



www.thegardenstrust.org

The Gardens Trust head office
70 Cowcross Street, London EC1M 6EJ
phone: 020 7608 2409
general email: enquiries@thegardenstrust.org
Company number: 03163187
Registered Charity number: 1053446

GT news 7 Summer 2018
old numbering: **news 103** Summer 2018

contents

news and campaigns

Garden historians honoured	3
AGM notification	3
Calling all members of the National Trust	4
Compiling the Record: update	4
From the back of the Shed – the GT Blog	5
News from the Historic Landscape Project	6
good news – Parlington	9
and not so good	10
<i>Harry and Meghan</i>	12

The Gardens Trust events for 2018 & 2019

The Gardens Trust Annual Conference 2018

Annual General Meeting, Birmingham

Grapevine garden history courses

agenda

Report on Dryburgh Abbey Seminar Day	24
Now and Then: September at Winterbourne	25
14th Mavis Batey Essay Prize winner declared	26

other exhibitions, course, events

in brief

Brown Memorial Fountain dedicated	29
Trent Park, re-creating a country house garden	30
Major accessions to repositories in 2016	30

principal officers

GT events diary 2018 & 2019

**Copy deadline for Winter issue 8: 14 October
for distribution mid November**

Our cover shows **The London Mastaba**, Serpentine Lake, Hyde Park, 2016–18; Christo and Jeanne-Claude. Photo by Wolfgang Volz © 2018 Christo
It's there till 23 September, hard to miss!..

Membership Application

Please **tick** the relevant box

	UK	Europe	World
Member	£35 <input type="checkbox"/>	£40 <input type="checkbox"/>	£43 <input type="checkbox"/>
Joint members	£43 <input type="checkbox"/>	£48 <input type="checkbox"/>	£51 <input type="checkbox"/>
Student / junior*	£10 <input type="checkbox"/>		

* Date of birth (if under 25):
I am at least 16 years of age

Library or other	£75 <input type="checkbox"/>	£80 <input type="checkbox"/>	£85 <input type="checkbox"/>
Corporate member			

	Single	Joint
Life subscription	£700 <input type="checkbox"/>	£1,000 <input type="checkbox"/>

I/we would like to join **The Gardens Trust** in the membership category indicated above

Title (Ms, Dr, Mr, Mrs):

Forename(s):

Surname(s):

Address:

.....

Post Town: Post/Zip Code:

Country:

Phone:

Email:

By providing my email address, I hereby consent to receiving emails from **The Gardens Trust**. We take the privacy of your personal data very seriously. For further information on how we use and look after your personal data, please see the Privacy Notice on our website: thegardenstrust.org/privacy-cookies/

Either: I enclose a cheque made payable to **The Gardens Trust** for £ \$ €

Or: Please debit my credit/charge card number

MASTERCARD MAESTRO/DELTA AMERICAN EXPRESS VISA

□□□□ □□□□ □□□□ □□□□

Valid from: / Expiry date: /

Amount: £ \$ €

Name of card holder:

To pay by Direct Debit contact Membership enquiries

I am a UK taxpayer and wish **The Gardens Trust** to treat all donations I make from this date (including this subscription) as Gift Aid donations. I understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of the Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signed:

Date:

Please complete this form and return to:

**The Gardens Trust Membership, 47 Water Street,
Lavenham, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 9RN, UK**

Garden Historians honoured

The Gardens Trust, county and country gardens trusts, and Historic England are celebrating the great news of two MBEs that have been awarded for achievements in the garden history world.

Steffie Shields is recognised as a great ambassador for garden heritage and her work with the Gardens Trust and county gardens trusts. Her nomination has recognised the breadth, depth and value of her voluntary work, leadership and expertise, and in particular as a 'Capability' Brown scholar. Her MBE citation captures this as 'services to Conservation Heritage'.

The Capability Brown Festival gets a second accolade with John Phibbs' MBE. The honour recognises John as the founder of the festival, his expertise and his enthusiastic work in championing 'Capability' Brown and now, of course, Repton landscapes too.

The two worthy recipients will also readily acknowledge that the honours are a great way of celebrating the successes in the heritage sector and the whole community of people involved in making things happen. As Steffie said on being congratulated via Twitter, "steady on! thank you @thegardenstrust but we are all in this together! I've learned so much from so many... cannot begin to say how much I have appreciated support along the road and hope we can ALL be so proud of #countygardenstrusts achievements in garden conservation and education".

British honours are awarded on merit, for exceptional achievement or service, and the nomination process includes proof of wide support for the award. In the end whether someone gets an honour – and the honour they get – is decided by an honours committee. The committee's recommendations go to the Prime Minister and then to the Queen, who awards the honour. Steffie and John's MBEs show national recognition of the importance of our garden heritage and its conservation work.

Congratulations Steffie, John and everyone at the Gardens Trust and county gardens trusts.

Jenifer White

and further afield

An Order of Australia Medal for Marilyn Kuchel.

We are delighted to share in congratulating



Steffie and Johnny at Petworth

Australian Garden History Society member, Marilyn Kuchel, on being awarded an OAM in the Queen's Birthday Honours List too.

Marilyn has been recognised for her service to horticulture and botanical organisations in South Australia, which includes her work as garden advisor to the National Trust at Beaumont House and as a founder of Open Garden South Australia.

Most recently Marilyn helped organise AGHS's successful Magic Mildura conference in 2017 and has recently stepped into the role of President of the Friends of The Botanic Gardens of Southern Australia, not bad.

A very well deserved award for all your dedication and hard work Marilyn.

The Gardens Trust Annual General Meeting

will take place on **Saturday 1 September 2018** commencing at 4.15pm in the Muirhead Tower Lecture Theatre, University of Birmingham Edgbaston Campus, B15 2TT.

The AGM Agenda is included in the accompanying booklet containing the **Notice and Annual Report**, with campus map and other details, together with a member's proxy voting form.

news and campaigns

Calling all members of the National Trust will you help us?

In its review of nominating bodies to their Council, the National Trust has advised that we, the Gardens Trust, will appear on the ballot paper but will not be a 'recommended' organisation to remain on its Council. This effectively means that the Government's Statutory Consultee will no longer have a voice in representing over 250 historic landscapes in the care of the National Trust.

Our Gardens Trust and County Gardens Trust members, who are also members of the National Trust, have a chance to ensure that our views on historic landscapes continue to guide the National Trust's work by using your vote to champion the Gardens Trust to remain an effective member of National Trust Council!

We all need to remain vigilant and work collaboratively with professionals, our members and County Gardens Trusts who have a major role to play in protecting these sites for future generations to enjoy.

The NT's AGM Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 20 October 2018 at the STEAM Museum in Swindon. Information will be sent to NT members and available on their website from early September. Last year there were only about 30,000 members using their vote, out of a total of 5 million+ members...

Compiling the Record: update Post-1945 designed landscapes listing project

Progress on the project is going well. The headline update points are:

- 1 Slight delay with instruction to proceed due to Historic England's initial Project Manager unexpectedly taken ill. The new PM, Conor Sandford, is now in place. Karen Fitzsimon of Osmunda Projects met him and Deborah Mays at a progress meeting on 8 May at HE offices.
- 2 A total of 112 nominations have been received.
- 3 The data from all nominations has been entered to a spreadsheet and gaps in information identified. The gaps are being filled by desktop-based research.
- 4 Each proposer has been written to requesting site photograph/s and where necessary any other missing data. Some of this data has been received. The closing date given to proposers

for receipt of the information was 18 May, 2018.

- 5 A spreadsheet provides a synopsis of the nominations received, sorted by landscape typology as used on The Gardens Trust campaign page. It provides the name of the site, its location, the key dates for the work and the name of the designer/s.
- 6 Other data that has been captured but not shown on the spreadsheet includes site ownership, the reason it has been nominated, the name and contact details of the proposer, any designations associated with the site (such as Conservation Area or if associated building/s might be listed for example), who holds copyright for site photograph/s, links to any other sources of information. This data will be incorporated into the final report.
- 7 Where a site is entered more than once it represents more than one nomination. One site in Scotland was nominated and is shown on the list. However being outside of HE's remit it is excluded from the project and the proposer has been advised accordingly. HE may wish to share the proposal with Historic Environment Scotland.
- 8 Some sites have been nominated as being in more than one category. This information has been handled by assuming that the first category entered by the proposer as being the main category; the expert assessment panel to be established by HE may chose to concur or otherwise.
- 9 Total number of nominations per principal category as follows:

Cemeteries: 22	Civic Spaces: 2
Commercial Sites: 11	Country Parks: 5
Gardens: 41	Housing sites: 8
Infrastructure sites: 4	Institution sites: 8
Parks: 9	Sports sites: 1
- 10 Key tasks remaining:
 - complete 'existing listing' status check for all sites;
 - obtain all site photographs (in progress);
 - use MAGIC Map to obtain OS map extract for each site;
 - complete all site 'ownership' information;
 - edit the draft / work in progress final report and insert site photo and OS map;
 - prepare slide show presentation; •submit the completed report to client/s

Karen Fitzsimon

From the back of the Shed – the GT blog

Dr David Marsh

Just to let you know that the GT is now the (proud?) possessor of a blog which you can find at thegardenstrustblog.wordpress.com. Should you be inclined to sign up using the Blog Button on our website, or by scrolling down to the bottom of any post (after you've enjoyed it!) and enter your email address, it will then drop into your email box early every Saturday morning.



Bingham's Melcombe House, Dorset, early 1950s, by **Rena Gardiner**, subject of one recent posting...

Way back in 2013 I was asked if I'd like to join the board of directors of Parks and Gardens UK and as part of their attempt to raise the profile and appeal of the database I started a blog. To be honest when I started I didn't really know what a blog was. I wasn't particularly IT-literate, and certainly had never got involved in social media, whatever they were. The few blogs I'd looked at seemed very superficial (a couple of photos and a couple of paragraphs of nothing much), and certainly not enough to engage attention for more than a few seconds. But I was also teaching classes about garden history to people who seemed enthusiastic and curious, who were always wanting to follow up with further reading and research. I decided to write the blog for them, and potentially others who wanted more than a pretty picture and a simplistic summary that told you nothing you didn't already know. Little did I know what I was taking on.

The first one or two pieces were hard work. Worries about pitching the language at the right level, finding appropriate images, to say nothing of choosing something suitable to write about

in the first place, or how much to write and how often? I worried in case I'd run out of subject matter and of course I wondered if anyone would read it anyway. And how to spread the word? There are lots of people interested in garden history (even if they don't always know it yet!), but how did I reach them?

