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GT news 4 Summer 2017
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Our cover: C19(?) copy of the 'Diana of Versailles'
at Mt Edgcombe, photo by Dianne Long

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Ready for Repton?

Hot off the heels of 'Capability' Brown's 300th birthday celebrations, it's time to turn our attentions to Humphry Repton, with the bicentenary of his death coming in 2018. Many County Gardens Trusts (CGTs), and other organisations, are already plotting ways to mark this anniversary, so it looks like being a busy year.

In April, the Gardens Trust hosted a meeting in Russell Square for many of those interested in marking Repton's bicentenary, as we hope to be able to pool our initiatives into a united front. We are delighted to have now been successful in a bid to Historic England for a small amount of funding to help us plan and prepare for a cohesive celebration in 2018. This funding will provide staff time to start to build links between CGTs planning Repton works and other partners and, most importantly, to seek funding to lead a coordinated 'Celebration' next year.

We expect to be regularly in contact with CGTs and others who are interested in marking Repton's bicentenary so do please email me:

lindengroves@thegardenstrust.org

if you would like to be added to this mailing list.

Linden Groves



Dominic Cole

Mid to late C20 Landscapes 'Compiling the Record'

We need **your** help to discover and record the essential mid to late C20 landscapes!

The Gardens Trust's recent conference on *Mid to late C20 Designed Landscapes: Overlooked, undervalued and at risk?* took place at the newly re-opened Garden Museum on 5 June (above). The event proved immensely popular and was a sell-out. A full report on the proceedings of the conference will follow in a future issue of the **GT news**.

The aim of the conference was to promote the understanding and significance of mid to late C20 designed landscapes, those laid out between



Nigel Temple collection, GT

Can you please help identify which house Repton recorded in this watercolour? It is one of a batch of Peacock's *Polite Repository* sized water colour images that Nigel Temple collected, but as far as we could work out wasn't published there. If you can name it please contact Charles Boot **GT news** editor.

news and campaigns

1950 and 1990, and to review how they might be better recognised and conserved. The range of expert speakers at the conference gave us wonderful examples of designed landscapes of the period including some that have been completely lost, others 'at risk' and, thankfully, some that have been sensitively cared for or restored.

An important outcome of the conference was the launch of the GT's follow-on project: **Compiling the Record: the essential mid to late C20 landscapes**, which seeks to add, through the designation process, important designed landscapes of this period to the Register of nationally-significant sites held by Historic England on the National Heritage List for England www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list

This is where **We need your help!** It's an exciting opportunity for everyone interested in the unique design work of this particular period to get involved to help protect them. Consider it a detective trail!



The re-furbished Alexandra Road Park, c 1980

What information should you send, where and when?

The 'Compiling the Record' project seeks over the next 18 months to identify sites of this period in England that might be worth assessing for potential designation. If you know of a designed garden or landscape that you think may be important and a possible candidate, please send us details about it, using the Compiling the record submission form, either to your local County Gardens Trust or by email to: c20@thegardenstrust.org

The recording form is available to download on the Gardens Trust website

www.thegardenstrust.org/compiling-the-record/

At this stage all we need to know is:

- the name and address of the site
- what kind of site it is (to help you decide this, a

- list of categories or typologies is included below)
 - the designer, if known
 - the date of design, if known
 - a short summary of why you think it is important
- Please also state on your form if you know more about the site's history, but please **do not** send any further information (including current photographs; which will be extremely helpful later) at this stage.



The deadline for submitting your form(s) is 31 October 2017. The sites will be reviewed by an expert panel convened by the GT which will compile a shortlist of 50. Approximately 20 of the most important ones will then be submitted to Historic England for potential registration on the NHLE. The GT has adopted the former GHS's objective of promoting new design so this project particularly aims to include the work of living designers who are currently still practising.

The landscapes most likely to make the grade should have:

- a strong design element
- a good level of integrity (although they may be in a poor condition)
- will probably, but not necessarily, be the work of a eminent designer
- a layer of design from c.1950-1990, although this may be part of an older landscape.

It is worth looking at the less obvious or well-known sites such as Rutland Water, designed by Sylvia Crowe in the 1970s, as well as the more obvious ones, an example of which might be the Eden Project.

Your proposed sites should be submitted under one or more of the following typologies

1. Gardens, public and private, including roof and interior gardens, garden squares, botanic gardens

Janet Jack, courtesy J&L Gibbons

2. Parks, public and private, including arboreta and urban parks
3. Country Parks mostly those designated in the 1970s under the Countryside Act 1968
4. Civic spaces, including government offices, county/town halls, civic squares and art galleries
5. Housing: private and public housing schemes
6. Cemeteries, burial grounds and memorial sites
7. Sports sites including playgrounds, racetracks, lidos and golf courses
8. Commercial sites including business parks, factories, hotels, business headquarters
9. Infrastructure including airports, reservoirs, pumping stations, motorways
10. Institutions including schools, universities, hospitals, military sites, asylums, prisons

Our new Forum pages

I'm pleased to announce that the Gardens Trust website now has an on-line discussion group facility called the Gardens Trust Forum.

The Forum facility can be accessed from the Home Page of the website. It permits users of the site to communicate with each other on topics of interest by creating topics and postings under topics.



In order to conveniently group topics, the discussion group is currently organised as a series of six Forums: General Discussion Forum; Conservation Forum; Events Forum; Repton Forum; County Gardens Trust Forum; and Research Queries Forum.

Any user may view the content of the Forums, but to make a posting a user would need to register. Registration is very simple; you just choose a user name and a password will be sent to you. The first 'Forum' is a set of instructions for users as to how to register and how to use the Forum facility.

I encourage you to register and perhaps have a go at a posting.

James Bartos, Chairman

Our Facebook group

The Gardens Trust now also has a very popular Facebook page, currently with over 100 members. The aim is to use it to reach out to and inform a section of the community which enjoys this type of interaction, with newsy and interesting peer reviewed articles gleaned mainly from the press and various forms of social media.

Items appearing mainly relate to garden history, gardens, landscape architecture, art and architecture, to name but a few. Do check out our page:

www.facebook.com/groups/950605768331048 and join us, or click the link from our website.



The page is jointly managed by Letitia Yetman and Charles Boot. Pertinent articles and items are always most welcome but to maintain standards and prevent inappropriate posts all submissions have to be approved by the 'admins' before inclusion (this process is semi-automated).

The Mavis Batey Annual Essay Prize Winner

Our judges are delighted to announce that the thirteenth Annual Essay Prize for 2017 has been awarded to **Yichi Zang**, a PhD candidate from University of Technology Sydney, Australia, working on garden history in the British concessions of China.

The prize consists of an award of £250, free membership of The Gardens Trust for a year and consideration for publication in our peer-reviewed, scholarly journal **Garden History**.

It will be presented to Yichi Zang at our Autumn Conference at Sheffield on **New Research on Chinese Gardens and Landscapes** (see p20, and the enclosed leaflet), where he will be speaking on Saturday on **From Decoration to Necessity: the functions of Public Parks in the British Concessions of China, 1842–1937**. We hope many of you will be able to attend our Conference, held in association with the Department of Landscape at the University of Sheffield, and offer our winner your congratulations in person.

An exciting new research project from the Sussex Gardens Trust: the development of designed landscapes and open spaces along the Sussex coast

Marcus Batty and Virginia Hinze

The Sussex Gardens Trust has been successful in its bid to have four significant designed landscapes in Hastings designated as local heritage assets on the Borough's definitive list; with more in the pipeline!

Working in partnership with Hastings Borough over the last four or so years, our group researched, surveyed and established the significance of a range of designed landscapes including several identified in the local development plan for change. The information we have supplied we hope will help direct development towards conserving the historic character and features of these sites.

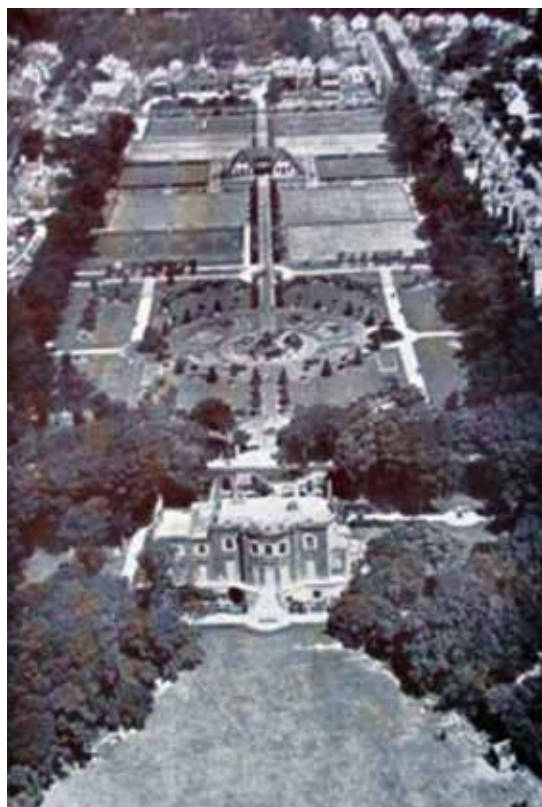
Building on success in Hastings and applying the techniques, experience and commitment from volunteers gained there we are setting up an exciting new area of research, the development of designed landscapes and open spaces along the whole of the Sussex coast.

Development of the Sussex coast dates from the late-18th century. It evolved from the fashion for sea bathing, the opening up of communications, the arrival of the railway and proximity to London. Driven by a wealthy and fashionable market in the late C17 and early C18, the C20 witnessed the proliferation of housing from shanties through bungalows to upmarket housing estates. Some resorts have been successful, others less so. But all this activity has left a legacy of designed open spaces, squares, parks, marine gardens and promenades, both public and private, filled with the pools, putting greens and bandstands built to accommodate the massive increase in leisure.

C19 texts on the early history of south coast resorts offer much to entertain: to many people today, life in the early C19 would appear very dull: walks, consulting the 'arrival book' in the library or assembly rooms for fashionable society, social calls and conversation filled most of the day. *A Week at Worthing*, London 1823, describes it all; the forgetting of a picnic on a trip to Chankberry [sic] Ring, necessitating sending a lad to a nearby cottage for 'bread and butter' being 'worthy of special mention'. So restrained is the writing, it is

difficult to assess whether the highpoint was a social call from a certain general or a daytrip to Brighton by boat from Worthing Beach where the, possibly nerve-wracking, return sail against wind and waves resulted in arrival back at Worthing at 1am!

The behaviour of the male sex drew special criticism in *A Tour to Worthing or Idle Hours not Idly Spent*, signed by G London, 1805. Whilst the beach is considered better than that at Brighton, London describes the proximity of male and female bathing areas as 'perfectly indecent and inconsistent with the rules of propriety and morality. I should also recommend to the gentlemen to recollect the delicacy that is due to the female sex and, instead of hanging about on the beach and indulging in unpleasant observations, to direct their attention to amusements more manly and becoming.'



Beach House Park, Worthing, in 1939



Beach House Park, Worthing, today

On a more serious note, the purpose of this project is to record these designed landscapes along the whole of the Sussex coastline, from Chichester Harbour in the west to Camber Sands in the east, which are a product of the fashion for the sea, both visting and bathing. Our research

will highlight the historic significance of these sites and, as in Hastings, we hope will assist in their conservation through designation as local heritage assets by the various local planning authorities in East and West Sussex. We anticipate it being a long term undertaking but one of its benefits will be the facility for researchers to work simultaneously in their local stretch of coast and use their local knowledge. Sussex GT hopes ultimately to produce a publication to celebrate the seaside aspect of the social history of Sussex. If anyone would like to join the Sussex-based research team for this project please contact Marcus Batty: marcusbatty@hotmail.com, Jennie Starr: starrhouse@clara.co.uk, or Virginia Hinze: vchinze@aol.com for further information.

For our Hastings sites see: www.hastings.gov.uk/conservation/adopted_assets/

The oldest village Horticultural Society in England: established 1822

Richard Morley, Ditchling

The earliest surviving written record of the society is not a Minute Book but some brief notes in pencil, as if to jog the memory; the handwriting is very difficult to read and the paper is badly damp-stained. Several pages refer to matters prior to the first recorded entry marked 'October 1831' but how much earlier is not clear. On the back page the writer has written details of the milk yield of his cows.

Records of other activities in the village show that on 2 February 1773 a monthly club was inaugurated at The Bull Hotel in the Sussex village of Ditchling for the sale of all sorts of corn, seeds etc 'to continue every Tuesday in the month that shall happen next before the full of the moon.'

