg.com (London Group)

Study Day at Tyntesfield, Somerset
AGT, hosted by Avon Gardens Trust
10am to 5pm, Wednesday 12 May

Looking at the restoration of the Tyntesfield gardens. One can still see several gazebos, an Italian loggia, cedars, azaleas, Portuguese laurels and a large kitchen garden. There is a continuing sense of discovery at Tyntesfield, whether from research, the letters of past employees or visitors, or the sudden appearance of rare orchids in the lawn near the house. Speakers include: **Francis Greenacre**, author of the National Trust's guidebook to the house; **Kath Campbell-Hards**, the building surveyor who has been working on the garden buildings and ornaments; and **Paul Evans**, Head Gardener who knows every inch of the grounds. In the afternoon: tour of the gardens, & unguided visit of the house.

Cost: £40, a few student tickets: £15. Places limited to 50. Cheques payable to The Association of Gardens Trusts, to be sent to 70 Cowcross Street, London EC1M 6EJ. Phone/Fax: 020 7251 2610, or email: gardenstrusts@agt.org.uk

Gardens in the City: Exploring the History of Edinburgh's Green Spaces Within the Wider Context of Scottish Garden History
Wednesday 12 to Friday 14 May

Christopher Dingwall (GHSS Honorary Research Advisor) leads a three-day study course at 11 Buccleuch Place, University of Edinburgh. A combination of illustrated talks and guided walks, this course will examine the history of Edinburgh's green spaces within the wider context of Scottish garden history, and how these green spaces within the city have survived and evolved from medieval times to the present day.

Cost £127, contact: 0131 650 4400 or try <http://tinyurl.com/ygmvyb7>

Evening Walks at Hestercombe
7 to 9pm, Tuesday 1 & Thursday 10 June;
Tuesday 17 & Wednesday 25 August

Have the gardens to yourselves and enjoy a guided evening tour of both the Formal and Landscape Gardens with our Garden Supervisors, **Claire Reid** and **Ben Knight**. Learn more about the history, planting, restoration and future plans. Meet in the car park at 6.30pm.

Contact: info@hestercombe.com or: 01823 413923. Cost: £12 per person, booking essential.

London Open Garden Squares Weekend
Saturday 12 June & Sunday 13 June

The annual opportunity to peer behind the walls of more than 190 of London's private community gardens and squares; gardens participating for the first time include the **Carnegie Library** (Herne Hill, South London), **Hillview** near Kings Cross, **Kilmorey Mausoleum Wildlife Garden** (Richmond-upon-Thames), **October Gallery** (Bloomsbury), **St Lawrence's Church** (Little Stanmore), **Windrush Square** (Brixton) and **Zander Court** (Bethnal Green).

One ticket allows entry to all venues over entire weekend. Prices: £7.50 in advance and £9 if bought during the weekend. Information: www.opensquares.org. Rachel Aked would be delighted to hear from you if you would like to volunteer to help at any of the venues, which usually earns free entry to the other venues. Contact Rachel: rachel@rachelaked.co.uk or: 07790 732 448

Painshill Park & Beyond: the Future of 18th Century Landscape Restoration
Conference at Painshill Park, Cobham, Surrey
Thursday 24 and Friday 25 June

Painshill Park Trust marks its 30th anniversary in 2010. The issue of interpreting 18th century landscape restoration and reconstruction remains a hotly debated topic; the Conference uses Painshill's award winning restoration as a model for past and present approaches, and discussing new ways of looking at landscapes in the future.

Chaired by **Patrick Eyres**, speakers include: **Mavis Batey**, GHS; **Mike Calnan**, NT; **Mark Laird**, Harvard University and Painshill Park Consultant; **John Phibbs**, Dubois Landscape Survey



Kath Clark, Painshill

Painshill's Gothic Temple after recent snowfall

Group; **Michael Symes**, garden historian, author & lecturer; **Janie Burford**, Painshill Park Trust; **Kate Felus**, Historic Landscapes; **Brent Elliott**, Archivist at the RHS. Tours of Painshill on the first day.

Cost to delegates: £100 for the two days including refreshments and lunches (there will be a limited number of places at a reduced fee for students). To obtain a booking form, or for further information, contact: Rachael James (PA and Park Administrator), Painshill Park, Portsmouth Road, Cobham, Surrey, KT11 1JE or email: rachaeljames@painshill.co.uk or: 01932 868 113

Eastern Approaches

Ashridge Garden History Summer School in association with The National Trust
Friday 30 July to Wednesday 4 August

The sixteenth annual garden history Summer School to be run at Ashridge will consider the development of Eastern influences on garden design and planting. From the fashionable Chinoiserie of Kew, the gardens of the Nabobs who amassed great wealth that was expended on new gardens, the setting out of Japanese style gardens, the work of plant hunters and their sponsors in introducing new species to gardens and how those introductions and later hybrids

were used in gardens, the course will provide a comprehensive picture of eastern influences.

