

# **THE JOURNAL OF THE KEW GUILD**

**Founded in 1893**

The Association of members of the Kew staff past and present

## **Events of 1988**

**Published in 1989**

**Volume 10  
Number 93**

Editor: Richard C. Ward  
Printed by Rowling Printers, Dorking

**Royal Botanic Gardens  
Kew**

## CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees and Committee .....	726
Editorial .....	727
President .....	728
Kew Guild Annual General Meeting .....	730
Report of the 1988 Annual Dinner .....	734
Kew Guild Committee Meetings .....	735
Kew Guild Award Scheme Report .....	735
Presentation of the Kew Diplomas and Prizes .....	736
Subscriptions .....	738
Admissions Charges 1989 .....	738
Students' Union Report .....	739
The Bulb Plant .....	739
Students' Union Sports Report .....	740
Kew Medal Awards .....	740
Mutual Improvement Society .....	741
Living Collections Department 1988 .....	743
What it is like being the Curator's Secretary .....	747
Message from the Director .....	748
Round the Gardens Race .....	749
Ex-Kew Relay Race Team .....	750
Never Miss an Opportunity — Xmas Party 1988 .....	751
Morocco and the Great Atlas .....	751
Gardens of the Côte d'Azur .....	753
Desert Days .....	754
Progress with the European Garden Flora .....	755
Kew Linked Rain Forest Conservation and Botanic Garden Refurbishment in Cameroon .....	756
The Ecology of Egypt and Its Probable Fate .....	757
Birds at Kew in 1988 .....	758
Excerpts from Kew Newsletters 1988, and Kew News .....	759
News of Kewites at Home and Abroad .....	763
Course 26 (1988) Students .....	777
Rotary Club Tree Planting at Kew .....	778
Obituaries .....	779
Accounts .....	783
List of Staff at Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew .....	785
Members Address List .....	789
List of RBG Staff, Honorary Research Associates and Students Members of the Kew Guild .....	800
Advertisers .....	801

## ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW

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Events Officer: D. J. Breach

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Honorary Auditors: L. A. Pemberton, J. R. Woodhams

Students' Union Representatives: Miss J. Jones, M. Long

### EDITORIAL

This last year seems to have flown by even more quickly than last.

We mourn the passing of old and loved Kewites, and we welcome new members into the fellowship of the Kew Guild.

I cannot begin to explain to members the amount of work that the Committee, and other outstanding Kewites, have given to the Guild. The membership list is now accurately (we hope!) computerised. Write to Louise Bustard c/o RBG, Kew if you find errors or omissions. Following various reminders most members have updated their standing order forms. Please check that *you* have done so. If everyone pays the full amount it is less likely that subs. will have to go up.

Our Secretary has done sterling work, researching many topics prior to Committee meetings and at other times. And *all* members have pulled their weight.

Earlier in the year the Committee had almost decided to abandon the idea of advertisements in our Journal, but finally decided to give it another try, and at the last minute! And look at the result. But please, Members, support your supporters and remember them when buying, otherwise we cannot attract advertising which helps to subsidise our Journal costs. £660 has been raised, nearly one fifth of the printing cost. If any member would consider 'sponsorship' of the entire Journal contact me soonest!

We have to thank Rayment Printers of Dorking for their assistance in suggesting ways of keeping printing costs down. Members may note that we have reduced the margins and cut down on the print size to achieve an extra 14 lines per page, thus enabling more news to be provided.

Any ideas for general improvement in your Journal would be gratefully received. Just write to me c/o RBG Kew, Richmond, Surrey.

And keep in touch!

Richard C. Ward  
*Hon. Editor*

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**PETER MAUNDER, N.D.H., N.D.Arb., D.I.P.R.A., F.I.O.H., F.L.S., F.I.L.A.M.**

President 1988/89



Peter Maunder was born and brought up in horticulture, the third generation in the profession. This apparently genetic fault shows no sign of abating even in the present fourth generation now employed in horticulture. A childhood spent living in the Parks Lodge at West Hartlepool, where Father was Parks Superintendent, introduced Peter to the traditions of amenity and estate horticulture.

Following the family practice that one's first job should be as far as possible from home, Peter started in 1942 with the nursery firm of John Peed and Son at Kingswood, Surrey. This resulted in a limited introduction to hardy nursery stock and a comprehensive induction in commercial vegetable production.

The war interrupted further experience and, after active service in North West Europe with the Royal Berkshire Regiment, Peter returned to John Peeds, prior to moving to John Waterer Sons & Crisp.

Leaving behind trees, shrubs and fruit, Peter joined the herbaceous propagating yard on the Floral Mile, later transferring to the Alpine Yard as propagator there. To Peter this was a plantsman's paradise, a vast range of alpines, regular show work at Vincent Square and Chelsea and nearby County towns. This was a period experiencing a full range of nursery work, and with experienced growers who were not averse to sharing their knowledge and know-how.

In 1949 Peter was awarded a student gardenership within the Department of Botany at the University of Manchester, based initially at Jodrell Bank Experimental Station where, amidst the vegetable trials and screened by the developing arboretum, a small physics department was building a radio telescope from RAF war surplus.

Peter attended lectures in most aspects of botany at the University and was introduced at the Fallowfield Botanic Grounds to growing for class work and the specific requirements of a research based botanic garden. In the hey day of atmospheric pollution, the horticultural challenge of growing groundsel under glass for genetic research was particularly memorable.

Leaving the University, having stayed on as Research Technician, Peter moved to Manchester Parks Department, Wythenshawe Park for further glasshouse experience of a more ornamental nature.

In 1952 Peter was accepted as a Student of Kew and had to leave the delights of riding a carrier bicycle to Ringway Airport to arrange floral decorations in the bar. The late Fred Maunder, a cousin, preceded him at Kew during the early forties. Kew provided two exceptionally satisfying years working with plants in the Tropical Pits, the Palm House, Ferneries and Alpine Yard. Amongst other things, he was involved in the creation of an English Garden at Chelsea in Coronation Year, and served as Secretary of the Mutual Improvement Society in the 'Tin Tabernacle'. It was during this period he began to develop his interest in garden photography.

After Kew, Peter returned north to the Sports Turf Research Institute at Bingley where the grass was allegedly greener, and then south again to the Institute of Parks and Recreation Administration College on the Thames at Lower Basildon. This marked the return to the Public Parks Service in which he was to remain.

The north called again with the offer of a post of Supervisory Gardener in the Landscape Section in Liverpool, following which Peter was appointed as Technical Assistant in the Torquay Parks Department. This proved to be a rewarding and enjoyable spell, much to his liking, in a developing department and where the range of plants grown reflected the best in coastal resort horticulture. Here began his long commitment and involvement with horticultural education. This has continued and Peter still lectures at the County Agricultural College and Further Education Colleges on public amenity services and horticulture.

After promotion to Deputy Superintendent, Peter and his family moved along the south coast to Portsmouth where he later became Head of Department.

Portsmouth was late to redevelop after the war years and, consequently, Peter was responsible for many of the features that now form an integral part of Portsmouth's green space. Golf courses, indoor and outdoor sports facilities, parks, housing estates, holiday facilities, recreation fields, crematorium grounds and a Victorian country estate all formed part of his department's responsibility. If it was green and grew, he had a commitment.

The creation of a Farm Trail on the old estate of Sir George Staunton gave Peter particular pleasure and was the first local authority farm to be recognised by the Rare Breeds Survival Trust as an approved centre for rare domestic livestock.

During the 15 years at Portsmouth, Peter was a Committee Member of the H.E.A. Southern Branch, Secretary of the Southern Branch and Member of Council of the I.P.R.A., being awarded the Elizabeth Medal as a tribute to his work in the Public Service. Peter was also a regular examiner for the N.D.H., N.D.A.R.B., and the D.I.P.R.A.

Peter retired from Portsmouth City Council in 1979 due to ill health, but continues to work in horticulture and is actively engaged as a consultant, lecturer, examiner and show judge. He

serves on the Board of Governors of Sparsholt College and on the Committees of the Hampshire Playing Fields Association, the south west branch of the Institute of Horticulture and the Hampshire N.C.C.P.G. At a more local level Peter is Chairman of the Portsmouth Horticultural Society, and also of the Federation of Hampshire Horticultural Societies.

In recent years Peter has been closely involved with the Award Scheme of the Kew Guild, serving on the committee and now as Chairman. He has organised fund raising schemes in Hampshire and is part of a new fund raising venture.

Horticulturalists are unable to avoid the advice to separate business from pleasure; Peter is no exception. In leisure time Peter collects old horticultural show medals, old cultivars of apples and pears, he scours nurseries for 'rare gems' and the countryside of France for dove cotes and wine.

When all else fails, he might be found living riotously on the nearest bowling green!

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE KEW GUILD**

by **Mark Sparrow**, Hon. Assistant Secretary

On Saturday, 10th September 1988, 44 members assembled in the Jodrell Lecture Theatre for the Annual General Meeting. Mr. J. B. E. Simmons took the chair in place of Mr. Noel Lothian who was unable to attend. He was accompanied on the platform by the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. W. E. Worth and the Hon. Assistant Secretary, Mr. M. Sparrow.

Mr. Simmons welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their support. In a short opening address he spoke of a few events which had made the previous year a memorable one. There had been a record attendance at the Annual Dinner at which the President, Mr. Lothian and his wife had officiated. (Mr. Simmons said he had hoped to read out a statement from Mr. Lothian at the A.G.M., but unfortunately it had not arrived due to the Postal strike.) A new Director, Professor Iain Prance, had been appointed and had agreed to act as a Trustee of the Guild. There had been a tremendous storm in October, during which over 500 trees at Kew had been uprooted, with many more suffering serious damage. At the Students' Prize-giving, Mr. L. Pemberton's last as Supervisor of Studies, Sir David Attenborough had presented the prizes.

The Secretary then read the names of those whose death had been made known since the last meeting: C. J. S. Collins, H. M. Holloway, Mrs. J. Binter, G. Coombes, Mrs. B. M. Laking, R. D. Hogg, M. J. Dawes, R. A. Dyer, T. A. Arnold, J. A. Hingston, Miss E. Parkin, J. Middleton, T. R. Clarke, Miss K. M. Knight, G. Hyland. Members observed a time of silence in their memory.

*Apologies for absence* were received from: T. R. N. Lothian, J. K. Burras, R. I. Beyer, I. Lesse, D. Hardman, Miss E. Smith, M. A. Arnold-Gilliat, F. N. Hepper, Miss L. Bustard, A. G. Cook, J. Sales, Miss P. Holt, Dr. L. Fellows, B. F. Pitcher, A. Woodward, Dr. N. K. B. Robson, C. R. Stock, Dr. C. R. Metcalfe, J. N. Walker, D. S. McGuffog, W. E. Storey, K. Parker, Miss S. Tasker.

*The Minutes* of the A.G.M. of 1987 were adopted.

The Committee then reported as follows:

*The Hon. Secretary, Mrs. W. E. Worth* reported that Mr. N. Lothian had collected £100 from Australian ex-Kewites towards the Storm Fund.

The Wakehurst booklet, which had been such a useful source of income to the Guild, had sold out, and Mr. N. Hepper had agreed to prepare a completely revised edition.

In June, Mr. R. Ward, in association with the Kew Rotary Club and Kew, organised a tour of the Gardens led by Mr. A. Titchmarsh. £50 a head was charged for the tour which included a sumptuous lunch. The profits were divided between the Guild and the Rotary Club who received £450 each.

The George Brown Memorial Award had this year been presented to Mr. L. Pemberton. A farewell party to mark Mr. Pemberton's retirement was due to take place on October 20th, and

letters were sent to all students from the last 25 years, asking them if they wished to attend.

Mrs. Worth announced that Mr. T. Harwood had taken photographs at the Annual Dinner, and that copies were available to members at £1 a print.

*The Events Officer, Mr. D. Breach* spoke about the Annual Dinner held at the Imperial College at which a record 175 members and guests attended. Professor Bell was the Principal Speaker, and special guests were Dr. J. West and her husband, and Miss M. Stones. Mr. Breach announced that a profit of £160 had been made, and he thanked all those who had helped. Mr. Simmons thanked Mr. Breach and his wife for all their efforts in once again organising such a successful event.

*The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. W. E. Storey* was unable to attend but had prepared a statement which Mrs. Worth read out. It ran as follows:

'The accounts for 1987 as printed in the Journal are quite straight-forward and I recommend their approval. They show an excess of Income over Expenditure for the year which, although less than the year before, is still very satisfactory. It should be noted, however, that £1,000 of the excess was accounted for by one single donation.

'The current year sadly shows a much less rosy picture, and the first half of 1988 has, through a combination of several adverse factors, produced a significant deterioration in finances. The following points have had a major impact:

1. Falling interest rates have reduced income from investments in the first half of the year, though since June rates have been rising again.
2. The disastrous storm of last October brought to a stop sales of the Wakehurst Booklet which had, up to then, been a major source of income.
3. A lot of expense has been incurred on replenishment of stationery and on the purchase of a further 10 Past President's badges. The latter expense will, of course, be recovered gradually as the badges are sold.
4. There was a very steep increase in the cost of the Journal and associated postage to a level roughly double the income derived from subscriptions.

'It is unlikely that the increase in interest rates during the second half of the year will be sufficient to avert a substantial loss over the whole year. This situation cannot be allowed to persist, and your Committee will therefore be examining ways in which expenditure might be reduced and income stimulated. Clearly, careful thought must be given to an increase in the subscription rate which has been held at the same level since 1982/3 and it is very probable that a recommendation to this effect will be put before the A.G.M. in 1989.

'The disputed legacy from George Catt has still to reach court in Australia, despite efforts by the Guild's Solicitors and Solicitors for the executors in Australia. If the Court should decide in the Guild's favour, then investment of the legacy will obviously produce a substantial income which would have to be taken into account when deciding on an appropriate level for subscriptions.'

Mr. Simmons talked about the possible need to increase subscription rates which have not risen since 1982, in order to offset the spiralling cost of the Journal. Comments were asked for from the floor, and members agreed that if a rise in rates were found necessary, the committee could notify members of the increase to take effect from January 1st, 1990.

Mr. Simmons explained that until the new Wakehurst Booklet became available, there would be no income from that previously lucrative source.

Mr. G. Burgess expressed concern over the George Catt legacy and hoped that the money would not be used to subsidise the cost of the Journal, but would be set aside for a special purpose. This motion was seconded by Mr. L. Pemberton, and endorsed unanimously by those present.

Mr. Simmons spoke about Life Members, of whom there were 166 in 1987, and the loss of income involved because of their exemption from paying yearly subscriptions. However, it was pointed out by Mr. P. Green that Life Members were periodically asked to make donations which many willingly did.

*Mr. R. Ward, Editor of the Journal*, spoke about the increasing cost of producing it, and how he was constantly investigating ways of reducing costs. He said that in the previous two years there had been an obligation to print certain things such as the amendments to the Rules and Award Scheme recipients' travel notes, and this had added to the size and cost of the Journal. He then stated that the deadline for copy was very important because late material was expensive to include. He thanked contributors, and also urged any member with something of interest to report to send articles to him for possible inclusion. Members thanked Mr. Ward for all his work in producing such an interesting and well presented Journal.

*Miss E. H. Smith, the Membership Secretary*, who is standing down this year, was unable to attend, but had prepared a statement which Mrs. Worth read out. Miss Smith said how much she had enjoyed her time in office. She thanked Mr. G. Castle for his help in computerising the list of members' addresses. Miss L. Bustard is to take over the post from Miss Smith. Mr. Simmons thanked Miss Smith on behalf of all members for her work over the years.

Commenting on the sale of Guild memorabilia, Mr. Simmons stated that it had been very low during the year.

Reporting on the *Award Scheme*, *Mr. P. Maunder* announced that it had been a very busy year, and that in all, 14 applications had been received of which nine were successful. Two of these were Staff — Miss L. Bustard (S.W. U.S.A.), Mr. P. Brewster (Canary Is.) — and the other seven were students: Miss S. Leadbetter (French Riviera), Miss C. Buchanan (Bavarian Alps), Mr. M. Long (Morocco), Miss R. Carter (China), Mr. T. Upson (Canary Is.), Miss J. Farrell (Canary Is.), and Miss E. Hutchenson (Missouri) sharing a total of £1,100 between them. Mr. Maunder expressed his thanks to the other members of the Award Scheme Committee for their help.

Mr. Simmons reported that Mr. T. Arnold had left a bequest to the Award Scheme in his will, but unfortunately it was being contested. Mr. Burgess asked how bequests could be made so that these unpleasant and often tedious legal wrangles would not occur. Mr. Simmons stated that a detailed will drawn up through a Solicitor was all that was necessary.

*Mr. M. Sands, as Chairman of the Centenary Sub-Committee* reported a startling discovery made by Mrs. Worth when she uncovered evidence that the Guild was founded in 1893 and not 1892 as had previously been thought. Mr. Sands, looking on the bright side, said that this in fact gave the Committee a further year in which to plan events to mark the occasion. The last meeting of the Committee had been in January 1988, and therefore developments were very much the same as printed in the 1987 Journal. The proposed book on the influence on horticulture of gardeners from Kew over the last 100 years was not proving to be very appealing to publishers. They seemed reluctant to handle it, and Mr. Sands suggested that an anthology, paid for out of Guild funds, might be a more feasible proposition.

Then followed the *Election of Officers*:

Mr. Simmons thanked the members of the Committee for their enthusiasm and for their dedicated work for the Guild during the year.

All the officers nominated by the Committee were unanimously accepted en bloc.

Under *Any Other Business*, members thanked Mrs. Worth for ensuring that the Jodrell Gate was opened and for organising the A.G.M. so efficiently.

There then followed the *Inauguration of the new President, Mr. P. Maunder*. After accepting the badge of office he said what a great honour it was and how indebted he was to Kew for the great influence it had made on his career and also for the many friendships he had formed over the years. He finished his speech by saying that he believed that his and the Guild's most important role in life was service to others, and he hoped to build on that tradition and ensure that it continued.

The date of the next A.G.M. is expected to be September 9th, 1989.

The meeting closed at 4.30 p.m., and members adjourned to the Common Room for tea.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1987-1988 TO A.G.M.

The Guild has had a momentous year — unique in fact, having survived its first Australian President, but this mainly because of the generous and willing support given by the Immediate Past-President, John Simmons, the two Vice Presidents, Ken Burras and Ian Beyer, with help from our hardworking Secretary, Mrs. Winifred Worth, all to whom my grateful thanks are extended.

To have been elected your President of such a prestigious organisation is a very great honour and in this, Australia's Bicentennial Year it was appropriate that someone from "down under" be given this honour. I am grateful for this privilege. Because of distance it has not been possible to actively participate or attend meetings and a tribute is paid, not only to the above mentioned office bearers but to all the Committee for their help and understanding.

The most important function attended was the Guild Dinner, held in the Refectory, Imperial College on the evening of May 25th. It was possible to contribute to this with floral decorations of Australian plants, helped by Dr. J. Smart of Barnstaple and Kew Gardens and these were beautifully arranged by Christine Brandt and Mr. Kaye. Also to add a taste of Australia, through the generosity of Yalumba and Sepplets Wineries, first class red and white wines were provided, which the record number who attended the dinner enjoyed. Most pleasing was the fact that the dinner showed a small profit.

The arrangements for the dinner were perfect, thanks to Barbara and Derek Breach and the organisation for the evening was conducted in an excellent style by our friendly and efficient Toastmaster, Richard Ward. The photographs taken by Tudor Harwood will always be a wonderful memento of this outstanding function.

During the year the Award Scheme continues to function and prosper thanks to the generous donations and bequests received from older Kewites to further this important Guild activity. Further awards have been made to ten Kewites and staff and this help will allow them to obtain further information for their life's work.

Other activities continued and some progress has been made in the matter of the George Catt's legacy.

We were all delighted that Leo Pemberton was given the George Brown Memorial Award and our best wishes go to him in his retirement after 25 years of wonderfully helpful assistance to Kew students.

An excellent number of the Journal of the Kew Guild was produced despite rising costs and our thanks go to the Editor, Richard Ward and Martin Sands and their assistants. This Journal allows all Kewites to keep in touch with their "alma mater" and to learn of the developments taking place at the Gardens.

The Guild's finances are in a healthy condition, thanks to the care and attention given to these matters by our Treasurer, Ted Storey. A membership drive is at present underway and it is hoped that this will bring more members into the Guild and improve its funds at the same time.

The Students themselves have been most active by holding a jumble sale, pancake race and fete and raffle which will aid the funds of the Students' Union.

Australian Kewites were also able to contribute to Kew by making a small donation towards helping the Gardens recover from the effects of the devastating October 1987 hurricane.

The continuing sale of the Wakehurst Booklet, thanks to Mr. Hepper has helped the Guild's finances.

Progress with the details for the Centenary Celebrations has continued and Martin Sands and his helpers are hopeful that this function in 1993 will be an outstanding success. The tour of the Gardens by Mr. Titchmarsh in conjunction with the Rotary Club organised by Richard Ward has also helped our funds.

Overall the Guild is in a very healthy state and should continue with the election of the new office bearers and committee. While again expressing my great pleasure for the honour and privilege of being your President for the year 1987-1988, it is regretted that it will not be possible for me to be present at this Annual General Meeting. My very best wishes to you all and thanks again.

*Noel Lothian*

## REPORT OF THE 1988 ANNUAL DINNER

by D. J. Breach, Events Officer

Oh! how the Kew Guild Members rallied to support and salute their President and his Lady — and Oh! what a splendidly enjoyable and friendly evening was shared by all. I refer, of course, to this year's Presidential Dinner held at the Imperial College, 'South Ken.' One hundred and seventy-four members and guests were present to welcome our President and his charming lady, 'Viv', during their visit from Australia.

