

THE JOURNAL OF THE KEW GUILD

Founded in 1893

The Association of members of the Kew staff past and present

Events of 1991

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**Royal Botanic Gardens
Kew**

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Retire 1995

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Award Scheme Chair: Ms J. Evans
 Badges and Emblems: S. J. Henchie
 Events Officer: D. J. Breach
 Honorary Auditors: L. A. Pemberton and J. R. Woodhams
 Students' Union Representatives: C. Kidd
 Centenary Sub-Committee Chairman: M. J. S. Sands

EDITORIAL

This year has been a busy one for the Kew Guild. Your Committee has met regularly and discussions have been far-reaching.

The Centenary will occur next year — are *you* going to be in the first 100 years' history of the Guild?

Elsewhere in this Journal you will see outline details of our proposed celebrations. Please look at these ideas and support.

I hope to lead an expanded Centenary edition of the Kew Guild Journal next year; particularly expanding on 'News of Kewites at Home and Abroad'. You will most probably be getting a special letter inviting your news so I hope you will respond. I will also hope to expand our advertising to help subsidise printing costs. You will be pleased to hear that we have been offered very generous financial sponsorship from our Printers in 1993 as they will have been printing our Journals for 41 years. Contact our advertising Manager for details for next year, please.

There are some members whose names, addresses or dates of leaving Kew are incorrect. Computer problems! Although it was I who suggested that our records should be computerised, and despite a lot of goodwill and time put in by others, I am not convinced that our system is 100% accurate and therefore especially ask you this year to notify our Membership Secretary of inaccuracies. And bear with us. And please note that members not paid fully up to date — £10 per year on 1st January, £5 students — will not receive a Journal.

And keep in touch.

Richard C. Ward
Hon. Editor

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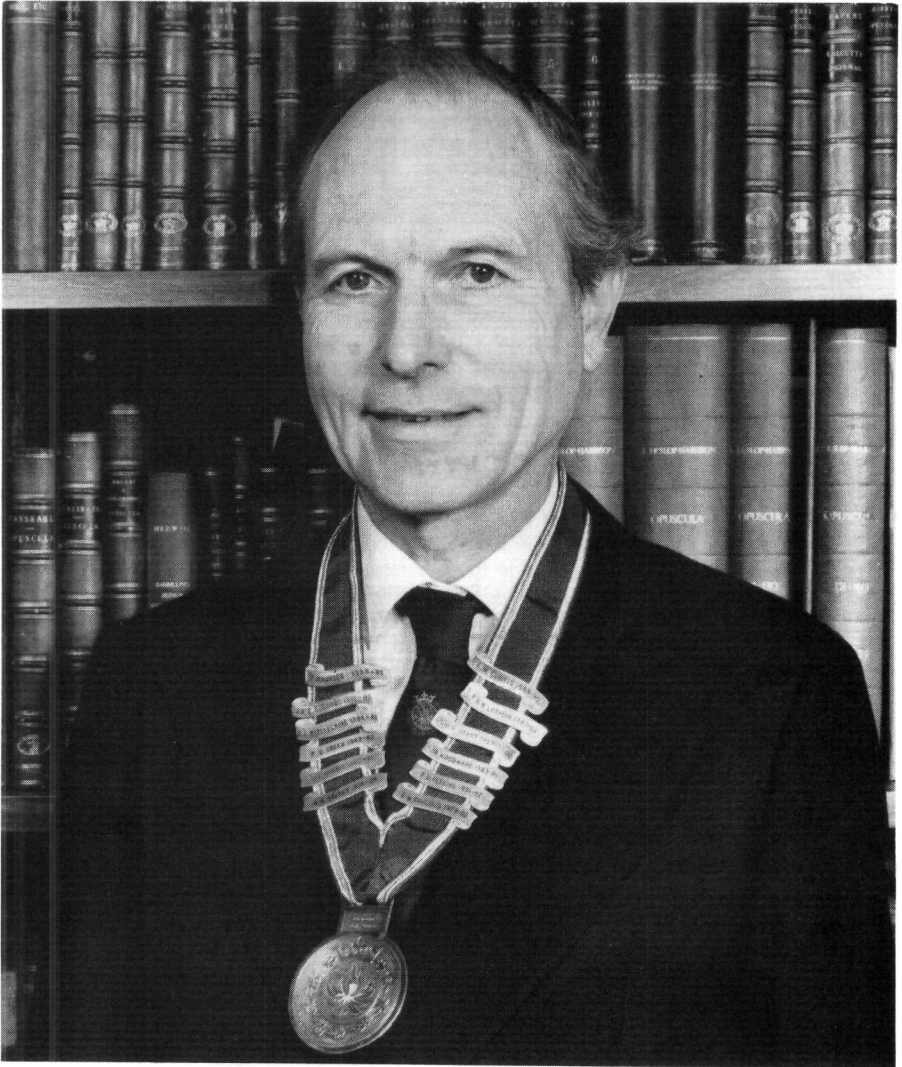
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FRANK NIGEL HEPPER, B.Sc., F.L.S., F.I.Biol.
President 1991/92



Although a Yorkshireman by birth, our President's upbringing was divided between West Yorkshire and Cumberland. He was born on 13th March 1929 in a house numbered 13 in a non-industrial part of Leeds. His interests in natural history were encouraged by his parents in their large garden, with a natural stream, bordering meadows and woodland which gave easy access to the Yorkshire Dales. During the Second World War they evacuated to their sixteenth century Cumbrian cottage within a stonethrow of the sea where his parents formed a market

garden with goats, pigs and poultry to aid the war effort. Nigel roamed the fields and fells collecting plants for herbarium specimens which stood him in good stead for later African wanderings. At prep-school he learnt to ride, gained the annual garden prize and sold flower seeds for the Red Cross (only vegetable seed being available in wartime!).

Returning to the same house in Leeds complete with the livestock plus rabbits, Nigel went to Leeds Grammar School and later to King's College, Newcastle (then part of Durham University) to take Special Honours in Botany. As it happened, this course included a year of agricultural botany which was to prove useful as a basis for his interest in New Eastern archaeobotany. A vacation studentship at the Natural History Museum studying *Silene nutans* with A. J. Wilmott brought him into contact with Kew, which he joined in 1950 as a taxonomist in the Herbarium. He at first worked with H. K. Airy-Shaw on Bornean plants but he was soon called up becoming a Fighter Control Officer in the RAF.

Returning to Kew in 1953 he joined Ronald Keay on the revision of the *Flora of West Tropical Africa* and later became its editor, until its completion in 1972.

His two expeditions to West Africa were very different: one trekking in British Cameroons and the other on a hovercraft from Senegal to Lake Chad. Then as Head of the Africa Section and Assistant Keeper Wing C, he turned to East Africa with expeditions to Kenya, Tanzania and Malawi, also to the Yemen and Ceylon. West Africa called him back, however, and from 1986 he initiated the Rain Forest Genetic Resources Project based at Limbe (Victoria) Botanical Garden which is financed by O.D.A. in association with Kew.

Meanwhile an increasing interest in the history of African exploration led to the publication of *The West African Herbaria of Isert and Thonning*, *Plant Collectors in West Africa*, *Plant Hunting for Kew*, *Luigi Balugani's Drawings of African Plants* and a forthcoming one on Forsskal's Yemen expedition. Combining his Christian faith with an interest in ancient botany he produced *Bible Plants at Kew*, *Planting a Bible Garden* and *Pharaoh's Flowers*, which involved personal field work and the planning of a biblical garden in Jerusalem.

A close association with Kew staff in the Gardens resulted in Nigel becoming Honorary Secretary of Kew Guild (1967-1975) and Vice-President in 1983/84. Having published a supplement to the Kew Guild Journal on the Royal opening of the Herbarium Wing D and the Queen's Garden, followed by three editions of *Wakehurst Place: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*, he was asked to prepare *Kew: Gardens for Science and Pleasure* for HMSO.

For several decades he has made daily phenological observations in the Gardens and, although now officially retired, he is still continuing his Kew-based research on several projects. He lives in Richmond with his wife Helen; their three sons are all married.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE KEW GUILD

By **Neil Gilmour** and **Mike Maunder**, Hon. Secretary

On Saturday 7th September 1991 36 members assembled in the Jodrell Lecture Theatre for the Annual General Meeting. The President, Mr. M. J. Sands, was in the chair and in the absence of the Secretary, the Vice-President, Mr. W. N. G. Gilmour, recorded the minutes of the meeting.

Apologies for absence were read out.

A period of silence was observed while the names of the members whose recent death had been announced were read out. They were: Mrs. J. M. Brookes, E. Cherry, Miss A. E. Dallimore, Dr. C. R. Metcalfe, N. Prockter, P. W. Roddick, A. D. Stevens and W. H. Tucker.

The Minutes of the 1990 A.G.M., which had been printed in the Journal were approved as a true record. There were no matters arising from those minutes which were not included on the agenda.

The Kew Diploma Alumni: the President outlined the background to the Guild Committee's recommendation that the Alumni Association being proposed by the School of Horticulture be developed in conjunction with the Guild in accordance with the stated aims of the Guild.

Following a discussion it was proposed by K. Pearson and seconded by M. Lycett, "that this Annual General Meeting, on the recommendation of the Committee, authorises the Guild Committee to develop the concept of Alumni (as raised in connection with the School of Horticulture) as an integral part of the Kew Guild". This motion was passed unanimously by the meeting.

In connection with the above proposal the President proposed and K. R. Jones seconded, "that the Supervisor of Studies be an ex-officio member of the Guild Committee in future". This motion was passed unanimously by the meeting.

The Secretary's Report: In the absence of M. Maunder a brief report prepared by him was read to the meeting. In his report he drew particular attention to the main activities of the year which saw the preparations for the Centenary Year develop and come into focus. In addition a number of exciting projects had been initiated. They included the renovation of the historically important Smith Archive and the consolidation of closer working relations with The Friends of Kew. The importance to the Guild Award Scheme of the Mrs. Dallimore legacy was particularly noteworthy.

Membership: It was reported that the current membership was: Annual Members 367, Staff Members 66, Corporate Members 9, Life Members 99.

The Treasurer's Report: Ms R. Bower reported that from a financial point of view 1990 had been a satisfactory year.

A number of financial gifts had been made to the Guild. They were: the Mrs. Dallimore Bequest of £14,000, the Edna Redman Bequest of £25,000 and the Edwin Cherry Estate had advised the Guild that they wished to make a gift towards a special award.

The extra income which the Guild had received during the year meant that there had been an increase in the amount given out in awards.

It was noted that the increase in subscription fees to £10 per year had not resulted in any apparent loss of members.

The meeting gave approval for the Committee to implement such methods of payment of subscriptions as the Committee thought fit and also for the Committee to pay the subscription of any member they considered unable to afford it.

The meeting asked that a special vote of thanks be recorded to Ms Bower for her work as Treasurer.

Journal Editor's Report: R. Ward summarised the preparation of the Journal particularly the need for special arrangements to be made for the issue which would mark the Centenary Year (1993).

The meeting asked that a vote of thanks be recorded for the excellent work carried out by Mr. Ward which resulted in the excellent standard of the Journal.

Events Officer's Report: D. J. Breach reported that there had been a disappointing drop of 20% in the number attending the Annual Dinner. As an event it did, however, financially break even. He particularly drew attention to the number of written apologies which he received from overseas members who were unable to attend.

During the course of the discussion which followed the Committee was asked to give consideration as to whether the Chelsea Week was still a significant factor in fixing the date of the dinner.

A special vote of thanks to Mr. Breach was passed by the meeting.

Award Scheme Report: P. Maunder reported that there had been an increase in the number of applicants for awards during the year. A total of £1,500 had been made from the normal awards fund and a further £300 had been made from the Tom Arnold Bursary fund.

He also reported that the Social Evening had raised £150 for the Award Scheme fund.

During the discussion on the Scheme it was requested that an article be included in the Journal explaining the Award Scheme.

The Centenary Sub-Committee Report: The President, in his capacity as Chairman of the Centenary Sub-Committee, gave a verbal summary of the arrangements which had been planned for 1993.

There would be activities and events from April to September with a "core" period of a fortnight commencing 8th May 1993.

The provisional programme included: a special centenary book drawing on past issues of the Journal and other archival material; special events for and by the students; a Grand Reception and Dinner in the presence of our Patron, probably in the Temperate House at Kew; a special lecture by an invited celebrity, to follow the A.G.M.; and there would be a special issue of the Journal. It is also hoped to inaugurate a Guild Room at Kew for the Guild to give backing to one of the many ongoing projects within Kew.

The President also informed the meeting that he had written to a selected number of members seeking their views and, if possible, assistance in setting up a series of regional meetings of Guild Members during 1992.

Presentation of Kew Diplomas and Prizes: The President and other members of the Guild Committee had been invited to the presentation of Kew Diplomas and prizes which had been awarded to students completing their course of study. The awards were made by the guest of honour, The Baroness Trumpington, who also delivered a lively address.

Six students were awarded Diplomas with Honours, four with Credit, one with Pass and one was awarded a Certificate of Attendance. In addition to the Diplomas there were 30 scholarships and prizes awarded, a number of which were given specifically by the Guild.

Retiring Members of the Committee: A vote of thanks was recorded to the following members who were retiring from the Committee: Dr. W. A. Lord, G. A. Pattison, B. Phillips and O. J. Ward. A special mention was made of the excellent work, on behalf of the Guild, which had been undertaken by Ms J. Runicles, the Students' Representative.

Election of Officers: The recommendations of the Committee were unanimously agreed "en bloc" and their names appear at the beginning of the Journal.

Auditor's Report: In the absence of an Auditor's Report the meeting agreed to accept the Annual Accounts.

Any Other Business: It was agreed that the Committee be authorised to appoint a new Auditor.

The meeting was informed that Kew Medals had been presented following the Students' Prize Giving ceremony to Dr. R. K. Brummitt, J. B. Gillett and Dr. R. W. G. Dennis.

It was hoped to make the presentation of the George Brown Award to S. Rawlings at the Annual General Meeting but regrettably he was unable to be present.

Installation of President: Following an address by M. J. Sands in which he summarised what had obviously been a very busy and successful year of office he installed F. N. Hepper as President.

Date of next Annual General Meeting: It was agreed that the 1992 Annual General Meeting would be held on the Saturday following the presentation of Kew Diplomas and prizes.

The meeting closed at 4.45 p.m. and was followed by afternoon tea provided by the students and an evening soirée, which included a guided tour of the new Marine Life Section in the Palm House.

OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1990-1991 TO THE A.G.M.

By Martin J. S. Sands

Unless you consider being viciously attacked several times by a forest hornet in Brunei this year, I am glad to say that, so far, having the thirteenth name-bar on the Guild Presidential Ribbon, has not brought me any serious bad luck.

It has been a very special honour to serve as your President during this past year, at a time in the Guild's history which I believe to be its most momentous and forward-looking to date. The strength of our financial position; the Award Scheme providing ever more worthwhile awards and the likelihood of them increasing substantially; the steady and excellent progress towards the Centenary and now the prospect of establishing an Alumni under the auspices of the Guild; — all these demonstrate a healthy and growing Association, even if we still do need to work harder to expand our membership.

The highlight of the year for me, of course, was the Annual Dinner and I am particularly grateful to Derek Breach who once again so efficiently organised this very successful event.

Sadly, no less than three of our most eminent Past Presidents have died since the last Annual General Meeting: Edwin Cherry (I attended his funeral on behalf of the Guild), Noel Prockter and Dr. Charles Metcalfe, and we certainly mourn their passing. It is enthusiasm and active participation like theirs, however, that has inspired many others in the Guild to put so much of their time and effort into all the various facets of our Organisation. We have already thanked many of our hard-working team as this meeting has progressed and I hope that no one has been overlooked, but I would like to add my personal thanks for all the support I have been given this year by so many of our members.

This past year has been a very busy one with regular meetings of the Centenary Sub-Committee and the development of separate Working Groups, with a great deal also happening 'behind the scenes'. It is worth bearing in mind that, in preparing for 1993, quite apart from the actual events taking place within that year, we are also establishing new and permanent strands in our activities which will last into the next century of the Guild's history. The most generous Redman and Dallimore gifts offer the prospect of a very welcome development of our Awards programme and the recent stimulating discussions regarding the new Alumni and the possibilities this holds for the Guild's expansion, are also very exciting.

I would like to remark that our new links with 'The Friends of Kew' have been strengthened considerably during the year. 'The Friends of Kew' is an ever-growing body, established now as very much an integral part of the Kew family and our link with it has developed with the offer of help from the volunteer force to distribute journals and other communications and of imminent assistance in managing the Guild membership data-base. However, there are still very few Guild members joining 'The Friends of Kew', so may I remind you that, if you have not already done so and whether you are currently working at Kew or not, you are entitled to a special, substantially reduced 'Friends' subscription rate and all the attendant privileges of membership.

Before I have the pleasure of passing the Badge of Office to my successor, Nigel Hepper, I would like to conclude simply by saying thank you for inviting me to serve as your President during the past year and I look forward to continuing to help in other ways in the future.

REPORT OF THE 1991 ANNUAL DINNER

By D. J. Breach, Events Officer

This year's Kew Guild Dinner was held on the 25th May at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, South Kensington.

The number of guests attending this year was 90, many of whom were regular attenders at the Dinner and it was a pleasure to have the company of nine students. Unfortunately it was the first dinner for several years that was not attended by at least one 'Overseas Member'; nevertheless several have kept in touch and apologies were received from those is Australia, Belgium, Canada, U.S.A. and Zimbabwe as well as those throughout the U.K. However, we did have the pleasure of the company of Mr. and Mrs. Yong Fan Chin who were guests of the Curator. Mr. Chin was a student at Kew some 25 years ago.

The evening got off to a very amiable start when our President and his Lady (Gillian) received the Guests at what has become the traditional pre-dinner reception and which set the mood for the evening.

The Guests then took their places at the tables and, following Grace, spoken by the Reverend Hugh Flower, proceeded to dine on a meal of Asparagus Soup with Croutons followed by Fillet of Salmon with Orange Sauce, Buttered Potatoes and French Beans, then Fresh Cream Profiteroles with Hot Chocolate Sauce and finally Coffee and Cream. Wines, if required, could be selected from an extensive and moderately priced wine list.

At the conclusion of the meal guests drank the loyal toast proposed by the President. Then as is traditional there was a ten minute interval after which several toasts were given.

In proposing the toast to the President, Professor Lucas described the President's career progression from the time of his arrival on the Kew scene in 1957 until the present time. He went on to say that Martin was a dedicated and hardworking officer who was a tenacious man with a determination to succeed in whatever task he undertook and that these personal characteristics became the 'tools' with which he 'cultivated' his career at Kew.

He indicated that one of the many facets of Martin's career at Kew has been that of 'plant hunting'. This subject has no doubt been inspired and sustained by his love of plants and his enthusiasm for travel. The first expedition in which he participated was in 1969, to Java, Sulawesi and Papua New Guinea and he returned from his most recent plant collecting expedition to Brunei in March 1991. However, on this occasion it was especially pertinent to mention the long and dedicated service he has given to the Kew Guild; having served in one office or another since 1967, a fact that I am sure all Guild members will appreciate.

In responding to the toast the President thanked Professor Lucas for the very kind and complimentary things he had said. He informed the diners that he was deriving great pleasure and satisfaction from holding the office of President and thanked Guild members for giving him the opportunity of occupying that office. Referring to the Kew Guild Dinner Programme for 1900 (published in KGJ 1900 p. 7), he asked if any members present were aware that it was a custom at the earliest dinners for the members and their guests to provide after-dinner entertainment. This reference to former times did not immediately inspire anyone to perform but perhaps this is something that could be re-introduced on a future occasion!

Perhaps to promote the idea of after-dinner entertainment, the President then performed a brief conjuring trick producing from an open menu card an orange handkerchief which then turned a more environmentally friendly green, proving also that, although he works hard each day he still finds time to relax and follow more leisurely pursuits. Paying tribute to the hard work that goes into preparing for the dinner the President commented that the 'reception type' of table arranged this year seemed much more amenable to a social event such as the Kew Guild Dinner than the previously used 'top table and spurs' layout reminiscent of school refectories or regimental dinners.

The President went on to recount several reminiscences of his time at Kew and drew attention to developments during the past year in the Gardens, the latest being the Victoria Gate, the visitors building and work on the extension of the Joderell Laboratory. Referring to the Guild's development, special mention was made of the ever growing Award Scheme, closer liaison with the Friends of Kew, and greater support for current students (which later in the year developed into the Guild associated Alumni). He then gave a resumé of the progress being made in respect of the Guild's Centenary Celebrations in 1993, explaining that under the control of a special Sub-Committee, planning for each project was being undertaken by a working group headed by a chairperson. Some of the projects being planned were, an anthology publication drawing on material in the *Kew Guild Journals*, a 'Centenary' series of lectures at Kew, an exhibition depicting the work of the Guild and Kew and a Grand Centenary Reception and Dinner (a provisional programme of events is to be found on pages 24-25).

The President then, with great pleasure, reiterated the announcement made at the last AGM that Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra had graciously agreed to become Patron of the Guild with effect from September 1990.

In proposing a special toast to the Guild's Centenary, he suggested that the letters K.E.W. could usefully stand for 'Keeping the Environment Wisely' and the letters G.U.I.L.D. for the vision of the Guild's future of 'Growth, Unbounded success, International accord, Longevity and Distinction'.

In conclusion he then thanked all those present for attending the Dinner and for making the evening such a pleasant and happy event for both his Lady and himself.

The Toast to The Kew Guild was proposed by the Guest Speaker Mr. Nigel Winsor, Assistant Director of The Royal Geographical Society and a long standing colleague of the President. He thanked the Guild members for inviting him to be the Guest Speaker for the evening and after making several complimentary comments about the Guild he spoke of some of the projects with which he and Kew had been involved over the years. In particular he referred to Martin's involvement as Deputy Leader (biology) of the 'Kimberley 88 Research Project', which commemorated the Bicentennial Anniversary of both Australia and The Linnaean Society, the President having been seconded from Kew to represent the latter in leading the project.

In response the President thanked Mr. Winsor for the compliments he had paid to both the Guild and himself. Other toasts of the evening were those to 'Our Guests' proposed by Mr. John Simmons (Curator), responded to by Mr. Nigel Winsor and the toast to 'Absent Friends' proposed by Jane Runicles after announcing the written apologies received.

The winner of the George Brown Award for 1990-91 was Mr. Stanley Rawlings, who unfortunately could not be present due to illness. The President presented the citation and after expressing everyone's wishes that Stan might have a speedy recovery, retrospectively presented the 1989-90 George Brown Award to Dr. Ronald Keay who in turn had been unable to be present at the previous Dinner.

This year the Guild received an interesting presentation in the form of a foot-stool, hand carved by Mr. Skelton from a piece of Kew storm timber. Mr. Skelton is a grandson of William Watson, a former Curator of Kew.



Annual Dinner 1991. *Left to right:* Mrs. J. Sands, President Martin Sands and Nigel Winsor.

Dick Skelton attended the Dinner accompanied by his charming sister Christine to present the foot-stool to the Kew Guild. Receiving the foot-stool on behalf of the Guild, the President invited Dick to say a few words, an invitation that was taken up with great enthusiasm by this effusive octogenarian. Dick's response resulted in his audience being treated to a humorous interlude and his technique with a microphone especially, will long remain in the memories of those present. However, all good things have to come to an end and the zestful Dick Skelton proved no exception as he was brought to order by his sister.

