In memoriam, Mavis Batey and Ted Fawcett

You will probably by now have seen the reports of the recent deaths of Mavis Batey MBE (5 May 1921 to 12 November 2013) and Ted Fawcett OBE (2 September 1920 to 19 October 2013).

They both had distinguished war records, Mavis as a code breaker at Bletchley Park, and Ted with the Royal Navy. And, some years later, both went on to be very important figures in the story of The Garden History Society. Mavis served as honorary secretary to the GHS from 1971 to 1985, and was our president from 1985 to 2000, whilst Ted served several terms as our chairman, and was elected a vice president of the GHS in 2010. They remained active supporters of the GHS to the end, with Mavis having signed off the new Conservation Plan for Bletchley Park, compiled by Dr Sarah Rutherford, in the last few months.

Mavis and Ted played a large role in welcoming younger generations into the GHS, helping make it the friendly society that we all know it to be. Our picture shows them deep in conversation at Petworth House, at the wonderful party we held for Mavis’s 90th birthday, in 2011.

Tributes to Mavis and Ted appeared in recent issues of GHS news, to Mavis in 87 Spring 2011, p18, and to Ted in issue 86 Summer 2010, p12. Whilst we intend to publish full appreciations in our next edition of the GHS news, putting their time with the GHS in context, we are sure you will have many memories of these outstanding garden historians that you would want to share with fellow members, so we ask you to send your memories of Mavis and Ted to the editor, Charles Boot, for publication in the Spring 2014 issue: news@gardenhistorysociety.org or Park Lodge, Hartwell House, Aylesbury, Bucks HP17 8NR.

You will also see that the current edition of our journal Garden History, enclosed in this mailing, has been ‘dedicated to the memory of these two much-loved garden historians: Mavis Batey (1921–2013) and Ted Fawcett (1920–2013)’. 
Working Together: keeping in touch
Dr Marion Harney and Sarah Dickinson

Who’s Who: meet the members of the JCC
The new Joint Conservation Committee (JCC) made up from representatives of The Garden History Society (GHS) and Association of Gardens Trusts (AGT) was introduced in the summer micro-news. We would now like to introduce the members of the committee who will share their collective expertise to provide essential authoritative and specialist advice and information on planning and other conservation matters. The management and dissemination of knowledge is a fundamental consideration in the protection and conservation of gardens and landscapes and we want to ensure that we have the right information and tools in place to be effective as a team and to support the County Gardens Trusts (CGTs) and others who share our aims. In this capacity the JCC is not only acting as an adviser to our partners but as a conduit to further information and resources. In addition, individual members of the JCC and Officers of the GHS, where appropriate, will give advice and technical support when changes are proposed to designated heritage assets at a national and local level.

Dr Marion Harney is Director of Studies for the Conservation of Historic Gardens and Cultural Landscapes programme at the University of Bath. She devised the postgraduate degree course and was appointed Director of Studies in 2007.

In 2013 Marion became a Trustee of the Garden History Society and has recently been elected as Chair of their Joint Conservation Committee. Marion is also an author and her recent book Place-Making for the Imagination: Horace Walpole and Strawberry Hill is published in December 2013 and an edited book on the Conservation of Gardens and Landscapes will be published by Wiley Blackwell in April 2014.

Christopher Clarke has enjoyed a professional career in planning in both the public and private sector. He was director of a planning and environmental consultancy in Bournemouth for over 25 years, dealing with nationwide projects across the development spectrum. Now retired, with a long interest in garden history and membership of the Dorset GT he is currently Chairman of the County Conservation Committee.

Gillian Clarke has a background in local government planning and conservation with extensive experience in policy writing for local and structure plans. Currently she manages a network of the 25 mainland World Heritage sites across the UK which aims to further knowledge and understanding of World Heritage in the UK.

Gillian has specialist knowledge of the early eighteenth century landscape with particular reference to Prior Park landscape garden in Bath and was involved in the restoration of part of this significant landscape. She is an active member of the Avon GT, and a member of the GHS.