The mood of harmony and friendship which prevailed throughout the evening was quickly established at a pre-dinner reception when our President and his lady personally welcomed each member and their guests.



Left to Right: Jean Bell, Professor Arthur Bell (Director), Noel Lothian (Guild President), Viv Lothian.

Of the 174 people who attended were our special guests, Professor E. A. Bell (Director of the Gardens), our guest speaker for the evening, Miss Margaret Stones (botanical artist of international repute) and Dr. Judy West (Australian liaison botanist at Kew). Others present included Dr. R. Keay (President of the Institute of Biology), four delegates from the Academy of Sciences, Peking, 11 students, including Graham Dear who was the representative of the Students' Union, and a very good cross section of Guild Members together with their guests.

In opening his Presidential address, our President, F. R. N. Lothian, O.B.E., N.D.H.(N.Z.), L.F.R.I.P.R.A., J.P., again welcomed the assembled company. He then proceeded to congratulate the Curator, John Simmons, on his being awarded the O.B.E. and the V.M.H. Honours which he considered to be well deserved and in which the Guild would bask in the reflected glory — sentiments which drew immediate positive and warm response from those present. He expressed publicly his gratitude to those Guild Officers who had acted in the discharge of certain Presidential duties during his year of Office as 'Overseas President'. Our President commented how the functions of Kew had changed and how the composition of the student body differed from that of his own day. He recalled how the students of his time had requested improved training

facilities and how at a meeting in the famous/infamous 'Tin Shed' Bill Campbell, the then Curator of the Gardens, had promised that improvements could be expected. Such promises coming to fruition in 1963 with the inauguration of the three year Kew Diploma course and the introduction to Kew of one Leo Pemberton who, after 25 years of unstinting service, was shortly to retire.

He concluded his address with a message to members of the Guild and especially to the students; that we should ever bear in mind that the British Isles had a strong tradition in promoting beautiful landscapes and in the cultivation of plants, and that it was our responsibility to continue and uphold that tradition. Our President then proposed the toast to our guests and introduced Professor E. A. Bell who responded to the toast and, as the guest speaker, proceeded to keep everyone amused and wide awake for the next ten to 15 minutes despite the Australian wine that had been consumed.

Of the other toasts of the evening the 'Loyal Toast' was proposed by the Toastmaster who also proposed the toast to 'The President', response by the President. The toast to the Kew Guild was proposed by Professor Bell and the response given by Mr. Graham Dear, who also proposed the toast to 'Absent Friends'. Grace was said by the President's Chaplain, the Rev. Hugh Flower.

The George Brown Memorial Award was presented to Leo Pemberton, the Supervisor of Studies at Kew.

Finally the Guild Committee wishes to express their thanks to: Richard Ward, for officiating as Toastmaster; Christine Brandt, for preparing the truly magnificent floral decorations; Martin Kaye, for providing flowers for the floral decorations and to Ken Pearson for assisting the President at the reception.

The date of the Guild Dinner, 1990, is Wednesday 23rd May.

## **KEW GUILD COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Your Committee met five times in 1988 and amongst important topics discussed were: reprinting Wakehurst Place Booklets; new subscription forms; Guild Centenary celebrations; Guild regalia etc. for sale; in depth look at Journal costs; Award Scheme recipients; students' reciprocal help; George Brown Award and Membership arrears.

## **KEW GUILD AWARD SCHEME REPORT**

Peter Maunder

In 1988 Kenwyn Pearson, after many years as a major motivator of the Scheme, retired from the Committee as Secretary. Our appreciative thanks and indebtedness go to him for his very positive involvement.

The present Committee organised by the Secretary Jenny Farrell, has been well supported by David Field, Louise Bustard and Tim Upson, with the support and financial guidance of Ted Storey.

Monetary awards are available to Guild members wishing to extend their knowledge, undertake research, or complete projects in the fields of botany or horticulture. Much of the support provided enables recipients to travel to those areas of the world where the balance between development and conservation is critical. Over the years, the majority who have benefitted have been Kew students who have completed, or are nearing the successful completion of, their courses.

The Award Scheme was instituted in 1975 to further the activities of Kew staff and students, both past and present, in the pursuit of horticultural and botanical knowledge.

The Awards Committee considered 14 applications in 1988, and was able to make awards to nine members. It was the opinion of the Committee that all the applicants merited support, and would have received it if adequate finance had been available.

The successful applicants, as listed below, reflect the diversity of interests world-wide which has always been characteristic of all those who have ever trained or worked at Kew.

Sarah Leadbetter	Les Cedres, Southern France
Tim Upson	Canary Islands
Emma Hutcheson	Missouri Botanic, U.S.A.
Jenny Farrell	Canary Islands
Cathy Buchanan	Bavarian Alps
Marc Long	Morocco
Phil Brewster (Staff)	Canary Islands
Louise Bustard (Staff)	Arizona, U.S.A.
Alison Bowles	New Zealand

Currently a personal appeal for Award Scheme funds is being made by four Kewites whose association with the Guild is spread over the last half century. It could well be that the Reader will be approached and the Committee will await your generous reaction with anticipation.

The evening reunion following the A.G.M. in September was again organised by the Committee, and again proved a successful venture. Peter Green and Martin Sands kindly acted as guides for the tour of the Herbarium. It was a fascinating insight for all those present, which for the majority was the 'other side' of Kew. The labyrinthine tour was concluded with a visit to the Library under the informative guidance of the Chief Librarian, Sylvia Fitzgerald. This proved to be the highlight of the evening, and was a particularly rewarding experience.

The buffet evening above the Wood Museum was again highly successful thanks to the efforts of Isabelle Maunder, Committee members David and Kenwyn, with Jenny, Louise and Tim aided by many student members. Every body worked extremely hard within a restricted space.

It's the joint efforts of those members and students involved in fund raising events such as the raffles, A.G.M. soirées and appeals that ensures funds continue to accumulate in the Award fund coffers thereby satisfying growing needs. This year has been another rewarding one, and we look forward to supporting future projects.

## **PRESENTATION OF THE KEW DIPLOMAS AND PRIZES 1988 (Course 23)**

The new Director, Professor Ghilleen Prance, introduced himself, and the guest of honour, Sir David Attenborough. Sir David, in his address, reminded the out-going students that they were the cream of world horticulture, since the most important world organism is plants, the most important skill in the world is growing plants and the best horticultural institution in the world is Kew Gardens. He congratulated them on their foresight in originally aiming to train at Kew.

### **THE KEW DIPLOMA**

#### **Honours**

Ms S. Bell	J. Donovan
Ms R. Carter	Mrs. J. Farrell
P. Cook	R. Turnell

#### **Credit**

Ms A. Bowles	Ms C. Mooney
Ms H. Duncan	D. North
R. Gray	Ms G. Pape
Ms I. van Groeningen	Ms R. Ransom
G. Humphreys	

**Pass**

J. Forsyth

A. Sparrow

**International Certificate**

Mrs. S. Steinbach

R. Tobler

J. Thomas



Students Prizegiving 1988 — Course 23. *Front Row left to right:* Sir David Attenborough, Professor Ghillean Prance (Director), Leo Pemberton, Supervisor of Studies.

**PRIZES**

The Ernest Thornton-Smith Travelling Scholarship .....	Ms R. Carter
Henry Idris Matthews Scholarship .....	Ms C. Buchanan (Course 24)
	M. Long (Course 24)
Hoselock-ASL Prize .....	N. Wallsgrove (Course 24)
G. C. Johnson Memorial Prize .....	J. Donovan
Kingdon-Ward Prize .....	J. Donovan
Landsman Bookshop Prize .....	Ms G. Pape
Sir Joseph Hooker Prize .....	Ms J. Jones (Course 24)
Donald Dring Memorial Prize .....	P. Blackmore (Course 24)
The Metcalfe Cup .....	Mrs. J. Farrell
John Gilbert Prize .....	O. Sebeseri (ex Student)
Matilda Smith Memorial Prize .....	P. Cook
Dummer Memorial Prize .....	R. Turnell
Proudlock Prize .....	J. Forsyth
Prize for best vegetable plot .....	G. Humphreys
Kew Guild Individual Study Prize .....	A. Sparrow
C. P. Raffill Prize .....	P. Cook
Professor Keith Jones Cup .....	B. Klein (Staff)
George Brown Prize .....	Ms C. Mooney
Mutual Improvement Society's Prize .....	Ms A. Bowles, T. Upson (Course 24)
Lecturer's Prize .....	P. Cook
Photographic Society Prize .....	Mrs. J. Farrell

Plant Identification Tests .....	R. Turnell
Rotary Club Prize .....	Mrs. J. Farrell
Students' Union Life Membership .....	Ms L. Bustard (Staff)

### TITLES OF MANAGEMENT PROJECTS (Course 23)

Ms S. Bell	Managing the Maintenance of the Small Scale, Temporary Interior Planter.
Ms A. Bowles	The Interaction Between Sport and Recreation and Horticulture and Wildlife on Golf Courses.
Ms R. Carter	City Greening: Development and Management. An investigation into the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.
P. Cook	The Development and Use of City Greening: London Borough of Islington.
J. Donovan	Tree Surveys: The Development of a Computerised Approach.
Ms H. Duncan	The Development and Use of Inner City Greening Within the City of London.
Mrs. J. Farrell	Problems of Plant Establishment and Initial Maintenance of Large Scale, Purpose Built Interiorscapes.
J. Forsyth	The Interaction Between Sports and Recreation with Horticulture and Wildlife on Race Courses.
R. Gray	The Problems of Plant Establishment and Initial Maintenance Along Motorways and Major Trunk Roads.
Ms I. van Groeningen	Tree Staking.
G. Humphreys	The Interaction Between Sport and Recreation with Horticulture and Wildlife in Large City Parks.
Ms C. Mooney	City Greening in the London Borough of Lambeth.
D. North	Cabling and Mature Tree Supports.
Ms G. Pape	Tree Feeding.
Ms R. Ransom	The Management and Finance of Inner City Greening on the City of Westminster.
A. Sparrow	The Interaction Between Sport and Recreation with Horticulture and Wildlife in Waterside Areas.
R. Turnell	The Problems of Plant Establishment and Initial Maintenance on Land Reclamation Schemes in the Home Counties; with Special Reference to Sand and Gravel Workings Reclaimed for Amenity and Leisure Use.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

Please check *now* that you are paying £7 for your subscription. Members who are not up to date will not receive their Journal!

### ADMISSION CHARGES 1989

With effect from 1st January 1989 the admission charge to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew will be:

Adults £1.00      Children (5-16) 50 pence      Senior Citizens 50 pence

The price includes admission to the Galleries, glasshouses and museums. School parties will continue to be admitted free by prior arrangement. Season tickets will remain at £5.00.

## THE KEW STUDENTS' UNION ANNUAL REPORT

by Neil Wallsgrove, President

This year's executive committee consists of:

Neil Wallsgrove	President
Greg Leeson	Secretary
Emma Jackson	Treasurer
Tim Upson	Social Secretary
Peter Hollett	Social Secretary
Lorraine Perrins	Fund Raiser
Spencer Ambrose	Sports Secretary
Graham Dear	Past President

Other posts on the Union are Tom Parker (Cricket Secretary), Richard Baines (Football Secretary), Jonathan Allin, Katy Whyte (First year representatives), Carmel Gibbons (Second year representative) and Beth Rothschild (Third year representative).

The student social year started with a couple of rather unsuccessful parties but the Course 23 leaving party in September was a first for Kew in that it actually made a small profit. The party was well attended and a great success as the usual problems of getting everyone to arrive on time and then to prevent them from adjourning to local pubs were overcome by hiring a 'Party Boat' and sailing up the Thames.

On the sports front the Union has been able to purchase a new football strip this year, hopefully non-shrink, and plans are also afoot to replace some worn out cricket gear.

Money has been raised in a number of ways, Membership fees, the Sponsored Litterpick to clean up Richmond Green after the May Fayre, a plant stall at the Kew Fête, the bulb plant and by the running of a sweepstake on the Round the Gardens Race.

Charities supported this year have been, The Evening Standard Tree Appeal, The Men of the Trees, Green Peace and Great Ormond Street Hospital, as well as Oxfam through the Comic Relief Red Nose Day.

On the academic front the Union is currently busying itself in pushing for more on the job training, extended computer facilities and arranging for the students to take the new Pesticide examinations.

Finally I would like to thank everyone for their support last year, staff and students and hope it continues for a successful 1989.

## THE BULB PLANT

by Lorraine Perrins, Fund Raiser, Students' Union

This took place on the 15th October, a cold but sunny Saturday morning.

The objective of the bulb plant was to raise money, by donations, for the Evening Standard Tree Appeal. As well as contributing a smaller amount of the money raised to the Students' Union.

There were two sites to be planted, the first on Compass Hill in Richmond, and the second at Udney Park on the intersection of Kingston Lane and Teddington High Street. The sites and mixed daffodil bulbs (all 28 sackfulls of them), were graciously donated by Richmond Council.

After four hours of frantic digging, 22 sacks of bulbs had been planted and we had collected £170.00.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the students who turned up to plant a seemingly never-ending stack of bulbs namely (ladies first), Sue Spielberg and Katie Whyte, then Peter Hollett, Tom Parker, John Lanyon, Richard Baines, Brendon Little, David Barnes and Russell Forbes. Their help on the day was greatly appreciated. Thankyou also to Jane Runicles and Tony Lunn for supplying the flamboyant posters.

## STUDENTS' UNION SPORTS REPORT

by Spencer Ambrose

The new football season kicked off in good old fashioned style, with the students playing the staff. It seems the staff have become demoralised over the last few seasons with the students taking an easy victory of 6-1!

In November Kew students played a mixed football match against old rivals — Wisley. Unfortunately for Wisley, Kew were on top form, winning convincingly 11-2. Scorers included N. Wallsgrove, R. Baines, T. Sunderland and S. Ambrose.

Later in the season the students travelled down to Surrey University to take part in the Endsleigh Insurance Five-a-Side Competition. Kew were unlucky to lose in all three matches and made an early departure from the competition.

The first years were welcomed by the Clog and Apron Race that took place on a warm summer evening in late September. This unique race recalls the tradition of former days, with competitors, all of whom are horticultural students working at Kew, dressed in aprons and heavy wooden-soled clogs. The air resounded with the pounding of clogs as competitors ran the length of the broadwalk.

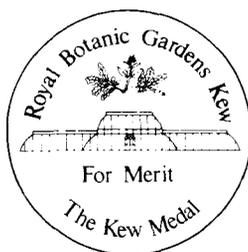
Most of the first year participants competed in a dazzling array of fancy dress costumes. The race was started by Mr. Graham Bass, Supervisor of Studies. The winner, Wyatt Edmonds, completed the course in 1 minute and 3 seconds. Terry Sunderland was second and Peter O'Toole was third. The first girl home was Jane Runicles and the presentation of medals was made by Professor Prance.

In June the Civil Service Sports Day was held at Dukes Meadow, Chiswick. But 1988 proved disastrous for Kew. Both the Football and Rounders teams lost their opening games and had to spend the rest of the afternoon drowning their sorrows in the Beer Tent!! Better luck next year.

The Round the Gardens Race took place on October 24th, on a perfect evening for running. Twenty-four runners took part, with a large crowd of supporters present as well. The race was won by Spencer Ambrose, a third year student, who was met by rapturous applause as he broke through the finishing tape to take the trophy in a time of 15 minutes, 17 seconds. Bob Nash came a gallant second in 15 minutes, 29 seconds and Steve Davis third, his time 16 minutes 15 seconds. Jane Runicles was the first lady home, Peter Edwards was the first veteran back and fifth overall and the first supervet (over 60), was David Jones. The trophy and medals were presented by Professor and Mrs. Prance.

Finally, may I thank all those who organised, helped and participated in the sporting events of 1988 and hope more people will be encouraged to play in 1989.

### THE KEW MEDAL AWARDS 1988



The Kew Medal is awarded annually to those whose achievements, contributions or services to the gardens at Kew and Wakehurst Place are considered of outstanding merit and deserving of special honour.

The medal, struck in silver-gilt, was first awarded in 1980, and is inscribed "**FOR MERIT**". The face design illustrates the Palm House (1840 to 1844) with a spray of Oak (*Quercus robur*) and Para Rubber (*Hevea brasiliensis*) leaves above representing both the knowledge and work of the staff of the Royal Botanic Gardens.

The name of the recipient is engraved on the reverse of the medal, together with the year of the award, and is encircled with vine leaves and a crown signifying Kew's links around the world.

**E. BLOOMER**, P.S.A. Depot Manager

For outstanding achievements and unflinching cheerfulness during his stay at Kew.

**T. EMANUEL**, LCD Service Machinery Unit

For loyal and efficient service to RBG Kew.

**DR. R. HOLTUM**, Hon. Research Associate

For lifelong achievement in Botany, and his enthusiasm and imagination to both staff and visitors.

**L. PEMBERTON**, Supervisor of Studies

For service and guiding the careers of so many Kewites and upholding the name of Kew as the centre of excellence and horticultural education.



*From left to right:* The new Director, the Mayoress of Richmond, Professor Holtum, Mr. and Mrs. Emmanuel, Mr. Bloomer and Mr. Pemberton.

## THE KEW MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY

by Brendan Little

Founded in 1871 by Sir Joseph Hooker, the Society is none the worse for wear. Increased membership and good attendances at Monday evening meetings would suggest a very bright future indeed.

This year's A.G.M. saw the departure from the scene of a fine committee chaired by Jo Jones, with Alison Bowles and Tim Upson as secretaries and Marc Long as treasurer. Their efforts were duly rewarded at the prize-giving ceremony.

### Spring 1988

The Spring season of lectures got off to a good start with Mike Maunder's lecture on his visit to Iceland.

Dr. Charles Nelson of Glasnevin Botanic Gardens spoke in detail of Ireland's garden heritage.

Marc Long continued the Irish Gardens theme with his lecture on Irish gardens.

Another student, Sara Leadbetter, spoke of her favourite place Cornwall, with Steve Davis talking about his favourite place, the Gunnersbury Triangle.

A welcome visitor, Mr. Christopher Lloyd, gave us a travelogue of his visit to Japan.

Helen Duncan continued this theme of travel with her lecture "Israel, the Negev and Arava".

The high standard of student lectures was continued by Claire Mooney and Paul Cook who both won prizes for their efforts.

### Autumn 1988

The Society's season begins with the annual 'Cheese and Wine' night. This affords us an opportunity of welcoming the new student intake. This year we were in the unique position of welcoming Professor Prance as new Gardens Director, and Mr. G. Bass as our new Supervisor of Studies. The evening was a big success.

Our lecture series got off to a good start with an excellent lecture given by Dr. Chris Grey-Wilson of the Herbarium. His title of "Flowers of Nepal" attracted and enthralled a large attendance.

Mr. Graham Bass, our new Head of Studies, spoke of "The Great Gardens of China" — a lecture which proved very popular.

Travelogues made up a large portion of our autumn and winter programme. Mr. Chris Hannington and Mr. James Compton spoke of their trips to Chile and Africa respectively, and Miss Louise Bustard, in her own inimitable style, recounted her trip to North America and Mexico. Louise entitled her lecture "Through the Desert in a Boater".

A sincere thank you must be paid to Dr. Peter Brandham who stepped in at the last minute to fill in for an unexpected cancellation. Dr. Brandham's photographic account of "A Year at Kew" more than compensated for our cancellation disappointment.

Charlie Butterworth, a second-year student, proved a very popular speaker. His talk "From the Valley Bottoms to the Mountain Tops" took us up mountains both in this country and in the Alps.

Mr. Peter Thoday, Senior Lecturer at Bath University, enthralled a large attendance with his talk on "Life after Gardening".

The Interdepartmental Quiz resulted in a Titanic struggle between the teams of the Alpine and Planning Departments, with the girls from Planning winning the day.

The excellent slides which accompanied Mr. Tony Schilling's lecture inspired all would-be photographers. His lecture "Bhutan, Land of the Fire Dragon" was very well received.

Both Steven May and Chris Crowder made welcome returns to Kew. Steven talked of his recent trip to Japan, while Chris spoke of the gardens at Levens Hall with their astonishing topiary.

Mr. Adrian Bloom of Bloom's Nurseries, discussed the development of his gardens at Bressingham in Norfolk.

A most enjoyable lecture by Sara Leadbetter, a third-year student, continued the fine tradition and high standard of student lectures.

The annual Christmas Cake Competition was a big success with 12 entries this year. The judges, Mrs. Prance and Mrs. Simmons, proclaimed that every cake was a winner!

As Chairman for the 1988/89 season I would like to thank this season's hard working committee:

Secretaries: Sue Speilberg, Richard Baines, Carolin Gohler  
 Treasurer: James McMillan  
 Vice-Chairman: Tom Parker

A very special thank you must be made to Mr. Brian Halliwell, Dr. Peter Brandham and Mr. Dickon Bowling. Without their advice and support our job would have been much more difficult.

#### **Kew Mutual Improvement Society Prize Winners**

Sir Joseph Hooker Memorial Prize:	Jo Jones
Kew Mutual Improvement Society Prize awarded jointly:	Alison Bowles Tim Upson
Professor Keith Jones Prize:	Bert Klein
Honorary Life Membership:	Louise Bustard
C. P. Raffill Prize: (for the winner of the student lecture competition)	Paul Cook

### **LIVING COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT REPORT 1988**

R. I. Beyer, Deputy Curator

Christmas has gone and it is almost the New Year so, once again, the time has come to put down on paper a few words to inadequately sum up what took place during 1988.