Once again the Students organised a very successful raffle, half the proceeds of which they kindly donated to the Guild, leaving me convinced that they have the potential to become very successful salespersons.

Finally a thank you to all those who do so much to make it all happen so that another Kew Guild Dinner can be recalled as being a pleasant evening spent in the amiable company of friends and colleagues.

KEW GUILD AWARD SCHEME REPORT FOR 1991

By Jenny Evans

The Kew Guild Award Scheme is one of the major attractions of the Guild, particularly to young people and students wishing to travel or attend conferences, and for whom an additional hundred pounds can make a considerable difference to their finances. As a past recipient I can vouch for this!

Whilst the majority of applicants are current Kew staff or students, I should like to take this opportunity to remind all readers of the terms under which applications for an Award can be considered.

"To assist travel;
to finance specialist lectures for Guild members anywhere;
to assist members further education;
to assist in the purchase of books and equipment;
to pay tuition or examination fees;
to provide grants to aid publication of specialist books or papers;
to assist pensioner members to attend the Chelsea Show/Dinner;
and for any other project which the Sub-Committee may find acceptable."

The last clause is a bit of a catch-all, which ensures some unusual applications and a little amusement for the Sub-Committee when Awards are being decided.

In 1991 a range of applications were received, and the following Awards made:

Charlie Butterworth	(Presently at Reading University) £250 in support of a study trip to Ecuador.
Sarah Frazer	£250 towards book or other costs incurred in her M.A. in the Conservation of Historic Landscapes, Parks and Gardens at York.
David Gilbert	£250 towards costs of books etc. in an M.Sc. course in 'Landscape Ecology, Design and Management' at Wye College.
Madeleine Groves	(Presently studying and working at Atlanta Botanic Garden) £50 towards costs of the Reading University/RBG Kew joint field trip to Almeria.
Dusha Hayes	(Orchid Section, RBG Kew) £150, as initial funding for a proposed visit to Papua New Guinea to study orchids.
Peter O'Toole	(Kew Diploma 1988-1991) £75 towards a study tour of lesser known gardens of France and Spain.
Terry Sunderland	(Presently in Limbe, Cameroon) £250 towards cost of living during six months self-funded work experience in the Botanic Gardens in Limbe.
Yongdan Wei	(Presently a third year student) £250 towards his second year study trip to the U.S.A.

The Tom Arnold Bursary. This is the second year that this has been offered, following a generous bequest; it is only available to students, to support study primarily in nursery work. The award was made to Madeleine Groves to investigate aspects of the trade in Carnivorous Plants in South-eastern U.S.A.

Another, now renowned, activity of the Awards Scheme Sub-Committee takes place on the evening of the AGM. Following the serious business of the afternoon, nearly 70 Kewites gathered for a relaxing glass of wine prior to walking across to the Palm House for a tour of the newly opened Marine Display, very capably guided by Kew's first Marine Biologist, Peter Morris. Contrasting dramatically with the terrestrial luxuriance of the Palm House collections, the Marine Display exhibits a number of marine habitats, complete with algae, higher plants and, of course, fish. The visit was greatly enjoyed by all, only the excellence of the buffet style supper in the School of Horticulture, prevented coral reefs and salt marshes from being discussed the entire evening.

For several years we have been indebted to Isabelle Maunder as 'Catering Supervisor', co-ordinating the efforts of the several willing helpers, to provide evening buffets both appetising and beautifully presented. This year was no exception, and I should like to thank her on behalf of the Guild for all her efforts, freely given and greatly appreciated. Many other people give their time and energies to make the Evening Soireés so successful, and the net profit of £226.62 is a mark of just how popular a social event they are — long may they continue.

As of September 1992, Louise Bustard and myself retire from the Sub-Committee, and the new committee will comprise:

Jenny Evans — Chair
 Kenwyn Pearson — Secretary
 Louise Bustard
 Hugh Flower
 David Barnes
 Neil Gilmour
 Plus One Student Representative

KEW GUILD AWARD SCHEME

Revised Rules — January 1992

1. OBJECTS

To help members of the Kew Guild to further their education or widen their interest in horticulture.

2. THE AWARD SCHEME

The Award Scheme will provide funds for award to approved applicants on a once yearly basis, or at other times as from time to time determined by the Award Scheme sub-committee or Kew Guild Committee. Applications for support will be considered by the Award Scheme sub-committee and a report given to the Guild Committee of awards granted.

The Award Scheme Committee is also responsible for the Administration and award of the following:

- (i) William Dallimore Memorial Trust Bursary
- (ii) Tom Arnold Bursary

3. ADMINISTRATION

- (i) The Award Scheme will be administered by the sub-committee with responsibility to the Guild Committee.
- (ii) a. The Award Scheme sub-committee will be composed of six members elected by the Guild Committee and in addition the President and Treasurer of the Guild are ex-officio members of the sub-committee. At least one member of the committee

will be a student at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew. Each member will serve for up to four years. The committee can accept members as they see fit.

- b. Election of sub-committee members to be conducted at the October meeting of the Guild Committee members.
 - c. Sub-committee members shall be members of the Kew Guild but not necessarily Guild Committee members.
 - d. At least two members of the sub-committee shall be full members of the Guild Committee, one of these should be appointed Chairman or Secretary.
- (iii) The sub-committee shall be responsible for fulfilling the Guild Committee's requirements with regard to:
- a. Publicity for the Scheme.
 - b. Fun raising activities.
 - c. Maintaining whatever records are required.
 - d. A report on the activities of the Scheme will be included in the report to the Guild at the AGM indicating which projects had been supported, who had benefitted and grants made.
 - e. Sub-committee should be empowered to:
 - (i) Seek advice from any appropriate quarter to assist its deliberations.
 - (ii) Co-opt specialists to serve as temporary non-voting members.

4. CAPITAL

- (i) All Award Scheme Capital will be managed by the Guild through the Guild Committee.
- (ii) The Capital will be separate from the Guild's main funds and initially will be paid into a deposit account.
- (iii) A sub-committee will be responsible for raising funds for the capital. From time to time the Guild itself may contribute to the Award Scheme as its financial position allows. All monies received as a result of specific appeals or donations would be recorded by the sub-committee who would be responsible for keeping an up-to-date record, the actual payments being passed to the Guild Treasurer. All money transfers to be made payable to the Kew Guild.
- (iv) It is assumed that normally the Award Scheme Capital will not be spent, but will remain invested to provide revenue.

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

This is the income resulting from the investment of the Award Scheme's capital by the Guild.

- (i) There will be two sources of investment income:
 - a. The return of the Scheme's invested capital managed by the Guild.
 - b. The interest from the Scheme's separate deposit account.
- (ii) To ensure that gifts or the proceeds of fund raising are only used for the purpose intended by the donors. Investment income will be used only for the purpose of making awards. That is to say, not used in any way to meet the expenses of running the Award Scheme.
- (iii) The 'investment income' from one year will provide funds for awards in the following year. The amount of funds available for grants in each year will be known by the January/February Guild Committee meeting.

6. WORKING INCOME

This is income which is allocated by the Guild Committee for general funds each year for providing the running expenses of the Scheme.

- (i) In the main the 'working income' will be an allowance made annually from the Guild's previous financial years revenue. This will normally be made at the January/February meeting.

- (ii) Any working income not used at the end of each financial year will normally revert to the Guild funds.

7. AWARD FUNDS

Funds used for making awards may come from several possible sources:

- (i) 'Investment income', this is expected ultimately to provide the main source of 'award funds'.
- (ii) Any surplus money from previous year 'award funds'.
- (iii) Any money donated by the Guild from time to time in support of the Schemes for the purpose of making awards.
- (iv) Any donation expressly given for direct use rather than investments.

8. APPLICATION FOR GRANT

- (i) Applications must be received by the 1st March or at any other times as determined from time to time by the sub-committee or Guild Committee.
- (ii) Applications should be made to the Secretary of the Kew Guild in writing setting out the following:
 - a. A detailed statement on the nature and objectives of the project and its suitability for support by the Scheme.
 - b. An analysis of the likely cost of the project, what other assistance sought from the Scheme.

9. AWARDS

- (i) The sub-committee should consider all qualifying applications and make awards as they think fit.
- (ii) Awards may be made subject to certain conditions, e.g., relating to publication of information, depositing of notes, acknowledgements etc.
- (iii) More than one award may be made to assist any one project of an individual.
- (iv) Awards may be retrospective in special cases where funds had been insufficient to meet a previous application.
- (v) Applications may be accepted well in advance of projects and sums of money currently available may be held aside for award to a project subsequently.
- (vi) Awards are normally made following the March meeting.
- (vii) A report of awards given shall be made to the Guild Committee at the first meeting after awards have been granted.

10. PROJECTS FOR WHICH APPLICATION FOR AWARD MIGHT BE SUBMITTED

- (i) To assist purposeful travel (fares subsistence).
- (ii) To finance specialist lectures for Guild members anywhere.
- (iii) To assist members' further education (i.e. Open University courses).
- (iv) To assist in the purchase of books and equipment.
- (v) To pay tuition or examination fees.
- (vi) To provide grants to aid publications of specialist books or papers.
- (vii) To assist pensioner members to attend Chelsea Show/Dinner.
- (viii) Any other project which the sub-committee may find acceptable.

KEW GUILD COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT

MRS. JILL COWLEY

After a year's practical experience at a local nursery in Tadworth, Surrey, I joined the one year's horticultural course — an intake of seven students — at Merrist Wood Farm Institute (now Agricultural College) in 1958. On leaving Merrist Wood with my J.C.H., I got a job at Elm Garden Nurseries of Claygate, growing houseplants and maintaining houseplant displays in and around London in such diverse locations as the Maharajah of Jaipur's flat in Mayfair, the V.I.P. Lounge at Heathrow Airport and Walls sausage factory at Acton.

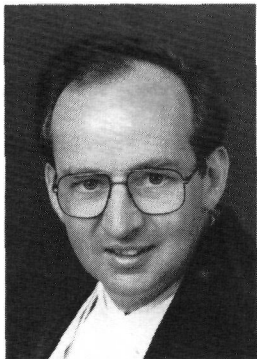
After eight years in Claygate, I needed a change of scene and had the good fortune to be offered a job in Geneva, Switzerland, again in a houseplant nursery. This was for only six months, after which I applied to work at Kew. Not receiving a reply (!), I gained employment at Millers of Send, a wholesale houseplant nursery near Guildford. I again wrote to Kew after six months there and eventually was employed in the Himalayan end of the Temperate House in 1968, working with such characters as Jock Slater. Six months later I was offered the post of Propagator under the supervision of Bill Bridle in the Temperate Pits, propagating stock for the Temperate and Palm Houses.

After four years in the Temperate Department I needed to move on and was lucky enough to be accepted as an A.S.O. in the Herbarium, where I have now been working for 20 years, currently as an H.S.O. I work in the Petaloid Monocot section with Brian Mathew, being involved with 60 plant families worldwide, identifying 600 plants from the Living Collections a year, but having a special interest in the **Zingiberaceae**.

I have been fortunate in having the opportunity to join plant and seed collecting trips and expeditions to Korea (1982), Turkey (1987 and 1990) and China (1990) and expect to visit Turkey again in April 1992 on a study tour concerning the bulb trade.

REVEREND HUGH FLOWER

Hugh Flower began his horticultural career in 1968 by starting work with the Parks Department in Brighton. there he worked for a year in the Preston Park area discovering what working was about. That year was followed by one at Merrist Wood, on a general horticultural studies course.



Reverend Hugh Flower

On leaving Merrist Wood he returned to Brighton where he worked for a further three years in various sections of the Parks Department. Then followed his years at Kew between 1973 and 1976; and subsequently a move to Camden and Islington area Health Authority as Estates Manager for Islington Health District.

Then came the change! In the late summer of 1979 Hugh began his studies for priesthood in the Catholic Church at the seminary in Womersley Village near Guildford. The completion of those formal studies was in May 1985 when he was ordained to the priesthood in Arundel Cathedral.

Since that time Hugh has worked in two of the largest parishes in the diocese, at Woking for four years and now at St. Joseph's, Epsom. A little horticultural activity is still allowed, with involvements in the Guild Committee and the Award Scheme, as well as on the council of GRBS, plus a little gardening, when time permits!

GORDON R. FRASER, Dip.Hort. (Kew), M.I.Hort.

Gordon served as a Student Gardener with Portsmouth City Council from 1978 to 1983 where he attained City and Guilds Phase 1 and 2 and the R.H.S. General Certificate. During this time he was a member of the local Horticultural Society and a regular member of the South Hants Federation Quiz team, being privileged to sit alongside a great Kewite, John Studley (1930).

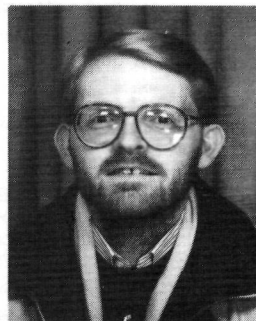
The Deputy Director at Portsmouth was another much respected Kewite, Peter Maunder (1954), who encouraged Gordon to apply for a place on the Diploma course. After continuing as a Craftsman Gardener for a further two years he eventually joined Course 21 in September 1983.

Kew was to be an interesting experience and not without its difficulties. Fellow students provided stalwart support, not least of which was Sarah Rutherford, later to become Sarah Fraser (a fact with which the Journal has not yet caught up)!

After completing the course, Gordon went to work as a Landscape Contracts Manager for yet another Kewite, Chris Baylis (1956). By 1988 he was District Landscape Manager for The Economic Forestry Group Plc and on June 18th of that year Sarah and he were married.

Having set up home in Sussex, Gordon remained with EFG until February 1990 when he left to establish an independent company. Landscape and Woodland Management Limited continues, despite the recession, with Gordon at the helm. The work is largely concerned with the restoration and conservation of both historic gardens and natural landscapes.

In 1990 he was accepted as a member of the Landscape Institute and is currently hoping to sit the Part IV Professional Practise Examination in late Summer 1992.



Gordon Fraser.

MARK PITMAN

Although I am new to this Committee, I have been at Kew for seven years working in the Living Collections Department, starting in the Services Section and for the Arboretum over the last six years.

It has been very rewarding working with the woody plants at Kew. This requires a very long term approach, bearing in mind the life span of our collections.

The two storms of 1987 and 1990 have highlighted our work as well as given attention to our planting policy. A couple of drought years have also added to the pace and interest of our task.

I believe that the Arboretum was well positioned to cope with these adversities and has emerged stronger and wiser. When a tree that you have planted establishes and grows six meters in height — well I just cannot explain the feeling, except that it is very good!

KEW GUILD COMMITTEE DELIBERATIONS

To keep members 'in the picture' the Committee of the Kew Guild have met four times during 1991/92 and discussed such items as the Centenary Celebrations, closer liaison with Friends of Kew, legacies to the Guild, Students' Prizegiving Awards, Membership generally, Annual Dinner venue and detail, computer records and subscriptions.

THE KEW STUDENTS' UNION ANNUAL REPORT

By Ian Turner, President 1991-92

The present Committee is as follows:

President	Ian Turner
Secretary	Zigrid Zundel
Treasurer	Mark Brent
Sports/Social	Mark Poswillo
Fund Raiser	Amanda Lind

The Student Union is continuing to play an active role in the improvement of the course. Important issues are debated by the Union and then the ideas are presented at the various meetings attended by the Student Representatives. These meetings produce positive feedback from the students for the management of the course.

T-shirt sales have been very good in the last year. The Palm House design has proved to be very popular. However, the results of a competition to design its successor will be announced soon and the first order will be made shortly afterwards.

Finally, I would like to thank all the students past and present for their help and support in the Union's work.

STUDENTS' UNION SPORTS REPORT

By Mark Brent, with Mark Poswilló

The years activities began in February with a weekend camping and walking trip to Edale in the Derbyshire dales. It was here the pioneering spirit of the group of ten staff and students came up against climatic conditions more suited to the Arctic Circle, as the memorable winter snow swept southwards. The cold temperatures failed to ruin an excellent weekend of walking and, indeed it added an extra dimension to the entertainment.



The Kew Football Team (striped shirts) with their Edinburgh counterparts in Edinburgh, October 1991.

In March the Football Team visited R.H.S. Wisley, where it maintained its traditional unbeaten run against them with a close 3-2 victory, with the winning goal coming from T. Sunderland after a missed Wisley penalty at 2-2 when the ball was lofted over the bar (much to the relief of the writer of this piece who was occupying the goal at the time).

During March the student football team suffered a rather ignominious defeat by the staff, losing by a score of 6-2.

After our defeat in Edinburgh by the Royal Botanic Gardens the previous autumn, the students of R.B.G. Edinburgh came south to defend a newly inaugurated shield to commemorate what is now a twice yearly event between the two gardens. Goals from Clive Foster (3) and J. Anderson (1) in a 4-2 Kew victory saw the shield duly wrenched from the Scot's grasp in a very competitive match.

Summertime saw mixed fortunes for the Cricket Team which started well with a win by 20 runs over a National Trust Garden Team in the regal surroundings of the Buckinghamshire County Ground at Ascott, Wing. Following this win Kew took to the road again to play a Wakehurst Place staff side in Sussex. Some powerful hitting by the likes of Mark Flanagan *et*

a/ saw Wakehurst home to victory. The cricket teams this summer have included a large staff presence brought about by a waning student interest in the sport. This is one reason why the student versus staff cricket match, which was becoming a one-sided affair, has been transformed into an L.C.D. versus Science and Administration encounter. An evenly balanced and enjoyable 20 overs match on Kew Green, honoured with the presence of the Director, Professor Prance, who opened the batting for the Science and Admin. team, resulted in a tie being declared by the two sides.

The annual Clog and Apron race in September was won by first year student Simon Miller, the other places going to David Higgon, second (who finished on a unicycle!) and a joint third place went to the remainder of the new students, who were involved in a joint finish.

In October M. Poswillo resurrected the Round the Gardens Race and this was won by Steve Grinwood of the Alpine and Herbaceous Section.

Lastly we come around to the football season (again!) to report the loss by Kew, away from home, to the Edinburgh students. The score will go unreported in order to protect the sore pride of those involved in this match.

My thanks to all of those who took part and helped out in the activities over the past 12 months, and I hope that we will be able to maintain and foster new sporting links with fellow institutes over the coming year.

PRESENTATION OF KEW DIPLOMAS AND PRIZES 1991 (Course 26)

The Annual Presentations were made on Friday 6th September 1991. Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Mr. John Eccles, C.B.E., welcomed guests and told the outgoing students to take the name of Kew out into the world.

The Director, Professor Prance, said that he had a particular interest in the outgoing batch of students as they had arrived at Kew at the same time as himself! He particularly thanked those who made a contribution to the Community, with fund-raising etc., and also mentioned the people who help with fund-raising for the work at Kew Gardens, including the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Supervisor of Studies, Ian Leese, gave details of the present Diploma Course and of the closer liaison between the Gardens Administration and Students Union.

The Guest of Honour, Baroness Trumpington, Minister of State M.A.F.F., complimented all students present and those who had made the Diploma Course as it is today. She looked to home market producers to reduce imports and grow our own produce! She noted that home production has doubled in the last 10 years. She finished by saying that the outgoing students should be expected to hold 'missionary' positions in their chosen field!

Baroness Trumpington presented Diplomas and Prizes, then the Kew Medals, prior to tea served in the School of Horticulture Building.

THE KEW DIPLOMA

Honours

Jo Doorne
David Gilbert
Madeleine Groves

Michael Klemperer
Peter O'Toole
Terry Sunderland

Credit

Jon Allin
John Anderson
John Bartlett
Chris Bedingham
Stephen Cantor

Rachel Fisher
Russell Forbes
Ian Kirby
Paul Longden

Pass

Jane Runicles

Certificate of Attendance

Wyatt Edmonds

PRIZES

Kew Diploma Post-Graduate Research Fellow Scholarship	Terry Sunderland
The Ernest Thornton-Smith Travelling Scholarship	Terry Sunderland
British Friends of Jerusalem Botanical Garden Scholarship	Russell Forbes
Henry Idris Matthews Scholarship	Sally Kelly
Hozelock Prize	Andrew Fuller
David Dalziel Travel Scholarships	Mark Brent, David Gardner, Jane Lawson Amanda Lind, Yongdan Wei
G. C. Johnson Memorial Prize	Terry Sunderland
Kingdon-Ward Prize	Madeleine Groves
Landsman's Bookshop Prize	Michael Klemperer
Sir Joseph Hooker Prize	Madeleine Groves
Donald Dring Memorial Prize	Jo Doorne
The Metcalfe Cup	Michael Klemperer
Matilda Smith Memorial Prize	John Anderson
Dummer Memorial Prize	Terry Sunderland
Proudlock Prize	Jo Doorne
Prize for the best vegetable plot	David Gilbert
Kew Guild Individual Study Prize	Michael Klemperer
C. P. Raffill Prize	John Anderson, Jo Doorne
Professor Keith Jones Cup	John Anderson
George Brown Prize	Madeleine Groves
Kew Mutual Improvement Society's Prize	John Anderson
Lecturers' Prize	Peter O'Toole
Plant Identification Tests Prize	John Anderson
Rotary Club of Kew Gardens Prize	Terry Sunderland
Students' Union Life Membership	Russell Forbes, Madeleine Groves



Course 26 after the presentations.

THE KEW DIPLOMA

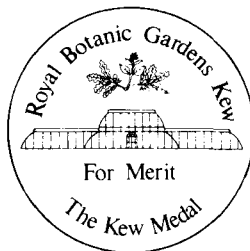
The Kew Diploma offers a broad-based training in amenity horticulture. The aim of the course is to provide students with an opportunity to study at first degree level in scientific, technical and managerial subjects, whilst gaining practical experience and responsibility working in the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

The Kew Diploma has three main elements — three lecture block trimesters, project work and practical work experience. Each of the lecture block trimesters consists of three months. The Foundation Trimester in the first year is a science subject block covering Structural Anatomy, Systematic Botany, Plant Physiology, Plant Propagation and Crop Protection. An introduction to Computer Studies is also given. The Second Year Trimester covers Land Surveying, Landscape Design and Construction, Soil Science, Genetics and Ecology. The Final Year Trimester deals with Leisure Management, Marketing, Finance, Landscape Design and Construction, Machinery, Arboriculture and Amenity Horticulture.

Project work links the lecture block trimesters. Practical work experience and training is a major part. Kew has the largest and most diverse plant collection in the world. Students work in the Gardens throughout the three year course. This enables specialist plant knowledge to be gained, together with an insight into supervisory management, as well as responsibility for maintaining plant collections. The opportunity to travel and gain further work experience outside of Kew is possible through an exchange programme with the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, and several competitive scholarships.

Further details of the Kew Diploma are available from Ian Leese, Supervisor of Studies.

THE KEW MEDAL AWARDS 1991



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 illustrated the Palm House (built 1844 to 1848) 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.

DICK BRUMMITT

For his outstanding knowledge of, and contribution to, the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature, the Kew Generic Index and the guidance and care he has unstintingly given to colleagues at Kew.