Eleven years later, on 30 November 1784, the **Ditchling Society for the Prosecution of Thieves** was established, also at The Bull: similar 'Felons' Societies' are believed to have survived in a different format in Derbyshire to the present day. There were nineteen subscribing members initially, one lady and five men from Ditchling along with other rich landowners from nearby villages. Their aim was to raise funds to prosecute persons guilty of murder, robbing or defaulting 'and to meet annually in the Bull on the Monday nearest to the full moon in November, taking

dinner at two shillings a head.' I then looked for evidence to establish the date of the founding of the village horticultural society. The first link I found was that the names of three of these wealthy subscribers, and/or later additions to their families, appeared on the earliest recorded subscription list of the **Ditchling Amateurs' and Cottagers' Horticultural and Floricultural Society** dated 1832. This encouraged me to see whether I could find evidence of social activities related to gardening in our village prior to this date.

Among the documents deposited in Lloyds Bank were early posters advertising shows. The earliest stated; '1829 DITCHLING THE FIFTH ANNUAL GOOSEBERRY AND CURRANT SHEW (sic) WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE BULL INN DITCHLING ON MONDAY, the 27th of July, at 10 o'Clock PRECISELY when Mr Henry Phillips and Mr Stent, Gardener and Florist, have kindly promised to attend as Judges and to afford any information as to the culture and growth of Fruits, etc that may be required by the candidates.'

The same format was repeated in the poster for the 1830 Shew (sic) and this would appear to set the birth of the Society to be 1824 rather than two years earlier which has been the accepted date for at least 150 years. Two medals, struck at different

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dates in the nineteenth century, favour 1822, which has never been successfully challenged. On one medal it states: 'Ditchling Horticultural Society Issued in the sixtieth year of the reign of Queen Victoria' and on the obverse it reads 'Ditchling Gooseberry and Currant Show LXXV Anniversary 1897', which has been accepted as confirming 1822 as the official start date. From time to time Ditchling's claim to being oldest village horticultural society in England has been challenged by other societies in correspondence in national newspapers; one was from York, a large city, and the other from Paisley in Scotland. No claim has ever been made by an English village. Without success of counterclaim this seems to confirm that no document has survived to prove otherwise.

Ditchling was fortunate when Thomas Attree decided to spend each summer in Ditchling away from his legal practice in Brighton. He was no ordinary solicitor; his father had negotiated the sale of land required by the Prince Regent for building the Royal Pavilion and then Thomas held the post of Distributor of Stamps in Sussex and Surrey, described as a 'lucrative post' until his death. He was heavily involved in land enclosures, not only in the countryside but in Brighton itself, warranting the following description in Henry Cheale's History of Ditchling: 'Solicitor to the Royal Family and Lord of the Manor of Atlingworth, which embraces a considerable part of Brighton, there he enclosed many acres of delightfully wooded and undulating land and formed a beautiful villa and built a large Mansion' which was designed by Sir Charles Barry.

The theory of an informal beginning to the Ditchling Horticultural Society is strengthened by resolutions recorded at a meeting at the Bull on Monday 17 October 1831 which certainly suggest retrospective decisions:

1. Resolved that the thanks of the meeting be given to Thomas Attree Esq for his suggestion respecting the Society and that the same be attended to;
2. Resolved that the subscriptions be collected at the next Annual Meeting to be held in July for the years ending;
3. Resolved that a second shew be held next year for showing Apples, Pears, Potatoes and Grapes growing the open air; also Daliahs [sic] and China Asters, on a day to be fixed at the shew in July;
4. That a Book be provided by the Secretary for

entering the Minutes of the proceedings of this society;

5. Resolved that notices be presented to make known the next meeting and the second shew to be held next year;
6. Resolved that this meeting be adjourned to Monday 16 January 1832; to meet at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, at the Bull Inn, Ditchling.

The importance of these resolutions cannot be over-emphasised. By implication there were no written records kept of discussions, formal or informal, in respect of shows held prior to 1831. They support the theory that shows had been relatively informal and that the initial momentum built up slowly during the first decade when occasional presentations of cherished produce were giving way to organised exhibitions. For example, in late 1832 it was resolved: 'to hold a meeting of the Society on Wednesday before the full moon in February 1833 when each member is requested to produce some specimen of Fruit, Vegitable or Flowr [sic]. This would partly explain the ambiguity of the dating of the surviving early posters.

It is clear from the first of the above resolutions that members turned to Thomas Attree for the benefit of his legal expertise, with the resulting six rules emanating from a lawyer trusted with the support of the Royal Family:

1. This Society shall be called The Ditchling Horticultural Society.
2. The Society shall appoint a President, a Treasurer, two Secretaries and a Committee of eleven members . . . to be appointed annually, any three of whom shall constitute a quorum.
3. Three of this Committee shall be uneligible to serve again for one year viz those three who have given the least attendance at committee meetings during the year.
4. Each member shall subscribe four shillings and sixpence per annum, the subscription to be paid in advance.
5. The President to be Chairman at all meetings of the society or committee meetings during the present year.
6. The officers and committee shall make all arrangements necessary for the general management of the society.

Clearly no ordinary group of village gardeners. ***Red Roughs and Copper Kettles* by Richard Morley, was originally published in 1990 and soon went out of print after being displayed**

at RHS Wisley and locally in Sussex. It has now been reprinted and after costs of printing have been recouped all income from sales will be divided between one local hospice and the Kent Sussex and Surrey Air Ambulance Service.

The 94 pages are generously illustrated, not only with photographs but with original artwork by local artists, including award-winning

John Vernon Lord who donated two hitherto unpublished original pen-and-ink drawings.

Copies are available direct from the author: Richard Morley at South Tile Barn, Beacon Road, Ditchling, HASSOCKS BN6 8XB, price £7.99 including postage. Further information can be found at the society's website: ditchlinghortsoc.weebly.com

Recovering a Victorian Fernery: Danesbury House, Hertfordshire

John Roper, Leader of the Friends of Danesbury Park Local Nature Reserve



John Roper

Danesbury House, near Welwyn, was built in 1776 and owned by successive families until the early 1900's. It was requisitioned during both World wars, ultimately becoming a hospital for long stay patients. In the 1990's, like many old country mansions, the House was developed into private apartments with mews houses at the rear. Large areas of the estate came into the possession of the Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council in 1985 and in 1998 the estate was designated a Local Nature Reserve (LNR) covering an area of some 25 hectares (65 acres).

The Fernery

In 1859 the then owner of Danesbury House, William John Blake, asked his gardener Anthony Parsons to construct a Fernery in an old chalk pit about 500 yards to the East of the House, in what is now one of the pastures forming the nature reserve. Anthony Parsons was a fern cultivator of some renown. Completed in 1860, the Danesbury Fernery was very successful and in 1881 the RHS journal 'Garden Memoranda' referred to it as 'the best fernery to be found in the Home Counties'.

William John Blake died in 1875, and Anthony Parsons 'his' gardener died in 1880, and it has to be doubted that the fernery was much managed after that date. It was 'remote' from the House; the Victorian 'fad' was over; there had been changes in ownership; and it was a turbulent time in history

Apart from the famed collection of rare ferns it once contained, of principal interest was the artificial rockwork, constructed in situ by James Pulham the Second, of Broxbourne, known as Pulhamite. The Pulham design at Danesbury included 'a dropping well, a grotto, a pass, and a rustic bridge over a gorge', but unfortunately no original plans exist, and we do not yet know what is meant by 'a pass' in this context. The Pulhams were of course nationally famed for building natural looking stone for many Country Houses and Estates, including Buckingham Palace and Sandringham.

The Danesbury Volunteers

Under the direction of the Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council, a small group of volunteers (the Friends) had been clearing paths and scrub on the Nature Reserve from the 1990s. In September 2015, the Friends first ventured onto the derelict site of the Fernery, which had been written off by some Pulhamite experts as 'beyond redemption', and they found an impenetrable and hazardous old chalk pit full of nettles, elder, thistles, litter and rubble. The Pulhamite rock work was there, but behind a tangle of ivy and tree roots.

Ann MacDonald, Manager of the Council's Landscape & Ecology Department, agreed with the



John Roper

The clearance work commences...

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Friends that if they could commit to clear the site and subsequently maintain it, then her Department would give them all the encouragement and support needed to make it a success. By June 2016 all the invasive nettles, elder and scrub had been cleared, invasive tree roots poisoned, and grass seeded to make the site look slightly less derelict.

By November 2016 the 'scrub-bashing' phase was over, and the Borough Council provided specialist help from contractors who started the careful task of excavating the original pathways.



John Roper

Fragments of the metre wide vase or urn



John Roper

The cleared site gives some impression of its size

In March 2017, it was recognised that with many tons of spoil to move it would take the Friends a few years to make further serious inroads. The contractors came on site for another short period of intense and skilled activity. Some massive discoveries were made: we 'found' the basin at the foot of the Dropping Well, and we uncovered the gorge which the 'rustic bridge' would originally have spanned, and we found the remains of a very large Pulhamite vase or urn, with a diameter of at least one metre.

its paths, we uncovered a 'lost' path above the grotto, still with its original gravel surface. It ends with a sudden stop before the 'gorge' which might have been the point where the Victorians crossed to the other side over a 'rustic bridge'.

To our amazement, a water pipe was uncovered in mid-May 2017 adjacent to the Dropping Well, with a built in key/tap to control the water flow, and the Council has agreed to replace a couple of large Pulhamite stones that fell many years ago from the top of the grotto.



John Roper

Progress is being made but there is a way to go...



John Roper

The uncovered basin at the 'Dropping Well'

In early May 2017, guided by a 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map showing the Fernery and

Gardening Friends Needed

Specimen ferns have been purchased and planted thanks to a generous gift from the Welwyn Wailers, plus donations of plants from members of the local Gardening Club. We now need a group of Saturday Fernery Friends to help maintain these beds. The Fernery Friends will plant up and maintain all parts of the Fernery as excavations proceed. Their central aim will be to restore the Danesbury Fernery to be 'the best fernery to be found in the Home Counties' once again.

We estimate that it will be three years before restoration is completed. There are tons more soil to excavate before we will completely uncover all

the rockwork and restore the original topography of the Fernery. We have to work out how the Victorians got water to the site and pumped it around. We need to cost the repair/replacement of the perimeter 'estate' iron fencing, and the ironwork which originally formed a 'grotesque' entrance. At some stage we might need a technical survey of the Pulhamite rockwork.

The Friends of Danesbury meet on the third Thursday every month to continue the task of excavation and restoration. Fernery Gardening Friends meet to maintain and improve the formal gardens on Saturday mornings, as we progress.

Access to the site, which is permanently open, is via North Ride, Welwyn, Hertfordshire, AL6 9RD

The 2017 Welwyn Festival

With all the history, hard work and preparation behind us, the Danesbury Victorian Fernery was opened to the public on Sunday afternoon, 18 June, as part of the Welwyn Festival's Open Gardens Programme.

Friends of Danesbury Local Nature Reserve welcomed over 100 visitors at the entrance and guided them safely around the site, pointing out the many exciting discoveries made since the site was cleared in September 2015, from what was a veritable jungle. All visitors were given illustrated Leaflets which showed the dramatic progress which had been made since then.



John Roper

Viewing the 'work in progress' on the open day

A highlight of the afternoon, filmed by Welwyn Film Record Society, was the 'surprise' introduction to each other of Valerie Christman whose great-great-great-grandfather was James Pulham whose son James 2nd built the Fernery for the Blake family in 1859/60, and Alison Venning whose great-great-great-grandfather was William John Blake himself, whose gardener Anthony Parsons designed and planted the Fernery garden.

The site is still very much one of 'work-in-progress', but visitors were able to see the man-made Pulhamite Grotto and the Dropping Well, albeit without water yet, and the path over the top of the Grotto which was uncovered as recently as April 2017, and which already provides exciting clues to the whereabouts of the 'gorge' and the place where a rustic bridge would once have crossed over.



John Roper

Val and Alison (front row, far left and second left) join volunteers and friends in the cleared and cleaned up Pulham Grotto, with new fern planting on the right; neither were directly involved in the project...

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After their tour of the Fernery, and on a very hot and sunny day, the trees in the Fernery provided welcome shade, and a little breeze. Visitors were able to relax and enjoy the Victorian Cakes and drinks prepared by volunteer helpers.

A vote of thanks is owed to all the volunteers and their helpers for working so hard to create such a successful and memorable afternoon.

Before the Fernery is next 'Open' the Friends will

need many more volunteers, particularly those with gardening skills, as we re-commence the replanting of the formal Victorian flower beds as near as possible to the original, and tackle the task of making the fernery once again 'the best Fernery in the Home Counties'.

For more details please contact John Roper: johnroper38@gmail.com, or: 07910 311 589

The Gilly Drummond Volunteer of the Year Award 2017

Our annual Volunteer of the Year Award celebrates the efforts of people who have contributed to the work of the Gardens Trust, their County or Country Gardens Trust, and thereby greatly adding to the enjoyment, learning and conservation of designed gardens, parks and landscapes.

If there is an individual or group that you or your CGT committee would like to nominate, please complete the nomination form, obtainable from Teresa, our CGT co-ordinator: teresaforey@thegardenstrust.org

Please provide as much information as you feel necessary in order to demonstrate your support of this nomination. **Nominations to be received by 25 July 2017.** Please note that Directors of the Gardens Trust are not eligible for nomination.

