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Bursting out all over

You will, we hope, notice the sudden flood of activity bursting out from **The Gardens Trust**.

Firstly, our website at www.thegardenstrust.org is up and running [see p.5]. We will be adding more content in the coming months, and we hope you will find it much easier to navigate than earlier versions, but still with lots of interesting nooks and crannies. Much thanks for its re-appearance goes to Tim Richardson and Richard Bennett who have led the project, with its final execution being carried through by our chairman Jim Bartos. It has been created for us by Design Culture, a firm located, by coincidence, quite near to our head office in London's Farringdon.

Then there is this edition of **GT news**, a winter one, not seen in a few years. It is by way of a trailer to our new publication schedule. The summer and winter mailing of **Garden History**, our journal, remains unchanged. We will be mailing out the intended three editions of **GT news**, in spring summer and winter over the coming years, whilst maintaining our customary four times a year mailing schedule; a single **micro-news** will appear with our September mailing.

Expect to find our Annual Report and AGM Voting Papers in our June mailing, so that you have them well in advance of our September Annual Conference.

As you may have gathered, we will no longer be publishing a separate **CGT Year Book**, as we aim to integrate the many excellent articles generated by our colleagues in the County and Country Gardens Trusts into this publication, throughout the year.

contact us

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The Trust gratefully acknowledges
the support of **Alan Baxter**.

Our cover shows: a part of the rill garden at
Hounslow Civic Centre by Preben Jakobsen, 1978.
By courtesy of Landscape Institute Library, MERL

We are particularly keen that CGTs continue to make useful contributions to **GT news**; the clue is in the title. Each CGT receives a number of paper copies of **GT news**, as well as the pdf for distribution to all their members.

GT news is intended as a platform for all our members to promote their research, as well as any events they might be involved with, or think other members may be interested in.

You will notice that **Our Events** have moved to the centre section of the publication, marked with a green edge to the page, at the request of the Events committee. We hope this makes **our** events stand out, and easier to find, but we will continue to feature other events of interest too: CGT events follow immediately after with other events of interest following them. We don't propose to feature all CGT events, that would take several publications, but a listing of events that the CGTs might want a broader audience for is quite feasible.

Although this has all taken a bit longer to do than we might have hoped we feel the wait has been worthwhile. Please continue to let us have your feedback.

Charles Boot
GT news editor

That acronym...

Our new name still seems to be causing some confusion. Tim Richardson, late of this parish, had something to say on the matter in a recent email correspondence:

'I have made the point about style, ie using 'GT' and not 'TGT', several times in board meetings but it appears to be being ignored by many if not most; though no one seems to have a strong view against. I think it is habit. I was advised by the chairman that a style guide at this point would not necessarily be helpful; he himself is neutral on the matter.

'The main point is that we should be abbreviated as 'the GT', [note lower-case 'the'] i.e. the acronym 'TGT' should not be used. It would be good if we could endeavour to use this formula [in speech as well] and hope it starts to stick. It is currently used in this way in the **news** and should certainly be used in all publications and written communications by GT staff. This is something we on the EP&C Committee have informed the Board about in the hope it would be passed on to colleagues.

In the end we shall have to revert to 'TGT' I suppose if most people are unable to use 'GT'. I refer you to Horace, *Ars Poetica*: 'Usage is the sole arbiter and norm of speech.' Which applies to writing as well.

But in the meantime we should try with 'GT'. The reason for this is the fact it is basically illiterate/poor usage to use 'The' in an acronym. It goes against our instincts as a literate/academic society.

I hope this clarifies matters, at least for the short term. If in a year or two we find that most people are still habitually using 'TGT', then we may have to rethink. But let us see if our Stalinist re-education policy works. I am myself about to be purged and replaced by Comrade Marsh and will therefore be erased from the history of the Garden History Society/Gardens Trust.'

So there you have it, from Tim's keyboard. On a practical point, living in (and until my own retirement as 'dear leader' of) Buckinghamshire, I have always tried to live by 'Bucks Gardens Trust' (Bucks GT), to distinguish us from neighbouring Beds and Berks GTs; using BGT would only cause more upset.

CB

Our new membership leaflet

Enclosed in this mailing is the Gardens Trust's new membership leaflet. Increasing membership is vital to the success of the new organisation, so we would be grateful if you would give this leaflet to anyone who you believe may be interested in joining us.

The illustration on the front shows The Bowling Green and the Octagon Pond, Hartwell House, Buckinghamshire, by Balthasar Nebot (c.1700 to c.1770), and is used by kind permission of Bucks County Museum. HS2 is proposed to run across this view, emerging from a tunnel on the right of the picture, continuing on a viaduct above the grazing sheep and just behind the row of poplars at the bottom of the rectangular meadow with the black horses and sheep, until finally crossing the trimmed lime(?) avenue, just below the brow of the hill where more sheep are grazing. It has been suggested we produce a cut out photomontage to be applied as needed...

Further copies of the membership leaflet are available from the Gardens Trust's head office, details opposite.



news: AGM reports

Committee and Activity Reports at The Gardens Trust Annual General Meeting Friday, 2 September 2016 at Robinson College, Cambridge

Honorary Secretary's report

The Gardens Trust's second AGM was held at Robinson College, Cambridge on 2 September 2016.

The Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2015 were laid before the members, and Averillo and Associates were appointed as Independent Examiners.

Jeremy Garnett, Kate Harwood, Tim Richardson and Ian Vardnell stood down as Directors and were thanked for their considerable contribution over the first year of the new charity. Christine Addison, David Marsh, Maureen Nolan and Peter Waine were elected to the Board to fill the vacancies. Alan Baxter and Susan Campbell were re-elected as Vice Presidents for a further term of five years.

Thanks were recorded to Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust for its help with the arrangements for the AGM. The full Minutes of the Meeting, including reports from the Chairman, Honorary Treasurer and Committees, together with President's closing remarks, will form part of the papers for the 2017 AGM.

Published below are those reports given on activities during the year from Directors and the Historic Landscape Project Officers, and also for this year's Gilly Drummond Volunteer of the Year Award.

Maureen Nolan

Events Committee Report from Virginia Hinze, Chair

The many months devoted to the merger seem, in retrospect, to have been a state of suspended animation, the uncertainty making it hard to plan events. Once the Gardens Trust was born though, with its hugely-extended potential audience for national events, the Events Committee (EC) swung in to action.

The popular Winter Lecture Series, run this year entirely by GT volunteers, largely featured C18 landscapes including new research at Wimpole and Woburn and the Earl of Shaftesbury's philosophy of estate gardening, but not forgetting **Helena Attlee's** handing round of pomelo varieties to illustrate her talk on *The Land Where Lemons Grow*.

Two study tours took place, to **south-west Scotland** [see p.27-29], and to **Paris** [see [website](#)]



Charles Boot

Richard Wheeler, NT Gardens Curator, at Cliveden

plus a fascinating visit to Buckinghamshire to view areas of **Cliveden's** gardens revealing new insights through research and to its neighbouring estate **Dropmore**, currently undergoing restoration of its famous early C19 gardens and pinetum. All these were arranged and led by volunteers and our great thanks must go to Sally Jeffery, Robert Peel, Kristina Taylor, Richard Wheeler and Claire de Carle for their contributions of time, expertise and significant income for the Trust. All arrangements for the GT's 2016 Conference and AGM by Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust pre-empted the decision to merge so the GT thanks them for a most enjoyable and well-organised event.

The Events Committee's main role is offering a range of academic and more popular events which illuminate past and new research in garden history, the GT and CGTs conservation work and campaigns of national interest throughout the UK (and indeed abroad), and raising income to support the GT's wider activities.

Early on we realised the EC needed some new initiatives to become less 'London-centric' and more representative of our national audience, to attract more volunteers able and willing to organise events and to operate more efficiently. So, over the last year or so we have:

- Appointed 3 new EC members from Shropshire and Wales, Yorkshire and Buckinghamshire to complement existing ones from Norfolk, Dorset, Sussex and London; set up electronic communication with Scotland's Garden and Landscape Heritage (SGLH) group and the Welsh Historic Gardens Trust;
- Set up regular liaison with other GT committees on Conservation and Education, Publications

and Communications, and planned attending future regional HLP Assemblies and training events so we can meet members and explore their ideas for events;

- Begun to establish a network of 'occasional' volunteers who might organise an event but don't wish to join a committee; hence building capacity and committee sustainability;
- Prepared protocols on managing our various event types (conferences, study tours, joint events etc.) and (thanks to Sally Jeffery) offered training and mentoring on the intricacies of Eventbrite [for on-line payments].

Our well-advanced programme [see p.17–24] for the rest of 2016 and into 2017 includes: a joint conference in November with the **British Records Association** *Keeping the Memory Green: Records of small Gardens*; a varied Winter Lecture Series covering archaeology at Boughton which **Brian Dix** will premier in Birmingham, a new initiative which we hope you will support; Jacobean and Georgian gardens plus new research on Tudor and Arts and Craft gardens in Rochester, and a C20 landscape architect's work.

An important conference on the vulnerability and conservation of late C20 designed landscapes is planned for June plus 2 study tours, to **Sicily** and to the **North-east of Scotland**, in April and June. The AGM and Conference for 2017 will be held in **Plymouth** from Friday 1 to Sunday 3 September, with booking opening in March 2017.

We are still in great need of one or two more committee members, particularly from the north-west, south-west and the Midlands, so if you have good organisational skills and would like to discuss joining the Events Committee, or our network of occasional organisers, please contact Events Committee's Chair, Virginia Hinze.

Education, Publications and Communications Committee Report from Tim Richardson, Chair

The Committee has had a very busy year in what has been a transition period for the Gardens Trust.

The name of the committee has changed and it now includes Communications. Of course, our most active members are in this room now, but we have thousands of other members whose only regular link with the GT is via our newsletter, website and other communications.

The website is in its final stages. The structure of

the site is in place with the help of a professional design company and we are now populating it with words and documents by means of mainly volunteer efforts across the Trust. Our target is to have this up and running this autumn but, understandably, that is very much dependent on volunteer time.



The website finally launched in November...

- There is a slick and attractive homepage, with a mission statement from the Trust and a rolling slideshow feed of news and events, constantly updated, and contact details. The drop down menu will cover **Conservation, Research, News and Campaigns, Events, Publications, About Us, Support Us**, then a **Search** function;
- The **Conservation** page will incorporate The Historic Landscape Project Resource Hub, with all the downloads, links, guidance and a link to the Conservation Casework Log and will include relevant downloadable pdfs from Historic England. There will be a link to a 'Find Your Local County Garden Trust' facility and a link to the PCANS and one to CMPs. It is also planned to have an international section and a Forum;
- The **Research** page will include 'How to Research'; links to research resources and a Register of Research; the Essay Prize and Graduate Symposium, and Garden History Education;
- **News and Campaigns** will publicise all GT and CGT events, and also all events relevant to our topic, including international events. It is to be a one-stop resource for everything going on;
- **Publications** will provide links to pdfs of our newsletter, to the Journal and JSTOR as well as extra issues and one-off publications;
- **About Us** will set out our charitable objectives,

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a run-down of staff and Board member profiles;

- Finally, **Support Us** will show how to join or become a volunteer and details of leaving a legacy. Charles Boot who has been looking after the website has kindly agreed to continue to do so, and has been involved with the development of the new site.

Branding **The Gardens Trust** has been successfully completed and in collaboration with Board member, Ian Varndell, we oversaw the creation of the logo and related materials.

There have been two issues of **GT news** during the year, ably edited by Charles Boot. There will be something of a redesign and re-presentation, the aim being to integrate ever more CGT material and updates into the **news**. It is now proposed to add a third newsletter per year, which will be a special **news** spring edition largely dedicated to CGT activities and reviews. This will replace the old **AGT Yearbook** and will fulfil a similar function. It will also have a much higher print run than the other two regular newsletters, so it can be distributed widely to CGTs as before.

Our Journal, **Garden History**, is a vitally important aspect of the Trust's work and was the reason for the creation of the Garden History Society in the first place. It is the pre-eminent academic journal devoted to our subject, edited by Barbara Simms. It appears twice yearly and we would like to continue it at that frequency.

I am sure I am preaching to the converted in this room, because you are clearly deeply engaged with the topic and the aims of the Trust. But please, if you do hear of members complaining that the journal is difficult to read or too dense, please explain that it is an academic journal of record and that these articles are read many years hence. It is not a magazine. They need to be of the correct academic standard as refereed by our international panel of experts in the field. I would also point out that for many 'sleeping' members of the Trust, the journal is the principal benefit of membership. It certainly was for me in the years before I became actively involved.

Finally, a word on Garden History Education: we place great importance on the **New Research Symposium** and the **Mavis Batey Essay Prize** continues. David Marsh continues to spearhead the revitalisation of garden history education in the UK through both the GT and the Grapevine initiative he has started. The Gardens Trust is at the heart of those ongoing discussions and activities.

Conservation Committee Sarah Dickinson, Vice Chair, on behalf of Dr Marion Harney, Chair

As you all very well know, at the heart of the work that we undertake as the Conservation Committee is the important, indeed essential, role that we share with the County Gardens Trusts (CGTs) in delivering the Garden Trust's (GT) statutory duties as consultee for all nationally designated designed landscapes. It is, of course, in this capacity that the GT receives funding from Historic England and to put it bluntly we must as a Committee ensure that we have the resource and capability to sustain this role but more importantly to respond innovatively and effectively to challenges when they arise.

Jim Bartos has already touched on our review of working practices and the consequential restructuring of the conservation team, but I thought that it would be interesting for you all to hear from the Committee's perspective what we feel that we have achieved through this exercise and how we hope to develop going forward.

The process was triggered largely by the enormous success of the collaborative partnership of the Joint Conservation Committee, GHS Conservation staff and Historic Landscape Project Officers (pre-merger) which manifested itself in an impressive and effective increased response rate to planning application consultations received by the GT. You may have read the statistics in the AGM Report papers, but just to repeat, in the past year, CGTs have written 239 responses and monitored and shared important issues and concerns in relation to 1284 consultations received.