Thankfully, there were no serious traumas or major changes and, in essence, the year was one of recovery following the hurricane of 1987; the results of which are now relatively difficult to remember at Kew. An all out onslaught by staff enabled the Gardens to be cleared of fallen and dangerous trees some three weeks before Easter, which was a magnificent achievement, improving even our most optimistic target date by several weeks.

At Wakehurst, where the devastation was much worse, progress of clearance and repair has been remarkable, but it will be many years before the scars have healed in a garden previously renowned for its trees and rhododendron collection. A feeling of optimism is now to be detected as plans have been developed to exploit opportunities previously impossible at both gardens. For instance, the old rhododendron walk near the mansion at Wakehurst is now being replanted as an asiatic **Ericaceae** garden enabling much plant material, recently collected in the wild by LCD staff, to be fully used. The tragic loss of the tree canopy in this area has changed the effect dramatically, but Tony Schilling and his staff are proving that good horticulturists are adaptable and well able to use adversity to create anew.

In the less formal areas of Wakehurst it will be some years before all the rest of the fallen trees will be removed. No doubt, in some parts, they will remain to rot as part of the natural cycle, but despite this setback, the Garden still provides the discerning visitor with a wealth of interest whatever the time of year.

At Kew, where the damage was serious but not irretrievable, in the summer it was difficult to see the torn limbs and unsightly scars. Autumn leaf fall though, unfortunately, removes the camouflage once again exposing work that will take another two years to complete. Every large tree must be climbed and inspected to locate possible fractures which are not visible from the ground, broken limbs must either be removed or shortened and attempts made to rebuild, shape and recreate balance in badly damaged trees.

Whilst it is not possible to pay a bonus or give a gratuity, the Director agreed that a party should be held at both Kew and Wakehurst as a token of appreciation for all the hard work that all those involved had put in. I went to the party which was held in the Kew Gardens Hotel and can testify that it was enjoyed by all in the appropriate manner despite the liquid refreshment not being free beyond the first glass or so.



The Minister (Rt. Hon. John MacGregor) at Wakehurst, November 1988, gives an extra £120,000 to help clearance and inspects the tree he planted the previous year. *Left to right:* Valerie Woolley (Acting Secretary), Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Iain Prance (Director), Cmdr. Saunders-Watson (Trustee), Tony Schilling, John Simmons.

Because I either forgot or ran out of ink, I failed to mention in last year's report that *Readers Digest* donated to Kew 1.6 million blue/white crocus corms (one for each United Kingdom reader) to celebrate their fiftieth anniversary. These had to be planted in the midst of the chaos created by the October hurricane. They have, in actual fact, been dramatically planted in the grass areas either side of the path leading from Victoria Gate to King Williams Temple, and cover at least two acres and at long last we now have a feature which truly suits the scale of Kew. The question may be asked 'How was it done?' and the answer is 'to cut and roll the turf back as a carpet then spread the corms underneath, roll the turf back, stand back and wait for an explosion in the Spring'. On the 9th March, Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, was invited to view the result and also plant a specimen of *Umbellularia californica*, the 'Californian Bay'. This was one of the 50 different trees the *Readers Digest* had generously sponsored. I am sure that each Spring photographers will flock to Kew to record the blaze of colour which, I believe, enhances the gardens and is not vulgar in any way.

Whilst on the subject of tree planting, the Speaker of the House of Commons came to Kew on 1st June to plant a specimen of *Castanospermum australe*, the 'Morton Bay Chestnut', in the Australian House, as part of the Australian Bicentennial celebrations. His association with this species is related to the chair he spends a great deal of his life sitting on, which is made from wood of this tree, but there is some doubt that the young plant will reach sufficient size in the Australian House for a new one to be made from it. As a further contribution to the celebrations, an Australian trail was identified for the visitors to follow across the Gardens

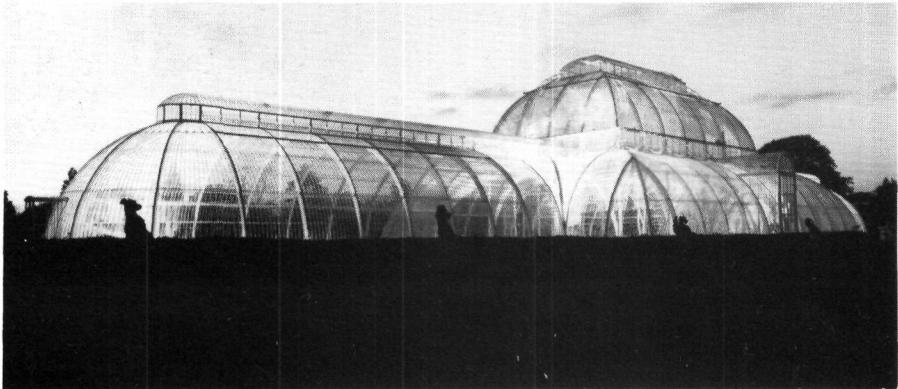
to draw their attention to some of the interesting Australian plants we are growing both outside and under glass.

Later in the year, the wife of the Japanese Prime Minister paid a short visit to see the Princess of Wales conservatory, and kindly planted a seedling Magnolia near the main gate which we intend to make the starting point of a new Magnolia walk. This will obviously take years to mature but, as we know, tree planting is a long term investment for the future.

The Princess of Wales Conservatory is now an accepted part of Kew and I think I can safely say it has lived up to our highest expectations. Besides being an exceptionally fine glasshouse in which to grow plants, it has been recognised as an imaginative piece of engineering by a number of bodies who have subsequently given formal awards to it. To date these number six and commemorative plaques have been placed inside the north end of the structure, but if many more arrive we will soon run out of wall space. The last one was from the British Tourist Authority who must now recognise how important Kew is because in a listing of the most popular tourist attractions in the United Kingdom published in December in the National Press, Kew came fifth amongst those who make an entrance charge.

Promenade concerts now figure as an annual outing for the loyal local following. Once again they were not disappointed by a varied programme which included the band of Royal Marines, the Royal Philharmonic Brass Ensemble and the Pasadena Roof Orchestra. Performances were given in front of the Temperate House with the steps providing an excellent stage.

Unfortunately, inside the Temperate House vegetation is now too thick to allow us to provide covered accommodation for the audience. Plans are being made for the 1989 season which could also include a cultural activity extending over two weeks, but I will say no more, although around June you are advised to watch the press for more details.



November saw the completion of the Palm House and the official hand-over from the main contractor. For several nights internal flood lights lit up the interior, emphasising the sheer magnificence of its design and execution which, for the short period before we start replanting, can be enjoyed by visitors who are now being allowed access. Because it will be necessary to take out the gable end of the temporary Palm House to get the plants out, only preparatory work will be undertaken before the weather can be guaranteed not to get too cold. The service area in the basement of the Palm House has been completed to a standard which our predecessors would have thought impossible. No more inadequate changing and mess room facilities tucked in behind No. 15 for modern day staff, but a palatial mess room, offices and toilets fit for a King or Queen. The largest part of the increased basement area will, however, accommodate a marine Algae (seaweeds) display which will be unique. We have been carrying out developmental work on the culture of this difficult group for at least three years and are now ready to set up a

display as soon as tanks and necessary support engineering is finished. Because it is part of a separate contract, this will also not start until March 1989.

A stream of VIPs descended on Kew to admire the restored building, including Baroness Trumpington, Minister of Agriculture, Richard Luce, Minister of Art and the Permanent Secretaries of the Department of the Environment and Ministry of Agriculture. The consensus of opinion is that the restoration has been carried out to the highest standard and in faith with the original building executed by Burton and Turner in 1848.



Baroness Trumpington, with a bouquet of tropical flowers presented by Sue Minter (far right), inspects the newly restored Palm House. On the right are representatives of the Property Services Agency and the consultants (Posford Duvivier). *Left to right:* Giles Hopkinson (Director London Region P.S.A.), Chris Jones (Project Manager), Bill Brannan (P.S.A.) and Sir Gordon Manzie (Chief Executive P.S.A.).

The Living Collections Department had never had the luxury of a purpose built quarantine house, despite being an institute able to import plant material for its own use with minimal restriction. Recognising the need to be beyond reproach, a new quarantine house, with a number of separate compartments, has been built in the Lower Nursery to both accommodate our own imports as well as material seized by Customs and Excise under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species legislation (CITES).

Assistant Curators Charles Erskine and Hans Fliegner undertook a successful expedition to Sichuan in October under the auspices of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and returned fully satisfied with their efforts. Further south in Yunnan, Tony Schilling and Chris Grey-Wilson were following the footsteps of that intrepid explorer and plant collector Robert Fortune. They also did some very good field work despite Tony Schilling developing damaged knee cartilages. Martin Staniforth joined the Kew expedition led by John Dransfield to Madagascar, a once restricted part of the world which is now more freely available to botanists. Mark Bovey, Supervisor at Wakehurst, has taken a contract through the Overseas Development Agency to play an active role in the development of the Limbe Botanic Garden, Cameroon. Mark Flanagan has transferred from Kew to take his place and we welcome Mike Maunder as his replacement

in the Planning Unit at Kew. David Davies has been appointed a successor to Mike Sinnott in the Decorative Unit, Mike having taken over the responsibilities of Alan Cook in the Rock Garden and Order beds. He is currently busily engaged developing the south west corner of the Rock Garden to complete the outstanding landscape detail remaining after the construction of the Princess of Wales Conservatory. (See details elsewhere — *Ed.*)

Sadly, the students Prizegiving was the last at which Leo Pemberton officiated as a Supervisor of Studies as he retired shortly afterwards. Our friendship extends back to 1948 where we were both improvers at the Swanley Horticultural College and attended day release classes together. Many ex-Kew students subscribed to his going away gift which reflected the high esteem that he rightly holds in the eyes of a great number of old and new Kewites. Graham Bass, from Askham Bryan, has been appointed as his successor and we wish him every success in what is, and will continue to be, a demanding job.



Farewell to Leo and Melba Pemberton. Presentation of a painting of *Agapanthus* by Margaret Stones — a massive role of signatures held by Leo and John Simmons (right). Nearly 200 staff and alumni attended the farewell presentation held in the Banks Building. The Director, Professor I. Prance is standing on the left.

Lastly, as a long serving member of staff who has seen five previous directors, it was good to show a little of what we do in the LCD to our new Director, Dr. Iain Prance, during the latter part of the year. Kew must adapt to meet new challenges, particularly now the Institute has to live on diminishing grant in aid plus any other money it can find. Our new Director thus faces difficult times ahead, but the interest he has shown in our work augurs well for the future. By the way, he has decided we are better addressed as departments rather than divisions, hence the change of title at the start of this article.

## WHAT IT IS LIKE BEING THE CURATOR'S SECRETARY

by Dianne Owens

Having worked in commerce and industry for most of my life I find Kew really rather a pleasant relief. The Curator's office is especially interesting and even the usual mundane office

tasks can be of an unusual nature — opening the post, especially when it is not yours, can be rather tedious but not at Kew — parts of flowers sent through the post for identification, letters of praise for the way the garden is run, or inevitably complaints, requests to film in the Princess of Wales conservatory. Even answering the telephone has an unpredictable quality about it — calls varying from an MP to an inmate of a mental asylum requesting fruit and vegetables to be sent to her!

The job is certainly a busy one but somehow lacks the stress that commerce seems to generate. And if there are those odd periods of frustration once can always take a bike and cycle round the garden on an 'educational' look at the Gardens and return refreshed to start again.

But I think for me the most valuable side of the job is that it has opened up the possibility of working in an environment that I can relate to and also, because of the never ending fund of knowledge that there is available to draw from, the job has a unique quality in that it will never be static.

People are an important part of the enjoyment of any job — and horticultural people are — well, dare I say it — so down to earth!

## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

As we prepare to enter the last decade of the twentieth century, the world is facing an unprecedented environmental crisis. The reality of the greenhouse effect has only recently been acknowledged, and plant and animal species are disappearing at an alarming rate as tropical deforestation is accelerating. In 1988, an area of 248,000 square kilometres was seen to be burning in Brazil alone. That is, an area the size of the United Kingdom was burnt in a single year in just one country. The gravity of the environmental situation means that all institutions concerned with biology must become deeply involved in the conservation of and research into the wiser utilisation of our resources. Plants are basic to any solution of the problems and so the importance of the resources of botanic gardens become all the more obvious.

The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, has been involved in plant conservation for many years. The Gardens house over 2,000 threatened and endangered species in the Living Collections, the Seed Bank at Wakehurst Place is a most valuable resource for the survival of species, and the Micropropagation Unit is producing plants of extremely rare species for reintroduction into the wild. In addition, Kew is involved in the control of the import of plant material into the country and in the implementation of the CITES treaty that controls trading in endangered species. We also house the Botanic Gardens Secretariat of I.U.C.N. and work closely with other branches of I.U.C.N. and of the World Wildlife Fund. Our work in conservation is already impressive but, in response to the challenge of the next decade, we must increase our efforts, both in our scientific work and in our interpretation and education of the public in conservation matters. I have recently appointed a staff committee, chaired by Ian Beyer, to co-ordinate and focus our activities in all aspects of conservation.

Another aspect which it is important to develop over the next few years is improved visitor facilities. Plans are now being drawn up for two new visitor orientation centres and sales areas; one in the Shaft Yard, near Victoria Gate, and the other at the Main Gate, the two principal points of entry to the Gardens. When these are built, it will be possible to convert the Orangery into a much improved restaurant, open all the year round.

The next few years will be a challenging time for Kew since we shall need to seek additional sources of funding to maintain and expand our programmes of horticulture, botanical research and education as the ratio of government support may decline. In order to prepare the way for this, we plan to launch a "Friends of Kew" as soon as possible to form a direct link with the many people whom we know are our friends and supporters. The way in which people from all over the world have responded to the hurricane of 1987 has shown us what a wonderful group of friends we already have. These are the people who can best support both our efforts



to maintain a high rate of government funding and also to seek for new sources of private funds to continue the excellent standards and world leadership of our Gardens. The existence of a Friends organisation will in no way detract from — indeed, I hope it will complement — the important rôle of the Kew Guild in keeping the Kew family together. I look forward to meeting members at the Annual dinner later this year and to seeing the Guild go from strength to strength as its centenary approaches.

Ghilleen T. Prance  
*Director*

### **ROUND THE GARDENS RACE 1988**

Extracted from *Kew News* No. 1, 1988

The race this year we held on Wednesday 26th October starting at 5.00 p.m. and was won by Spencer Ambrose, a third year Horticultural Student. Second was Rob Nash of the Jodrell and third was Steve Davis of the I.U.C.N. Conservation Unit. The first lady home was Jane Runcibles, a first year Horticultural Student. Professor Prance presented the prizes.



The runners ready to go.



Congratulations to the winners, from left to right — Rob Nash, Spencer Ambrose, Jane Runicles and Steve Davis.



The Ex-Kew Relay Race Team, 1988.

## 'NEVER MISS AN OPPORTUNITY' — THE XMAS PARTY 1988

by Keith Jones

Kew has never possessed a good function room to allow all or most of its staff to come together on festive or celebratory occasions in winter. That being so, advantage has to be taken of accommodation designed for quite other purposes when it becomes fleetingly available. Some will remember for example the night of December 22nd 1971 when for the first time a party for all Kew staff took place in the Orangery, then cleared in preparation for it becoming the 'Orientation Centre'. Over 300 gathered together — many in evening dress — to eat and drink, to sing and dance and finally to emerge to weave among the trees and shrubs in an endless Conga snake with the Director, Jack Heslop-Harrison, well to the fore.

Seventeen years on, the vast exhibition hall of the new Banks Building with its lovely ash floor, clearly designed for dancing, provided a similar opportunity for an Xmas Party prior to its being fitted out with cases of economic botany. On the night of December 21st, bedecked with fairy lights and equipped with garden furniture, this veritable palace attracted several hundred staff and friends to eat, drink and cavort to a live band whose talents ranged from barn dance to disco. Before being allowed to abandon oneself entirely to these venial delights all witnessed a 'compelling' performance of histrionics by some of the more extrovert members of the Herbarium and EID after which everyone laughed again and devoted themselves to the 'serious' business of the night. A sumptuous buffet, seemingly prepared by generous volunteers and served by shy yashmaked damsels whose veils could not disguise the adorable figures of guide lecturers and artists, was rapidly consumed and attention was then focussed on endless supplies of beer and wine. The evening was graced by the presence of the new Director and his family whilst some shadowy dignitaries from the past also came like moths attracted to this unusual light.

Although many familiar faces were notable by their absence the evening was a great success and continued, they say, until close to midnight. Like the Orangery Party of so many years ago it will be remembered as a wonderful exploitation of an opportunity taken before the floor filled with exhibits inhibiting anything other than education and information.

Those who helped to make the Xmas Party so successful included: Christine Brandt who was in charge; Sally Dawson and Bill Baily who put up splendid decorations; Christine and Susy Dickerson who provided the sumptuous buffet; Jean Moran who provided the exotic costumes for Dr. Burbidge's harem and all those whose Thespian talents were well displayed in Jack and the Beanstalk.

## MOROCCO AND THE GREAT ATLAS

by Marc Long

The origins and diversity of the Maghreb flora offers many opportunities to the student. The Moroccan flora in particular is amongst the most diverse in the Mediterranean basin after that of Turkey, Greece and Spain. The numbers of species is estimated at 3,750 of which approximately 600 are of endemic origin. One third of these are confined to the High Atlas.

Many factors combine to erode this diversity. The principal one being over grazing by migratory goat herds as well as illegal felling for fuel and burning to gain pasture for animals. The harsh climate affects endemics with a small distribution especially at high altitude. *Juniperus thurifera* which once girdled the mass of the Atlas with a belt of forest has been almost completely felled and the possibilities of its re-establishment are slim.

In June 1988 a Kew Guild award and money donated by the Alpine Garden Society enabled me to spend a month in Morocco. Much of this time was spent in the High Atlas, a range of rugged mountains and hills extending N.E. by East from the Atlantic seaboard to the southern borders of Algeria forming a barrier between the northern plains and the pre-Sahara.

In the countryside buses are sporadic or non-existent so a car was hired for a period of three weeks and together with Dr. Mohammed Rejdali at the Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire

Hassan II in Rabat an itinerary was planned to include selected sites of botanic interest at this time of the year.

The localities chosen were the following:

1. The Toubkal National Park.
2. The Argan forest to the West of Taroudannt.
3. The Dades and Todra Gorges.
4. Jbel Ayachi.
5. Azrou, Ifrane and environs.

As well as botanising, visits were made to the cities of Fez and Marrakech both preserving in their Medina the appearance to the visitor of a medieval Islamic city. A brief foray was made through the date palm growing regions of Tafilalt to the rolling sand dunes of Merzouga.

The approach road to Asni through the Moulay Brahim Gorges yielded an abundance of roadside flora. Patches of blue **Catananche coerulea**, **Limonium mouretii** were interspersed with **Rumex papilo** and the metallic **Eryngium ilicifolium**. **Salvia taraxacifolia** an endemic was also seen in places. Descending the slopes towards a dry river bed enclosed within stiff hedges of **Ononis spinosa** and **Capparis spinosa**, **Galium corrudifolium** was found in conjunction with **Coronilla viminalis**.

An overnight stop at the picturesque Youth Hostel at Asni was followed by an early morning departure for Imllil where the car was left under the watchful eye of a 'Gardien'. Fine Walnut groves surrounding the village gave way to terraced banks enclosing irrigated parcels of land as the mule track wound its way tortuously to the Netler refuge (3,207m) at the foot of Mt. Toubkal. High altitude and exposure to a harsh climate has resulted in vegetation dominated by caespitose shrubs such as **Bupleurum spinosum** and **Vella pseudocytisus**. These sheltered a wide variety of rock garden gems such as **Campanula atlantica**, the compact **Pteroccephalus depressus**, **Eryngium bourgatii** and **Leucanthemum catananche**.

The following day a trek from Oukaimeden to Tachedirt proved to be one of the highlights of my stay in Morocco. This area is incredibly rich in plant species and fortunately there was no evidence of transhumance leaving the surrounding meadows and slopes to riot in colour. **Potentilla nevadensis**, **Echium flavum** and **Dianthus gaditanus** was found along with **Euphorbia pinea** and **Onopordon accaule**. Great drifts of **Armeria alliacea** and **Catananche caerulea** dotted the valley above Tachedirt. A warm welcome in Tachedirt included an introduction to every person in the village, an exchange of gifts and later that evening a delicious Couscous washed down with mint tea followed by a sound nights sleep in a Berber house.

Continuing southwards the summit of Tizi-n-Test was botanised yielding **Ptilotrichum spinosum** together with the red stems and bright green bracts of **Euphorbia dasycarpa** as well as the pungent **Thymus dreatensis** in full bloom.

A dizzy descent through a series of sweeping hair pin bends eventually led to the broad river valley of the Oued Sous. Here the land is intensively cultivated, the fertile soil and constant irrigation support large tracts of Citrus groves and other crops. Of these the most interesting is the endemic **Argania spinosa** confined to the sub-littoral zone of south west Morocco. A valuable edible oil is extracted from the seed and the wood which was formerly abundant is unrivalled for its hardness and durability. Photographs of both flower and fruit were obtained. As is the case elsewhere in Morocco overgrazing and felling has prevented regeneration leading to the forest becoming sparse and unproductive.

Two days of isolation and uncertainty followed driving on unmetalled roads (Pistes) through the Dades and Todra gorges. Here eroded limestone ridges alternated with spectacular deep gorges enclosed by sheer cliff faces.