Areas of voluntary contributions that qualify for consideration include:

- **Administration:** developing membership, secretarial assistance, financial assistance, meetings and minutes, circulation of the GT and CGT information to members, involving volunteers, working with related organisations in a county or country (Wales)

- **Communications:** newsletters, magazines/journals, books, website, photography, disseminating information, exhibitions, social media
- **Conservation:** site visits, planning, reports, public enquiries, practical conservation projects
- **Education/Schools:** contacts with schools and developing practical projects with them, bursaries, awards, innovation in school projects, learning skills and good practice, long term nurturing of committed schools, conferences
- **Events:** visits, tours, talks, lectures, conferences, national and CGT celebrations
- **Projects:** new contemporary garden projects, restoration projects, community garden projects, public park projects
- **Research:** archives, field surveys, documentation, administration of site visits, training and courses, entering/checking data

Your completed form should be returned to Teresa, Gardens Trust Finance Officer and CGT Co-ordinator: teresaforey@thegardenstrust.org by 25 July 2017. If you have any queries please use the above email, or phone: 020 7251 2610

Watch this space; the saga of Syon's Allotments

Kate Harwood, 25 June 2017

In the middle of June 2017, a plea came to the Gardens Trust's Conservation Officer via London Parks and Gardens Trust (LPGT) for someone to speak up for Syon Park at a planning committee meeting a week later. Luckily, a member of the Conservation committee was familiar with Syon

and free on the evening in question. After many hours immersed in planning documents, old and new, and the history of this Grade I 'Capability' Brown site I became convinced that the twin proposals put before Hounslow Council needed a robust rebuttal.

2.2 Defining A New Character Area

The proposed allotment site is located with the parkland close and has a relationship with the boundary of the Duchess Gatewalk character area, seen as a transition zone to more developed areas of the site such as hotel, car park and nursery.

The allotment site will alter the use of a restricted area of parkland. The key elements which define this character area have been considered as part of design development.

Through a sensitive landscape treatment and approach the allotment relocation provides a balance which pays respect to the proximity of the Lion Gate and wider Parkland setting. These measures include:

- Retained, existing mature tree belt spans across the allotment site
- Low native hedge boundary treatment which retains open parkland views
- Clusters of parkland shrub planting screen structures associated with allotment use
- Low impact agricultural use associated with cultivation of allotment plots
- Informal structures screened by existing trees and proposed clusters of planting

- Duchess Walk Character Area
- Parkland Character Area
- Allotment Site
- Retained Mature Tree Belt
- Native hedge boundary



Extract from: Syon House Allotments Design and Access Statement

Syon House lies to the south-east below the upper of Brown's two lakes/river, here denoted as 'Fishery'; was Brown intending to suggest that Syon stood on an island in the Thames with his intervention?

These proposals were to build 157 housing units on the allotment site outside of the park; allotments which had been opened in 1917 and run by the council successfully (the waiting list had to be closed due to excessive demand) until taken back in hand by Northumberland Estates under whose regime it has declined. To compensate for the loss of these much-valued, and fertile allotments, it was proposed to lay out another set; smaller with fewer amenities, within the Brown parkland of Syon Park. The chosen site was the key view between the Lion Gate and the western lake, a part of the site which had been laid out by Adam (Lion Gate) and Brown (parkland) at the same time. The given reason for this enabling development was to release funding to repair the Lion Gate and Lodges. However, close reading of the paperwork showed that a Legal Agreement (S106) had been put in place when the Hilton Hotel was built within the parkland at Syon in 2014. The hotel was built but somehow the Lion Gate repairs were forgotten!

A depressing statistic going back through the planning history of Syon was the fact that out of the last 95 applications only two had been refused, and the current two applications had



Robert Adam's Grade I listed Lion Gate of 1769, showing the old drive and parkland beyond

been recommended for approval in the planning officer's report. Nothing daunted, the GT put in 'concise and authoritative evidence' (a councillor's comment) and circulated it to the councillors as well as the planning authority. This was supported by a letter from Dr Sarah Rutherford (former Acting Head of the English Heritage Parks and author of *Capability Brown: And His Landscape Gardens*, 2016) who knows the site well and made the point that Syon and Kew Gardens are both Grade I and march in tandem, with Kew being a World Heritage site, and Syon part of its buffer zone.

She went on to say: 'Specifically, this area was

agenda



Sarah Rutherford

Robert Adam's Lion Gate from the old north drive

designed in the mid-C18 with a typical prestigious parkland character based on a bucolic grazed ornamental grass sward with scattered trees and clumps, threaded through by the principal drive from the Grade I listed Adam gateway to the lake and beyond to the house [see above]. The productive areas were well outside the park, screened from the parkland scene unlike the effect of this proposal. The character of the parkland and associated views in such a highly sensitive area of the design would be hugely compromised by the introduction of this damaging change of use, together with the setting of the Grade I listed gateway.

'Most Brown landscapes are not easily accessible via public transport. Syon is a rare example of a largely intact Brown landscape within easy access of a major population centre. A considerable loss of public amenity would occur with the replacement of open parkland with allotments.

'In summary, the international significance of the landscape will be compromised by an ill-

judged and insensitive intervention which future generations will deplore.'

At the meeting the room was packed with objectors who were most vocal in their response to inaccuracies from the applicant during his presentation. Three objectors were chosen to state the case against; the Gardens Trust on the landscape to be destroyed by the new allotments, an allotment holder on the loss of such a valuable amenity, and the Isleworth Society pointing out that the developments were contrary to council policies and so on. The committee asked very searching questions and they had obviously read all the submissions sent to them and were well prepared and fully aware of the importance of this landscape to the borough and the wider world.

I had to leave before the end but the phone was ringing as I walked through my front door at 11pm; the councillors had unanimously rejected the 157 units and had refused the new allotment site (five against and the rest abstentions).

Wonderful news when we hear of so many decisions which do not give proper weight to the landscape. But we await the appeal and work is already in hand to prepare for that. It was very much a team effort.

Back in 2015, when this scheme first appeared, Historic England had objected, then both GT and LPGT objected but HE later seemed to endorse it to save the built heritage; at least that was what was claimed by the applicant. However, determined work by the secretary of the Isleworth Society in marshalling arguments and objectors, valuable input from Susan Darling, the researcher from LPGT, the robust objections from Sarah Rutherford and from the GT have all combined to make this a rare occasion to celebrate; for now.

Bucks leap abroad; in pursuit of Prince Hermann von Pückler Muskau

Charles Boot

Before I retired as Chairman of the Bucks Gardens Trust I was somewhat wary of our record of visiting gardens out of county; it invariably rained, froze or proved otherwise inclement. Imagine my worry then when our 'honorary godfather', international archeologist at large, Brian Dix proposed a visit in the footsteps of Prince Hermann von Pückler-Muskau, not in his Polite mode around Regency Britain, but to his

home turf of Muskau and Branitz in the further reaches of eastern Germany and Poland, where his primary estate now spans the border. However the weather situation has much improved since I stepped down and our head of Research and Recording Claire de Carle persuaded us all that this tour was a very good idea.

Accompanied by Brian, and his friend and our translator Ralf Jaeger throughout, we embarked

from a sun-drenched Berlin to arrive at Babelsberg Park, the summer residence of the future Kaiser Wilhelm I and his wife Augusta. Approaching uphill from a discreet and suburban rear entrance we were led by Brian and colleagues through the parkland to arrive at one of the higher points on the estate, the Siegessäule (Victory column) terrace, where we enjoyed magnificent views of the surroundings and a chance to grasp our position some kilometers south-west of Berlin, and perhaps more pertinently some five and a half kilometers along the principal axis that runs through Frederick the Great's Neues Palais and park at Sanssouci, Potsdam, which we were to visit on the final day of our trip!

Laid out around Karl Friedrich Schinkel's neo-Gothick schloss, originally by Peter Joseph Lenné from 1833, the English style parkland surrounds the schloss with its meandering paths and gardenesque elements. It is perhaps most forcibly around the schloss, still under restoration as is the park, that the influence of Prince Pückler is really noticeable; he took over the design of the park from Lenné from 1842 until 1868; Pückler's admiration for the work of Humphry Repton, perhaps especially his work at Ashridge, coming to the fore. Although the Prince visited England in 1814 he didn't meet Repton; he did visit many of the landscapes he had worked on, and those of Brown before him. Repton's son John Adey was later to visit Muskau in 1822, to repay the compliment.

Surrounding the schloss and taking full advantage of the rolling terrain above the Glienicker See (lake), where the former border ran between East and West Germany and Berlin, the notorious bridge below was a chilling reminder of spy handovers in the Cold War. It seems so ridiculous seeing this peaceful scene today that one could have been shot for getting this close! Hey ho, returning to gardening for a moment, the superb level of upkeep, and absence of rabbits and munjac deer was telling. Exquisite scallop edged beds, a gilded rose arbour and a lavender, chive and celery filled basket were just some of the fancies in this pleasure filled Imperial garden. The descent to the lakeside was through an appropriately Tudor-arched wrought iron tunnel, accompanied by a 'lava', or perhaps slag, lined watercourse, over which Brian cast a critical eye.

After following the lakeside path, with more

watercourses coming down to it, we took our minibus on to Muskau, to be greeted at the old ruined church, even in Pückler's day, on the hillside above the park with strawberries and a glass of Rotkäppchen, the local fizz. I feel the Prince would have approved.

His park was laid out below us, the evening sunshine glinting off the turrets of the recently restored palace. One of his simple granite benches below a spreading linden (lime) tree pointed to our first Muskau view; it was the simple device he adopted to pick out the reciprocal views across the valley that embrace his masterwork.

Although Pückler spent his early childhood at Muskau, he became estranged from his distant parents. The place had come with his mother's dowry, the Pückler's had lived at nearby Branitz, and his father's only apparent role was to beget an heir! This done the couple drifted apart, eventually setting up separate households, and spending his inheritance. He was sent away to school at seven years old and never really came back until he inherited the place, by then already heavily encumbered with debts run up by both parents;



Charles Boot

Just one of many such scallop edged beds at Branitz, overlooking the Glienicker See and bridge

agenda

this wasn't helped by the considerable debts he ran up on his own account whilst at university and during his early military service. He never really saw the true financial benefits that Muskau should have realized, though he was to continue to spend money as if he did. On his return he had already begun to think how the naturally rolling terrain could become a great garden, and he did at least have enough cash to get started.

Our journey into Pückler's mind continued the following morning after a surprisingly lavish Spa breakfast. This new Spa lies just outside the palace proper, on the market square of the 'village' that Pückler incorporated into the heart of his design, though he does manage to make it disappear and certainly reduces its bulk in so many of his carefully contrived views.

But first Brian led us through the town, past the site of its main church, destroyed during WWII when Muskau was in the firing range of the approaching Russian tanks, more of which later. We entered the pleasure grounds by the entrance just off the now German Polish border, a problem Pückler did not have to contend with, and followed the culverted but ornamental water course that leads to the formerly moated, now laked palace. Brian pointed out the simple curves that Pückler felt better framed the waterway, and how Pückler reworked the water to 'naturalise' the gardens.

There is a fine and extensive exhibition in the now restored schloss that explains Pückler's life; his travels, his loves, his gardens. Looking out

from his reconstructed study, we could see an interpretation of his familiar parterre with its tiered bedding pyramid, cornucopia and **H** for Hermann, picked out in flowers. After that we were fully prepared to venture out into the wider landscape with our pocket guides and maps, and visit his pineapple houses, stables and vegetable gardens, another interesting exhibit.

Next came our visit to another country, Poland, by simply crossing the double bridge and taking a stroll through the landscape in a horse pulled waggon. This has to be the best possible way to explore Pückler's massive conception. The landscape on the Polish side of the Neisse river was, if possible, even more damaged than the German side during the war, with many of the trees embedded with shrapnel, which still makes tree work difficult. Hectares of post war scrub have been removed over the last few years since the cooperation between the two countries has made the park's restoration a possibility. Now the biggest threat to the landscape comes from wild boar, who plough up the meadows, and beavers who do the same to the woodland!



Pückler's schloss, since embellished and rebuilt



Hermann's oak, one of several key trees that have been replanted within the original stumps/boles

A multiplicity of paths, mostly accessible to our wagon, allows several routes to be taken and passes many of the now familiar granite seats, and monuments planned by Pückler, some still extant, many missing and some remaining a figment of Pückler's imagination, perhaps to be (re) constructed where time and funding allow. Our mode of transport allowed us to make frequent stops to admire the views, the incidents and to

continues on p.29

Gardens Trust events for 2017 and beyond

also on our website www.thegardenstrust.org



Dianne Long

The Earl's Garden below the windows of Mount Edgcumbe House

'Blest Elysium' — Sustainable?