Our methodology has been described as a model for other Amenity Societies to follow. The consequential challenge is how we continue to improve these statistics with the time and funding resources we have. As we all know there are far too many occasions when consultations are not received when they should be and the disproportionate time and resource needed to respond when a crisis situation inevitably results is best avoided. It is very much in our interests to have a much improved number of consultations. We have tackled this head on this year with the publication of the GT's first Guidance leaflet*. I will expand further on this in a moment but first, returning to our restructure [see p.7]:

We are acutely aware that the lions share of the

responses to consultation applications have been made by CGT volunteers and the success of our capacity building projects going forward (such as the Guidance leaflet) is of course designed to increase these statistics which in turn will increase the time and manpower pressures on us all and particularly our planning expert volunteers. You are, of course, under no obligation to comment on the increased level of applications.

We need to provide an immediate, effective and consistent support base within the Trust and this has been the *raison d'être* for the restructure.

Very broadly, the changes have enabled us to focus on providing an efficient and timely response to the weekly lists. The log has proved to be a very useful tool in Alison Allighan's¹ hands and its capacity and improved capabilities are part of a current on-going (if rather delayed) updating process. We have increased Alison's hours. She will now make full use of her extensive experience, knowledge and expertise to monitor the list and determine importance and relevance of the consultations received and control distribution to nominated volunteers and the conservation team and the Committee.

This frees up a lot of Margie Hoffnungs² time and she will pick up and run with the consultations that require particular attention and will be available to support and assist CGT volunteers with your work. She will now have more time to directly comment on planning applications and to give advice and to help to coordinate the efforts of CGT planning volunteers where needed. You should not hesitate to get in touch with her.

In support of the team's casework delivery and the roles of Alison and Margie, we have also turned our attention to formalising an enhanced role for the Conservation Committee. The Committee is already engaged more frequently between formal meetings to support staff on important casework. Where particularly important or difficult cases arise an email exchange alerts the Conservation Chair who then liaises with the Conservation Committee to provide a response in a timely fashion.

A situation has not yet arisen, but we anticipate that it may be necessary from time to time to refer to a consultant on an ad-hoc basis for a difficult and lengthy case. To enhance this work, we would also like to explore putting in place

a Network of Expert Advisers, based across the regions, who will be proximate to potential sites and who are able to support the work of the Trust on an occasional basis. We would hope that they will be able to attend local site meetings and consultations and report to the conservation team providing expert knowledge and research. We would like to develop the network to share ideas and educational opportunities through the group. We also very much hope that there will be an overlap between this Network and the Conservation Committee.

I wanted to explain this proposal to you today as I believe I am speaking to the very experts who we would like to engage. If you would like to be considered as a new member of the Conservation Committee or put your name forward to be put on to a Network of Expert Advisers then please do not hesitate to contact myself or of course Marion Harney, our Chair.

Turning again to our major project this year, I hope that you have all had a chance to look at the new Planning Leaflet. I represented the Trust at the Heritage Alliance Heritage Day at the end of last year and over the course of the day's workshops and debates it became clear that a concern across the sector is the lack of resource and consequent expertise at local authority level.

There was enormous support and anticipation across the amenity societies for our publication of a Guidance leaflet explaining the role of the CGTs and the Gardens Trust itself in the planning process to local planning authorities. This is an innovative and proactive response to the issues we have. It is an excellent use of our expertise in sharing knowledge and providing much needed education across the sector. Linden Groves³ has been instrumental in this project and more importantly its distribution.

Looking ahead, we are determined that our Committee should be a representative body, a portal for all CGTs to channel conservation issues. We are an open forum. We would like to have members on the Committee from across the regions and would welcome approaches from interested parties. In the interim, you will



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see that matters arising through regional and national forums are central to the Committee's agenda. Local and regional issues raised by our CGT volunteers are regularly discussed and where appropriate given a national voice.

We have, for example, with David Lambert at the lead, recently engaged a consultant to produce a paper: **Public Prospects II** [now launched as **Uncertain Prospects**, see p.14]. It is time for the Trust to revisit the issues of historic urban parks (which were first raised in 1993 in **Public Prospects**) with a report that once again sounds the alarm bell over the present situation and the anticipated trajectory. With the announcement of a House of Commons Select Committee inquiry into the subject in the autumn, it will be an extremely timely contribution to the debate over what may soon be viewed as a national scandal. It will also have the benefit of raising public awareness of the Gardens Trust as a campaigning body.

Finally, the Yorkshire Gardens Trust has very recently raised with us their concerns with regard to Natural England's Environmental Stewardship in historic parklands and particularly funding post-Brexit. Val Hepworth will expand later under AOB but this is an example of an issue that the Committee will happily debate and pursue as and when appropriate.

With the population of the new website and the publication of revised PCANs (**Planning Conservation Advice Notes**) also in the pipeline, 2017 promises to be another busy year.

¹ Alison Allighan (Conservation Casework Manager)

² Margie Hoffnung (Conservation Officer)

³ Linden Groves (Senior Historic Landscape Project Officer)

* *The Planning System in England and the Protection of Historic Parks and Gardens: Guidance for Local Planning Authorities*, The Gardens Trust © 2016.

Membership Committee

Mike Dawson, on behalf of Dr Ian Varndell, Chair

Mike Dawson, on behalf of Dr Ian Varndell, Chair of the Membership Committee reported on the Committee's plans to compile a membership database and its programme to identify the needs, interests and concerns of members, both as individuals and CGTs. The promotion of the

benefits of individual membership would be a continuing focus. Assisting CGTs, particularly through promotion and development of their roles, would remain a key function of the Board. He was delighted to report that Nottinghamshire Gardens Trust had re-established itself as an active County Gardens Trust.

Mike then invited Linden Groves and Tamsin McMillan to report on the Historic Landscape Project's (HLP's) events list and to outline HLP's strategy for the year.

Historic Landscape Project

Linden Groves, Senior Historic Landscape Project Officer

Tamsin McMillan, Assistant Historic Landscape Project Officer

Linden Groves began by paying tribute to the Historic Landscape Project's departing line manager, Ian Varndell, who had been fabulous to work with and will be very much missed. The HLP will now come under the Conservation Committee's remit, with line management by Sarah Dickinson, and this is a positive move as the conservation of the parks and gardens we love clearly runs through all of our collective interests in the Gardens Trusts, not simply planning work but also research, recording, education, publishing and even jolly garden visiting.

The HLP is also sad to have lost its Historic Landscape Project Officer Caroline Ikin to the lure of a PhD. Caroline brought an invaluable calm efficiency to the HLP, and made a contribution in developing the Hub, social media and some great workshops to ensure that we were all ready to maximise the opportunities presented by the new leaflet for local planning authorities.

Fortunately though, we have been able to appoint a new team member, Tamsin McMillan, who we are sure will be a fantastic asset in the forthcoming year.

Tamsin introduced herself to the audience saying: "I'm so pleased to be here at this fantastic event, and to meet so many likeminded people. I have a background in researching garden history and archaeology, both academically and commercially, and in making conservation recommendations for all sorts of historic designed landscapes. I've also been involved for a couple of years in restarting Nottinghamshire Gardens Trust, so have already met people from several other CGTs. I am so



Linden and Tamsin, HLPO officers, maintaining their good humour under a 'Capabili-tree', at Wimpole

impressed by the enthusiasm, knowledge and productivity of the CGTs. I look forward to getting to know you all better (and to perhaps 'borrowing' some of your ideas for Notts GT!)."

Linden then explained that the HLP is trialling a move away from a regional division of work between HLPOs, and instead she will be leading on capacity building, creating networks, and strategic direction, with Tamsin filling an invaluable role as the lynchpin of the HLP, concentrating particularly on communication such as the Hub, email group, social media, and training support materials.

The HLPOs then drew attention to the planned HLP events for the year. The Regional Forums have been tweaked into a simpler format of regular meetings across the country at which all CGTs are welcome, with fixed agendas but a fresh external speaker each time. It is hoped that this will retain the many benefits of the Forums, whilst making them less resource-hungry for both those organising and attending, and thus more sustainable in the longer term. Some counties are already organising their own historic landscape forums for organisations interested in the subject, and HLPOs will be available to support other counties wishing to establish these. These will be complemented by a new annual national Historic Landscape Assembly, which is intended to grow into a major networking event for the sector. There will additionally be several training opportunities, and these have been carefully devised to help CGTs attract new active volunteers, who may not currently think of themselves as 'conservation-types'.

'Capability' Brown update

Kate Harwood: 'Capability' Brown Tercentenary (CB300) Co-ordinator



This tercentenary year has seen many opportunities for the CGTs to shine. That they have taken them so readily and produced such good results is ample demonstration of their abilities and dedication.

The chance to work with other Trusts and with academics and institutions from around the country has been taken up and has produced some excellent research, not only amplifying and confirming what was already generally known about Brown and his *oeuvre* but also weeding out, with exemplary rigour, some of the more doubtful attributions.

The outputs from this are impressive with a large number of books, both written by the County Gardens Trusts and others done with their knowledge and input. There have also been exhibitions including some excellent ones by the Trusts themselves as well as more commercial ones. Allied to this, are the informative catalogues. Further written outputs are the walks leaflets round historic Brownian sites produced by some CGTs, many dedicated newsletters and journal articles.

In addition Trusts have worked closely with their local Brown sites to produce events, from Study Days to guided walks to 'Capabilit-Teas', often providing expertise, help; and most importantly, cake.

There are so many in the CGTs who have given time, expertise and effort so generously, mostly without external financial support over many years; long before the Festival was announced. Kate looked forward to the opportunity to thank everyone involved, in a celebration at Fenstanton the following day. It is a token of how much the volunteers are valued not only by those in the CGTs but also by the HLF who have noted our sterling efforts.

Many of the new discoveries are on the **Parks & Gardens database** and more will come in, no doubt. Kate also referred to the forthcoming press release about the 179 Brown sites now on the database; and there were still a few more to go before we have the full set.

But this experience has also set a precedent for closer working together for other projects. For example, work has started on Humphry Repton for 2018. The Tercentenary had also had huge press coverage both national and local, not all of it accurate, but which has raised public awareness

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that these parks are special and deserve protection.

Kate expressed the hope this could be translated into a better public understanding for all designed historic landscapes and their preservation for future generations.

Kate closed by saying there were far too many people to thank individually, but that special thanks must go to Linden Groves and Caroline Ikin, 'The Capability Girls'; to Rachael Stamper and Maria Beck, the Database girls; to Gilly Drummond for her tremendous enthusiasm and to Jenifer White for her stalwart support.

2016 Volunteer of the Year: Karen Lynch

Karen Lynch was the recipient of the 2016 Gilly Drummond CGT Volunteer of the Year award.

According to this year's judge, Jenifer White: 'Karen was selected for her research, publication and events in the Capability Brown tercentenary year. Yorkshire Gardens Trust's 2016 celebrations, and run up events earlier on, have reached way beyond Yorkshire. The award is not just for Karen's Capability Brown volunteering but also her longstanding support for Yorkshire Gardens Trust from committee roles to fundraising and research.'

Karen could not be present to receive the award at the Gardens Trust's AGM but sent this message:

'I'm sorry not to be with you all this weekend to receive this lovely award, but our YGT exhibition: **Noble Prospects: Capability Brown and the Yorkshire Landscape**, is now entering its final week and I am needed in Yorkshire. I am delighted



Karen is presented with the award by Val Hepworth

to receive this recognition of my work with the YGT over the last 20 years. I have made many great friends both in Yorkshire and beyond and had lots of fun along the way. I couldn't have done it alone and I'd like to thank everyone in the YGT who has played a part in making the exhibition and accompanying book such a success. In particular thanks must go to our Vice President Caroline, Lady Legard, for raising the funds; to our Chair Val Hepworth for her support and enthusiasm, and to stalwart member Patrick Eyres for always being there with words of wisdom.

Plymouth Ho!

The Gardens Trust Annual Conference 2017 heads to the South West

Thursday 31 August to Sunday 3 September

See p.22 for more diary details.

conservation notes

reports from the Conservation Committee

Despite the loss of Caroline Iken to the lure of a PhD on the wonderful subject of 'John Ruskin and designed landscapes', **Linden Groves** and her new assistant **Tamsin McMillan** have ensured that work on the Historic Landscape Project continues apace with an exciting programme of events in place through the autumn and into the spring, communicating with the county gardens trusts and the wider individual membership of the Gardens Trust on important conservation issues and to share expertise in research and recording.

Development, encouragement and support for county gardens trusts is fundamental to delivery

of conservation work, and **Margie Hoffnung** as Conservation Officer depends on the expertise and goodwill of the county gardens trusts to ensure good quality responses to planning consultations. We wish Caroline all the best and thank her for all her work on making the HLP a success, and we are delighted to welcome Tamsin and the experience she will bring to our work.

Our Planning Advice leaflet

The Gardens Trust has recently published its advice on planning and conservation of historic parks and gardens and circulated it to all planning

authorities. The leaflet explains the status of parks and gardens in the planning system, advises on sources of information and explains the roles of the Gardens Trust and the County Gardens Trusts.

The leaflet has been created as part of a programme of working with partners in the heritage sector to provide accessible information which will facilitate the process of determining when proposed developments and associated planning applications may impact on a historic designed landscape or its setting.

You can download a copy of the leaflet at www.thegardenstrust.org or contact the Gardens Trust for a copy.

Panshanger, Hertford

Undoubtedly the most time-consuming of our cases in recent months has been the assault on the Grade II* landscape at Panshanger, where both Brown and Repton worked, and now unfortunately Tarmac. Tarmac have been extracting gravel here for over twenty years but we are now facing the imminent destruction of the Broadwater in Repton's valley, which Pevsner called his most perfect, for mineral extraction.



was sought later). Working with Committee member **Kate Harwood** of the Hertfordshire Gardens Trust, we have written to Historic England, the local MP, executives from Tarmac and Hertfordshire County Council. Currently Tarmac have 'postponed' the work but further talks, now including Historic England, are scheduled for 29 November 2016.

Update: The Heritage meeting at the Tarmac offices in Panshanger Stables, 29 November

Tarmac invited Historic England, The Gardens Trust and Hertfordshire Gardens Trust to a meeting to discuss the extraction of gravel from the remaining strip dividing Repton's Broadwater from the excavation lagoon. This meeting was prompted by the outcry against the removal of this strip which would have completely destroyed the Repton water design of 2 sinuous interconnected lakes.