JAN BEVINGTON GILLET

For his exceptionally long and dedicated service to the organisation and especially his contribution to the Flora of Tropical East Africa.

R. W. G. DENNIS

For his immense scientific contribution to the study of Mycology, both on a national and international level.



The Kew Medals winners pictured on the 6th September, 1991, with The Baroness Trumpington and Professor G. T. Prance, the Director. Jan Bevington Gillett, Dr. Richard Dennis and Dr. Dick Brummitt.

PROJECT FOCUS

STUDENT PRIZES

Each year, second year students on the Kew Diploma horticulture course compete for three travel scholarships — the Henry Idris Matthews scholarship, funded by a bequest, the David Dalziel Scholarship, funded by an annual donation, and the Hozelock Prize. Some of this year's winners, who were presented with their awards in September, have already made their study tours. Here are some of their experiences

David Gardner: South Africa

David's study tour to the Cap Province was funded by the David Dalziel Scholarship. Naturally, the trip included a visit to the National Botanical Institute at Kirstenbosch, the foremost botanic garden in the country, situated on the slopes of the Table Mountain outside Cape Town.

The garden specialises in displaying the indigenous flora of the country, so it is an obvious first port of call for the visitor.

Perhaps the most spectacular part of the tour was the arid region of Namaqualand, which extends northwards from Cape Province. "The tour, in September, was timed to coincide with the winter rains, when the barren veldt becomes a blaze of colour as the dormant seeds, tubers and bulbs spring into growth and flower," said David. "Whole fields turn yellow, orange and white, as the massed blooms turn through the day to face the sunlight."

"In the last week of my visit I was able to join an official seed collecting trip from Kirstenbosch. Over four days we collected around 25 species, both as seed and pressed specimens."

Yongdan Wei: U.S.A.

Another David Dalziel Scholarship winner, Yongdan Wei, from Beijing, China, discovered plenty of oriental influences in the botanic gardens of the U.S.A. Arriving in New York, his first visit was to Brooklyn Botanical Gardens, which features a Japanese Garden among its collections, and to the New York Botanical Garden.

From here it was on to Boston and the collection of over 7,000 trees and shrubs in the Arnold Arboretum, which has a particularly good collection of Asian plants.

The tour also took in Missouri Botanical Garden, the University of California in San Francisco, the Huntington Botanical Garden, Los Angeles, the Fairchild Botanical Garden in Miami, and the Morris Arboretum, Philadelphia.

Andrew Fuller: Norway

The Hozelock Award sent Andrew Fuller winging his way to Norway, on a study tour based at Bergen Botanic Garden.

"My main aim was to study the alpine flora grown at the botanic garden," said Andrew. "But I also managed to include a visit to the new botanical garden being built at Milde, not far from Bergen, which has a splendid new propagation unit and to Oslo Botanic Garden which has recently been renovated."

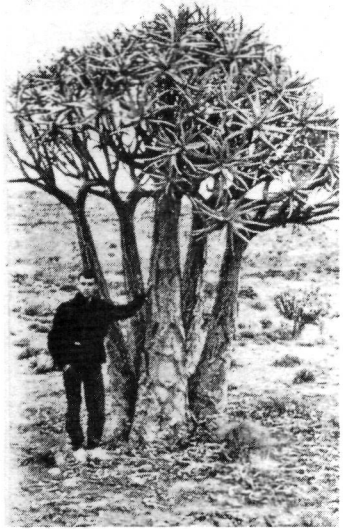
Andrew got the chance to study the alpine flora of Norway in the wild on a trip to Myrdal, and to the high plateau at Finse, between Oslo and Bergen. "I would have liked to have travelled around even more, perhaps south to Stravanger and north above the Arctic Circle, but given the amount of time available I saw a good range of gardens and habitats."

Sally Kelly: Canary Islands

The botanic gardens at Jardin Canario on Gran Canaria are working hard to conserve a flora threatened by tourism, and this was the destination of Henry Idris Matthews Award winner, Sally Kelly, from Wicklow, Ireland.

"This was a magnificent example of a modern garden actively conserving plants threatened by a major industry," she said.

This visit gave her an excellent opportunity to see the effects of this conservation strategy, taking place in the national parks, as well as to see native plant communities such as the laurel forest. Sally also found time to visit Tenerife and went to the Icod de los Vinos to see the wonderful 3,000 year old *Dracaena draco*. "On the north coast of this island there is a large pine forest growing at over 1,500m altitude. The vast contrast in vegetation, within a very short distance from the coast to the mountains was amazing," said Sally.



David Gardner in arid Namaqualand.



Second Year Kew Diploma Travel Scholarship winners. From left to right: Sally Kelly (Henry Idris Matthews Award), Yongdan Wei (David Dalziel Travel Scholarship), Andrew Fuller (Hozelock Prize), Mark Brent, Amanda Lind and Jane Lawson (David Dalziel Travel Scholarship).

"The laurel forests on La Gomera were an eerie experience. They depend on the clouds lowering each day to give a humid mist over the leaves — quite a contrast from the sunshine and clear skies you find on the coast."

Jane Lawson: California

California's endangered species were the focus of attention of Jane Lawson, another David Dalziel winner. She spent two weeks at the botanic garden at Rancho Santa Ana, which specialises in the conservation of native Californian plants, including seedbank storage and re-introductions.

"Most of the time was spent in the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains, which have a very diverse flora with a high rate of endemism," said Jane, who also visited the Mojave Desert and the Pebble Plains.

California is experiencing its seventh year of drought, so the botanic garden has laid out a garden to educate the public about drought tolerant plants.

Jane's third week was spent gaining work experience in the different departments of Santa Barbara Botanic Garden. "Then I used three weeks of my annual leave to travel, including the Monterey Peninsula where there are the last remaining wild stands of Monterey cypress, and of course the Edwood National Park."

Excerpt from 'Kew Guardian'

KEW GUILD CENTENARY — 1993

By Martin J. S. Sands (Chairman of the Centenary Sub-Committee)

You may recall that, in July 1991, a letter was sent to every member of the Guild, providing a provisional programme of events in 1993 and appealing for your help and support in a number of ways.

The Centenary Sub-Committee and all its various Working Groups, are continuing to work hard in planning for the special centennial year and the programme is now expected to be as follows:

April-September 1993 — A Guild **Centenary Exhibition** for public viewing to be staged in the 'Tropics' orientation area of the Princess of Wales Conservatory.

The **fortnight** commencing **8th May, 1993** is being planned as a '**core**' period of celebration, enabling overseas members to come to Britain for a worthwhile period which will include the Chelsea Show.

Saturday 8th May, 1993 — **Launch at Kew** of a special **centenary book** by Ray Desmond and Nigel Hepper, drawing primarily on *Guild Journal* and archival material. As well as being of special interest to Guild members, this fascinating and well illustrated work will also undoubtedly have a much wider appeal.

10th-14th May, 1993 — Details have still to be finalised but it is probable that a **series of lectures** at Kew will be planned for this period (or, alternatively, in the week before the A.G.M. in September).

Saturday 15th May, 1993 — a special, well-publicised, **Clog and Apron Race** for past winners.

17th-20th May, 1993 — **Chelsea Show** week.

Friday 21st OR Saturday 22nd May, 1993 — **Grand Reception and Dinner** to be held, hopefully in the presence of our Patron, in the central Dinosaur Hall of the Natural History Museum, South Kensington. The final choice of date for this very special occasion will be made later this year (1992) and members will then be informed as soon as possible.

In September, following the **1993 Annual General Meeting** it is intended that a **Special Lecture** will be given by an invited celebrity, to be followed by a **soirée**. (The precise date and the name of the speaker will be made known to members in due course.)

In addition, the **Journal** is being planned as a special, **enlarged edition**, including, it is hoped, news of as many members as possible — **your** contribution (by 31st December, 1992) will be important!

It is intended that, ready for spring-flowering, **bulbs will be planted** this autumn flanking the Gardens walk across Kew Green. It is hoped also that a **Guild Room** at Kew can be inaugurated in the centennial year and consideration is being given to some **souvenir items** being available, possibly using storm-damage timber.

If **you can assist** in any way — helpful suggestions, financial contributions, practical help in planning or during the events, the loan of objects or photographs and, of course, your latest news for the Journal — please contact me here at Kew or one of several regional Guild officers who may soon be in touch with you.

Your help and support will be most welcome.

LEARNING THE GOSPEL OF GARDEN CONSERVATION

By Sarah Fraser

At the time of writing, this Guild member is deeply immersed in the issues concerning the conservation of historic landscapes, parks and gardens. Yes, I have abandoned the real world for the joys of Academe, also forsaking my long-suffering husband, the smelly spaniel, two heartbroken guinea pigs (all on a temporary basis, though!), and a steady job (I don't think my employers were too sad to see the back of me!).

This over-age student is spending a year at the Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies — part of York University — looking at ways of conserving, managing and restoring that vital part of things which architects and engineers so often overlook: the designed landscape which happens to be of historic interest. The M.A. course is run side by side, and sometimes together with, a buildings conservation course. This results in lots of exchange of ideas and comments from architect types such as "I didn't realise that as much care and attention went into the design

of the historic landscape as the design of the buildings". I feel a mission coming on — to preach to the uninitiated the word of landscape and plants, especially historic ones!

My ultimate aim is to be useful in the world of historic landscape conservation, perhaps working with historic parks and gardens as a specialist, advising on management and restoration projects. This is a great course for enthusing the student (exceptions including when one is trudging round a freezing cold, rain-drenched garden with a Siberian wind cutting through, trying to produce a coherent, workable plan for opening to the public), giving plenty of information and practical exercises, and meeting anyone who is someone in the historic landscape conservation sphere.

The whole course is good for putting practical experience together with theory and research in order to solve conservation problems. So far we students have taken part in modules covering Garden History, the Conservation and Management of Historic Gardens, a week devoted to the uses of lime on buildings, walls etc. (it is wonderfully versatile stuff; put it in your tea, on your cornflakes or wherever else you feel appropriate), Garden Archaeology and many other similarly useful themes. The year consists of two terms spent on lectures, study exercises "in the field", and student seminars; the third term and summer holidays mainly devoted to research and writing up a dissertation on a self-selected subject, with some lectures slotted in too.

Overall this year should prove very worthwhile as a launch pad into the Conservation World, with a good academic grounding and bags of enthusiasm to return to the Real World and work with historic landscapes, parks and gardens. I am especially grateful to the Guild for their donation to my funds for this course, which has enabled me to buy much needed books and lead a little less Spartan existence than might otherwise have been the case. Floreat Kew!

SARRACENIAS AS AMERICAN CUT FLOWERS

By Madeleine Groves

With generous funding from the Tom Arnold Bursary and the Bentham-Moxon Trust, I was able to return to the Atlanta Botanical Garden on a six month internship to continue my research into the conservation of endemic carnivorous plant species. Having first visited and worked at A.B.G. whilst on a travel scholarship in May 1990, my interests this time lay with the use of the pitchers of **Sarracenia leucophylla** in the American and international cut flower industry.

The full effects of this practice on the regeneration of the **Sarracenia** populations is as yet to be determined. However, together with land conversion from forestry practices, housing and draining, and the suppression of the natural fires that are necessary to these habitats, it is obvious that population numbers, plus the genetic diversity of these wetlands, is decreasing.

During my six month internship I shall be working with various State and private natural resource organisations (e.g. United States Fish and Wildlife Service, The Nature Conservancy) and hope to set up a number of experimental plots to measure the long-term effects of harvesting on various **Sarracenia** populations in Alabama and Mississippi. All data collected will be passed on to the appropriate organisations to assist them with their policies for issuing export permits for the harvesters, or the need for a recovery plan for this species.

The use of carnivorous plants in the international plant trade is continuing to cause concern, and is reflected in the establishment of the I.U.C.N./S.S.C. Carnivorous Plant Specialist Group and the placing of **Sarracenia** species on either A.P.P. I or II of C.I.T.E.S.

I would also like to thank The Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust, The Fauna and Flora Society and the staff members of R.B.G. Kew who have assisted me in my funding and preparation for this study trip which is from November 1991 to May 1992.

REPORT OF A STUDY VISIT TO MOUNTAIN CLOUD FOREST IN THE STATE OF RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

By Dusha Hayes (R.B.G. Kew Orchid Unit)

In October 1991, I was sponsored by the Stanley Smith Trust, R.B.G. Kew, Kew Guild and the R.H.S. to go on a study visit to the Mountain Cloud Forest in the state of Rio de Janeiro, to study orchids growing in their natural habitat.

My visit was arranged by Dr. Richard Warren, of Equatorial Plants Co. in Edinburgh. My guide and host in Brazil was David Miller, Dr. Warren's partner.

The property, consisting of two sites, Sitio Bacchus and Sitio Sophronitis, is part of "Mata Atlantica Conservation Project". This project is financed by Shell Oil, the National Research Council and the Macarthur Foundation. Further support is given by the local municipality, the Pro-Natura Environmental Research Institute and by David and Isabel Miller. The site is also used by a group of botanists from Rio de Janeiro Botanic Garden for research work on native trees and shrubs.

Sitio Bacchus is located some 100 miles north of Rio de Janeiro and four miles from Nova Friburgo, the nearest town. It covers approximately 1,000 acres, with boundaries well defined by mountain ridges rising from 1,000 to almost 2,000 metres above sea level.

On a small hill near the house at Sitio Bacchus is the "Intensive Care Unit" where the plants that need special care are kept; plants that have been picked from fallen trees or ones knocked down in storms.

Here we carried out a survey of ***Laelia crispa*** re-establishment and seedling distribution. The mature plants of ***Laelia crispa*** were brought from the Pireneus Valley over a period of 14 years, hand pollinated and the seeds allowed to spread naturally to assess their capability for re-establishment. However the main conclusion of the survey was that the seeds do not germinate far from the parent plant but favour the area around its root system. So ***Laelia crispa*** is a species which is as endangered as its original forest environment.

Besides ***Laelia crispa*** there were many epiphytic orchids growing here — ***Miltonia cuneata***, ***Pleurothallis sclerophylla***, ***Pleurothallis miersii***, ***Pleurothallis handroi***, ***Bifrenaria atropurpurea***, several ***Stelis*** sp. and ***Barbosella*** sp.

There are eight walks which criss-cross the property. They are of varying difficulty and take from two to five hours.

Walk 1 is situated in the part of the forest that was burnt about 30 years ago. This is now regenerating and has the characteristics of a mountain field — warm, dry and light. This is what



Dusha Hayes.

David calls "Zygo" country. Here we saw *Zygopetalum crinitum* growing terrestrially. There were a few colonies doing quite well, but we saw many plants which were beginning to suffer. Normally these plants grow epiphytically as they need light to flower well. Here, as the forest regenerates, it is getting too dark for them, so only those in the tree tops survive.

We saw a lot of orchids along this trail such as *Encyclia vespa*, *Encyclia calamaria*, *Grobya amherstiae*, *Pleurothallis sclerophylla*, *Pleurothallis pectinata*, *Laelia virens*, *Laelia cinnabarina*, *Gomesa crispa*, *Oncidium marshallianum*, *Oncidium forbesii*, *Maxillaria ubatubana* and *Maxillaria cerifera*.

As elsewhere there were many gesneriads, aroids, bromeliads, begonias, ferns and dwarf mountain fuchsias.

In comparison to Walk 1, Walk 2 is situated in the part of the forest that regenerated much quicker than along Walk 1. Here the forest was warm, dark and humid, David's "Colax" country. Consequently we saw several colonies of *Colax (Pabstia) jugosa*, various species of *Stelis*, *Pleurothallis*, *Cirrhaea dependens*, *Epidendrum kleuppelianum*, *Bulbophyllum camposotoi*, *Oncidium hookeri* and *Oncidium crispum*.

The other walks were similar but on Walk 7 we saw a lot of *Sophronitis coccinea*. It was the end of their flowering season, so only the ones quite high up in trees were still in flower. Some were in pod, which means that their natural pollinators were nearby. The top of this walk is 1,700 metres above sea level.

One week was spent at the second site, Sitio Sophronitis. Sitio Sophronitis is situated some 10 miles southeast from Sitio Bacchus in the Rio dos Flores valley. (The Flowers River Valley) The Flores River is well named as the river's moss covered boulders are host to a red flowering gesneriad.

As in all tropical and sub-tropical rain forests the variety of plant life in general and the exuberance of epiphytic plants in particular, are striking features. More than 180 species of epiphytic orchids have been identified in the valley. There are also myriads of unidentified micro-orchids here, while from August to November the ridges and high tree branches simply glow with the flowers of scarlet *Sophronitis coccinea*, so giving the name to the site.

Two outstanding trails still live with me; one by the "Flower River" and the other a long and strenuous climb to the spectacular mountain peak, "Pico de Bicuda" some 1,600 metres above sea level.

Along the river we saw several colonies of gesneriads and *Pitcairnia* in flower and, half-way up "Bicuda", on a tract of bare rock face we discovered a large colony of *Maxillaria* species.

One day was spent in the Pireneus Valley, the original home of *Laelia crispa* used in our re-establishment project. Efforts were being made to add this valley to the conservation area. Although many trees here have been cut down over the years, we found three large trees that have been spared, with colonies of *Laelia crispa* still growing happily.

During my visits to both sites we saw about 90 different species of orchids in flower.

At the end of the study visit three days were spent at two large local orchid nurseries, Binot's and Floralia and at Rio Botanic Garden.

ECUADOR TRIP — SUMMER 1991

By Charlie Butterworth

It was raining heavily as I left the airport and looked for a taxi to transport me and my baggage to the hotel. Quito felt cold after the heat and humidity of Caracas. It was almost five years since I was last in Quito, the capital of Ecuador, and it felt quiet and familiar. I knew that, although at this time at night Quito felt deserted, by day it would be a bustle of people and motor vehicles. This was the start of my three month visit to Ecuador and I was looking forward to travelling the country looking at the botanic gardens and nursery projects, and doing a short ethnobotanical study.

Ecuador is the smallest and most northerly of the archetypal Andean countries and lies on the equator with Colombia to the north, Peru to the south and east, and the Pacific Ocean to the west. The Andes form a single chain running north-south, bisecting Ecuador, in a similar way as the Pennines do in England. The Andes are, however, much higher and reach 6,000 metres. This has quite an effect on the climate. As one travels eastward from the coast the climate is initially hot and humid, but this gives way to temperate cloud forest which hangs on the steep slopes of the Andes. The central highlands have an average altitude of around 3,000 metres and are the most densely populated areas of the country having a pleasant temperate climate.

It had been my intention to study aspects of the ethnobotany of the Shuar and Colorado Indians of Ecuador and after speaking to staff at the Herbarium of the Catholic University, I realised that three months was too short a period and that recent transport problems made travelling to some of the more remote parts of Ecuador difficult. Instead, it was suggested that seeing as I was intending to spend some time at the Jatun Sacha Biological Reserve in Amazonia, a short study of the medicinal plants used by the Quijos-Quichua Indians would be much more viable.

Jatun Sacha Biological Reserve has only been established for about five years and is directed by Dr. David Neill, a botanist from Missouri Botanic Garden. It is located to the east of the Andes in the upper reaches of the Amazon drainage basin. The forest in this area has *mostly been felled, but remnants prove to be extremely rich in both flora and fauna*, with 1,400 vascular plant species identified so far, of which 160 species are orchids, and around 350 species of birds. The reserve itself comprises of just over 300 hectares of primary forest and 100 hectares of secondary forest and, lying at 450 metres above sea level, receives 4,100mm of precipitation annually, which is distributed more or less evenly with a slight maxima from April to June and a drier period from November to January.

The area around Jatun Sacha is populated mainly by Quijos-Quichua Indians who live in small, widespread communities, many only reachable by canoe. At a guess, I would say that disease is not quite the problem as it is in many of the hotter areas of Amazonia. However, diseases such as Malaria and Tuberculosis appear to be reasonably common, judging from the amount of plants used to treat these ailments. Modern medicine is available throughout Ecuador, although it is quite costly, and antibiotics are popular along with medicines that are banned by many countries. This being the case, Shamanism is still one of the most widely used methods of medical care in this area.

I had two Shaman informants: Domingo Andi and Sebastian Albarado (Shahuaco). Domingo Andi lives about 4 kms from Jatun Sacha, whereas Sebastian Albarado lives on an island in the river around 8 kms from the reserve. Sebastian only knew the Quichua language and an interpreter was required to translate into Spanish. On my visits to the Shaman I was accompanied by Magdalena Ponce-Martinez, an enthusiastic final year botany student from Quito, whose main interest was the use of Palms by the Indians of the area. One thing that I learned from my visits was the importance of getting out of bed early as, in order to reach the Shaman before they left their house meant getting out of bed well before 6 a.m. and setting off on the hour or so walk to their abodes as promptly as possible, often in the pouring rain!

I managed to identify around 25 species of plant used by the Shaman and I am hopeful that by delving into literature regarding the ethnobotany of Ecuador, I may be able to tentatively name quite a few others. With many of the plants the Shaman used, parts of the plants were available from which to make an identification, but many were just mentioned by their vernacular name and their uses. Amongst the plants used were **Laurus gratissima** known as Palta Cara which is used as a general health tonic, **Myroxylon balsamum** locally called Balsamo and is reputed to be good for spots and pimples, **Minquartia guianensis** known as Huambula, the bark of which is crushed and used alongside tobacco as treatment for Tuberculosis. I was also shown the renowned Aya Huasca, **Banisteriopsis caapi**, a liana which is used to make an infusion, which when drunk by the Shaman causes hallucinations. In this way the Shaman can communicate with the spirit world. Domingo Andi uses this liana as an ultra scan method for

pregnant women. He can examine the unborn baby in the womb and if there are problems can either call in the midwife or send the mother to the local hospital.

The area around Jatun Sacha has been settled for quite a period of time and forest is still being cleared. Deforestation in Ecuador, although not as high as countries such as Brazil, is still at an alarming rate. F.A.O./U.N.E.P. estimate rates of deforestation to be around 3,500 ha yr⁻¹. Environmental education seems to be one of the major factors involved in creating an awareness of the need to use forests sustainably. I stress the word sustainably as I feel that forest reserves that are not used can only lead to the creation of wildlife islands amidst an ocean of deforestation. It has been shown, by Gentry amongst others, that natural forest ecosystems can be managed and used in such a way that a viable economic return can be made without too much disturbance of the wildlife.

Botanic gardens can play a very important role in education and conservation. In Ecuador there are only two established botanic gardens. The first one that I visited is located near the Pacific coast, a few kilometers from the city of Esmeraldas. The Luis Vargas Botanic Garden is co-ordinated from the university of the same name. The garden itself is quite small, less than 50 ha. The Director, Señor Arevalo, explained to me that there are 50 families represented in the garden with special collections of **Palmae**, **Bignoniaceae**, **Leguminosae**, **Musaceae** and **Apocynaceae**. The garden feels to be quite open, which in the hot, humid climate of the area is a bonus, yet at the same time the garden does not feel to be sparse and there are many new plantings. Five gardeners are employed along with five "professionals" and a student from the university.