The Gardens Trust Annual Conference 2017 and AGM 2017, at the University of Plymouth Thursday 31 August to Sunday 3 September

As the South West basks in a lush profusion of wild flower filled hedgerows and gardens brimming with summer blossom, we look forward to what is in store for The Gardens Trust Conference 2017. It promises to be packed with stunning and thoughtful landscapes, whose history and current conservation challenges will be brought to life by expert lecturers and guides. A feast for the senses, the intellect and the soul.

Thursday

Renowned Devon historian and author, Dr **Todd Gray** will open proceedings with an introduction to the history of designed landscapes in the area.

In anticipation of the following day's visit, Dr **Kate Felus** will explore the wider landscape at Mount Edgcumbe, the subject of her recent report on the site.

Dr **John Salvatore**, Plymouth City Council, will introduce the history and recent restoration of **Drakes Place**, where, weather permitting, supper

will be taken by the reservoirs that were built on the route of Sir Francis Drake's leat, which brought water from Dartmoor to the town of Plymouth.

Friday

The first full day of the Conference opens with the ever-popular **New Research Symposium**. **Dominic Ingram** will be considering *The Country Estates of Military Officers in Britain, 1700–1750*; **Beryl Saitch** will be looking at *Blanche Henrey, 1906–1983, Botanical Bibliographer*; whilst **Elsie Roulston** tackles *Plantsman vs Place-maker: An analysis of James (Jim) Russell and his work in Co. Donegal, Ireland from 1953 to 1985*; and finally **Doreen Wilson** presents *From a Scottish Shore to an Italian Lakeside: the link between Galloway House, Wigtownshire, and Villa Taranto, Lake Maggiore*.

After such a diverse spread of garden history presentations, delegates board a boat for a guided **tour of Plymouth harbour** en route to

Gardens Trust events 2017

Mount Edgcumbe; our knowledgeable and amusing guide will be **Nigel Overton**, Curator of Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery.

The Grade I **Mount Edgcumbe** with 865 acres of parkland, seven acres of formal gardens and seven kilometres of coastline has been the destination of noblemen and monarchs, all who probably concurred with Mrs Elizabeth Hervey, step-sister of William Beckford, who wrote of Mount Edgcumbe in her journal on 23 July 1792, 'Beautiful beyond description, rising majestically out of the sea.'

After a short introduction, there will be guided tours of the gardens and grounds with Kate Felus, the park manager, park ranger, head gardener, and members of the Friends of Mount Edgcumbe, including into parts not normally open to the public. Tours will finish at the mansion with tea.

Following tea, we will stage a lively debate on the conservation and management challenges



Letitia Yetman

The Rotunda above the beach from where the US forces departed for Normandy in WW2; their tanks had been concealed in the woods of Mt Edcumbe first planted by Peter Collinson in the 1740s.



Dianne Long

One of several buildings in the outer parkland

facing historic designed landscapes with presentations by **Kim Auston** (Historic England Landscape Architect South West and West Midlands) on the current state of designed landscapes particularly those at risk, **Shaun Kiddell** (Parks Policy Advisor, Heritage Lottery Fund) on the financial and funding challenges, and **Ian Wright** (National Trust South West Gardens Adviser) on balancing conservation and visitor management. Pre-dinner drinks and dinner will follow, with the return to Plymouth by coach.

Saturday

Before our visit to **Saltram** (Grade II*) on Saturday, **Judith Teasdale**, a landscape architect specialising in heritage projects and currently working on a conservation management plan for the site, will talk about the history and challenges of the landscape. Saltram was once part of a much larger landscape connected with the earlier Parker family home at Boringdon, but the designed landscape has been hugely compromised, having been split in two by the A38 dual carriageway, encroached by significant housing development, including in its walled kitchen garden, and its historic sea views have been erased by a huge landfill site.



Dianne Long

Some walled gardens 'just' end up as car parks...

But don't despair, we will include guided tours of the gardens, with Judith, Saltram's Head gardener and **John Clark**, Devon GT's Conservation Officer.

Delegates will then head for **Devonport Park** (Grade II), where they will be met by members of the Friends and Plymouth City Council who have been crucial in the successful restoration of the park, its ongoing management and popularity. Opened in 1858 and relaunched as the 'People's Park' in the mid 1890s, with further design by F W Meyer at the beginning of the twentieth century, Devonport Park still has the remnants of the 'Dock Line' defences, a Boer War gun, and the original park lodge.

The Gardens Trust Annual General Meeting takes place at 3.30pm back at the University (please see the enclosed **Notice** for details of the meeting's Agenda and **Voting Paper**).

Prior to the **Conference Dinner**, delegates will have the opportunity to walk along **The Hoe**, the huge parade ground overlooking Plymouth Sound with its iconic statue of Drake, Smeaton's Tower, the Royal Navy memorial, the Armada memorial, and nestling below, a three tier belvedere built in 1891 which overlooks **Tinside Pool**, the 1930s outdoor lido.



Dianne Long

Tinside Lido on an early spring day

Then a short stroll down to the **Guildhall** that stands in the **Civic Square** designed by Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe. The Guildhall was one of the few buildings damaged during the bombing of Plymouth during world War II that was restored rather than rebuilt. Its Grade II listing recognises that its unique combination of old nineteenth century Gothic and new 1950s features is nationally significant with its Italian campanile being a city landmark.

Sunday

On Sunday, our first visit is to the Grade II* **Ford Park Cemetery**, opened in 1849 and which followed the grid plan favoured by John Loudon. The Cemetery is now managed by a friends group, some of whose members will give delegates a guided tour of the cemetery.



The Children's Cottage, Endsleigh



The finale to the Conference is a visit to the Grade I registered gardens at **Endsleigh**, the hunting lodge designed by Sir Jeffry Wyatville for the Duke and Duchess of Bedford with grounds designed by Humphry Repton towards the end of his life. Delegates will also enjoy a two-course lunch at Endsleigh, which is now a small hotel, its grounds restored such that one might be forgiven for imagining Mr Repton supervising work from his invalid chair on the terrace. **John Phibbs**, self-confessedly as knowledgeable on Repton as he is on 'Capability' Brown, will be launching the exploration of the gardens and looking forward to the Repton celebrations in 2018.

The three-day conference can only give a taste of the variety of designed landscapes to be found in Plymouth and its environs. For anyone arriving early or staying on, recommendations will be given for other gardens in the area, and a two to three-day post-conference tour of mainly private gardens may be offered for those who would like to discover more.

The fully inclusive delegate price of £468 includes three nights' bed and breakfast, dinner on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, lunches on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, teas/coffees etc, and all entrance fees, coach and boat transport.

See our previous mailing for your booking form, or contact: teresaforey@thegardenstrust.org

Gardens Trust events 2017

Gosford House, East Lothian **10.30am and 2.30pm,** **Sunday 17 September**

Gosford is one of the finest late 18th century landscapes in Scotland. Located on the south side of the Firth of Forth, the seat of the Earls of Wemyss and March, and extends to some 5,000 acres of coast and parkland.

Kristina Taylor will lead two separate 2-hour walking tours around Gosford landscape with visits into the Mausoleum (above), the Curling House (with a talk by **Richard Gillanders** on its stone collection and decoration) and the Octagon room in the house. Plans to further restore the landscape to will be revealed.

The event is free but tickets need to be booked in advance through our website.



Kristina Taylor

Pleasure and Production

Dianne Long, GT Autumn Lecture **Birmingham & Midland Institute** **6.30 for 7pm, Wednesday 11 October**

Our first West Midlands winter lecture was held on the evening of 8 February at the Birmingham and Midland Institute, on the restoration of Boughton House, Northamptonshire with garden archaeologist Brian Dix and proved to be a great success. As a result of the overwhelmingly positive feedback we are pleased to announce our plans for further lectures in Birmingham (see opposite page for more Birmingham lectures).

Dianne Long has been researching the landscapes of the entrepreneurs of the early industrial revolution. This lecture will explore the landscapes of eighteenth and early nineteenth century industrialists, whose gardens have attracted little attention compared with those of the landed gentry and aristocracy. Proximity to their industrial activity was crucial for such entrepreneurs, especially in the initial growth period, but what influenced the development of their pleasure landscapes alongside the productive, did the two interact in any way and was there anything distinctive in what they created?

Dianne will discuss these themes with particular reference to the Midlands and potters in Staffordshire.

Details will be on our website or you can contact Advolly Richmond:
llex@advolly.co.uk

Two-day Conference: New Research on **Chinese Gardens and Landscapes** **with the Department of Landscape** **at the University of Sheffield** **Thursday 26 and Friday 27 October**

We are delighted to confirm the programme of our wide ranging two-day international conference, to be held in association with the Department of Landscape at the University of Sheffield, at which a selection of the most recent research will be presented. This is an opportunity to hear about Chinese gardens and landscapes from the earliest period up to the present day by both professionals and post-graduate students from China and a number of other countries.

The conference will be opened by Dr Alison Hardie, and topics to be covered will include the Chinese concept of paradise, Feng Shui symbolism, east-west encounters in Cantonese gardens, Jesuit theatrical landscapes, gardens as museums, public parks and the Chinese park movement, gardens in Chinese painting, and botanical watercolours painted in China for the Royal Horticultural Society.

Full details of the extensive programme can be found on the enclosed leaflet & booking form.

Tickets for two days including coffee, tea and a sandwich lunch will be £100 for GT members; £110 for CGT members; and £120 for non-members, with a reduction for students, and an additional option to book for the evening (Chinese) dinner on 26 October.



Gu Liyuan

A corner at Yipou in Suzhou, see also **GT news 3**

Full details of ticket prices, the programme and suggested hotels in Sheffield, are available on Eventbrite via our website, and you can book there at no extra fee. For further information, or if you prefer to book by post, please contact Sally Jeffery: sally.jeffery1@btinternet.com or at: 67 Devonshire Road, London W4 2HU

The Gardens Trust Family Picnic 2017 November, London (tbc)

Our Family Picnic this year will be hosted by London Parks and Gardens Trust as a seasonal pick-me-up in November. Venue and date still to be confirmed, so please watch www.thegardenstrust.org for details.

Families from CGTs, the GT and beyond will all be welcome for a friendly day of games, fun and friendship in a lovely historic garden setting.

GT Events 2018

The Gardens Trust Lecture Series London, Birmingham and Bath January, February, March 2018

Following our successful series of lectures held earlier this year, which included one in Birmingham, we are



delighted to announce that our Lecture Series 2018 will include not only the usual five lectures in London but also three in venues elsewhere.

Our London Winter lectures will be held as usual on Wednesday evenings at The Gallery, Cowcross Street, London EC1 during January, February and March, with exact dates to be confirmed later in the year (see our website and November mailing).

To commemorate the bicentenary of Humphry Repton's death, Professor **Stephen Daniels** will give a talk entitled *Revealing Repton: Approaches to the Art of Landscape Gardening*. He will speak about his long-standing interest in Repton and discuss new approaches to understanding and communicating the art of landscape gardening, and imaginative ways to commemorate the cultural significance of Repton's work and its legacy.

Our London lectures will also include **Pete Smith** on the history of the gardens of Wollaton Hall in Nottingham, **Shirley Evans** on the life and work of William Andrews Nesfield, **Susan Campbell**, Vice President of the Gardens Trust, on *Queen Victoria's Kitchen Garden at Windsor*, and **Maria Luczak** on the collaboration of Lord Leverhulme and Thomas Mawson in the creation of Rivington Terraced Gardens near Bolton, Greater Manchester, and their recent restoration.

The first **Gardens Trust Spring Lecture in Bath**, organised in association with the Museum of Bath Architecture, Countess of Huntingdon's Chapel, The Paragon, Bath BA1 5NA, will be given by Professor **Stephen Daniels**, who will give his lecture on Repton at the Museum on 15 March.

The **Gardens Trust West Midlands Spring and Autumn Lectures 2018** will be held at the Birmingham & Midland Institute on 18 April, and will be given by **Maria Luczak**, on Rivington Terraced Gardens. Professor **Stephen Daniels** will also be giving his lecture on Humphry Repton at the same venue in Birmingham on 26 September.

Booking online will be slightly different this year. There will be separate items on the website for each lecture, and one for a London season ticket. A booking form will be enclosed with the next GT news.

Contact Sally Jeffery for further details of the London lectures: sally.jeffery1@btinternet.com Sarah Fitzgerald for further details of the Bath lecture; fitzgeraldatpen@aol.com and Advolly Richmond for further details of the Birmingham lecture: ilex@advolly.co.uk



Inside Japan

Korakuen at cherry blossom time, it was first built in 1687 by a local daimyo (feudal lord) in order to entertain the ruling family and receive guests.