Garden visits will include: Kew, Biddulph Grange, Nymans, Leonardslee, Fanhams Hall, Exbury, and Batsford Arboretum. Speakers will include: Patrick Eyres, Richard Wheeler, William Whyte, Alastair Buchanan, Mick Thompson, Letta Jones and others.

Full residential rate: £822 (single), £1364 (2 people, double bedded room), non-residential: £603; optional extra B&B at Ashridge: £93. Contact Lisa Lloyd: +44 (0)1442 841 179 or email: lisa.lloyd@ashridge.org.uk

The Kay N. Sanecki Ashridge Scholarship

is offered to someone who is interested in changing their career to one in horticulture or garden history, or developing their career within those spheres, but who in either case is unable to attend without financial support. It covers the full residential & teaching costs as well as participation in all garden visits, but not transport to and from Ashridge. The successful applicant will have no other source of sponsorship and will not have previously attended the summer school.

Applicants should send a single page c.v. with a single page of A4 supporting their application, exhibiting interest and commitment rather than specific knowledge of garden history and showing how they hope to benefit from the scholarship. Both of these should be sent by post (in triplicate) and should be accompanied by the names of two personal or professional referees who may be contacted for those on a shortlist to: Mrs Nicki Faircloth, 1 Southfield Gardens, Twickenham, Middlesex TW1 4SZ or by email to: nicki.faircloth@btinternet.com Please include your email as all responses will be made by email. If you do not have access to email, please include an SAE for the result and a second if you wish your application to be acknowledged.

We do like to be beside the Seaside **The AGT's AGM and Conference** **Friday 1 to Sunday 3 October**

Hosted by the Isle of Wight Gardens Trust, participants will learn how the Victorians favoured the Isle of Wight for their marine villas and seaside gardens, attracted by the mild climate and picturesque scenery, and how we now exploit the

maritime atmosphere for our exotic plantings.

Visits to **Osborne, Ventnor Botanic Gardens**, and **Northcourt** (a 17th century house owned by the Chairman of the Isle of Wight Gardens Trust), with optional visits to: **Moftistone Manor**, a new garden surrounding a 16th century house; **Woodlands Vale**, a Victorian coastal property by Samuel Teulon; **Lake House**, a walled garden restoration; and **Carisbrooke Castle**, to see the Princess Beatrice garden designed by Chris Beardshaw for EH in 2009. For those staying extra nights there will also be **Appuldurcombe**, a Worsley landscaped park; **Shanklin Chine**; **Nunwell House**; and a chance to see **Farringford**, Tennyson's island home.

Accommodation will largely be at the **Brunswick Hotel, Shanklin** (www.brunswick-hotel.co.uk) with overflow at **Northcourt** (www.northcourt.info), three nights being encouraged. Places limited so book early! Details from: John Harrison, Northcourt, Shorwell, Isle of Wight PO30 3JG, or: 01983 740 415, or: john@northcourt.info or see: www.gardenstrusts.org.uk/events

AGT Study Day at Westonbirt School **Thursday 21 October 2010**

The Gloucestershire Gardens and Landscape Trust in association with the AGT explores the nineteenth-century pleasure grounds created by Robert Stayner Holford and embellished with numerous architectural features designed by Lewis Vulliamy. The restoration and replanting of the gardens is part of a HLF phase 2 bid currently being prepared by the Westonbirt Partnership which comprises The Forestry Commission (which owns the arboretum), Westonbirt School (which owns the large parts of the parkland) and the Holfords of Westonbirt Trust (which owns the pleasure gardens).

The Study Day provides an important opportunity to debate new research into the gardens against the background of the HLF application and explore what (hopefully) makes a successful HLF bid.

For further information contact Sophie Piebenga: ggl@live.co.uk

forum

for news, appeals, requests for information etc.

Parks and Gardens Geodiversity Project

Sarah Rutherford writes:

Visiting our great parks and gardens do we ever really think about the amazing impact of geology on their genius, or even its effects in our own back gardens? The effect of geology on these masterpieces is hugely diverse and largely overlooked day-to-day, but it is a key to their design. How much did geology affect Capability Brown's creativity when he laid out a park like Blenheim in the eighteenth century? Why were worked-out quarries such good places for choice plant collections like ferneries and alpinies? Why did Joseph Paxton include a tidal swamp with dinosaurs and a coalface in his Crystal Palace Park?