Probably the most impressive aspect of the garden is the backdrop of 500 ha of primary dry forest. I was taken around the forest by a forester employed by the garden. It was the first time that I had ever set foot inside a tropical forest and I was at a total loss for words. There was such a profusion of growth to the extent that I literally could not see the wood for the trees. Alfred Bone, my guide, obviously felt quite at home in the thick forest and could see many things that I couldn't. As we walked along he would suddenly brush aside a shrub to point out a herbaceous plant, usually **Acanthaceae**, although there were quite a few **Piperaceae**, or he would move a dead leaf to reveal a tarantula, which would scurry off for cover as I, in fear for my life started shinning up the nearest tree.

The forest has a small network of paths around which local schoolchildren are led in a effort to instill a sense of appreciation of the forest ecosystem. There is very little of this type of forest left in the area. Yet, although the forest is a reserve, such a status does not mean that it is safe. Whilst I was being shown around we came across a large stump, probably 3 metres in diameter. The remains of the tree were lying next to the stump and these I'm sure were large enough to provide enough firewood for years. These remnants of a once large forest tree were actually the bits that were considered excess to requirement by the tree poachers!

In the far south of Ecuador, near the border with Peru, is the provincial town of Loja. This town is quite small yet boasts two universities, one of which is the home of the Reinaldo Espinosa Botanic Garden. The day I visited the heavens opened (much like every other day I spent in Loja). The garden has been designed to some extent on the classical style, and has some interesting collections of temperate Ecuadorian flora, including temperate **Orchids** and **Bromeliaceae**. The Garden, however does not seem to be tended to the same extent as the garden in Esmeraldas and appeared somewhat bedraggled — maybe if I had seen this garden on a day that was not quite so wet it may have had a totally different atmosphere. One of the main problems with botanic gardens in Ecuador is that funding is a large problem. I am pleased to say that after my meeting with the garden Director, Francisco Vivar, a link has been established between the garden and Botanic Garden Conservation International, based at Kew.

Botanic gardens are of no use in environmental education if "wild" areas no longer exist. In Ecuador there is a system of national parks — the degree to which they prove successful I shall not discuss here. I was fortunate to visit Las Cajas Park, near Cuenca. The park is situated in the Andes and is very popular for walking and other outdoor sports. Access is difficult and as a result the park does not become too busy. There are two buses daily, in the

early morning, which return to Cuenca during mid-afternoon. The flora of the area is alpine, the park being at high altitude (3,000 to 4,000 metres) and flowers that I saw included **Werneria nubigena** in the Compositae, and **Halenia weddeliana** and **Gentiana rupicola**, both in the family Gentianaceae. Besides the herbaceous alpine flora, there are remnants of **Polylepis** and **Buddleia incana** forest. This area is a beautiful part of Ecuador, reminiscent of my favourite part of England, the Lake District.

Ecuador is a country that I would recommend anyone to visit. I have never felt to be in any danger whilst travelling there (commonsense suffices), in fact Ecuador is reputed to be one of the safest Latin American countries in which to travel. I am very grateful to the Kew Guild who assisted with the funding of my trip. I would also like to thank the Explorer's Club, Merlin Trust, Rob Thompson Memorial Fund and Rochdale Ancient Parish Education Trust.

LIMBE BOTANIC GARDEN AND RAINFOREST GENETIC CONSERVATION PROJECT

By T. C. H. Sunderland

I am currently a little over three months into a 12 month student internship at the Limbe Project in Cameroun, West Africa — a year's experience between graduating from the Kew Diploma last September and undertaking further study (M.Sc. in Forestry at Oxford University).

Despite there having been a botanic garden at Limbe for the past 100 years (we will celebrate our centenary in November of this year), there have been many changes in the management of the garden, mirroring the changes in colonial control of the country as a whole, and this has led to a distinct pattern of development and decline throughout its history. However, in 1986 the Overseas Development Administration (O.D.A.), with the favourable results of a feasibility study undertaken by Kew personnel, committed itself to a bilateral aid programme (with the Cameroun government) to a five year programme of restoration and development of the botanic garden and the initiation of two associated forest reserves, which took effect from 1988.

The botanic garden is based on the coast at Limbe and the area is dominated by Mount Cameroun (4,079 metres), an active volcano that last erupted in 1982, which rises dramatically and imposingly behind the town. On the slopes of the mountain lies the Etinde Reserve, a 300 sq./km area of unbroken forest and subsequent Afro-montane vegetation in its complete altitudinal range from sea level to the summit of the mountain. The Mabete-Moliwe Reserve on the other hand, is a much smaller area (40 sq./km) and is essentially an area of lowland forest which has undergone a certain amount of timber exploitation and subsequent encroachment by both commercial and subsistence agriculture, yet is still of considerable botanical importance.

My role within the project is essentially split between providing technical assistance within the botanic garden and undertaking extensive plant collections, of both herbarium and live material, within the two reserves.

In the gardens I am responsible for the initiation and training of selected staff in arboricultural techniques (with much of the essential safety equipment kindly donated from R.B.G. Kew) in order that there will be a fully operational "tree gang" functioning when I eventually leave the project. Whilst the work is not without its difficulties, not least of which is due to climatic stress, we are progressing well and those staff selected have shown considerable aptitude for the work methods involved, despite having little previous experience. I am also involved in certain other technical aspects of the management of the botanic garden, such as the updating of the plant records system, labelling, propagation and the development of planting themes within the remit of the gardens future development.

The botanic garden, whilst not instantly aesthetically pleasing as an amenity area, houses a number of wonderful individual specimens, many of which are obvious relics of a colonial past. Consisting of three distinct areas, a central field that contains the majority of the exotic collections and amenity plantings, and two hills at either end of this central area; Bota Hill, an area supposed to represent the last vestige of Biafran forest in the area, but in reality is rampant

with many exotic weed and indigenous pioneer species, and SDO's Hill, an area of both "wild" and amenity areas. The more notable specimens within the amenity collections are huge individuals of exotics such as **Cycas revoluta** and **Ravenala madagascariensis**, and representative samples of local megaphanerophytes (trees above 30 metres) such as **Chlorophora excelsa**, **Lophira alata**, **Ceiba pentandra**, and an extensive collection of West African **Ficus** sp. There are also many useful plants displayed, such as a collection of tropical fruit trees, the majority of which are fairly common but nonetheless of interest, and a wonderful collection of different **Musa** cultivars and species highlighting the incredible phenotypic variability of this group and the amount of breeding and selection that has occurred in the past.

One of the most impressive areas of the gardens is Jungle Village, a natural amphitheatre recently renovated by Operation Raleigh, that is set within a semi-wild area between the central field and SDO's Hill. It is basically an amenity site where many local dances, meetings and concerts are held, the diversity of which is staggering. The last dance festival I witnessed there culminated in the sacrificing of a goat and the drinking of its blood by the participants — and all of this just before lunch!

Under the auspices of Dr. Martin Cheek of the Herbarium at Kew, who is compiling a floristic checklist of the reserves and the surrounding area, I am involved with undertaking systematic herbarium collections and vegetation sampling within the designated forest area. It is apparent from such collections that there is a vast diversity of forest structure, dynamics and speciation within our reserves and, along with the Korup National Park (which I have also had the good fortune to visit), the forest around Mount Cameroun may be some of the richest in West Africa. The reasons for this lie with the fact that this area is part of the Cameroun-Gabon configuration: a notable Pleistocene refuge and hence an important centre of botanical and faunal diversity.

Since my arrival over 400 specimens have been collected and, given the relative paucity of flowering material during the dry season, which we are experiencing at present, this is a good start. Although with over 8,000 flowering plants present here (that have been formally described), we still have a long way to go. The collection sites have varied from the lowland forest, dominated by huge canopy trees such as **Irvingia gabonensis** **Staudtia stiptata** and smaller understorey trees such as the wonderful African orchid nutmeg (**Monodora myristica**) of which we made the first herbarium collection of fertile material by the project, to mid-elevation forest dominated by **Schefflera** spp. and **Syzygium staudtii**, interspersed by dense monospecific stands of the tree fern **Cyathea manniana**, right up to the windswept and freezing summit of Mount Cameroun, where only a few small herbs such as **Helichrysum manni** and **Crepis cameroonica** and a grass, **Pentaschistus manni**, retain a precarious foothold.

The advent of the rainy season from March/May will see a considerable change in emphasis of the work undertaken for the project and will hopefully enable me to gain a wide range of experience of tropical botanic garden and forest reserve management. Whilst I am here in Cameroun, it is envisaged that I shall be involved with other natural resource projects: I have recently attended an agroforestry seminar at Korup which was very rewarding indeed, I will travel to the Mbalmayo Forest Project in S.E. Cameroun next month to undertake some vegetation sampling for the O.D.A. and will also take a team from Limbe to the Mount Koupe Forest Reserve to undertake research for Herbarium and Living Collections there in June.

I am exceptionally grateful to the Guild for their continual support of my activities and look forward to returning to Kew as a Horticultural Research Fellow in 1993.

LIVING COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT REPORT 1991

By Ian Beyer

Thankfully, 1991 was heralded by no more than an inquisitive journalist from *'The Times'* seeking to find out if the squirrel population would be subjected to the same assault as on New Year's Day 1990. Unfortunately for the journalist, but not so for the squirrels, it was decided not to repeat the exercise which brought so much wrath down on the heads of those who had arranged that particular cull. The cuddly little endearing creatures were able to safely continue

their seasonal fare of bark from trees in one of the most important tree collections in the northern temperate regions uninterrupted. Let us only hope they appreciated the quality of the food. Earlier our critics were somewhat deflated when a reader of the *'Richmond & Twickenham Times'* and an obvious ally drew attention to man's cruelty over the centuries to the common rat; his cousin, however, has a very appealing tail!

Remembering those days when, as a student, we were required to spray the plants in the Palm House with a concoction of nicotine and white oil on warm evenings after visitors had left, I still wonder why we did not end up with some kind of sickening malady. I am not sure how effective this high volume treatment was in controlling mealy bug, scale and white fly, but I do know my lungs were kept clear by the amount of coughing I did afterwards. Stripped down to a pair of shorts, I can still remember the Foreman, dear old George Anderson, exhorting us to get underneath the foliage with the lance to give everything a complete drenching, including ourselves. A hose down afterwards was only partially effective in removing the mixture from our bodies and our landladies did not encourage frequent baths, so there must have been a cumulative effect some of us are now enjoying.

Fortunately, times have changed. Health, indeed life, is now thought to be worth protecting and there is national legislation to impose a sense of responsibility upon us all. Realising under the Food and Environmental Protection Act many of the options to use noxious chemicals have been removed, the Curatorial Staff decided to convert, as far as possible, to biological control systems, particularly in the public display glasshouses. This change of management technique was made with some trepidation because we knew it would take time to achieve a satisfactory balance. Initially, we were likely to experience a pest build-up before chemical residues had washed away and predators would be able to breed freely. Now, the experience of a whole season behind them, staff are confidently expecting not to use biocides again. In case this is too optimistic, it has been decided to keep a small amount of amateur products in the cupboard where I hope they will stay, untouched. Managing such systems requires attention to detail supported by good staff training to reinforce the principles so that everybody understands what is being attempted.

The environment pressure groups have rightfully drawn attention to the decimation of lowland peat mires in England. Aware that sooner or later the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew would have to make its position clear on the use of peat in horticulture, it was decided we would try to stop using it unless there was no viable alternative. Currently, we are using coir (coconut fibre) after a series of successful trials. We will, however, continue to look for other alternatives, some of which may be a lot cheaper and may even be on our own doorstep. Many know we have composted our waste organic material in the Stable Yard for the last 20 years or more, now we are considering ways to refine processes to produce a higher quality product for mulches and soil amelioration. The intention is not to purchase any more peat once a small strategic residue has been used up.

The new shop and visitor centre, which has been built at Victoria Gate, is now almost complete and to this jaundiced eye it sits a little more comfortably in the landscape than I first expected, though I will never come to terms with parts of the external structure. Staff in the Arboretum have carefully restored the soft areas of landscape to marry in a new road. Public entry is now directed mostly through the shop, for obvious reasons, and with increased internal space merchandising can be carried out tastefully but, above all, in a purpose built facility. The added interpretation spaces will provide the opportunity at long last to explain the aims and objectives and, above all, what visitors should try to enjoy in the Gardens during their visit. A grand opening in the spring is planned.

Nearby, the Tropical Waterlily Glasshouse (No. 15) refurbishment is nearing completion. The whole structure has been dismantled, repaired and faithfully rebuilt to bring it back to its original design. In the late 1950s repairs were made, including alteration to the glazing system as it was thought aluminium was a much less troublesome material, but this took no account of preserving an important part of the national heritage and so it has now been removed. As long as work continues on programme it will be possible to provide a plant display for the coming visitor season.

Kew's greatest functional structure, the Palm House, as expected, has quickly returned to a tropical paradise of woody plants from across the world. Growth is now an embarrassment, causing some of us to contemplate the purchase of a sharp machete to keep it under control. Beneath, in the basement, the Marine Display is constantly full of excited visitors, many of whom are usually children. Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret performed the official opening ceremony on July 10th and on the following Monday the wives of Heads of State attending the Economic Summit in London enjoyed a warm afternoon to see parts of the Gardens and enjoy tea on the Palm House terrace.

Earlier, on June 17th, the reed swamp development at Wakehurst Place, which staff had worked so hard to complete, was officially opened by Anna Ford, the TV presenter — an enthusiastic conservationist. The ravages of the violent storms of 1987 and 1990 have left an indelible mark on the Wakehurst estate which will take many years to repair, but there is a wonderful sense of optimism and purpose about the place again. New structural plantings are underway, making me anticipate something novel and new to see each time I visit and I have not been disappointed yet.

Work on the redevelopment of the Temperate and Arboretum nursery at the southern end of the Gardens at Kew is now progressing well. Many will remember the antiquated heating system which was unable to cope even on a relatively mild winter's night. Buried beneath the ground under the propagating house the boiler house was a mysterious place for both gardeners and engineers. Shortly this dreadful hole will be filled to be replaced by a purpose built above-ground boiler house and plantroom which already contains some new equipment. The second phase, to be started in the summer, will be the construction of aluminium glasshouses to replace the old wooden structures, including the last sunken pit house at Kew. We are sorry to see the latter go, as it was part of our horticultural history and there cannot be many left anywhere else.

For the last two years a small working group has been helping the Computer Unit to redesign the L.C.D. plant data base. Originally designed in 1969 by David Hunt in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Computer Section at Guildford, and held as a programme on their main frame computer, the data base has been subjected to many minor changes over the years but it was impossible to uprate performance unless major software development was undertaken. Luckily, we have our own hardware, and by April we hope for completion of most of the work and a new era will dawn. Without an efficient data management tool, time and resources are easily wasted — a lesson with which older managers, including myself, are now coming to terms.

September was personally a month I found challenging but also exacting. The Royal Botanic Gardens Kew Conservation Committee, under my chairmanship (appointment was decided by others and not by choice) decided rashly to hold an International Conference to discuss *in situ/ex situ* endangered plant conservation strategies. It is not my intention to bore you with detail but, to mention three delegate speakers amongst the august body we persuaded to contribute, who were ex-Kewites who had significant success in the field of botanic gardens and conservations. Tom Muller (1956), National Herbarium, Zimbabwe; John Winter (1964), National Botanic Garden, Kirstenbosch, South Africa; and Mark Bovey (1977), Limbe, Cameroon; were able to illustrate what the realistic role of the botanic gardens is from first hand experience. I was particularly pleased to see Tom again for the first time in 35 years. The Conference was my swan song as I decided to step aside after two and a half years of stimulating interaction with many colleagues and leave the floor clear for new initiatives. There is a great deal still to be done and all we have done so far is to write the agenda.

Christmas was once again a time of festivity in the Gardens and followed a similar pattern of the previous two years. One exception was that Santa Clause did not bring his reindeer as they were just too much work for those charged to look after them. The transformation of the interpretation area (Tropix) in the Princess of Wales Conservatory into a scene from the 'Narnia' stories by C. S. Lewis was magical. We borrowed the wardrobe, sleigh and costumes from the BBC. Children, on leaving this Grotto, were given a package containing a seedling Christmas

tree, terracotta pot and coir in which to grow it; mustard seed and blotting paper on which to germinate the seed; and a packet of chocolate buttons to sustain them whilst potting and sowing. As far as I am aware, the environmental message we tried to put across went down very well leading to a Grotto attendance increase of 33% over previous years. A horse-drawn omnibus (1870 vintage) on the Broad Walk, Carol Concerts, mulled wine and roasted chestnuts went towards making the three weekends preceding Christmas something very special for all those involved, visitors and staff alike.

Sadly, a number of familiar faces left Kew during the year, the most notable being 'Little Tom' of the Tree Unit (G. Thomas). The last member of that happy group which came from Jamaica in the late 1950s, Tom was rarely seen without a smile, particularly when the West Indies were thrashing England at cricket.

Now it is my time to sign off as your correspondent. In September my time at Kew will come to an end and I retire to the tranquility of Suffolk. I have enjoyed reminiscing during the last 15 years and wish my successor well. I am sure he/she will always find plenty of news to report.

Floreat Kew.

ROSIES

By Graham Burgess

I do not really know how present day students solve their accommodation problems, nor did I know until I had been a student myself how those of my vintage solved this key problem.

Prior to leaving Manchester I received a list of accommodation and it was to one famed establishment in Burlington Avenue that I wrote and subsequently reserved a room.

The house was run by one named Mrs. Rosenthal, but she was generally known as Rosie. Number 7 Burlington Avenue was to be the threshold to a different world for me.

If you go to Burlington Avenue today you will see that every other house has meticulously scaled the stairs of increasing property values and at least some of the owners' efforts have gone into keeping up with the Joneses. This is not the case with No. 7. The minute front garden on the street is still shaded by an overgrown privet hedge. It was, and still is, like entering some sort of shady den.

On my first day I rang the bell and waited. A shuffling grew louder and the door was opened by an old lady, largely built and slightly stooped. She beckoned me and led me down the hall, past the stairs into her kitchen. A lifetime of hard work and a particular Jewish materialism made this woman into one of Kew's great characters.

I don't think she ever aimed to make a great profit out of her charges, her meals were so enormous it would have been difficult, but she spent no unnecessary money on superfluous modernities.

Light from the few windows was only weakly supplemented by a dusty light-bulb. I speak of white light, for at the height of about two feet from the floor one could dimly see two red glows.

As ones eyes adjusted one could see that each red glow was the shielded flame of a portable paraffin heater and that the nearest one had on it's top a permanently steaming kettle.

In the smaller kitchen at the rear, where we were never allowed, more steam and dim lights. It was to this dimly lit place of cauldrons and ever burning lights that we came first after work, to check in.

And so, on my first day, I found myself drinking tea in this kitchen.

Then I was shown my room. Up to the top of the stairs and first left, and I was over the front garden where the hedge struggled to reach up to my window. Within the room one bed, one set of drawers and an enormous wardrobe. The bed was the only item that was allowed to bring its function into the room unimpaired.

The bed, though very knobbly, provided me with a place to sleep. The wardrobe, however, had become imprisoned and there was no room to fully open its mahogany doors. My chest of drawers suffered similar restriction and the drawers could only be opened more than six inches if I knelt on my bed and pulled out the drawers to fill the space beside.

The decoration, where it peeped out from between the furniture, was of vertical black stripes on white, reminding me of a lift shaft. My view of the world outside was restricted to the one window whose diagonal and well exercised and open crack vibrated as the planes few along their flightpath to Heathrow.

I was to leave this room on many adventures but the first was worth recounting.

I had been told to unpack my things and wait for the others to arrive before going down for the evening meal.

Before long I heard footsteps on the stairs, Errol Scarr, now in South Africa, then Richard Fairey, a naval type with a famous ancestor with a Paphiopedilum named after him. Finally Horace, a very aged lorry driver.

I descended the stairs to join them in the front parlour. In the centre of the room a large table with places set. Two upright pianos and three enormous standard lampshades. The lampshades contained no bulbs, for economy, and the chandelier had only one, where there should have been many. This caused it to lean, reminding one of Saturn. I noticed at this stage that the dust stood almost an inch high on the circular frame of the chandelier. You see it was never moved, nor did the air around it suffer any disturbance.

After gazing for a while at the bent candelabras on one of the pianos I commented that at least the tablecloth was clean. Errol said "Yes, that's because you are new, Rosie changes it for each new guest". And so it was.

Rosie then entered with food, if not fit for the gods, it was perfect for the likes of us. Fresh, freshly cooked and lots of it. As we ate she hovered, feeding off the sight of our enjoyment.

At this table I learned something of Kew and much about the world.

After I had taken my fill I moved to one of the ancient brown armchairs. My slow fall into its enfolding and worn arms was accompanied by looks of horror on the faces of the regulars who knew these chairs of old. Too late — I landed on the cushion and carried on, deeper into its softness, there dislodging clouds of dust which flew by me on either side in opposite directions.

The dust was still settling as I opened the lid to one of the pianos and played a few chords. Soon the tones on the keys produced only a dull thud so I opened the top and looked inside. The impediments were two in number, the first the remains of a mummified jam sandwich and the second a masonic sash. By this time I was totally initiated.

It was to be a few months before loneliness, homesickness and some boredom gave way to a more pleasant life. I used to go out to pubs to keep warm and once considered throwing myself in the Thames. My room had so pre-disposed me against cold that this means of escape was impossible. There was, however, the good food, knowledge that others enjoyed the same conditions and, of course, the thrill of being at Kew.

I walked to work at Kew each day and after a year moved to an enormous flat in Twickenham where I had several rooms, each of which had several clean and comfortable chairs. As I moved from one chair to another in a particular form of furnishing hedonism I knew I had No. 7 to thank for such basic appreciation.

THE DIRECTOR'S ACTIVITIES DURING 1991

The Director's schedule was broadly similar to that of 1990. He travelled a good deal, visiting the United States, Brazil and Venezuela. He went to Africa twice: in January to see the joint R.B.G.-O.D.A. project at the Limbe Botanic Garden in Cameroon and to attend the A.E.T.F.A.T. congress in Malawi in July. He also paid his first visit to Indonesia and saw the Botanic Gardens at Bogor.

He attended and contributed to a number of scientific meetings and symposia, both at home and abroad. He took part in the C.A.B.-I.M.I. meeting on the stability of nomenclature and the very successful R.B.G. Kew Conservation Conference; also the Tropical Forest Forum at Cambridge, the Royal Society symposium on "Evolutionary interaction of plants and animals", meetings at the Linnaean Society to celebrate Professor Stearn's 80th birthday and one on botanical illustration, a conference organised by Ove Arup to consider the 'built environment' and one at CIBA. In July, there was a meeting organised jointly by the Royal Society and the Systematics Association to consider the future of taxonomy; a topic being addressed by the House of Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology. Finally, he was invited to speak at a European Parliament conservation seminar and at an international meeting in Bonn on Amazonian research.

He continued to keep in touch with the academic world by giving lectures or seminars at the Universities of London (UCL), Oxford, Cambridge and Durham, together with a series of lectures at Texas A. & M. University in the U.S.A. He lectured on ethnobotany to the Linnaean Society and gave the prestigious Linacre Lecture at Oxford.

He also lectured on the work of Kew, his work in the Amazon and other related topics to such varied bodies as the Forestry Commission at Alice Holt Lodge, the Cambridge University Explorers' Club and W.C.M.C., OXFAM Headquarters, the Hunterian Museum in Glasgow, Ness Botanical Garden, Liverpool, Loddon Vale Rotary, Spelthorne Natural History Society, the Union Society of the City of Westminster, Cuffley Horticultural Society, Richmond College and the London Methodist Luncheon Club! He was also the principal guest at the Kingston Polytechnic science degrees ceremony.