Three members of the Tarmac management team discussed with us their ideas for the future, and the fact that they were a commercial company. Their decision to retain the strip and therefore Repton design was reinforced by the timely discovery by HGT in the local archives of accounts recording Repton overseeing 69 men digging the lake and puddling it with clay. Historic England were adamant that this made it all the more important to retain the strip. Tarmac then announced the possible infilling of the lagoon restoring the setting of the water which was applauded by the meeting. Dr Nikki Cook from Savills was present as Tarmac's newly appointed heritage consultant and was tasked with preparing a heritage management plan to fit into the overall plan Tarmac are producing. Herts GT and GT are greatly encouraged by this recognition of the importance of the site and even more so by the letter from HE to Tarmac announcing that it will be on the HAR.

We suggested that the 2018 Repton year could be a chance for great progress to be made and a significant event, perhaps 'Repton and Biodiversity', be held at Panshanger which was very positively received by Tarmac. We await further developments with great interest (see p.37)

Kate Harwood



Repton's 1801 view of the site



Kate Harwood

Panshanger, Cole Green Hole 2015

Woodland in the pleasure grounds has been felled and as part of a vague promise of a country park, a wooden hut and bus turning circle have been constructed (planning permission

conservation notes

The setting of historic landscapes

The importance of 'borrowed views,' views outwards from a park or a house into the wider landscape beyond, to a local feature such as a hilltop or a church spire, have always been part of the landscape garden. 'Circuit Drives' or 'Ridings' were designed to take in viewpoints commanding often very wide views. New development around registered sites therefore needs to be carefully assessed in terms of impact not directly on the park or garden itself, but also on its designed views or setting.

In September, an appeal was allowed for 400 new houses outside **Kedleston** but in a designed view towards Derby, and indeed a designed view from the road to the house. Conservation Committee member, **Chris Gallagher** appeared at the inquiry and we are enormously grateful to him for his time and unparalleled expertise. He and the QC for Kedleston Voice, and indeed Amber Valley Council, seemed successful in explaining the nature of such designed views in circuits of the park, here, the 'Long Walk', and their integral relationship to the Grade I registered parkland (the developers argued that a park was a sealed environment within a shelter belt). It is very regrettable that the National Trust did not appear to give evidence in support of the conservation case. In a sharp example of the anti-expert mood of the times, the inspector commented on the boundary planting, 'that it is debatable whether its trees and woodland, designed and laid out in a naturalistic manner, can actually be distinguished as such by anyone unfamiliar with designed parkland.' Ultimately, it was determined that the planting of the Derby Screen around 1960 to obscure any views from the Hall and Park towards the then much extended boundaries of Derby had altered the views irrevocably, and had been a deliberate decision to make the park enclosed and inward looking.

The Conservation Committee is considering whether it can usefully add to the advice currently being developed by Historic England on setting and designed views. This is likely to be in the form of a **Planning and Conservation Advice Note (PCAN)** and available on the Gardens Trust website as part of our programme of creating accessible information for our county gardens trust members and planners at the heart of dealing with planning consultations and for our

wider network of partners grappling to appreciate the complexities if these decisions.

In the context of the very recent application by Taylor Wimpey Development adjacent to Lydiard Park in Swindon discussed below, these are clearly matters in relation to which we will all need to keep abreast.

Lydiard Park, Swindon, Wiltshire

We have recently voiced our objection to a proposed housing development on the boundary of Lydiard Park. We concur with our colleagues at Historic England that 'The development would cause harm to the overall heritage significance of these assets by urbanising the rural context and open landscape that was chosen to identify these buildings as holding high status and important communal value. The development would further harm the historic association between the historic assets and land purchased in the 19th century, which provided an opportunity for ornamental grazing and extending the perceived extent of estate ownership towards the horizon.'

Sarah Finch-Crisp, a Trustee of the Friends of Lydiard Trust explains that, 'following Swindon Council's surprise decision to outsource Lydiard House and Park to the commercial sector late last year the Friends launched a petition on change.org. to raise awareness of the matter and raise objections. Together with paper versions of the petition around 10,000 are signatories. In January [the Friends] held a packed public meeting at Lydiard Academy attended by around 750 people who aired their concerns; cars were backed up to the motorway. As a result of this overwhelming public support and the seriousness of the situation, the Trustees of the Friends evolved The Lydiard Park Heritage Trust which has formerly bid and supplied a full business plan



Public Meeting called by Friends of Lydiard Park in January

to the council to take over the management of the House and Gardens. The new trust's aim is to protect Lydiard now and in the future; to ensure that the £5.3m landscape restoration project is maintained including the garden structures and buildings and of course the Palladian house and its historic collections. We are currently waiting on the council's decision as to whether we will be awarded preferred bidder status.

When writing to Wiltshire Council, Margie Hoffnung in her capacity as Conservation Officer for the Gardens Trust, highlighted how struck she was when reading the documentation online by the absolutely enormous correspondence from members of the public. No other application she has looked at over the past few years has generated such a huge volume of comments. It speaks volumes about the great regard the local community holds for this designated Country Park.

Lydiard Park Update

from Sarah Finch-Crisp, Friends of Lydiard Park

On 16 November Taylor Wimpey officially withdrew their planning application to build 48 houses on the edge of the listed park. Their statement says:

"We have decided to withdraw our planning application at Lydiard Tregoze in order to undertake further work on our proposals in response to local comments received. We will ensure the local community is kept informed about future plans via the project website"

They may well come back with an amended scheme, but it will be that much more difficult for them. I understand to withdraw at this 11th hour stage in the process is unusual and am certain that the overwhelming public protest and strong objections from professional bodies such as yourselves has been instrumental in their decision.



Friends of Lydiard Park

y 2016

Parks and Gardens UK

The Conservation Committee is delighted that the **Parks and Gardens UK** database has found a home at **Hestercombe Trust**, congratulations all round; to PGUK for its perseverance and for the brilliant resource it has been turned into, and Hestercombe for offering a home to this particular refuge. We would particularly like to thank **Barbara Simms** who has steered PGUK to a safe harbour, and **Rachel Stamper** and **Maria Beck** who have made the database what it is today.

Following recent completion of the HLF funding process, the transition can get under way with the full involvement of the Gardens Trust and county gardens trusts with a view to steering the future of this invaluable resource. It is anticipated that new input onto the database will be possible in the new year.

Government Select Committee inquiry into Public Parks

In July, the House of Commons Communities and Local Government Select Committee announced a new inquiry into the state of public parks, with terms of reference that comprised:

- The impact of reductions in local authority budgets on parks
- What the administrative status of parks should be in light of declining local authority resources for non-statutory services
- How new and existing parks can best be supported
- What additional or alternative funding is available and what scope is there for local authorities to generate revenue from park users
- What the advantages and disadvantages are of other management models, such as privatisation, outsourcing or mutualisation

The Gardens Trust submitted a memorandum, prepared by **Dr Katy Layton Jones**, and was also asked to appear to give evidence in person, which was a great privilege and opportunity. We drew attention to the mountain of evidence of the social, environmental and economic benefits of well-maintained parks; the wonderful effects of the Heritage Lottery Fund and the renaissance it has overseen; and the dire effects of the cuts made in the name of austerity since 2010. Among other points, we expressed our support for local authorities as the best bodies to own and manage public parks, and recommend that maintenance

conservation notes

be put on the same footing as those duties which are statutory. We stress the importance of non-registered locally significant parks as well as the nationally important, and we urge that the government be pressed to reinstate a champion body to succeed CABE Space, thrown on the 'bonfire of the quangos' in 2011. The inquiry runs until December and the Committee's report is expected around February.

Public Prospects revisited

Long-standing members of the Garden History Society will recall *Public Prospects: Urban parks under threat*, the report on public parks which we published jointly with the Victorian Society in 1993. It played its part in raising awareness of the historic importance of parks and the threats they were facing.

At the end of November, we launched a new report written by **Dr Katy Layton Jones**, *Uncertain Prospects: Public parks in the age of austerity*, celebrating the parks renaissance which

has been achieved since 1993, but warning of the desperate future many now face as a result of local authority spending cuts. The effect of these varies widely between authorities; some are predicting an end to parks maintenance within the next couple of years, others are seeking to make parks self-financing, while others are throwing their weight behind the voluntary sector.

It is a tumultuous time and it seems right that we should issue a campaigning document in defence of these historic landscapes. The report was launched at the Gardens Trust's first Historic Landscapes Assembly on 24 November 2016 and is available to download on the Garden's Trust website. We are very grateful to all the county gardens trusts who contributed to the report.

Download a copy at www.thegardenstrust.org



Historic Landscapes Project update

reports from our officers

Hitting the ground running with the Historic Landscape Project

Tamsin McMillan,
Assistant Historic Landscape Project Officer

In September, at the Gardens Trust's busiest annual event, the AGM and 'Capability' Brown conference with Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust, I joined the Historic Landscape Project as Assistant HLP Officer. What an amazing start to a new job!

I'm absolutely delighted to take on this new role as it fits perfectly with my background in working with historic designed landscapes; a PhD in Garden Archaeology, a brief stint working on Historic England's **Register of Parks and Gardens**, and several years as an Historic Landscape Adviser at Hilary Taylor Landscape Associates Ltd, in Nottingham, and with my love of gardens and gardening. I'm also Secretary of Nottinghamshire Gardens Trust, which a small team of us is currently getting back on its feet after a period of dormancy, and this has given me an insight into the huge amounts of research and conservation work undertaken by the County Gardens Trusts.



Linden Groves

Tamsin (middle) at the GT's Annual Conference, Robinson College, Cambridge

It's been an incredibly eventful but really fun first few months. As you know, the aim of the Historic Landscape Project (funded by Historic England) is to support the County Gardens Trusts, particularly through training and networking, to help increase their contribution to the conservation of historic parks and gardens. In a slight reshuffle of the project, Linden Groves will now be working with CGTs across the country, increasing their links with each other and with other organisations,

developing training opportunities, and focussing on building a strategic way forward for all.

Rather than taking over directly from previous HLPO, Caroline Ikin, I will initially be working largely from home, in Nottinghamshire, helping to keep things running smoothly and supporting Linden, especially in the nuts and bolts of putting together our events and support networks to make sure they are as effective as possible. In time, I will be increasingly picking up some of Linden's work with the CGTs.

HLP at Westonbirt, training day

We've been busy! Running training days, organising meet-ups and also providing direct support to individual CGTs. Most recently, Westonbirt School in Gloucestershire was our venue for a packed but fun training day, attended by nearly 50 members from ten CGTs. Our fantastic speakers, including Andy Brown and Kim Auston of Historic England, and public parks expert, David Lambert, led sessions which identified threats facing our historic parks and gardens and clearly laid out the ways in which CGT members can use the planning system to empower themselves, protecting these precious heritage assets.



Linden Groves



Linden Groves

Westonbirt School, a thought-provoking tour of the gardens, followed by cake!

The day included a tour of Westonbirt's beautiful gardens, which were absolutely glowing with autumn colour. The Gardens Trust's Margie Hoffnung, former Head Gardener at Westonbirt, asked attendees to imagine how a variety of horrific, but perfectly feasible hypothetical planning applications might affect this beautiful landscape. Everything was washed down with lashings and lashings of tea and cake.

We're absolutely delighted that this inspirational day has fired up several CGT members to get more involved in responding to planning applications affecting parks and gardens in their own counties. We hope to repeat this event, in other parts of the country, and are planning follow-up sessions, offering further training on this subject. Do email hlp@thegardenstrust.org, if you would be interested in either of these.

Historic Landscapes Assembly, London

On 24 November, we held the first of our Historic Landscapes Assemblies, in London. This national forum, which we anticipate will grow over time to become an annual highlight for the heritage and conservation sector, was inspired by the success of the Gardens Trust's new guidance leaflet for local planning authorities, **The Planning System in England and the Protection of Historic Parks and Gardens**, which has already been widely distributed and well received.

The **Assembly** proved to be a great opportunity for representatives from across the heritage and landscape sector to network with each other and with the CGTs and we are pleased that so many people came along, from all over the country. It was excellent to hear the latest news on issues affecting historic designed landscapes and to share knowledge and discuss key issues in landscape research, conservation and management. Representatives from **Avon, Bucks and Northamptonshire Gardens Trusts** updated us on recent projects and planning issues. We heard from Historic England's National Landscape Adviser, **Jenifer White**; and had updates on **Parks and Gardens UK**, which has now moved to its new home at Hestercombe, and the Capability Brown Festival, which has had an incredibly busy and successful year. **David Lambert** launched the Gardens Trust's new report ***Uncertain Prospects: Public Parks in the Age of Austerity***, which describes the dire threats to public parks brought

conservation notes: HLP update & agenda

about largely by a lack of funding due to austerity measures, and makes recommendations for future management.

Jim Bartos, our Chairman adds: Congratulations to everyone who organised and participated in our Assembly. This was a most impressive day, with a wide range of excellent substantive presentations and an audience with many CGT representatives as well as many representatives from other heritage bodies. There was lively and positive audience participation, and it seemed that everyone both enjoyed the day and came away feeling they got a lot out of it. The day itself ran very smoothly and everything from the signage to the catering to our recent publications reinforced the impression of a professional organisation. This laid an excellent foundation for future annual Assemblies and was a very good way to enhance the GT's profile

Peter Waive, new GT Board member adds: I will endorse every point made by Jim; the event has placed us in the front rank, for other relevant bodies to liaise with and for us to be regarded as a leader in opinion forming and in execution. Onwards and upwards!

And more...

We'll be keeping up the pace, offering training and networking events at least once a month, across the country. All are free to attend and are packed full of information and fascinating case studies. So keep an eye out for our themed training days, including a workshop on running Research and Recording projects (Birmingham, 23 January) and a day at Hodsock Priory, Notts (28 February), on using research to conserve historic parks and gardens, and including a tour of Hodsock's famous snowdrops. Also coming up are several **Meet Ups** (these are an adjustment of our Regional Forums) for CGTs to get together and discuss ideas, skills and problems: at Swindon (16 January) and London (16 March)

Keep checking the diary of events on our website, for a **Meet Up** near you.