The first year was slow progress. It began with a link from the P&GUK website and a news item on the front page. I circulated everyone I could think of, and by the end of 2014 I was able to claim nearly 7000 hits. Gradually momentum picked up. Google searches began to notice pieces that I'd written, and being noticed by google really matters. Other bloggers and websites notice a particular piece and told their readers. I remember one day on particular when I'd just published a piece about leylandii and its history and watching in amazement as the number of hits and visitors started to tick upwards in front of my eyes. At first I thought it must be a technical error before I realised that the piece had been picked up and mentioned by someone with a big following on Facebook. By the end of the day nearly 800 people had read it, or at least looked at what I'd written.

From then on readership grew quite quickly. 25,000 hits in 2015 became nearly 38,000 in 2016 and 46,000 last year. Its still growing fast, with just over 40,000 hits so far this year. I'm obviously hoping that renaming the blog and moving it to the Gardens Trust will keep the momentum going.



National Gallery of Ireland

Swift and Swans Island in the Garden of Delville, Dublin, 1745 by Mary Delany, another recent post

The two questions I'm asked most are "where do you get the ideas from", and "how much time do you spend doing it." Ideas come from all over the

news and campaigns

place and I now have a list of about 150 potential pieces in process or waiting to be written. Some are just titles, others half-finished. Some the result of a visit, others that sprang to mind during research for something totally different, others that arrive from a class or a lecture. I'm usually actively working on 3 or 4 different posts at a time, and always like to have one or two ready to go, just in case. I do spend a lot of time researching and then writing and usually rewriting each piece but I enjoy the whole process and love learning something new for myself at the same time as hoping to entertain those who read it



Christies.com

August Flowers, The Pleasaunce, Overstrand, by Beatrice Parsons, one of the most read posts

It's a strange feeling knowing that something you write is going to be read by lots of other people, particularly people you know. You don't want to disappoint, you don't want to patronise or get pompous and you do want to amuse as well as 'educate' in the widest sense. The pieces I like best are those that are on less well known, even obscure, subjects – which might encourage readers to look at things in a new light. And I'm always intrigued by which pieces are successful and which not. It's a strange mix. Amongst the most popular have been pieces on Beatrice Parsons, an early 20th-century painter, Stumperies, carrots and cucumbers (I kid you not!), as well as the more obvious ones on Repton. But why is there less interest in pieces about menageries, roof gardens, or romantic ruins?

Why not go and take a look for yourself and, if you like what you see, then sign up and have something interesting if not quirky to read over breakfast on a Saturday morning...

News from the GT's Historic Landscape Project Tamsin McMillan, HLP Officer

As you know, the Historic Landscape Project is the Gardens Trust's capacity building project for County Gardens Trusts, with funding from Historic England. We've had a fantastic few months of CGT networking at our Member's Meet-Ups, as well as a call to arms at our Public Parks Crisis training day. We're now busy preparing next season's networking and training days and we hope to see as many as possible of you there.

HLP Networking Events Meet Ups

These one day events are free to attend and are open to all members of any CGT and the Gardens Trust, no matter where in the country they are held. Each meeting includes updates from CGTs on their conservation, education and research and recording work; as well as a main speaker from an external heritage organisation or CGT. Meet Ups have a friendly and informal atmosphere and all attendees are encouraged to chip in. Do please encourage other members who are not actively volunteering to come along too and learn more about the varied and valued voluntary work undertaken by CGTs.



Tamsin McMillan

A display showing details of SCAPPS' planning successes in Southampton

On Thursday 15 February 2018, we held an astonishingly well-attended Meet Up at **The Butterfly House, Sherborne Castle, in Dorset**. 33 attendees came, from seven CGTs. It was quite a

squeeze, amongst the potted lemon trees in the orangery! **Chris Archibald** told us about his wide-ranging review of public parks in Gloucestershire, for Gloucestershire Gardens and Landscapes Trust; we heard from **Graham Linecar** about SCAPPS' (the Southampton Commons and Parks Protection Society) successes in influencing planning policy to prevent inappropriate development in and around parks; and **Sarah Fitzgerald** updated us on the numerous and varied conservation and restoration projects which have benefitted from Dorset Gardens Trust's Small Grants Scheme.

External speakers, **Philip White** and **Daniele Agostini**, of Hestercombe Gardens Trust, gave us the happy news that work to update and improve the **Parks and Gardens UK** database is progressing well and it is hoped that new research contributions from CGTs will be able to be uploaded this summer (see p.9, for more on the **Parks & Gardens UK** database).



Tamsin McMillan

Jonathan Sharpe, updating us on the campaign to protect Painshill, at our Cowcross Street Meet Up

Our Meet Up in **The Gallery, Cowcross Street**, London, on Thursday 22 March attracted 19 attendees, from six CGTs. **Helen Monger**, Director of London Parks and Gardens Trust, described the immense amount of preparation required to prepare their annual Open Garden Squares Weekend: more than 900 volunteers, 202 gardens, 27 local authorities and, last year, 45 000 visitors! This year's event was on the weekend of 9 and 10 June, more details at www.opensquares.org

Jonathan Sharpe, of Painshill Park Trust, Surrey, described the severe threats to Painshill's Grade I Registered landscape posed by the planned changes to the M25 and A3 roads.

Vicky Basford, Research Officer for the Isle of Wight Gardens Trust, told us about their production of an Historic Environment Action Plan (HEAP) for the island. This included detailed research on 14 designed landscape categories and the report is now helping to steer the activities of the Trust, as well as informing local planning authorities.

Discussion at both events was wide-ranging but a few highlights emerged, which are of interest or concern to many of you, including:

- the skills shortage in the horticulture sector – the loss of horticulture courses and the problem of horticulture too often being seen as a poor career choice;
- the difficulty of recruiting the next generation of volunteers, particularly those willing to help with planning responses.

You can find presentations from these events on the Networking section of our Resource Hub, at thegardenstrust.org/conservation/hlp-hub/networking-materials/.

HLP Training Days

Our Public Parks Crisis Training Day was held at **Abington Park Museum**, Northampton, on Thursday 26 April. Public parks historians **David Lambert** and **Katy-Layton Jones** took us through the background to the crisis, including the joyful, HLF-funded renaissance of the 1995–2010, to the current crisis, during which many parks are forced to manage on little or no funding. **Erika Diaz Petersen**, HE Heritage at Risk Landscape Architect for the East Midlands, described the help offered by the Heritage at Risk Programme.



Tamsin McMillan

On the restored Bandstand at Abington Park

news and campaigns

The Friends of Abington Park then led a tour of the park, where their ongoing hard work was much in evidence, and we finished up with some practical advice and inspiring examples of the many triumphs achieved by CGTs in helping to protect and enhance the parks in their county.

Thanks to our expert speakers, enthusiastic audience and wonderfully energetic Friends of Abington Park, this at times upsetting wake-up call left delegates fired up and armed with the tools and determination needed to help protect our underfunded and underprotected public parks.

You can find presentations and handouts from the day on our resource hub.

The final part of our three-part Planning Training Package, the 'Full Monty', was scheduled for 2 March at the Goods Shed in Tetbury, Gloucestershire. Unfortunately Gloucestershire experienced the heaviest snowfall of the year on the day, and we had to postpone the event. We rescheduled for Monday 11 June, when the weather was very different.

Our session was aimed at for those who already had some experience of responding to planning applications and our team included: **Victoria Thomson**, Head of Planning Advice at HE, on significance and planning policy; **Chris Gallagher**, Historic Landscape Consultant, on dealing with planning appeals; and **Kate Harwood**, of Hertfordshire Gardens Trust, on her long-running involvement with planning issues at Panshanger. Attendees should have left this session knowing all they ever wanted to about the UK planning process and armed with the tools needed to protect vulnerable landscapes.

Keep an eye on the events page of our website for other training events coming up in 2018/19. These will include:

- Training workshops with our Conservation Casework Manager, Alison Allighan, on using our online Conservation Casework Log. If you'd like to find out more about the Log, please contact Alison: conservation@thegardenstrust.org
- Part one of our three-part Planning Training Package, in Yorkshire
- A hands-on training day with the Woodland Trust, this autumn.

Resource Hub

We regularly update our Resource Hub, located

on the Gardens Trust website at: thegardenstrust.org/conservation/hlp-hub/. Here, you can find presentations and handouts from all our training and networking days, as well as up to date guidance by both the Gardens Trust and external heritage organisations, on all aspects of designed landscape research, conservation and education.

Recent additions include:

- Networking: presentations and notes from our Dorset and London Members' Meet Ups
- Training: presentations and handouts from our Public Parks Crisis Training Day
- Guidance – Charity Management: new advice for CGTs on GDPR requirements

Please get in touch if you would like me to add any materials from your CGT to the Hub. This is a great way to share your Trust's knowledge and experience.

Website Forum

Don't forget to use our new online forum if you have a CGT-related question or problem you think another CGT could help with. Register here: thegardenstrust.org/conservation/forum/ and help to make this a really great resource.

Social Media

Remember to follow us on Twitter and Facebook just follow the links from our website. We find social media invaluable for letting you know about all our training and networking events, so please do make sure that you Like and Follow us, so that you can continue to receive our news.

Keep in Touch

As ever, do let us know how you think the Historic Landscape Project can best help to support your County Gardens Trust. Email me, Tamsin: tamsinmcmillan@thegardenstrust.org
Linden: lindengroves@thegardenstrust.org
or Margie: margiehoffnung@thegardenstrust.org

Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust: Enriching the List

Clare Butler, a Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust volunteer, has just completed a mammoth and painstaking exercise, adding links to BGT's research dossiers, which cover more than 50 sites researched since 2014.: www.bucksgardenstrust.org.uk/locally-important-sites to over 120 listed building entries on the National Heritage List, as

part of the Enriching the List project. This is a great way to not only share your research and increase awareness of historic designed landscapes, but also to raise the profile of your own CGT. You can find more information on this, including suggested wording for your entry, on our Resource Hub at [Guidance/Research and Recording](#).



Parks & Gardens UK database

P&GUK are now seeking feedback from CGT research and recording volunteers. They are updating their research recording form (please contact me for a copy) and would welcome your suggestions on how this could be improved.

It would be helpful if you could you organise your responses so that each CGT nominates one representative to send feedback to P&GUK. P&GUK is seeking individual responses from either two or three volunteers per CGT, or a summary of feedback from one or more person per CGT.

Please send your comments to **Daniele Agostini**: daniele.agostini@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Philip White, of Hestercombe Gardens Trust, will be joining us once again at our Summer Conference in Birmingham, and will be telling us more about the progress being made on P&GUK at its new home in Somerset.