**Japan Gardens Study Tour 2018
based in Osaka, visiting Hiroshima and beyond
Monday 26 March to Sunday 8 April**

Places still available, deposits being taken

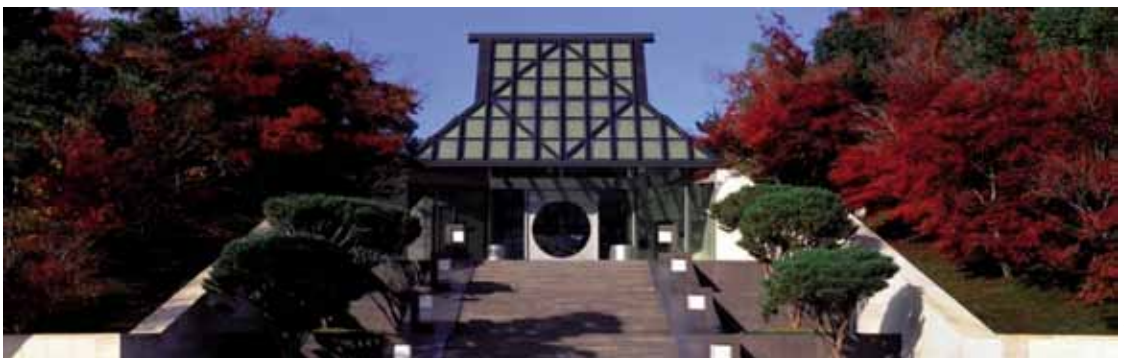
Japanese gardens reflect the philosophy of their people who live close to nature and combine their ancient spiritual beliefs in Shinto with their particular form of Buddhism, developed there from the seventh century onwards. This 'Cherry Blossom Spring Tour' is based initially in Kyoto, with visits to Nara, Hiroshima and beyond. 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 historic gardens and designed new ones.

Our first day will be for arriving and settling in (remembering you should have left the UK on Sunday 25 March at the latest, to ensure arriving on 26 March!). Our first full day will be spent at the Miho Museum, 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.

In Nara (day 3) we will see Heijo Palace, with the To-in Teien and Imperial Villa Garden, Isuien Garden, Todaiji Temple, Nandaimon Gate and Nara Deer Park. Next day we visit Kyoto's Shigimori Mirei Garden and Museum, and Tofukuji Temple. And then on day 5 we visit Tenryuji Temple garden, the Ryonaji Garden and the Daitokuji Temple complex and the remains of the Shinsen-en garden with its 'Chinese' bridge. Remaining in Kyoto we will then visit Byodo-in the Genji Museum and Daigo-ji Temple. Next day (7) we will see the Toji Temple with its monthly antique market, Matsuo Taisha, Saiho-ji and Kinkaku-ji Golden Temple. After a rest day(!) we will be seeing the Imperial Palace and gardens, the Heian Shrine and Ginkakuji Silver Temple before leaving for Hiroshima by way of Okayama.

In Okayama we will visit the Korakuen Garden and Achi Shrine, then on to Miyajima island



Inside Japan

A view of the Miho Museum, by I M Pei, Osaka



inside japan

Miyajima's red torii gate which is said to float on the water at high tide

with its Shinto shrine on the shore approached through a giant red Torii gate in the sea. The Mount Misen Ropeway and Itsukushima Shrine. Returning to Hiroshima we see the Peace Memorial museum and gardens, and Shukkeien Garden. Our final days' visit is to Himeji Castle surrounded by its hierarchical townscape and with a series of new gardens in its grounds before spending our last night in Osaka.

The full itinerary and cost details, as well as an application form are now on our website, or contact Kristina Taylor: wowkristina@hotmail.com or: 07972 702 061.

Currently the price is estimated at from £4,230 £4,700 depending on numbers, with a single room supplement of £672; this price does not include flights to Japan. It appears to be expensive but bear in mind that sterling has dropped by 20% in the last year against some currencies. Our price is very competitive with similar tours and you will have the expertise of Kristina Taylor and a dedicated member of Inside Japan, our partners for this study tour, with you throughout. We will be taking deposits of £300, initially contact Kristina Taylor: wowkristina@hotmail.com or: 07972 702 061.

Extending your visit

Kristina writes further: Since travelling to Japan is a long-haul flight you may feel you want to stay some extra days at the end of the tour. Our hotel in Osaka is near to Namba station and is ideal for some additional side tours. For those who have never experienced Japan you will be confident enough to manage by yourself by the time the tour is finished. I speak no Japanese and it has never hindered me in doing anything I wanted to there.

- Mount Koya is a World Heritage site and available for a day visit by direct train and funicular, or even an overnight stay at one of the many Buddhist monasteries. Food is entirely vegetarian in the village.
- Mount Yoshino is another World Heritage site and arguably the first landscape garden in Japan. It can be visited for the day by direct train. Delightful in cherry blossom mode.
- Bunraku theatre experience. This is also a cultural World Heritage experience and fabulous puppet show famous throughout the world, and based in Osaka near to our hotel. Google the National Bunraku theatre for information.
- Tokyo can easily be reached by fast bullet train from Osaka, for 'something completely different'.

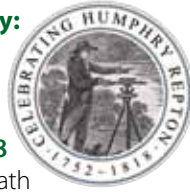


inside japan

Himeji castle was enlarged and finally remodelled to its final state by Terumasa Ikeda in 1601

Gardens Trust events 2018

The Prophet in his own Country: 3 Repton gardens in Norfolk A Gardens Trust Repton Festival 2018 Event Friday 1 & Saturday 2 June 2018



To mark the bi-centenary of the death of Humphry Repton, the Norfolk Gardens Trust in association with The Gardens Trust is offering a two-day conference focused on **Sheringham Hall** and Park, **Barningham Hall** and **Honing Hall**, based at the Links Country Park Hotel in Cromer.



Humphry Repton's proposal for Sheringham Hall

We shall be visiting three of Repton's surviving landscapes, two of which, Sheringham Hall and Barningham Hall, were commissions to both Humphry Repton and his architect son, John Adey Repton. At Sheringham this was for a new house and at Barningham a remodelling.

Red Books were prepared for all three, but only two, Sheringham Hall and Honing Hall, survive complete.

At Barningham Hall, Thomas Mott commissioned both Humphry Repton and John Adey Repton in 1805 to remodel the Hall. A number of watercolours have survived from the Red Book (private collection) which suggest that Humphry was also involved in the design of the park and gardens.

Provisional programme

We begin at 9.30 on Friday morning with registration followed by talks from Professor **Tom Williamson**, Dr **Jon Finch** and GT President **Dominic Cole**. After lunch, we visit **Sheringham** (own transport) for a guided tour of the park and an opportunity to view Repton's Red Book in the Hall's library. A conference dinner and after-dinner talk concludes the day.

At 9.30 on Saturday morning we take a coach to **Aylsham** and the parish church where Repton is buried. A picnic lunch follows in the park at

Honing Hall (weather permitting) and thence on to **Barningham Hall**, returning to the Links Hotel around 5pm.

The provisional cost of the two-day conference (excluding accommodation) will be around £125 for County Garden Trust and The Garden Trust members and £150 for non-members (TBC). This includes the buffet lunch and the conference dinner on Friday, coach travel and picnic lunch on Saturday and all lectures and visits. Delegates will need to book their own accommodation at the Conference hotel: The Links Country Park Hotel in Cromer NR27 9QH: www.links-hotel.co.uk/ or phone: 01263 838383 and please state you are with the Norfolk Gardens Trust Group.

Rates are, for double rooms: £150 per room per night to include breakfast; single occupancy (in a double room) rate is £95 per person. The Norfolk Gardens Trust has reserved 26 rooms for Friday 1 June 2018 but rooms may also be available for the nights of Thursday 31 May and Saturday 2 June. **The hotel rooms are reserved only until 31 December 2017.**

A list of possible alternative accommodation within a reasonable distance from the Conference venue will be available in October from the organiser Karen Moore, see below.

The conference booking details and a downloadable booking form will go online in October 2017. The GT/CGT co-ordinator (Teresa Forey-Harrison) will send out reminders to all CGT contacts in early October.

This event is likely to very popular, so early expressions of firm interest should be sent by email to: Karen Moore, Norfolk Gardens Trust Organiser, Point House, Back Street, Litcham, Norfolk PE32 2PA, or: moore.karen@icloud.com or phone: 01328 700 313

Designed Landscapes of northern Denmark June 2018 (TBC)

Robert Peel is planning a study tour of gardens and other designed landscapes in Denmark for the summer of 2018 for the Gardens Trust, probably in June. We shall visit sites not just around Copenhagen but also further north in the country. Further details will be available in the next issue of **GT news**.

To express an interest, please contact Robert: rma.peel@bopenworld.com

Garden History Grapevine courses

new courses in association with the Gardens Trust

Garden History Grapevine, in association with the Gardens Trust, are running two more courses this autumn, a 6-week **Introduction to Garden History** and a 12-weeker on the **History of Public Parks**.

Following the success of our 'taster' study days and previous introductory courses, Birkbeck (BGHG) and the Gardens Trust are now supporting a new 6-week introductory course starting on Monday 18 September, at the Institute of Historical Research in Bloomsbury, the world's leading centre for research into all aspects of History, and runs the country's only MA course in Garden History.

Our new 12-week course on more general park history will run from Tuesday 19 September.

Classes for both courses will be small [max size 16] with lively illustrated lectures, opportunities for discussion and further personal reading and research suggestions, if you wish. The course tutors will be Letta Jones, M.A., Stephen Smith, M.A., and Dr David Marsh.

Introduction to Garden History 6 weeks from Monday 18 September

18 Sept **Roman and Mediaeval Gardens**, S Smith

25 Sept **Tudor & Jacobean Gardens**, Letta Jones

2 Oct **Baroque Gardens**, Stephen Smith

9 Oct **The Landscape Garden**, Stephen Smith
with afternoon visit to **Chiswick House**

16 Oct **The Victorian Garden**, Letta Jones
with afternoon visit to **Regents Park**

23 Oct **20th Century Gardens**, Letta Jones

The course fee is £154.58 [includes Eventbrite's booking fee] but please note that that does not include transport or admission fees for the visits. Booking Via Eventbrite or via our website.

History of Public Parks 12 weeks, on Tuesdays from 19 Sept to 5 Dec

This twelve-week course will look at the history of places deliberately designed as parks or other public open spaces.

From the earliest parks in London and cities like Exeter laid out in the early 17th century, to the development of the square and the rise of the municipal park via the Prince Regent's attempts to become a property magnate, the term ends with an exploration of the seaside park. In the spring term of 2018 we will continue the same theme, particularly investigating those places which have



been converted from private gardens or estates into public parks, and also looking at the rise and decline of municipal parks departments etc.

Normal class meetings will be on Tuesday mornings from 10.30 to 1pm, but four of them are all day sessions; two of those have lectures in the morning and a visit in the afternoon, while two are all day visits out of London.

Provisional Programme

19 Sept **An overview of the history of Parks and public Open Spaces in Britain** with David Marsh

26 Sept **The Open Spaces and Parks of early modern London** with David

3 Oct **Walking tour of some of the Surviving Open Spaces of early modern London** with David

10 Oct **The Rise of the Garden Square**, with afternoon Visit to **Brunswick and Mecklenburgh Squares** with Stephen Smith

17 Oct **The History of Regents Park** with Letta Jones

24 Oct **Visit to Regents Park** with Letta

31 Oct **John Claudius Loudon and the 'invention' of the Public Park** with Stephen

7 Nov **Derby Arboretum**, all day Visit with Stephen

14 Nov **The Victorian Public Park** with afternoon Visit to **Battersea Park** with Letta

21 Nov **Visit to Crystal Palace** with Letta

28 Nov **Seaside Parks** with Stephen

5 Dec **All day Visit to Folkestone** with Stephen

The course fee is £260.78 [includes Eventbrite's booking fee] but please note that that does not include transport or admission fees for the visits. Booking Via Eventbrite:

<https://publicparks.eventbrite.co.uk>

If you require further information about either of these courses then please email the organisers direct, either via Eventbrite or: gardenhistorygrapevine@zoho.com

Historic Landscape Project news

reports from our officers

Changes to our Historic Landscape Project staffing

Tamsin McMillan, HLPO

I'd like to update you all on some changes to how we'll be running the Historic Landscape Project, the Gardens Trust's capacity building project for County Gardens Trusts, with funding from Historic England.

As you will know, Linden Groves has been doing an absolutely fantastic job, leading and growing the HLP over several years, and supporting CGTs at meetings and training events across the country. She has become well-known to many of you, as an energetic champion of the CGTs and the incredible work you all do to conserve designed landscapes and help others to understand, care for and enjoy them.

Linden's role has evolved and she is now using her skills and huge experience not just to support the HLP, but also to work on strategic development across the Gardens Trust as a whole. Linden, whose new job title will be Strategic Development Officer, will continue to work closely with the HLP, guiding its development and also seeking additional funding to place the project on a more secure footing. She is keen to maintain personal contact with CGTs but will no longer be the first port of call for the majority of CGT enquiries.

Going forward, I will be your main contact for queries as a full Historic Landscape Project Officer

and will be taking over the day to day running of the HLP, and leading on the majority of HLP activities. I would like you to let me know how the HLP can best support your CGT in terms of training and networking.