These questions and many more will be explored as part of a new project jointly commissioned by **Natural England** and **English Heritage** to define the links between designed landscapes and geodiversity.



Sarah Couch

The geological illustrations at Crystal Palace Park included accurate representations of coal measures and a working replica of a Derbyshire lead mine

Heritage consultants Sarah Rutherford and Sarah Couch, with geologist Eric Robinson, will work on an initial study of parks and gardens in Greater London which could lead to a national project. The study will look at the various ways in which

geology links with historic parks and gardens: not just natural features such as the use of existing geological features in the design of the landscape or using natural promontories for viewpoints but also the fascination for artificial geological features such as rock gardens and artificial stone cliffs, and their educational potential. How can we learn from earlier examples and apply these lessons to good practice in landscape design today?

Results of this exciting scoping study will include a typology, a list of examples in London and ideas on development of the project nationally. We will summarise our findings in the summer and present them on the Natural England and English Heritage web sites.

Meanwhile, we are looking for information. Can you help? Have you considered the effect of geology in parks and gardens? Do you have any thoughts on assessing its effects or data to share, not just on London but countrywide?

Please contact Sarah Rutherford:
sarah.rutherford@virgin.net

A Chawton Conundrum

Kate Felus writes:

Chawton House, near Alton in Hampshire, was the second seat of Jane Austen's brother Edward. He had been adopted at a young age by wealthy, childless relatives from whom he eventually inherited Godmersham in Kent and estates in Hampshire including Chawton, at which point he was obliged to change his name to Knight. It was Edward who provided his mother and unmarried sisters, Jane and Cassandra, with a cottage in the



Adam Callander's ca1760–80 view of Chawton, now in Hampshire Record Office

village, now known as Jane Austen's House.

The history of the designed landscape surrounding the Great House at Chawton is intriguing with many gaps in our understanding, partly due to the fact that it was a second seat for much of its development, and partly because a good deal of documentation was damaged prior to finally being deposited in the Hampshire Record Office. Moreover, two seemingly excellent pictorial sources are both undated.

One is a gouache view of the house from the southwest by Adam Callander. This has been dated to around 1760–80 by the Costume Museum in Bath. The view shows the Elizabethan house set in grounds landscaped in the Natural Style. However, we have found several cartographic sources that suggest that until sometime after 1809 the setting for the house was very different, consisting of formal courts, probably originally laid out at the time of the building of the house in the 1590s. Moreover, Montagu Knight writing in 1912, suggested that the house was rendered in 1837, and yet it is clearly seen sporting a pale façade in this view. This therefore begs the question, was Callander's view a proposal?

Adam Callander (1750–1817) was a Scottish painter and copyist, including of Hogarth's famous *Marriage à la Mode* series. The National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, has a pair of views of shipping in its collection. He does not seem to have been associated with landscaping, though he did also execute a pair of views of Highcliff Castle, Hampshire and a group of views of Paxton House near Berwick on Tweed. Have any other readers come across this mysterious Scot in relation to designed landscapes of the period, does anyone know these other sites and whether the views are thought to be proposals or depictions of landscapes as they actually were? I would be grateful for any further information.

Please email: kate@historiclandscapes.co.uk

Historic Maps at Blackwell, Oxford

Blackwell of Oxford write:

Over the last few years the Internet has made an enormous difference to tracking down the difficult and the downright obscure and has proven to be a superb tool for the historical researcher, particularly the amateur or private researcher. Often researchers want to find either

Kate Felus

details of historic sites or map details regarding these sites. Whilst the Internet is great for this type of work, it does fall down when it comes to providing large-scale historical maps, which is where Blackwell Bookshop (Oxford) enters the equation. In their main shop in Broad Street the specialized map section has not only the answer to any present day map problems, but also has three historical options as well. These are:

- O/S Maps that are site centred for most properties or areas for virtually any year from around 1800 in scales of 1:1250 and 1:10560.
- Reproductions of most original O/S Map sheets from the same period also in scales of 1:1250 and 1:10560.
- Historic Map Packs that are site centred on a specific area or property showing changes to the area via a number of maps from around 1800 to the present day. These are only in the scale of 1:2500.