The area around Azrou and Ifrane is remarkable, for it is here one can see forests of **Cedrus atlantica**, showing welcome signs of good husbandry and natural regeneration. It was also exciting to witness the provenance of what is in Europe and N. America a feature in many historic parks and gardens.

Near the Col du Zad frequent sightings of bright purple clumps forced a roadside halt to reveal **Cynara hystrix**. Another site close to Ifrane sustained **Inula montana** and small pockets of the attractive **Centaurea incana** as well as the tall pale endemic **Eryngium moroccanum**.

A month passed all too quickly, but as I write this one of my most vivid memories is of a late evening drive through the Skoura oasis, a fresh breeze blowing through the window and the date palms, their arching pinnate leaves borne on long elegant trunks silhouetted against the sky.

## GARDENS OF THE CÔTE D'AZUR

(or *Heat — Struck Wanderings Along the Coast of Blue*)

A Travel Scholarship report by Sarah Leadbetter, third year student

During June and July of last summer, I was fortunate enough to spend three weeks in the South of France in the small town of Villefranche, just east of Nice.

Having developed an interest in Bromeliads (or a "particular passion for pineapples" as was once written of me), I had written to 'Les Cedres', a 40 acre private botanic garden owned by Mme. Marnier-Lapostolle — of the *Grand Marnier* fame, asking if she would allow me to work there. They have the largest collection of Bromeliads, grown outside, in Europe.

'Les Cedres' is set on the east side of Villefranche harbour on the headland St. Jean-Cap-Ferrat, and consequently commands breathtaking views not only of Nice, but also Monaco and Northern Italy.

I worked the mornings only with M. Rene Hebding, the Bromeliad specialist. His section consists of two glasshouses, slatted standing ground and a "roof" of their own thick bamboo canes from which more bromeliads and **Stanhopea** spp. hung beneath the tree canopy. In all there are approximately 20 glasshouses, including two large tropical and two large landscaped cacti houses set amidst the lush gardens.

During the afternoons I had the opportunity of exploring the rest of the garden and discovering not only the trees swathed in **Tillandsias** and cacti, but many unusual specimens such as the beautifully scented, pink-flowered tree, **Dias cotinifolia**, a tree stump covered with the small reddish flowers of **Tropaeolum pentaphyllum**, the exotic green leguminous flowers of **Strongilodon macrobotrys** together with its fruit (the only botanic garden in the world apparently able to do so) and the giant water-lily **Victoria cruziana**, planted in the large pond near the house a week before I arrived and so not flowering — it is grown outside each year.

On other afternoons I was able to visit the garden and herbarium of Villa Thuret, Cap d'Antibes, where I found the graceful arching stems of **Russelia juncea**, and the small cact-garden of Eze Village, perched hundreds of metres above the sapphire blue sea, where during summer temperatures soar over 32 degrees celsius and drop in winter to -10.

At the Jardin Exotique in Monaco, I saw a far larger collection of cacti, succulents, palms and a few bromeliads cascading down the mountainside above ground, and joined a tour of the caverns and "cathedrals" of creamy white stalagmites and stalagmites beneath the garden.

Further east I found a superb flowering specimen of **Nelumbo nucifera** at the Val Rahmeh Botanic Garden, Menton-Garavan, where there were several interesting plants interspersed with rather gaudy and totally out of place bedding!

However, one of the most exciting afternoons was when I walked over the border into Italy to see 'La Mortola'. As usual it was a scorching day, the sea unbelievably blue and suddenly from the second headland I found myself looking down on the villa 'La Mortola', nestling amongst a huge **Yucca australis**, numerous **Eucalyptus** spp., **Jacaranda acutifolia** and the stately **Cupressus sempervirens**.

Although now somewhat rundown, the gardens, owned by the Hanbury family from 1867-1960, still display some of their former glory and the University of Genoa, under the auspices of the Italian Government are attempting to restore them.

My trip really was a marvellous experience; I increased my knowledge of Bromeliad cultivation and was given several *Tillandsias* to bring back to Kew.

My thanks are due to Mme. Marnier-Lapostolle, M. Hebding, and the Kew Guild, who, together with a close friend, enabled me to visit the Gardens of the Côte d'Azur.

## DESERT DAYS

by Louise Bustard

April and May in the Southwestern states of America is cactus flowering time. It is a time of plenty for all; for the creatures which feed on the vast reservoirs of nectar provided by a cactus flower; and for the flowers which are visited and hopefully pollinated by myriad insects, bees, bats, moths and birds. It is spring and the chill winter is past. Surprisingly, winter in both the Sonoran and Mojave Deserts can be extremely cold. The temperatures regularly drop well below freezing resulting in frequent frosts and occasional snow falls. Even in late May day-time temperatures in the high desert regions can be uncomfortably low as I discovered whilst travelling through the Joshua Tree National Monument in Southern California. As I stood by a Joshua Tree (*Yucca brevifolia*) trying to photograph it, I felt a little foolish with my blue shorts, blue legs and fingers too cold to press the shutter.

The desert proved to be a land of endless surprises. I had expected to find a bare and barren wilderness but what actually confronted me was a landscape bursting with countless varieties of life forms. As one of the more recent (geologically speaking) climatic environments to appear on Earth, both the flora and fauna now inhabiting desert areas have evolved the ability to endure the extreme nature of the desert. Many of the adaptations to withstand extremes of temperature and intense aridity followed by flash floods are unique and in many cases extremely bizarre. The structure of a cactus with ribs to permit shrinkage in dry periods and swelling during the rains also to create some shade on their neighbours; a waxy cuticle to prevent excessive water loss; spines to create more shade and to form a layer behind which cool air is trapped during the heat of the day and warm air during the cool nights, all these features lead one to believe that mother nature works it all out logically.

I was surprised by the obvious difference between two neighbouring desert states, California and Arizona. In Arizona both the people and their laws actively support the conservation of their desert and their wildlife. Unlike many of their Californian neighbours they do not shun their native plants. The gardens, parks and municipal buildings are generously landscaped using the native flora. Some exotics are used of course, Palms, Jacarandas, Oleandas and various South African and Australian trees line the streets. The laws limiting the use of water in Arizona restricts the use of plants to drought-tolerant species and looks perfectly in harmony with the desert environment.

Each state through which the Colorado River flows is permitted to take a specified amount of its water. Arizona's forward-looking approach to conservation of water and energy production means that it only removes two thirds of its allotted quota.

California on the other hand takes its full quota and the third which Arizona leaves behind. I found the wasteful use of water in California quite shocking. Here the residents, whilst reveling in the sunshine and clean air (at least, those not living within 50 miles of Los Angeles) of the desert, seem very reluctant to use their native flora and prefer to surround themselves with plants more at home in the rainforest. To maintain this effect of a green and pleasant land garden irrigation systems were kept running for almost the entire day and the streets in many of the suburban areas I visited were literally running with water.

If I had to choose just one highlight from my desert travels, helped by a Kew Guild Award Scheme grant, it must be the four days I spent camping in the Sonoran Desert in northern Mexico. Two marvellous people, desert-lovers and plant growers from Tucson took me into the rarely visited depths of the desert looking westward towards the Gulf of California and the peninsula of Baja. With a combined bottomless pit of knowledge about the desert and all that

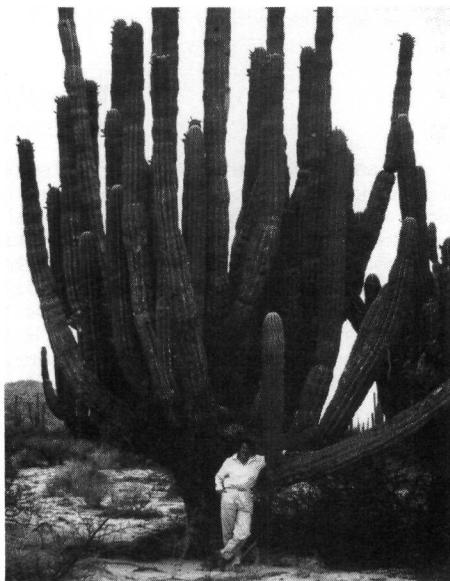
exists within it, Chuck Hanson and Meg Quinn taught me to love this extraordinary place and consequently develop a greater understanding of my plants and their needs.

On our final night in Mexico we sat by the camp fire in complete silence until darkness fell. There was a full moon in a sky so full of stars they looked like sequins on a black velvet dress. The canyon in which we were camped occasionally echoed to the sound of an owl or a badger screeching. The moon was the brightest I had ever seen as its light cascaded down upon the desert scene creating a magical effect. In the distance the seas in the Gulf of California (Sea of Cortes to the Mexicans), shone like a pool of silver, silhouetted against this were the huge 15ft tall **Pachycereus pringlei** columnar cacti.

Suddenly we heard a noise from above. The night creatures were about. We got up and walked down the canyon, no torches were used, our world was alight with gleaming silver and blue. As we wove our way past the shrubs some of their strange shapes appeared more unworldly than ever. The inflated base and spindly limbs of the elephant bush **Bursera microphylla** suddenly became a dollop of ice cream with broken wafers stuck in it. The baffling 'Boojum' **Ildia**

**columnaris** took on the appearance of a giant carrot ejecting itself from out of the ground. We came to a halt at the base of a huge 'Cardon' (**Pachycereus pringlei**). Its large white flowers (almost two inches across) only open after dark when they emit a sweet odour. As Chuck shone his powerful torch up to the tops of these magnificent giants the answer to why their exquisite flowers only show themselves at night became clear. There, with its head buried deep within a flower was a bat. These extraordinary mammals feed on the nectar offered by the flower. In return they pollinate with their heads which are completely covered in bright yellow pollen from the massive numbers of anthers which have to be penetrated before the nectar can be reached.

That night as I lay in my sleeping bag I reflected on how much I had learned in the desert, that it is a place full of life and not the barren emptiness we often believe it to be. "Perhaps", I thought, "I won't try too hard to change peoples' negative view of the desert, then, with luck it may remain unvisited and unspoilt". "On the other hand", I said to myself, "Just think what they'll be missing".



## PROGRESS WITH THE "EUROPEAN GARDEN FLORA"

by Peter Green

In response to the plea from our editor for articles or notes of interest to fellow members of the Guild, I think they might like to know about the progress being made with the "European Garden Flora".

This project, which started in 1977, aims to produce, in five volumes a taxonomically authoritative account of all plants cultivated in European gardens, whether in the open or under glass. This is a wide remit, however it is not intended that plants cultivated solely in botanic gardens or in specialist collections should be included. Unfortunately, too many plants are being

grown in gardens under the wrong name, and often marketed as such, and it is not an easy matter for individuals to check the names themselves. The main aims of the Flora, therefore, are to set a standard of correct nomenclature and, by means of simple keys and descriptions, provide a way for gardeners to identify their garden plants themselves. As well as the traditional type of keys, what are called "multiaccess" keys are also being provided for those who might find the normal keys difficult or for use where material available may be "incomplete", i.e. leaves only.

So far two volumes of the "European Garden Flora" have been published — by Cambridge University Press. Volume 1 (1986) covers the ferns, gymnosperms and many monocots, including the Liliaceae and related families, Volume 2 (1984) the rest of the monocots, including bromeliads and orchids. Now Volume 3, the first of the dicot volumes is in press and should be out by the time this is printed. As well as covering the more "primitive" families such as Magnoliaceae it will include the Cactaceae (by David Hunt and Nigel Taylor of the Herbarium) — the largest family in the volume (750 species covered).

Many botanists are or have been contributors, and the Editorial Committee, under the chairmanship of Dr. Max Walters, until recently Director of the University of Cambridge Botanic Garden, consists of Dr. James Cullen (R.B.G., Edinburgh) as Secretary, Dr. Crynan Alexander (R.B.G., Edinburgh), Aidan Brady (Director, Glasnevin), C. D. Brickell (Director-General, R.H.S.), Professor Vernon Heywood (I.U.C.N.), Sabina Knees (R.B.G., Edinburgh), Vicki Matthews (Kew Magazine), Dr. N. K. B. Robson (B.M. (N.H.)), Dr. Peter Yeo (Cambridge University Botanic Garden) and myself (representing Kew). Professor D. A. Webb and John Lewis have also been members.

Already Volume 4 is now being written. It will include the horticulturally important families Rosaceae and Leguminosae, and it is hoped that it will be ready for the press in 1990. Inevitably criticisms can be levelled at the volumes so far published, and many of these revolve round the vexed question of what should and what should not be included, which in border cases often becomes a matter of personal opinion, but no one can doubt that all the species most frequently met with are there. The timetable for the production of volumes may seem to some a little strung out but such a major undertaking involves a lot of painstaking, hard and original work. In fact, approximately two years to a volume represents a quite remarkable pace.

Unfortunately the economics of book manufacturing and selling these days seems to mean that a publication like the "European Garden Flora" is marketed at a price beyond the pockets of many individual gardeners (£55, Vol. 1; £35, Vol. 2), but copies should nevertheless be on the shelves of every horticultural establishment. Look out therefore for Volume 3 this spring and, we hope, Volume 4 in 1991 or 2!

## **KEW-LINKED RAIN FOREST CONSERVATION AND BOTANIC GARDEN REFURBISHMENT IN CAMEROON**

by F. Nigel Hepper

In spite of financial cuts in the 1987 Cameroon budget and the world stock market plunge, in January 1988 the Cameroon and British governments signed a project document for the conservation of rain forest and the refurbishment of Limbe Botanic Garden. This garden was founded by the Germans in 1892 at the foot of Cameroon Mountain at the town of Victoria, now called Limbe after the river that flows through it. It has a splendid seaside position but was very run-down. The citizens of Limbe have been agitating for the Garden to be restored to its former glory and in 1981 J. S. Womersley, formerly of Lae, prepared a report for FAO which required a lot of money that was not forthcoming.

Now the situation has changed dramatically. Our Overseas Development Administration offered to co-operate with the Cameroon government to refurbish the Garden in order to use it as a national and international base for the conservation of genetic resources in the adjacent forests. In 1986 I had the privilege of making two visits to Cameroon and preparing two long and

detailed reports for ODA. The second one was written in conjunction with Mark Bovey who was then on the staff at Wakehurst Place and subsequently he resigned to take up the Limbe horticultural post. As I have worked on the revision of the 'Flora of West Tropical Africa' and visited Cameroon four times since 1957, I am keenly interested in the project which has provision for a long-term linkage with the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. There are exciting two-way possibilities from both the horticultural and scientific aspects.

Cameroon, although financially poor, is one of Africa's richest countries in the number of species of plants and animals. A lot of primary forest still exists, though it is fast disappearing. Time is not on our side and action is needed quickly. It is no use 'saying' that representative samples of forest should be kept for the sake of their plants and animals, one must actively go about demarcating selected areas, gazetting them as reserves, putting in patrols and defining a positive research programme. This costs money that developing nations cannot produce, so this is the kind of project that developed countries can support for the benefit of the nationals and the world at large. These forest plants can be considered as a genetic resource, for who knows which of today's 'weeds' will become tomorrow's crop plant? In any case, some of them, such as wild coffee, are already relations of existing crops, and many others are used as medicines or timber trees. The latter, for example, are being so depleted in the forests that seed-bearing trees are hard to find, and they cannot regenerate even if the forest is left to recover after felling. An integral reserve, therefore, can safe-guard mother trees of sufficient size and variability to provide seedlings for other plantations.

All this needs the back-up of an organisation such as Limbe Botanic Garden, which is ideally placed and already a going concern. It is being used as the control centre for several reserves (but not Korup forest, well-publicised by WWF, also in Cameroon), to carry out research and training (partly at Kew), be involved in an education rôle connected with conservation and to assemble a collection of African palms as a demonstration and resource of a plant family having important economic uses and further potential, yet with some species threatened with extermination. We see that long before the Garden's centenary in 1992 there is now a new rôle for an old garden.

## THE ECOLOGY OF EGYPT AND ITS PROBABLE FATE

by E. W. MacDonald

When the Sadd el Aali (New Aswan High Dam) was completed it created a man-made stretch of water over 300 miles long and an area of water Ca. 2,000 square miles, completely submerging the country of Nubia. Lake Nasser, as it was named, was designed as a reservoir, and the dam was to regulate the flow of flood-water through the Nile Valley to the Delta. The overall purpose was to increase the arable land for Egypt's rapidly increasing population and to increase the supply of electricity.

One factor had not, apparently, been foreseen. Due to the felling of forest trees in Kenya and Ethiopia, the climatic conditions were altered, which resulted in a considerable decrease of flood-water.

A further complication was the cessation of fertile silt, which for thousands of years had been deposited on agricultural lands during the annual inundation. In consequence, the impoverishment of the soil occurred, which was only slightly ameliorated by inorganic fertilisers.

Well did the historian Herodotus say that "Egypt was the gift of the Nile". The Egyptians themselves deified the Nile under the name Hapi. The river was, and is, the 'M.1.' of Egypt, and Nature also arranged it so that boats could be blown upstream from northerly winds, and they could be steered downstream by the currents.

A glance at the map of Egypt and the Sudan will show that it is nearly all desert, with the river as a narrow band of water, with variable widths of fertile soil on each bank. The Sahara Desert menaces the west bank, and the east bank is threatened by the Arabian Desert.

If the Nile dries up, the Sahara will extend to the Red Sea, Egypt will die, and the greatest famine in history will occur.

How tragic that a country which gave us the oldest known civilisation, lasting over 6,000 years — possibly much longer — should be in danger through later civilisations, which are squandering the resources of the world! A writer, Ernest Renan, wrote that "Egypt was a lighthouse in the profound darkness of remote antiquity".

When the 'sister'-obelisk to "Cleopatra's Needle" in London, was erected in New York amid great ceremonies, Mr. Jesse B. Anthony, Grand Master of the Freemasons of the State of New York, said, when laying the foundation-stone — "Egypt itself is a book of history. It was the birthplace of literature, the cradle of science and art, the garden and garner of the world. Could we but know that which time will yet unveil, we should be astonished at the revelation, and ashamed of our littleness".

May we hope that something, on an international scale, may be accomplished to obviate the threat that menaces this august and ancient land.

## BIRDS AT KEW IN 1988

by Rupert Hastings

The winter of 1987-88 was a particularly mild one so that Kew missed its recent shows of interesting visitors to the river. In these circumstances the two *Shags* later in the winter and the *Hobby* in May must be regarded as the most interesting events of the year. Notable also was the regular presence of a calling *Lesser Spotted Woodpecker* into June, but as usual there was no evidence of breeding.

In the mild conditions early in the year, duck numbers were fairly low with *Shovelers* numbering up to five at the Lake and two at the Palm House Pond, and *Teal* reaching 20 on the nearby Thames. More interesting though were a female *Goldeneye* that landed on the river opposite the Herbarium on February 18th, and a *Shag* that stayed near Kew Bridge from February 28th to March 1st. On the last date it was extraordinary to see a second *Shag* swim by the first and continue upriver past the Gardens. I have not seen *Shags* at Kew before and these birds probably occurred as a result of stormy weather in the North Sea. The river also attracted up to nine *Little Grebes* and a *Kingfisher*, sadly rare nowadays at Kew, on February 29th. Inside the Gardens, a *Collared Dove* was a scarce visitor flying past the Banks Building on January 15th, and a large flock of 15 *Magpies* flew in from Syon Park on February 19th.

On March 2nd it was extraordinary to see an all-white male *Blackbird* just across the river on Brentford Ait. *Snipe* are probably present all winter over on Syon Marsh, except when the shooters are present, but this year the only sighting was of two on March 30th. On that date the first *Chiffchaff* of the spring was singing near the Aroid House and a *Meadow Pipit* flew over on its spring migration. Further *Chiffchaffs* occurred in April, favouring the Queen's Cottage Grounds and Rhododendron Dell as usual, and four *Willow Warblers* passed through from 11th to 28th. More aerial summer visitors included two *Sand Martins* on April 11th and a nice passage of *Swallows*, one or two at a time, between 20th and the end of the month. *Stock Doves* returned to the Gardens, perhaps to spend the summer, and an evening visit on April 25th revealed a *Tawny Owl* being pursued by mobbing smaller birds not far from Brentford Gate.

The first *Swifts* of the year were back on May 3rd and it soon became apparent that *Great Crested Grebes* had no less than two nests at the Lake and one at the Pond. The *Hobby* already referred to flew quite low over the Orangery on the evening of May 4th, a terrific sight and one has to be glad that this splendid falcon is nowadays appearing more often in built up parts of London. Less evident in recent times are *Spotted Flycatchers*, and the only bird I saw this year was at the Herbarium on May 13th. They used to like the *Zelkova* that blew down in the storm of October 1987 and you could almost see this bird searching for that tree as it clung to the nearby brick wall.

By June the warbler population has settled down and there were at least four male *Blackcaps* in the Queen's Cottage Grounds and one in the Rhododendron Dell. Breeding is hard to prove but this year I did at least intrude on a pair of *Chiffchaffs* mating in the Queen's Cottage Grounds,

even if their subsequent success remained a mystery. The *Great Crested Grebes* had two young at the Lake and one at the Pond, and Kew's captive *Black Swans* also hatched just one youngster at the Pond. Unfortunately this poor bird never gained much in size; it was perhaps a genetic weakling and it sadly died through drowning later in the summer. The *Lesser Spotted Woodpecker* which had been present since February was last seen on June 9th, after providing many happy encounters. *Lapwings* are early autumn migrants in Britain and one flew west on June 27th.