Good News: Parlington update

In *GT news 5 Autumn 2017* I reported the inclusion in the *Register of Historic Parks and Gardens* of the Parlington Estate, Aberford, Leeds, West Yorkshire (Grade II), and the immediate challenge to this decision from the owner, M&G Real Estate, requesting that the site should be deleted from the *Register*. The successful inclusion on the *Register* was the welcome result of research begun when the site was included in Leeds City Council Site Allocations Plan (SAP), with a threat of thousands of houses plus related infrastructure.

Following the challenge, HE carried out a review,



Dick Knight

The newly listed Light Arch, Parlington: this carried the 18th-century drive to the house over Parlington Lane, from the Great North Road. The ancient Parlington Lane was used as a wagon way, transporting coal from the Gascoigne mines, below the sight-lines from the house. The Arch was raised in 1837 to allow locomotives to haul the coal wagons.

and the result was announced on 21 June: the entry has not only been retained on the *Register* but the text 'has been amended to clarify and highlight the significance and survival of the former deer park and the arable land, and also to clarify the dates of Home Farm and the Stallion Pens following further research'.

Only a few days before this decision, HE had also announced that they had added a further seven built structures in the historic Parlington landscape to The National Heritage List for England (including the Stallion Pens, Home Farm, and the Dark and Light Arches).

The government inspectors' Examination for Leeds SAP will hear submissions re Parlington on 1 August, including those from HE and the YGT. The inspectors recently asked Leeds CC if the selection of the site was still justified, given its *Register* entry. And now, with a strengthening of the *Register* text, and the addition of seven more listed buildings on the NHLE, the Council's case has been further weakened.

However, although this skirmish has favoured Parlington, the fight continues, and a huge amount of money and housing target planning is at stake. And perhaps this is at least a lesson to other developers who try to challenge an HE listing: be careful what you wish for.

Susan Kellerman

news and campaigns

And not so good...

The Gardens Trust and County Gardens Trusts are dismayed by the outcome of three cases in just the first few weeks of June where the planning system has lamentably failed to protect *Registered Parks and Gardens*, despite our formal objections to the proposed developments. Decisions that will detrimentally impact the heritage value of **Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal** (Grade I and a World Heritage Site), **Warmley Gardens** (Grade II registered) and **Newark Park** (also Grade II) have demonstrated just how vulnerable and under-protected our *Registered Parks and Gardens* remain.

Alison Allighan and Margie Hoffnung

Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal

In North Yorkshire, developers had made an application to build 390 houses adjacent to Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal, the Grade I Registered Park and World Heritage Site. Last year this was refused planning permission by Harrogate District Council, following staunch objections from the GT, Yorkshire Gardens Trust and the NT. This decision was appealed by the developers and we were all dismayed to learn that the Secretary of State has upheld the appeal and approved the development.

Warmley Gardens

Warmley Gardens, also in Gloucestershire, is a Grade II registered park lying within the Warmley Conservation Area, which contains a Grade II* house, eight other listed structures, and a Scheduled Ancient Monument. An application has been made to extend the already extensive mobile home park which covers the bed of the former lake, obstructing the large 18th century, Grade II-listed statue of Neptune, which can be seen towering above the mobile homes (right), an important feature of the now sadly neglected grounds. South Gloucestershire did not notify the Gardens Trust about the application for the construction of eight additional hardstanding bases for caravans, but luckily we were alerted to it by the Avon Gardens Trust.

Unfortunately, in 1963 the local authority allowed a Certificate of Lawful Development, which did not include any restriction on the number of caravans. The case went to appeal and the Inspector took the view that the Article 4 Direction could not override this and granted

permission for the development. We are therefore having to live with a decision made over 50 years ago, when the heritage of parks and gardens was less well recognised. We hope that we will at least be able to influence the positioning of the new caravans so that they do not block access for the vehicles of volunteers from the Kingswood Museum who maintain the gardens.



Margie Hoffnung

Newark Park's Monkey House, underthreat from a National Trust playground proposal!

Newark Park

At the Grade II-registered Newark Park, Gloucestershire, which lies within Cotswold District Council, pre-application consultations were held last year between the National Trust (NT) and Gardens Trust Conservation Officer



Cliveden Conservation

The recently restored Warmley Neptune, and in his bizarre context, towering above a 'sea' of not so mobile homes



Margie Hoffnung about proposals for a new play area. We wrote expressing grave concerns to the National Trust about the location they had chosen, which is a particularly sensitive and tranquil area of the landscape near the so called 'Monkey House', a summer house (left), lake, folly and pergola.

Despite this, we were surprised to find that the National Trust then submitted the application un-altered, and Cotswold have granted planning permission for the play area without consulting the Gardens Trust. While Cotswold District Council have apologised for their omission in not consulting us, it appears that there is little that can now be done.

Saling Grove, Essex

The Repton exhibition at Saling Grove, Essex explores his career and influence from Essex to New York, and looks at the future of the park and gardens Repton designed there. Repton's landscape at Saling Grove is currently under threat from a proposed housing development, so it is particularly timely to honour him with an exhibition this year, when we are Celebrating Humphry Repton.



The exhibition starts by describing his position within the English Landscape Movement. He had to defend his own style and that of 'Capability' Brown in the face of criticism by his former friends, Richard Knight and Uvedale Price. Knight and Price thought Brown's Picturesque style was boring and uninspiring. The main room shows that, in spite of many challenges and changing times, Repton was hard working, thoughtful of his clients and profession, unfailingly optimistic and family orientated.

One surprise, perhaps, was the extent of his influence after his death, particularly on the Victorian formal garden. The re-publication of his books by J.C. Loudon then inspired a new generation. His theories and principles can be seen in designed landscapes in Europe and America, such as Klein-Gliencke Park in Potsdam, Berlin and Central Park, New York, designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, father of American Landscape Architecture.

The exhibition includes a large Victorian map of Essex, with dots showing all his commissions in the county, as well as his own home in Hare

Street, Romford. The map highlights how much has changed and the extent of his travelling!

The biggest surprise was how much Repton was at the centre of late Georgian society. He was of course immortalised by Jane Austen in Mansfield Park and he worked with John Nash, who went on to receive royal patronage and the commission for The Royal Pavilion, Brighton (despite Repton's approved designs). Repton also had a huge variety of clients, from the aristocracy and political elite, such as Prime Minister William Pitt, to self-made industrialists. Repton's fortunes, and his profession of landscape gardening, were affected by Pitt's income tax and the never-ending Napoleonic wars almost throughout Repton's career. His style adapted to these changes.

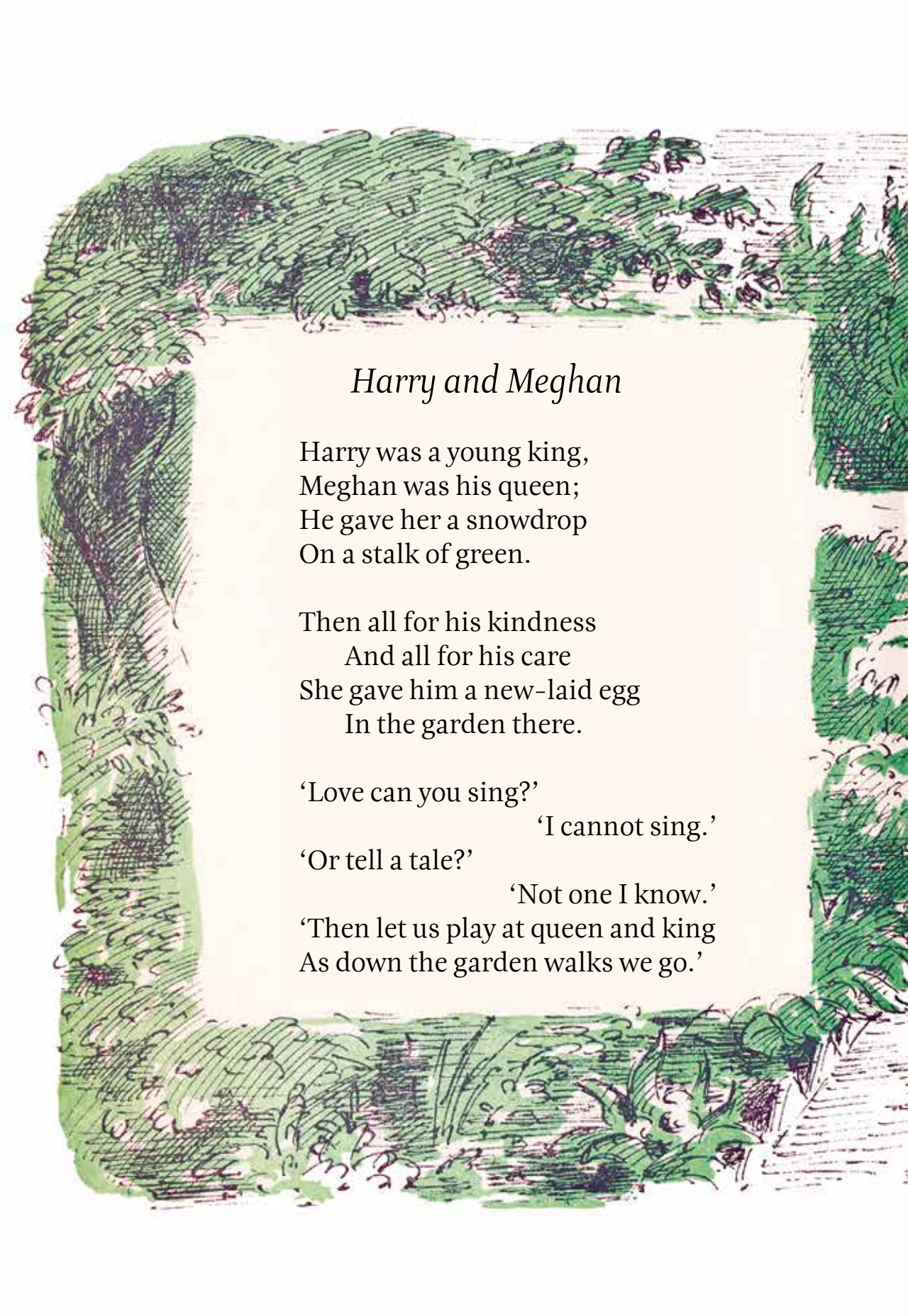
The Repton exhibition ends with a look at the future of his landscape at Saling Grove, which is under direct threat from the creation of a new town with over 10,000 houses. Which is more important: housing development or protecting a heritage setting and landscape?



The exhibition is in the Orangery at Saling Grove, Great Saling, Essex CM7 5DP until the end of August 2018. and you can then enjoy tea and home-made cake in the Walled Garden.