For further details and prices of these exciting options please contact either Sharon Smith or David Crick in the map section in Blackwell, Broad Street (Oxford): 01865 333677 or email: osoxford@blackwell.co.uk and they will be able to discuss these options and advise you on all aspects of mapping. Or write to us at Blackwell Mapping & Data Centre, 48–51 Broad Street, Oxford, OX1 3BQ

For similar maps in Scotland you may want to contact National Library of Scotland Map Section as the main source for reprints of all historical Ordnance Survey and many other historical maps for Scotland. They also have the First Edition OS 1:10,560 available on-line where it is possible to print reasonable quality copies of small areas free of charge: www.nls.uk/maps/index.html

Old Gardening & Nursery Catalogues

Mercy Morris writes:

The NCCPG and the RHS are asking us for the whereabouts of any collections of old gardening catalogues and commercial nursery catalogues, in order to compile a database.

If you have come across any such collections, please tell Mercy Morris, Plant Conservation Officer for NCCPG at: 12 Home Farm, Losely Park, Guildford, Surrey GU3 1HS, 01483 447540 or: collections@plantheritage.org.uk. The RHS Lindley Library, London, might be a repository for

If you do not have access to email, but nonetheless are able to help, please contact our Administrator, Louise Cooper at the Society's London office, and she can pass on your offer of assistance.

Please send your comments to:

The Administrator, The Garden History Society,
70 Cowcross Street, London EC1M 6EJ or
phone: 020 7608 2409 fax: 020 7490 2974

collections needing a new home: 020 7821 3050,
or email: library.london@rhs.org.uk

Parsnips

Dr Allan R. Taylor of Boulder, Colorado writes:

One of the names of the parsnip in Spanish is *bisnaga* or *visnaga*. This derives by regular phonetic rules from the Latin name for the parsnip and, possibly, the carrot.

The name *bisnaga* is also applied in Mexico to a number of barrel cacti, some of which were used in various ways for food. It has been suggested that the name was applied to the cacti because an Aztec name for one of the cactus species bears a superficial resemblance to the Spanish word *bisnaga*. I personally doubt that the naming occurred for that reason. My hunch is that the name was applied to the barrel cacti because of a use shared with those of parsnips. Can anyone in your Society throw any light on this?

Please contact Dr Taylor: tayloralro@comcast.net

www.gardensandpeople.co.uk

Bella Darcy writes:

gardens and people is a new website with all kinds of articles and information on gardens; history, garden design, art, plants and people. You won't be able to find how to grow peas, but you might find a history of the pea... Any offers?

It is run by me, Bella D'Arcy, a professional garden designer and writer, with the help of other professionals, working, at the moment, voluntarily. I hope you will find the range of information and stories interesting. Updates are done bi-monthly. Some articles remain on the website permanently and others are moved to the archive after six months.

The website has an emphasis on people: it is about projects involving people with gardens.

forum & new members

Here, you will find: features on gardens and garden designers past and present.

The next update will include interviews with Steve Martino of Phoenix, Arizona, and Marion Plessey on historic restorations in the USA; the story of the gardens of the Countess of Warwick at Easton Lodge, Dunmow; Jill Sinclair will explore a 'Capability' Brown plan implemented for the first time over 200 years after his death; the metal sculptures of Privett International; chapters 3 & 4 of *Gardens of Divine Imitation*; and more...

gardens and people can't offer any rewards yet but we hope that in time this website will receive enough interest to attract paid advertising to generate revenue for this.

If you have some material you would like to submit to **gardens and people**, please contact: belladarcy@gardensandpeople.co.uk

Putti in Scotland

Christopher Dingwall writes:

On a recent garden visit here in Scotland, I was shown three putti, currently stored in a basement for security reasons. The figures are approximately one metre in height and would appear to be copies or casts in artificial stone. They show signs of having been painted in the past, perhaps to resemble marble. Their bases bear the clear imprint **R:VERHULST.A.I.** Could this indicate that they are copies of the work of the Dutch sculptor Rombout Verhulst (1624–98)?



One of the figures has snakes coiled at his feet, the second appears to be holding a censer suspended on a chain, while the third clutches a book and a cornucopia and is backed by a collection of navigational instruments including an astrolabe, cross-staff and dividers. The symbolism represented here is not obvious at first sight. The three figures would appear to have formed part of a sculptural scheme in a Scottish villa garden, laid out in the 1830s.

I should be interested to know whether any members have come across similar sculptures, or other works bearing the same name or imprint. Also, what is the significance of the suffix **A.I.**



Christopher Dingwall

after the name? Any suggestions or information would be welcome.