During July there was little change in the birdlife, apart from the arrival of autumn-migrant *Common Sandpipers* along the river by 28th. Two *Redpolls* on July 14th were perhaps visitors from elsewhere; as usual this small finch seemed to have been absent in the breeding season. *Long-tailed Tits* were in evidence with their young and it was unusual on July 5th to see a *Carrion Crow* catch a small mammal in the Queen's Cottage Grounds, apparently by dropping like a stone from a branch overhead. In the same area, one or two young *Green Woodpeckers* were present in August, no doubt indicating nesting closeby. At the Pond, the pair of *Great Crested Grebes* had hatched a second clutch; there were three young at first but these declined to two by September. *Sparrowhawks* were seen occasionally but there was no evidence of nesting this year. One normally associates this bird with wilder parts of the area, so it was a pleasant surprise to see a male alighted at close range in a pine on the Rock Garden on September 9th. He was characteristically blueish above and rufous-orange below, a most attractive sight.

The usual autumn movement of *Meadow Pipits* lasted from September 15th to October 21st, with the birds detectable by their squeaky calls overhead. By October 31st 11 *Teal* and 12 *Little Grebes* were back on the river, and a young *Goldeneye* was a very interesting sight commuting between here and the Banks Building lake in the first half of November. The Banks lake is a new habitat for Kew and it also attracted a *Grey Wagtail* from the river to feed along the shallow edge. The main Lake continued to hold one or two free-flying *Mandarins* which are probably part of a wild population, but more obviously an escapee was the young *Brent Goose* that consorted with Kew's Canada Geese from October 30th. In the second week of November this departed for Barn Elms Reservoir in Barnes, apparently as a result of contract gunmen shooting at the geese flock.

*Gadwall* have occasionally been regular visitors to Kew in the past but the only record this year was a group of three on November 22nd. A *Fieldfare* that flew past the Banks Building on November 25th was also a rare visitor to Kew but it was remarkable to find no *Redwings* at all in the latter part of the year, perhaps because of the mild conditions for the second consecutive winter. During December, up to five *Shovelers* were regular visitors to the Lake and Pond and a pre-roost gathering of 30 *Greenfinches* was noticed near the Main Gate on 23rd; these birds were probably spending the night in the Gardens where much smaller numbers are present during the day. During this quiet period the commoner birds were concentrated upon during a lunchtime survey, and the following numbers of land birds were found: *Blackbird* (59), *Feral Pigeon* (50), *Woodpigeon* (20), *Carrion Crow* (19), *Great Tit* (18), *Blue Tit* (17), *Robin* (11), *Coat Tit* plus *Long-tailed Tit* plus *Starling* plus *Jay* (8), *Magpie* (7), *Nuthatch* (5), *Duncock* (4), *Wren* (3), *Pied Wagtail* plus *Goldcrest* plus *Treecreeper* plus *Chaffinch* (2) and *Great Spotted Woodpecker* plus *Song Thrush* plus *Bullfinch* (1). Normally one might have expected higher numbers for Goldcrest and Song Thrush but I hope these figures give some indication of the relative numbers of Kew's birds during a mild winter. In colder weather one would expect Redwings and perhaps a larger number of Blackbirds, as these can also come in from the Continent.

## EXCERPTS FROM KEW NEWSLETTERS IN 1988

with thanks to Editor Miss L. Ponsonby

### Kew and its Rocks

Over the years rock has been put to various uses at Kew. Since 1882 a specific Rock Garden has existed next to the natural order beds; however, many changes have taken place

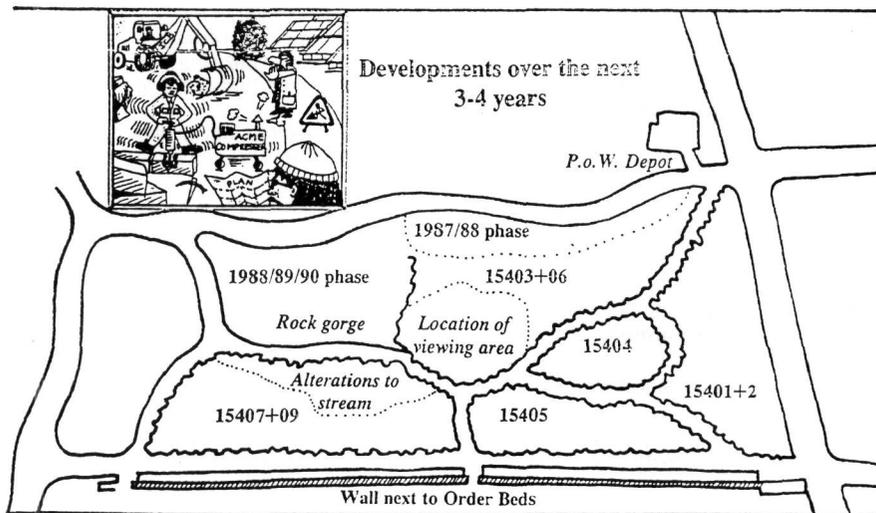
since W. T. Thiselton-Dyer originally laid out this area. Very notable is the change to Sussex sandstone by A. Edwards in 1929, his construction of the Island (area 15,404) and the major works that took place after World War II. This resulted in the total adoption of sandstone and the removal of all limestone; the work being carried out under the direction of George Preston, Alan Cook and Ian Beyer.

The last area of limestone rock was not replaced, but removed and the area (15408) grassed down forming the mound topped with a large specimen of *Cornus mas*. No major work has taken place on the Rock Garden since 1969, although some of the scree areas and streams have been revamped.

In recent times, the T-Range, which bordered the Rock Garden was demolished and the mighty P.O.W. emerged on the horizon in the latter part of the 1980s. Following its completion in 1987, the area between the Conservatory and the Rock Garden was put down to grass and a contoured meandering path now bisects the area separating Tropical and Herbaceous Departments (a frontier?). It is this area and the area to the north-west of the Rock Garden that is to be developed in the next 3-4 years.

In January of this year the Rock Garden staff and myself viewed the area to be developed and discussed the proposals with Mr. Halliwell and Mr. Beyer. We committed some ideas to memory, picked up crow bars and commenced work with the promise of great things, in exchange for materials and machinery.

A slow tentative new start has taken place where Alan Cook's previous work left off, just outside the P.O.W. depot (next to conifer corner), and has progressed west, linking the existing rock work to the new meandering path. It is hoped to complete this phase by the end of April 1988, and to begin the greater task of developing area 15408 (see plan) during the winter of 1988/89. This development will prove quite adventurous; it will include a rocky gorge, water feature, dry river-bed and, dare I say it, an alpine meadow. This phase will be linked to the existing areas 15409 and 15407 (see plan).



No major planting will be carried out until 1989, to allow time for suitable subjects to be propagated and acquired. The new plantings will be bolder than previous ones and will be into mulched areas or with a philosophy of total ground cover.

As well as extending the Rock Garden and associated features, it is likely that accessibility will be improved, in particular a viewing "platform" will be constructed above the existing double

waterfall. This area will be reached by bridges from the new rock work and the exit will be via a stone stairway to the north-east of the waterfalls.

These plans are mainly speculative at present but will form the main theme of development; more formal plans of the proposed works should emerge from the supervisors office in due course. In the meantime any views and suggestions will be warmly received by the Rock Garden staff and myself.

*(Mike Sinnott, Supervisor of Rock Garden & Herbaceous — January/February 1988)*

#### **Heard on pavement outside Herbarium**

Small child, to Mother: "Mum, what's a Herbarium and Library?"

Mother, to child: "A Library is where they keep books."

Child: "Yes, but what's a Herbarium?"

Mother: "Do hurry up, we're going to be late."

*(Dick Brummitt — March 1988)*

#### **Farewell Party for Professor and Mrs. Bell**

On Friday, 24th June, the Gardens said their official farewells to the Director and Mrs. Bell. With touching faith in the British climate, this took the form of a barbecue around the Banks Building and, even though the Linnean Society had also tempted Providence the previous day by having their bicentennial party in the Gardens, everyone was rewarded; the rain not only held off, but the evening turned fine and warm.

The size of the assembly was a fair indication of the feelings generated for Jean and Arthur Bell during their seven years at Kew. As well as a large cross-section of RBG staff, several of the Trustees were present, together with past colleagues from both Kew and the Ministry, and a considerable number of their personal friends from previous incarnations, such as King's College, London.

The formal part of the proceedings was opened by the Chairman of the Board who spoke of the enthusiasm that the Director had brought to the job, especially bearing in mind that the nature of the post from which he was retiring had changed dramatically from the one to which he had been appointed. During his time as Director, the Gardens had exchanged its colonial relationship with the Ministry for direct rule by a Board of Trustees and it was in large measure due to Arthur Bell that the transition had taken place so smoothly. Mr. Eccles spoke of the tremendous support that Jean had always given to Arthur and said how much they would both be missed.

Gren Lucas followed on behalf of the staff, seizing the opportunity to tell a few pithy stories but the Director had the last word, including a shaggy dog story about a transvestite, the night security man and the police dog handler, not to mention Bruce, the Alsatian. Such are the pitfalls of "living over the shop" — be warned, Dr. Prance!

The Director and Mrs. Bell were presented with an engraved glass bowl, a copy of the painting of *Castanospermum australe* from the Banks Florilegium, recently acquired by the RBG, a pair of Zeiss binoculars, an illuminated address, a beautiful bouquet and last but not least, a card bearing the signatures and good wishes of all the staff.

After the presentations were over, the party continued until well beyond the scheduled finish time — a not unusual occurrence where the Bells are concerned. We shall all miss their warmth and friendliness; they have made a notable contribution to the life of the Royal Botanic Gardens.

*(Pauline Churcher — May/June 1988)*

#### **Kew Newsletter to Kew News**

The Kew Newsletter was terminated in June 1988 and now has a new name and format. The Kew News will be issued every three months, so reports from the societies will (on the whole) be about what has been rather than what is to come (the new Staff Bulletin caters for this). The names of the regular Departmental contributors will be listed on the front page (once everyone has decided who is doing what); there will be a certain amount of change here as

some contributors have submitted articles since the very beginning of the **Newsletter** and feel they would now like a rest! Other members of staff are of course welcome to submit articles and b/w photos relevant to the Gardens.

The old **Newsletter** was started in 1967, with Mr. Ronald King, Secretary of the Gardens, as the first editor. Its aim, as now, was to inform all staff at both Kew and Wakehurst Place about the work of the different Departments, and to report on the general activities of the Institution and of the various societies. The **Newsletter** is also sent to the Trustees, certain ex-staff and colleagues at other institutions.

(Kew News No. 1)

### Kew Summer Concerts

Summer Promenade Concerts have been staged at Kew for a number of years now and readers may like to know a little of their history and plans for the future.

The first concert was held in 1977 to mark the Queen's Silver Jubilee. It was a splendid occasion with the band of the Royal Military School of Music performing in front of the Palm House. At the height of Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance March, the then new Concorde flew over the Palm House; many visitors praised the Gardens for arranging what they thought was a special finale! The 1977 concert proved so popular that convincing reasons were found in 1979 (the Year of the Garden) to repeat the occasion, again very successfully even without Concorde.

To mark H.M. The Queen's re-opening of the Temperate House in 1982, a concert with Marisa Robles and musicians from the Yehudi Menuhin School, was staged in the centre of the House. The great Yehudi and John Lill starred in subsequent years' concerts.

More recently jazz became the main attraction with Kenny Ball, Acker Bilk, Humphrey Lyttleton, George Melly & John Chiltons' Feetwarmers and Ronnie Scott starring inside the Temperate House — or "in the jungle" as some artists have said.

#### *This Year's Concerts*

To ring the changes, this year's programme provided a mixture of classical, military and light music, with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra Brass Ensemble, the Band of the Royal Marines and the Pasadena Roof Orchestra. This year also saw a major change with the concerts being staged outdoors on the Temperate House's Eastern Terrace. Whilst some regulars regretted the change of venue, the plants in the Temperate House had grown so much as to severely restrict the audience's view of the "stage". By opting for the outdoors, a calculated risk was taken with the English climate, but it was possible to accommodate a much larger audience, principally in the vast area in front of the House.

Regrettably the dreadful summer resulted in poor attendances on the first two evenings, but the Pasadena Roof Orchestra on the last night drew nearly 3,000 patrons, many of whom entered totally into the spirit, dancing spontaneously to keep themselves warm as well as demonstrating their approval. Magnificent fireworks displays concluded these concerts, following custom.

Colleagues sometimes ask why the concerts are held. In short they provide the opportunity for visitors to use the Gardens outside normal hours, enabling them and the Houses to be viewed at twilight and for the Houses to be strikingly illuminated internally and externally.

Whilst the Concerts certainly add to the Gardens' workload, there is little doubt about their popularity as evidenced by comments made during and after them by our visitors. They have now become part of London's summer calendar.

Organisation of the Concerts is somewhat like painting the Forth Bridge, with planning starting almost as soon as the music dies away on the last night. Next year's concerts will be held in late July, using the Temperate House Eastern Terrace as the magnificent back-drop, but with the building closed, so that the expected large audiences can be safely accommodated outside. Jazz and popular light music will be features.

M. A. Arnold-Gilliat, Administration — Kew News No. 1)

## NEWS OF KEWITES AT HOME AND ABROAD IN 1988

Compiled by **MARTIN J. S. SANDS**

With the assistance of **HUGH FLOWER**, whose help is very gratefully acknowledged

**Peter Addison** (1957) continues to progress in his work for Liverpool Recreation and Open Spaces Department. In expressing his regret that he could not attend Tom Risely's '30 years on' reunion (q.v.), he recalled those people who were at Kew during the same period, namely, Preben Jakobsen from Cheltenham, Hans Oveneynder of Donnington, Newbury and Marjorie Powell living at Wembley, Middlesex. Peter extended very best wishes to all those who were present at the gathering.

**Brian Andrews** (1957), who runs his own business, 'Brian Andrews Consulting', in Edmonton, Alberta in Canada, visited Kew with his wife in July and presented a copy of his book 'Northern Gardens' which has been accessioned in the students' library.

Congratulations to **Susyn Andrews** (Herbarium) on her promotion to Higher Scientific Officer dating from 1st January, 1988. On 18th April she left, with Barbara Parris (q.v.) for a six-week collecting trip to Sabah, concentrating mainly on species of *Ilex*. Towards the end of the year she began a period of three months leave in South Africa and her marriage to Brian Schrire (q.v.) took place on 19th December. Our very best wishes to them both.

**Sandy Atkins** (Herbarium) joined Sue Smarzyt and Margaret Johnson (q.v.) to collaborate in fieldwork with the University of Istanbul between 23rd May and 15th June. They made general collections in southern Turkey, concentrating on Caryophyllaceae and Labiatae.

**Chris Bailes** (formerly Guild Treasurer and Garden Supervisor of the Tropical Orchid Unit) is now Curator of Rosemoor Garden in Devon, which is to be developed into a regional centre for the R.H.S. after a bequest by Lady Anne Palmer. Chris was a student at Kew from 1977 to 1980 where he was briefly Supervisor of Cacti and Amenity Display, before transferring to Orchids. From 1985 until 1988 he was Manager of the Eric Young Orchid Foundation in Jersey.

**Maurice Baren** (1962) took early retirement from his post as Senior Horticultural Services Manager on 30th September, 1988, after over 14 years with the City of Bradford M.D.C. He is now attending a two-year part-time course leading to an M.A. degree in Landscape Management. Maurice is a member of the I.O.H. Education and Training Policy Committee, the City and Guilds Examinations Subject Committee and a B.T.E.C. Moderator. In the remainder of his free time he now intends to concentrate on writing and on his Horticultural and Landscape consultancy work.

**Peter Barnes** (1960) is currently Chief Officer of Leisure Services for the Dudley Metropolitan Borough in the West Midlands.

Welcome to **Graham Bass** who took up his appointment as Supervisor of Studies on 5th September, in succession to Leo Pemberton (q.v.).

Congratulations to **Professor Arthur Bell** (a trustee of the Guild) on being made a Companion of the Order of the Bath in the 1988 New Year's Honours List. During the year, among many external engagements, he lectured in Bristol, London and Glasgow as well as abroad and was interviewed for radio and television on numerous occasions, chiefly about castanospermine and medicinal plants. In March he attended an I.U.B.S. working group in Paris and visited Texas in April to lecture on Kew and set up a consultancy with the Texas Botanical Garden and the University of Texas at Austin. In May he lectured to the Society for International Development on the problems of arid lands and was guest of honour at the Kew Guild Dinner. As part of the Australian Bicentennial celebrations he welcomed Mr. Speaker in June to plant a tree and welcomed the Linnaean Society to Kew for a party marking its bicentenary. On 30th June he retired from his post as Director and we sincerely wish him a long and happy retirement.

Congratulations to **Dr. Michael Bennett**, Keeper of the Jodrell Laboratory, who was granted the title of Visiting Professor of the University of Reading from 1st April, 1988. Later, from 20th to 27th August, 1987 Professor Bennett attended the XVth International Congress of Genetics in Toronto, Canada and was invited to speak on 'Spatially ordered Genome in grass species and hybrids'. He also presented a poster at the conference. Later he gave a paper entitled

'Genome domains in hybrids between widely different species' at the Moët Hennessy: Louis Vuitton Colloquium on 'Advanced technology and plant breeding strategy' held in Versailles, France from 19th to 21st September.

**Sally Bidgood** (Herbarium) and Kaj Vollesen (q.v.) began two months of fieldwork in Tanzania on 3rd March, 1988, their itinerary including both Morogoro and Mufindi. They returned to Kew on 8th May and from 5th to 10th September Sally attended the 12th A.E.T.F.A.T. congress in Hamburg together with other colleagues from Kew.

Our congratulations to **Frances Booth** (Economic and Conservation Section of the Herbarium) on her promotion to Higher Scientific Officer with effect from 1st January, 1988, and her marriage on 10th September to Paul Cook, a Research Fellow in the Food Science and Technology Department at Reading University.

**Mark Bovey** (1977) who became a Gardens Supervisor at Wakehurst Place in April, 1981, left in 1988 to take up his new post in Limbe Botanic Gardens in Cameroon, which is to have close ties with Kew, and which he previously visited with Nigel Hepper in 1986 (K.G.J. 10:566) to assess its potential for development under an O.D.A. financial plan.

In March, 1988 **Dr. Peter Brandham** (Jodrell Laboratory) presented two papers at a conference entitled 'Research in plant science and its relevance to the future' at Delhi University, and also organised a workshop on botanical photography. Peter also gave lectures at Aurangabad and Gwalior Universities.

In the summer of 1987, **Phil Brewster** (then a Diploma student) visited Gran Canaria with John Donovan (q.v.) and spent time in the Botanic Garden 'Viera y Clavijo' which principally supports the rich flora endemic to the Canaries. However, travelling round the island, they became aware of introduced plants such as, *Agave americana* and species of *Oputia* and *Eucalyptus* and, in the north, fertile valleys are filled with banana plantations, where once there were Laurel forests, now confined to just too small areas. However, the island is not devoid of native plants and a particularly memorable trip was to the forest region at Los Tilos, where, common amongst the leaf litter, was *Canarina canariensis*, the 'Canary Bell'. In March, 1988 he returned to the Canary Islands accompanied by Jenny Farrel (q.v.), the first week being again spent on Gran Canaria but the second on Tenerife where they were joined by John Munslow.

From 5th to 10th September, **Dr. Dick Brummitt** (Herbarium), with several colleagues, attended the 12th Congress of the 'Association pour l'Etude Taxonomique de la Flore d'Afrique Tropicale' (A.E.T.F.A.T.) held in Hamburg.

**Ken Burras** (1954), Hortus praefecti of the Oxford University Botanic Garden (recently a Vice President of the Guild) retired on 1st July, 1988 after 35 years working in Oxford. When Ken left Kew, having also passed the N.D.H., he first became propagator and progressed to glasshouse foreman, and then general foreman before taking charge of the Botanic Garden in Oxford when Mr. Robinson retired. Among his many achievements may be mentioned the building up of one of the first collections in the country of carnivorous plants and the acquisition of the Harcourt Arboretum at Nuneham Courtenay as a satellite garden for the Botanic Garden. He will be missed, not just by the staff, but also by all the people throughout the University and beyond to whom he has given help and advice through the years. We wish him a long and happy retirement.

**Louise Bustard**, who is a specialist gardener responsible for the Cacti and Succulents in the Tropical Section of the Living Collections Department, is now the Guild's Honorary Membership Secretary. In April, 1988, she began six weeks travelling through Southern California, Arizona and Sonora in northern Mexico. Sponsored by the Kew Guild Award Scheme, she made a study tour of the Sonoran and Mojane deserts. She also visited many gardens and nurseries and gave a series of lectures.

**Bill Campbell**, who retired as Curator after 38 years at Kew in 1960, died in 1964. During 1988, the Guild Secretary received several letters from Maud Violet, his widow who is now living in Eastbourne, Sussex and is 87. The correspondence related to journals and leaflets of

interest on recent gardens developments which were much appreciated and brought back many memories for her.

**Brian Carter** (1959), living in Thorton-Cleveleys, Lancashire, was unable to attend the '30 years on' reunion in November organised by Tom Risely (q.v.). However, in his letter, he recalled some ladies who were at Kew as students at the same time, including Rachel Floyd and Elizabeth Parkin (1959). Brian is in occasional contact with David Storer, John Brown and Walter Dunnenberger.

**Miss Dorothy Catling** (a past Vice President of the Guild) is once again based at the Jodrell Laboratory, Kew and the University of Reading, Plant Science Laboratory, studying for a Ph.D. on some Australian members of the Proteaceae. She spent several months in Australia in 1988 where, with excellent support from Australian colleagues, she was collecting research material and examining the habitats of the genera on which she is working.

On 1st February, 1988, **Martin Cheek** (Herbarium) joined John and Soejatmi Dransfield, David Simpson and Martin Staniforth (q.v.) on a six week period of fieldwork, on the Masoala Peninsula in north-east Madagascar. Later, from 5th to 10th September, with several colleagues from Kew, he attended the 12th A.E.T.F.A.T. Congress in Hamburg.