And finally some good news again... Badger Dingle, Shropshire

Thankfully, there is also *some* good news on the conservation front. Following objections from Shropshire Gardens Trust and the GT, Shropshire Council have requested the re-design of an additional, rectangular fish stock pond proposed for Badger Dingle, a Grade II Registered Park, to blend with the existing more naturalistic lakes and fish ponds, together with the preparation of a Heritage Impact Assessment.



Harry and Meghan

Harry was a young king,
Meghan was his queen;
He gave her a snowdrop
On a stalk of green.

Then all for his kindness
And all for his care
She gave him a new-laid egg
In the garden there.

‘Love can you sing?’

‘I cannot sing.’

‘Or tell a tale?’

‘Not one I know.’

‘Then let us play at queen and king
As down the garden walks we go.’



with thanks, and apologies, to Robert Graves and Edward Ardizzone
'Henry and Mary' from *The Penny Fiddle*, 1960

Gardens Trust events for 2018 and 2019 preview

also on our website [www.thegardenstrust.org / events](http://www.thegardenstrust.org/events)



Halswell House, Somerset, 1791. The house and view look very similar today, though Mr Collinson, the artist, may have been guilty of playing around with the scale of things, just a little...

Visit to Halswell House, Somerset Monday 16 July

A few places still available.

See our last issue, or website, for full details.

Cost: £38 Gardens Trust and County Garden Trust members; £45 non-members, to include tea/coffee on arrival, and a sandwich lunch and drink. For the full programme, see our website.

We regret there will be no refunds. Book online using Eventbrite via the Gardens Trust website: www.thegardenstrust.org at no extra fee. For further information or if you wish to book and pay by cheque, please contact Sally Jeffery: sally.jeffery2@gmail.com phone: 0208 994 6969

Members Meet Up, Sheffield 10.30am to 4pm, Tuesday 17 July

An opportunity for Gardens Trust and

County Gardens Trust members to meet each other and discuss ideas, skills and questions. The Agenda will allow for discussions on CGT experiences of Conservation, Outreach and Research & Recording and includes an update from **Linden Groves**, Strategic Development Officer for the Gardens Trust, on the HLF-funded 'Sharing Repton' project.

Meet-Ups are open to all members of any CGT and the Gardens Trust, no matter where in the country they are held. They have a friendly and informal atmosphere and all attendees are encouraged to chip in. Do please encourage your fellow CGT members, who may not be actively volunteering, to come along too and learn more about the varied and valued voluntary work undertaken by many CGTs.

A free event, with suggested donation of £7 towards lunchtime catering. At The Showroom & Workstation, 15 Paternoster Row, Sheffield, S1 2BX.



The Gardens Trust's AGM and Annual Conference 2018, Birmingham

Contact: tamsinmcmillan@thegardenstrust.org for more information or to book a place.

More Meet Ups are planned for:

- Warwick in September;
- Newcastle in November; and in 2019
- Grantham in January 2019: to include a presentation by the Woodland Trust;

• and Hampshire in March 2019.

Northern Ireland Gardens Study Tour Sunday 5 to Saturday 11 August

Fully Booked, with waiting list

Contact: Doreen Wilson, Tuffley Lawn,
14 Ballyrogan Park, Newtownards BT23 4SD
or: doreenwilson123@btinternet.com



Laura Townsend

The Dahlia Border at Winterbourne House and Gardens which should be in flower in time for our Conference visit on Saturday 1 September. The display is aiming to be 'redder' this year...

Annual Summer Conference and AGM Edgbaston, Birmingham

9.30am Saturday 1 to 4pm Sunday 2 September
extra visits Friday 31 August

**Act fast: Closing date for Campus Conference
Hotel rooms is 28 July. Student halls
accommodation has no closing date.**

Conference Booking closes on Friday 10 August.

Although this year's Annual Conference is a shorter one than usual do please be aware of the **two extra free events on Friday** for early arrivals. These are filling up fast, and indeed may be full by the time you book.

Birmingham was and is surrounded by fine gardens as you would expect of the second city of England. You can find more details of these in this year's new publication **Gardens and Green Spaces in the West Midlands**, edited by Malcolm Dick & Elaine Mitchell.



GT news / Summer 2018

Amongst other regional highlights we couldn't fail to mention Hanbury Hall, the National Trust's recreation of George London's gardens created for Thomas Vernon (1654–1721) surrounding a fine house, with its magnificent painted staircase by Thornhill. These formal gardens were swept away by the turn of the century and were only restored over a period of years starting in the 1990s. They thus present a unique chance to see a George London garden coming into its maturity.

Our Conference this year is adding to the rising profile the Gardens Trust is building for itself in Birmingham through the Historic Landscapes Project 'Meet-Ups' (see above), the extension of the Trust's lecture programme in the city and this year's series of **Grapevine** introductory courses on garden history run our two Conference venues at



Joseph Chamberlain in his study at Highbury, with orchid boutonhole; he even took them, on ice, on a voyage to South Africa following the Boer War

Highbury Hall and the University's Winterbourne House and Garden both of which we will be visiting as part of the weekend.

Highbury Hall is the magnificent Venetian Gothic style villa built in 1880 for Joseph Chamberlain (1836–1914), with grounds landscaped largely by Edward Milner. Joseph 'Joe' Chamberlain, father of Neville and Austen was once described by Winston Churchill as the man "who made the weather", and the figure who shaped the political agenda when the British Empire stood at the height of its power.

Awaiting news of its restoration bid with the Lottery, plans are afoot for a major restoration of the house and gardens to restore them to full use by the people of Birmingham and beyond. Joseph Chamberlain was a politician and gardener with a love of orchids (he was rarely seen without an orchid in his button-hole) and rhododendrons. Originally laid out by, and very much typical of, a design by Edward Milner, Joe later developed a taste for the historic revivalism in garden fashion



This postcard view barely hints at the range of show glass houses Chamberlain developed to hold his orchids and other exotics at Highbury

reflected in his Dutch and Italian gardens. We will see all the evidence on our tour of the gardens there; though the orchid collection was dispersed after his death, and the extensive range of show glass houses has not survived.

Winterbourne House's garden was laid out by the Birmingham City industrialist and pioneer of town planning John Nettlefold (of Guest, Keen and Nettlefold). The garden was very much inspired by the books and garden designs of Gertrude Jekyll. John MacDonald Nicolson was the last private owner of the house and also a keen gardener. He developed many new areas, including a scree garden and small alpine features around the garden. Nicolson died in 1944 and bequeathed the house and garden to the University. It's "one of the best surviving examples of an Edwardian Arts and Crafts suburban villa garden," and an RHS 'partner garden,' throughout July.



The Japanese Bridge, Winterbourne

The garden became the University's Botanic Garden and new areas for teaching and plant conservation were developed within the historic layout. After a period of restoration, the garden was Grade II listed by English Heritage in 2008.

The Programme

The Conference will take place in Birmingham on Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 September and be based at two separate but nearby venues: The University of Birmingham's Edgbaston Campus, Edgbaston Park Road B15 2TT and (3.5 km distant) Highbury Hall, Yew Tree Road, Birmingham B13 8QG.

The programme comprises two full days of lectures and site tours to two nearby gardens, the Gardens Trust AGM, the Conference dinner and the New Research Symposium.

Friday afternoon 31 August: Free Extra Visits

We are delighted to offer delegates arriving on Friday afternoon two optional tours. However, numbers are strictly limited and booking will be on a 'first come' basis.

Free Visit 1: at 3.30pm, The Green Heart Project

(maximum 40 places): a guided tour with the designers and managers of the University's striking new parkland, the Green Heart Project.

Due for final completion in 2019, the project will open up the twelve-acre centre of the campus for students, staff and the local community to enjoy. It will provide a space for performances, socialising, meeting and studying, while also opening up views across the whole campus, as envisaged in the 1920s. The new landscape design includes a range of wild flowers, native plants, new trees, water features and nesting sites.

Free Visit 2:

at 5.30pm, a private guided visit to the Cadbury Research Library, the Special Collection

(maximum 20 places). The Cadbury Research Library and archive houses the University of Birmingham's extensive collections of rare books, manuscripts, archives, photographs and associated artefacts. We'll have an introduction to the collection and the opportunity to see some of their items of botanical art/gardening interest and other horticultural matters.

Whilst not part of the Conference, **The Barber Institute of Fine Arts** B15 2TS is only five minutes away from the Muirhead Tower and is open from 10am till 5pm; the city also offers a wide range of cultural attractions including its Art Gallery and Museum, the new Library, and the Museum of the Jewellery Quarter.

Day One: Saturday 1 September

We will be based in the Lecture theatre in The Muirhead Tower, University of Birmingham Edgbaston Campus, B15 2TT.

Registration open from 9.30am in the Atrium of the Muirhead lecture theatre on the ground floor of the Muirhead Tower; Tea/Coffee and biscuits.

10.30: A series of talks and presentations on the civic, estate and park history of Birmingham

from the C19 to today, and of Highbury Hall in particular, plus thoughts on current philosophy and initiatives on park management.

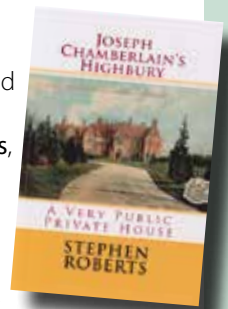
The speakers are: **Stephen Roberts**, an historian of nineteenth-century Britain with extensive publications on Birmingham in the Victorian era who will give us a vivid account what happened in Birmingham in the year that it became a city; author of *Chamberlain's Highbury*, *A Very Public Private House*, 2015.

Professor Maureen Perrie, of the University of Birmingham, who will introduce Joseph Chamberlain's Highbury Hall and the landscape gardening tradition there.

The cultural historian and historical consultant **Katy Layton Jones**, well known to the Gardens Trust for her 2016 report *Uncertain Prospects: public parks in the new age of austerity* explores the theme of 'Celebration or Compensation? The urban context of public parks'; and **Carey Baff**, chair of the Birmingham Open Spaces Forum will introduce the partnership model of the Forum with Birmingham City Parks in managing parks successfully for the community.

A buffet lunch will be served in the Atrium with an opportunity to browse the bookstalls.

2pm (approx): Walk in groups (5 to 10mins) to **Winterbourne House and Gardens** (east side of Edgbaston Park Road); introduction to the Garden by the director, **Lee Hale**, followed by a self-guided tour and an opportunity to buy the new guide book. Return to Muirhead, for tea, AGM at 4.15pm.