He continued to serve on and attend meetings of numerous bodies: as President of the Systematics Association, the R.H.S. Council, W.W.F. International Council, the I.U.C.N. Commission on Ecology, the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh Scientific Advisory Group, as botanical adviser to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, the World Conservation Monitoring Centre management board and the Botanic Gardens Conservation Secretariat, the Margaret Mee Amazon Trust, the Conference of Directors of Museums and Galleries, the Church of England Synod Board for Social Responsibility, and as a trustee of the Horniman Museum and of the Lovaine Trust. He became a member of the Taxonomic Review body, set up to complement the activities of the House of Lords Select Committee, and also became one of the joint editors of a new journal, '*Biodiversity and Conservation*'.

Visitors

If there were not quite so many Royal visits as in 1990, there was nevertheless a considerable and varied number of visitors. July proved to be the high point: H.R.H. The Princess Margaret came to open the Marine Display in the basement of the Palm House (re-opened by her mother in 1990), and the spouses of all the Heads of State attending the G7 Summit conference arrived by river for a tour of the Gardens, giving the Constabulary a taste of top-level security requirements. Princess Alexandra and Sir Angus Ogilvy came for a private visit. Other visits of varying degrees of protocol involved the wife of the President of Chile, the Prime Minister of Spain, the Japanese Ambassador, the High Commissioner for Uganda, Dr. Nikolai Vorontsov, Minister of the Environment for Russia (and, at the time of his visit, the USSR) and, at three hours' notice on a Sunday afternoon, the Prime Minister of Malaysia with an entourage of 17!

Baroness Trumpington, always a welcome visitor, came twice to the Gardens and was the principal guest at the Students' Prizegiving in September, and Mr. Tim Lankester (O.D.A.) visited in March. The Rt. Hon. Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, made a rapid 'behind the scenes' visit in October. Other notable visitors were Lord Dulverton, Lord Rayner, Sir Crispin Tickell and the various noble lords from the Select Committee who were investigating taxonomy. In June, Ms Anna Ford performed the opening ceremony for the nature trail at Wakehurst Place where Sir Robert Sainsbury planted a tree to commemorate his 80th birthday in October.

There were some changes among the Trustees. After eight years of office, Mr. John Eccles retired as Chairman and was succeeded by Mr. Robin Herbert, well known to all as President

of the R.H.S. Other Trustees to retire who had served since the Board was set up in 1983 were Professor Elizabeth Robson and Commander Michael Saunders Watson. New appointments were Lady Renfrew (an agricultural archaeologist and wife of the Master of Jesus College, Cambridge), Professor Robert May, F.R.S. (Zoology Department, Oxford University) and Viscount Blakenham, whose father served on the Wakehurst Place Advisory Panel.

THE KEW MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY

By Mark Lamey

Committee Members: Dr. Peter Brandham, Dickon Bowling, Louise Bustard.

Chairperson: Matthew Vincent

Secretary: Mark Lamey

Assistant Secretary: Anthony Lunn

Treasurer: Sally Kelly

The Kew Mutual Improvement Society has continued over the last season of lectures (Autumn 1991) and continues over the current season (Spring 1992) to attract the support and interest of its many members.

Regular visitors to this term's lectures might appreciate that they have travelled through many countries. This began in the autumn with a talk by Henrik Zetterlund who looked at the many bulbous plants at Gothenburg Botanic Garden, Sweden. Later on in the series Dr. Philip Short (Australian Liaison Botanist at Kew) took us to another hemisphere with a look at Melbourne Botanic Gardens, Australia. Three weeks later we were in Almeria with Kew and Reading, our guides for this evening being the two Mikes, Mike Maunder and Mike Sinnott.

The Spring 1992 season began with lectures from two Third Year Kew Diploma students. In the first we were taken, with the use of slides and visual aids, to the Canary Islands, presented by Sally Kelly (winner of the Henry Idris-Matthews travel scholarship) and, secondly, to Norway at the courtesy of a talk by Andrew Fuller (winner of the Hozelock travel award).

More recent lectures have included Pamela Holt's mountaineering in Bolivia, Brian Halliwell's travelog of Tasmania and John Watkins pictorial tour of 'Some Gardens in Tuscany'.

Many areas of the world were covered by Gren Lucas, in order to emphasise the international usage and importance of the plant kingdom in his lecture entitled "The Demise of 'The Wild'". As Sandra Bell described some of the controversies that exist in keeping a collection such as that of orchids at Kew, she also demonstrated the many countries from which Kew's orchid collection has arisen. Graham Burgess in his talk, endeavoured to link botanic gardens worldwide by their amenity functions, demonstrating the garden design attributes that follow this course.

Closer to home, Brian Kidd (Parks Officer for Portsmouth Council) recalled his hilarious experiences as a young garden apprentice, and later described his association with the Sir George Staunton Country Park in Portsmouth. Plant pathologist Pippa Greenwood talked about the wonders of plant pathogens in the garden, and Beth Chatto spoke to us enthusiastically about the use of unusual plants to create form in the garden. Previously, Heather Angel had used her experience as a wildlife photographer to suggest ways in which we could capture the garden on film. Sue Minter made a return visit to Kew in January to give a talk on the Chelsea Physic Garden, where she is now Curator.

With all these lectures there was hardly time to fit in the Inter-departmental Quiz and the Music Evening. This year the music was provided by the Marble Hill Singers and the Aaragon Consort.

I feel it well deserved to conclude by conveying my great appreciation to the many speakers who have contributed to the autumn 1991 and spring 1992 Mutual lectures. Also to thank Peter Brandham, Dickon Bowling and Louise Bustard for their continued help, and the many members and regular guests of the Society for their essential support. I wish the next committee all the best for the 1992/93 seasons.

EXCERPTS FROM JODRELL NEWSLETTERS 1991 Kew and Wakehurst Place

With thanks to the Editors



Constructing the basement of the new Jodrell extension. Building work on the extension started in earnest during January 1991 with the excavation of the basement. This followed an archaeological survey of the site before Christmas 1990 which revealed only the foundations of a former greenhouse.

April 1991

NEWS IN BRIEF

More Support for AIDS Research

The Medical Research Council, encouraged by progress to date, has renewed and increased its grant to Linda Fellows to search for novel anti-HIV agents in plants. A second appointment will be made to assist Research Fellow Rob Nash. Linda would like to thank everyone who has helped with this project.

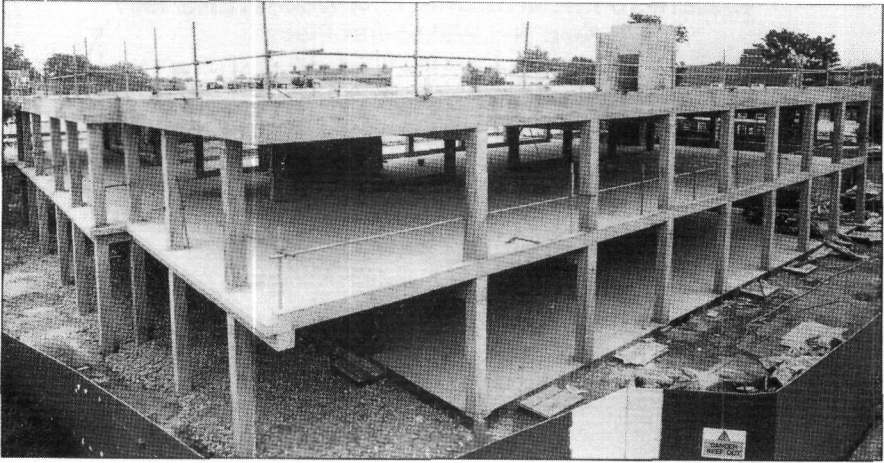
Desert Seed Collecting

During 1990, Hew Prendergast collected for the Seed Bank in some of the world's most arid environments: the Namib Desert (with I.B.P.G.R.), Saharan Morocco (with Ahmed Birouk of the Institut Agronomique et Veterinaire Hassan II, Rabat, and Mohammed Tazi of the Directrice Provinciale d'Agriculture, El Jadida) and south-west Queensland (with his wife!).

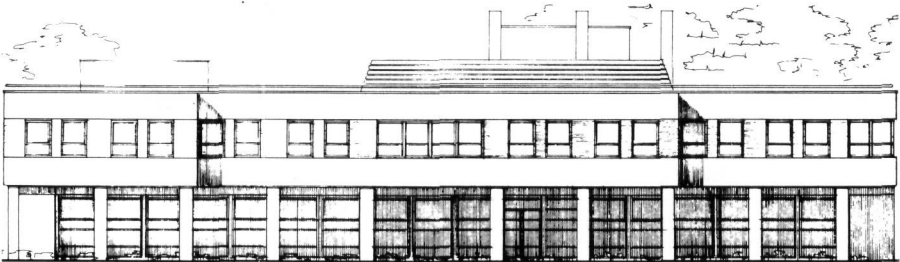
April 1991

JODRELL EXTENSION

Construction of the Jodrell Laboratory extension, which began in January 1991, has progressed well. The contract for Phase 1, awarded to builders Kyle Stewart, involved ground works and construction of the basement and structural frame using reinforced concrete, including the ground floor, first floor and roof slabs. Phase 1 was finished well on time in early August 1991.



The completed skeletal frame of the Jodrell extension, with (left) the west side facing the Victorian aquatic garden, and (right) the south side facing the Order Beds. The existing building is to the rear of this view.



The west elevation of the Jodrell extension, facing the Victorian aquatic garden, with offices above a colonnade.

Completion of Phase 2 (external skin and internal finishes) is still expected by May 1992. This will increase the total area of laboratory, office and other accommodation under one roof from 1,000 square metres in the old main laboratory to 3,000 square metres in the extended building. Most disruption and decanting of workers is still to come, but the exciting prospect of the new science facilities makes it all worthwhile.

October 1991

KEW MONOCOT CONFERENCE 1993

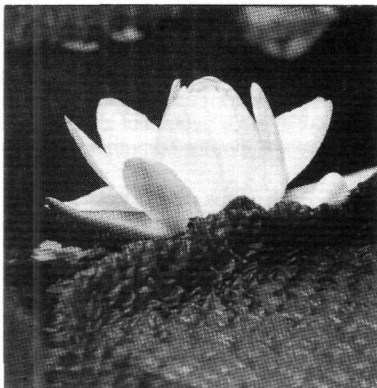
There will be an international meeting at Kew on July 19th-23rd, 1993, on classification and evolution in monocotyledons. The purposes of the meeting are to analyse critical characters in monocotyledon systematics, and to review and revise the existing classifications at the suprafamilial level. For further information contact Paula Rudall.



October 1991

ON THE SCENT OF THE GIANT WATERLILY

The flowers of the Amazonian giant waterlily, **Victoria amazonica**, produce a powerful fruity odour which appears to be strongly attractive to pollinating scarab beetles (*Cyclocephala* spp.). Kew's Director, Professor Ghilleen Prance, has an interest in the floral biology of **Victoria**, and in an attempt to identify the potential pollinator-attracting chemical, Tom Reynolds and Geoffrey Kite have analysed the scent of the hybrid lily (**V. amazonica** x **cruziana**: see picture) growing in Kew's Princess of Wales Conservatory. Using a trap containing the porous polymer "Tenax" suspended above the flower to collect the scent and analysis by gas chromatography-mass spectroscopy (GC-MS), they revealed that it consisted mainly of benzyl alcohol and the methyl and benzyl esters of tiglic and 2-methylbutanoic acids. Pollinating beetles are known to be attracted by esters, but identifying the particular ester responsible for attracting the scarab beetles to **Victoria** will require observations on the beetles' responses to the individual components of the scent.



October 1991

LEGUME RESEARCH

The large family Leguminosae represents one of the focal points for research at Kew, with a multidisciplinary approach to the systematic and associated applied studies. Legumes, which are well represented in Kew's collections, range from small herbs to large trees, and their protein-rich seeds include many food crops of work importance, such as peas and beans.

Jodrell researchers are working with Herbarium colleagues on various legume genera, such as **Andira**, **Caesalpinia**, **Inga** and **Mucuna**, on aspects including chemistry, anatomy, seed physiology, cytogenetics and chloroplast DNA. The Biochemistry Section is applying advanced analytical techniques to chemotaxonomic studies of selected legume genera; the chemicals revealed are assessed for their role in legume-insect interactions, and for any medicinal or agricultural value. The Anatomy Section has research interests in legume floral biology, especially in the subfamily Caesalpinioideae, and is targeting legume woods for its major database on tropical woods and their uses. Legume woods, characterised by their "vestured" vessel pits (in common with some other dicotyledon families), are anatomically diverse. Peter Gasson is currently working on an analysis of woods of basal groups of the subfamily Papilionoideae, and on systematic investigations of **Caesalpinia** and **Inga**. David Phalatsé (University of Bophuthatswana) is continuing his Ph.D. on African **Dalbergia** spp.

Caesalpinia is also the subject of a biochemical programme, in which Geoffrey Kite is using GC-MS to analyse seeds for variations in non-protein amino acids. Some legume seeds may provide useful sources of such compounds. For example, biochemical work on **Lemuropisum edule**, as part of a Kew evaluation of this endemic Madagascan legume as a crop plant for arid environments, showed that the seeds contained 1-5% dry weight of 3-hydroxyproline, a compound with potential in cancer research.

The anti-AIDS activity of alkaloidal glycosidase inhibitors revealed by chemotaxonomic screens of several genera of Papilionoideae (e.g. **Castanospermum** and **Lonchocarpus**) continues to provide interest for the biochemists. The distribution of flavonoids and isoflavonoids in **Lonchocarpus** is now also being studied, using HPLC coupled with multiple wavelength absorption detection (diode array). Monique Simmonds, in collaboration with Professor Wally Blaney (Birkbeck College) and Professor Marini-Bettolo (Univ. Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome), is using behavioural and electrophysiological techniques to evaluate the role of flavonoids from **Tephrosia** and **Lonchocarpus** in the hostplant selection behaviour of insects.

EXCERPTS FROM THE KEW GUARDIAN, FIRST ISSUE NOVEMBER 1991

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FUNGAL HERBARIUM RECURATED

Researchers using the Herbarium's collection of fungi are to have their work made easier by a complete re-curation. Over 600,000 preserved fungi, including over 30,000 type-specimens, make Kew's collection one of the world's largest and most comprehensive.

"The current cataloguing system has become obsolete," said Dr. David Pegler, Head of Mycology. "We are re-curating the collection in a way that reflects current thinking about systematic relationships. The collection will be arranged under a family system of classification similar to that used for the flowering plant collections and we will aim for something that can be readily used by visiting scientists."

The new system recognised 95 orders and 6,660 genera. Each genus will be given a unique, five figure, decimalised number, based on its classification. To avoid confusion, there will be cross indexes linking the old system with the new one.

The fungus collection was started in 1879 when Rev. Berkeley, 'Father of British Mycology' presented his collection of 20,000 specimens to Kew. Until now it has been catalogued by a numerical system invented in 1882.

DIRECTORS MESSAGE

Welcome to the first edition of *Kew Guardian*, your new monthly official staff newsletter replacing *Kew News*.

With *Kew Guardian* we are hoping to address the regularly voiced demand for a frequent, attractive organ of communication to keep everyone at Kew and Wakehurst Place informed about what is going on and about what staff are doing.

One of the functions of *Kew Guardian* will be to communicate the plans and views of the management team. Equally important, however, it will act as an organ for debate on matters of concern to all staff, and will become a noticeboard for all coming events, visits and changes at R.B.G., Kew. I would like all staff to feel they have access to its pages.

Kew Guardian will also feature news about the Foundation and Friends, and in this way will keep all staff informed about their activities. The close interaction between Friends, Foundation and Kew staff is vital to the success of our fundraising goals. To this end, I am delighted that Spence Gunn, editor of *Kew*, has agreed to edit the *Kew Guardian*.

Professor G. T. Prance, Director

FUNDING PRIORITY FOR MR. HERBERT



Mr. Herbert: raising Kew's profile.

Securing new sources of funding through the Friends and Foundation is to be a priority for R.B.G. Kew's new Chairman of the Trustees, Mr. Robin Herbert. He also hopes to improve the interpretive material available to visitors, which will be greatly enhanced by the new Victoria Gate Visitor Centre, and raise the profile of Kew's scientific work.

Mr. Herbert, who was appointed in October by Agriculture Minister, John Gummer, and succeeds the Hon. John Eccles, has been a member of the Board of Trustees since 1987. He is also President of the Royal Horticultural Society, and was deputy chairman of the Countryside Commission from 1971 to 1980. He is a director of Marks and Spencer, which currently sponsors Seedbank Collector, Mark Newman, and of the National Westminster Bank.

Welcoming Mr. Herbert's appointment, Professor Ghilleen Prance, Director of Kew, said that Mr. Herbert had always encouraged the highest standards in all of Kew's activities, including research, conservation and horticulture. "I am sure he will be instrumental in encouraging us to maintain and increase our role in the international effort to preserve the world's plant diversity, and to seek financial support for our efforts from a wide range of sources," said Professor Prance.

- The Seedbank has recently mounted expeditions to Arizona and Oman and is planning one to Brazil. A recent donation towards its work has been received from Glaxo Holdings plc. Seed collecting has also benefitted from a recent donation of £30,000 given by the Moorgate Charitable Trust, to the R.B.G., Kew Foundation.

BADGERS AT WAKEHURST

Wakehurst will be able to offer a new attraction to members of the public next year — badger watching.

Andy Jackson, Wakehurst's Woodlands Supervisor, established the new badger watching hides earlier this year, in the heart of Kew's Loder Valley Nature Reserve, adjacent to Wakehurst, and has been running trial visits through the summer and autumn.

A maximum of five people can share the hide, and preferably arrive as a group rather than a mixture of individuals. Viewing commences 30 minutes before dusk and continues until the badgers have finished feeding.

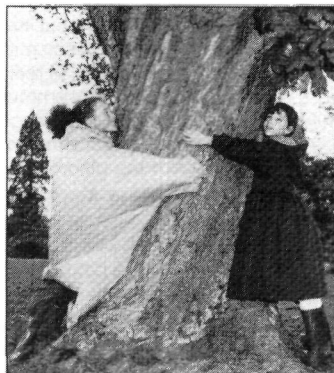
Staff who are interested in visiting the hide should contact Andy on extension W.53. The hide will also be promoted to the Friends of R.B.G. Kew and to local conservation and naturalists groups, and schools.

In addition, six special visits are planned for 1992, to include a twilight tour of the reserve to observe deer and bats, to be rounded off with badger watching. These tours are intended to generate funds for managing the reserve, and minimum donations of £15 per head will be charged.

Both Andy and Keith Boyer, the woodland warden, give their time for the badger watches on a voluntary basis, to minimise costs.

- Four years to the day after hurricane force winds claimed nearly 20,000 trees at Wakehurst, a highly successful Tree Activity Day was held for children from the local Cross in Hand School. Challenges included a wildlife quiz, building nest boxes, tree identification and growing trees from acorns. Our picture (right) shows children getting to know trees using senses other than sight.

The aim of the day is to help the children appreciate the importance of woodland conservation issues, and the images of rainforest destruction, that they are exposed to every day.



BRUNEI FLORA

The Herbarium's Brunei Flora project is now halfway towards completion and about 5,000 specimens have so far been collected from the two or three expeditions each year to Brunei.

A database has been set up which will provide botanists with a whole range of information on the Brunei flora. This will be used to produce a checklist, and could become a model for future work on the island of Borneo.

Mark Coode now heads the Kew side of the project, with John Dransfield acting as liaison with Brunei and Don Kirkup involved in its day to day running. A sandwich course student, Tim Utteridge, has been employed to extract data from Brunei material already incorporated

into the herbarium, while Joffre Haji Ali Ahmad, a forestry assistant from Brunei, is at Kew for a year learning herbarium techniques.

● There is now a three year waiting list for the Herbarium's International Diploma Course in Herbarium Techniques, which highlights the demand for such training. Students this year came from countries as diverse as Russia and the Cook Islands.

PEOPLE IN FOCUS



John Lavin has been appointed Deputy Director of Operations from 2nd December 1991. He will be responsible for the supervision of all areas of activity except science, i.e.: administration, finance, buildings and maintenance, and information and exhibitions departments. I.E.D. will be revamped into an Education and Marketing Department, which will include commercial development.

Welcoming Mr. Lavin's appointment, Professor Prance, Kew's Director, said "This new post will enable us to co-ordinate better the service functions of the gardens and help us organise marketing and commercial development, two functions that are becoming increasingly important as we rely more on non-government funding".

PROJECT FOCUS

Kew's Five Year Plan

In September, the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, published a five-year Strategic Plan — the latest stage in Kew's evolution from part of a central government department to an independent institution.

The Strategic Plan sets out Kew's objectives for the next five years and emphasises the maintenance of Kew's high scientific and horticultural standards against a background of falling central government funding in real terms. Kew expects to receive Grant in Aid of £15.5 million in the current year but Government policy is such that Grant in Aid will fall in real terms in future years. The plan, and subsequent action, addresses this through making a case for higher government funding and for increasing self generated income — from the current £2.9 million to £4.5 million over the planning period.

John Lavin, Head of Administration, emphasised that the Strategic Plan is not an end in itself, but part of a continual process of assessing Kew's aims and capabilities. "The plan has two main functions," he said. "One is to demonstrate to those funding Kew, mainly the Government, that we are going in the right direction, operating effectively and offering value for money while pursuing our fundamental mission.

"More importantly it helps ensure everyone at Kew recognises the organisation's aims and objectives, and how each area of work fits in with the overall strategy. It is a realistic statement of what we think we can do with the resources we have, and of the things we would like to do if we had more resources."

The Plan sets objectives in each of Kew's areas of activity: Science, Education, Horticulture, National Heritage (Maintenance of Kew's 39 historic buildings) and Visitor Service.

The plan will be backed up by a system introduced this year, in which managers define objectives that meet the aims of the strategic plan, sets targets and monitor achievement. Eventually, the final link will be agreed targets for each individual, related to the resources available says Lavin. "It is a way of ensuring we focus our efforts where they will be of most benefit to the organisation as a whole.

"Remember, plans like this should evolve through discussion in the light of experience. It will be updated annually in discussion with Heads of Department and the unions."