**Dr Derek Clayton**, Deputy Keeper of the Herbarium, left for Canberra to spend four months working with Mike Lazarides on DELTA format descriptions of Australian grass species.

**Mark Clements** (National Botanic Garden, Canberra), who worked at Kew for 18 months, until 1st August, 1984, on the micropropagation of endangered Orchid species, returned on 21st March, 1988 to spend eight weeks at Kew. Working in the Orchid Herbarium, his research mainly involved solving problems of typification in connection with his 'Catalogue of Australian Orchidaceae'.

**Sean Clifford**, based in the Jodrell Laboratory, is one of the first postgraduate students to be funded by Kew where he is studying breeding systems in the *Oncidinae* orchids. In June with Simon Owens and Paula Rudall (q.v.), he attended the S.R.H.P. (Sexual Reproduction in Higher Plants) conference in Siena, and gave a presentation on post-pollination phenomena in orchids.

**Henry Cocker** (1933) a life member of the Guild, is still living in the Province of Venezia in Italy. Writing to the Guild Secretary at the end of 1988, he sadly gave news of the death of his wife. He pointed out that they had been married for 42 years and occasionally visited Kew, so that some older Kew Guild members might remember her. He is uncertain of his future plans commenting that 'at the age of 83 it is not easy to transplant (as in the case of old trees)!'

**Mark Coode** (Herbarium) who is Editor of the Kew Bulletin, was in Leiden from 3rd to 10th March, 1988, for discussions on Elaeocarpaceae for the Flora Malesiana and associated work in the Herbarium.

**Paul Cook** visited the Dolomites of north-eastern Italy in July, 1987 as part of a Kew student travel scholarship. He was following in the footsteps of Reginald Farrer in spectacular scenery and finding such plants as violet and gold *Linaria alpina*, the Alpenrose, *Rhododendron ferrugineum* and the sticky primrose, *Primula glutinosa*.

**Dr. David Cutler** (Jodrell Laboratory) gave a paper at the A.E.T.F.A.T. Conference in Hamburg in September. He then went on to Bonn, and worked on a book with Professor W. Barthlott (Director of the Bonn Botanic Garden). The book sets out a terminology for surface features of plants (e.g. leaf, seeds) as seen with the scanning electron microscope. It will contain a multilingual glossary, and is intended to help standardise terms in this rapidly developing field of study.

**Tom Deans** (1960) is now head of horticulture at the Cheshire College of Agriculture, Reaseheath, Nantwich.

**John Downing** (1940), at the end of 1987, sought information from the Guild about Brian Perkins, with whom he worked during his time at Kew. John came to Kew in 1938 and worked with Stan Rawlings on the orchids, some of which he conveyed to the Herbarium for 'Dickie' Summerhayes to look at. He remembers wearing new clogs on that first visit which were not well received in the Herbarium! From time to time John and Brian Perkins would go botanizing into the Surrey hills for suitable specimens for their British Flora Collections. In 1940 both he and Brian Perkins joined the RAF.

For six weeks from 1st February, 1988, **Dr. John Dransfield** and his wife Soejatmi, undertook fieldwork in the Masoala Peninsula in north-east Madagascar. With them were Martin Cheek, David Simpson and Martin Staniforth (q.v.). They were also joined by George Schatz (Missouri B.G.), Andrew Henderson (New York B.G.) and Nancy Edmonson of the Fairchild Tropical Garden. It was to this Garden in Miami, shortly after his return to Kew, that John was invited to be guest lecturer at the celebration to mark the 50th anniversary on 23rd March and we congratulate him on being awarded the Fairchild Tropical Garden Founders Medal 'for distinguished achievement in the world of palms'. While in the States John also visited the Harvard Institute for International Development to discuss the development of rattan cultivation in Indonesia. Later in the year he attended the 25th Anniversary Symposium at Aarhus Botanical Institute from 8th to 10th August and from 5th to 20th September he was in Queensland attending the International Palm Society's Biennial Conference. On his way back to Britain he visited Brunei to discuss long term collaboration between the Brunei Forest Department and Kew. In October (14th-15th) he attended the Flora of Thailand Editorial Board Meeting in Chiangmai.

**Blaise Du Puy**, née Clifford (1987) formerly a Kew Student and then staff member, was appointed as Horticultural Projects Manager to the 'Walworth City Farm' Project in October, 1987. This project was awarded runner-up prize by the Festival of London (Environmental awards) sponsored by the *Illustrated London News*. The farm, developed only since January, 1988, has turned a degenerating corner of Kennington into a horticultural extravaganza. A wide range of plants, including unusual vegetables, is being grown for sale or demonstration in raised beds. Originally the site, of about one third of an acre, had housing on it which was demolished in the 1960's, but this year it has been refenced and services have been laid. Fruit trees, shrubs and ornamentals have been planted and between these structural plantings many varieties of vegetables in small quantities have been planted to assess the potential of the site. Many contacts have been established with the local community and the project is providing a wide range of experience.

**Dr. David Du Puy**, who has worked in the Herbarium for a number of years in several capacities, was appointed as a Research Fellow to work on the Madagascan legumes for three years from 1st March, 1988. From 28th November he began a year working in Madagascar on the group.

On 1st February, 1988, **Catherine Edmondson**, then studying at Camberwell School of Art, began three weeks as a 'fieldwork' student in the Preservation Unit within the Herbarium. Later, starting in early July, she worked for eight weeks on Kew's Portrait Collection before beginning a two year contract in December as a Paper Conservator in the Preservation Unit.

Welcome to **Kate Edwards** who, as a vacation student, assisted Dr. Terry Pennington from 11th July to 30th September in the "Dicots II" section of the Herbarium, and then in December became a temporary assistant working for the Director in the Herbarium.

**Peter Edwards** (Herbarium), with Eimear NicLughadha (q.v.) and Peter Rooney (C.M.C.), participated in the Operation Raleigh Expedition '15A' in Guyana, from the second week in July, returning on 22nd August.

Welcome to **Martin Egerton**, who took up his appointment as Executive Officer at Wakehurst Place on 26th September.

Welcome to our new Photographer, **Sue Ellison**, who joined the staff of the Photography Unit on 18th January, 1988.

**Thaddeus Emanuel** of the L.C.D. Services Machinery Unit is congratulated on being awarded a Kew Medal for 'loyal and efficient service to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew'. He was presented with his award by Sir David Attenborough in September.

**Jenny Farrell** gained her Kew Diploma in 1988 and has been employed in the Technical Section of the L.C.D. since September. Jenny left school in 1978 with 'A' levels and went on to complete a degree course in Environmental Studies at the University of East Anglia before going to New Zealand. There she undertook a part-time M.Sc. degree while working in a bedding plant nursery, eventually taking charge of the propagation. On returning to England

she took up a post as propagator in a herbaceous and alpine nursery in West Sussex and took the R.H.S. general examinations before starting at Kew in 1985. On 14th March, 1988, she flew to the Canary Islands, accompanied by Phil Brewster (q.v.) and in two weeks (with John Munslow) they photographed and identified well over 100 endemic species. Financial assistance for the visit was provided by a Guild Award.

**Dr. Linda Fellows** (Jodrell Laboratory) was sponsored by the British Council to visit the University of Monastir, Tunisia, from 1st to 8th February, 1988. She gave two lectures and had discussions with Professor Z. Mighri and colleagues regarding future collaboration between Kew and Monastir. Extracts of Tunisian plants are to be examined at Kew for novel chemicals and anti-insect activity. Later, during June, she lectured at the Phytochemistry Society of North America Symposium in Ohio, U.S.A. on 'Plant nitrogen metabolism' and also at Vanderbilt University, Tennessee.

**Dr. Keith Ferguson**, an Assistant Keeper and head of the Palynology Unit in the Herbarium, was in Australia in September, attending, with Madeline Harley and Marie Hill-Kurmann (q.v.), the 7th International Palynological Congress held at the University of Queensland, Brisbane.

**David Field** (Economic and Conservation Section of the Herbarium (E.C.O.S.)) left on 7th March, 1988 to join Janet Terry (q.v.) on a seed collecting expedition to Botswana. He returned to Kew on 14th April.

**Hugh Flower**, (1976), while continuing his work at St. Dunstons in Woking, has maintained his contact with the Horticultural world — but often at a distance! He again travelled with Kenwyn Pearson (1975) in 1988 when they went to Spain and among their discoveries found *Ecballium elaterium* 'Squirting Cucumbers' growing wild.

**Alfred Fordham** (1937) is still living in Westwood, Massachusetts and in a letter which the Guild received from him, he recalls that he, Edwin Cherry (1938) and Noel Prockter (1937) were contemporaries during their time at Kew.

**Leonard Forman** (Herbarium) chaired a session at a conference on the 'Evolution, Systematics and Fossil History of the Hamamelidaceae' at the University of Reading from 23rd to 25th March, 1988. Many of his Herbarium colleagues also attended the conference.

In November 1987, a bibliography of **Truman Fossum** (1936) was published by the United States Department of Agriculture together with a register of his papers in the National Agricultural Library, Beltsville (Bibl. and Lit. of Agr. No. 55). The papers span the years and consist of statistical and marketing data, personal and business correspondence, published and unpublished surveys of the floriculture industry and projections of future trends in floriculture. In September 1987, Truman wrote to the Guild Secretary indicating that he had settled into a new home in Washington D.C.

We extend our best wishes to **Peggy Freeman**, who retired at the end of May, 1988, after many years as supervisor of the Mounting Unit in the Herbarium with responsibility for the high quality of Kew's mounted accessions.

Congratulations to **Dr. Peter Gasson** (Jodrell Laboratory) on his promotion to the grade of Higher Scientific Officer with effect from 1st January, 1988. From 2nd to 7th October he was in Raleigh, North Carolina, U.S.A. attending an International Association of Wood Anatomists workshop engaged in developing a list of terms for computerised wood identification. From Raleigh, he travelled to Madison in Wisconsin to attend a meeting on wood collection management which was held on 10th and 11th October.

**Mike Gilbert**, who has worked for several years in the Herbarium on the Ethiopian flora, attended 'Aloe 88' the congress on succulent plants held in Zimbabwe during August.

Congratulations to **Margaret Gill**, who took over from Peggy Freeman (q.v.) as Supervisor of specimen mounting in the Herbarium at the beginning of June, 1988.

Welcome to **Dr. David Goyder** who joined the Herbarium staff as a Scientific Officer in January, 1988 to work mainly on Asclepiadaceae.

Our best wishes to **Jeff Greenough** who resigned from his post as Garden Supervisor at Wakehurst Place on 14th October after many years at Kew.

Best wishes and congratulations to **Dr. Gordon Guymer** (1987) and his wife Elizabeth on the birth of their son, Samuel Thomas, on 28th July, 1988. Gordon, who works in the Queensland Herbarium, was Australian Botanical Liaison Officer at Kew during the year 1986 to 1987.

**Penny Hammond** (1987) was appointed as Alpine and Rock Garden Supervisor to the University Botanic Garden at Cambridge in 1988 and began work there in June, after working for a time at 'Glazenwood' in Essex. Earlier she had travelled to north-east Queensland with Sue Minter (q.v.) in October, 1987 to study the rainforests and, before returning, took a scuba diving course in order to appreciate the underwater world of the Great Barrier Reef.

**Madeline Harley** (Palynology Unit, Herbarium) attended the 7th International Palynological Congress held at the University of Queensland, Brisbane in September.

**Dr. Ray Harley** (Herbarium) was in French Guiana from 17th June to 6th July where he attended a meeting of Flora Neotropica in Cayenne before visiting Saul in the interior to refind an undescribed endemic *Hyptis*. From 8th to 10th August he was in Denmark attending the 25th Anniversary Symposium at Aarhus Botanical Institute. On 28th September, with Brian Stannard and other colleagues, he left for Pico das Almas, Brazil to undertake collecting for several months. Having survived a serious camp flood he returned to Kew at the end of January, 1989.

**Rupert Hastings** (Economic and Conservation Section of the Herbarium (E.C.O.S.)) left on 22nd September for China, where he attended the International Symposium on Botanical Gardens held in Nanjing from 25th to 28th September and the International Symposium on Plant Resources which took place in Kunming from 4th to 7th October.

**Frank Hebden** (1947) from New South Wales retired as overseas Guild committee member in 1988. In his last letter he wrote of the closer ties he had felt with Kew because of the continuous contact in spite of being 8,000 miles away and never being able to attend a meeting! He recalled that at the start of the war he shared digs with Stan Rawlings. In Australia, he reported, the Society for growing Australian plants put on a Banksia Exhibition in the grounds of Sydney Botanic Gardens in April which included some of Banks' original specimens.

**Nigel Hepper** (Herbarium), at one time Secretary and a former Vice President of the Guild, left for the United States of America on 2nd March, 1988 to visit the James Bouce/Luigi Balugani exhibition at Yale University and to lecture both at Andrews University, Berrien Springs and Berkley Botany Club. Later in the year, from 21st July to 6th August, he attended the Third International Solanaceae Conference, followed by field visits around Bogota in Colombia. From 5th to 10th September, with several colleagues from Kew, he was in Hamburg for the 12th A.E.T.F.A.T. Congress.

Congratulations to **Marie** (Palynology Unit, Herbarium) and Chris **Hill-Kurmann** on the birth of a son, David on Thursday 23rd June, 1988. In September, with David and colleagues Keith Ferguson and Madelene Harley (q.v.) she attended the 7th International Palynological Congress at the University of Queensland, Brisbane.

**Nicholas Hind** (Herbarium) set out on 28th September with Ray Harley (q.v.) and other colleagues for Pico das Almas in Brazil where he was involved in collecting for several months before returning in February, 1989.

**H. M. Holloway** (1930) who died in 1987 (ref. obit. K.G.J. 10:690) was a South African and, from 1941 onwards, he resided and worked there. However, earlier in his career, whilst at Kew, he took advantage of an exchange period with La Mortola, the famous garden of the Hanbury family. He then became Head Gardener on an estate near Menton on the Catalan Coast (Costa Brava) in Spain. There a Russian emigre, Colonel Woevodsky, and his wife set up a garden to compare with La Mortola and Holloway was given charge. The name of the garden was Castillo Cap Roig, Calella de Palafrugell (not as in the 1987 Journal). W. J. Corkhill went to work there for a while, and was followed by E. G. Hooper (q.v.). With the incursion of General Franco, the British people had to leave and Holloway and his family were hurriedly summoned to Barcelona and taken on board a warship.

**Mrs. Susan Holmes** (Herbarium) with Mike Gilbert and David Hunt (q.v.), attended 'Aloe '88', the congress on succulent plants, held in Zimbabwe during August.

Congratulations to **Professor Holttum** who was 93 on Wednesday, 20th July, 1988, and who, on 6th September was presented with a Kew Medal by Sir David Attenborough 'For lifelong achievements in botany and his enthusiasm and inspiration of both staff and visitors'. Professor Holttum is an Honorary Research Fellow in the Herbarium.

**E. G. Hooper** (1936) who lives in Camborne, Cornwall, is a life member of the Guild and wrote in June about his connection with H. M. Holloway (q.v.) who died in 1987. With Holloway in charge of a garden established in the early Thirties on the Catalan coast in Spain — Castillo Cap Roig — a year of work for Kew students was planned and after W. J. Corkhill was there, Mr. Hooper followed in 1933. He met Holloway again with his wife and child at Kew in 1935 or 1936.

**Shiela Hooper** (1984), who worked for 30 years in the Herbarium, took up a post in her retirement at an Arab Christian school in Ramallah commencing in November, 1988.

**Ray Horsfall** (c. 1958) wrote from Dalkeith, Midlothian in November to say that he and his wife, Jackie, would welcome a visit from any Kewite who remembers them. Dalkeith is about 6 miles south of Edinburgh.

**Dr. David Hunt** (Herbarium) was in Zimbabwe during August where, with Mike Gilbert and Susan Holmes (q.v.), he attended 'Aloe '88', the congress on succulent plants. Later, on 29th September, he left Kew for a field-trip in Mexico.

Congratulations to **Emma Hutcheson**, a third year Kew Diploma Student, on her marriage in 1988 to Andrew Jackson (q.v.). In the summer she visited Missouri Botanical Garden.

In 1988, **Andrew Jackson** (1986) obtained an M.Sc. degree from Birmingham University in Conservation and Utilisation of Plant Genetic Resources, and also, as recorded above, married Emma Hutcheson. Again our congratulations and best wishes! He has now returned to Kew as a Research Fellow working in the Technical Section of the Living Collections Department.

Welcome to **Eva Jackson**, who began work in the 'Dicots I' section of the Herbarium as an Assistant Scientific Officer on 7th November, 1988.

**Dr. Surrey Jacobs** (1984), a former Australian Botanical Liaison Officer at Kew, and on the Herbarium staff of the Sydney Botanic Garden, joined the Life Sciences Team (led by Martin Sands, q.v.) of the 'Kimberley Research Project, 1988' in north Western Australia. He spent several weeks during May in the Kimberley and concentrated on collection and careful field study of aquatics, especially water-lilies.

**Margaret Johnson** (Jodrell), Sandy Atkins and Sue Smartzky (q.v.) were in southern Turkey from 23rd May to 15th June making general collections but concentrating on Caryophyllaceae and Labiatae. Their fieldwork was undertaken in collaboration with the University of Istanbul.

**Carol Jones** (née Town) resigned from her post as an Executive Officer in the Administration Department on 26th September, after more than 10 years working at Kew, at first in the Conservation Unit. Our best wishes go with her.

Our congratulations to **Dr. Anne Kenton** (Jodrell Laboratory) on her promotion to the grade of Principal Scientific Officer with effect from 1st January, 1988. Later in the year Anne gave a lecture at a workshop on C-banding in plants at the XVth International Congress of Genetics held in Toronto, Canada from 20th to 27th August and also presented a poster.

In March 1988, Doris Fairbrother, the niece of **Bert Kidd**, wrote to Kew, having visited the gardens just prior to the hurricane of 1987. She pointed out that Bert, who left Kew in 1909 to become Curator of Gardens in Pietermaritzburg, in South Africa, very probably planted some of the trees that were lost in the hurricane.

**Dr. Geoffrey Kite** (Jodrell Laboratory), in his capacity as a committee member of the Phytochemical Society of Europe, attended the P.S.E. Symposium on the chemistry of Bryophytes in Saarbrücken, West Germany, in September, 1988.

On 4th September, **Lynn Knight** retired from her post as Personal Secretary in the Curator's Office. Prior to her transfer to the Living Collections Department in April, 1985, she had worked for several years in the Herbarium. We wish her a long and happy retirement.

**Joanne Langhorne** (1979) of Seascale, Cumbria, returned to Kew in April, 1988, to work for a few weeks in the Herbarium and Gardens preparing paintings for one of the Kew Magazine Monographs.

Congratulations to **Tim Lawrence** (Jodrell Laboratory) on his promotion to Higher Scientific Officer from 1st January, 1988.

Sadly we record the death, in a motor accident during the autumn, of **John 'Jock' Lawson** (1927) who was a life member of the Guild. He was 87 and had retired in 1966.

In November, **Sandra Leche** (1977) resigned from her horticultural post in the Chilean Airforce base at Colina, 20 km north of Santiago, because, due to lack of funds, the project on which she had been working had reached a standstill. She is now working for a fruit exportation company called "Sociedad Agricola Santa Elena LTDA" which was 2,000 hectares of land and is 90% British owned. Five hundred hectares are planted with table grapes with Kiwi in the third year. Sandra's responsibilities will include work in the packing department and maintenance of the gardens on the estate. The company exports to the U.K. (Liverpool), the U.S.A. and Arabia.

**Malcolm Leppard** (1971) was elected a member of the Institute of Biology in 1988 and continues to live in Zimbabwe working at the Botanic Gardens there. He wrote of the difficulties, experienced by young people in Zimbabwe, of gaining practical horticultural experience there, with few fully trained and experienced staff left and a lack of available jobs.

**Gwilym Lewis** (Herbarium) flew to Brazil on 22nd January, 1988 to present a paper at the Brazilian Botanical Congress in Belém. From there he flew on to Boa Vista to participate in a two-day workshop on the Maracá Project, organised by the Royal Geographical Society. A return to Maracá Island, followed by work in Rio de Janeiro completed his three week trip.

We congratulate **Simon Linington** (Seed Bank, Wakehurst Place) on his promotion to the grade of Senior Scientific Officer with effect from 1st January, 1988.

**Jane Lipington** (1987) obtained her Kew Diploma on Course 21 and with Daniel Pearson (q.v.) is now in Israel working with the Jerusalem Botanical Gardens Group, making a valuable contribution towards staff training.

**Dr. Mike Lock**, who has worked in the Herbarium for some time under the auspices of the Bentham Moxon Trust, joined several colleagues in Hamburg to attend the 12th A.E.T.F.A.T. Congress from 5th to 10th September. On 8th November, accompanied by Barbara Mackinder (née Swain) (q.v.) he left for a month's collecting trip in the Lindi region of Tanzania.

**Betty Lodge** retired on 30th August, 1988, from her post as Office Keeper at Kew which she had held for many years. We wish her every happiness.