The Herb Circle, Winterbourne

The Gardens Trust's AGM and Annual Conference 2018, Birmingham

4.15pm to 6pm: The Gardens Trust Annual General Meeting and committee reports, in the Muirhead lecture theatre.

Tea and bookstalls in Muirhead Atrium. To be followed by a **Drinks Reception** in The Staff House (5 mins walk) and, at about 7pm, the **Conference Dinner** and entertainment; the bar will remain open till late...

Day Two: Sunday 2 September

Our venue moves to Joseph Chamberlain's former home at **Highbury Hall**, Yew Tree Road, B13 8QG. 10.30am: tea/coffee and pastries.

11am to 1pm: New Research Symposium hosted by the happily restored **Dr Patrick Eyres**. Our four speakers are:

Camilla Allen, PhD candidate, Department of Landscape, University of Sheffield on *The Three Cathedrals of Trees: Glencruitten, Whipsnade, and Milton Keynes*.

Cassandra Funsten, Independent Researcher, MA Agricultural Science (Park and Garden Design and Management) University of Palermo, Sicily; (BA English and BA Landscape Architecture, University of California Berkeley) on *The Monastery Garden of the Palermo Archaeological Museum created by Antonio Salinas*.

Elizabeth Michel, Independent Researcher, (PhD Modern European History, New York University) on *The Restoration of the garden in Berlin of the German Impressionist Painter, Max Liebermann*.

Stephen Radley, PhD candidate, Nottingham University, member of Northamptonshire GT on *A Landscape of Aspiration: Charles Tibbits, Humphry Repton and Barton Hall, Northamptonshire*.

As usual the presentations will be followed by a chance to ask questions, an often surprising and informative part of the proceedings. Presentations will not necessarily be given in this order... Followed at 1pm by a hot **buffet lunch**.



Der Garten des Künstlers, Max Liebermann 1918, shows his unusual planting of trees in pathways. I have seen this at the Tiergarten, Berlin, where it works as bike calming! Is this where the idea came from?

2pm: Highbury trustee **Alison Milward** will give a short introduction to the history of, and restoration proposals for, **Highbury Hall**, and its landscape followed by tours of the Hall's highly-decorative interior, and the gardens and grounds.
4pm: Tea and close.

Full booking details in our previous issue, **GT news 6** and on-line. Cost (without accomodation): £240 for GT and CGT members, and £275 for non-members.

Champion Trees and the Lost Gardens of Yester
9.30, noon and 2.30, Thursday 6 September

The story of the changing dynamics of the landscape, gardens and buildings of **Yester**, East Lothian reflect fashions from the 13th century onwards. Remnants of Yester's intriguing history can still be seen on the ground and interpreted, though most of its elaborate gardens have been lost.



Kristina Taylor

An hour of illustrated talks by **Stephanie Leith**, East Lothian archaeologist, **Kristina Taylor** garden historian and **Victoria Fletcher** local historian, and a member of the original family who owned Yester, will be held in Gifford Village Hall.

The talks will be accompanied by a 2-hour walk around the estate with **Donald Rodger** arboricultural consultant to look at the champion trees on the estate and evidence of the lost gardens. Talks and walk to be booked separately through the East Lothian website at Eventbrite.

Many thanks to Gareth and Nicola Woods for generously sharing their gardens and landscape.

Talks at 12 noon at Gifford Village Hall. Donations to the Gardens Trust at door.

Walks: Maximum of 20 participants. Suitable footwear for walking across fields is necessary and rainwear in case of inclement weather.

Not suitable for the disabled. No dogs. Start at 9.30am or 2:30pm, for 2 hours.

Booking via our website, and East Lothian Archaeology fortnight link at Eventbrite.

GT Birmingham Lecture
Professor Stephen Daniels
Revealing Repton: approaches to the Art of Landscape Gardening
Birmingham and Midland Institute
6.30pm, Wednesday 26 September



The final of three lectures given by Stephen Daniels in this special Repton commemorative year. Stephen will be speaking about his long-standing interest in Humphry 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 as this commemorative year continues.

Stephen has said that he is learning more as the year progresses and is delighted to have this chance to revisit Mr Repton's works. As a result of this experience this lecture will differ from the two he has already given in this series.

Cost: £10, GT and CGT members, £12 others. Doors open 6pm, lecture starts at 6.30 and your ticket includes a glass of wine or a soft drink. Book through the GT website. Lecture at the Birmingham & Midland Institute, B3 3BS.

Contact Advolly Richmond: ilex@advolly.co.uk



Discovering the Real Repton
joint event at the Garden Museum
10.30am, Monday 5 November



County Gardens Trusts' researchers from across the country will present short but in-depth talks on their research findings. The programme is still coming together with some excellent speakers.

The final programme will be sent to delegates who have booked closer to the date but we'd like to tempt you with the following outline of the day: We will begin from 10.30 with coffee and registration and a welcome by **Christopher Woodward**, the Museum's Director. The morning session, from 11am, will be chaired by Professor **Stephen Daniels** and the afternoon one, from 2.30pm, by Professor **Tom Williamson**. The order

Gardens Trust events 2018 and proposed 2019

and number of presentations is subject to change.

Our speakers include: **Chris Sumner** of London Parks and Gardens Trust on *Repton in London*; **Sarah Dickinson** of Surrey Gardens Trust on *Tracking down a Hardenberg Basket*; **Toby Parker** of Hertfordshire Gardens Trust on *Repton and the East India Company*; **Steffie Shields** of Lincolnshire Gardens Trust on *'Water in the valley' - Normanton, re-discovering a Red Book*; **Patrick Eyres** of Yorkshire Gardens Trust on *Repton, William Wilberforce, and slavery*; **Judy Tarling** of Sussex Gardens Trust on *'An evening entertainment in Sussex' - Repton the poet, playwright and musician*; **Glynis Shaw** of Welsh Historic Gardens Trust on *Repton and John Nash as partners*; **Kate Harwood** of Hertfordshire Gardens Trust on *'Jack the Giant Slayer' – using research to save a Repton Landscape*; **Hugh Vaux** of Kent Gardens Trust on *Montreal, a Repton landscape interpreted*; **Claire de Carle** of Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust on *'Parrots, Pineapples and Puckler'*.

Questions and discussion will follow the morning session. Lunch is included and will run from 1pm to 2.30 to allow delegates free time to explore the exhibition of **Repton's Red Books** and the Garden Museum's other displays.

The formal part of the day will end at 5pm and be followed by a drinks reception (until 7.30).

Cost: £68 members of the Gardens Trust, CGTs and the Museum, non-members: £78. Use the link from the GT website, or: 0207 608 2409

Our third annual Historic Landscapes Assembly, in York date tbc, November

Our annual national networking event, open to all GT members, CGTs, and external heritage organisations, is planned for November, in York.

We'll send out our full events programme as soon as it is finalised and you'll also be able to find information on our website: thegardenstrust.org/events Do please remember to check our website regularly for details of all our events, and also other events laid on by our related county organisations and friends... If you haven't do sign up for our regular e-newsletter which contains up to date information on our events as well as more general issues involving our wealth of historic parks and gardens and the workings of the Trust.

Sign up by emailing Tamsin: tamsinmcmillan@thegardenstrust.org

Proposed events for 2019, more to follow... The Gardens Trust Winter Lecture Series 2019

The Gardens Trust London Winter lectures for 2019 will be held as usual at The Gallery, Cowcross Street, London EC1. Our series will take place in January, February and March as usual, with exact dates to be confirmed later. Our speakers will include **Professor Tom Williamson** on historic orchards in eastern England, **Dr Barbara Simms** on John Brookes, the famous landscape designer who died earlier this year, **Dr Anna Keay** on the gardens at Kenilworth Castle and **Professor Simon Hiscock**, on the Oxford Botanic Garden and Harcourt Arboretum of which he is the Director.

Full details of dates, speakers and titles will be given on The Gardens Trust website as they become available, with separate items for each lecture, and one for a London season ticket and also with the next **GT news**. We aim to continue our promotion of these lectures at other venues in the coming year as well.

Please contact Sally Jeffery for further details of the London lectures: sally.jeffery2@gmail.com

Industrialists' Landscapes Conference South Wales

Friday 10 to Sunday 12 May, 2019

Save the dates in May 2019 for the WHGT's weekend conference which aims to highlight Industrialists' Landscapes in South Wales.



Merthyr Tydfil Museum

Ironmaster William Crawshay's fantastic castle home, now a museum and school

The weekend will be based in Abergavenny with talks and site visits including one to Cyfartha Castle, ironmaster William Crawshay's house of 1824.

To express an interest in this weekend conference, contact Advolly Richmond: ilex@advolly.co.uk

The Picturesque Garden in England at Rewley House, Oxford

Friday 31 May to Sunday 2 Jun 2019

Held in association with The Department of Continuing Education, University of Oxford, our annual weekend conference takes as its theme, the Picturesque Garden. The Picturesque is one of England's most distinctive contributions to garden history, but it is difficult to define. What is the Picturesque? How does it relate to wider perceptions of the landscape? How did people try to create it? How was it received at the time, and how has it been received subsequently? And how are Picturesque gardens managed today?

This weekend event, held in honour of **Michael Symes** on the occasion of his retirement from co-running our annual Oxford conference, will seek to provide some answers.

There will be a coach trip to Woburn Abbey. The entrance charge for Woburn is included in the tuition fee for the course, along with the cost of the coach. There will be much standing and walking over uneven ground. Please come with suitable footwear and prepared for all weathers.

On Friday 31 May

Registration opens from 6pm, for those who have booked for dinner. Dinner will be followed at 6pm with a talk by **Tom Williamson** on *What is the Picturesque?*

Saturday 1 June 2019

Breakfast is followed by talks from **Stephen Daniels** on *Picturesque Landscape*; **Fiona Stafford** on *Crooked, twisted, blasted trees or tall, straight and flourishing*; **Keir Davidson** on *Humphry Repton at Woburn Abbey*. We then depart for Woburn Abbey and a guided tour of the gardens there. Dinner on arrival back at Rewley House is followed by a talk by **Amy Lim**, *"There is a charm sometimes in having a little fear mingled with one's admiration": sensation and fantasy at Stowe*.

Sunday 2 June 2019

Following breakfast we will hear talks by **Dale Townsend** on *The Peripatetic picturesque: domestic tourism and landscape, 1750–1850*; **Oliver Cox** on *Christopher Hussey, Scotney Castle and the Picturesque: studies in a point of view*; and **Ben Cowell** on *The Picturesque in the 21st century* to be followed by lunch after which the course disperses.

Accommodation

Accommodation for this weekend is at Rewley

House for Friday and Saturday nights only.