Mike Dawson is a planner and landscape architect. Now retired, he has 40 years experience in local government in a number of roles to do with planning, conservation and countryside and in areas as diverse as Dartmoor and Exmoor; the North York Moors, London, Avon and Surrey. He is currently Chairman of the London Parks & Gardens Trust and Vice Chairman of the AGT. He is a life member of the GHS.

With more than 30 years experience, Christopher Gallagher has advised on the survey, analysis, conservation and management of a wide range of parks and gardens throughout Great Britain and Ireland. Clients have included private individuals and Trusts, Local Authorities, the National Trust, English Heritage, Cadw, Duchas (Eire), Historic Scotland and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

In the period between 2002–12, he was Gardens & Parks curator with the National Trust, advising on an extensive and varied portfolio of sites throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland. He has since returned to private practice and is a committee member of the Shropshire GT.

Julian Gibbs worked for the National Trust for 37 years as Regional Historic Representative for East Anglia and then Mercia and completed his career as Parks and Gardens curator for the SW.

An early involvement with parks was promoting the first comprehensive park survey at Wimpole, following acquisition and the loss of the elms. Other projects include the acquisition and restoration of Biddulph Grange garden, the kitchen garden and Japanese garden at Tatton and replanting of much of Capability Brown’s Croome Park. He is an active member of the Gloucestershire GT.

Kate Harwood holds an MA in Garden History from Birkbeck College and has been involved in research and conservation for several years. She is a member of Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire and London GTs and the GHS and worked for the AGT for 5 years.

The HGT conservation team was trained by Anthea Taigel, and is led by Kate Harwood. HGT holds study days on historic gardens in Hertfordshire (Jellicoe Water Gardens, Japanese Gardens, Tring Park &c), courses on aspects of garden history and guided walks. Conservation work in the county is mainly at the pre-application stage, with owners, developers, LPAs, CPRE and others.

Judith Norris specialises in rural planning including sustainable design, farm diversification, equestrian business, listed buildings...
and historic landscapes. More recently Judith has completed a Masters degree in Conservation of Historic Buildings and a postgraduate diploma in the Conservation of Historic Gardens and Cultural Landscapes. She is a member of the British Institute of Agricultural Consultants and the Institute of Historic Building Conservation and has just completed a term as Kent branch chairman of the Country Land and Business Association. She is a Trustee of the Kent GT. Judith voluntarily coordinates JCC events.

Melissa Simpson is a Gardens and Designed Landscape adviser for the National Trust for Scotland. She has worked in amenity, botanic, commercial and heritage horticulture. Following the completion of a Post Graduate Diploma with the Architectural Association, whilst working for The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew she began her migration north, first to the National Trust as Horticultural Taxonomist and then to her current role. In addition to this she taught for over five years delivering modules on garden history and conservation. Melissa continues to garden in her spare time.

Chris Sumner is a retired architect who studied garden conservation at the Architectural Association and formerly worked for the Greater London Council Historic Buildings Division and subsequently for English Heritage London Region. He is a life member of the GHS and founder member and former chairman of the London Parks & Gardens Trust, and now chairs its Planning & Conservation Working Group. He is a member of several advisory panels in London including Chiswick House and Gunnersbury Park, and is a Trustee of Strawberry Hill.

The JCC works in close liaison with the GHS conservation team, supporting and promoting their work.

Since 1994 Jonathan Lovie, M.Theol (Hons), MPhil, has developed a consultancy undertaking historic landscape research and conservation management plans for a variety of private clients and public bodies, including several commissions for National Trust properties in the South West.

Between 1998 and 2004, Jonathan was retained by English Heritage as a Consultant Register Inspector; with particular responsibility for upgrading the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in the South West of England.

Since 2004, Jonathan has been employed on a part-time basis by The Garden History Society as its Principal Conservation Officer and Policy Adviser in England. Jonathan has been a member of the Council of the National Trust since 2011.

Margie Hoffnung was appointed Assistant Conservation Officer for the GHS in December 2013. She began her horticultural career after completing a BSc in Amenity Horticulture at Writtle College in 1993. She subsequently combined single motherhood with work as a hands-on gardener for Rosemary Verey at Barnsley House and at Highgrove amongst others. More recently she graduated with an MSc in the Conservation of Historic Landscapes and Cultural Landscapes from Bath University.

Alison Allighan has a background in environmental science and landscape architecture, and after working as a freelance historical researcher for a number of years, she was appointed as the GHS Conservation Officer for Scotland in 2004, dealing largely with planning and forestry-related casework, and regional designed landscape surveys with volunteers.

Since the 1st October this year she has also taken on the role of GHS Conservation Casework Manager, compiling and maintaining the Casework Log, and distributing the weekly lists of consultations received to members of the JCC, CGTs and other members of our wider conservation team.

The JCC is also working closely with the Historic Landscape Project Officers Linden Groves and Verena McCaig supporting and promoting the work they are doing for the AGT (with the backing of English Heritage and the GHS).

Linden Groves is a qualified landscape historian and until recently, alongside her work on the Historic Landscape Project, she has worked part time as a GHS conservation casework manager taking responsibility in 2010 for the GHS project to compile a reference list of conservation management plans and related research for historic designed landscapes.

As an author, Linden was the co-winner of Garden Media Guild’s ‘Inspirational Book of the Year’ in 2010 and has published on her specialist subject of engaging the young with the outdoor environment. She recently headed an award-winning project to establish a family gardening ethos at an urban school.

Verena McCaig has been working on developing the Historic Landscape Project for the AGT and now the AGT/GHS since 2010. Previously she has worked as a freelance researcher and as project manager on an HLF-funded Octavia Hill garden recreation project in Bankside. She completed her MSc in Conservation of Historic Gardens and Cultural Landscapes at Bath University in 2009.

Verena has over 20 years experience working in the voluntary sector. She is a Council member of London Parks & Gardens Trust and also works for English Heritage on their Heritage at Risk programme in London.

The JCC has also invited a number of Observers to join their committee meetings to make certain that the full spectrum of historic landscape conservation parties is involved in the committee’s work.
Dr Peter Burman is an Arts and Heritage consultant and Chairman of the Garden History Society in Scotland. 
**Susan Campbell** is the Chair of the Conservation and Development Team of the Hampshire GT, a Vice-President of the GHS and Chair of the Walled Garden Network. 
**Sarah Dickinson**, co-author of this article, is an Historic Landscape consultant and member of Surrey GT Council and an active member of the recording committee. Sarah’s background is in property law in the City and she has recently completed her MSc in Conservation of Historic Gardens and Cultural Landscapes at Bath University. Sarah is also a Trustee of the Historic Gardens Foundation.

**Mick Thompson** is a Trustee of the GHS with a special interest in conservation matters. He is Gardens Manager at Ashridge, overseeing the restoration project of this important historic landscape.

**Jenifer White** is a senior landscape advisor for English Heritage. **Elisabeth Whittle** is the former Inspector of Historic Parks, Gardens and Landscapes at Cadw, Wales.

### The Garden History Society Conservation and Casework Officers
To further assist us in our work and build capacity in the sector the GHS has recently appointed Margie Hoffnung as Assistant Conservation Officer and she can be contacted through: conservation@gardenhistorysociety.org. The ACO will also co-ordinate the work of the JCC and in this capacity can be contacted at: jcc@gardenhistorysociety.org. The ACO will also develop and assist with the delivery of planning and conservation training and support for CGTs in association with the HLPOs and assist with answering enquiries received by the GHS relating to conservation issues. Margie will also work closely with Jonathan Lovie, the GHS Principal Conservation Officer; who is contactable at: conservation@gardenhistorysociety.org.

She will assist Jonathan to deliver conservation advice in respect of statutory consultations affecting designed landscapes of outstanding national or international significance, or where a major issue of principle is raised. In addition, the ACO will contribute to the updating and delivery of the GHS’s generic conservation advice notes (Planning and Conservation Advice Notes) which will be an important resource for CGTs and others. General enquiries should be directed to Louise Cooper; GHS Administrator at: enquiries@gardenhistorysociety.org.

### The Conservation Casework Log
We have also appointed a new GHS Conservation Casework Manager Alison Allghan who can be contacted at: GHSconsult@gardenhistorysociety.org. The Casework Manager continues to compile the Casework Log for statutory consultations received in England, and non-statutory consultations received in Scotland and Wales which are recorded by the GHS in its Conservation Casework Log. For conservation enquiries in Scotland contact Alison at: scotland@gardenhistorysociety.org.

This is a unique record of the pressures and threats facing historic designed landscapes in the UK, and as such is an important resource. In association with the Principal Conservation Officer and the Assistant Conservation Officer; the Casework Manager will assign statutory consultations in England to members of staff, members of the JCC, designated consultants and notify the appropriate County Gardens Trust.

As discussed in the summer micro-news, the CGTs are encouraged to use the Log to record their conservation activities alongside those of the GHS as it is fully appreciated that CGTs have the necessary knowledge to respond appropriately when proposed changes may cause irreparable change to important sites. This knowledge can, and should, be shared with the AGT and GHS so that all those involved in the conservation of our heritage assets can work together. We would also appreciate having the outcomes of objections notified and recorded in the Log as this helps us to track our effectiveness in responding to planning and conservation issues affecting important landscapes.

#### The Historic Landscape Project
In April 2013 English Heritage funded a further two-year phase of the Historic Landscape Project as part of their National Capacity Building Grants Programme. A joint initiative was developed between The Garden History Society, working closely with colleagues in the County Gardens Trusts, and the AGT and this phase of Conservation through Partnership is now well underway. Verena McCaig and Linden Groves now share the Historic Landscape Project Officer (HLPOs) position. Email Verena (North, East and West Midlands, East regions): verenamccaig@agt.org.uk or Linden (South East, South West and London regions): lindengroves@agt.org.uk.

Their role is to develop strategic links with other bodies involved in conservation work. They are currently running a national training programme which aims to support CGTs across the country to get actively involved in the conservation of historic designed landscapes. To date a number of training programmes have been devised and delivered including: Researching a Site for Local Listing (delivered by Virginia Hinze); Understanding Conservation Management Plans; Understanding Historic Parkland: Responding to Planning Applications affecting historic designed landscapes (delivered jointly by Verena McCaig and Jonathan Lovie); and Settings and Statements of Significance (delivered jointly by Linden Groves and Andy Brown (English Heritage). The JCC invites CGTs, through their established conservation, planning, research and recording and educational groups, to encourage their members to attend the HLPO workshops whenever possible but also to access the materials that are available and actively employ the methodologies they provide. They can be found through the CGT Web Forum located on the AGT website accessed at: www.gardenstrusts.org.uk. The HLPOs are running planning training workshops in Birmingham and Cambridge in March 2014 and we encourage CGT members to attend these enjoyable and informative events – but book early as places are limited!

#### Responding to planning applications: pro-forma responses are now available.
As promised, the JCC is taking a pro-active approach to assist CGTs with their responses to local conservation issues and planning applications. The Garden History Society as statutory consultee and the AGT Council of Management have endorsed two pro-forma letters drafted by the JCC to provide templates for responses to local planning departments. When a CGT member is asked to respond to a planning application that potentially will affect the significance or setting of a historic park or garden we recommend that they use these template letters to ensure that they make a clear, concise and effective response. There are two draft letters, one dealing with a registered park or garden and the second with a non-registered site or heritage asset.

These documents are available to download from the GHS and AGT websites. However, these are just the first in a series of letter templates that we are going to develop to assist CGTs and we will be producing further pro forma’s, endorsed by the GHS, for CGTs that have received appropriate training to respond effectively and authoritatively to local conservation proposals and planning work.
**Conservation Management Plans**

Conservation Management Plans (CMPS) have proved to be valuable tools for developing informed management strategies for historic designed landscapes. CMPS typically include research on a site’s history, development and surviving state, and taken together they form a sizeable body of material on the UK’s designed landscape heritage.

In 2012, with sponsorship and support from English Heritage, the Garden History Society launched a project to compile a reference list of CMPS and related research for historic designed landscapes to capture the potential of this information for our work. The GHS called for details of CMPS from garden historians, landscape architecture practices, County Gardens Trusts, national heritage organisations, local authorities and individual properties.

This met with a tremendous response, and the CMPS received have now been collated into a list of some 1000 entries. This invaluable resource of Conservation Management Plans is now available at: [www.parksandgardens.org](http://www.parksandgardens.org).

The list is not yet a definitive catalogue of all CMPS relating to historic designed landscapes and we encourage further entries and additions so that this important resource will grow into a comprehensive reference and research facility.

Send your submissions, or additional details to existing entries, to: [cmp@gardenhistorysociety.org](mailto:cmp@gardenhistorysociety.org) and help us to increase our knowledge and their availability to all those interested in conserving these precious heritage assets.

The Hestercombe Gardens Trust (Somerset) plans to set up a Centre of Landscape Studies with a CMCP and has advised on the GHS CMCP project. Currently the list simply offers an indication that the CMCP exists, however many are readily available at publicly accessible archives or online.

**Statements of Significance**

It is an aspiration of the JCC that a statement of significance should be written as soon as possible for every historic site, whether or not there is to be a full CMCP.

A well-written statement of significance is fundamental for every heritage asset to identify the values and real issues in order of priority to help promote and protect the site. Put simply, significance sets apart the most important landscapes and identifying that significance is at the core of our work. The hierarchy of values should be the basis of any valid conservation plan but can also stand-alone where a full plan is not possible.

The work of researching and evaluating historic parks and gardens is familiar to many GHS and CGT members alike. This analysis uncovers the elements of the historic designed landscape that are important and defines what makes a place special. In essence, it identifies what is significant about the site and enables an assessment of what remains that is of significance: a statement of significance is merely the sum of that process.

A statement of significance should identify the real issues and set them out in order of precedence. Assembling a list of significant values and characteristics is not difficult but it is more challenging to decide priorities; however, unless this is done the result will be useless to anyone making important conservation decisions, especially where resources are stretched or where a change of use is imminent.

It should be our shared goal to provide a statement of significance for all nationally and locally designated landscapes. This will improve public and professional access to information about the significance of gardens and landscapes and has the potential to attract funding for conservation and maintenance. What we must now do is work together to ensure that all significant sites are identified and recorded.

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Chairman of the Hestercombe Gardens Trust, Sir Andrew Burns KCMG and Chief Executive Philip White MBE, celebrate the final transfer of Hestercombe House from Somerset County Council to the Trust.

The House takes pride of place at the centre of the Hestercombe Estate and after sixty years serving as Council offices and the Headquarters for the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service it is finally being re-united with its historic landscape. For Philip White, it is the culmination of many years of negotiation and planning:

“This is a pivotal moment in Hestercombe’s development and we are delighted that the transfer of the house from the County Council to the Hestercombe Gardens Trust is now complete and the house can be re-united with its historic landscape for the first time in over sixty years. The Trust now has an exciting opportunity to transform the house into an exceptional facility that will benefit the local community as well as being recognised on the wider national and international stage.”

Members, Officers and Observers of the JCC have experience in writing these and would be glad to look at draft statements and review them and give advice if it would help. This will enable those in the planning process to take full account of the special nature of our local historic landscape heritage when changes are proposed. One element of the HLPO training programme relates to the researching of local sites and recording that information with a statement of significance. The HLPOs excellent set of materials is accessible through the ‘Significance’ section of the Association of Garden Trusts CGT Web Forum, located on the AGT website accessed as mentioned earlier at: [www.gardentrusts.org.uk](http://www.gardentrusts.org.uk).

**Recording: establishing local lists**

Significance also underpins the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2012). The most effective way of protecting a non-designated heritage asset, a phrase that embraces historic parks and gardens (and their settings) is to ensure that the significance of these important heritage assets are properly understood and recorded. Local planning authorities are required to take into account the effect that any planning application may have on the significance of all such assets and are now obliged to record the significance of heritage assets by maintaining Historic Environment Records (HERs).

The impact of this legislation is twofold. Effective recording of all the elements of historic parks and gardens of significance is essential, and secondly, in responding to planning applications the significance of the site should be stated as clearly and succinctly as
possible. In relation to recording, it is fully understood that the task of identifying, recording and where appropriate, listing our historic parks and gardens, including the settings of other heritage assets, is a huge task. We hope that the Working Together initiative will help us all to achieve our goals.

An excellent example of how we can work together is a project by the Sussex Gardens Trust who invited their local planning authority to work in partnership with them to develop local lists of historic parks and gardens and designed landscapes. The ‘invitation’ is available to browse on the AGT website (through ‘Conservation’ and the HLP link). The document was sent by Sussex GT in the first place to their Conservation Officer but in pursuing them for a reply it was necessary to send it also to Planning Policy and / or Strategic Planning Officers (further up the hierarchy) thereby disseminating it more widely to those with decision-making power. With acknowledgement and thanks to Sussex GT.

Photo Voltaic Arrays or Systems
The JCC policy statement on Photo Voltaic Arrays or Systems has been finalised and endorsed by the GHS and AGT and is available on their respective websites under the ‘Conservation’ link. It is set out below for ease of reference:

Joint Conservation Committee policy on Photo Voltaic Arrays or Systems
It has become evident that substantial areas of agricultural land will potentially be used for generating electricity from ground level solar systems. The JCC offers the following guidance that may be of assistance to those wishing to comment on any planning application concerning these systems.

If the Array or Solar Farm adversely impacts on the designed views from a registered park or garden and/or its setting or on a significant park and garden that adds to local character and distinctiveness and, if not Registered, is ideally on a Local List, the CGT has a locus on which to object.

Members approaching Gardens Trusts with concerns about development that may have an adverse impact on the wider countryside should be advised to approach the CPRE or other interested groups.

Useful guidance is provided by DCG Publication Planning Practice Guidance for Renewable Energy: www.gov.uk/.../planning-practice-guidance-for-renewable-energy where there is a very clear statement at paragraphs 15 and 27 that heritage assets are conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, including the impact of proposals on views important to their setting.

You might also be interested in the pro-active approach of the Devon Landscape Policy Officer Group towards renewable energy. Devon Landscape Policy Group Advice Note No. 2: Accommodating Wind and Solar PV Developments in Devon’s Landscape is a technical document that was formally ‘endorsed’ by Devon County Council. It contains a model policy wording in Appendix 3 that the DLPG are suggesting that each Devon planning authority considers formally adopting. The Advice Note can be accessed from: www.devon.gov.uk/landscape-policy-guidance.htm. John Clark wrote about this in our last issue, news 92 summer 2013, p14

The initiatives and information outlined above are just the beginning of a strategy to help and encourage all organisations interested in conserving and protecting gardens and landscapes to work together in order to achieve the best possible outcomes for these precious heritage assets. We aim to share as much knowledge, information and expertise as possible to enable us to do this and we invite you to do the same. If CGTs and GHS members have experience, knowledge or useful information in any of the areas delineated in this article then why not share your knowledge and experience through the GHS forum: www.gardenhistorysociety.org/news/forum/ or the CGT Web Forum located on the AGT website mentioned earlier.

Working Together we will prove a formidable force.

Tenth Annual GHS Essay Competition
The Tenth Annual Garden History Society Essay Competition 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.

The prize was established to encourage vibrant, scholarly research and writing. Over its ten years of existence our Essay Prize has more than fulfilled this aim. Initially the late Pippa Rakusen made a generous donation to the GHS to launch the prize as a way of further fulfilling our educational remit and to bring new talent forward. NFU Mutual then supported the prize for a further five years, and more recently a generous anonymous benefactor has enabled us to fund both the Essay Prize and the popular and well-attended Graduate Symposium. Without such generous donors it would be difficult to extend our reach in this way and so to all of them, many thanks.

This year’s winner, Jane Whitaker, discovered a forgotten Elizabethan garden beneath the more famous seventeenth-century garden at Wilton. Previous winning essays include a compelling new interpretation of the iconography of the Animal Grotto at Castello in Tuscany, an examination of the garden in a seventeenth-century masque, the exposition of a lost eighteenth-century royal garden and a study of the role of gardens in the nineteenth-century treatment of mental illness.

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 includes an award of £250, free membership of the Society for a year and consideration for publication in our peer-reviewed, scholarly journal Garden History. All previous winners have been accepted for publication and often the best of the non-

Jane Whitaker was presented with her certificate and award by GHS Chairman, Dominic Cole, over lunch at Attilio’s, Cowcross Street.
winning entries are invited to submit to the journal. Application forms can be downloaded from the GHS website: www.gardenhistorysociety.org and entries can be submitted up to and including 30 April 2014.

New Research in Garden History
The 4th GHS Graduate Symposium to be held in Cardiff, UK Friday 25 July 2014

We invite scholars to submit a 200-word proposal for a paper whose subject is unpublished. Symposium papers are 20 minutes only (approx. 2,000–2,500 words). Scholars in all disciplines are encouraged to submit, and any subject relating to garden history will be considered. Full details on our website.

Applicants must submit a 200 word abstract to: enquiries@gardenhistorysociety.org by Monday 3 March 2014.

This year’s Symposium will be held as part of the activities at our Annual Summer Conference in Cardiff; attendance at the Symposium does not require attendance at the Conference, separate ticketing is available, see our spring issue for more details.

Wentworth Castle update
The Victorian Conservatory restored

An astonishing transformation has taken place at Wentworth Castle, as the Victorian Conservatory has finally been restored. Made famous by the BBC’s Restoration programme in 2003, this beautiful iron glasshouse was in danger of being lost forever until it became the main focus of the on-going restoration plans. In 2011, the Trust finally succeeded in raising the £3.74 million needed to rescue the delicate structure and was able to work up the final plans for the restoration project.

The Conservatory was constructed in 1885 by Crompton and Fawkes who described it as an ‘iron winter garden’ in their catalogue. It is a rare surviving Victorian glasshouse and in its day was at the forefront of technology, with electric lighting as early as 1886. It would have been used to display some of the many exotic plants, including orchids, palms and ferns collected by the family from around the world.

The Conservatory is now open to visitors. Entry to the conservatory is included in Gardens Admission. Opening hours are a little shorter than the Gardens opening times, to allow visitors chance to come down from the conservatory to the visitor centre before closing. Winter hours: Monday to Friday, 10.30am-2.30pm; weekends and school holidays, 10.30am-3.45pm

Patrick Eyres will describe the restoration of the Conservatory and other aspects of the ongoing restoration at Wentworth Castle Gardens in his GHS Winter Lecture at Cowcross Street, London, on Wednesday 26 February; see the enclosed Booking Form for details of this and the other Lectures in the annual series.

Other Events
The Perception and Protection of Gardens and Landscapes in Britain (I)
Study Day at Maison Française, Oxford OX2 6SE
10.30am to 6pm, Saturday 7 December 2013
 Speakers include: Marion Harney (Bath University), Charles Mynors (Francis Taylor Building), Adrian Phillips (International Union for Conservation of Nature), and Jenifer White (EH).

Rustic Nature and Artistic Rusticity in China (II)
Maison Française, Oxford OX2 6SE
Saturday 8 March 2014
Speakers include: Yolaine Escande (CNRS-EHESS, Paris), Alison Hardie (Leeds), Stephen McDowall (Edinburgh).

For both, no prior registration required, cost from £3 to £5, but lunch (£12) requires prior registration: laurent.chatel@ell.ox.ac.uk

Sustainable Historic Landscapes - using the past... now
3rd Annual Garden History Lecture
Claremont Fan School
2pm, Saturday 12 April, 2014
A presentation and debate, speakers are: Dr Kate Felus, garden historian; Chris Churchman, landscape architect; Michael Phillips, architect; and Dominic Cole, landscape architect & chairman GHS.

Contact David Rigall for more: drigall@rigalldesign.com

William Shenstone (1714–1763): Poet And Landscape Gardener, A Tercentenary Conference
Pembroke College, Oxford
Friday 15 to Sunday 17 August, 2014
This cross-disciplinary conference will examine William Shenstone’s significance in terms of both his literary and garden-making activities. An international roster of speakers has been invited to present papers which will forward our understanding of this important figure in mid 18th-century culture. Speakers include: Patrick Eyres, Michael Symes and Prof Sandro Jung; the conference organiser is Tim Richardson.

William Shenstone was an alumnus of Pembroke, and the college is kindly supporting the conference.

Friday: drinks reception and keynote lecture (open to the public); informal dinner in college hall. Saturday: full day conference featuring eight speakers; lunch in college hall Evening drinks reception followed by formal dinner in college hall. Sunday: travel by coach to The Leasowes, Halesowen, self guided tour of the Leasowes (packed lunch). Return by coach to Oxford by approx. 4.30pm

Cost: Residential: £375 (early-bird rate: £335) Non-Residential: £275 (early-bird rate: £235). To register interest before booking opens, please email Huw Edmunds, Pembroke College Head of Conferences and Events: huw.edmunds@pmb.ox.ac.uk

GHS micro-news 92a winter 2013
GHS and Other Events 2014
for full details of our events please see GHS news 93 spring 2014 or: www.gardenhistorysociety.org/events

GHS Winter Lectures, London
February and March
The booking form for the GHS winter lecture series 2014 is enclosed with this mailing. Please note: there has been an alteration to the programme. Coinciding with the Royal Horticultural Society’s change of schedule, the GHS 12th Annual Lecture at the RHS will now take place on Saturday 22 February starting at 4.30pm, and we are pleased to announce that Dominic Cole, Chairman of the GHS, will give a lecture entitled East of Eden. Anna Pavord’s lecture, which was due to take place on Wednesday 19 February, has been postponed.

Gardens and the Enlightenment
Annual Rewley House Study Weekend
Friday 6 to Sunday 8 June
Our Rewley House weekend Study Course, with Dr Mark Smith and Michael Symes, will explore varied aspects of garden making in the context of the ideas of the ‘Enlightenment’: advances in science and technology, new ideas of nature and social and philosophical issues. Subjects will include gardens in France and Germany as well as Britain.

If you have any questions about this course, please email: ppsdayweek@conted.ox.ac.uk, quoting: O13P206LHR.

Essex gardens
Joint Study Day with LPGT
early July
Our traditional joint study day in early July, with London Parks and Gardens Trust will visit sites in Essex.

More information in the next newsletter.

GHS Annual Summer Conference
Cardiff and South Glamorgan
Thursday 24 July to Sunday 27 July
This year we will hold our 4th Annual Graduate Seminar, our AGM and Annual Summer Conference in and around Cardiff, in Wales. Application forms with flexible options will appear in the next newsletter with the usual early-bird offers for those paying promptly. Anne Richards and Robert Peel are organising it.

Study Tour to gardens and landscapes of The Crimea and Kiev
the week starting Monday 6 October
More details to appear in the spring GHS news, though an intended highlight will be a visit to Sofiyisky. To express interest or request more information, please contact Robert Peel: rma.peel@btinternet.com

Second Study tour to Brazil
23 October to 6 November (provisional dates)
Our Study Tour to visit the gardens of Roberto Burle Marx in November has already received enough expressions of interest to be complete. Details should be known sometime in December; when some already on the list may not wish to commit. Those who have not yet expressed an interest are therefore invited to do so, on inclusion on the waiting list, to Robert Peel: rma.peel@btinternet.com

Coordinator of the GHS Events Committee
We are looking for a volunteer to prepare and send out agendas and write the minutes of the four formal meetings of the Events Committee of The Garden History Society, usually held in October, January, March and May each year, at the Society’s offices in Cowcross Street, London EC1M 6EJ.

Close liaison, by computer, with members of the Committee and with the GHS Administrator would be expected as well as help and advice with some of the events organised by the Committee. This is an opportunity to get closely involved with an exciting social and vital fundraising aspect of the Society.

Please contact the Chair of the Committee, Robert Peel: rma.peel@btopenworld.com

Study Day on Memorial Landscapes of the First World War
Early November
Organized as part of Working Together with AGT, county gardens trusts and The Garden Museum, our November Study Day is being planned. More information in the next newsletter.

THE GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY

Contact us
Head Office
70 Cowcross Street, London EC1M 6EJ
Phone: 020 7608 2409 or email: enquiries@gardenhistorysociety.org
www.gardenhistorysociety.org

Seasonal closures
The Society’s offices will be closed from Friday 20th December, reopening on Monday 6th January.

micro-news 92a
Correspondence and items to the GHS Head Office, or email the Editor:
news@gardenhistorysociety.org
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a long border at Dyffryn, Wales