**Michael Looker** (1982) is now working in Melbourne as Superintendent of the Royal Botanic Gardens.

On 24th January, 1988, **Gren Lucas**, Keeper of the Herbarium, and since September Deputy Director, left with Anne Mayo (q.v.) to attend the I.U.C.N. Species Survival Commission Steering Committee and Commission meetings (from 28th to 31st January) and I.U.C.N. General Assembly (from 1st to 10th February) in San Jose, Costa Rica. Later, on 7th April, he travelled to Australia for a three-week visit in connection with a bicentennial exhibition in Queensland. During the Directorial interregnum from 1st July until 31st August he was acting Director. At the beginning of August he left for Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, U.S.A. to attend the opening, on 5th and 6th August, of the 'Flowers from the Royal Gardens of Kew — Two Centuries of Curtis's Botanical Magazine' exhibition, and to give the opening lecture. Later in the month on 26th August, he left for South Africa to attend, and give a lecture at, the Institute of Parks and Recreation Administration 33rd Congress in Cape Town. From there he travelled on to Hamburg to attend the 12th A.E.T.F.A.T. Congress from 5th to 10th September together with several colleagues from Kew.

**Mike Lycett** (1960) who lives in Westcliffe-on-Sea, joined many other Kewites in November at the '30 Years On' reunion in Battle, E. Sussex organised by Tom Risely (q.v.).

In 1988, although **Joe McCracken** (1957), who lives in Aylesbury, and his wife were unable to attend the '30 years on' reunion arranged by Tom Risely (q.v.) in November, he sent sincere best wishes to all those present at the gathering.

We welcome **Noe McGough** as a Scientific Officer, who joined the Conservation Unit of the Economic and Conservation Section (E.C.O.S.) in January, 1988.

**D. S. McGuffog** (1951), who is Chief Recreation Officer of the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, was elected Vice President of the Institute of Leisure and Amenity Management in 1988 and will proceed automatically to the post of President in 1990.

**Duncan Mackinder** (Threatened Plants Unit (I.U.C.N.)) was married to Barbara Swain (q.v.) on 22nd April, 1988 and we offer them both our congratulations.

In 1988, **Damien Maguire** (1971) was appointed Channel Tunnel Co-ordinator with Kent County Council. After leaving Kew he studied town planning and became Principle Economic Development Officer with Doncaster Council.

Congratulations to **Michael Maunder** (1986) on being awarded an M.Sc. degree by Reading University in 1988, before returning to Kew, on 30th August, to take up an appointment as Gardens Supervisor in the Planning Unit of the Living Collections Department.

**Anne Mayo** (Herbarium), accompanied Gren Lucas (q.v.), to Costa Rica in January, 1988 to attend Species Survival Commission and I.U.C.N. meetings. Later, in December, she participated in the Kew expedition to Pico das Almas, Bahia, Brazil led by Ray Harley (q.v.). Whilst in Brazil she attended, with Simon (q.v.), the launch of the Margaret Mee Amazon Trust in that country.

**Dr. Simon Mayo**, who specialises in Araceae in the Herbarium was promoted to Principal Scientific Officer dating from 1st January, 1988 and we offer our congratulations. On 2nd December, with his wife Anne, he left for Brazil to join Ray Harley (q.v.) and other colleagues for a period of fieldwork, returning early in February, 1989.

With regret we said farewell on 16th September to **Kim Meacher**, who left Kew, after three years as an Assistant Librarian, to work in the library of the National Institute for Social Work.

**Dr. Russell Metcalfe**, now lives in Malvern and, in a letter in November conveying best wishes to those attending Tom Risely's '30 years on' reunion (q.v.), he enclosed a photograph of himself at his home. Now aged 84, he still enjoys looking after his garden. Dr. Metcalfe remains an Honorary Research Associate of Kew and, until his retirement in 1969, was Keeper of the Jodrell Laboratory. He was President of the Guild from 1960 to 1961.

Towards the end of 1987, after spending a holiday in Queensland with Penny Hammond (q.v.), **Sue Minter**, Garden Supervisor in the Palm House, travelled in Malaysia, visiting the Cameron and Genting Highlands, Penang island and the Taman Negara forest reserve.

On 20th August, **Kate Mobbs** (formerly working in the Orchid Unit) was married to Paul Morgan (q.v.).

Congratulations to **Paul Morgan** (Living Collections Department tree gang) on his marriage to Kate Mobbs (q.v.) in Herefordshire on 20th August after which they spent their honeymoon in Wales. Our best wishes to them both.

Welcome to **Ashley Nicholas** (Pretoria), who specialises in Asclepiadaceae, and who took up his post as South African Botanical Liaison Officer on 1st August in succession to Brian Schrire (q.v.).

Welcome to **Eimear NicLuhadha**, who began work in the Herbarium, as a Scientific Officer on 1st February, 1988. Later, from the middle of July to 22nd August she joined Peter Edwards (q.v.) to participate in the Operation Raleigh Expedition '15A' in Guyana.

**Ted Oliver** (1969), who was South African Liaison Officer in the Herbarium at Kew from 1967 to 1969 and is a member of the Guild, returned to Kew in October to work for a month or Ericaceae.

**Dr. Simon Owens** (Jodrell Laboratory), with colleagues, attended the S.R.H.P. (Sexual Reproduction in Higher Plants) conference in Siena from 1st to 5th June and gave a presentation.

On September 10th, **Keith Parker**, Supervisor at Wakehurst Place and ex Kew Student, married Soo Tasker (q.v.) in Kendal, Cumbria. Our congratulations and best wishes for their future.

Very sadly we record the death in January, 1988, of **Elizabeth Parkin** (1959), at the age of 55. For 30 years she worked at the Wascana Centre at Regina, Saskatchewan in Canada and in 1962, when the Wascana Centre Authority was created, she became its greenhouse supervisor. Her love of animals and birds led her to become a member of both the Saskatchewan and Regina Natural History Societies. Elizabeth served as director of the Regina Horticultural Society, judged at shows throughout the province and gave information and advice on radio programmes.

**Dr. Barbara Parris** (Fern Section, Herbarium) accompanied by Susyn Andrews (q.v.) spent six weeks in Sabah from 18th April, concentrating on the collection of ferns. Later in the year, at the end of September, Barbara resigned from her post at Kew after seven years in the Fern Section and we wish her happiness in her new life in New Zealand.

Having gained his Kew Diploma in 1987 (Course 21), **Daniel Pearson** was, by the beginning of 1988, in charge of the Australian section of the Jerusalem Botanical Gardens in Israel. Jane Lipington (q.v.) joined the group at the same time and soon after their arrival they had hiked over the Judean desert, visited the Dead Sea and explored the Jerusalem Forest.

**Alan Pedley** (c. 1958) retired on 30th September, 1988 having been in hospital three times in the course of the year. He was unable to attend the '30 years on' reunion organised by Tom Risley (q.v.) in November because he was committed to playing Father Christmas in the Parish Bazaar, where he lives in Leamington Spa in Warwickshire!

**Dr. David Pegler** (head of the Mycological Section in the Herbarium) was in Paris from 4th to 8th July, working in the Laboratoire de Cryptogamie, Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, and from 9th to 11th September, with Brian Spooner (q.v.), he attended the British Mycological Society's Autumn Foray at Betws-y-Coed, Gwynedd.

Congratulations to **Leo Pemberton** (Supervisor of Studies and a former Vice President of the Guild) on being awarded a Kew Medal 'for his service in guiding the careers of so many Kewites and upholding the name of Kew as a centre of excellence in horticultural education'. The medal was awarded to him on 6th September, 1988 by Sir David Attenborough. Leo retired on 20th October, to be succeeded by Graham Bass (q.v.). A farewell party was held in the Sir Joseph Banks building and we sincerely wish Leo a long and happy retirement.

**Barry Phillips** (1972), having attended the 1987 Guild A.G.M. at Kew, returned to Bermuda where he was Horticultural Course Organiser in the Botanical Gardens and, in his absence, Hurricane Emily had struck. Much clearing ensued, followed by replanting and, in fact, the hurricane cleared many over-mature plants which would have taken years to remove by normal methods. During his time in Bermuda, Barry planted *Juniperus bermudiana* as part of a reforestation campaign. One thousand five hundred plants have been established in many public places and for his work he was given an Honorary Life Membership with the Bermuda National Trust. In January, 1988, Barry was on a botanical safari in the Bahama islands during which he was looking for similarities and links between the island group and the local Bermudan flora. That trip was followed by one in June to Brooklyn Botanic Garden for the opening of the new conservatory range. The education wing there has been named after Elizabeth Scholtz who has given over 30 years service to the Garden.

**Dr. Roger Polhill** (an Assistant Keeper in the Herbarium) attended the 25th Anniversary Symposium at Aarhus Botanical Institute in Denmark from 8th to 10th August and then, in September from 5th to 10th, he joined several colleagues in Hamburg to attend the 12th Congress of the 'Association pour l'Etude Taxonomique de la Flore d'Afrique Tropicale' (A.E.T.F.A.T.).

**Gerald Pope** (Krukoff Curator of African Botany at Kew) joined colleagues in Hamburg from 5th to 10th September to attend the 12th A.E.T.F.A.T. Congress.

**Clem Poulter**, who is a life member of the Guild and lives in Glasgow wrote an interesting letter to the Guild Secretary in December in which he recalled the 'heady days' when he left

Kew in 1928. '... at that period of history ... the British Empire was still in existence and training was geared to filling Colonial posts and overseas ventures.' When he went to Kew on 11th April, 1927, J. W. Bean was Curator and he first reported to Eric Godseff, the sub-foreman in the Palm House. After a short stay, Clem moved to the Orchid Section of the T-range where the sub-foreman was George Catt and he and his family remained life-long friends. On 4th August, 1987 Clem spent a day at Kew with members of his family and they visited the Princess of Wales Conservatory. In his letter he pointed out that he was deputy Director of Glasgow Parks when the department appointed Eric Curtis (currently the Guild's President elect) Curator of the Botanic Gardens. Pointing out other Glasgow-Kew connections, he noted that Dr. William Hooker, when he was Director of Glasgow Botanic Gardens (before becoming Kew's Director in 1841) recommended David Douglas to the Horticultural Society in 1823 as a collector for North America. Furthermore, William Aiton, Superintendent of the Kew of 1759, was born in Hamilton near Glasgow.

A warm welcome and congratulations to **Professor Ghilleen Prance**, now a Trustee of the Guild, on his appointment as Director, in succession to Professor Arthur Bell (q.v.), from 1st September, 1988. Earlier in the year, he and his wife visited Kew for a week in February to meet members of the staff. Almost immediately on arrival in September, he was in great demand for radio and television interviews, as well as for lecturing both at Kew and elsewhere and, in October, he was appointed visiting Professor to the Department of Botany at the University of Reading. He is continuing his research and has remained as a member of many committees and organisations connected with both the New York Botanical Garden and Latin American botany. In September, the Margaret Mee Trust was set up with the Director as a Trustee and in November an exhibition of Margaret Mee's paintings was opened. In the same month, he went to St. Louis to receive the award, by the Missouri Botanical Garden, of the Henry Shaw medal, and at the end of the year he was elected President of the Systematics Association. In December he went to Washington to set up a workshop to be held in the autumn of 1989.

From 1st January 1988, **Hugh Pritchard** (Wakehurst Place) was promoted to the grade of Senior Scientific Officer and we offer him our congratulations.

In March, 1988, **Alan Radcliffe-Smith** visited Rome in order to present a paper on the taxonomy of the *Euphorbia esula* ('Leafy Spurge') complex in Canada and the U.S.A. at the Vllth International Symposium on the biological control of weeds organised jointly by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Ministero Italiano dell' Agricoltura e delle Foreste.

Early in March, 1988, **Steve Renvoize** (Herbarium) left for a two-month visit to Ecuador where he collaborated with Aarhus University on the Flora of Ecuador. Later in the year he was in China from 20th October to 14th November on a lecture and study tour concerning bamboos.

**Tom Risely** (1958) organised a '30 years on' gathering on 12th November at his home in Battle, East Sussex, for those with connections with Kew from 1956 to 1958 and the years that followed. Tom noted in his letter of invitation how many had sustained friendships through the Guild. It was a successful reunion enjoyed by all who attended, and from donations invited (— it was an otherwise free Kew event! —) £110 was given to the Guild Award Scheme. Amongst those present were: L. P. Barker (1958), Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Breach (1963), M. Clift (1958), R. Dungay, J. B. Gaggini (1963), A. Hart (1958), F. N. Hepper (Kew), Mr. and Mrs. K. R. Jones (1959), Mr. and Mrs. R. Kerr, K. M. Lycett (1960), Dr. and Mrs. N. K. Robson (1962), I. G. Rooke (1958), Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Taber (1962) and Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Wood (1960). Apologies and good wishes were received from: P. Addison (1957), H. P. Barnes (1960), I. Bayer (Kew), B. Carter (1959), R. J. Chuter (1961), M. Collett, T. Deans (1960), D. Dyke (1961), R. Johnson, B. E. Lowe (1961), J. S. McCracken (1957), Dr. C. R. Metcalfe (1969), Miss B. Morgan, E. C. Neighbour (1957), J. B. E. Simmons (Kew), J. O'Shea, H. Overeynder, A. Pedley, A. D. Schilling (Kew), T. Sutcliffe (1958), D. Storer, W. E. Storey (1952), K. G. Toft (1960), R. C. Ward (1963) and A. Williams. In December Tom and his wife Julie, moved to Spain and we extend our best wishes to them for their 'new life' there.

**Dr. Norman Robson** with his wife, Eve, who live in Limpsfield, went to Caldbec Hill, Battle, in November and like many others enjoyed meeting old Kewites at a '30 years on' reunion

generously organised by Tom Risle (q.v.). Our very best wishes to Norman (until 1962 on the Kew Herbarium staff) on his retirement from his post at the Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road in 1988.

Congratulations to **Caroline Robertson** on her promotion in May, 1988 to Administrative Officer. At the same time she moved from the Library to the Buildings and Maintenance Section.

On 28th September, **Paula Rudall** (Jodrell Laboratory) attended the S.R.H.P. (Sexual Reproduction in Higher Plants) Conference in Siena from 1st to 5th June and then on 28th September left with Ray Harley (q.v.) and several other colleagues for Pico das Almas, Brazil where, for several months, they undertook collecting, sorting the specimens in the University of Sao Paulo before returning in January, 1989.

**Martin Sands** (Co-ordinator in the Herbarium and formerly Honorary Assistant Secretary of the Guild) was in Western Australia from 21st March to 31st July, 1988, participating in the Royal Geographical and Linnean Societies' 'Kimberley Research Project, 1988'. During his stay in Kimberley, which lies in the wet-dry tropical northern part of Western Australia, he collected some 3,000 specimens and was responsible for the Life Sciences Programme, involving 24 British and Australian biologists, including Brian Spooner (q.v.) and Surrey Jacobs (q.v.). As well as exploring extensively in the Napier and King Leopold Ranges, he collected on Koolan Island in the Buccaneer archipelago and during a five-day overland journey south to Perth with Paul Wilson (q.v.), he collected in the Pilberra Region and Hammersley Ranges, concentrating particularly on *Corchorus* and *Triumfetta* in the Tiliaceae. Later, from 14th to 17th October, he was in Aix-en-Provence, where he delivered a lecture entitled 'Exploration as an Information Source' at the 1988 Institute of Ecotechnics Conference on 'Genes, Artificial Intelligence and Information'.

Very best wishes to **Brian Shrire** who left in the middle of August after three years as South African Liaison Botanist. He has been succeeded by Ashley Nicholas (q.v.). On 19th December his marriage to Susyn Andrews (q.v.) took place in South Africa and we extend to them both our very best wishes.

Best wishes to **Dr. B. V. Shetty**, who left on 23rd July to return to India, after two years at Kew as the Indian Botanical Liaison Officer. Dr. Shetty, who worked on Vitaceae during his stay, was returning to his Botanical Survey post at Coimbatore.

Welcome to **Carl Shillito** who took up his post as head of retailing in the Administration Department on 27th June, 1988, with the rank of Higher Executive Officer. His responsibilities include managing the rapidly expanding shop within the Gardens.

**George Simmons** transferred to Hampton Court for a short while before retiring in the Autumn of 1988. For very many years he had staunchly provided a valuable service as electrician at Kew, especially within the Herbarium and he and his wife Jean (q.v.) will be greatly missed.

In December, we sadly said farewell to **Jean Simmons** when she retired from her Assistant Administrative Officer post in the General Service Unit where she had served since 1978. Two years earlier she began work at Kew as a Messenger. Our best wishes go with Jean and her husband, George (q.v.) for their future.

The Curator, **John Simmons**, had a particularly busy year (1988) as President of the Institute of Horticulture, handling its affairs, giving many lectures and officiating at regional events. His editing of the very successful Kew Gardening Guide Series continued with the publication of three further volumes and extended to a new Kew compendium book on indoor plants. At the end of the year he visited Professor Bell in Austin, Texas, to assist with the development of a new botanical garden and to assess Kew's future co-operation with this garden's programmes. John was also elected a Fellow of the Institute of Biology in 1988.

Congratulations to **Dr. David Simpson** (Herbarium) who specialises in Cyperaceae, on his promotion to Higher Scientific Officer with effect from 1st January, 1988. Later, setting out from Kew on 1st February, he joined several colleagues, including John Dransfield (q.v.) on a six-week field trip to the Masoala Peninsula in north-east Madagascar.

**A. R. Smith** (1967) who previously worked for Wimpey Homes Holdings and lived in Altrincham, Cheshire, is now working as Horticultural Officer for Shepway District Council in Folkestone. He took up his appointment in August, 1988.

**Kim Sorvig** (1981) wrote in September, recalling that, after finishing Course 17, he undertook an extended tour in Britain, from John-O-Groats to Land's End, in his dilapidated Morris Minor Traveller, before returning to Colorado. There, among other activities, he began a landscape consulting business before taking the Master's programme in Landscape Architecture at the University of Pennsylvania. Since graduation he has been the chief Landscape Architect for a small firm in Philadelphia and has published a couple of chapters on bamboos for Brooklyn's horticultural series, a computer manual for the University and another book awaiting a publisher. In August he married Mary Hildred and they are now living in Philadelphia.

**Dr. Brian Spooner** (Mycology Section, Herbarium) was in Australia from 1st April until 9th June, 1988, where, for six weeks, he joined Martin Sands (q.v.) to participate in the 'Kimberley Research Project, 1988'. The latter part of his visit was spent on holiday with his wife, further south in Western Australia. While in the Kimberley, he collected over 600 mycological specimens far in excess of the previously known fungal flora of the region. As well as representing many new records, his collection is confidently expected to include at least some new species. Later in the year with David Pegler (q.v.) he attended the British Mycological Society's Autumn Foray at Betws-y-Coed, Gwynedd.

**Martin Staniforth** (Living Collections Department) left on 1st February, 1988 to join several Herbarium colleagues, including John Dransfield (q.v.) on a six-week field trip to the Masoala Peninsula in north-east Madagascar.

**Brian Stannard** (Herbarium) with Ray Harley (q.v.) and others, was in Brazil from the end of September involved in extensive collecting until January, 1989.

**Charles Stirton**, who was appointed Associate Professor in the Department of Botany in the University of Natal after several years at Kew as a Krukoff Fellow, returned to Kew on 29th February, 1988 for five weeks.

**Charles Stock**, a life member and a Past President (1969-70) of the Guild, wrote to the Editor in the autumn and is still living in Beckenham, Kent.

Congratulations to **Margaret Stones** who, in 1988, was made an Honorary D.Sc. by the University of Melbourne and had the Order of Australia conferred on her by the Queen. Margaret was at Kew for many years preparing drawings for the Botanical Magazine.

**Terry Sutcliffe** (1958) is living near Newton Abbott in Devon, and works in the Wray Valley Nurseries.

Best wishes to **Barbara Swain** (Herbarium) on her marriage to Duncan Mackinder (q.v.) on 22nd April, 1988. Later in the year she accompanied Mike Lock (q.v.) on a month's collecting trip in the Lindi region of Tanzania, setting out from Kew on 8th November.

**Soo Tasker**, formerly a Kew student and ex-Supervisor of both the Temperate House and then the Orchid Unit, was married to Keith Parker (q.v.), on September 10th in Kendal, Cumbria. We extend our best wishes to them both.

Congratulations to **Hubert Taylor** (1933) on receiving the 1988 Aboricultural Award. He retired in June 1973 after 37 years in Local Government and a long and distinguished career in horticulture and aboriculture. A detailed review of his work is given in the Aboricultural Journal, pp. 363-364 in association with the announcement of the Award, and it is noted that throughout his post-war employment and into his early retirement he has tirelessly undertaken voluntary work. This has included representing the aboricultural and horticultural industries on British Standard Institute Committees and, as a result, his experience, wisdom and knowledge have been embodied in many standards where the origin goes un-acknowledged. The Award citation concludes '... There can be no other individual who has given so much to the development of career standards in aboriculture and helped the evolution of the industry towards professionalism. At the same time his work within the G.L.C. has set the example of techniques and standards of management on which modern day aboricultural practice hinges.'

It is with sadness that we record the death of **Irene Taylor** on 14th January, 1988. For many years she served as a typist in the Herbarium later serving as a specimen mounter and becoming, in due course, supervisor of the mounting team.

Congratulations to **Nigel Taylor** (Herbarium) on his promotion to Senior Scientific Officer from 1st January, 1988. On 28th September he joined several colleagues in Pico das Almas, Brazil. After collecting until mid-December, they returned to Sao Paulo to sort the specimens before he returned in February, 1989.

**Janet Terry** (Seed Bank, Wakehurst Place) travelled with David Field (q.v.) on a seed collecting expedition to Botswana between 1st March and 14th April, 1988. Later, in the summer, she was established as Seed Bank Officer at Wakehurst Place after several years there in an I.B.P.G.R.-funded post.

Congratulations to **Melanie Thomas** (née Wilmot-Dear) (Herbarium) and her husband, Owen, on the birth of their daughter, Eleanor Fay, on 16th January, 1988.