Depending on availability it may also be possible to extend your stay, please enquire at the time of booking for availability and prices. All bedrooms are modern, comfortably furnished and each room has tea and coffee making facilities, Freeview television, and Free WiFi and private bath or shower rooms.

Basic fee: £159, full details on click through. Please use the 'Book now' button on our web site. Alternatively, please contact Rewley House to obtain an application form: Rewley House, 1 Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2JA, stating the Course code: O18P131HCR, email: ppdayweek@conted.ox.ac.uk or phone: +44 (0)1865 270380. Applications already being accepted.

Picturesque Landscapes around the Clyde Gardens of the west coast of Scotland

Saturday 15 to Friday 21 June 2019

At the end of the 17th century travellers were making a special journey to view the Falls of Clyde and Cora Linn, one of its spectacular waterfalls on the upper Clyde river (below).



Kristina Taylor

Sublime and picturesque natural landscapes were recognised and valued in Scotland long before the enlightenment theorists of the mid

Gardens Trust proposed events 2019 and Grapevine

18th century became excited in England. This tour looks at romantic and Picturesque landscapes and gardens which sprang up around Glasgow taking advantage of both the sea and inland wild scenery.

Comprising seven days, with six nights, our study tour will be led by **Kristina Taylor** and **Robert Peel** with **Christopher Dingwall** participating on our first full day at the **Falls of Clyde**.

It will include **New Lanark**, **Chatelherault** in the Clyde Valley, **Mount Stuart** on the island of Bute, **Kelburn Castle** and **Ardgowan** looking west over the Firth of Clyde, **Benmore** botanic garden and **Glenarn** in Rhu on the northern side of the Clyde estuary as well as the newly restored **Hermitage Park** in Helensburgh itself the garden of a Glasgow merchant's house with views south.

Our member **Melissa Simpson** will show us around the HLF project she has led. We shall also visit our former vice president **Niall Manning's**

garden in Fintry which will be in full glory in June, with inland water garden settings at Loch Lomond and weather permitting a boat trip out to **Inchmahome** on the Lake of Menteith one of the most romantic of all picturesque island settings.

Walking may be strenuous and uneven in places on this tour and thus members should take this into account when booking.

To be express an interest in this study tour please contact Kristina Taylor: wowkristina@hotmail.com

Gardens of Victoria and Tasmania, Australia November 2019

Details of this study tour will appear in our next issue, due out in November 2018.

To be express an interest in this study tour please contact Robert Peel: rma.peel@btopenworld.com

Grapevine garden history courses 2018

courses in association with the Gardens Trust: gardenhistorygrapevine.wordpress.com

Garden History in 10 Objects at UCL School of Pharmacy, 29-39 Brunswick Square, London 10am to 4pm, Saturday 22 September

Our one day 'taster' interactive course to explore the diversity and depth of garden history. You'll get a chance to examine and ask questions about a range of objects connected with the history of gardens and then we'll investigate them in context to show how the styles and fashions change.

There will an illustrated talk on the social history of gardening through the ages which will look at the role of plants, sculpture and garden buildings as well as some of the key people involved. Later there will be a look at a famous Elizabethan Herbal, a visit to Brunswick Square to hear about its history and the challenges facing its future, and some strange things you might find at the back of the garden shed. If you are interested in history, gardens, or plants then this is a day for you.

Cost: £32:27, does not include lunch.

Garden History in 10 Objects at Weald and Down Museum, Sussex 9.30am to 4.30pm, Friday 19 October

Another one day 'taster' interactive course to explore



Weald and Down Museum

the diversity and depth of garden history. You'll get a chance to examine and ask questions about a range of objects connected with the history of gardens and then we'll investigate them in context to show how the styles and fashions change.

There will an illustrated talk on the social history of gardening through the ages which will look at the role of plants, sculpture and garden buildings as well as some of the key people involved. Later, a case study presentation on the history and restoration of Gilbert White's garden, and a guided walk with Carlotta Holt, Museum Gardener to see the historically inspired planting around the Bayleaf and other areas of the Museum site (above). This tour will make the importance of gardens past and present come alive. The

Museum offers an exceptional venue to study gardens in and outside the classroom. If you are interested in history, gardens, or plants then this is a day for you.

Cost: £60, includes teas and coffees, but not lunch. More details and booking at: www.wealddown.co.uk/courses/garden-history-10-objects/

**Plants in Garden History: Part 1
Institute of Historical Research,
University of London
12 Tuesdays from 18 September to 4 December**

This course looks at early plant hunters and collectors and the way their introductions changed our gardens and domestic interiors. It runs on Tuesdays at the Institute of Historical Research, University of London, normally 10.30 to 1pm but with two all day visits, one to the little-known Oxford Herbarium which dates back to the early 17th-century, and the other behind the scenes in the amazing conservation glasshouses at Kew, and other visits to West Ham Park, the Linnean Society and the Chelsea Physic Garden.

Cost: £278.31, does not include transport or entry fees. Full programme and booking details via gardenhistorygrapevine as above.

**Repton in Context
Institute of Historical Research,
University of London
11 Thursdays from 20
September to 6 December**

Humphry Repton has had a mixed critical reaction, especially since he was long overshadowed by 'Capability' Brown in the broad accounts of garden history, but more recently he has begun to emerge as



A rare image of Repton laying out a lake edge, with a very optimistic gardener and spade!

a very significant figure, both theoretically and socially, in his own right.

This course running over 11 Thursday mornings 10.30 to 1pm, with two Thursday afternoons and one Sunday aims to put Repton into context and to show him as someone who was very much of his time, capable of responding to changing fashion and taste, but who also knew how to guide his clients. Includes visits to **Panshanger**, Herts, to **Russell Square** and **St James' Park**, London, and to exotic **Wanstead**.

Cost: £257.35, Full programme and booking details are at: <https://reptonincontext2.eventbrite.co.uk>

Future Courses

Another 6-week Introduction to Garden History course is also being planned for the Spring of 2019. Details will be announced shortly.



Advolly Richmond

Report on a recent Grapevine

Our picture shows some of the students from the first 6-week **Introduction to Garden History Course** which was held at Winterbourne House and Gardens, Birmingham this year. The course was run by **Jill Francis** (second from left) and **Advolly Richmond** (fourth from left). The group, seen holding their attendance certificates, were rewarded with a private tour of the grounds at **Hagley Park**, Worcestershire with head of landscape **Joe Hawkins** (third from left).

An article on the gardens of Hagley Hall by Joe Hawkins features in the recently published **Gardens and Green Spaces in the West Midlands since 1700**, mentioned elsewhere.



Report on Dryburgh Abbey Seminar Day, Monday 21 May

Kristina Taylor



Kristina Taylor

We had a glorious warm and sunny day for our seminar at Dryburgh Abbey, romantically bordered by the fast flowing River Tweed and though now under multiple ownership. It had been arranged to re-assess the Picturesque landscape. The day was co-hosted by Historic Environment Scotland and the Gardens Trust.

David Erskine, the 11th Earl of Buchan, created the site between 1786 and 1829, and as a true polymath and Enlightenment man took advantage of the lovely setting to build a new house, planted the old monastery landscape within the ruined Abbey as a focus, and peppered the wider landscape with further follies and an enormous walled orchard.

We visited the Temple of the Muses, the chain bridge across the Tweed erected on the site of the first in Scotland and a 'primitive' style giant statue of William Wallace facing south west towards England in protective stance. We saw Buchan's tomb with his death mask within the Abbey site, and the nearby tombs of Walter Scott, his friend, and, much later, Earl Haig. A collection of Cedars of Lebanon, Atlantic Cedars, Sequoias, pollarded Sycamores, Limes and other specimens are scattered across the house, abbey and hotel grounds. However

Erskine's Temple of The Muses was dedicated to the poet James Thomson in 1812

the three sites are all now separated by 1950s tree planting so that the original flowing concept has been lost. It is no longer possible to view the Abbey from either the house or the hotel which lies between them, a great shame.

Peter Ranson, HES district architect, and **Peter McGowan** had prepared a conservation management plan for the designed landscape of the Abbey, and wanted to generate a debate and canvas views about how HES should present and manage the Abbey in the future. This followed a run through of visual material including Buchan's own sketch book, a Turner watercolour and other 19th-century images. Charmingly, hollyhocks and sunflowers featured within the crumbling Abbey walls behind in 1830s prints. Discussion turned to the clearance work that the Ministry of Works had undertaken in the 1920s which essentially removed all the verdure, piles of stones, commemorative statues and the romantic nature of the original concept, to leave green sward, clean walls and tidiness.

We all agreed that there was scope to develop a more romantic, Picturesque and progressive management plan for the 21st century and make Dryburgh Abbey's setting different from the other three ruined Abbeys in the Scottish borders which are managed by HES. Watch this space!



Kristina Taylor

The very grand entrance to the walled orchard

Now and Then: September at Winterbourne; from their blog...

from the Winterbourne blog

Margaret Nettlefold planned the garden at Winterbourne; her daughter Valerie revealed that her mother 'lived with gardening books for a year or so'. Here, the influence of Gertrude Jekyll is inescapable. Winterbourne is filled with Jekyllian detail inspired by her 1899 classic *Wood and Garden*.

"Dahlias are now at their full growth. To make a choice for one's own garden, one must see the whole plant growing. As with many another kind of flower, nothing is more misleading than the evidence of the show-table, for many that there look the best, and are indeed lovely in form and colour as individual blooms, come from plants that are of no



Paul Martin

Dahlias brazen it out in late summer

garden value." Gertrude Jekyll, *Wood and Garden*.

Dahlias are unabashedly brash. For many years, so-called serious gardeners were happy to leave them on the show-table, where Jekyll implied many belong. But gardeners cannot help but indulge our most basic instincts; we sneak one here and another one there. Before long the sophisticated schemes have gone, and in spite of ourselves, we allow the triumphant tuber to take over the whole patch.

Dahlias must not be apologetic. Their job is to bounce into the garden as big and as loud as possible; a reminder that gardens like ours are meant to make you smile as well as to think. Not only this, but they are also incredibly useful. Arriving late in the summer, a well placed dahlia can retrieve an ailing border from autumn's grasp, and lift the fading flowers around it with relentless cheer.

Throughout August and September, whole vases

can be kept filled with nothing but dahlias, and without ever depleting the inexhaustible plants from which they are cut. Cactus types fade with little grace. Almost as soon as they open they begin to brown, from back to front, steadily shedding petals from the off. Pompons fare much better. Properly cut with an angled stem to aid the uptake of water, a pompon will last for 4 or 5 days without tiring.