In the meantime, do please contact me: tamsinmcmillan@thegardenstrust.org or Linden: lindengroves@thegardenstrust.org if you have any queries.

I'm very much looking forward to getting to know you all better and to being a useful part of this fantastic organisation.

agenda

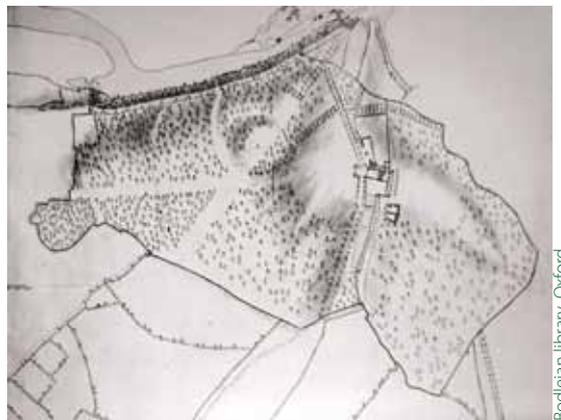
reports from our members, **all** contributions are warmly welcomed...

Unidentified Charles Bridgeman drawing now linked to site

Camilla Beresford

Within Peter Willis's seminal work on **Charles Bridgeman** (*Elysium*, 2002) are plans for four unidentified sites. These plans have always intrigued me, and whenever I work on an early eighteenth century landscape I check to see if it is one of the unidentified Bridgeman sites. Unidentified Site No. 2 has a distinctively shaped river running through the northern end of it (Willis (2002), pl. 242, Bodleian MSGD A4 fo.33). Whilst working recently on **Donington Park**, Castle Donington, Leicestershire, for the arboriculturalist Andrew Bowman-Shaw of Tree and Woodland Company, I recognised the site from the shape of the river (the Trent).

Bridgeman's plans match one for Donington Park surveyed by William Gardiner in 1735 (ROLLR DG30 Ma 64 2 DE362) and the design



Bodleian library, Oxford

Peter Willis *Charles Bridgeman and the English Landscape Garden* (2002) plate 242. Unidentified Estate No 2 Plan by Bridgeman (attrib) MSGD A4 Fo 33

continues on p.25

Gardens Trust events for 2017 and beyond

and now also on our new website (yes really) www.thegardenstrust.org and facebook page

County Gardens Trust Meet-Up Historic Landscape Project (HLP) in Swindon 10.30am to 4pm, Monday 16 January

An opportunity for Gardens Trusts members to meet each other and discuss ideas, skills and questions. Our Agenda will allow for discussions on County Gardens Trusts experiences of Conservation, Education and Research & Recording.

At Swindon Dance, Regents Circus, Swindon, Wiltshire SN1 1QF. Free event, with a suggested donation of £5 towards lunchtime catering.

Running a Research & Recording Project HLP Workshop in Birmingham 10am to 4pm, Monday 23 January

This workshop will be of interest to those CGTs thinking about putting together a Research & Recording project. We will have an opportunity to hear from experienced Trusts, and topics will include: working with HERs; Significance; researcher training opportunities; funding streams; recruiting volunteers; and using the project to achieve a fresh momentum for your Trust.

At The Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret Street, Birmingham B3 3BS. This full-day workshop is free of charge, with lunch provided.

The Gardens Trust Winter Lecture Season 2017 in London and Birmingham January through April, see enclosed leaflet

We are delighted to announce that our Winter Lecture Series 2017 will include not only the usual five lectures in London but also one in Birmingham, where **Brian Dix** will speak about recent restoration of the gardens at **Boughton House, Northamptonshire**. The first Gardens Trust West Midlands Winter Lecture will be held at **The Birmingham & Midland Institute** on **8 February**.

In London, **Brian Dix** will repeat his lecture on Boughton House gardens. Other lecturers in London will include **Paula Henderson** on *The Gardens of Bramshill House, Hampshire*, **Kate Felus** on *The Secret Life of Georgian Gardens*, **Paul Howarth** of the Kent Gardens Trust on *The Diverse Heritage of Medway Parks and Gardens*, and **Karen Fitzsimon** on *The Post-war Landscape Practice of Preben Jakobsen* (see our cover, and p.21).

The London lectures will be held at **The Gallery**,

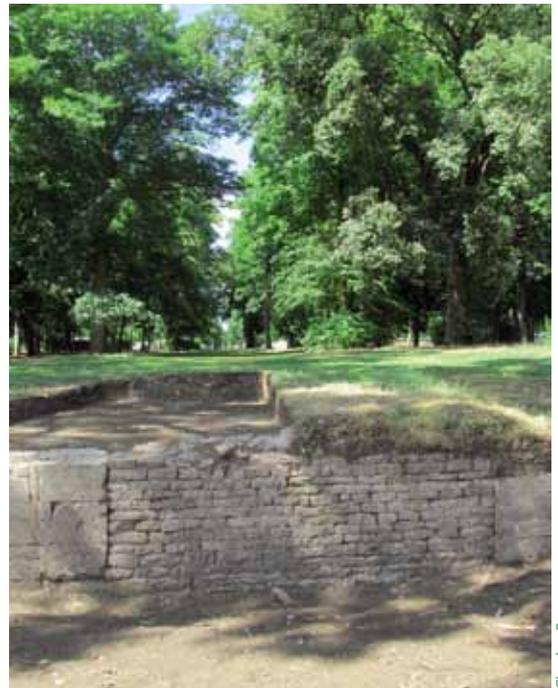
Cowcross Street, London EC1 during January, February, March and early April.

Full details of dates, speakers and titles are on the booking form enclosed, and details of how to book online are available on The Gardens Trust website.

Please contact **Sally Jeffery** for further details of the London lectures: sally.jeffery1@btinternet.com or **Advolly Richmond** for further details of the Birmingham lecture: ilex@advolly.co.uk

'Knowledge is Power': using research to conserve historic parks and gardens Historic Landscape Project at Hodsock Priory 10am to 4pm, Tuesday 28 February

County Gardens Trusts are a unique repository of information on local historic parks and gardens, thanks to their invaluable research and recording work. This day will look at ways in which such research is at the very heart of the conservation effort to protect historic parks and gardens. Speakers will include representatives from Historic England, the Historic Environment Records, and local authorities.



Section through an outer bastion showing filled in sunken gateway at Boughton, summer 2015

Charles Boot

Gardens Trust events

This is a free day, with lunch and a snowdrop garden tour provided. At Hodsock Priory, Blyth, Worksop, Nottinghamshire S81 0TY. Priority booking for those in the East and Midlands, but expressions of interest welcome from all.

County Gardens Trust Meet-Up HLP at The Gallery, 70 Cowcross Street 10.30 to 4pm, Thursday 16 March

An opportunity for Gardens Trusts members to meet each other and discuss ideas, skills and questions. The Agenda will allow for discussion on CGT experiences of Conservation, Education and Research & Recording.

At the GT's head office, The Gallery, 70 Cowcross Street, London EC1M 6EJ. A free event, with a suggested donation of £5 towards lunchtime catering.

Gardens and landscapes of eastern Sicily Study Tour in the last week of April Now Fully Booked

See **GT micro-news 1b** for full details.

Although Robert Peel, the Study Tour's organiser with Mirna Colpo, now has a full complement of participants, spaces may become available, so please do contact him: rma.peel@btopenworld.com

A study day at Boughton House, Northants to complement Brian Dix's Winter Lectures Tuesday 10 May

The Gardens Trust has been fortunate to arrange a visit, by kind permission of the **Duke of Buccleuch**, to see the restoration works on the garden and park at Boughton by consultant archaeologist **Brian Dix**. It will follow and complement Brian's winter lectures in Birmingham (8 February) and London (22 February) for the Gardens Trust (see the enclosed form for more details).

The gardens of Boughton House comprise extensive remains of formal layouts dating from the late-17th and early-18th centuries. Rides and avenues of the same period extend far out into the surrounding countryside, set within the deer park of late medieval origins. The visit will include a tour of Boughton House (grade I listed) whose transformation by Ralph Montagu from a 'large but rambling house' to its current form began in 1685.

Brian Dix has been working for the Duke of Buccleuch for the last few years and has been



Excavation gets underway on the former 'Grand Etang' at Boughton in 2013, with Brian Dix on hand

involved in re-constructing the *Grand Etang* (small lake!) the centrepiece of which is a *jet d'eau*. We hope that His Grace will be kind enough to turn on this spectacular fountain for us. Brian has also undertaken extensive archaeological work around the site and is now overseeing the restoration of the bastion to re-establish the vantage viewpoints out to the rides and park.

Tickets: £45 Garden Trust members, £48 County Gardens Trust members, £50 non-members, to include sandwich & soup lunch, and tea/coffee & homemade biscuits

Book online using Eventbrite at no extra fee, or post the downloadable booking form with your cheque. See our new website for full details of this event and the Winter Lecture series. For further information or to obtain a printed booking form, contact Claire de Carle: 4 Pearce Courtyard, Oakley, Aylesbury HP18 9WY (before 24 April), or by telephone: 01844 237701, or by email: claire@decarle.plus.com

Medieval and Tudor Gardens Our Annual Weekend School at Rewley House, Oxford Friday 2 June to Sunday 4 June

Gardens were an important part of the medieval and Tudor world, but have been difficult to understand owing to their poor survival rate. In recent years, however, there has been an upsurge of interest in them, and this weekend will present a selection of current research and new thinking, based on archaeological, art-historical, historical, and literary sources. Organised by **Dr Paul Barnwell**, Director of Studies for Architectural History, OUDCE, and **Michael Symes**, of The Gardens Trust.



Charles Boot

The reconstructed Elizabethan gardens at Kenilworth Castle, viewed from the ramparts

There will be a coach trip to **Kenilworth Castle** on the Saturday afternoon. English Heritage members will receive free entry; others will have to pay their own admission fee. There will be much standing and walking over uneven ground. Please come with suitable footwear and prepared for all weathers. Please note that the field trip may not be suitable for participants with mobility problems.

Following Registration on Friday afternoon, there will be a drinks reception & dinner, followed by a lecture with **James Bond**, freelance landscape archaeologist based in North Somerset, on *Medieval gardens: the archaeological evidence*.

Saturday lectures start at 9am with **Elizabeth Herbert Mcavoy**, Professor of Medieval Literature, Swansea University, and **Theresa Tyers**, Post-Doc Research Assistant, Swansea University, on *Unearthing the medieval walled garden: greening and healing body and soul*; **Rachel Delman**, DPhil Student, University College, University of Oxford, on *'Sche bare the key of this gardeyn': women and gardens in the middle ages*; **Spencer Smith**, PhD Student, Manchester Metropolitan

University, formerly with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, on *Parks, gardens and designed landscapes of medieval north Wales and north west Shropshire*. We depart for a guided tour of Kenilworth Castle, with packed lunches, and a further talk by **John Watkins**, Head of Gardens and Landscape, EH.

Back at Rewley House, dinner is followed by a final lecture by **Stephen Wass**, DPhil student (Architectural History), Kellogg College, University of Oxford, on *Hesdin: getting mud on your boots in a garden of earthly delights*.

On Sunday morning we conclude with two lectures by **Paula Henderson**, independent architectural and garden historian, on *Clinging to the past: medievalism in the Tudor garden* and **Michael Symes**, Course Director and Tutor, The Gardens Trust, on *Garden themes in the poetry of Spenser*. Following lunch the course disperses

Cost: Tuition only: £152. Single room B&B: £145.20, Twin Room B&B: £104.20.

See our website for further details of fees, and full booking information

Gardens Trust events

Mid to Late C20 designed landscapes: Overlooked, undervalued and at risk? Conference at the Garden Museum, London Monday 5 June

This Gardens Trust Conference aims to promote the understanding and significance of mid to late C20 designed landscapes, those laid out between the mid 1960s and 1990, and to review how they might be better recognised and conserved. Covering a wide range of landscapes from urban civic spaces to crematoria, business, institutional, industrial and country parks these designs have often been treated as of secondary importance to both the gardens of the period and to the built architecture of a place; consequently they are poorly represented within national designations.

They have often suffered at best neglect and at worst have gone unrecognised, undervalued, poorly managed; and even occasionally been destroyed. Promoting late C20 designs is timely too; 2016 and 2017 mark the 20th anniversaries of the deaths of Geoffrey Jellicoe (8 October 1900 to 17 July 1996) and Dame Sylvia Crowe (15 September 1901 to 30 June 1997).

Key speakers from the heritage world include

architectural critic **Rowan Moore**, landscape architects **Oliver Rock** (HTA Design), **Robert Holden** and GT President **Dominic Cole**, Historic England's Director of Listing England **Dr Roger Bowdler** and **Annabel Downs** from the Landscape Institute's Archive. The conference venue is provided by kind invitation of the Garden Museum and forms one of the events celebrating the Museum's re-opening after its major refurbishment.

The Gardens Trust aims to set up a post-conference project to find out more about these neglected mid to late C20 designed landscapes and, as important, to increase the number offered protection through national designation. We have a working title: 'Compiling the record: the essential mid to late C20 landscapes' and would like to find and research 50 sites over the next year or so that might qualify. We are calling for everyone interested in and knowledgeable about these landscapes, especially the civic, institutional, commercial and residential sites, to explore their cities and regions to identify those of significance and worthy of designation. We are particularly keen to hear from County Gardens Trust members who will have detailed local knowledge. More



By courtesy of Landscape Institute Library, MERL

Another part of Preben Jakobsen's landscape at Hounslow Civic Centre (see our cover)

details on what kind of information will be needed and how it might best be captured for assessment for potential designation will be available at the conference. The GT may be able to offer some research and recording training in this rather special period of historic landscape design.

Cost: £65 Garden Trust members; £68 County Gardens Trust members; £75 non-members; £45 registered students; to include lunch and tea/coffee. Book online using Eventbrite or download a booking form from the Events pages of The Gardens Trust website where you will find full details of the Conference. Post your cheque made payable to 'The Gardens Trust' and form to: Karen Fitzsimon, 73 St George's

Ave, London N7 0AJ, or by email: kfla@blueyonder.co.uk. Contact Karen (Telephone: 07890 636917) for further information or to obtain a printed booking form.