We were glad to see **Cliff Townsend** returning to the Herbarium from time to time towards the end of 1988 having recovered from a double hip operation. Cliff, who was formerly an Assistant Keeper in the Herbarium, retired in April, 1986.

**Kaj Vollesen** with Sally Bidgood (q.v.), both of the Herbarium, left on 3rd March, 1988 for a two-month collecting trip to Tanzania where they were joined in Dar es Salaam by Leonard Mwasumbi. Some time was also spent in Morogoro with Tamas Pocs and with Jon Lovett at Mufindi. Before returning on 8th May, they worked for a while in the East African Herbarium in Nairobi. Later, from 5th to 10th September, Kaj was in Hamburg with a number of colleagues attending the 12th A.E.T.F.A.T. Congress.

Future editorship of the Kew Guild Journal assured?! Editor **Richard Ward** (1963) made up for lost time when a daughter, Alexandra, was born on 7th August.

**Dr. Judy West** visited the Leiden and Geneva Herbaria from 8th to 25th July in connection with her research work and duties as Australian Botanical Liaison Officer. On 7th September, having completed her year's term of office at Kew, she left to return to Canberra and we extend our best wishes to her. She was succeeded by Karen Wilson (q.v.).

**Alun Williams**, who left Kew in c. 1958, is still living near Harlech in Gwynedd and lectures at the local college at Dolgellau. His son David is at Loughborough doing a five year M.Sc. degree course in electrical and electronic engineering, and he has a daughter at Crewe on a B.A. course in Social Sciences and another working at Laura Ashley.

Welcome to **Karen Wilson** of the Royal Botanic Garden, Sydney, who took up her position as Australian Botanical Liaison Officer at Kew on 5th September. She replaced Dr. Judy West (q.v.). Her botanical interests are mainly in the Cyperaceae and Polygonaceae.

**Paul Wilson**, who for several years until c. 1960 worked in the Herbarium at Kew, joined the multidisciplinary 'Kimberley Research Project, 1988' in northern Western Australia for several weeks in May and June. When the time came for him to return to Perth from the Kimberley, he travelled south overland with Martin Sands (q.v.), following an interesting route through the Hamersley Ranges where some collecting was done, and taking five days to complete the 2,000 mile journey. In the 1960's, after leaving Kew, Paul worked for a number of years in Adelaide before joining the Perth Herbarium staff.

Sadly, we record the death, in October, 1988, of **Marguerite Wood** who retired in September, 1978 from her Scientific Assistant post in the then Cultivated plants section of the Herbarium. Until her transfer in November, 1976, she had served, from 1968 as Accessions Officer for living material and had helped to create the Master Index which is the basis for the present L.C.D. records system.

In 1988 a letter was received from **David Zeidenberg** (1939) in Israel. In it he told of his only two later visits to Kew in 1962 and again in 1972 and how he keeps in touch via the Journal. Since leaving Kew he has been in charge of a small Botanical Garden in the School of Agriculture in Israel, and, in his retirement, he has continued lecturing.

**Sue Zmarzty** (Herbarium), with Sandy Atkins and Margaret Johnson (q.v.), was in southern Turkey from 23rd May to 15th June where general collecting, particularly concentrating on Caryophyllaceae and Labiatae, was undertaken in collaboration with the University of Istanbul.

COURSE 26 (1988)



Johathan V  
Allin

John D  
Anderson

John C  
Bartlett

Chris  
Bedingham

Steve  
Cantor



Wyatt  
Edmonds

Rachel A  
Fisher

Russell  
Forbes

Susi  
Gelst

David  
Gilbert



Madeleine  
Groves

Ian  
Kirby

Michael  
Kiemperer

Paul  
Longden

Antony  
Lunn



Peter  
O'Toole

Nenad  
Petkovic

Jane  
Runicies

Terry  
Sunderland



Ulrich  
Gliesel

Pablo  
Grijelmo

Katy  
Whyte

Ernest  
Wolnick



The Rotary Club of Kew Gardens donated £100 to dedicate a tree planting in the Gardens on Wednesday 8th June. Professor Bell, the Director, accepted the cheque, Alan Titchmarsh (centre) gave up a day of his time to accompany 27 people on a tour of the Gardens, and these people, who bought tickets for the day's outing, helped raise £450 for the Kew guild Award Scheme and £450 for Rotary Polio Plus charity. On the right Rotary President Neri Infante plants the tree. He expressed his thanks to Kew staff for their help in this venture, together with appreciation to Rowling Printers for kindly donating the programme for the day, and to Alan for his help.

# OBITUARIES



T. R. Clarke.



George Hyland.



Jock Lawson.



Dennis Hogg.



Elizabeth Parkin.

**T. A. ARNOLD — died 8th February 1988**

Mr. Arnold entered Kew on 12th April 1928 Shirley Hill Gardens, Balmer. On November 3rd he took part in the interdepartmental cross country races which were the rage then. Whilst he came last in the cross country he did somewhat better at cricket. He was almost always amongst the top scorers in the Cricket Team and in 1929 scored a total of 181 runs, an average of 15 per match. In 1930 he was top scorer and won the bat presented by Mr. G. C. Stedman.

In 1931 he left Kew for South Africa and the Municipality Buildings at Kimberley. He became Superintendent of Parks, Boksburg, Transvaal, and later went to work at The Botanical Research Institute at Pretoria. In 1976 he took over from Dr. Hellmut Tolken as South African Botanical Liaison Officer.

His friend and colleague Mr. R. Morgan of Edenvale Australia advised us that Trevor visited Kew at every opportunity.

He was a Life Member of the Guild and will be sadly missed.

**THOMAS R. CLARKE — died October 1987**

Tom left Kew in April 1939 and went to The Nurseries at Plumpton, Sussex, where he went into partnership with Jim Blackman. Plumpton Nurseries was one of the traditional British nurseries growing over the many years, under half an acre of glass, a wide range of crops. In addition to the traditional rotations of Chrysanthemums; Tomatoes and Forced Bulbs the Nursery grew fine Cyclamen, Tom's favourite plants. He took many prizes for these plants. The five acres outside crops included bedding for local florists and nurseries.

In the war the Nursery was engaged in food production but at war end when permission to grow flowers again was given the Nursery returned to that activity.

As well as making a lifelong commitment to the Nursery he became a Life Member of the Guild. He was an active member of N.F.U. and a regular churchgoer and Churchwarden at Plumpton.

Both Tom and his partner, J. Blackman, retired in 1973 but remained together until Tom passed away in October 1987.

To his daughter and dear friends we offer our condolences.

**JAMES ANDREW HINGSTON, M.Hort., R.H.S., F. I.L.A.M. (Dip P.R.A.) — died 2nd March 1988**

Jim was born and educated in Grange over Sands. An early career in pharmacy soon waned in favour of horticulture and an apprenticeship in Manchester Parks and Recreation Department. He then moved south, firstly to Harewood House and then onto various Surrey nurseries.

In 1940 he joined the Navy, rising to the rank of Lieutenant Commander. He had travelled the world in destroyers and through this gained a fascination with ocean navigation and map reading generally.

In 1946 he entered Kew with the ambition of becoming a Director or Superintendent of Parks. Many of the students in that year were from parks so this may have been an influencing factor. He attended the first Institute of Parks course in Park Administration at Lyme Hall, Lyme Park, just outside Stockport, Cheshire. He achieved his early ambitions by becoming Deputy at Yarmouth; Superintendent at Bebbington; and finally Director at Ramsgate.

When Wolverhampton College of Education applied for applicants for its new one year course for Agriculturists and Horticulturists, he applied. With their teaching certificate he went on to be Supervisor of the new course in Recreational and Decorative Horticulture at Askham Bryan College.

He had a great interest in History, being an active member and Secretary of the York Georgian Society. He was a key figure in developing the educational, guided tours to Benningborough Hall, a National Trust property near York. Many in the Yorkshire Hills knew him as a famed country-walk leader.

He is survived by his wife Jean, (a Kewite), daughter Marion and sons Andrew and Peter. To them we offer our deepest condolences.

### ROBERT DENNIS HOGG, M.B.E., A.H.R.H.S.

We are sometimes very dependent on information from Kewites on deceased friends and colleagues. Sometimes our searches through the archives release only a small amount of information. Our Obituary last year for R. D. Hogg was in this category but since we have heard from Winton Harding so we are adding to last year's information.

Robert Dennis Hogg was born on 13th May 1909 in Shiremoor, Northumberland. He served as an apprentice gardener on two private estates in Northumberland, one of the proven ways of getting a good background training in those days.

From 1930-31 he attended the Cheshire School of Agriculture where he obtained a First Class Certificate in Horticulture. In 1931 he attended Reading University where he gained their Certificate in Horticulture. In 1932 he moved to the Botanic Garden at Cambridge University and in 1934 he entered Kew where he remained until 1937 when he gained his Diploma.

As with so many Kewites, Kew provided opportunity abroad. As a student he spent a year as an exchange student at the Senate Gardens, Paris under Professor Cluny.

On completion of his studies he was employed as Head Gardener by Prince George Bibesco at the Palace of Mogosia Chitila, near Bucharest, Romania. He was there until 1940 when he joined H.M. Forces, serving in the Indian Army, 12 Frontier Force Regiment until 1946. He was demobilised at war end with the rank of Captain.

He was one of the first post-war Horticultural Officers to be recruited by the War Graves Commission. In Arras he set to work to restore the 1914-18 Cemeteries and lay out the new 1939-45 Cemeteries. In 1956 he was made Regional Horticultural Officer, covering all the Cemeteries in Belgium, Holland and Germany. In 1958 he moved to Rome to take charge of all the Cemeteries in Southern Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

In 1969 he returned to Britain and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Head Offices in Maidenhead where he became Deputy to the Director of Horticulture.

He continued to travel widely throughout the world.

Dennis Hogg grew to be a straight and dedicated manager but at no time lost his love of plants. In 1956 he was awarded the M.B.E. and in 1968 was elected an Associate of Honour of The Royal Horticultural Society.

His death has meant a great loss to the profession and to the many friends who have written to the Guild from all corners of the globe.

### GEORGE ALEXANDER HYLAND — 1912-1988

Kewites of the mid-thirties will be sad to hear the George Hyland died on the 11th January 1988.

He was born on the 2nd March 1912 at Leigh in Lancashire. At the age of 16 he began his horticultural career in Manchester Parks Department where he was undoubtedly inspired by the strong Kew contingent there.

George was a keen rugby player and often played for Leigh whilst at Manchester.

On the 24th July 1932 he entered Kew as a student, where he remained until 1935. After gaining his Diploma he returned to Manchester until 1939, when he enlisted in the R.A.F. In 1942 he started his move back down south firstly to the Air Ministry in the Midlands.

In 1946 he was appointed Deputy Park Superintendent at Hove and two years later Director of Parks there.

He was married at All Souls Church, Maidstone, Kent on 4th April 1953.

Whilst at Hove he created several gardens including a Garden for the Blind, two new recreation grounds and a Floral Clock which won an award at the Chelsea Flower Show.

After retiring from Hove Parks in 1969 he spent two years with East Sussex County Council in the Planning Department.

We offer our sympathy to his wife, Patricia, and their family.

*(This slightly edited Obituary was kindly supplied by Noel Prockter)*

### MISS K. M. KNIGHT

Miss Knight entered Kew on 6th October 1941 from the Auxiliary Territorial Service. There were 20 women gardeners acting as Temporary Foremen at Kew at this time, indeed the Kew Women Gardeners Guild was in operation then. She worked on the Ministry of Agriculture's Model Allotment, a project designed to help solve the problems of food shortage caused by the interruption of imports and the channelling of effort into the fighting of the war.

After leaving Kew she went to Boundary Nurseries, Hillingdon, Herts., where she worked happily for the rest of her life. To her friends and relations we send our condolences.

### JOHN LAWSON — died 1st September 1988

Jock's going was tragic and quick, his car being one of two which collided in the early afternoon on the Princess Highway near Morwell, Australia.

Jock left Kew in 1927 and in 1928 took up the post of Head Gardener in Yallourn, Australia. Over the years he put his Kew training to good use, being responsible for the care of the Parks, Gardens and Reserves. The Yallourn Public Gardens were laid out by Jock and subsequently maintained to a high standard by his staff.

His Botanical knowledge enabled him to successfully fulfill a fascinating brief in particular he was required to ensure that, in order to protect the nearby coalfields from fire risk, all the trees in town were flame-resistant. He imported many non-flammable subjects and together with the fire-breaks he was responsible for, the scheme successfully withstood the "test of fire" in the 1944 Bush fire in Yallourn Open Cut.

Jock developed Bowling Greens also, indeed he joined the team and in 1937-38 they won the Argus Shield from Gippsland clubs.

In 1970, four years after retirement, he was awarded a British Empire Medal for his services to Yallourn Township. Fate had an interesting twist however, for the town with all its special landscapes, no longer exists. It had had to make way for the valuable coal-mining. In 1970 it was gradually demolished. Jock moved to Morwell soon afterwards.

He leaves his wife, Nan, daughter Fae Horman and four grand-children and two great grand-children. Percival Trevaskis, an old Kew friend, has seen Nan recently. To all we offer our deepest condolences.

### JAMES MIDDLETON — died 20th April 1988

James entered Kew from the Parks Department at Dudley on 29th March 1939. He left in 1946, moving to Plant Protection Ltd., Fernhurst, Hazlemere.

In 1960 he moved to The Gardens, White Waltham Place, near Maidenhead. After later moves to Isleworth and Leigh on Sea he finally retired to Burton Latimer near Kettering, Northants.

### MISS ELIZABETH PARKIN

Elizabeth Parkin died in January 1988 aged 55 years.

She entered Kew in 1957 from London County Council where she had worked in Battersea Park. She threw herself enthusiastically into Kew life. She teamed up with Alan Pattison in the Kew Wisley Debate and held the post of Netball Secretary in the Sports and Social Club.

In 1958 she emigrated to Regina, Canada based at H. G. Legislative Buildings, Regina, Saskatchewan. As Head Gardener to the local authority she took charge of glasshouse displays, where she grew the thousands of plants which were to grace the superb floral displays that she subsequently provided on in the offices of senior government officials. Even the grandest occasions such as Royal Visits or the Opening of Parliament could not daunt her.

She retained a humble admiration of all things natural, regularly indulging her hobby of bird-watching with Peg Leach and other friends. Recently retired Executive Director, Joe Moran, said she was "one of the most capable and loyal employees he had ever had" also, alluding to her inability to see animals suffer "she had a big heart and was a big softy".

Her obvious skill at work combined with a vivacious nature led to her appearing on TV and radio. In 1966 she came to the Guild A.G.M. and Tea. To her mother and brother still in England we send our condolences.

## KEW GUILD INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1988

**INCOME**

	31.12.88		31.12.87	
	£	£	£	£
Annual Subscriptions and Arrears .....	2,432.30		2,010.30	
Donations — General .....	50.00		200.85	
Donations — Award Scheme .....	724.25		1,010.00	
		3,206.55		3,221.15
Dividends from Charities Investment Fund				
— General Account .....	883.85		790.38	
— Award Scheme .....	330.88		295.91	
		1,214.73		1,086.29
Bank Interest				
— General Deposit Account .....	24.58		90.59	
— Award Scheme Deposit Account .....	104.47		142.54	
— Charities Deposit Fund .....	967.54		814.44	
		1,096.59		1,047.57
Wakehurst Booklet Receipts .....	542.30		770.00	
Less: value of Stock Sold .....	(653.38)		(266.00)	
		(111.08)		504.00
Sale of Emblems .....	57.00		54.00	
Less: value of Stock Sold .....	(45.57)		(43.00)	
		11.43		11.00
Annual Dinner Receipts .....	2,576.75		1,686.88	
Less: cost .....	(2,432.01)		(1,508.73)	
		144.74		178.15
Annual Dinner Profit/(Deficit) .....				
Oxford Visit .....	—		343.00	
Less: cost .....	(—)		(357.00)	
		—		(14.00)
Sales of Past President's Jewel .....	100.00		45.60	
Less cost .....	(100.00)		(45.60)	
		—		—
Award Scheme Soiree/Raffle .....	144.81		277.16	
Sale of Journals .....	123.92		105.07	
A.G.M. Tea .....	21.21		16.53	
Journal Adverts .....	260.00		245.00	
		549.94		643.76
		6,112.90		6,677.92
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Kew Guild Journal — Printing .....	4,045.99		2,816.00	
Prizes awarded by the Guild .....	188.00		232.00	
Hon. Officer's expenses .....	120.86		359.39	
Printing, Postage, Stationery .....	461.99		610.51	
Award Scheme Awards .....	1,240.00		1,175.00	
Insurance .....	13.75		14.06	
Bank Charges and Commission .....	199.47		101.14	
Donation to Kew Mutual Society .....	50.00		80.00	
		(6,320.06)		(5,388.10)
EXCESS OF INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) .....		(207.16)		1,289.82

## KEW GUILD BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 1988

	31.12.88		31.12.87	
	£	£	£	£
<b>INVESTED ASSETS</b>				
Charities Official Investment Fund				
— General Fund (Note 1) .....	4,000.00		4,000.00	
— Award Scheme Fund (Note 1) .....	2,000.00		2,000.00	
Charities Deposit Fund .....	10,500.00		9,000.00	
		16,500.00		15,000.00
 <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Stock — Emblems .....	488.00		533.57	
— Past Presidents Jewel .....	400.00		—	
— Wakehurst Booklets .....	—		653.38	
	888.00		1,186.95	
Bank — General Deposit Account .....	126.05		1,301.47	
— Award Scheme Deposit Account ....	3,047.90		3,945.01	
— Current Account .....	793.21		193.89	
	4,855.16		6,627.32	
 <b>LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>				
Life Subscriptions	£			
73 @ £3.15 Half rate	— 114.97			
4 @ £5.25	— 21.00			
	135.97	(135.97)	(200.97)	
		4,719.19		6,426.35
<b>NET ASSETS</b> .....		21,219.19		21,426.35
 <b>FINANCED BY</b>				
Capital Fund .....		21,426.35		20,136.53
Add Excess Income Over Expenditure .....		—		1,289.82
Less Excess of Expenditure Over Income ....		(207.16)		—
		21,219.19		21,426.35

W. E. Storey  
Hon. Treasurer

Audited and found correct Leo Pemberton  
John Woodhams  
25th January 1989

**Note**

(1) The market value at 31st December 1988 of Income Shares held with C.O.I.F. was £22,425. Based on a total holding of 5,302 shares at 422.96 pence per share.

# ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW

## SENIOR SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

(31st December 1988)

Designations and qualifications have been omitted after all names, owing to the administrative difficulties in updating them. Compiled by Winifred Worth.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** The Hon. John D. Eccles (Chairman), Sir David Attenborough, Professor W. G. Chaloner, Professor E. C. D. Cocking, Sir Philip M. Dowson, Professor G. E. Fogg, Sir Leslie Fowden, R. A. E. Herbert, P. J. D. Marshall, Professor Elizabeth B. Robson, Commander L. M. M. Saunders Watson.

**Director:** Professor G. T. Prance  
 Personal Secretary: Mrs. M. P. Churcher

**Deputy Director:** G. Ll. Lucas

### ADMINISTRATION

Secretary, (Grade 6):  
 Administration Manager (SEO): Mrs. V. Walley

#### Central Services

HEO M. A. Arnold-Gilliat  
 EO Mrs. S Baker

#### Personnel

HEO Ms M. P. Long  
 EO Mrs. G. M. Bloomfield  
 Sergeant Constable: E. G. Killick  
 Typing Manager: Mrs. J. M. Brind  
 Office Keeper: I. Prince

#### Buildings & Maintenance

SPTO T. Bailey  
 HPTO Mrs. C. A. Bond, J. C. W. Dennis, G. Oldfield, R. Thompson

### FINANCE

Chief Accountant  
 SEO Miss R. M. Bower

#### Finance I

EO D. Bennett

#### Finance II

EO Miss R. Campione

#### Bookshop Manager

HEO C. G. Shillito

### COMPUTER SECTION

Project Manager  
 SEO W. Loader

#### Programmers

HEO M. Jackson  
 EO S. Bowden, Miss S. Edwards, S. Fryer, D. Martindale

### HERBARIUM

Keeper, (DCSO): G. Ll. Lucas  
 Personal Secretary: Mrs. E. J. Fitchett  
 Deputy Keeper, (SPSO): Dr. W. D. Clayton  
 Herbarium Co-ordinator, (PSO): M. J. S. Sands

**Honorary Research Associates:**

Dr. R. W. G. Dennis, P. S. Green, Professor R. E. Holttum, Dr. C. R. Metcalfe

**Dicotyledons I**

SPSO Dr. R. M. Polhill (Assistant Keeper)  
 PSO L. L. Forman, D. R. Hunt, B. F. Mathew, Dr. C. Grey-Wilson  
 SSO Mrs. D. M. Bridson, G. P. Lewis, N. P. Taylor  
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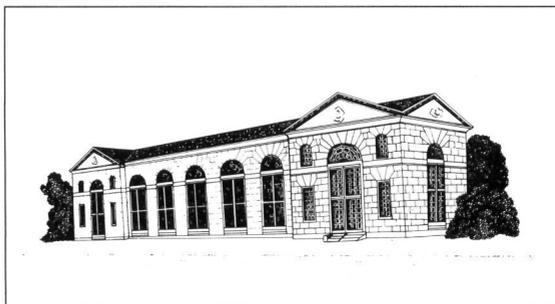
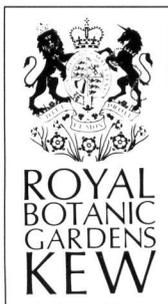
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