"Careful and strong staking they must always have, not forgetting one central stake to secure the main growth at first. It is best to drive this into the hole made for the plant before placing the root, to avoid the danger of sending the point of the stake through the tender tubers." Gertrude Jekyll, *Wood and Garden*.

The thrill is not as cheap as it first appears. Dahlias indeed do need staking, yes, but also lifting and storing at the end of the season. They need wrapping in fleece when a late frost conspires to ruin a good night's sleep, and feeding all summer long. They must be coddled, cajoled and positively forced to perform before you can sit back and admire their enormous blooms. But then there's the deadheading, and earwigs too, which seem to derive pleasure from munching through the petals of your most highly-prized plant.

"As soon as may be in November... the Dahlias are now dug up from the border, and others collected from different parts of the garden. The labels are tied on to the short stumps that remain, and the roots are laid for a time on the floor of a shed. If the weather has been rainy just before taking them up, it is well to lay them upside down, so that any wet there may be about the bases of the large hollow stalks may drain out." Gertrude Jekyll, *Wood and Garden*.

The dahlias we grow in the Walled Garden are left in the ground all winter to save some of this labour. Here with a heavy mulch and shelter from the surrounding walls, they happily survive now typically agreeable winter conditions. The pots we use on the Terrace, however, are moved under glass when frost finishes the display. Here, we grow D. 'Bishop of Auckland', a shade deeper (burgundy) than the better known D. 'Bishop of Llandaff' (crimson). It could be lost if grown alone but we pair it with *Verbena bonariensis* whose popping-candy purple flowers brighten the whole thing up.

agenda

Dahlia 'Bishop of Llandaff' in the Walled Garden,

This year, we want to give the Red and Yellow Border a boost with some full blooded red dahlias. This could prove the most natural home for D. 'Bishop of Llandaff'.

There are also some excellent pink forms. Perhaps we could squeeze a few into the Pink and Blue Border whilst we're at it. And the end of the Pergola with that lovely purple beech hedge to contrast against.

Of course, they originate from Mexico so we really ought to have them represented in the Geographical Beds as well.

What about the Top Lawn? We don't really need all that grass do we?



Paul Martin

14th Mavis Batey Essay Prize winner declared

Dr David Marsh, chair of judging panel

The judges for the Mavis Batey Essay Prize met in June 2018, and were very pleased to award the prize to **Goh Ngee Chae Joshua** of Singapore, the unanimous choice as winner of this year's award. Congratulations!

The judges were impressed by the quality and vibrancy of his writing and the way that he drew on a range of disciplines to analyse how the 'Kampong Garden' has been adapted and developed to form a new national gardening style in Singapore. It is a very well reasoned, scholarly but importantly too, very readable piece of work.

From the submission abstract:

"Garden historians have traditionally focused upon the great landscaped gardens of the elite along with publicly-run parks and botanic gardens. This has resulted in the neglect of the potentially rich field of popular gardening.

While gardens created by ordinary citizens are undeniably underwhelming both in terms of scale and grandeur, these spaces provide an invaluable lens into the development of a nation's gardening culture and social history.

This is especially so in the context of Singapore where the existence of indigenous gardening traditions has been obscured by the traditional scholarly focus on public parks. In this paper, I present a brief genealogy of one such indigenous gardening tradition in Singapore, the 'Kampong Garden'.

Based upon the kitchen gardens cultivated by Malay villagers during the pre-colonial era as a supplementary food source, the 'Kampong Garden' was first appropriated by Malay nationalists in early twentieth century Singapore as a site of memory for that ethnic group's imagined rural past.

With the large-scale resettlement of Singapore's kampong villages during the post-independence era, the 'Kampong Garden' gradually became a much less ethnically specific gardening tradition as former kampong-dwellers of all races seek to relive their rural nostalgia by recreating this space.

Notwithstanding, the 'Kampong Garden's' popularity was not merely restricted to the elderly of Singapore. As recently as 2014, the 'Kampong Garden' was even appropriated by younger Singaporeans from the emerging 'grow- your-own-food movement' as a metaphor for the edible garden."

As explained in the guidelines for the prize, the prize also offers a the chance of publication in our journal **Garden History**, so we hope to see the essay published in due course

We aren't quite sure how we are going to 'hand over' the prize just yet, but details will follow.

Once again, our congratulations go to Goh Ngee Chae Joshua on his success, and we wish him the best of luck with the rest of his studies.

other exhibitions, courses and events

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

Cedric Morris: Artist Plantsman Paintings of Flowers and Gardens Garden Museum and Philip Mould & Co, London **Last chance to see**

Until 22 July

This April will see the opening of two concurrent exhibitions of 'artist plantsman' Cedric Morris (1889–1982), at the Garden Museum and Philip Mould & Company. Though at the forefront of the Modern British avant-garde – a close friend and contemporary of Ben and Winifred Nicholson, John Nash and Christopher Wood – Morris' story has been largely neglected in recent years. The home he shared in Suffolk with his lifelong partner Arthur Lett-Haines was a hub of artistic meeting and activity and in 1937 the pair founded the East Anglian School of Painting and Drawing. There Morris taught Lucian Freud, whose practice he was hugely influential in developing, and later Maggi Hambling.

Humphry Repton: Art & Nature for the Duke of Bedford at Woburn Abbey, Bedfordshire until 28 October

When the 6th Duke of Bedford inherited Woburn in 1802, he commissioned the famous landscape gardener, Humphry Repton (1752–1818), to create designs to enhance the gardens and parkland. 2018 celebrates the bicentenary of Humphry Repton. With the Duke being Repton's most important client, at a time of declining commissions, the Woburn Red Book is one of his largest works. It contains Repton's most ambitious and detailed designs covering the approaches to the Abbey, the lakes and plantings in the surrounding parkland and the formal Pleasure Grounds.

This new exhibition explores the fascinating relationship between Repton and one of his greatest clients. On public display for visitors to see for the first time will be his most elaborate and comprehensive *Red Book*.

In addition, the exhibition will give visitors the opportunity to discover Repton's other works for the family including at the picturesque Devon estate of Endsleigh, Oakley House and Russell Square in London. Never before seen unexecuted designs will feature alongside works

of art and archival treasures, which bring to life the creative legacy of Repton. There will also be Repton-related family trails, activities and events throughout the year.

Having explored the Repton's legacy in the exhibition, visitors need only step outside to discover Repton's beautiful landscape designs. Since 2004 the present Duke and Duchess of Bedford have been restoring many of Repton's features in the Woburn Abbey Gardens. These include the folly grotto, the Cone House, the menagerie and the striking Chinese-style pavilion, which was completed in 2011 and went on to win a Hudson's Heritage Award. In 2013, Woburn's project to restore the 19th Century Humphry Repton landscape won the "Best Restoration of a Georgian Garden" at the Georgian Group Architectural Awards.

Other Repton features in the Woburn landscape include; The Aviary, set to be further restored in 2018 and the Doric Temple.

Flower Fairies: Botanical Magic Exhibition at the Garden Museum Wednesday 8 August to Sunday 30 September

Since they first crept out from behind leaves and flowers in 1918 for the *Elves and Fairies* postcards, Cicely Mary Barker's *Flower Fairies*™ have been enchanting and delighting children and adults alike. A selection of these charming characters will be on display at the Garden Museum this summer in an exhibition which celebrates the centenary of the earliest publication of Cicely Mary Barker's first fairy illustrations.

Continuing to be inspired by fairies Cicely Mary Barker published the first of her *Flower Fairies* books in 1923. Visitors will see original illustrations for more than 40 of her *Flower Fairies* designs, drawing extensively from the Frederick Warne archive. There will also be previously unseen sketchbooks and drawings together with her research materials.

Celebrating Humphry Repton at Ashridge House, Hertfordshire Friday 10 and Saturday 11 August

A two-day conference based at Ashridge, Hertfordshire to cast new light on the life and works



other exhibitions, courses and events

of Humphry Repton and consider his legacy in landscape design. The programme comprises a series of lectures on the first day followed by a **tour of the gardens at Ashridge**. The second day comprises a series of lectures in the morning followed in the afternoon by a **tour of Woburn Abbey gardens** led by Gardens Manager **Martin Towsey**. The conference will finish after the tour of Woburn Abbey's gardens.

Speakers that have indicated they would be able to speak at the conference include; Professor **Tom Williamson** on *Contrasting landscapes and commissions: Repton in Norfolk and Hertfordshire*; Professor **Stephen Daniels** on *Envisioning Landscape: the Art of landscape Gardening*; Dr **Jonathan Finch**; Dr **Sarah Rutherford** on *Research undertaken by CGT's into Repton*; Dr **Jane Bradney** on *Lewis Kennedy and the legacy of the Red Books*; **Michael Symes** on *Who inspired Humphry Repton?*; Dr **Kate Felus**; **John Phibbs**; and **Keir Davidson** on *Repton's commission for Woburn Abbey*.

Cost to delegates attending both days with one-night accommodation, meals and visits is £285 inc VAT. Non-residential rate that includes dinner on the Friday night will be £150 inc VAT. Accommodation for the night(s) preceding and following the conference is available on application. Bookings can be made through the website or contact Sally Rouse: sally.rouse@ashridge.hult.edu or phone: 01442 841 028.

Repton and Horticulture at Sheffield Botanical Gardens Thursday 20 and Friday 21 September

This conference will explore the often-overlooked aspects of Reptonian and late Georgian horticulture. Held by the Friends of the Botanical Gardens with the Landscape Department, University of Sheffield, the conference will feature national and international experts on Repton, as well as a tour of the nearby Repton landscape at **Wentworth Woodhouse**, led by **Patrick Eyres** and **Karen Lynch**, authors of the forthcoming volume *On the Spot: the Yorkshire Red Books of Humphry Repton, landscape gardener*.

Planned sessions will include an introduction to Repton - his life, context and significance,

by **Peter Goodchild**; **Mark Laird** on Repton's distinctive horticulture at Woburn; **Camilla Beresford** on Repton's use of trees and shrubs to conceal and reveal; **Kate Felus** on horticulture as recreation for Regency ladies; **Mick Thompson** on Repton's development of the flower garden; **Jon Finch** on Repton's use of colour; **Jan Woudstra** on Reptonian influences in Nash's planting at St James' Park; **Sarah Rutherford** on the Historic England late Georgian hardy plant list; and **Brent Elliott** on two centuries of Repton's reputation.

Cost: Students: £40; Full price: £115. You can find the Booking link on our website.

I am Ashurbanipal: king of the world at The British Museum 8 November 2018 to 24 February 2019

Ashurbanipal was king of the Neo-Assyrian empire. At the time of his reign (668–c. 631 BC) it was the largest empire in the world, stretching from Cyprus in the west to Iran in the east, and at one point it even included Egypt. Its capital Nineveh (in modern-day Iraq) was the world's largest city. This is at a time when the Greek city-states (like Athens and Sparta) were still in their infancy, and Rome was just a small settlement.