**Study Tour of
The Gardens of North East Scotland
Friday 30 June to Thursday 6 July
Just A Few Places Left For This Wonderful Tour!**

Based at the Park Inn Radisson hotel in the centre of Aberdeen, the study tour encompasses a variety of historic gardens from the last four centuries as well as new creations. Some are very private gardens created in old spaces while others are designed for public show. From Renaissance

**The Gardens Trust and 'Hahahopscotch'
Our Annual Summer Family Picnic 2017
A Call to all County Gardens Trusts!**

This summer the Gardens Trust held the first of what it hopes will become an annual Family Picnic, as a way of welcoming members or supporters with families, and of reaching out to a wider audience.

It was organised by The Gardens Trust and 'Hahahopscotch', the small enterprise offering activities for children in historic gardens that Linden Groves runs outside her Historic Landscape Project work.

Unfortunately, the first Family Picnic, at Gatton Park in Surrey, was something of a wash-out, with torrential rain all day long! Nonetheless, the format of the day did prove to work very well, with children's games, activities to introduce them to garden history, and a family-friendly tour of the gardens.

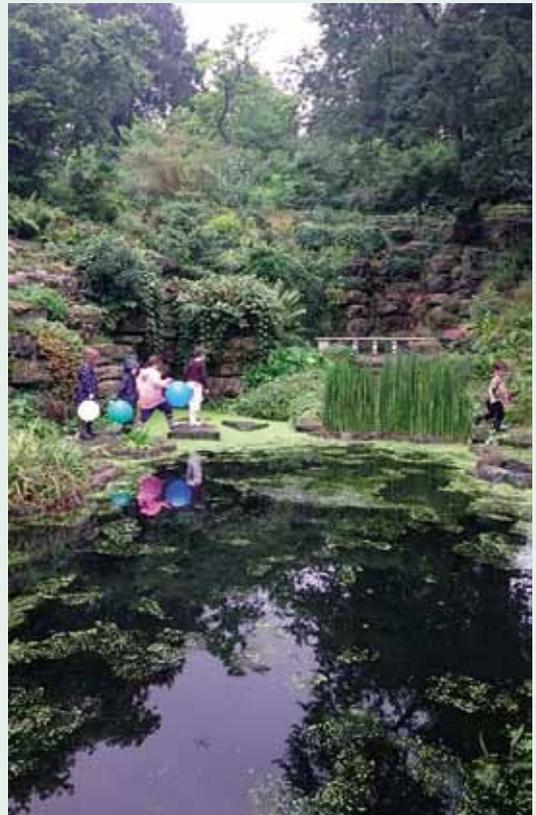
As a way of The Gardens Trust helping to support CGTs in their valuable work with younger audiences we intend to hold a Family Picnic again in summer 2017 and are looking for a County Gardens Trust to partner us. Hahahopscotch and the Gardens Trust will donate their time, manpower, resources and games for free but we are looking for a CGT to partner us by helping to find and organise a venue and participants.

If your CGT might be interested in hosting the 2017 Gardens Trust Family Picnic then please let me know. We are keen to get dates and venues

in the Gardens Trust's Events diary as early as possible, so I would be grateful for replies by early-February

We look forward to hearing from you!

Virginia Hinze
Chair, the Gardens Trust Events Committee
email: vchinze@aol.com



Gardens Trust events



Postcard of Balmoral Castle , c1890–1900

palaces, Her Majesty's retreat at **Balmoral** and the glorious summer borders of **Pitmuies House** created by the late Margaret Ogilvie near Forfar, we shall visit a wide range of gardens showcasing the glory of Scotland's north east.

Bill Brogden, a founder member of the old GHS (now GT) and the National Trust of Scotland's gardens advisor will be our guest guide on this tour.

Please contact Kristina Taylor:
wowkristina@hotmail.com for more details.

Plymouth Ho! **The Gardens Trust Annual Conference 2017** **heads to the South West** **Thursday 31 August to Sunday 3 September**

Save the date to walk in the steps of royalty, literary, scientific and military giants, for in 2017 the Gardens Trust Annual Conference is heading to the South West and Plymouth.

Planning is well underway for the Conference and AGM to be held from Thursday 31 August to Sunday 3 September based at the University of Plymouth. A programme of lectures and visits on the theme of ***Designed Landscapes: the Conservation Challenge*** will seek to explore the varied planning and management issues of designed landscapes faced by owners, private, public, commercial and non-profit. Visits will include a variety of sites of different periods, from major elite sites like **Mount Edgcumbe** and **Saltram** to Victorian public parks and cemeteries, all steeped in history and with different conservation challenges. Magnificent designed landscapes, many in wonderful natural settings.

In addition to the site visits and lectures, as in previous years a key feature will be the



Plymouth Hoe seen above the trees of Mount Edgcumbe

Dianne Long



Plymouth Civic Centre designed by Jellicoe, Ballantyne and Coleridge Architects and opened in 1962. Jellicoe's landscape is still 'at risk' (see p.20)

New Research Symposium, an opportunity for unpublished researchers to present their work to an enthusiastic and supportive audience. So, all those with original research to share, look out for the details. Another major aspect of the conference is the opportunity for County Garden Trusts to learn and share experience. 'In 2017, we'd like to have a vibrant showcase of as many CGTs as possible displaying their unique range of activity, whether in conservation, research, education, or public engagement,' said **Virginia Hinze**, Chairman of the GT Events

Committee. There is plenty of room at the venue for display, perhaps through posters, examples of publications, programmes of activity, even video.

Plymouth has played a pivotal role in the country's history: the earliest days of exploration from Drake to Darwin, the Armada, the setting sail of the Pilgrim Fathers for the New World, the Civil War and more recently devastation of the city in the Plymouth Blitz of 1941 which led to the total redevelopment of the city centre including the country's first pedestrian shopping avenue. Plymouth claims that over one third of the city is green space, 950 hectares of it.

Put the dates in the diary and look out for more details and booking information to follow early in the New Year on the new GT website and in the next GT news Spring 2017.

Tour of landscapes of the Boston area, USA early October

The Boston area is blessed with natural assets including the Charles River, and the Atlantic waterfront. It has also benefited from the work of major American landscape designers, notably Frederick Law Olmsted and Charles Elliot. While acknowledging Boston's historic designed landscapes, and visiting private gardens on Beacon Hill and elsewhere, the tour will focus on



The Big Sail
ALEXANDER CALDER, 1965

MIT's campus holds a large collection of post-WW2 sculpture 'humanizing scientists and technologists!', using a (2) percent-for-art policy, for both new buildings and renovations, since 1968

Gardens Trust events

developments during the 20th and 21st Centuries, most recently responding to climate change, and a new understanding of vulnerability since hurricane Sandy.

Over 8 or 9 days we will meet with members of the Charles River Watershed and Conservancy Associations, and The Esplanade Association, as well as local designers, and planners. Visits will probably include Boston harbour and islands; the downtown waterfront and Rose Kennedy Greenway; the new Seaport district; the Boston Esplanade; new parks along the Charles River and harbour basin; the MIT campus featuring sculpture and architecture and the recently developed surrounding high-tech area. We will also visit the historic Mount Auburn Cemetery and hear about their recent restoration, development and research projects. We will be travelling on land, water, and underground.

Expressions of interest to Liz Goodfellow:
lizgz@aol.com

Two-day Conference: *New Research on Chinese Gardens and Landscapes* Autumn 2017

The Gardens Trust is planning a fascinating two-day international conference, to be held in association with the Department of Landscape at the University of Sheffield in autumn 2017.

This will be an opportunity to hear presentations about new research in the history of Chinese gardens and landscapes by both professionals and post-graduate students from China and a number of other countries. Topics to be covered will include east-west encounters in Cantonese gardens, Jesuit theatrical landscapes, gardens as museums, the Chinese concept of paradise, Feng Shui symbolism, public parks and the Chinese

park movement, and botanical watercolours.

Full details of dates and ticket prices, with a full programme of speakers and titles, will be given in the spring issue of **GT news** to be published in March 2017, and will be available on The Gardens Trust website, with a downloadable booking form for postal bookings and a link to Eventbrite for online booking at no extra fee.

Please contact Sally Jeffery for further details:
sally.jeffery1@btinternet.com

Looking ahead: *Japan Study Tour 2018* end of March 2018

Japanese gardens reflect the philosophy of their people who live close to nature and combine their ancient spiritual beliefs in Shinto with their particular form of Buddhism, developed from the seventh century. This 'Cherry Blossom Spring Tour' is based initially in **Kyoto**. We will look at gardens ranging from the earliest archaeological reconstructions in Nara from 750 AD to the 20th century gardens of **Shigemori Mirei**, who both restored historical gardens and designed new ones.



<http://www.japanesegardens.jp>

A day will be spent at the **Miho Museum** the Chinese architect I M Pei's masterpiece near Kyoto. He describes it as an embodiment of two aspects of architecture: a structure standing in nature and at the same time being a part of nature. It sits in a natural forest with wild camellias, azaleas and cherry trees as well as the autumn glowing maples. A trip to **Hiroshima** looks at the **Peace Garden** and includes a day trip to **Miyajima island** nearby with its Shinto shrine on the shore approached through a giant red Torii gate in the sea. The final visit is to **Himeji Castle**, recently restored, surrounded by its hierarchical townscape and a series of new gardens in its grounds before spending our last night in Osaka.

We will be taking deposits in April 2017.

Please contact Kristina Taylor:
wowkristina@hotmail.com



Wellcome Library, London

The Botanical Gardens, Hong Kong, c. 1871

continued from p.16

is recognisable on historic plans and aerial photographs. The park was first recorded in the early thirteenth century and became a royal deer park. It retains ancient trees and is designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest. The Castle Donington estate had been owned by the Hastings family from the late sixteenth century and was in the hands of Theophilus Hastings, 9th Earl of Huntingdon (1696–1746) at the time that the plans were produced.

Apart from the early eighteenth century design, the landscape incorporates phases of work from the late eighteenth century and mid nineteenth centuries. Humphry Repton remodeled the landscape in 1790s, incorporating many of the earlier features but probably realigning the drives and removing the formal ponds to the south of the hall. He also opened up parkland to the east of the hall with that to the west. He worked alongside William Wilkins senior, who redesigned the hall in a Gothic style in 1790-93 [fn: Repton and Wilkins worked together at Welbeck Abbey in the 1790s.] Wilkins also added a Gothic front to the water wheel at King's Mill, sited on the river Trent to the north of the hall. The river had been used as a fishery and for corn and fulling mills since at least the sixteenth century.

James Pulham II and James Pulham III designed a Pulhamite rock garden for the pleasure grounds to the north of the hall in 1866–67. A conservatory built in 1863 may have been designed by Joseph Paxton.

There is also some suggestion that William Kent worked on the hall at Donnington Park in the 1730s or 40s (Durham University Willis Papers: WIL/B1/6; WIL/B5/1-2) but the designer of the landscaping in the park in the early eighteenth century was not known. What was known and is recorded by Willis, is that Bridgeman worked for Lady Elizabeth (Betty) Hastings (1682–1739) on one of the families other estates, Ledston Hall, Yorkshire (Willis, pp61, 180–81; pl48b).

The Hastings family owned Donnington Park until it was put up for sale in lots in the early years of the twentieth century. It was used as a shooting estate until 1929 when it was sold again and further divided. The Hasting family's former estate steward, John Gillies Shield, purchased the hall and park and saved them from destruction. A nineteenth-century extension of the park was sold separately and became the Donnington Park Circuit. The property was later divided



Donnington Park surveyed by William Gardiner, 1735



1st edition OS, 1882



Donnington Park Aerial, Boundary Outline 2015

again with the hall becoming firstly the British Midland Airways headquarters and since 2013 the Norton Motorcycle Headquarters, whilst the park remained with the Shield family, and the Priest House at King's Mill became a hotel.

Scotland's CB reputation saved by a modern poet

according to Patrick Eyres



Bird's-eye view of Little Sparta, Gary Hincks

When looking at the map of 'Capability' Brown sites on the CB 300 website, www.capabilitybrown.org/map, we might be surprised to see that his landscapes are predominantly clustered in England. In fact, it seems as though the Scots gave him a wide berth. However, don't write Scotland off altogether. Scotland's association with CB has been salvaged by the 20th century poet, Ian Hamilton Finlay (1925–2006). So, to enjoy the spirit of CB in Scotland, don't miss experiencing Little Sparta.

Starting in 1966, Ian and Sue Finlay began to create the place which has since become a pilgrimage site for art and garden enthusiasts from all over the world. The neoclassical garden of Little Sparta is an extraordinary achievement, not least because it flourishes high up in the Pentland Hills on the very edge of open, windswept moorland twenty-five miles south-west of Edinburgh. Now cared for by the Little Sparta Trust, the place is open to the public three afternoons a week in the summer.

Little Sparta is also extraordinary because it was created on a domestic scale and yet it was designed as a series of atmospheric spaces that embower inscribed artworks which invoke the spirit of European classical gardening. The most recent area was begun in the early 1990s and developed as a sinuous arrangement of water, tree clumps, hedgerows and plantings

that emphasise the sweep of lawn and distant eyecatcher (an obelisk). Finlay named this extensive area the English Parkland as a tribute to CB and 18th century English landscape gardening, and it can be seen, to the right and below the lochan, in the sweeping bird's-eye view panorama created by Gary Hincks that meticulously delineates the various parts of the garden.

CB is also commemorated by an inscribed stone bench in the cottage garden in front of the house:



The Capability Brown bench at Little Sparta, Chris Broughton

Finlay's Little Spartan tribute to CB is featured in *Yorkshire Capabilities: New Arcadian Journal* 75/76, 2016 www.newarcadianpress.co.uk, for which Chris Broughton created this drawing of the seat dedicated to 'Capability'.

Gary Hincks is to be commended for the

generosity with which he consistently allows his bird's-eye view to be used in support of Little Sparta. It can be seen as the key to 'Explore the Garden' on the Little Sparta Trust website www.littleSparta.org.uk/explore/explore.htm and also as the endpapers in the book published last year for the Trust. Written by Jessie Sheeler, *Little Sparta: A Guide to the Garden of Ian*

Hamilton Finlay is lavishly illustrated with photographs by Robin Gillanders of all the garden's artworks. Patrick Eyres contributed the catalogue of artworks, which also identifies the collaborators who Finlay chose to execute these works to his precise brief; for example, stone carvers and letterers such as Keith Bailey who, in 1991, produced the Capability Brown bench.