Margie Hoffnung, who is the Gardens Trust's Conservation Officer, responding to planning applications affecting historic parks and gardens, will be increasing her work with the HLP. Many of you will already know her, as she has helped numerous CGTs with planning responses and has already been supporting the HLP for two years. Margie and I will be working together to continue offering training and networking opportunities and nurturing the partnerships between CGTs and other organisations; and Margie will also be offering one-to-one support for CGTs, where required.

So, as you can see, we are all still here, but have been slightly rearranged!

As ever, please get in touch if the HLP can support your CGT in some way.

Our email addresses are unchanged:

tamsinmcmillan@thegardenstrust.org,

margiehoffnung@thegardenstrust.org

lindengroves@thegardenstrust.org.

The Historic Landscape Project: Evolving and Expanding

Tamsin McMillan, HLPO

Ongoing Funding for the HLP

We're very pleased to announce that the Historic Landscape Project has been awarded another year of funding from Historic England, taking us through to April 2018. This continuity of funding underlines the importance of the project's ongoing role in supporting the work of County Gardens Trusts.

We will use this grant not only to continue providing a suite of training and networking events but also to seek additional funding, from event sponsorship to other grant schemes, in order to secure long-term financial support for the HLP and expand our offer to the County Gardens Trusts.

Networking Events

Our first three of our County Gardens Trust **Meet Ups** (a reworking of Regional Forums), in York, Swindon and London, were well-received by the fifty CGT members, representing eighteen counties, who attended and contributed.

Highlight speakers covered a variety of subjects including: conservation struggles at Warwick Castle, and Panshanger, Hertfordshire; Sussex Gardens Trust's use of the Gardens Trust's new leaflet on the planning system to forge new partnerships; support for gardening in schools in Lincolnshire and Wiltshire; new research into Lancelot 'Capability' Brown in Yorkshire; the East Midlands' CGTs' joint plans for an HLF-funded

research and recording project; using IT solutions to manage a large research project in Hampshire; and the progress of 'Grapevine', the new initiative to establish more garden history and horticulture courses in this country (see p25).

Our guest speakers from external organisations are really important in updating us on heritage conservation in the national arena and have, so far:

- let us know how CGTs' support will be vital in keeping conservation and landscape work on Natural England's agenda, during the reinvention of Environmental Stewardship due to funding cuts and Brexit, see **Conservation 21: Natural England's conservation strategy for the 21st century**;
- described how we can all contribute to Historic England's **Enriching the List** programme, adding valuable detail to the Heritage List of Listed Buildings and Registered Parks and Gardens;
- and examined ways in which Heritage Open Days can work for CGTs, including by attracting visitors (and potential new CGT members!) who wouldn't normally engage with landscape heritage.

Feedback shows that Meet Ups are really welcomed as a chance to meet, network and compare problems and successes. Given such an encouraging response, we are currently organising four more Meet Ups this year, in other parts of the country: Lancaster, in December; Cambridge, in January 2018; Dorset in February; and London in March. Speakers will include;

- Sally Bate, on Norfolk Gardens Trust's immense body of research undertaken for their book on 'Capability' Brown;
- Lancashire Gardens Trust, on their research into several Thomas Mawson parks and gardens;
- and an update on Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust's fantastic work with schools.

We'll be announcing the full programme very soon, but do contact me if you'd like more information before then.

We are also planning our second Historic Landscapes Assembly, in Birmingham, in November 2017. We'll be building on the success of our first Assembly, in London last November, to make this a key annual event for CGTs and all those involved in the historic landscape sector.

Training Events

Attendance at our CGT Training Days has been fantastic, reflecting a surge in enthusiasm for

active volunteering in research, conservation and education.

In October we launched a new three-part planning training package in Gloucestershire, aiming to offer different levels of training for CGT volunteers involved in responding to planning applications affecting historic parks and gardens. The first session, at Westonbirt House, was aimed at those with no prior experience of planning and conservation. Presentations from external speakers and HLP Officers were combined with a tour of Westonbirt's gardens. The event was highly popular, with 48 guests, and feedback from many expressing an enthusiasm to start commenting on planning applications.

Part Two of the planning package was held in March, and included a very wet and windy tour of beautiful Stancombe Park, near Dursley. After working through a real planning application, delegates left with the skills needed to assess the impact of a proposed development or change on a historic park or garden, to develop a recommendation to the local planning authority, and to frame this in an authoritative and persuasive planning comment letter.



Tamsin McMillan

Margie Hoffnung at Stancombe Park, still full of enthusiasm, in spite of the downpour!

The third day, also in Gloucestershire, will look in more detail at the planning system and those attending will go away with a thorough understanding of how they can use this system to protect historic designed landscapes, and the

Historic Landscape Project news

confidence to get involved. We will be repeating this training package around the country so please do let us know if this would be timely for your CGT.

In January, our **Running a Research and Recording Project** workshop in Birmingham was fully booked, with twenty seven delegates from eighteen CGTs! Presentations by members of five CGTs gave a really useful and detailed insight into the nuts and bolts of running a project, from seeking funding, to recruiting and training volunteers, and step-by-step guidance on desktop research and site survey.

David Marsh, garden historian and Trustee of the Gardens Trust, organised an opportunity for the HLP to pilot a new half day training session in March, at the Institute of Historical Research, designed at showing garden history researchers how their work can be used for conservation. Huge thanks go to Christine Addison for putting this together with us. We will be refining this training event, perhaps adding in a site visit to make it a full day.

Some of you have been disappointed that, simply due to travel logistics, you have not been



Tamsin McMillan

Enjoying the Tudor glories of Hodsock Priory

In February, we got a chance to enjoy the famous snowdrops at Hodsock Priory, Nottinghamshire, when we ran another workshop **Knowledge is Power: using research to conserve historic parks and gardens**. Speakers from CGTs, as well as heritage organisations including Historic England and local councils, described the ways in which research undertaken by CGTs really is at the heart of the conservation effort to protect historic parks and gardens. The 44 delegates, from nine CGTs, left with an understanding of how research and conservation are intrinsically linked, and a clear idea of how to make these connections in their county. The event also provided a great opportunity for CGTs to network with representatives from several external organisations, including the National Trust and local authorities.

able to get to these events. Never fear, we'll be repeating all our training packages around the country, to try and reach as many of you as possible. We also make all presentations and handouts available online, via our Resource Hub.

Updates and Online Support

We're continuing to populate the fantastic new Gardens Trust website www.thegardenstrust.org and will soon be reorganising the Resource Hub to make it easier to navigate. This brilliant resource, comprising 500 documents to support CGTs in all aspects of their work, can now to be found at:

thegardenstrust.org/conservation/hlp-hub/

We are really excited to announce that the website also includes a brand new online

discussion group for CGTs. Anyone can use this **Forum**, you do not have to be a member of the Gardens Trust or even a County Gardens Trust. We expect, however, that most users will be those who are actively volunteering for their CGT in some way and want to discuss issues with their counterparts in other Trusts.

The Forum is a really easy-to-use platform for sharing ideas, experiences, questions and problems, such as:

- General networking: tell us all about your CGT's problems and successes, perhaps plan joint projects/events with other CGTs.
- Advice on how to undertake research and landscape survey, and questions or new information arising from your research.
- Conservation and planning issues affecting historic designed landscapes.
- Publicising your events and sharing ideas for future ones.
- Queries about the set-up and day-to-day running of your CGT.

You will find five additional Forums on the webpage (see also p5). These are intended mainly for non-CGT queries, but you are more than welcome to use any of them. For example, any CGTs planning events to celebrate Humphry Repton's bicentenary in 2018 might find the Repton Forum of use.

Click the link on the Gardens Trust's website home page and you will find full instructions for registering, starting new discussion threads and commenting on existing ones (see **How to use the Forum**). Any user will be able to read existing posts, but will need to register if they would like to post. Registration is quick and simple, requiring

only an email address and a username.

Please note that the new County Gardens Trust Forum will replace our previous Yahoo email discussion group, **LeaptheHaha**, which many found rather confusing to use! This will be closed in due course, after we are confident that everyone has moved across.

In an effort to keep the County Gardens Trusts up to date with the Historic Landscape Project's key messages and information we want to share, but not to bombard you with numerous emails, the HLP has also started a new system of **email Updates**, sent out about four times a year. These will include news of previous and upcoming HLP training and networking events; information about Gardens Trust conservation campaigns, with which CGTs might like to be involved; updates on information-sharing platforms, including our Resource Hub; and news from external landscape heritage organisations, which is of relevance to the work of the CGTs.

Information about Gardens Trust visits, talks and conferences will not be included here but is readily available on the Gardens Trust website.

You can find the first **email update**, sent out in April, on the Resource Hub. Although it is aimed principally at those who are actively volunteering for their CGT in some way, we are more than happy for it to have a wider audience. Please contact Tamsin if you would like to join the mailing list so that you can receive this directly.

As ever, do please contact me at:
tamsinmcmillan@thegardenstrust.org
Linden: **lindengroves@thegardenstrust.org**
or Margie: **margiehoffnung@thegardenstrust.org**
if you have any queries.

continued from p.16

discuss what Pückler's intentions might have been. Some of the structures bore witness to another problem, that of vandalism particularly graffiti, but this did not really detract from the ever animated parkland scene.

Returning to the double bridge, we continued our exploration of the Pleasure Grounds and Flower Gardens around the schloss, again impressed by the Reptonian detail.

The following morning we set off through the village, stopping at the Jakobskirche to pay our respects to Pückler's youthful companion

Machbuba, before heading up the hill and to the walk that leads southwards towards the second part of the park, with its distinctly 'Chilternesque' character. The meandering path of beech mast leads past former mineral workings; as at Painshill Pückler was always on the look out for a money-making scheme. After taking in the site of a Hamiltonian vineyard, we arrived at a clearing in the woods, to be greeted by shot glasses of pineapple schnapps and pineapple chunks grown on site, before embarking on the forest train to take us back to the original Spa, built at the suggestion of Pückler's beloved collaborator and



Charles Boot

The recently restored pyramids at Branitz; first build your pyramid, then flood the surroundings

sometime wife Lucy, again being restored, in a most exacting and creative manner.

When the pair finally had to leave Muskau, the money had run out, both his wife's and his, they retreated to Branitz, his paternal home. Here he was confronted by a very flat and even marshy site a telling contrast to the rolling landscape he took on at Muskau. However the pair soon set to work and created a very different garden round the much more modest mansion they now called home. The house is full of his presence with many of his possessions and collections and the gardens are very much maintained as he planned, with the now familiar Reptonian scalloped beds, intricate bedding schemes, and small

scale structures in keeping with the smaller scale of the site. Manipulating the water to drain the site did however allow Pückler scope to create a marvelous water way, best appreciated as we did in a low lying punt, allowing one to enjoy the passing meadow at eye level, before being transported to another landscape, this time with pyramids, yes two of them, one the tomb where he and Lucy were installed.

Thanks to Brian we were treated royally at all our site tours, being greeted and accompanied by the park's managers and conservators which really opened our eyes to the workings of this marvellous gardener. I really do suggest you go visit; the weather incidentally was excellent!

Residents delight as High Court Judge quashes Inspector's decision

from *Kedleston Voice*, 22 June 2017

Kedleston Voice is delighted that the Hon. Ms Justice Lang has quashed the decision made

by the Planning Inspectorate to grant planning permission for 400 houses on the heritage land

adjacent to Kedleston Road, Allestree, Derby. Her decision to dismiss the granting of planning permission on the grounds that it is unlawful has come as a great relief for all those who have campaigned to protect the land and setting linked to Kedleston Hall. An opposite ruling would have meant that the fight had been lost and the planning permission would have been confirmed.

David Anderson, Chair of Kedleston Voice said that 'Residents are delighted by this decision, which vindicates the time spent and monies raised to fight this unnecessary and speculative development on heritage land that is held in great affection by many. We were very concerned by the ruling that was made by the Planning Inspectorate, overruling the democratic decision to refuse planning permission made by Amber Valley Borough Council. Had this decision been allowed to stand, it would have led to the further desecration of heritage land throughout the country. We are very pleased that Historic England supported our case and that common sense has now started to prevail.'

Peter Steer, the claimant and member of Kedleston Voice said 'This was the only sensible and lawful decision that the court could have made. It demonstrates that the power of a predatory developer cannot overrule the law of the land. That said, Kedleston Voice will now have to challenge any appeal made by the Secretary of State or a subsequent planning inquiry should the developer still continue with their application. It is crucial that the fight continues so that the future of this land as a heritage asset is maintained for



The evocative banner under which the community led campaign was fought; and won, for now...

the benefit of future generations.'

Kedleston Voice remains committed to protecting this important heritage land and will continue to fight against any further proposals to develop it. This is important as it is thought that the Secretary of State, who lost the review, is likely to lodge an appeal over this decision. If this is the case, another Judge will assess whether there are grounds for the Hon Ms. Lang's decision to go to appeal. Dependent on the outcome, there are still a number of steps in this appeal route that could follow this until a final decision is made.