Please email: dingwall@guidelines.demon.co.uk

Tourism and post-war garden and park restorations

J C Reut writes (on the website)

I am seeking examples of historic public gardens or parks in England, or western Europe, that received funding for their reconstruction under the Marshall Plan, or other funds, for a project that concerns the role of the US Government (Marshall Plan) and American tourists in the rebuilding of the post-war European historic landscape. I would appreciate hearing of any examples of historic landscapes that were restored, rebuilt, or reconceived with the help of American funds (private or public) with an eye toward tourism. Alternatively, any suggestions on where I might inquire or research for case studies would be welcome.

Please contact the Editor, and I will pass your information on: news@gardenhistorysociety.org or just follow up the enquiry on our website: www.gardenhistorysociety.org.uk/news/forum

Many of these enquiries also feature on the Society's website and are generating a small but helpful conversation. Just register and comment.

THE GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY

Please consider leaving a Legacy to the Society in your Will

If you are thinking of remembering The Garden History Society in your Will and would like to discuss the proposed legacy, you may wish to advise the Society. If so you can use this form (or a copy) and send it to our head office:

The Hon. Treasurer,
The Garden History Society,
70 Cowcross Street, London EC1M 6EJ.
We will then contact you.

- ☐ I have already included a legacy to The Garden History Society in my Will
- ☐ I have instructed my solicitor to include a legacy to The Garden History Society in my Will
- ☐ I would like to discuss a legacy to The Garden History Society with you
- ☐ I would like to discuss a legacy to The Garden History Society in Scotland (GHSS) with you.

Name:

Address:

.....

.....

Postcode: Tel:

email:

How to leave a gift to the Society

You can choose to leave an amount of cash to the Society or a share of your estate. Such a gift should include the society's name, charity registration number and address.

For example:

I give to The Garden History Society
(registered charity number 1053446)
of 70 Cowcross Street, London, EC1M 6EJ
the sum of £.....

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stop press

GHSS AGM 2010

Saturday 17 April

The GHS in Scotland's AGM will take place in Dundee, and will include a visit to the Dundee Botanical Garden. Details (for members outside Scotland) available from John Ellis: 64/3, Dublin Street, Edinburgh EH3 6NP (with SAE) or: 0131 556 1611, or email: john8ellis@aol.com

GHS events diary

Wednesday 10 March	Lecture <i>Discovering Gilbert White's Garden</i> David Standing, London
Saturday 20 March	Study Day at Chiswick
Wednesday 8 April	<i>Reputations</i> Debate at the Garden Museum
Saturday 17 April	GHSS AGM, Dundee (see above)
23 April to 6 May	Study Tour to the Gardens of Persia
May	Visit to Highgrove with Sussex Gardens Trust
Tuesday 11 May	Study Day at Heythrop Park
Saturday 15 May	Study Day on <i>What to do with a Walled Garden?</i> Bolfracks & Castle Menzies
Tuesday 1 June	GHS Annual Summer Garden Party at the Geffrye Museum, London
4 to 10 June	Study Tour to Gardens of the Channel Islands
9 to 11 June	Study Tour of Northamptonshire Houses & Gardens (& a Castle)
Saturday 19 June	GHSS Visit to Paxton House Berwick on Tweed
Saturday 19 June	Visit to Taplow Court & Cliveden with London Parks & Gardens Trust
2 to 4 July	AGM & Annual Conference, Nottingham: <i>Monasteries to Pharmaceuticals the changing face of Nottinghamshire's Historic Parks and Gardens</i>
Sunday 18 July	GHSS Study Day on the Development of Deer Parks, Reediehill & Falkland Palace, Scotland
6 to 8 August	Conference: <i>Jacobites and Tories, Whigs and True Whigs</i> with Wentworth Castle Trust
September	Visit to Sugnall, Walled Garden & <i>Ferme Ornée</i>
Thursday 7 October	Visit to Brogdale and Doddington Place Gardens
22 to 24 October	Conference: <i>A Panorama of Parks</i> at Rewley House with OUDCE
Monday 1 November	GHSS Winter Lecture <i>Avenues in the C17 and C18 landscape</i> Sarah Couch
Saturday 13 November	Study Day at Hampton Court Palace: <i>Ecology and the Designed Landscape</i>
Thursday 9 December	GHSS Winter Lecture <i>The Origin of Plants</i> Maggie Campbell-Culver
Details and booking information for all our events can be found inside, on pages 4 to 11	

GHS NEWS correspondence and items to the GHS Head Office, or email the Editor: news@gardenhistorysociety.org

GHS NEWS deadlines are: 1 February & 1 August, for distribution in early March & September

GHS micro-news deadlines are: 10 May & 10 November, for distribution in early June & December