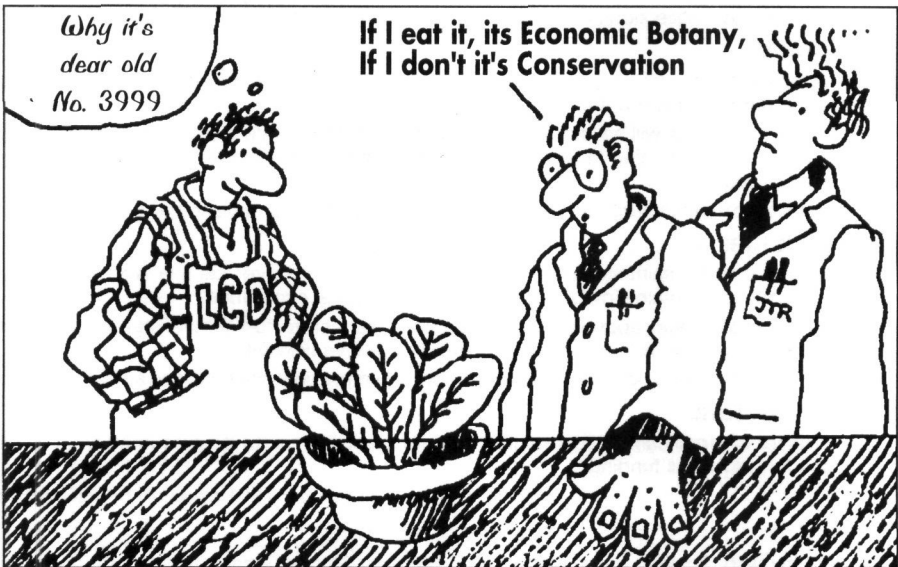
These are just some of the proposals in the Strategic Plan:

SCIENCE

Scientific activity covers three fronts: Systematics, Economic Botany and Conservation, and Experimental Botany. No scientific work will be undertaken that does not relate to these three areas.

Systematics

- Approximately 50,000 carefully selected additions will be made each year to the Herbarium's collection, to ensure it retains its position as the world's leading authority on plant taxonomy. It will aim to be capable of supporting taxonomic research on any group from any region in the world at short notice.
- Major regional floristic surveys of East and Central Africa will be completed by 1998.
- The Herbarium will continue to initiate and conduct comprehensive global reviews of selected economically important plant groups.



Economic Botany and Conservation

This has been identified as one of the most attractive areas of Kew's work to external agencies and sponsors. Core funding will remain at a level sufficient to maintain essential activities such as the database, curation of the collections and central C.I.T.E.S. responsibilities.

- The computer catalogue of the economic botany collection is to be completed by April 1993.
- Databases for sustainable development of plant resources in the tropics and sub-tropics are to be developed and enhanced.
- Kew will aim to achieve yearly targets of accessions of 4,000 living plants and 1,500 live seeds for the seedbank, plus improvement of seedbank facilities.

Experimental Botany

Priorities are to include:

- research on systematic and developmental anatomy

- Identification of new compounds for medicine and agriculture, involving appropriate collaboration with commercial and other partners.
- Research on chromosomes of cytotoxic importance to aid understanding of the evolution of plant groups. Work on development of biochemical techniques to solve taxonomy and conservation questions to continue.

Some seed physiology research will be moved to Kew from Wakehurst when the Jodrell Laboratory extension is finished. Work on reproductive biology, seed formation, storage life and development of storage and conservation will continue.

Scientific Support

- Research glasshouses will be improved.
- Micropropagation and cryopreservation techniques will be further developed.
- Computerised databases will be improved. The ageing central Prime computer will be replaced and an interdepartment computer network will be developed in 1992.
- Priority will be given to obtaining funding for a computerised Library system, and to conserving library and archive collections in danger of major damage from paper deterioration.

EDUCATION

- A volunteer guide scheme has been established, and guides will begin showing parties around the gardens this month.
- Interpretive material will be improved, including provision of a teletext system at the Victoria Gate Visitor Centre, opening in spring 1992. The number of interpretive labels in the gardens will be increased.
- The School of Horticulture will maintain the diploma course at its current level and quality.

HORTICULTURE

- The plan aims to maintain industrial horticultural personnel over the five year period, at a level sufficient to maintain Kew's reputation for horticultural excellence.
- M.A.F.F. and Treasury approval is being sought to restructure horticultural staff within R.B.G. Kew to recognise their skill more equitably and to improve flexibility.
- An integrated nursery operation will be developed to meet both scientific and amenity needs.

INFRASTRUCTURE

A number of significant building and restoration projects are to be presented to M.A.F.F. as cases for additional funding.

Reproduced from November 1991 issue of 'Kew Guardian'

STOLEN STATUE FOUND

The Boy with Dolphin statue, stolen from the Kew Palace Garden last month, has been returned safely to Kew. It was found by Kent Police when they were making routine enquiries at an auction house in South East London on November 21st.

"The Kent Police tell me they have a lot of these kinds of incidents in their area," said Inspector Ernest Killick, Head of the R.B.G., Kew, Constabulary. "This particular auction house is known to them and they were attending the auction where the statue was entered for sale."

Dave Davies, of the L.C.D.'s herbaceous section, who looks after the Queens Garden said: "I am very pleased to see the statue returned as it is a central feature in the parterre."

Art dealers and auction houses had been circulated details of the statue after it was stolen. The thieves cut the figure from its stone pedestal and removed it from the gardens sometime between the evening of Sunday, November 3rd, and 7.00 a.m. Monday morning, November 4th. It was reported missing by the Department of Environment privately hired security guard on duty in Kew Palace.

The statue would probably have cost around £15,000 to replace. It was not insured, following standard practice for such objects in museums and galleries.

The Boy with Dolphin is a bronze copy of a statue in the Palazzo Vecchio in Florence, which was made for the Queens Garden when it was laid out in 1969. A lead copy of the same original, stolen from the National Trust at Igtham Moate is still missing.

But although Kew's statue has been returned the theft has wider implications. There have been an increasing number of incidences of damage and vandalism in the gardens over the past couple of years and this latest incident has renewed security worries amongst gardens staff, especially those who live on site.

Inspector Killick said that the recent attempted theft of a sundial had been thwarted by the constabulary. "Without mounting round the clock surveillance at every point in the gardens, we are doing all that is practical. I have always been impressed with how security conscious Kew's staff are, and I hope everyone will continue to be vigilant so we can keep these incidents to a minimum.



Boy with Dolphin: home safely.

WAKEHURST TO THE RESCUE

Staff at Wakehurst Place were out in torrential rain at the beginning of November in a bid to save a population of Autumn ladies tresses (*Spiranthes spiralis*) from the bulldozer.

The plants were unfortunate enough to have colonised an area of dry, low fertility grassland in Haywards Heath that was to be developed for building and would have been destroyed. Andy Jackson, Curator of the Woodlands and Loder Valley Reserve at Wakehurst, was alerted to their plight by L.V.R. permit holder, June Howell, who lives in Haywards Heath. Andy contacted the developers to get permission to lift turves containing the orchids before the bulldozers moved in.

Keith Boyer, Lawrence Lennie, John Hooton and Steve Robinson, from L.C.D. at Wakehurst, lifted the plants, around 30 in all, and brought them back for planting in The Slips area of the garden. This site already contains populations of the green winged orchid (*Orchis morio*) from a similar exercise 15 years ago, as well as groups of the Jersey orchid (*Orchis laxiflora*) planted as part of the Sainsbury Orchid Project.

PLANTING THE GATE

Work has started on the landscape planting around the Victoria Gate Visitor Centre. In mid November a yew hedge was planted to divide the courtyard from the present landscape. The remainder of the site will be cultivated as it becomes available, and planted with winter and early spring colour plants — bulbs, early flowering shrubs, and plants with attractive bark or stems. The work is scheduled to be finished before the building opens in March.

The Victoria Gate itself re-opens to Visitors in mid January.

DOUBLED ATTENTION ON KEW'S CONSERVATION DRIVE

The Conservation Committee — which was set up two and a half years ago to both examine Kew's response to international conservation issues and our in-house conservation measures — is to be restructured.

Ian Beyer, Deputy Curator, who retires from Kew next year, has decided to step down as Chairman of the Conservation Committee. The two new committees will be Plant Genetic Resources, under the Chairmanship of Roger Smith, from the Seed Physiology Section of the Jodrell; and the Internal Domestic Conservation Group, under Gail Bromley of Education and Marketing.

The Plant Genetic Resources Committee will deal with Kew's response to the wider plant conservation issues, while the internal group will be responsible for in-house conservation.

The committee under Ian Beyer introduced some notable initiatives, including the regular, international, plant conservation conferences, the latest of which was held in September. It also introduced Kew's in-house paper recycling scheme and initiated an energy use review.

R.B.G., Kew's Director, Professor Prance, welcomed the new structure. "I am extremely grateful to Ian for getting this important activity off to such a very good start and I am sure the two new chairmen will be able to build well on his foundations. Conservation is one of the most important aspects of our work, and I hope these two committees will be able to show us all how we can play our part."

SAVE THE AMAZON

Kew's Director, Professor Prance, has put forward a ten point plan outlining the most important aspects that must be considered in any plan to halt the destruction of the Amazon basin. It was presented to a European meeting organised by the German Council for Tropical and Sub-tropical Agricultural Research.

In outline, the ten points are:

- Complete the biological inventory of the species and their ecology and economic value.
- Restore degraded areas, possibly as mixed stands of timber trees or for fuelwood.
- Establish more extractive reserves, from which commercial products can be harvested without felling.
- Better use of the Varzea flood plain, one of the few nutrient rich soils in the Amazon basin.
- Agroforestry, as practiced by the Amazon Indians.
- Greater use of Oligarchic Forest. This is forest dominated by only one or two species of tree like natural plantations.
- Conservation of untouched natural forest.
- Tourism. Well planned tourism is beneficial.
- Urban employment. Populations should be encouraged to concentrate in well planned urban areas.
- Use more water transport.

PEOPLE IN FOCUS

Mike Maunder, of the L.C.D.'s Gardens Development Unit is to take on a new job co-ordinating the Department's plant conservation activities. "This is a new post which will involve me in both L.C.D.'s conservation work and liaising with outside organisations," said Mike. "There are around 2,000 plants in L.C.D. with some kind of rarity value. We will be aiming to identify the small proportion that are likely to respond successfully to propagation and reintroduction to their natural habitats." Mike, with assistance from Kew's and outside students on placement, will run the L.C.D. Conservation Unit, as it will be known.

Mike's job in the Gardens Development Unit will be taken over on an acting basis by **Jenny Evans**, who has been working in L.C.D.'s technical support unit for four years.

Mr. 'Tom' Thomas, who has played a major role in maintaining Kew's tree collection over the past 27 years, retired in November and was presented with a unique clock, made by leading tree pruner Andy McClure from a sweet chestnut burr growing in the gardens.

A passionate hobby has turned into a new job for **Peter Lufflum**, who joined the staff of L.C.D. in September as Bird Keeper. He now looks after Kew's expanding collection of waterfowl and ornamental birds. Over 20 species live in the gardens and they are becoming increasingly popular with visitors.

Peter has many years experience as an amateur aviculturist.

HAMPSHIRE KEWITE GATHERING

Editorial Report

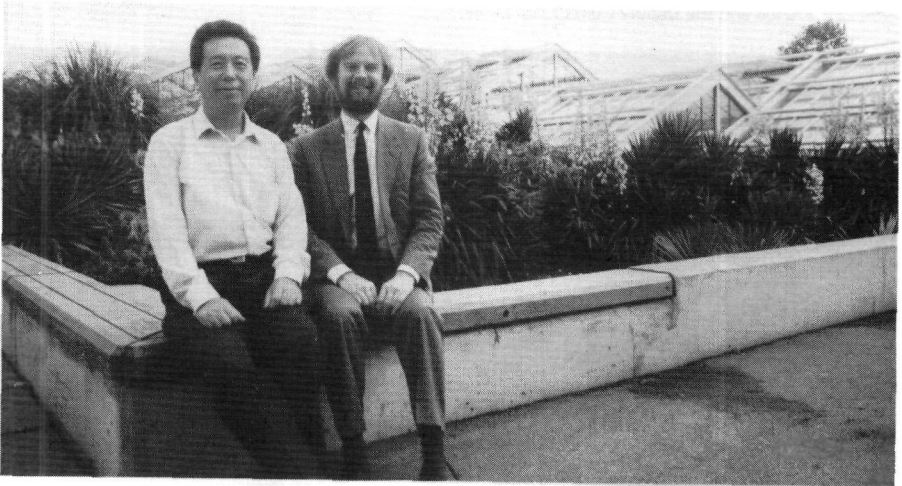
The inimitable Graham Burgess circulated details of the above event to 20 plus Kewites, and others, including your Editor. The day included refreshments and drink and a tour of Graham's Nursery and newly completed water maze. The sad part was that no Kewites turned up! This had been Graham's effort to promote fellowship and contacts between Kewites in the area where he lives. Thanks for a great day, Graham. And let's hope that if such efforts are made again in the future that they get the support they deserve!

PICTURE PAGES



The Kew-Wisley Relay winning team, Kew (1966?), at Wisley with Mr. Frank Knight, Director, Wisley Gardens.

Photograph kindly supplied by Dave Coleman



Ian Leese photographed with Zhenzi Tang of the Parks and Gardens Service, Macau. Mr. Tang was an international student in 1981-82 at R.B.G., Kew.

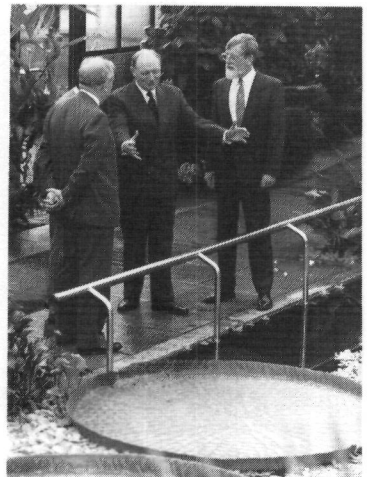
Photograph: David Barnes

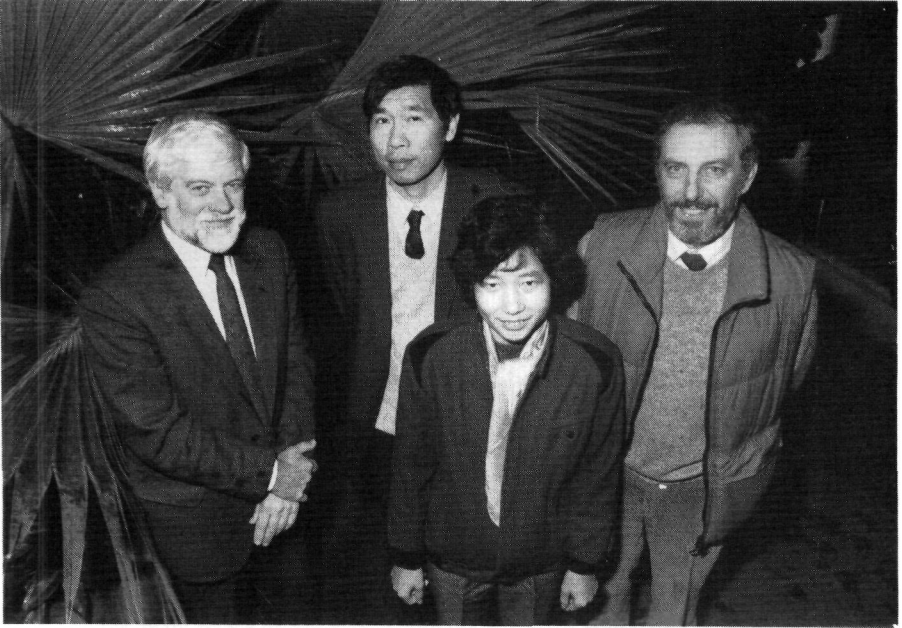


The Institute of Horticulture held their Annual General Meeting at Kew on 19th October. The Shadow Secretary of State for the Environment, Bryan Gould, M.P., gave the James Bruce Lecture to the meeting. Left to right: Institute of Horticulture President Bill Simpson and his wife, Institute of Horticulture Secretary Angela Clarke, Supervisor of Studies Ian Leese and Bryan Gould, M.P. *Photograph: John Walker, Institute of Horticulture*

Bottom left: The official opening of the Reed Swamp Walkway at Wakehurst Place in June 1991. Gillian Bulmer is pictured here presenting a bouquet to Anna Ford, with the Director on the left.

Bottom right: Mr. Neil Kinnock visiting the Princess of Wales Conservatory on the 9th October 1991 with Professor Prance and the Deputy Curator, Ian Beyer.





Mrs. Fu Yanfeng and Dr. Meng Xiaoxiong in the Palm House with the Curator, John Simmons, and Charles Erskine, Assistant Curator of the Arboretum. This was a reciprocal visit to Kew following the Curator's and Mr. Erskine's participation in the expedition to Western China during September/October 1991.



Dr. Nikolai Vorontsov, the Minister of the Environment for the USSR, meeting the Director and Professor Bennett on the 29th November, 1991, just prior to the break-up of the Soviet Union.



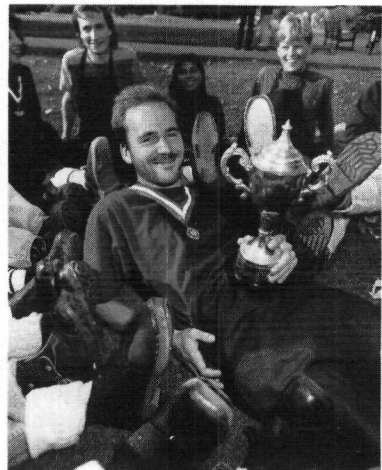
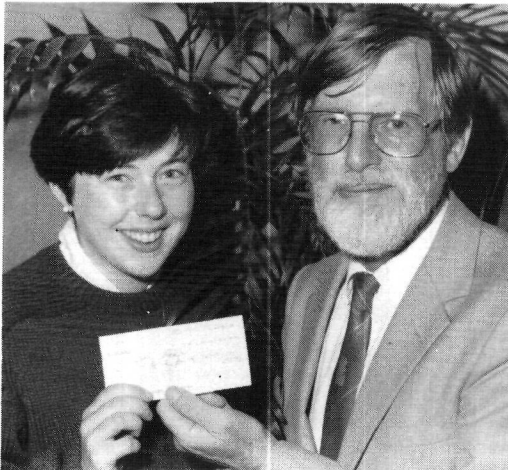
The Christmas Grotto in the Princess of Wales Conservatory. Barry Blewett (Father Christmas) is pictured here greeting His Highness Sayyid Shabib Taimur A Said, Minister of the Environment of the Sultanate of Oman, after the official planting of the Frankincense Tree presented to R.B.G. Kew by the Government of Oman. The new Chairman of the Trustees, Mr. Robin Herbert, is in the background.

Bottom left: Sally Kelly, winner of the £800 Henry Idris Matthews prize, being awarded her cheque by the Director, Professor G. T. Prance.

Photograph: Media Resources, R.B.G. Kew

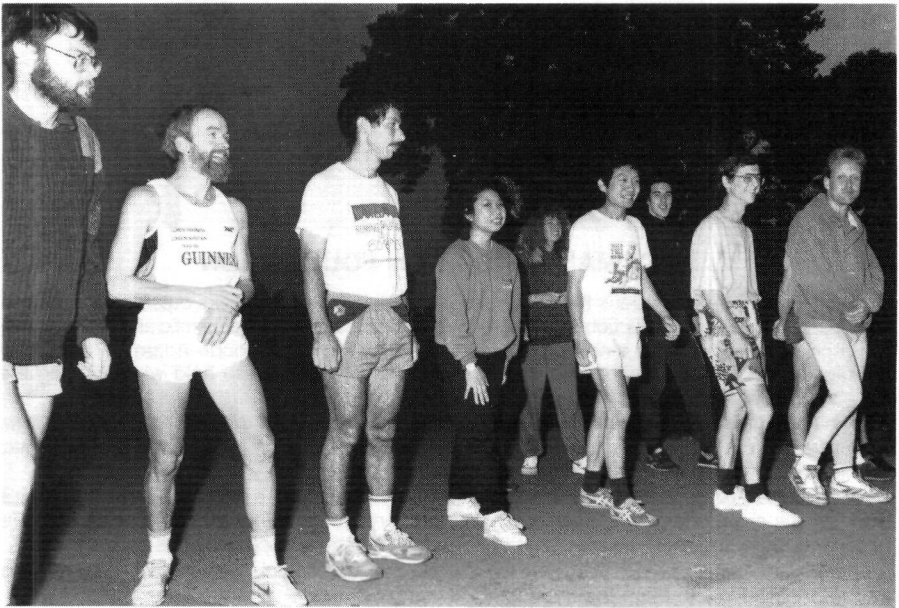
Bottom right: Simon Miller, winner of the Clog and Apron Race, seen holding his cup while surrounded by his fellow students.

Photograph: Media Resources, R.B.G. Kew





The Wellie Throwing Competition. Pictured here is Sumia Teo from Singapore in mid-throw. The winner was Graham Madill (93 feet), with Wayne Page second (75 feet), *Photograph: Media Resources, R.B.G. Kew*



The Round the Gardens Race in November, 1991, won by Steve Grinwood of the Alpine and Herbaceous Section. *Photograph: Media Resources, R.B.G. Kew*

NEW BLACK ORCHID ON VIEW AT KEW

Orchid growers have sought for years for a black orchid. During 1991 the R.H.S. Orchid Committee gave an Award of Merit to **Paphiopedilum Gaulois 'Grandee**, a black slipper orchid, shown by Mr. Paul Phillips of Ratcliffes Nursery of Owlesbury, Winchester.

It is a hybrid one of whose parent is the famed and rare **Paphiopedilum rothschildianum** known only from Mt. Kinabalu in Borneo.

The black orchid was on display in the Princess of Wales Conservatory Orchid Section in early December 1991 for two weeks.



CITY MAN HEADS KEW FOUNDATION

The Royal Botanic Gardens Kew Foundation — the body which seeks outside sponsorship for support for the living collections at Kew and Wakehurst Place and for scientific and conservation research — has appointed a new chief executive. He is Mr. Giles Coode-Adams, a Managing Director of the City firm Lehman Brothers, a post he will continue to hold while running the Kew organisation.

The Foundation was set up last year when an increasing financial deficit forced Kew Gardens to put up admission charges. Research and certain other vital projects it was felt, however, should be supported as far as possible by outside finance.

Mr. Coode-Adams, a well-known figure in the City of London, says he believes that Kew's work for the environment will draw increasing support from industry and commerce who are becoming more and more aware of the importance placed on such activities by the public.

As well as business organisations, he will also build Kew's contacts with charitable foundations and with individuals through the Friends of Kew organisation.

A keen gardener, he sees that a major priority will be educating people, both in Britain and abroad, about Kew and its unique contribution to botanical research and conservation.

ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS, KEW 1992 ADMISSION CHARGES

The admission charges to the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew and Wakehurst Place were revised from 1st January 1992.

The adjustment will be introduced to allow for the rise in inflation and the higher VAT charge of 17.5%.

"We are pleased to be able to introduce more concessions and to strengthen the value of our season ticket. The slight adjustments have been made to reflect broadly the increase in VAT and inflation", said the Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Professor Ghilleen France.

The new charges have incorporated a concessionary rate for the unemployed and new concessionary season tickets for senior citizens. Many more season tickets have been sold in the past year and the number of people covered by the family season ticket is to be increased from two adults and three children to two adults and four children.

The new prices are:

Adult	£3.30	Annual Season ticket:	
Senior Citizens, Students and		Single	£16.00
Unemployed	£1.70	Family (2 adults and 4 children)	£30.00
Children (under 16)	£1.10	Senior Citizen	£13.50
Children (under 5)	Free	Senior Family	£26.00

KEW COURSE IN BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATION

Where better to learn the technique of drawing and painting flowers and plants than the world-famous Kew Gardens?