Kedleston Voice fully expect any appeal process decision to be made in favour of the residents. In this case, the decision may then revert to another public inquiry. **Helpfully Kedleston Voice's court costs will be reimbursed so there is already funding to continue this fight.**

www.kedlestonvoice.com

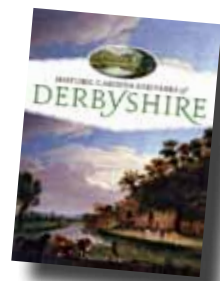
A Victorian Musician and Nurseryman from Derbyshire

Dianne Barre

The truly Victorian enterprise of William Henry Holmes (1783–1855), nurseryman and florist of Sudbury, Derbyshire is revealed through his advertisements and editorial in the local newspaper, the *Derby Mercury*.^{*} His first career was as 'Music and Drawing Master' and, with the patronage of the Vernon family of Sudbury Hall, he organised a very successful annual subscription concert and ball at Uttoxeter between 1818 and 1830. In 1824 he was joined by his eldest son, also

William Henry Holmes (1812–85), a musical prodigy who became a Professor of Music at the Royal Academy of Music at the age of twenty-one and later a nationally known pianist.

Mr Holmes probably had a sound knowledge of plants through his father, a Florist. He decided to set up a small nursery business while continuing to teach music and singing at local concerts. In 1835 he advertised for a manager for his 'small Florist and Nursery Establishment', suitable for a single young



^{*} Accessed via British Newspaper Archive website, an invaluable source of information about C18 and C19 nurserymen.

agenda

man of 'steady habits and content with moderate wages'. By 1837 he advertised as Nurseryman and Florist, but significantly stressed that he bought in the plants 'from several first-rate florists'. The next year he advertised that he had on show all the latest varieties exhibited at the 'Metropolitan Flower Shows', which he had visited to select the newest plants, the 1830s equivalent of the influence of the modern Chelsea Flower Show.

A shrewd businessman, from 1837 Mr Holmes had the brilliant idea of opening his own gardens at Sudbury for visitors to stroll around, and see flowers in bloom, which could be purchased from the nursery. His specialities were carnations and dahlias, with fashionably brightly coloured flowers such as pansies, mimulus, geraniums, petunias, salvias and calceolarias, all for sale in the adjoining nursery.

Then, in an adroit move, Mr Holmes persuaded Queen Adelaide, who lived at Sudbury Hall from 1840–43, to become the patron of his nursery, thereby allowing him to put the royal coat of arms at the top of his advertisements. This also gave him the excuse to celebrate her birthday and to attract the local gentry to his gardens. On 17 August 1842 the *Derby Mercury* reported:

'Festoons of dahlias and laurel were hung from a semi-circular line of pillar roses, facing the public road. The words "Long live Queen Adelaide" were formed with dahlias, and placed along the front of Mr Holmes's house, and had a very pleasing effect. A rustic temple in one of the gardens was covered with dahlias, and made the building appear to be formed entirely of flowers ... and a military band played at intervals ... In the evening the gardens were beautifully illuminated with variegated

lamps and were thronged with visitors.'

His next coup was to obtain the patronage of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert in 1844, allowing him to celebrate three royal birthdays each year and to display three royal names with the Royal Coat of Arms above his advertisements. Further publicity came from his 'Grand Dahlia Shows', and soon he offered a prize of a silver cup worth ten guineas to be competed for by 'those Persons (or their Gardeners) who have purchased Dahlias this year from W. H. Holmes'. In 1842 a military band played with free entry to the gardens, so presumably this venture paid for itself by extra publicity and sales.

By 1846 the nursery had been in business for nine years and Mr Holmes felt it was time for a more sophisticated musical entertainment. So his loyal celebration of Prince Albert's birthday in August was dignified by an afternoon piano recital by Professor W H Holmes (his son) on 'one of Messrs. Broadwood's New Repetition Grand Piano Fortes'. In 1848, at another of these annual shows, the attractions of the gardens were enhanced 'by a remarkably beautiful specimen of artificial ruins ... constructed by Mr Holmes from fragments of the windows and other parts of a church which was taken down in the neighbourhood some time ago ... and being placed in a favourable site forms a highly picturesque and interesting object.'

It may have been the death of his wife and a daughter in 1853 that led Mr Holmes to retire. By then he was over seventy, a pillar of the local establishment. He died in March 1855 and with him the nursery business at Sudbury.

Thornbridge Hall, Derbyshire: Rocks and Reclamation

Dianne Barre

An enthusiasm for recycling is not new, it has happened in gardens since at least the eighteenth century, including re-use of medieval gargoyles, crosses, ecclesiastical and secular arches, windows, doors etc. In Derbyshire, Sir Francis Sacheverell Darwin laid out a rockery using pieces of gothic tracery from his home, Breadsall Priory in the 1830s. Then in the 1850s, the wealthy, but notorious, amateur archaeologist Thomas Bateman scattered around his garden numerous pre-historic and medieval artefacts he

had excavated. However the prize surely must go to Charles Boot (1874–1945) who purchased Thornbridge Hall near Bakewell in 1929.

Mr Boot, an energetic and highly successful businessman owned the Sheffield based Henry Boot Construction firm. Thornbridge Hall was to be used for social and business entertaining and as such was embellished to impress. The previous owner George Marples, another businessman, had purchased the 185 acre (5 ha) estate in 1896 and promptly enlarged the existing house, decorated

it opulently and fitted modern electricity. A large gatehouse, lodges and stable block followed, with his own private railway station nearby. On existing slopes Marples created formal garden terraces using spoil from his new cellars, and created an ornamental pond. Added to this were the Winter Garden with underground caves and cascades, while ornamental rockwork by cascades and pools were created by the well-known Backhouse's Nursery at York. Money



Dianne Barre

was thrown at the gardens for speedy results. Mr Marples intended to show his wealth and success, as did Mr Boot when he acquired this desirable property after the death of Marples in 1929.

Moreover Charles Boot had the perfect occupation to further develop his terraced gardens, since besides his construction work on a large scale and successful he also dealt with demolition. A contract to work on Clumber Park, Nottinghamshire, demolished in 1938 after a fire, gave the ideal opportunity to acquire an eclectic collection of temples, statuary, urns and balustrading. Of variable quality, but impeccable provenance, these were placed around the gardens within the existing layout. In fact such was Mr Boot's enthusiasm for embellishing his grounds, that he seems to have run out of suitable sites for this and other spoils, and rather desperately used every suitable or unsuitable place available. Having also acquired Sydnope Hall, he removed the top two tiers of a large fountain from its garden terrace and sited them in a new basin in the centre of his orchard, adding four classical statues of the Four Seasons to one side. These were a gift from the Greek government, partly in return for his gift to them of Chantry's statue of George Canning, removed from Thornbridge's Winter garden.

Given the excess of disparate ornament

The gardens at Thornbridge today are looking as good as they ever have

throughout the gardens, the result should be daunting, but one soon adapts to the exuberance and joyous profusion of temples, benches, statues within the larger scheme of formal terraces, (enhanced by the Clumber ballustades), and rockwork streams, ponds and grottos. In fact it comes as little surprise to learn that Charles Boot established the Pinewood Film Company in 1934 on his Buckinghamshire estate, for Thornbridge gardens might well be a film set.

The estate was sold in 1945, with the house used as a teacher-training college until 1997. The current owners, Jim and Emma Harrison, continue the original tradition of imaginative embellishment and restoration of house and garden, adding a new Scented Garden Terrace in 2011. The gardens are open to the public in summer.

Historic Gardens and Parks of Derbyshire by Dianne Barre was published by Windgather Press in April, priced £25.

If an editor may be permitted a little by way of self indulgence, I am pleased to mark our '100th issue' with Dianne's second article in celebration of one of my great grandfather's delights, his home and garden in Derbyshire. I keep meaning to get round to writing his biography, to correct a few myths and perhaps tell a few tales of my own.

Charles Boot

other exhibitions, courses and events

please note these are **not** GT events, appropriate contact details are given for each event

Adrian Berg: A Time and a Place Exhibition at Hall Place & Gardens, Bexley 10am to 5pm, continues until 3 September

The exhibition of painted landscapes featuring Regent's Park and Kew Gardens in London; Stourhead in Wiltshire and Beachy Head on the south coast of England continues.

Hall Place & Gardens, Bourne Road, Bexley, Kent DA5 1PQ or www.hallplace.org.uk

Exhibition: Putting Plants in their Place continues until 17 September

The exhibition showcasing Joseph Hooker's work through Kew's unique historic collections.

See: joseph.hooker@kew.org

Exhibition: 'Capability' Brown in Kent continues until 31 July, library opening hours

Kent Gardens Trust and the Kent History and Library Centre (KHLC) are collaborating to continue the celebration of the 300th anniversary of the birth of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown. In 2016 Kent GT published 'Capability Brown in Kent' and this exhibition illustrates



Brown's five commissions in Kent, at Chilham Castle, Leeds Abbey, Valence, Ingress and North Cray Place together with relevant artefacts from KHLC's archive collection.

At Kent History and Library Centre, James Whatman Way, Maidstone ME14 1LQ. Entry free.

The Garden at War: Deception, Craft, and Reason at Stowe Courtauld Institute with Aganippe Arts Conference at Stowe House, Bucks MK18 5EH 10:30am to 6pm, Saturday 8 July

This symposium aims to consider the gardens at Stowe as a site of conflict between order and disorder by examining a range of architectural, poetic, and artistic production. It brings together new explorations from leading experts on the fundamental nature of artistic collaboration to the production of a garden design. In doing so we may reflect that all artistic production exists within an intricate and complex web of relations and influences; both contemporary, historical, and

experiential. In this way the garden can be read as a reflection of the society from which it is born and that in which it continues to exist.

Day begins with optional tours of Stowe House. Speakers are James Cahill on *Concrete Metamorphoses*, Ian Hamilton Finlay's *'The Errata of Ovid'*, 1983; Dr Joy Sleeman on *War correspondence, artistic encounters in the garden and beyond*; after lunch, Joseph Black on *Nature into Culture, the Garden at War*; Patrick Eyres on *Neo-Classicism on Active Service, C18 gardens, imperial warfare and the avant-gardening of Ian Hamilton Finlay*; Prof. Stephen Bann on *Gardens Great and Small: Finlay and Shenstone*. Tea will be followed by a panel discussion with Joseph Black and Antoine Espinasseau in conversation.

Cost: £16.50 (plus Eventbrite booking fee).

Lunch available for extra £5.

and an Exhibition

10am to 4pm daily, 8 July to 9 September

A unique and important opportunity to support the development of the arts in Britain and to provide economic and renewed cultural interest in Stowe House and Gardens. Our exhibition programme **The Garden at War: Deception, Craft, and Reason** is to be a large and complex installation of historic and contemporary artwork inside the house at Stowe, with an important new publication.

Rustic Retreats: Grottos and Hermitages in the 18th Century Garden

Conference at Wrest Park, Bedfordshire

10am to 5pm, Thursday 13 July

A Conference exploring the fascinating world of grottos, hermitages and root houses. These intriguing buildings, though often overlooked, offer insights into the interface between literature, antiquarianism, mysticism and garden design in the 18th century. Papers will be exploring their origins, popularisation and decline; the cultural, horticultural and aesthetic context in which they were created, and recent efforts to survey and restore them. The conference is being held at Wrest Park with an opportunity to visit the fabulous gardens, including the picturesque Bath House and Mithraic Glade, with its altar and the site of a root house.



Confirmed speakers include **Brian Dix**, garden archaeologist; **Prof. Gordon Campbell**, author of *The Hermit in the Garden*; **Katherine Myers**; **Dr Judy Preston**, **Hazelle Jackson**; **Diana Reynell** and **Daniëlle Westerhof**.

Cost: £20 with lunch and refreshments. To book tickets: 0370 333 1183 (8.30am to 5.30pm, Mon to Fri; 9am to 5pm, Saturday) or contact: andrew.hann@english-heritage.org.uk or emily.parker@english-heritage.org.uk

Gertrude Jekyll and the Arts & Crafts Garden Oxford of University Department of Continuing Education course
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.

www.conted.ox.ac.uk

Parks: Our Shared Heritage Exhibition at the Mall Galleries, London
10am to 5pm everyday, 27 July to 11 August

This exhibition highlighting the rich history of London's Royal Parks is a collaboration between the Royal Parks, the Hearsurn Collection and the Office of Public Works, Ireland. In addition to the Royal Parks in London, the exhibition includes the history of Phoenix Park, Dublin which was formed in 1662, as Ireland's only royal deer park.



©The Hearsurn Collection

Fleet at anchor on the Serpentine, 1814

Key moments in the history of the Royal Parks are explored, including The Great Exhibition of 1851 hosted by Prince Albert. There is also a fascinating insight into the parks' connection with other prominent historic figures including the Royal Family and Prime Ministers. In 1851 the Royal Parks of London became public parks.

They were extensively used by Government to aid the military effort in both World Wars of the 20th century and the exhibition includes photos of soldiers performing drills with rifles in the Serpentine Lake, and of Hyde Park being used as a salvage depot.