His gardens are one of the highlights of the exhibition, or at least the records that were made of them, notably on bas-relief, with which he covered the walls of his palaces. He did have some odd ideas on gardening; the Elamite king's head was brought back to the palace in Nineveh where it was hung from a tree as a decoration!

Invitation to attend the Historic Buildings, Parks & Gardens Event: free of charge at QE2 Conference Centre, London SW1P 3EE Tuesday 13 November

We would like to invite you and other members of the GT and CGTs to visit The 2018 Historic Buildings Parks & Gardens Event (HBPGE) which is free to attend. As a visitor you will have Free access to the comprehensive all day exhibition, where up to 75 exhibitors will be displaying a broad selection of products and services used in the care, repair, conservation and restoration of historic buildings, their contents and surrounding landscapes.

For more information see our website: www.hall-mccartney.co.uk phone: 01462 896688, or email: events@hall-mccartney.co.uk



in brief...

contributions from all our members and readers are warmly welcomed by the editor



Westminster Abbey

Brown memorial fountain dedicated

A fountain in Westminster Abbey's cloister garth to commemorate the tercentenary of the great 18th century landscape gardener Lancelot 'Capability' Brown was dedicated after Evensong on Tuesday 29 May 2018.

In the form of a lead cistern it was designed by Ptolemy Dean, with Alan Titchmarsh and made by Brian Turner. Around the sides of the cistern in several panels is a quote from Horace Walpole:

WITH ONE LOST PARADISE THE NAME
OF OUR FIRST ANCESTOR IS STAINED;
BROWN SHALL ENJOY UNSULLIED FAME
FOR SO MANY A PARADISE REGAINED.

With the inscription:

1716 1783 LANCELOT CAPABILITY BROWN
HE SOUGHT AN IMAGE OF HEAVEN

On the wall of the cloister opposite the Chapter House entrance is a brass dedication plaque.

The reading at the service. "The Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. You shall eat your fill and bless the Lord your God for the good land that he has given you."

Deuteronomy 8: 7-10

Bursary to support students of garden history

Birkbeck Garden History Group will be providing a fund, to be administered by the Professional Gardeners' Trust, which will allow students of

garden history to expand their knowledge or undertake specific research.

Jeremy Garnett, Chairman of Professional Gardeners' Trust is delighted that Birkbeck Garden History Group (BGHG) will be donating £1,000 per annum over the next three years. This fund will provide grants to enable professional gardeners to broaden their knowledge of garden history by attending lectures, conferences, courses and study days. He says, "Obtaining a deeper understanding of the history of the garden in which the applicant might work and how to conduct research into previous generations of design and planting can be of vital importance to the future of our gardens".

Professional Gardeners' Trust is a charity set up in 2004 to help fund gardeners wanting to improve their gardening skills and gain experience in the profession. For more visit: www.pgtrust.org.



National Trust

Singer Sargent painting acquired for Ightham Mote

A Game of Bowls, by painter John Singer Sargent, has been acquired for the National Trust's Ightham Mote in Kent following a successful campaign to raise funds to purchase it for the nation.

National Lottery ticket sales 'back into growth', says Camelot

Camelot UK, the operator of the National Lottery, has announced that its ticket sales are "back into growth" having struggled in the first half of the financial year.

Nigel Railton, chief executive of the lottery operator, said the increase in ticket sales came as something of a surprise, given that Camelot had been forecasting "a further sales decline" for the second half of the 2017/18 financial year. Camelot announced today that ticket sales for the national lottery between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2018 were £6.95bn, an increase of more than £26m on

in brief

last year. Railton said these results were “an early indication that initiatives from the company’s recent strategic review are yielding results”.

This can only be good news for the Heritage Lottery Fund which had been forecasting decreased funding available for the sector due to fewer people playing the lottery.

Tree Champion to expand England’s woodland

A new Tree Champion to drive forward planting rates and prevent the unnecessary felling of street trees has been appointed by Environment Secretary Michael Gove.

Sir William Worsley, current Chair of the National Forest Company, has been tasked with setting a bold direction for the country’s forests and woodlands over the next 25 years and supporting the Government’s manifesto commitments to plant 11 million trees, plus a further one million in our towns and cities.

Trent Park, re-creating a country house garden Philip Masters, ACTA

Long herbaceous borders, often designed to be at their best for only a few months in high summer were one of the major features of English country house gardens. The gardens of the multi-millionaire Sir Philip Sassoon at Port Lympe, Kent, and Trent Park in outer London were among the most elaborate. They were designed by Norah Lindsay who created beds of matching tones of the same colour in a unique style.



The gardens in their 1920s and 1930s heyday appeared in several *Country Life* articles

Although there are many photographs of Norah Lindsay’s borders at Trent Park and her own description was published in *Country Life* it

is impossible to re-create them exactly. Many of the varieties have disappeared from cultivation and colours cannot be matched-up exactly from historical photographs.

At Trent Park, working for Murdoch Wickham landscape architects, we are replanting the borders in Norah Lindsay’s style using some of her classic plants, like the Geranium rose, but generally using the best modern varieties to get a good blend of tones. The planting also takes account of the fact that there are not now 36 gardeners available, as they were in Sir Philip Sassoon’s time.

Major accessions to repositories in the UK

There is a ‘slight’ change in the way this data is presented. For reasons beyond me the topic heading is being changed to Horticulture, from Gardening. As I may have mentioned before, to my mind these are very different subjects, but hey!

To quote: “Horticulture: Previously known as ‘Gardening’, includes garden trusts, horticultural societies, commercial nurseries, gardens, flower shows, allotments and land clubs/leagues.”

So for the time being...

Major accessions to repositories in 2016 relating to ‘Gardening’

Local

Dundee City Archives

Dundee Horticultural Society: minutes, cash books and papers 1874–2016 (GD/X1368)

East of Scotland Horticultural Society: minutes 1935–1946 (GD/X1368)

East Sussex Record Office

Newick Horticultural Society: records including minutes c1835-2010 (12501)

Hampshire Archives and Local Studies

Grace Claudia Walker (fl 1957-1994), gardener of ‘Seaview’: gardening diaries incl plantings and costings 1957–1994 (AC2016/072)

Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Archive Service: Staffordshire County Record Office

Elford Hall Garden Restoration Project: papers relating to business case, grant applications and progress reports 2005–2013 (7486)

National

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Library & Archives

George W Robinson (d 1976), curator of Chelsea Physic Garden: notebooks, photographs and postcards 1920–1929 (PrP 16-0006)

University

Museum of English Rural Life

Women's Farm and Garden Association: additional records relating to travel bursaries for research 20th cent (DX 2160)

St Andrews University Library

Friends of St Andrews Botanic Garden: records 1980–2015 (ms38997)

Gardens Trust Family Picnic 2018

Linden Groves

We had a lovely day at Wicksteed Park for the Gardens Trust Family Picnic 2018, with Northamptonshire Gardens Trust and other friends too. Only a year to wait for the next one... See you all there!



Linden Groves, or, at least, her camera



Linden Groves



Linden Groves

All the fun of the day, and a cake too – and isn't there an historic landscape hereabouts too? Thanks Linden for another great day out, and for organising much better weather this time!

The Gardens Trust

President

Dominic Cole CMLI FIOH VMM OBE

Vice Presidents

Mr Alan Baxter, Mrs Susan Campbell, Sir Richard Carew Pole, Mr Ray Desmond, Mrs Gilly Drummond OBE, Mr Robert Peel, Mrs Anne Richards, Mr John Sales, Mrs Steffie Shields, Sir Tim Smit KBE, Dr Christopher Thacker

Chairman of Board

Dr James Bartos

Members of Board

Christine Addison

Mike Dawson Vice Chairman;

Chair, Administration & Finance Committee

Sarah Dickinson

Dr Marion Harney Chair, Conservation Committee

Virginia Hinze Co-Chair, Education & Events Committee

Dr Sally Jeffery

David Lambert

Dr David Marsh Co-Chair, Education & Events Committee

Maureen Nolan Honorary Secretary

Peter Waive

Lisa Watson Honorary Treasurer

Ex-officio Members of Board

Judy Riley

Scotland's Garden & Landscape Heritage

Simon Baynes Welsh Historic Gardens Trust

Staff

Administrator: Louise Cooper

Finance Officer & CGT Co-ordinator:

Teresa Forey-Harrison

Conservation Officer: Margie Hoffnung

Conservation Casework Manager:

Alison Allighan

Strategic Development Officer:

Linden Groves

Historic Landscape Project Officer:

Tamsin McMillan

Editors

Editor *Garden History*: Dr Barbara Simms

Editor *GT news*: Charles Boot

Membership enquiries

phone: 01787 249 286

email: membership@thegardenstrust.org

GT events diary 2018

Monday 16 July	Visit: Halswell House, Somerset
Tuesday 17 July	Members Meet Up, Sheffield
Monday 23 July	Closing date for nominations for the Gilly Drummond Volunteer of the Year Award 2018
5 to 11 August	Study Tour: Gardens of Northern Ireland
Saturday 1 September	Annual General Meeting, Birmingham
1 & 2 September	Annual Conference weekend with AGM and New Research Symposium, Birmingham
Thursday 6 September	Champion Trees and the Lost Gardens of Yester, East Lothian
Wednesday 26 September	Birmingham Lecture: Professor Stephen Daniels on <i>Revealing Repton...</i>
Monday 5 November	Discovering the Real Repton, Symposium at the Garden Museum, London
tb, November	Our third annual Historic Landscapes Assembly, in York

2019

Jan, Feb, March	GT London Lecture Series
10 to 12 May	Industrialists' Landscapes Conference, South Wales
31 May to 2 June	The Picturesque Garden in England, at Rewley House, Oxford
15 to 21 June	Picturesque Landscapes around the Clyde, west coast of Scotland
November	Gardens of Victoria and Tasmania, Australia

Details and booking information for all these events can be found inside on pages 14 to 22, or look at our website: www.thegardenstrust.org/events for updates

We take the privacy of your personal data very seriously. For further information on how we use and look after your personal data, please see the Privacy Notice on our website:
<http://thegardenstrust.org/privacy-cookies/>

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 2018: 14 February, 31 May & 14 October,
distribution: mid March, mid July with Journal & Annual Report; mid November with Journal

GT news ISSN 2398-3248

Design and layout by Charles Boot

Printed by Lavenham Press, 47 Water Street, Lavenham, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 9RN