The Education Section of the Royal Botanic Gardens ran a two-week course in botanical illustration from the 10th to 21st February 1992.

The course included explanation of the structure and biology of selected plant groups and instruction in the techniques necessary for the accurate illustration of plant material.

The two-week course fee was £500 plus VAT.

ANNUAL BOOK FAIR AT KEW GARDENS

Several thousand books on natural history and associated subjects were offered for sale at the shop in Kew Gardens on Saturday and Sunday, 21st and 22nd September.

In 1990 sales to visitors to the Gardens approached £30,000, with collectors attending from all over Britain. The top price then was £2,800 for an early nineteenth century volume by Jane Wells Loudon, one of the first women to become a well-known gardening writer.

Twenty-five specialist booksellers attended, displaying prints as well as antiquarian and secondhand books.

NEW APPOINTMENTS AT KEW

Two new senior appointments have been announced by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Mr. John Lavin, formerly Head of Administration, becomes Deputy Director (Operations) and Dr. Charles Stirton has been appointed Deputy Director (Science).

Mr. Lavin, who entered the Civil Service in 1973, joined Kew in 1989 after 16 years with the Department of Energy.

Dr. Stirton was born in Natal, South Africa, and has been associated with Kew since 1978. He is an expert on legumes and weeds and has published four books on these subjects.

Professor Gren Lucas, O.B.E., remains Keeper of the Herbarium at Kew, Professor Michael Bennett, Keeper of the Jodrell Laboratory, and Mr. John Simmons, O.B.E., continues as Curator of the Gardens.

NEWS OF KEWITES AT HOME AND ABROAD IN 1991

Compiled by **HUGH FLOWER**

During 1991 we have again heard from members on different matters. It is good to hear from our older members and a larger number have written this year. It is interesting to note that some correspondence has ensued because members find that they are no longer receiving their Journal and notices because subscriptions have not been updated. Please do check that your subscriptions are correct and those too of your friends. Many of this year's entries are brief, which reflects the nature of correspondence. Changes of address are recorded in the list of names and addresses at the back of the Journal and are not duplicated here.

May we appeal for a bumper crop of news for our Centenary Journal, which may be sent to the Secretary or directly to Hugh Flower in Epsom. Do it now whilst you think about it.

Thomas Andrews has recently rejoined the Guild and wrote from Canada (Calgary). He worked for "Shell" and, after retirement, was involved with the inspection of trees in East Surrey, focusing on the rights of way that would be affected by the M23/25 construction.

C. A. Attwood (1950) wrote for a clarification of his position on subscriptions.

Ian Beyer, Deputy Curator: During April Ian attended a workshop arranged by the botanic gardens Conservation Secretariat in Gran Canaria. This was to discuss guidelines for botanic gardens engaged in restoration or reintroduction of plant species into natural habitats. **Don Sumithraarachchi** (1981) from Sri Lanka was attending and in good spirits. On July 10th Ian was present at the official opening of the marine aquatics display by H.R.H. Princess Margaret in the Palm House and then on the 15th helped entertain the wives of summit leaders including Mrs. Major and Mrs. Bush. So to September and the International Conservation Conference with a paper given "From Specimen to Habitat Management" held at the Froebel Institute, Roehampton. The Conference was held there because of the developments at the Jochell at that time. Ian was awarded the Associateship of Honour of the Royal Horticultural Society during 1992.

Peter Boyce married Gill Hathaway in May.

The Curator, John Simmons (q.v.), received a letter in April from **Gilbert Briscoe** announcing the death of **Brian Till**. Gilbert was planning a visit to London from South Africa in August on his way to Orleans for a congress.

Stanley Brookes of Tadworth also requested an update on subscriptions.

The death was announced of **Lesley Royston Brown** (1950) on 5th October 1991.

Dick Brummit left Kew on January 9th to travel to Zomba, Malawi where he spent two weeks at the A.E.T.F.A.T. Secretariat (Association of the Taxonomic Studies for the Flora of Tropical Africa).

Graham Burgess has landed a project involving 400 acres of conserved forest in northern Spain. A preliminary trial planting of 200 species of plants took place during the summer. His second exhibit at Hampton Court Palace International Flower Show won maximum points for design.

In 1991 Graham was elected Events Organiser for the Maze Society. He arranged and sponsored a month long exhibition of Maze Related Art at Longleat where over £30,000 worth of sculpture was on display. In September he organised a weekend course on Mazes and Maze Making at Southampton University. He continues to expand his aquatic nursery at Whitchurch in Hampshire.

Henry Cocker (1933) wrote very briefly after receiving his Journal from Italy in the summer of '91. This followed earlier correspondence with Winifred Worth over, amongst other things, his subscription to the Guild as he is a life member. An article in a recent R.H.S. Journal had brought him much extra correspondence; at 85 this had posed a bit of a problem. He was busy writing a book during 1991.

Jill Cowley, our current Membership Secretary, was promoted from S.O. to H.S.O.

Martin Cheek too received promotion; to S.O. from A.S.O. He spent two weeks visiting continental Herbaria and travelled to Nairobi and Somba for the A.E.T.F.A.T. Later in the year

he travelled to South America for further field work. He submitted his D.Phil thesis on the systematic seed anatomy of Meliaceae seeds (Wadham College, University of Oxford) in January 1989. Two months in Madagascar continuing his work on Meliaceae in the dryer western half, in particular searching for the montotype fifth sub family, Neomangenotia and making general collections.

Our congratulations to **Mary** and **John Dawson** who had a son on March 29th, Alexander John, weighing in at 6lb 3oz.

Brian Dodds wrote in the autumn from Calgary, Alberta, to tell firstly of his proposed visit to South Africa for about three months. This was to look at flora and fauna and hopefully to meet up with Old Kewites who would have good ground knowledge! Brian continues to run his own consultancy firm in Calgary. **David Tomlinson**, who is a former partner, had left Manchester to join Brian in Toronto. Business has been good in Canada, which has now given Brian the chance to do some of the things in life that have been put off. Now that their children are grown up, he and Gill are off to do some travelling.

John and **Soejatmi Dransfield** led an expedition to Thailand for three weeks in April and were accompanied by several members of the Herbarium staff.

Bill Everitt, who for 12 years was night watchman in the Herbarium, died in late July.

Hugh Flower (1976) travelled to the U.S.A. for a three and a half week holiday in the autumn and spent some time in New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Longwood Gardens and finally to Niagara and Toronto. Of the many events of the trip that were highlights, was a night at the Metropolitan Opera, New York and a trip in a hot air balloon in Canada. He continues his work in St. Joseph's, Epsom with, amongst other things, chaplaincy work for those with learning difficulties in the Manor and St. Ebbas hospitals. He is now R.C. County Chaplain for the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers in Surrey!

Leonard Forman who has now retired, has decided to use his retirement gift to buy a cabinet to house CDs.

From Auckland, New Zealand, came a letter from **Andrew Geddes** (1961) with an application to rejoin the Guild. He practices as a Landscape Architect in Auckland and would welcome Kewites to visit him. He has produced various publications and is currently President of the Tree Society of New Zealand.

Cyril Giles (1962) moved home during 1991.

Mike Griffin wrote telling of his early retirement from Brighton Council in the spring of 1991. Since then he has taken a part-time post with the Sussex Rural Community Council. We wish him a long and happy retirement.

Our congratulations to **Laura** and **Rupert Hastings** on the birth of Veronic Frances on June 26th.

Ray Harley travelled to Brazil to the National Botanical Congress in early 1991.

Don Higham (1963) has rejoined the Guild after a lapse of some 20 years. Welcome back! His company is based at Aldridge, West Midlands. (It took 15 minutes on the 'phone to persuade him though! — Ed.)

E. G. Hooper (1936) wrote from Cambourne, Cornwall, and offered a contribution to the Guild following the appeal to life members from Herbert Taylor. They were at the John Innes Institute together. Names that he mentions and has had no recent contact with are **H. M. Holloway**, who was head at the Catalan Garden; **Jack Wilding** and **Robert Younger** from Cambridge Botanic Garden. He also informs us that **Phil Batchelor** had died. Does anyone else know of these people?

There is a change of address for **Andy** and **Emma Jackson**.

Michael Jackson (1976) has now also moved home, but still lives in Central London.

Richard Jones (1975) who now lives in South Australia, wrote during April with further subscriptions.

Percy Kimber (Herbarium Messenger), who during the year was umpire at the National Bowls competition, Worthing, has been selected as umpire for the world championships which take place in October 1992.

H. J. Kruger (1946) wrote following the letter from Hubert Taylor and enclosed a donation for the Guild funds as a life member. He sent apologies to the Dinner, fearing that he would no longer know anyone there.

Gwilym Lewis, after receiving promotion to Grade 7 from S.S.O. in the early part of the year, set off for Brazil. He spent time working in Caatinga vegetation of Bahia, looking at pollination and breeding systems of *Caesalpinia* species.

Gren Lucas, Keeper of the Herbarium, was awarded the Sir Peter Scott Merit Award Medal by the Species Survival Commission in Australia. It is for his work which "enhanced the survival of species of fauna and flora throughout the world".

During the year we heard from **B. A. Martin** (1960) who lives in Cyprus and who has now a new tie and blazer badge in his possession.

In 1990 **Frank Mackaness** (1938) wrote from Oregon, U.S.A., with a few reminiscences of his time at Kew, which included the Crystal Palace fire and Edward VIII's abdication speech. He is now turned 80!

John Maddox (1963) wrote indicating that he was now Director of the Leisure and Amenity Department for the Borough of Luton.

Constance Martin (1942) also wrote in with a gift for the funds as a life member. It would seem her Journal that year had been incorrectly assembled which caused difficulty in reading the articles!

Brian Matthew was nominated to receive the Herbert Medal for his work and publications on bulbous plants, by the International Bulb Society.

Esme McCulloch (1944) wrote from Australia with her new address and sharing with us her life-long interest in plants as a result of being at Kew. She also asks what has happened to her contemporaries as none of them show in the current list of members? Again, are there members of the Guild who know Esme? If so do drop her a line.

Donald MacGuffog (1951), until recently Chief Recreation Officer of the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, and now having his own horticulture and leisure consultancy has been elected President of the Institute of Leisure and Amenity Management. Warmest congratulations on this appointment.

David Morgan now lives in Chelmsford and is self-employed as a Sports and Garden Maintenance Contractor.

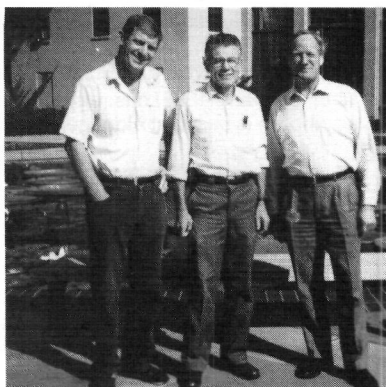
John and Peter Metcalf wrote announcing the death of their father, Charles, on June 16th. We offer them our sympathy.

E. Milne-Redhead (1971) wrote telling of his new address, which is still in Colchester.

Tony Monaghan (1978) returned from abroad in early '91 and discovered that his Journals were all at an old address. Now he has moved across London to New Malden.

Joan Noble who until recently worked on the switchboard, wrote asking for a copy of the recent article on the Kew switchboard.

Patrick Nutt (1953) wrote in November from Longwood, Pennsylvania concerning his travels during the year. He spent three weeks in Costa Rica which included a stay at Las Cruces Botanical Garden. His lecturing has also kept him travelling, to Newport Rhode Island, to the Morris Arboretum which, in a course of lectures, included one on aquatic gardening; and a lecture on the breeding of water lilies for the State horticultural society in Florida. Born on St. Patrick's Day in London, Patrick served an apprenticeship in Hendon Parks Department, moved on to Wisley to the R.H.S. School and then to



Left to right: John Warrington (currently in Guyana), Patrick Nutt and Andrew Pierce (Denver, Colorado).

Kew. At London University's Night School he studied entomology and majored in Botany. In 1953 he moved to the United States to take charge of the gardens at Malabar farm and four years later began his career at Longwood Gardens, first as a Section Head, and in 1973 becoming Foreman of Longwood's indoor plant collection. Now he is floriculturist at Longwood. Amongst his professional activities is included the hybridization of water lilies, resulting in the Longwood hybrid of Victoria. From **Diane Owens**, who visited Longwood this year, he received a copy of Kew Magazine, now well circulated. Other visitors included **John Warrington**, **Andrew Pierce**, **John Simmons** and **Hugh Flower**. Finally, Patrick hopes to visit Britain in 1993 with his orchid specialist.

Alan Paton: on 21st December 1990 a daughter, Katy, was born to Alan and Margaret.

William Porter (1930) wrote from his home in Southampton telling us of the death of **Robert Pennington**. He was assistant to Robert for many years and then took his office of Parks Superintendent on his retirement. William is now 88 and was widowed after almost 60 years of marriage on January 20th 1987.

Colin Porter (1983) whose address was unknown last year, is now living at **New Street**, Torrington, Devon, and is working for the R.H.S. at Rosemoor.

Kathleen Rattue has retired after 30 years service in the Library at Kew.

Jim Redman wrote from Lindsay, Ontario, where he was staying for a while, but still commuting between there and Florida! In February sadly Jim's wife died peacefully in her sleep, after nearly 50 years of marriage. We too, offer him our sympathy and condolences. Understandably Jim finds life lonely now but, with support from friends and neighbours, is managing to cope with this new chapter in his life. Jim would like to make a bequest to the Guild in memory of his wife and your committee is in correspondence with him on the matter.

Steve Renvoize had a three week study visit to Washington and Missouri in March to consult collections of grasses from Bolivia and Ecuador.

Peter Richardson (1990) is now living and working at Painshill Park, Cobham, Surrey.

During 1990 we received a letter from **S. Roberts** from Camborne, because he had read of the Guild's Centenary in the Rose Society's journal. He was a student at Kew from 1925-1928 and then moved to Llanelli and Cardiff.

Mark Reeder, who has returned to Britain after being away for four years, has now started his own business and is living again in the Midlands at Kenilworth.

Sadly we record the death of **Tom Sargeant** on September 13th. Our condolences to his family.

Errol Scarr (1967) is now President of the Institute of Park and Recreation Management for South Africa and details arrived through the Recreation Management Journal from early 1991. After leaving Kew in 1967 he married and returned to South Africa to rejoin Port Elizabeth Parks and Beaches Department in 1968. Moving on from there to Durban in 1969 where he was senior horticulturist, Deputy Director 1976-82 and Director to the present time. At the time of publication the department has a staff of 2,200.

Lester Searle (1987) and his wife have moved from Brisbane to Sydney, where he now has a job as Parks Overseer for a small urban council. His main comment was on the horticultural standard, which obviously need raising!

Frank Senogles (1949) wrote from Bristol with lots of information. He tells us this is the first time he has written in the 44 years since leaving Kew! (Perhaps this will stimulate others to put pen to paper for the Centenary Journal?) From 1949-52 he was horticultural instructor for Bristol University at what is now the Botanic Gardens. The following years to 1957 saw him as a rural studies teacher at Tidworth Down School (Wilts.) and from then to 1966 as Head of Horticulture at Newmarket School (West Suffolk). This was followed with a similar position at Matthew Arnold School (Berks.) until 1973, and then for the next 10 years at Farringdon School (Oxon.). It was then that Frank retired, moving west and buying a two acre field, a dilapidated barn plus owls and an old oak tree. With the renovation of the barn the owls moved house to the tree, so from their home Frank and his wife can watch the owls rear their young. They have planted a collection of trees on the land, many of which will inevitably mature when their lives

are completed. In his spare time Frank does some supply teaching/consultancy work and is Clerk to the Parish Council. He has visited Kew twice recently and keeps in touch with **Jim Ward** (U.S.A.), **Frank Constable** (Derby), **Ted Wray** (Humberside) and **Phil Haywood** (Cheshire).

John Simmons, Curator: During 1991 was appointed Vice Chairman of the N.C.C.P.G. and was asked to chair their strategy review. In Falmouth he gave a paper at an Institute of Horticulture Conference on developing diversification in public gardens; and later chaired a visiting Review Committee for Longwood Gardens, Pennsylvania, U.S.A. An invitation was extended whilst there to visit R.B.G. Hamilton, Canada by **Allen Paterson** (1958) which was celebrating its 50th anniversary. John was guest of honour at the annual prizegiving for students of the Duchy of Cornwall College, where **Alan Ketley** is Vice Principal. With **Lord Howick** (Howick Arboretum) **Charles Erskine** and **Bill McNamara** (Quarry Hill Botanic Garden), he visited the high mountain ranges of Western Sichuan on the border of Tibet as part of an expedition. They travelled to areas already visited by Rock and Wilson, as well as other areas never previously visited by foreign horticulturists.

Monique Simmonds and **Paula Rudall** both received promotions from S.S.O. to Grade 7.

Jock Slater, who latterly worked in the Temperate House, shares some reminiscences with us: for example, how in the late 1940s there was a 'sentry box' which contained a bucket and grass classifying it as a 'privvy' and which was emptied by two chaps from the Office of Works. He recalls meeting Dr. Bar, Assistant Director, who had worked in Indian forestry. He also remembers C. P. Raffill who, on a particularly busy Sunday evening and dressed in morning suit and Homburg hat, used some very colourful language to clear the Temperate House.

Charlie Sturton and **Rupert Hastings** both left Kew to visit for a month the National Botanic Garden of Brazil in Goiania. Whilst there they visited the University of Pernambuco and a reforestation project in Serido.

John Taylor wrote from New Zealand after becoming a member of the Guild Committee (retiring 1994). His health has been giving problems, but after a recent prostate operation is now much improved. A friend, **Des Riach** (1955), came to England and Europe last year to attend the Alpine Society's Conference, having retired as Superintendent of Grounds, North Canterbury Hospital board. John hopes to organise a reunion of New Zealand ex-Kewites during 1992, linked with the Centennial functions for the Wellington Botanic Gardens.

Alan Titchmarsh (1974) left his post as Supervisor of Staff Training at Kew in 1974 and subsequently got married and now has two daughters aged 11 and 9. He worked first as a gardening books editor for Hamlyn and eventually became Deputy Editor of *Amateur Gardening* magazine. Radio and television work, as well as freelance writing then began to take up so much of his time that he went completely freelance. He spent about ten years writing a couple of dozen books and then thought he'd probably done more than his fair share. Over the last five years he has broadened his broadcasting and now spends most of his time presenting and interviewing on BBC television and radio — everything from Pebble Mill and Points of View to Songs of Praise, as well as the more likely Chelsea Flower Show programme and a series called Titchmarsh's Travels. He is the only Kew student to have used his diploma as a means of getting his own chat show. He lives in Hampshire and is just about to plant a wood. In spite of the glamour of television, sap still courses through his veins and he writes a gardening column every Saturday for the *Daily Mail*.

John and **Linda Tuck** (1970) moved home in August 1991 from Newmarket, Suffolk, to Anlesey, Beds. John is now working as Principal Parks and Landscape Officer for North Herts. District Council. This district includes Letchworth Garden City, this country's first garden city. Our congratulations to John and Linda on their recent marriage in September 1990. John had been a widower since 1978.

Michael Tyas (1963) has moved from Coldstream, Berwickshire, to Cambridge.

Tim Upson (1989) is now based at Reading University in the Department of Botany.

Kaj Vollesen and **Sally Bidgood** both left Kew in early 1991 to travel to Tajania to collect plants in the Lindi and Mt. Wara regions. Kaj received promotion from S.S.O. to Grade 7.

Keith Woolliams (1963) moved house in Hawaii during the year.

Our condolences go to **Winifred Worth** (formerly Secretary of the Guild) on the death of her husband, Leslie, in November 1991.

OBITUARIES

Compiled by Graham Burgess



Leslie Royston Brown.

LESLIE ROYSTON BROWN

Leslie Royston Brown left Kew in 1950 and entered the Parks Department in Kingston.

In 1969 he moved to Ashford in Middlesex and ten years later to Bognor Regis.

He passed away on 5th October 1991 after a full life in the Parks Service. The Guild offers its condolences.

FRANK CLARKE, N.D.H.

Frank left Kew in May of 1932 and moved to Surbiton. In 1939 the Guild Journal records him being at Downshire House Gardens, Roehampton. In 1942 he was in a post as Assistant Horticultural Instructor at Shire Hall, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, with an N.D.H. to his credit.

In 1957 he became County Horticultural Organiser and there fostered the spirit of Kew. Frank Senoglis remembers applying for a post in the area and finding it saturated with old Kewites.

As well as looking after the members of his staff he found time to travel throughout the country attending lectures, quizzes and evening institutes. He met and re-met many of his Kewite colleagues on these occasions.

He retired in 1970 after 35 years with the Suffolk County Council, where he was still Horticultural Organiser. He then took up a part time consultancy job with Fisons.

He is greatly missed in Suffolk, and to his family we send our condolences.

W. J. CORKHILL

Jim Corkhill of Waen Rodyn, Bodfari, Denbeigh, Clywd, Wales died on the 5th November 1990 aged 81.

His working life began at the Bees Nursery in 1925. After gaining the essential practical experience, he entered Kew. The journey from Wales to England was only a beginning and with the knowledge and inspiration gained at Kew, he set off firstly to Catalonia.

In 1939 he was working in Khartoum as Parks and Gardens Officer.

He then went to Kenya as an agricultural adviser. It was in 1947 that he returned to Waen Rodyn to set up his own Nursery and wonderful garden.

According to his daughter, Anthea Romanos, Waen was the one place on earth that brought him ultimate joy and peace, his home by the River Wheeler — and his special bit of heaven — Eyarth Rocks.

His early life took root in these rocks and it was to them he returned. He was a very early member of the North Wales Naturalists Trust, a great naturalist, keen sailor and bee keeper.

To his family and friends the Guild sends condolences.



ROY A. HUDSON

Roy died on the 14th November 1991 after several years of ill health, aged 78 years.

He spent his early days at Chatsworth but came to Kew from Roundhay Park, Leeds, in December 1936. He became Foreman of the Palm House and No. 15. He was Captain of the Football team of 1938-39 season and this was the most successful team ever at Kew. He also played cricket for the Students' team which had a very good season.

He was called up into the Royal Artillery in 1940 and was captured at Singapore. He suffered great privations on the notorious railway. He was also on a Japanese ship being shipped back to Japan which was sunk by an American submarine. He was rescued sometime later by the same submarine and was taken back to America. After the war he went back to America and advised on the book 'Return to the River Kwai'. He appeared on the Ed Morrow show to tell of his experiences. He also advised on the film of the same name. Both Alma and Roy appeared on the Pebble Mill television programme.

After demobilisation he lived on two smallholdings, one in Yorkshire and one in Derbyshire. He eventually went to Devon where he became Head Gardener on a private estate in Newton Ferrers. Two years later he went to the Royal Naval College at Dartmouth where he was Head Gardener. He came to London in 1955 as Horticultural Advisor to the old G.L.C., where he stayed until he retired. He lectured at Pentonville prison in the evenings and spent many hours working for the blind. He helped them create gardens and one of his projects was Capel Gardens for the Blind in Hertfordshire.

He suffered from ill health for the last few years due, no doubt, to his experiences as a P.O.W. Roy was a most friendly fellow and his smile was like a ray of sunshine. Our sympathies to Alma and their daughter Gillian.