Daniel Hearsurn from the Hearsurn Collection points out that the exhibition is an unique opportunity to see how these historic parks have evolved, 'With hundreds of previously unseen images and unknown stories; including dueling and riots in Hyde Park, the Temple of Peace in The Green Park, destroyed by fire within 90 minutes, a secretary walking her leopard through Kensington Gardens in the swinging sixties and Marble Arch in its original position, in front of Buckingham Palace.'

Alton Towers guided tours of house & gardens Warwickshire Gardens Trust
10.30am to 4.30pm, Wednesday 9 August

The day starts with a tour of the house with Father **Michael Fisher** of the Pugin Society and after a break for lunch, **Sarah Ashmead**, the Landscape and Gardens advisor to Alton Towers will lead a walk around the gardens. Tea and Coffee will be available on arrival.

There has been a house on the site since the late C17th. However, most of the development took place under the 15th and 16th Earls of Shrewsbury who began an extensive remodelling over some 50 years from 1800. Pugin arrived relatively late in the process, starting work in 1837 and remodelled the interiors in the 'Gothic Revival' style. The deaths of Pugin and the 16th Earl in 1857 marked the beginning of a long decline. Following a court case in 1860 which depleted much of the 18th Earl's wealth, and most the furniture and fittings designed by Pugin were sold. The house suffered structural deprivations in the 1950's and was burnt out, leaving the shell of the house that remains today.

The grounds became the main focus of the 15th Earl who made improvements to the gardens by the house with a Canal, terrace and a circular pond amongst others. However, the main emphasis was on a deep valley to the east of the house where a carriageway along the top gave views of the gardens below culminating in the Pagoda sited at the bottom of the valley in its own lake and fountain. Other garden buildings were sited on the opposite side of the valley. A Conservatory designed by Robert Abraham

other exhibitions, courses and events

Kemp Walks in Cheshire's Parks to celebrate the bicentenary of Edward Kemp

Edward Kemp was a leading 19th century landscape gardener and Superintendent of Birkenhead park.

Queen's Park, Crewe

11am, Saturday August 19

Meet beside the clock tower

Email: elaine.webster@ansa.co.uk

or phone: 01270 686 708

Congleton Park, Congleton

2pm, Saturday 24 September

Meet outside Stock at the Pavilion, the cafe in the park

Email: ruth.morgan@ansa.co.uk

or phone: 01625 383 673

in 1821–24 has seven glazed cast-iron domes with pineapple finials. These structures were accompanied by a large scale introduction of trees and shrubs, especially heaths, azaleas, maples and rhododendrons, creating a series of green walks.

Parts of the house, gardens and Conservatory have been the subject of restoration in recent years.

Cost £20. Contact: Paul Baker, 1 Appletree Cottages, Old Warwick Road, Rowington CV35 7BS, or download a Booking Form from: www.warwickshiregardenstrust.org.uk

Hampshire Gardens Trust

Hampshire GT has been running a series of one-hour afternoon talks in the comfortable cinema at **Hampshire Record Office**, Winchester. Talks begin at 2pm are bookable in advance at £8, or £10 on the door, details and booking form can be found on: www.hgt.org.uk

'Remarks on Forest Scenery', the Revd Gilpin, the Picturesque & the New Forest. by Sally Miller

2pm, Tuesday 19 September

The History of the British Rock Garden by Janice Bennetts

2pm, Tuesday 17 October

The Temple in the Landscape: Italy & the English Landscape Garden Conference at Painshill, Surrey

9am to 5.30pm, Wednesday 20 September

The English Landscape Garden is, by definition, English. However, it owes much to the Italian landscape and culture. Join us to study several of these elements and influences, considering Italy at periods ranging from classical to Renaissance and 18th century. With lectures from leading experts in the field, this informative conference is set to provide an extra dimension to thinking about, and responding to, the rich tapestry of the British landscape garden.



Painshill Park Trust

Painshill's soon to be restored Temple of Bacchus

Our speakers are **Chris Sumner** on *Il Signor, Kent and Italy*; **Prof. John Harrison** on *Classical Rome and its Influence*; **Prof. Tim Mowl** on *Bridging the Political Divide, Palladian Bridges and the Whig connection*; **Clare Ford-Wille** on *C17 painters of the Roman Campagna and their influence upon the English Landscape Garden*; **Michael Symes** on *The Impact of the Grand Tour on Designing and Viewing Gardens*; **Cherrill Sands** on *The Restoration of the Temple of Bacchus*.

Cost: £90, students: £70. Includes Lunch, refreshment, guided tour of the Temple site and glass of Painshill sparkling white wine! To book: 01932 868 113 or: www.Painshill.co.uk/conference

Glass and Glass Houses Walled Kitchen Gardens Network Forum Saturday 23 to Sunday 24 September

The Forum for 2017 is a weekend event. Speakers on Saturday are: **Sarah Wain & Jim Buckland**, Head Gardeners of West Dean Gardens for nearly 25 years; **Simon Harrison** of the Victorian



Charles Boot

Chilis form a key part of the displays at West Dean

Glasshouse Company; **Chris Sawyer**, Director at Alitex; **Ben Hope**, head gardener of private estate with restored walled garden near Petersfield, Hants. After lunch there will be tours of West Dean's walled kitchen gardens with Sarah and Jim, followed by tea and discussion. There is an optional extra dinner at West Dean on Saturday evening. On Sunday we leave West Dean for a tour of other walled gardens, including **Petworth** and **Whithurst Park**, Kerdford. There is an optional tour of the **Alitex factory** on Friday afternoon (tbc).

Tickets include talks, lunches, refreshments, entry and tours of the gardens at West Dean Gardens on Saturday and the gardens we visit on Sunday. Forum Fee: £130. Saturday only: £75 Sunday only: £55. Contact: Lucy Pitman, 19 Bishopstrow, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 9HN, or: 01985 847408 or email: lucypitman@virginmedia.com www.walledgardens.net

Historic Gardens: restore, preserve, or conserve, making choices
Northern Ireland Heritage Gardens Trust
25th Annual Conference at Lissadell, Co. Sligo
Thursday 5 to Saturday 7 October

Retaining the historic integrity of our significant heritage parks and gardens is essential in their ongoing management and conservation. This necessitates a comprehensive evaluation of their content, design and history. However, while detailed investigation into the original form of gardens and parks is an essential aid to accurate repair and renewal, it often highlights tension between preservation, reconstruction and simple

enhancement. Discovering the directions to take, how and why, is the underlying theme of this year's NIHGT conference.

Lying at the foot of Ben Bulbin, ten miles from Sligo on the north shore of Sligo Bay, Lissadell, is one of the most delightfully situated demesnes in Ireland. Its sweeping parkland surrounds a large austere classical house of 1831–35, the ancestral seat of the Gore Booth family until its sale in late 2003. One of its many features is the restored stable yard and riding house, the venue of our conference. Since 2004, the present owners, Edward Walsh and Constance Cassidy, have initiated a major programme of restoration of the house, yards and both the walled gardens; this work is ongoing.



Lissadell House and Gardens

In the gardens at Lissadell, Co. Sligo, June 2017

On **Thursday** evening there is a welcome by Mike Snowden and a talk by John Sales on *Significance, Dead and Alive?*

Our **Friday** speakers are: Christopher Gallagher on *Mystery Plays, Restoration Dramas & the Rise of Significance: parks and gardens management since the mid-1980s*; Brian Dix on *Here's one that was made earlier, thirty years' experience of archaeology and garden reconstruction*; Neil Porteous on *Restoration, Reconstruction and Reinvigoration at Mount Stewart, Co. Down*.

After lunch we continue with **Edward Walsh** on *Restoring Lissadell, a work in progress* with a tour of Lissadell park and gardens. After Dinner at the Riding House, Lissadell, our final speaker

other exhibitions, courses and events

is Richard Wheeler on *The Renaissance of the Renaissance Garden, restoring formality*.

Saturday starts with Seamus O'Brien on *Restoration of the gardens at Kilmacurragh, Co. Wicklow*; Catherine Fitzgerald on *Rejuvenation of the gardens at Hillsborough Castle, Co. Down*; Alan Ryan on *'Diamond in the mine', the restoration of Colclough walled garden*; Christopher O'Neill on *Ilnacullin; Rejuvenating the Irish Riviera: the OPW's approach to the restoration and rejuvenation of the gardens on Garinish Island, West Cork*. After Lunch we conclude with Todd Longstaff-Gowan on *Kensington Redivivus: the recent refurbishment of the gardens at Kensington Palace*; Gretta Doyle on *'(It) captivates the eye at a distance, invites an approach, and is delightful when near', restoring the park and gardens at Castletown, Co. Kildare*; and Adam Whitbourn on *Sympathetic garden management, is it all Blarney?*

Conference fee: £150, €190, student rate: £50, €70. Download the Booking Form and programme from: www.nihgt.org

Marvellous Melbourne: the challenge of Change Australian GHS Annual Conference 2017 Melbourne, Victoria, Australia Friday 27 to Sunday 29 October

The Society's conference will provide a forum to examine the effects of pressures on public and private gardens and cultural landscapes, with special reference to Melbourne. The extraordinary growth of Melbourne in the 1880s and the legacy of gold provided the wealth to create mansions and gardens and engendered the civic pride that inspired the development of the city's grand parks and avenues. The conference will explore the social and economic pressures, which have in the past and will continue to affect these early foundations and look at the challenges for conservation, urban planning and garden design in adapting to change.

Cost: A\$590, limited places left.

Contact: info@gardenhistorysociety.org.au

Tour of the South Island of New Zealand AGHS Post-Conference Tour with Lynne Walker Tuesday 31 October to Tuesday 14 November

Join me, Lynne Walker, on a journey, exploring my favourite gardens of my homeland, the South

Island of New Zealand. When I left NZ thirty years ago nobody opened their gardens and over the years I have watched the situation change, noticing more and more lovely gardens opening their gates to the public. Even so Richard, my husband and I were amazed when we undertook a ten day reccy of the island earlier this year. The variety and standard of the gardens took us completely by surprise as we visited gardens large and small, town and country, historic and not so old, seaside and alpine, gracious and quirky, with many of international quality.



Lynne Walker

The garden owners themselves, without exception, were welcoming and passionate and included some incredibly knowledgeable plants people, many of whom are recognised internationally. And then of course the gardens are all set against the magnificent backdrop of the South Island itself and we will be experiencing the lakes, mountains, glaciers, valleys and coastlines of one of the most beautiful islands in the world, in my unbiased opinion! And did I mention the food and wine for which NZ has earned such a great reputation?

Some people, on hearing of the length of this tour of just two provinces of a relatively small island have expressed surprise, but believe me it's just the tip of the iceberg and I have had to leave out a number of gardens I would have loved to have included. Nevertheless we will not be racing and will have time to relax, with the occasional half day off, and time for retail therapy! So please come, we are going to have a great time and I promise not to introduce you to too many of my relatives!

Tour commences in Christchurch; the complete itinerary is available on the AGHS website: www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au

Book online through AGHS Melbourne Conference site: www.trybooking.com/NTNT or contact Lynne Walker: (02) 6775 0208 or: gardenwalker@bigpond.com

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Please **tick** the relevant box

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Editor **Garden History**: Dr Barbara Simms

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Membership enquiries

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GT events diary 2017

Monday 25 July	Gilly Drummond Volunteer of the Year Award 2017, closing date
31 August to 3 September	The Gardens Trust Annual Conference: 'Blest Elysium' — Sustainable? with the New Research Symposium and AGM, Plymouth, Devon
Saturday 2 September	Annual General Meeting, Plymouth, Devon
Sunday 17 September	Gosford, East Lothian walks
Wednesday 11 October	Autumn Lecture in Birmingham: Dianne Long on <i>Pleasure and Production</i>
26 & 27 October	Sheffield Conference : New Research on Chinese Gardens and Landscapes
Tuesday 31 October	C20th, Compiling the Record, closing date
November, tbc	Our Annual Family Picnic

and 2018

Jan, Feb, March	London Winter Lecture Series: dates tbc
Thursday 15 March	Spring Lecture in Bath: Professor Stephen Daniels on <i>Revealing Repton: Approaches to the Art of Landscape Gardening</i>
26 March to 8 April	Study Tour: Japan Gardens, Osaka, Hiroshima and beyond
Wednesday 18 April	Spring Lecture in Birmingham: Maria Luczak, on <i>Rivington Terraced Gardens</i>
1 to 2 June	Conference: The Prophet in his own Country, 3 Repton gardens in Norfolk
June (dates tbc)	Study Tour: Designed Landscapes of northern Denmark
Wednesday 26 September	Autumn Lecture in Birmingham: Professor Stephen Daniels on <i>Revealing Repton: Approaches to the Art of Landscape Gardening</i>

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

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

Please make a note of our new publications schedule

GT news deadlines: 14 February, 14 May & 14 October, distribution mid March, mid/late June with Summer Journal & mid November with Winter Journal

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