Gardens of great individuality in dramatic landscapes

The Gardens Trust South-West Scotland Tour

14 to 20 May 2016

report by Meg Hardy and Letitia Yetman

Visiting eighteen gardens in six and a half days is ambitious, but this tour, based in Dumfries and Stranraer and hosted by Kristina Taylor with input from Melissa Simpson and Christopher Dingwall, was well planned, incorporating gardens of the past, present and future, providing a variety of historical landscape and garden design, botanical and horticultural diversity. Good soils and the mild oceanic climate enables plants from all over the world, including rhododendrons, azaleas and numerous Champion trees, to flourish in this area. Grateful thanks are due to Kristina, Melissa, Christopher and our most hospitable garden hosts and guides.

Moat Brae House, Dumfries. J M Barrie played pirates in this 'enchanted land', the terraced garden sloping steeply to the River Nith. The fine Georgian house was semi-derelict and in danger of demolition when the Peter Pan Moat Brae Trust was formed in 2009 to transform it into Scotland's Children's Literature and Storytelling Centre. Peter McGowan showed us early maps and photographs of the site and his imaginative design for the new Neverland Garden. Despite the restricted area and difficult terrain, the plans include delightful serpentine paths leading down towards the river with themed areas for play and storytelling, a Wendy House, pirate ship and lookout, with areas of planting for ornamental and educational value.

Charles Jenks' iconic **Garden of Cosmic Speculation**, Portrack. A highlight of our tour where Head Gardener Alistair Clark led us through this unique and personal private garden, in parts natural, in others highly artificial, interpreting scientific concepts in landforms, construction and

in imaginative planting. Photographs and books cannot really convey the experience of walking through the Flower Paradise garden to the Time Garden, across the Black Hole terrace to the house where the Universe Cascade hides.

Setting off into the wider landscape the Snail and Snake Mounds appeared as we followed the Quark Walk round to the Fractal Bridge and the Garden of Worthies and Scottish Bloodline.



Letitia Yetman

Finally what appears to be a relatively conventional parterre garden (above) is actually the DNA Garden of the Six Senses, so nothing is mundane.

Drumlanrig Castle The formality of this garden was in complete contrast to Portrack. The Duke of Buccleuch and Queensbury's imposing Renaissance style castle, on its sculpted mound, dominates the surrounding parkland and hanging woods. Following a tour of the castle, with views to the wider landscape and the remnants of the parterre gardens, we saw maps, prints

agenda

and pictures from the family archive. The head gardener showed us the woodland garden with its Victorian heather houses overlooking the Marr Burn. Some of us went on with Melissa to view the Andy Goldsworthy arch near the waterfall.

Nowadays, with only four gardeners, planting has been simplified, especially in the previously intricately planted Shawl Garden and trimmed heather garden which used to be tended by 30 gardeners.

Dabton, the Duke of Buccleuch's, delightful private garden nearby has been developed since 1982. Sheltered by a stone wall, with a trickling burn running between cottage garden flower borders, it is a tranquil haven with naturalised planting under the trees.

At **Arbigland House**, Kirkbean, we were guided by the gardener Peter Cheesley. The gardens around the new house (1755), were mainly laid out in the 19th century. They include elements from the much earlier designed landscape of the original Hall (1550s) down by the shore. These are now incorporated into a sunken rose garden feature of the 1920s. The remains of the Broad Walk carriage drive lead from the derelict octagonal walled kitchen garden, to the stable block of 1680.



Letitia Yeltrman

GT members on the foreshore at Arbigland

From the shore, there are stunning views of the Solway Firth towards the English Lake District. Much of the garden is maintained as woodland walks around a naturalised former fishpond. The head gardener in 1730 was the father of John Paul Jones, 'Father of the American Navy', who was born in a nearby cottage, now restored as a most interesting museum.

Threave Garden, owned by the National Trust

for Scotland since 1960. This is their flagship training centre for NTS gardeners to learn practical horticultural skills. Island beds and demonstration borders, designed and planted by students as exercises, have been incorporated into what was originally parkland around the Scottish Baronial house with views out to the wider landscape framed by woodland. Horticultural diversity enables students to develop expertise with many plant groups. With a wide range of themed areas, Melissa's insider knowledge helped us to make the most of our visit, taking in the nursery, woodland garden, water and bog gardens to name but a few. Previous owners had naturalised thousands of daffodils in the lawns.

Corsock House. A charming private woodland garden, with species rhododendrons dating back to the 1920s and 30s among specimen trees with recent additions. Walks next to the burn led over bridges up to a small loch, with its own boathouse. In decline in the 1950s, the garden has now been restored and extended by its present owners. The embellished natural woodland and the more recently added architectural features create contrasting areas within the garden to give year-round horticultural interest.

Dumfries House, Cumnock The former home of the Marquises of Bute, was saved from dereliction by the intervention of Prince Charles, Duke of Rothesay, in 2007. Now restored to full splendour, with its original Chippendale furniture, the Robert Adam designed house (1754) is the focus for a heritage-led regeneration project incorporating visitor experiences, educational projects and the encouragement of local employment based on traditional crafts and hospitality. The house is set in an earlier designed landscape, of roundels, avenues and vistas. Surrounded by parkland, productive woodland, and an arboretum, the gardens have been developed along axes to destinations including the Doocot, Adam Bridge, Maze, Temple and the vast Queen Elizabeth walled garden.

Culzean Castle and its wider landscape sits high on the cliffs overlooking the Forth of Clyde, sheltering its extensive walled gardens, pleasure grounds and pinetum. Its long history is reflected in the complexity of its garden development from an ancestral stronghold, through additions by Robert Adam and Victorian ornamentation, to its present evolution as a country park.

The **Gardens of Friendship**, Stranraer. A public garden within the town which is a successful community project dating back to 1925 and still fulfils its original function of being a quiet haven and a place of beauty and colour, offering a welcome to all who pass or pause.



Lettitia Yelmer

Old Place of Mochrum. This ancient fortified house (1474) was extensively restored in the 1870s. The walled garden is laid to grass, paths of crazy paving forming interconnected St Andrew and St Georges' crosses with a central paved roundel (above). The walls have stone buttresses due to the slope down to the loch.

Castle Kennedy. Romantically situated, Castle Kennedy gardens are surrounded by water and comprise 75 acres of terraced earthworks and magnificent avenues. This is landscape design on the grand scale. From the canal in the south to the ruins of the castellated tower house, burnt down in 1716, via the walled garden, enormous Round Pond, belvedere and militaristic groundwork, through the pinetum with its stunning avenue of araucarias, to the newer residence of Lochinch Castle in the north where we took tea with The Earl of Stair. The gardens are internationally famous for their champion trees, embouthriums and species rhododendrons, including many of Sir Joseph Hooker's original introductions from his Himalayan expedition.

Logan House Garden. Originally part of Logan Botanic Garden, Logan House Garden has had an interesting history, suffering intermittent periods of neglect over the past fifty years and severe storm damage a decade ago. The house, with its formal grass terraces, dates from 1702 but the garden with its sheltering woodland and planting from 1860–

1945, when the McDouall family brought rare and exotic plants back from abroad, developing a truly spectacular woodland garden, with champion trees and fine species of rhododendrons.

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh at Logan. At the southwestern tip of Scotland lies Logan, the country's most exotic garden. One of three regional gardens of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, **Logan Botanic Garden** is a breathtaking celebration of the world of plants. Originally the walled garden of Logan House, and warmed by the Gulf Stream, the variety, size and luxuriance of these mainly Southern hemisphere plants, all rarely seen in the United Kingdom, made this the horticultural highlight of our tour.

Dunskey Gardens, Portpatrick. A richly planted gardening gem with walled garden, containing the early 19th century Victorian glasshouses including the restored listed Mackenzie & Moncur Pot House (1890s), and Messenger & Co glasshouses (1908). Paths lead up through woodland to a loch. The maze (2003) is the first in South West Scotland.

Glenwhan Gardens. An ecologically diverse 'picturesque creation' developed by the owners since 1979, combining attractively planted garden areas with lakeside, woodland and moorland walks leading to high-level viewpoints overlooking Luce Bay.

Cally Palace, Gatehouse of Fleet After setting the present building of 1765 in its historical context, though now a hotel and golf course, Christopher identified the remaining evidence of its earlier designed landscape and pleasure grounds, quoting the 1792 *Statistical Account of Scotland*, and John Loudon (1833). He also led a visit to the temple whilst others explored Cally Gardens, a walled garden built in the 1770s to provide produce for the house, and which since 1987 has been a specialist perennial nursery.

Crichton Hospital, Dumfries. The grounds of the now decommissioned Crichton Royal Hospital, with its beautiful rock garden, landscaping and remaining specimen trees are reminders that time spent in gardens and in gardening were recognised as therapeutic interventions when treatment of psychological problems was mainly limited to containment.

And there our tour concluded, leaving us looking forward to the next part, perhaps though with better weather please, in 2017 (see p.21).

agenda

Bucks Gardens Trust Research & Recording Group

Project funded by: The Stanley Smith (UK) Horticultural Trust & The Finniss Scott Foundation
Claire de Carle, Research Project co-ordinator



What a hectic year 2016 has been, the CB300 celebrations generated plenty of interest, the hard work of researching the un-registered Brown sites in Bucks had more or less been completed last year. However public interest has resulted in both Dr Sarah Rutherford (Bucks Garden Trust, Chairperson) and Claire de Carle (Research Project co-ordinator) being kept busy with Brown related talks and walks.

The celebration was certainly a success, with Sarah also managing to secure two new *Register* listings; the up-grading of Wotton House gardens to Grade I, and Stoke Place being added to the Historic England register at Grade II. There was also the excitement of the discovery of new evidence regarding Brown's work at Ditton (within the historic boundary of Bucks) by the archivist at Boughton House, Northants. The 'Capability' Brown Festival organisers are now going to publish our research and up-dates on their website, and to reward our hard work are making a donation of £50 per site to our project!

The volunteers continue to work hard and the following sites are well underway: Milton Keynes Boulevard, Alderbourne Manor, Savay Farm,

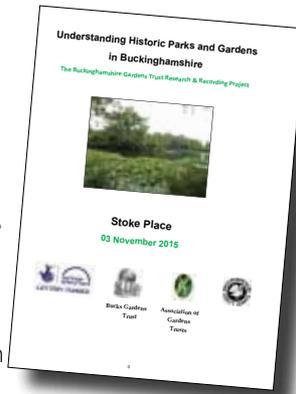
Bledlow Manor, Tingewick, Doddershall, Dadford (Stowe) cemetery and Pednor House. We are grateful to Charles Boot who adds the new sites to the Bucks GT website as they become available: www.bucksgardenstrust.org.uk, click on 'the rest'!

We have now published 33 reports on-line, with more being added at regular intervals. Julia Wise (Bucks CC Historic Register Officer) continues to

be a huge support to the project and the research is greatly helped by her input.

We are sorry to have to say good bye to two of our volunteers, Chris Clark and Chris Balsden who came to us from the High Wycombe Society, they have made a great contribution to the project researching three sites, and we all send them our best wishes and many thanks for all their hard work.

A group of our volunteers enjoyed a summer outing to Rousham; this took the form of a tree identification session and a walk round the gardens led by Sarah using the steward, MacClary's C18 description which enriched the experience considerably. We ended the afternoon in the orchard where ginger beer and flapjacks were welcomed by all!



Wimpole Hall: new research and analysis on the gardens

Camilla Beresford

Camilla Beresford and Dominic Cole (for ACTA Landscapes) have prepared a new conservation management plan on behalf of the National Trust. Their recent research and analysis on the gardens have revealed more details on the way the landscape at Wimpole evolved. The site has been researched previously, including Jeremy Mill's work on the archaeology of the garden in 2015, and David Adshead's work on the architectural history; his monograph *Wimpole: architectural drawings and topographical views* (2007) covers the history in great detail. There is a wealth of plans and drawings for Wimpole but some of these present problems. Many of the

plans combine surveys with proposals so that it is not always clear what is a record of what already existed and what was planned as new work, and if planned, what was carried out and what was left unexecuted. Fortunately, the surveyors were skilled and the plans can therefore be laid over each other and over current aerial photographs, GIS survey plans, and the LiDAR data (for the hidden landscape beneath the surface) to decipher some of the mysteries.

There were two aspects to the DCLA/ACTA study. The first was an analysis of the development of the gardens using plans, images, overlays, and existing and new research to



interpret the complex layers of design. Some of these changes were subtle, others dramatic. Each moved the landscape on in its appearance through the changing garden and landscape styles from the mid seventeenth to mid nineteenth centuries. The most dramatic changes in the garden were from the medieval layout to that of the mid seventeenth century; the removal of the formal gardens by Robert Greening in the mid eighteenth century; and the work of William Emes, Sir John Soane, and Humphry Repton in the late eighteenth to early nineteenth century. In the park, the more substantial alterations were those by Charles Bridgeman in the early eighteenth century and by Lancelot Brown in the mid to late eighteenth century. However, all the layers of design were important in the development of the gardens as they are now and the last substantial additions, by H E Kendall in the 1850s, resulted in the garden layout that is largely intact today. The gardens and park were restored by Elsie Bambridge following years of decline and use during WWII as a military hospital but also resulted in the loss of several important features in the garden: the wings of the house; a late seventeenth century orangery, adapted by Humphry and John Adey Repton, and then by H E Kendall; and John Soane's Castello d'Acqua. The National Trust has developed the Home Farm, conserved the house and landscape, and restored the North Parterre and Dutch Garden (1993–95).

The other aspect of the work was new research, building on the material collected and collated by David Adshead. Two interesting strands arose from this: estate papers and correspondence in the Portland (London) Collection at University of Nottingham Manuscript and Special Collections and documentation in the Portland papers in Nottinghamshire Archives, both primarily from the early eighteenth century and relating largely to Charles Bridgeman's work in the 1720s and 30s; and mid eighteenth century correspondence and other material in British Library Manuscripts and the Bedfordshire and Luton Archives and Records Service, some of which relates to Lancelot Brown's landscaping. The first gives depth to our understanding of Bridgeman's scope of work and the length of time he was making designs for Wimpole. It also provides detail on the expenditure on the gardens (and elsewhere on the house, park, and estate) and the amounts

owed to Bridgeman and others in 1737 shortly before Lord Harley's creditors forced him to sell the estate. Bridgeman had received small payments as the work progressed but by 1737 he was owed the enormous sum £2086.1.6. The material in the University of Nottingham Special Collections had been sent to the Portland family's London solicitors. Their offices were bombed during WWII and many of the documents were damaged by fire.



University of Nottingham Special Collections

Some are only partially readable (above) but provide a tantalising glimpse into the early eighteenth gardens, including a plant list by area that refers to the 'Venus Garden' and 'Cain and Abel Garden'.

The chief point of interest in the mid eighteenth century papers is that Brown worked in 1781, and that work was still being carried out in 1782 and 1784 following Brown's instructions (even after his death in 1783). A final source of interest is a drawing at the back of a volume of Philip Yorke, 1st Earl of Hardwicke's estate correspondence in the British Library. This dates from before 1764, the year the 1st Earl died, and is a drawing of the 'Head of the Pond in Avenal's Mead'. The lake in the centre ground of the park has traditionally been attributed to Brown. Although Brown certainly carried out work on the water features at Wimpole, this drawing suggests that all the main water bodies existed in some form prior to the start of his work. The formation of the water body in Avenal Mead may be dated to the early eighteenth century because correspondence in the University of Nottinghamshire archives refers to a water body proposed for Avenal's Mead, to be seen from the Bowling Green (a feature removed as part of Greening's work in the 1750s but which lay at the north end of the formal gardens).

Major accessions to Repositories in 2014 & 2015 relating to 'Gardening'

Local

Bath Record Office

Keynsham and District Horticultural Society: minute books and Annual Show material 1887–1939 (1074)

Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies

Eton Allotments Society: minutes 1920–1986 (AR 32/2015)

City of Westminster Archives Centre

Queen's Gardens Association, Bayswater: additional minutes, financial and administrative records 1940–2011 (2834)

Cumbria Archive Centre, Carlisle

Skelton Horticultural and Agricultural Society: records incl minutes, accounts and show catalogues 1898–2011 (DSO 355)

Derbyshire Record Office

Joseph Arrow Smith, nurseryman, Tansley: accounts, plans, etc 1900–1961 (D7874)

Devon Heritage Centre (South West Heritage Trust)

Exeter Garden Club: administrative records, accounts and other material 20th–21st cent (8825)

Doncaster Archives

Doncaster Flower Club: records 1960–2015 (DS/144)

Dorset History Centre

The Watercress Co Ltd, watercress growers, Dorchester: photographs and papers 20th cent (D2576)

Durham County Record Office

Durham City and District Beekeepers Association: records c1940–1959 (D/X 2018)

East Dunbartonshire Archives: Kirkintilloch

Archibald Morrison & Sons Ltd, market gardeners, Baldernock: accounts 1925–1948 (2015/2)

East Sussex Record Office

East Blatchington Pond Conservation Society: minutes and newsletters 2004–2013 (Acc 12007)

Seaford and District Horticultural Society: additional records 1950–2011 (Acc 12050)

Essex Record Office

Chelmsford Floral Club: records incl minutes, accounts, attendance register, cuttings books, records rel to 50th anniversary celebrations 1962–2009 (A13949)

Maldon and Heybridge Horticultural Society: minutes and papers 1925–2003 (A14213)

Gloucestershire Archives

Gloucester Flower Arrangement Society: minutes and photographs 1969–2013 (D13737)

Hardwicke Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Society: records 1950–2007 (D13771)

Gwynedd Archives, Caernarfon Record Office

Dyffryn Ogwen Flower Club: minutes 1979–1995 (XM13134)

Gwynedd Archives, Meirionnydd Record Office

Llanuwchllyn Gardening Club: minute books 1979–2012 (Z/M/7316)

Hampshire Archives and Local Studies

Fordingbridge and District Horticultural Society: records incl minutes and membership records c1971–2000 (2A15)

Romsey Horticultural Society: membership registers 1979–1994 (60A15)

Hillingdon Local Studies, Archives and Museums Service

Low and Shawyer Nursery, Uxbridge: records incl financial papers, corresp and company history 1906–1962 (ADB.15.24)

Knowsley Archives

Roby and District Horticultural Society: minutes, with some newsletters and rule book 1956–1986 (2015/50)

Lancashire Archives

Forest of Pendle Junior Flower Club: scrapbooks 1993–2008 (DDX 3031)

Nether Kellet Gardening Club: records incl minutes, financial records, papers rel to primary school garden project and village gardens days 2004–2014 (DDX 3065)

Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland, Record Office for

Brockington Flower and Garden Club, Enderby: minutes, photograph album and scrap book 1962–2002 (DE8764)

Evington Flower Club: minutes 1967–1996 (DE9085)

Goadby Marwood Allotment Association: administrative records incl minutes and accounts 1857–1880 (DE8944)

Thurnby Flower Club: minutes 1983–2007 (DE8780)

Lincolnshire Archives

Bridge End Road Allotment Association (Grantham) Ltd: records incl minutes, accounts and share registers 1920–2009 (MISC DEP 733)

Charles Sharpe & Co Ltd, seed merchants, Sleaford: subject files incl wartime regulations and catalogues 1940s (3-SHARPE)

Museum of Croydon

Spring Park Floral Group: records of the group's activities incl photographs, programmes and committee minutes 1961–1983 (AR1123)

Norfolk Record Office

Bluebell Model Allotments Association: minute books and papers 1928–2000 (Acc 2015/182)
 Plantation Garden Preservation Trust: administrative records incl minutes and papers of chairman, photographs, newspaper cuttings, management records 1980–2015 (Acc 2015/67)
 Thorpe St Andrew Horticultural Society: minutes, accounts, secretary's corresp and reports, photographs and slides 1961–2014 (ACC 2014/274)

North East Lincolnshire Archives

Barton upon Humber Allotment Society: deeds, minutes and papers 1850–2011 (1370)

North Yorkshire County Record Office

Joseph Norman Frankland (1904–1995), botanist and naturalist: diaries, essays and notebooks 1928–44 (ZNF)
 Kirby Wiske Horticultural Society: minute book 1906–1934 (Z.1482)

Powys County Archives Office

Welshpool and District Horticultural Society: records incl minutes, attendance and membership registers, programmes, accounts and scrapbooks 1894–2014 (M/SOC/14)

Scottish Borders Archive and Local History Centre

Jedburgh Horticultural Society: minutes, accounts, news cuttings 19th cent–1977 (SBA/872)

Shakespeare Birthplace Trust

Ilmington Horticultural Society: records incl minutes, accounts and Show records 1945–2008 (DR1410)

Shropshire Archives

Meole Brace Garden and Allotment Club: records incl minutes, newsletters, accounts, corresp, membership lists and show papers 1994–2007 (8858)

Somerset Heritage Centre (South West Heritage Trust)

Somerset Gardens Trust: garden surveys and photographs 1990–2009 (AVASM)
 Wambrook Flower Show Committee: minute book of the Bewley Down Flower Show Committee, with printed and bound transcription 1914–1939 (AVEAY)

Southwark Local History Library and Archive

Stuart Road Allotments Society: accounts 1923–1982 (2014/36)

Suffolk Record Office, Bury St Edmunds Branch

St Edmundsbury Gardeners Society: minutes, accounts, corresp, news cuttings, leases, photographs, insurance records, financial papers, ephemera 1939–2012 (GC740)

Suffolk Record Office, Ipswich Branch

Alpine Garden Society, Ipswich Group: records incl

minutes 1984–2014 (GC833)

West Sussex Record Office

Petworth Horticultural Society: minutes, with papers rel to the Society's history 1946–2014 (17796)
 West Sussex Growers Association: papers rel to Glasshouse Crop Research Institute, Littlehampton 1966–1980 (17627)

Wolverhampton Archives and Local Studies

Tettenhall and District Horticultural Society: minutes and financial records 1919–2003

Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service

Abbots Morton Garden Club: minutes, photographs and other records 1998–2013 (15701)

National**Historic England Archive**

Philippa Lewis (fl 1976–2015), writer, photographer, picture editor and researcher: slides and transparencies rel to architectural details, buildings and gardens throughout England c1980–2015 (EFC01)

Island Archives, Guernsey

Guernsey Growers' Association: minutes, photographs and papers 1894–2015
 West Agricultural and Horticultural Show, Guernsey: additional records 1987–2010 (AQ 1398 (4–5))
 West Agricultural and Horticultural Show, Guernsey: additional minutes and accounts 1999–2013 (AQ 1466)

Jersey Archive

Royal Jersey Agricultural and Horticultural Society: additional minutes, show records, photographs and papers 1834–1983 (JA/2664)

Special**Bishopsgate Institute**

Manor Garden Allotments Campaign: papers, campaign materials and press cuttings (MGAC)

University**Glasgow University Archive Services**

Scottish Allotments and Garden Society: additional minute book 1995–2005 (ACCN 3833)

Museum of English Rural Life

Women's Farm and Garden Association: additional records incl administrative records and image collections, membership and property records c1917–2006 (DX2140, DX2152)

Oxford University: Bodleian Library, Special Collections

Humphrey Morrison Burkill (1914–2006), botanist: corresp, papers, oral history recordings and photographs mainly by his father, Isaac Henry Burkill c1900–2005 (9673)

London Parks and Gardens Trust Annual Lecture series at 77 Cowcross Street, London

***New Jerusalem: The Good City and the Good Society* Ken Worpole**

7pm, Monday 9 January

Ebenezer Howard's concept of the garden city was born in Stoke Newington in 1898 as a radical experiment in utopian community living. Ken Worpole will explore the subsequent trajectory of this ideal in the suburbs and new towns built to take the population overspill from overcrowded cities, in particular London, a subject with urgent relevance today.

***Post War Sculpture: Splendours at Risk* Roger Bowdler**

7pm, Monday 13 February 2017

Historic England has recently listed 41 public sculptures, many of them in London, erected between 1945 and 1985 to bring our public spaces back to life after the Second World War. An exhibition early in 2016 highlighted their vulnerability: a large number have been lost, sold, stolen, damaged, neglected or moved. Dr Bowdler is HE's Director of Listing.

***The London Skyline Campaign* Barbara Weiss**

7pm, Monday 13 March 2017

The growing disquiet over the number of tall buildings scheduled for construction in London is currently being highlighted by the London Skyline Campaign. Of particular concern are the damaging results of inappropriate siting to historic streetscapes and views, and visual intrusions into parks and squares. Barbara Weiss is an architect and co-founder of the campaign.

**Doors open 6.30pm for a glass of wine.
At The Gallery, 77 Cowcross Street London
EC1M 6EL (Entrance: through courtyard to
far end, down stairs). Cost: £8 members, £9
non-members.**

The Garden History Grapevine New introductory course to Garden History Starts Monday 16 January

The Garden History Grapevine is a new initiative which is running a varied and developing programme of garden history courses. It is hoped that working with colleagues from the The Gardens Trust, National Trust, Historic England, the Royal Horticultural Society and other partners that garden history courses will once again be available nationally rather than just in London.

We ran two introductory courses about garden history in 2016, which sold out within days, and another is planned for January 2017, starts Monday 16 January.

The course tutors are **Letta Jones, M.A.**, **Stephen Smith, M.A.** and **Dr David Marsh** and they invite visiting lecturers to contribute where appropriate. Courses are based in the **Institute for Historical Research**, in Senate House, the HQ of the University of London in Bloomsbury. Classes are small, usually with a maximum size of 16, and have lively illustrated lectures, opportunities for discussion and further personal reading and research suggestions if you wish.

If you know of anyone who might be interested in learning more about garden history in a small friendly class with lively participation, then tell them to have a look at the details and sign up: <https://introductiontogardenhistory4.eventbrite.co.uk>

Research Skills Course: 2 by The Garden History Grapevine From Tuesday 10 January

Following the success of our 6 week introduction to garden history courses, as well as those we teach at City Lit (see opposite), we are pleased to offer the second of a series of more specialised courses for those who want to explore the subject in greater depth. It will be based at the **Institute of Historical Research**, at Senate House, in Bloomsbury, which is the world's leading centre for research into all aspects of History, and runs the country's only MA course in Garden History.

Classes will be small [up to 16] with lively illustrated lectures, opportunities for discussion and further personal reading & research suggestions if you wish.

We are hoping that the subject will be popular enough to run it twice on the same day. The morning class will be held on Tuesday mornings from 10.30 to 1pm, [although it is possible that one or two will be held at other venues]. The course fee is £260 [plus Eventbrite's booking fee]. If you would prefer an afternoon place follow the link to <https://researchskills2.eventbrite.co.uk> However, please note that if numbers are much lower than anticipated the morning class will have priority, and those on the afternoon course will be offered a place in the morning, or a refund.

Provisional Outline Programme Research Skills & Sources, Tuesdays

10 Jan: **Garden Archaeology**, Museum of London Archaeology Service [tbc]

17 Jan: **Cartography as a research tool**, with Dr David Marsh

24 Jan: **Sources for Architecture & Gardens**, Dr Paula Henderson

31 Jan: **Early Modern Sources for garden history**, Dr David Marsh

7 Feb: **Sources for C18th gardens**, Michael Symes

14 Feb: **Sources for C19th gardens**, Dr Brent Elliott

21 Feb: **Sources for C20th gardens**, Tim Richardson

28 Feb: **Art as a source for garden history**, Christine Lalumia [tbc]

7 March: **Researching Gardens Overseas**, speakers will include Advolly Richmond, Dr David Marsh, and Dr Sarah Law

14 March: **Photography as a source for garden history**, Dr Rebecca Preston

21 March: **Recording your Findings**, Linden Groves and Christine Addison

28 March: **Case Studies in Research**, speakers will include Kate Harwood, others tbc

City Lit in Holborn

City Lit have been running termly garden history courses and have just agreed to a programme looking at garden history chronologically over the next 4 years. The main tutors will be **Letta Jones** and **David Marsh**. They started with a term on Mediaeval and Tudor gardens this autumn: 'Monks, Merchants and Money' and this is going to be followed by a term on 17th-century gardens in the Spring:

If you require further information about any of these courses then please email the organizers: gardenhistorygrapevine@zoho.com

Feeding the Nation in WW1: from *paeonias* to potatoes Devon Gardens Trust at Newton Abbot 2 to 5pm, Saturday 18 February

An afternoon of talks on Devon's WWI Food and Farming Project, that has been unearthing the role of potatoes, allotments, recipes, and what happened to Devon's estates and gardeners during the WWI. A discovery of the importance of horticulture and agriculture in WWI, the different ways in which people rose to the challenge, the impact on their lives and on the future of estates. The list of speakers will be released soon.

At: Hannah's at Seale Hayne, Howton Lane, Newton Abbot, TQ12 6NQ. Cost: £10 (DGT members); £12.50 (non-members), with a break for tea and cakes. Booking is essential. Please book before Wednesday 15 February, booking form can be downloaded from: www.devongardenstrust.org.uk

Chiswick House and Gardens Camellia Show Friday 3 March to Sunday 2 April

Many of the Camellias have been growing for over 200 years in what is now a Grade I listed Conservatory. The collection is thought to be the oldest under glass in the Western world and includes rare and historically important examples, many believed to be descended from the original planting in 1828. There are 33 varieties housed in the 300 ft glass house, including the Middlemist's Red, one of the rarest Camellias in the world.



Fiona Hanson

Lucy Bell cleaning the Chiswick Camellias

The future of the heritage Camellias has been secured by an on-site propagation programme run by the gardeners in the newly restored Chiswick Melon House, and visitors to the show have the opportunity to purchase a choice

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of heritage varieties from Chiswick's original collection. The show includes special plant displays created by Roots and Shoots and the Royal Parks Apprentices.

Open 10am to 4pm (except Mondays), admission free: chgt.org.uk

Study Day on 'The Walled Garden' Cambs GT at Hemingford Abbots Village Hall 10am to 4pm, 4 March, 2017

Speakers to include Head Gardeners from Holkham Hall and Luton Hoo.

Tickets from Alan Brown: 01480 811947
or email: admin@cambsgardens.org.uk.

Gardens in Japan Talk by Kristina Taylor Saturday 11 March

Kristina says; I have just accepted an invitation to speak at a Birkbeck seminar study day at the Institute of Historical Research, Senate House, London, on Gardens in Japan. By then I will have a price of the Japan 2018 Gardens Trust tour (see p. 24), and will have emailed out to all those who have shown interest so will know how many places are left. So if you are interested in going on the tour, or just interested in the gardens of Japan, put the date in your diary.

Talks at Cambridge Botanic Gardens From 8 March, through to October

Our 2017 Garden History talks include sessions on Himalayan plant hunters, Saffron, Shakespeare and Flowers galore. Eight in total, with five of them are linked sessions led by Garden Historian Dr **Twigs Way**, which will explore 'Flowers in art and culture'. Each of these talks, which may be taken individually or collectively as a series, will focus on an individual plant, exploring their origins, discovery, history, and cultural significance. Through examining literature, art, myth, religion and even medicines, Twigs will build a vision of the role of each of these flowers both in and out of the garden. You will encounter gods, artists, plant hunters, designers, breeders, writers and poets. Although there will be an emphasis on Europe and America in art and literature we will also explore other cultural aspects.

To book visit the [University Online Store](#):

onlinesales.admin.cam.ac.uk or please contact the Education Office: 01223 331875
or email: education@botanic.cam.ac.uk

Veterans of the Designed Landscape: Scotland's heritage trees in parks and gardens Donald Rodger SGLH joint Spring Lecture with Friends of RBGE 7.30pm, Thursday 16 March

Donald Rodger, arboriculturalist and co-author of *Heritage Trees of Scotland* and *Heritage Trees of Britain and Northern Ireland* will introduce some of the oldest trees within Scotland. He will underline their role in the detective work associated with Garden History and illustrate the work that is done to conserve and prolong their presence in our parks, gardens and woodlands.

Tickets for SGLH events may be reserved by emailing: info@sglh.org.

Edward Kemp Bicentenary 2017

Cheshire Gardens Trust are preparing to celebrate the bicentenary of Edward Kemp's birth with a series of events held in the Cheshire parks he designed.

Kemp was Superintendent of **Birkenhead Park** where he was instrumental in realising Paxton's design for England's first publically funded park. While undertaking this role he was permitted to establish his own landscape design consultancy. His book *How to Lay Out a Small Garden* became a best seller. Kemp's designed landscapes survive in public and private ownership.

The first event will be held in **Chester** on **Saturday March 18** with Kemp talks and walks around his Chester commissions. Other events will follow together with walks in **Castle Park**, **Frodsham**, **Congleton Park**, and **Queen's Park**, **Crewe**.

For further details please visit:
www.cheshire-gardens-trust.org.uk/

Landscape (architectural and management) education past, present and future FOLAR's AGM & Annual Seminar Saturday 1 April

The history of landscape education in the UK, with a few honorable exceptions, has been little documented. It is intended that this seminar will encourage the recording of what otherwise might be lost in terms of memory and oral history, and the writing of more histories of landscape courses in the decade or so leading to

the Centenary of the founding of the **Landscape Institute** (as the **ILA**) in 2029. One ambition of the day is to record something of the history of the landscape architecture and landscape management courses at the University of Reading.

At: MERL, Redlands Road, Reading, Berkshire RG1 5EX. Contact; tel: 07597768931, email: info@foliar.uk or see: www.folar.uk

**Oxford of University Department of Continuing Education courses
Gardens of the Universities of Oxford
10 weeks starting 26 April (evenings)**

A Trinity term evening course for those interested in the history and development of Oxford's college gardens, consisting largely of field visits; to include the Victorian mansion Headington Hill Hall of Oxford Brookes University.

**English Landscape Gardens:
1650 to the Present Day (Online)
Wed 3 May to 7 July**

This course is the ideal introduction to English garden history, providing an overview of five centuries of development, from Baroque formalism through the naturalistic landscape style, right up to contemporary planting styles.

**Gertrude Jekyll and the Arts & Crafts Garden
1 week course: 23 to 29 July**

The Arts and Crafts movement, inspired by William Morris, reflected reactions to the Industrial Revolution and the excesses of high Victorian design. .

For all OUDCE courses: www.conted.ox.ac.uk

**Garden Museum Annual Spring Plant Fair
Saturday 29 April**

The Museum's Annual Spring Plants Fair is taking place at the refurbished Garden Museum as a major event following its 18-month closure to the public. It welcomes old and new exhibitors and visitors to the newly transformed museum with its brand new facilities and a cafe on site.

The Garden Museum's Plant Fair brings to central London the best nurseries from across Britain, with specialist growers of plants. Every plant you want for your garden, balcony or allotment in 2017 will be on sale and the nurseries can provide expert advice.

'Not in my Back Yard?'

**Hertfordshire Gardens Trust Conference
at the Riding School, Hatfield House
10am to 4pm, Saturday 22 April**

Hertfordshire is under intense pressure to accommodate a large number of new houses. This significant one day Conference will bring together planners, land-owners and estate managers with representatives from organisations whose interests lie in the conservation and preservation of the counties' parks and gardens, wild-life and woodlands, to show that a collaborative approach to development now can be the most effective form of protection for the rural and urban environment of the future.

The day includes: *The Threats to Hertfordshire's Historic Parks and Gardens* by Kate Harwood; *The Green Corridor Project* by Anthony Downs; *Neighbourhood Plans* by Gary O'Leary; followed by discussion and lunch. In the afternoon, by kind permission of Lady Salisbury, GT vice President, members are invited to join Head Gardener **Alastair Gunne** for a tour of the Hatfield House East and West gardens.

The cost of the day will be £45 per delegate.

**A Study Day at Hertingfordbury
with the Friends of Panshanger Park**

10am to 4pm, Tuesday 2 May

Panshanger Park (see p.11) lies within the area of the Green Corridor. This event will trace the involvement of Herts GT and of the Friends in the conservation and restoration of this historic Repton designed landscape from extensive gravel extraction. The day will end with a guided walk through this historic landscape.

Cost: £25 per delegate, including a light lunch.

**An afternoon with the Friends of the Jellicoe
Water Gardens at Hemel Hempstead**

2 to 4pm, Friday 9 June

An opportunity to visit and walk around the fully restored Jellicoe Water Gardens, to learn of their history and the involvement of HGT, together with Dacorum Borough Council and the Friends, in their restoration and upkeep following years of neglect.

Cost: £10 per delegate

For more, email: hertstalks@gmail.com

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For more details exhibitors should contact:
stephanie@gardenmuseum.org.uk.

Australian Garden History Society seeking papers for 2017 conference Sunday 29 October

The Australian Garden History Society is seeking papers for its 2017 conference to be held at Hamilton Gardens, Hamilton-Waikato, New Zealand.

The conference on **People • Place • Landscape: expanding garden history**, will present a broad cross-section of environmental, landscape and garden history research, study and thought from Australia and New Zealand. Proposals from all possible angles and scales; from local to global, vernacular to scientific, academic to populist, are welcomed.

Proposals in the form of a 250-word abstract should include the title of the proposed contribution, how the proposal addresses the conference theme, and the format of presentation (including any technical support required). Proposals are to be accompanied by a 100-word biographical statement as well as contact details (email, telephone, post). Please email submissions with the title "AGHSNZ submission [your surname]" to: info@gardenhistorysociety.org.au by **Friday 30 December**, 2016. For more information visit the Australian Garden History Society website.

Ethics and Aesthetics of the Cultural Landscape Call for Papers for the Landscape Architecture Symposium at the University of Pennsylvania Friday 17 to Saturday 18 November

This symposium will be a forum for the discussion of the relationship between landscape design and the productive, or working, landscape. Papers presented at the symposium may examine the following topics: the dialectic between design aesthetics and the poetics of production (i.e. agricultural techniques, agroforestry and irrigation practices, etc); the relationship and potential interaction between design, agriculture, and infrastructure or design/agriculture and adaptive reuse of urban and/or post-industrial sites; a revisionist writing of design history that examines proposals and projects that have challenged the boundaries between second and third natures; and, the aspect of conservation of the cultural landscape for its historic, social, economic and environmental values.

Landscape historians, practitioners and or academics in landscape departments and beyond, are invited to submit paper abstracts of no more than 600 words by **31 January**, 2017. Abstracts are to be headed with the applicant's name, title of the paper, professional affiliation, and contact information. A two-page CV should also be included in the submission. Please send paper proposals to: Raffaella Fabiani Giannetto, Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning, University of Pennsylvania, email: rgiannet@upenn.edu

Authors of accepted proposals will be required to submit the complete text of their papers to the symposium chair by 1 June. Speakers will be asked to complete any revisions and submit copies of their papers by August.

Publication of the papers presented at the symposium is anticipated.

Dean Valley Regeneration update

Dean Valley Regeneration is made up of volunteers and was created on behalf of the local community and visitors to Dean Valley, and their goal is to breathe new life into the area.

On their website: www.deanvalley.org.uk you can find out more about Dean Valley and its fascinating cultural and historical significance, its natural resources and biodiversity, and the regeneration project and the people behind it.

Over the years Dean Valley has been neglected and is now in urgent need of renovation. Parts of the area are overgrown with trees, ivy and plants, and tree root development has made sections of the footpath and cycle track uneven, limiting full public access. There are serious health and safety hazards to the walls fronting the Water of Leith, which currently prevents periodic maintenance, and tree growth in these walls and in the river bed potentially undermine the stability of the embankments and sides to the river.

The goal is to promote renovation and care in order to preserve Dean Valley for future generations. The renovation could include the walls, bridges, railings and embankments, the removal of trees where these are undermining the structure of the embankments; and the restoration of the walkway and cycle path as well as planting up areas which are currently bare.

For more about the project, see the website: www.deanvalley.org.uk

Membership Application

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GT events diary 2017

Monday 16 January	County Gardens Trust Meet-Up: Historic Landscape Project (HLP) in Swindon
Monday 23 January	Running a Research & Recording Project: HLP Workshop in Birmingham
Wednesday 25 January	London Lecture: Paula Henderson on <i>The Gardens and Park of Bramshill</i>
Wednesday 8 February	Birmingham Lecture: Brian Dix on <i>Awakening from Slumber; Boughton</i>
Wednesday 22 February	London Lecture: Brian Dix on <i>Awakening from Slumber; Boughton</i>
Tuesday 28 February	Knowledge is Power: Historic Landscape Project at Hodssock Priory
Wednesday 8 March	London Lecture: Kate Felus on <i>The Secret Life of the Georgian Garden</i>
Thursday 16 March	County Gardens Trust Meet-Up; HLP at The Gallery, 70 Cowcross Street
Wednesday 22 March	London Lecture: Paul Howarth on <i>The heritage of Medway parks and gardens</i>
Wednesday 5 April	London Lecture: Karen Fitzsimon on <i>Drawing on Denmark</i>
last week of April	Gardens and landscapes of eastern Sicily: Study Tour
Tuesday 10 May	A Study Day at Boughton House, Northants: with Brian Dix
2 to 4 June	Medieval and Tudor Gardens: Weekend School at Rewley House, Oxford
Monday 5 June	Mid to Late C20 designed landscape: Conference at the Garden Museum
30 June to 6 July	The Gardens of North East Scotland: Study Tour
Summer, tbc	Our Annual Summer Family Picnic 2017
31 August to 3 September	<i>Plymouth Ho!</i> The Gardens Trust Annual Conference
early October, tbc	Landscapes of the Boston area, USA: Study Tour
Autumn, tbc	New Research on Chinese Gardens and Landscapes: Two-day Conference

2018

March Japan Study Tour

Details and booking information for all these events can be found inside on pages 17 to 24, or look at our website: www.thegardenstrust/events

GT news correspondence and items to The Gardens Trust head office, labeled **GT news** or email the editor **Charles Boot**: news@thegardenstrust.org

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