George S. Joy

DR. C. R. METCALFE, O.B.E.

Charles Metcalfe died on June 16th 1991 aged 86. He was born on September 11th 1904 in Whiteparish in the county of Wiltshire. He was educated at Marlborough College and Downy College, Cambridge. He studied Plant Pathology under F. T. Brooks and later moved to Reading University where he worked as a Research Assistant. His Ph.D. thesis in 1930 was on 'shab' disease of *Lavandula*. This was the year he came to Kew as Assistant Keeper of the Jodrell Laboratory.

At that time the Jodrell Laboratory carried out identification procedures using very basic equipment. This basic equipment remained at the core of his activities and properly used it provided the anatomical data essential to his work. In close collaboration with Dr. Lawrence Chalk, then at the Imperial Forestry Institute, Oxford, Charles commenced the systematic analysis of the Anatomy of Dicotyledons and later the Monocotyledons. The work took no heed of the normal span of working life for Charles and he worked on for 20 years of his retirement.

The books remain as a source of important knowledge and as foundation stones upon which others have built and will build in the future. This man was not a reclusive academic; his article in the Guild Journal describes the early Jodrell years through very caring eyes. In his anatomical studies all parts made the whole and so it was with his staff and colleagues; all were treated fairly and kindly.



As a student I remember the walk through wet and cold streets to his home where we in the Music Circle enjoyed classical music and Gwen's shortbread. He regularly attended Mutuals as well as other Kew functions. On the Guild's day trip to Oxford in 1990 he was to be seen enthusiastically talking to Ken Burras, eyes as bright as any student, under the trees in the arboretum.

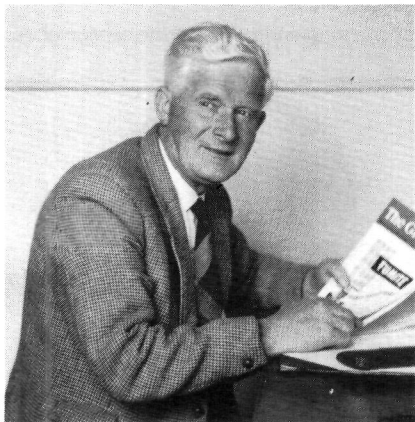
He was Founder member of the International Association of Wood Anatomists. He became a Fellow of the Linnaean Society in London in 1939, it's Botanical Secretary 1956-62 and was Vice President 1962-63; he received the Linnaean Medal in 1971 in recognition of his anatomical research. The Botanical Society of America and The Netherlands Botanical Society honoured him and in 1966 he was awarded an O.B.E.

His long service to Kew and his presence at most of the Kew Guild Dinners meant that he was known by many Kewites. All who met him liked him and all are saddened at his passing.

His wife Gwen died a few months before Charles, and his death is possibly a continuation elsewhere of a happy union shared for 58 years. They leave two sons to whom the Guild sends condolences.

WILLIAM PEARCE

William Pearce passed away on August 10th 1991 aged 83 years. He started work at the age of 14 training in private gardens. The Kew he entered in 1930 then attracted over 1.5 million visitors and still contributed to the colonial economy. An obituary to Wilson appeared in the Journal for that year, but Bill enjoyed the company of illustrious Kewites who were not to be taken so young.



Frank Knight, a lifelong friend, had encouraged Bill to join Kew's ranks and once at Kew Bill threw himself wholeheartedly into many of its activities. This included the River Thames, where in competition with other hardy souls, he swam the mile from Isleworth Gate to Kew Bridge, his time being 19 minutes and 45 seconds. He lectured on Ericas to the Mutual Improvement Society on November 30th 1931, and played regularly in the Football Team. He shared digs with Roy Romsey, now in Australia, in Burlington Avenue, Kew.

He left Kew in 1933 to join the renowned Commercial Nursery of Birkwood and Skipwiths in Kingston upon Thames and then on to Ent-Tout-Cas Nurseries in Syston, Leicestershire. In 1937 he moved into Local Authority work with Buckinghamshire County Council where he was responsible for setting up a tree production nursery and carrying out planting in the southern half of the county. By this time he had been joined by his dear wife Nancy whom he married in 1935.

In 1939 he was seconded to the Bucks War Agricultural Department where, with a team of Land Girls and Conscientious Objectors, he grew food for Britain. At that time Bill felt the playing fields of Eton beneath his feet, but only prior to ploughing some of them up for food production.

In 1946 he moved to Gloucestershire as Nursery Manager of Forest Products Nursery where he grew a vast number of trees, shrubs, Rhododendrons and Heathers, many destined for the Rhondda Valley. Whilst supplying Cardiff Parks Department he became a life-long friend of Mr. W. Nelmes.

In 1953, with help from Frank Knight, he applied for the position of Superintendent of Parks and Open Spaces on the newly built Kent Oil Refinery site at the Isle of Grain. The site was like a mini-town and in addition to its layout he grew flowers and plants for decoration. Weed

control was especially difficult as the explosive nature of the site precluded ordinary petrol driven machines. Bill's answer to the 2,000 acre weed control problem was 1,000 sheep, two shepherds and seven dogs!

He started the BP Horticultural Society for the refinery workers and through the annual shows and his frequent lectures passed on his knowledge in the best Kew tradition.

Retirement in BP comes along at 60 years of age. Bill's response was to buy Pound Farm in Herefordshire. On this 16 acre small-holding he kept a flock of 40 breeding ewes and laid out beautiful flower gardens and orchards. After 12 years Bill began to slow down so he and his wife Nancy bought a bungalow near to their son David.

In 1989 a man with so many memories found they were fading away. Alzheimer's Disease was diagnosed.

He became convinced he was still working at Kew, especially when he went to a Day Centre at a large house in Weston. Unfortunately he had a heart attack in July, fell down steps and broke his hip. He never got over the heart attack and operation. He died on August 10th 1991.

On October 12th Nancy, with her son, his wife and grandchild, took Bill's ashes back to Pound Farm where the ancient circle of dust to dust was completed. An English oak was planted in memoriam to Bill. He is being very much missed by his wife and family to whom we send our condolences.

NOEL JAMES PROCKTER, F.L.S.

In February 1991, at the age of 80, Noel left us after a long and full life in the service of our profession.

In the old tradition he started work early at the age of 16 and soon found himself at the Nurseries of J. Cheal and Son of Crawley. He there met Tom Sargeant, an early mentor and Kewite, who persuaded Noel to become a Student Gardener at Kew.

He entered Kew on the 5th July 1935 at a time when Dallimore and Osborne poured out their enthusiasm and knowledge to the young students. He spent time in the Palm House, Decorative and Tropical Departments finishing his training as Sub-foreman in the Rock Garden.

His communication skills were developed with the Mutual Improvement Society where, as Secretary, he won the Hooker Prize. His collection of British Flora won him the Proudlock Prize.

He left Kew in November 1937 to return to Cheals, eventually becoming Manager. He stayed in the trade until 1946 when he joined *Amateur Gardener* as Assistant Editor under the late A. J. Macself and A. G. L. Hellyer, both prodigious writers. One cannot measure the contribution this magazine has made to the world of gardening, bringing to ordinary people in their millions many of the skills and wonders we are privileged to learn about in the profession.

He wrote several books, carried out pioneering work in television and was instrumental in forming many societies, not least the Hardy Plant Society.

His contribution to the Guild has been enormous, bringing to its committees in a strong, quiet and gentlemanly way, sound knowledge and a sense of history. He was our President in 1973-74.



He always had other gardeners at heart and was appointed to the Council of Gardeners Royal Benevolent Society.

His wife Sybil still works daily in their garden in the New Forest, where his soul surely walks. To Sybil and their two sons we pass on the Guild's condolences at their loss.

PERCY ROBERTSHAW

Percy Robertshaw was born in 1897 in Bilton, near York. He was educated at All Saints School and St. Martins Grammar School, Scarborough and in 1911 joined Walshaw's Nurseries, where he became Head Propagator.

From 1915 to 1919 he served with the R.A.M.C. in France, Salonica and Italy.

In 1920 he became a student at Kew and trained in the Tropical Department. He was then appointed on a three year contract by His Highness the Maharajah of Nawanagar (Prince Ranji Sinji) to construct a layout of 500 acres for the new palace and he also assisted Sir Edwin Lutyens in organising a State Gardens Department in India.



From 1925 to 1928 he was the Horticultural Instructor at a training centre in Cheshire and as a member of the Horticultural Education Association was involved in visiting county instructional centres and attending conferences in connection with the training of horticulturists.

In 1928, having declined the offer of the Curatorship of the Cambridge Herbarium, Percy Robertshaw took up an appointment with a private employer, Mr. G. W. Hawley of the United Tobacco Co. in Kenilworth, Cape Town, South Africa.

In December 1929 he became Superintendent of Parks at Durban, Natal. The position was subsequently re-designated Director of Parks and Gardens, thus including the Botanic Gardens, beaches, cemeteries, aviaries and recreation.

He joined the choir of St. Pauls Church and he and his wife were members there until they moved to Winston Park in 1980. He was also a

member of the Durban Male Voice Party and the Durban Municipal Choir.

Whilst a member of a scout troop in England he was awarded the honour of the "Silver Wolf" for bravery in stopping a runaway horse. In Durban he became a District Commissioner and also a member of the South African Scout Council. For several years he was a member of the Durban Rotary Club and the Sons of England Association.

In 1934 he was elected a Fellow of the Association of Superintendents of Public Parks (South Africa). In 1938 elected a Fellow of the Institute of Parks Administration (inc.) Britain. He was President of the South African Association in 1938/39 and presided over the Durban Conference in 1939 when he proposed that they apply for a charter as an Institute. The Charter was received in 1944.

In 1986, as a guest at a 'Past Presidents' Night' at the Conference of the Institute of Parks and Recreation Administration (SA) at Braamfontein, Johannesburg, he was made an honorary life member and presented with a certificate "as a token of appreciation of his long and loyal service in fostering the objects of the Institute". He greatly appreciated this gesture.

During World War II he served with the Civilian Defence Force as an area Air Raid Warden. He was pleased and interested to meet several Kewites who visited Durban in transit as members of His Majesty's Forces. Also during this time he gave weekly gardening talks on the radio under the name of "Japonica".

Having retired from municipal services in the late forties, he then supervised the construction of bowling greens at some of the large holiday hotels in the Drakensberg in Natal.

In 1985 he and his wife visited their daughter in England and attended the Annual Kew Dinner held at Imperial College, London. It so happened that Mr. Errol Scarr, the present Director of Parks, Durban, was on a brief business visit to England and was also a guest that evening.

Percy Robertshaw married Florence Comfort of Richmond, Surrey, in 1922 and they celebrated their Diamond Wedding in 1982. His wife died in 1985 during their visit to England. He died on 2nd December 1988 at the age of 91, in Winston Park, Natal, leaving two daughters, a son, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

THOMAS SARGEANT

When I compile the Obituaries I have the Journals stacked in decades. It is not very often that one reaches for Vol. III Journals, the last issue of which was 1920.

Thomas was born on May 13th 1890 and at the age of one was brought to the estate of one J. H. Tritton, one of the Founders of Barclays Bank, where his father, a miller, settled.

A Kewite called C. Wakeley advised a course at the East Anglia Institute of Horticulture. He subsequently trained in commercial horticulture and private gardens, finishing this pre-Kew experience at Merrow Grange near Guildford. The then owner, Baring Gould, had amassed a fine collection of Veitch collected Chinese material. F. J. Chittenden who was on the laboratory staff at East Anglia kept a watchful eye on Thomas and suggested he apply for a position at Kew.

He entered Kew in February 1911. In October 1912 he left to re-enter the commercial world. In 1939 the war broke out and Thomas served with the original Royal Flying Corps and later with the Royal Air Force. After the war he went to Cheals. He later moved to Stewarts of Ferndown and then to Carters Tested Seeds where he took charge of the Nursery and Garden Construction Department.



During the Second War he was a warden during work hours and in the evening a Home Guard soldier.

Towards the end of the war another famous nurseryman, G. R. Jackman, invited him to join the firm as a Co-Director. He was elected President to the Guild for 1955-56.

In 1969 he moved closer to his son in Haywards Heath and at nearly 80 started making a new garden with his wife.

He was a kindly man and thought often of younger Kewites, taking the trouble to express his best wishes. Few live as long as he did and few have such remarkable careers.

He passed away on Friday September 20th at home and in peace. To his family we send our condolences.

JEAN THOMPSON

Jean Thompson died rather suddenly in Texas in April 1991. She took a Diploma Course in Horticulture, 1934-36 and resided at St. Andrews Hall.

During the War she worked at Kew Gardens, and whilst the VIs and VIIs were falling she was employed in the glass houses. She did her stint of fire watching and all in all she did not have an easy war.

In 1944, she married an American soldier, Bill Farmer, and went out to the States with hundreds of other G.I. brides in 1946 with an eight-month old son. She had another son later and subsequently had five grandchildren. She worked very hard indeed to see her two sons through College and both boys have done well.

Bill died 21 years ago and for 19 of those years Jean was a lonely woman. Two years ago she met and married a widower and had two very happy years with this "dear, kind man" — her own words.

Jean would have been 76 on her next birthday. She suffered a number of serious and distressing illnesses, all most courageously accepted.

She and Jim Pitcher (her second American husband), came to England last September for a short visit. Though she lived so many years in America, Jean never lost her love and devotion for England and all things English.

BRIAN TILL

Brian Till was born in Johannesburg on 11th November 1931 and matriculated at Jeppe High School. He then joined the Johannesburg Parks and Recreation Department as a pupil horticulturist, starting his training at Rhodes Park, Kensington, under Bob Hobson, Les Prosser and Ben Ter Kuile. He completed his N.T.C.I.I.I. and in 1952 he enrolled as a student at the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew in England and attained the highest marks for Landscape Planning.



After graduating, Brian worked in London for a further two years before returning to Johannesburg. After another two years he left the Johannesburg Parks and Recreation Department and spent some time designing and laying out gardens before being appointed Divisional Horticulturist with the Verneeniging Parks and Estates Department under Syd Baker.

In 1962 Brian was appointed to a post of Superintendent of Parks in Carletonville. This was a brand new Department which afforded him the opportunity of designing and laying out parks, childrens' play areas and open spaces.

On 1st October 1967, Brian was appointed to the position of Director of Parks and Recreation Department in Kempton Park. In 1969 he was appointed to the Executive Committee of the Institute of Park and Recreation Administration (Southern Africa) and subsequently chaired the Technical Training Committee for many years and was elected President at the Nelspruit Congress in September 1980.

Brian continued to serve on the Executive Committee and he and Noreen were able to travel overseas on several occasions and, when possible, visit Kew Gardens. Brian wrote many interesting articles of these trips for the Guild Journal. He spent much time painting and had several exhibitions which drew considerably attention. The growing of orchids and photography were some of his many hobbies.

Brian contracted a terminal illness during 1989, which he bore bravely and cheerfully until the end.

This very talented member of the Guild will be sadly missed by his colleagues, friends and all those interested in preserving the beauty of our environment.

To Noreen, who has been a tower of strength during this very difficult period, our love and strength goes out to you.

Gilbert Briscoe

KEW GUILD INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1991

INCOME

	31.12.91		31.12.90	
	£	£	£	£
Annual Subscriptions and Arrears	4,172.79		4,188.36	
Donations — General	281.03		1,160.00	
— Award Scheme	130.00		297.00	
E. A. Dallimore Legacy	14,700.79		—	
George Catt Legacy (Residue)	868.48		—	
Edna Redman Memorial Fund	25,731.49		—	
		45,884.58		5,645.36
Dividends from Charities Investment Fund				
— General Account	1,140.83		1,094.10	
— Award Scheme	427.11		409.62	
		1,567.94		1,503.72
Bank Interest				
— General High Interest Account	1,537.99		1,279.05	
— Award Scheme High Interest Account	906.62		818.01	
— Charities Deposit Fund	1,620.09		1,963.45	
		4,064.70		4,060.51
Sale of Emblems	117.00		112.50	
Less: value of Stock	(92.40)		(87.47)	
		24.60		25.03
Annual Dinner Receipts	1,793.00		2,141.50	
Less: cost	(1,765.30)		(1,895.11)	
		27.70		246.39
Award Scheme Soirée	226.62		157.49	
Sale of Journals	—		9.00	
Journal Adverts	645.00		—	
		871.62		166.49
		52,441.14		11,647.50
EXPENDITURE				
Kew Guild Journal — Printing	4,530.00		3,407.00	
Prizes awarded by the Guild	190.00		168.00	
Honorary Officer's expenses	50.00		—	
Printing, Postage, Stationery	331.53		660.82	
Award Scheme Awards	1,825.00		1,350.00	
Insurance	40.57		48.47	
Bank Charges and Commission	443.50		442.30	
Centenary Anthology	682.12		—	
Legal Fees	325.25		—	
Sundry	40.00		—	
Smith Book Conservation	—		3,000.00	
		8,457.97		9,076.59
EXCESS OF INCOME		43,983.17		2,570.91

KEW GUILD BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 1991

	31.12.91	31.12.90
	£	£
INVESTED ASSETS		
Charities Official Investment Fund		
— General Fund	4,000.00	4,000.00
— Award Scheme Fund	19,700.00	2,000.00
Charities Deposit Fund	<u>13,370.00</u>	<u>13,370.00</u>
	37,070.00	19,370.00
CURRENT ASSETS		
Stock — Emblems	811.77	904.17
— Past Presidents Jewel	400.00	400.00
	<u>1,211.77</u>	<u>1,304.17</u>
Bank — General High Interest Account	36,906.62	9,848.53
— Award Scheme High Interest Account	6,219.06	6,825.54
— Current Account	676.98	753.02
	<u>45,014.43</u>	<u>18,731.26</u>
LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Life Subscriptions	<u>(135.97)</u>	<u>(135.97)</u>
	44,878.46	18,595.29
NET ASSETS	<u>81,948.46</u>	<u>37,965.29</u>
FINANCED BY		
Capital Fund	37,965.29	35,394.38
Add Excess Income Over Expenditure	43,983.17	2,570.91
	<u>81,948.46</u>	<u>37,965.29</u>

Rebecca M. Bower
Hon. Treasurer

Audited and found correct L. A. Pemberton
J. R. Woodhams
25th January 1992

Note: Donations received from members during the year included those from A. E. Boreman, L. R. Brown, M. J. Griffin, C. J. Mitchelmore, W. Nelmes, N. J. Pearce, B. Pitcher and the Kew Students' Fete Committee.

LIST OF R.B.G. STAFF, HONORARY RESEARCH ASSOCIATES AND STUDENT MEMBERS OF THE KEW GUILD

(as at 31st December, 1991)

Staff:

Andrews, Miss S.	Field, D. V.	Lucas, Prof. G.
Atkins, Mrs. S.	FitzGerald, Miss S. M.	Maunder, M.
Barnes, D.	Fliegner, H. J.	Owens, Dr. S. J.
Bell, Miss S.	Foster, C.	Owens, Ms D.
Beyer, R. I.	Godfrey, M.	Polhill, Mrs. D.
Bower, Miss R. M.	Hale, A. J.	Prance, Prof. G. T.
Brewster, P.	Harley, Dr. R. M.	Ravenhall, Mrs. T.
Brummit, Dr. R. K.	Hayes, Mrs. D.	Reynolds, Dr. T. A.
Burkill, H. M.	Henchie, S. J.	Sands, M. J.
Bustard, Miss L.	Hennessy, D.	Simmons, J. B. E.
Churcher, Mrs. M. P.	Jackson, A.	Sparrow, M.
Cowley, Mrs. E. J.	Jackson, Mrs.	Staniforth, M.
Cutler, Dr. D. F.	Johns, Prof. R. J.	Walley, Valerie
Edwards, P. J.	Leese, I.	Walley, D. A.
Evans, Ms J.	Long, Miss M. P.	Weekly, R. J.
Fellows, Dr. L. E.	Lonsdale, J.	Woodhams, J. R.

Students:

Brent, M.	Kell, Shelagh P.	Pendlebury, T.
Brett, R.	Kelly, Miss S.	Spencer, M. A.
Gardner, D.	Kidd, C. D.	Upson, T.*
Golledge, Miss W.	Lawson, Miss J.	Wei, Y.
Herwerth, A. J.	Lind, Miss A.	Wiedwald, Birgit
Jacobs, Miss C.	Martin, Miss R. A.	Zundel, Miss S.

*Plant Science Laboratory, Department of Botany, University of Reading, Whitenights, Reading, Berks.



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Kew Guild Members are particularly welcome as Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.



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Kew Guild Awards Scheme

Annually in March, awards are available to Guild members (who have been members for at least one year immediately prior to application) to fund activities within the categories listed below:

- To assist purposeful travel (fares and subsistence)
- To finance specialist lectures
- To assist members' further education
- To assist in the purchase of books and equipment
- To pay tuition or examination fees
- To provide grants to aid publication of specialist books or papers
- To assist pensioner member to attend Chelsea Show/Dinner
- Any other project which the Awards Scheme Sub-committee may find acceptable.

Awards are generally in the range £50-£500.

In addition two further Awards are available:

The Tom Arnold Bursary — to support a student Guild member undertaking studies in the Nursery Trade (c. £180).

The Edna Redmond Bursary — a discrete sum awarded within the general categories listed above.

Applications for Award should be made to the Secretary, Kew Guild Awards Scheme, c/o The Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, before March 1st each year, though applications may be considered at other times.



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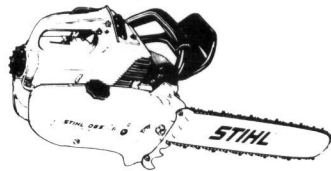
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Dear Kewite,

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GOLDEN GUESTS AT THE KEW GUILD CENTENARY DINNER 1993

We are planning the Centenary Dinner to be held in the Dinosaur Hall of the Natural History Museum on May 21st or 22nd, 1993.

It will be a prestigious occasion when it is hoped our Royal Patron will attend. Paid up Kew Guild members have the opportunity to celebrate this unique event in a very special way. For the sum of £500 you may become a Golden Guest. You will receive two personalised tickets which will guarantee you seats at the Dinner. You will also receive two free copies of our Centenary Book 'A Century of Kew Plantsmen' signed personally by the Authors, Ray Desmond and Nigel Hepper. You will be asked to individually stand up at the Dinner by our President and be recognised. And finally, you may place a 1/5 page message in an exclusive section in our Centenary Journal.

Golden Guest seats for the Dinner are strictly limited and in great demand, so you are encouraged to send in your application by the end of October. (No Golden Guest tickets will be sold after 31st December.) Remaining standard tickets will be allocated with the usual application forms in April 1993.

All profit from Golden Guest supporters will go towards producing the Centenary Journal and Kew Guild funds.

Please use the tear off slip below.

Yours sincerely,

F. Nigel Hepper
President

To: D. J. Breach, Dinner Organiser, 29 Beaulieu Drive, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 1NB.

Please enrol me as a Golden Guest for the Kew Guild Centenary Dinner.

I enclose my payment of £500, payable to 'Kew Guild Golden Guest'.

The names of ticket holders will be:

.....
.....

I also enclose my message to the Guild for 1/5 page inclusion in the Journal, together with artwork/typed detail.

Name:

Address:

.....
.....

Telephone No.: