

THE JOURNAL OF THE KEW GUILD

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The Association of members of the Kew staff past and present

Events of 1993

Published in 1994

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**Royal Botanic Gardens
Kew**

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ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW

THE KEW GUILD

Patron: Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra

THE KEW GUILD COMMITTEE 1993-94

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 Honorary Editor: R. C. Ward
 Events Officer: T. Risely

Committee Members:

Retire 1994

| | |
|---------------|-------------|
| Ms. S. Bell | Kew |
| K. Pearson | Sussex |
| B. F. Pitcher | London |
| J. O. Taylor | New Zealand |

Retire 1995

| | |
|----------------|---------|
| G. Fraser | Sussex |
| I. Leese | Kew |
| M. Pitman | Kew |
| Rev. H. Flower | Redhill |

Retire 1996

| | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| D. McGuffog | Tunbridge Wells |
| M. Biggs | Brentford |
| P. Boyce | Kew |
| J. Redman | Canada |

Retire 1997

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| Ms D. Owens | Kew |
| A. Hart | London |
| P. Styles | Powys |
| M. Bental | South Africa |

Award Scheme Chair: K. Pearson
 Honorary Auditors: I. Leese and K. Pearson
 Students' Union Representatives: Ms S. Kell, B. Murrell

EDITORIAL

I remember, during the Centenary year, persuading the Committee of the Kew Guild that we *should* distribute *Journals* to members at the Centenary Dinner, thus saving postage and effecting better and faster communication. And as we sat down for that Dinner, beneath the Dinosaurs in the Natural History museum, it was obvious that those who put the most in to the Kew Guild get the most out of it.

Did you attend the Dinner? Have you ever done so? Have you written to the Secretary or Editor with your news or views? Have you ever helped the Award Scheme which helps so many members itself; or introduced a past Kew colleague to membership of the Guild? We need the active support of every member to enable the Guild to function at its best, and I therefore ask you to make a special effort this year (see also p. 260). You have the names and addresses of all Committee members in this *Journal* — the rest is up to you.

Secretary Sandy Atkins, c/o Herbarium, R.B.G. Kew, Surrey TW9 3AB. Tel: 081 332 5242.

Membership Secretary Jill Conley, c/o Herbarium, R.G.B. Kew, Surrey TW9 3AB. Tel: 081 332 5259.

Editor Richard Ward, 62 Mortlake Road, Kew, Surrey TW9 4AT. Tel: 081 948 2970.

Keep in touch.

Richard C. Ward

Hon. Editor

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Your support matters. We suggest a 'donation' of £40 quarter page, £60 half page and £100 whole page. Cheque payable to "The Kew Guild". Add £10 for non-members if a *Journal* is required, incl. p & p, and send to the Editor. Enclose your advertisement (sizes at the back of this *Journal*) together with logos etc. We will return your copy if requested, and you will be sent the proofs for checking before publication.

Your advertisement will reach about 600 Kewites around the world! Do it!

Name

Address

.....

.....

Telephone number:

JOHN OSBORNE TAYLOR, M.B.E., N.D.H. (N.Z.) Hons., A.H.R.I.H.

President 1993/94



Born in New Zealand in 1925, John Taylor's horticultural career was prompted by the economic times of the late 1930's. A 'trainee' position became available at the Christchurch Botanic Gardens in 1940 and he was selected from a group of applicants to begin a five year course under the guidance of a former New Zealand Kewite, J. A. McPherson (1924). His intense interest in and dedication to horticulture was interrupted when he joined the Royal New Zealand Navy as an officer cadet in 1944 but this had its rewarding side for he was at H.M.S.

Raleigh in Plymouth when the war ended. From here he wrote to the Curator of Kew seeking to become a student and he also visited Kew when on leave but to no avail. A third request before returning to New Zealand was passed on by the Curator, W. M. Campbell to the Director, Sir Edward Salisbury. An acceptance telegram arrived and John began his two years at Kew in November, 1945.

To him, being a student at Kew was the privilege of a lifetime and to be able to sit in on the lectures by men such as Dr. C. R. Metcalfe, Dr. W. B. Turrell, Sir Edward Salisbury, L. Stenning, W. J. C. Lawrence, G. Fox-Wilson, W. M. Campbell, S. A. Pearce and many others was an unbelievable experience. He was awarded the C. P. Raffill Prize in 1947. Returning to New Zealand in 1948, he became foreman at the Christchurch Botanic Gardens and in 1949, after being granted student fellowships, he continued his studies in the United States. He first went to the Arnold Arboretum and studied under the Professor of Botany at Harvard, Dr. Karl Sax, and then to the New York Botanical Gardens with T. H. Everett, (Kew, 1927). Prior to going to America he gained the N.D.H.(N.Z.) and won the Cockayne Gold Medal (top New Zealand student).

Back in New Zealand in 1951 he became Assistant Curator at the Christchurch Botanic Gardens until 1954, when two events occurred which changed his career path. A commercial wholesale nursery opportunity opened up and he married Morag and together they celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary this year.

The nursery business flourished with a permanent staff of 18 and when an offer to purchase the company was such that it was difficult to say no, he sold and remained as manager of the horticultural division for five years.

In 1972 he was appointed Senior Lecturer at Lincoln University to initiate a diploma course in Parks and Recreation Administration with some teaching responsibilities in turf culture, arboriculture and amenity horticulture. When he retired in 1986, tourism has been added to the course and a bachelors degree introduced. Throughout John Taylor's career he has been actively involved in horticultural and parks training and this was recognised in 1979 when he was awarded the M.B.E. For many years he was on the executive of the N.Z. Institute of Park and Recreation Administration and his services to training and research of the Institute were recognised by him being made an Honorary Life Fellow in 1985. In 1991 he received the Ian Galloway Memorial Award for 'Outstanding services, achievement and professionalism'.

For six years he was Chairman of the Executive of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture and he was elected an Associate of Honour in 1973 and its President in 1991. For over 25 years he was a member of the examining board of the Institute and for eight years he was National Moderator for the oral and practical examinations.

In his retirement he has been President of the Canterbury Horticultural Society, which is in its 133rd year, with around 2,500 members. The library in the Society's new million dollar headquarters has been named the Taylor Library. In 1989-90 he was Co-ordinator for the New Zealand stand and garden display at the six month Expo 93 in Osaka, Japan.

He has been a member of Rotary for over 30 years and has been President of his club. In 1993 he was made a Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary. His close knit family of three, together with six grandchildren, keep Morag and himself out of mischief, although his passion for plants never wanes. He amuses himself with 60,000 Sandersonia bulbs in a hide-away patch from which the flowers and bulbs are exported to Japan.

COLIN HINDMARCH

Vice President (1992-1994)

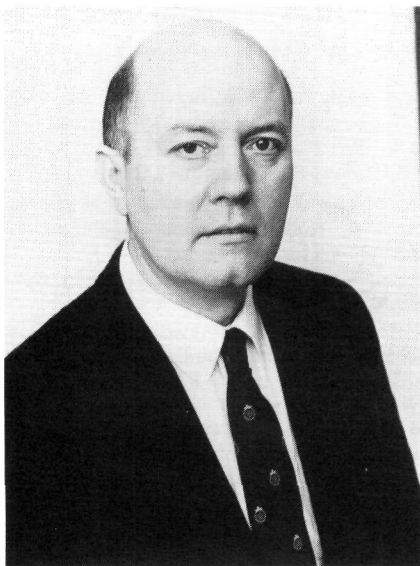
Colin was born in Sunderland on the 24th August 1945 and spent much of his early life in nearby Seaham Harbour, except for a brief stay in Seahouses on the Northumbrian coast. He came to Kew as a student in 1965 by way of Houghall Institute of Agriculture, which he attended while an apprentice gardener with the Sunderland Hospital Authority.

On leaving Kew in 1965, he returned to the North East to pursue postgraduate landscape studies at Newcastle University. On graduation in 1970, he was appointed to the County Planning Authority in Hampshire, where he is now employed as a Principal Officer in the Conservation Group. Over the years, his work has involved him in a wide range of strategic planning matters concerned with the health of Hampshire's environment. This has included both policy formulation and the defence of policy at planning inquiries.

Colin complements this policy level work (which can be a little rarefied at times) by maintaining an involvement in field research (his Doctoral thesis on species diversity is being concluded at the moment), and by helping a number of local organisations with the training of environmental scientists. He has taught at both Southampton University and Southampton Institute of Higher Education and is currently on the validation panel for Southampton Institute's Honours Degree in Maritime Environmental Science.

Colin has served on the Governing Council of the Institute of Biology (1989-1993) and now chairs its Conference Co-ordinating Committee and its Wessex Branch. He is also involved with the British Ecological Society's Ecological Affairs Committee.

Colin and his wife Valerie live in Romsey, Hampshire, and have three sons: Paul, Justin and Charles; and a daughter, Emma.



Photograph: Pat Silence, Romsey

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE KEW GUILD

By **Sandy Atkins**, Hon. Secretary

On the wet Saturday afternoon of September 11th, 1993, 44 members assembled in the Jodrell Lecture Theatre for the Annual General Meeting. The President, Professor G. T. Prance, was in the chair and the Secretary, Mrs. Sandy Atkins recorded the minutes.

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 G.H. Addison, A. H. V. Borrett, P. W. C. Davies, K. Evans, B. A. Martin, W. Nemes, L. A. Richardson, J. Slater.

The minutes of the 1992 A.G.M. which had been printed in the *Journal* were approved as a true record. There were not matters arising from those minutes which were not included on the agenda.

The Secretary's Report: Mrs. S. Atkins reported that the Committee has met four times since the last A.G.M. All the events of the Centenary year had been a great success and letters had been received from far and wide congratulating the Guild on its first 100 years. A detailed report of all the events was given by Mr. M. Sands later in the agenda.

Mrs. Atkins reported on a further item with which the Committee had been involved, and that was the restoration of William Aiton's tomb in St. Anne's churchyard, Kew Green. This was still in the process of negotiation.

The Secretary reminded those present that there were still three lectures to run in the Centenary Lecture series, the next being that by the Director at the R.H.S., in London on 15th September. There was also the Winchester event to come on 16th October, where talks would be given by John Simmons, Nigel Hepper and Iain Prance, following a Civic Reception at Winchester Town Hall. Again members were encouraged to attend.

Membership Secretary's Report: Mrs. J. Cowley reported that there were now 544 members of which 62 were staff members, 31 student, 376 standard, of which eight are Trustees of R.B.G. Kew, 66 life and nine Corporate.

The overall number was not much greater than last year, but 40 members had been deleted from the database at the end of the year, due to non-payment of subscription after several reminders.

The Committee decided not to implement the Joint Membership proposal put to the last A.G.M.

The question of reduced subscriptions for retired members was put forward at the June Committee meeting. The Committee felt that the subscription was already very low and should not be reduced further. If there are cases of genuine hardship, members can always apply to the Award Scheme.

The following members had changed their address without communicating their new one, and correspondence had been returned. Anyone knowing the new address of the following, were asked to please let the Membership Secretary know.

D. Francis from New Barnet — left Kew 1983

W. G. Rutter from Birmingham — left Kew 1928

J. W. Jordan moved to Greece — left Kew 1956

Treasurer's Report: Ms R. Bower reported that the accounts had been published on pages 218 and 219 of the 1992 *Journal*. Thanks to the work of the Membership Secretary there had been a good increase in the annual subscriptions and a lot of arrears had been collected during 1992. The Charities Investment Fund had increased, and the Awards Committee had been able to give extra awards. However, bank interest rates were down, and there had been a good deal of extra costs during the Centenary Year. Altogether 1992 had been a satisfactory year financially.

Editor's Report: Mr. R. Ward thanked all the contributors for providing the copy for the *Centenary Journal*. He also thanked the printer, Brian Rowling for his generosity, and John Gaggini for his success with procuring advertising. Mr. Ward also put in a plea for advertisers for next year. The Editor commented that he would not be able to carry on as Editor for ever, and that if there were any volunteers interested in learning the skill of editing the *Kew Guild Journal*, he would be interested in hearing from them.

Events Officer's Report: Mr. D. Breach reported that at the special Centenary Dinner, held in the presence of the Kew Guild Patron, H.R.H. the Princess Alexandra, 202 diners sat down at table. The evening went very well and was a great success. Mr. Breach went on to thank all those who had helped, and made a special mention of his wife, Barbara. He was regrettably standing down as Events Officer at this A.G.M., and he wished his successor every success.

Award Scheme Report: Mr. K. Pearson reported that the Sub-Committee had met three times in the past 12 months. At the meeting in March the decisions concerning awards were made. The standard of application was high and 18 students were assisted to attend the Centenary Dinner. The following were also assisted: S. Miller, R. Brett, D. Francis, R. Martin, S. Kell, C. Kidd, S. Piebenga and a special needs grant to Ted Storey, a Past President of the Guild. Mr. Pearson reminded the meeting that the Award Scheme was for the benefit of all the membership, and urged members to use the Scheme to further their work or studies. Mr. Pearson reported that there had been some money left from the sponsorship from British Rail which would, with their approval, go towards a travel grant. Mr. Pearson ended by thanking all the members of his Sub-Committee.

Centenary Sub-Committee Report: The President intervened to thank Martin Sands for his work as Chairman of the Centenary Sub-Committee. Mr. Sands thanked the President for the

vote of thanks and went on to report that his Sub-Committee had met 38 times over five or six years. He went on to itemise the happenings of the year, starting with the beginning of 1992 when the text for the special Centenary publication '*A Century of Kew Plantsmen*' was ready for press. On 4th November 50 members of staff and students assembled on Kew Green and planted 10,000 bulbs in 45 minutes. These all flowered in the spring of the Centenary year, and made a fantastic sight.

The Centenary Raffle was launched and Mr. Sands thanked K. Pearson for organising the whole raffle.

During the core fortnight there had been the Book Launch at the Victoria Gate Centre, the Centenary Dinner and here Mr. Sands thanked Derek and Barbara Breach for organising this very successful and enjoyable evening, the veterans Clog and Apron Race and the inauguration of the new Kew Guild Room in the Herbarium, which held the Presidents' Boards which had been executed by the artist Kenneth Brease and showed the Coat of Arms in full colour. Most of this work had been financed from bequests and legacies, primarily from Edwin Cherry, Charles Stock and George Catt. Archival cupboards had also been installed, made by John Pulsford.

Earlier in the day of the A.G.M. the Centenary Exhibition in the Tropics area of the Princess of Wales Conservatory had been officially opened. The sponsorship for this had come from British Rail — Network South-East. Mr. Sands thanked Sylvia FitzGerald who had chaired the Exhibition Sub-Committee, Kenwyn Pearson who had organised the special buffet lunch and Graham Burgess who had set up the link with British Rail.

There still remained several lectures in the Centenary lecture series. These included the President's lecture at the R.H.S., Brian Mathew's lecture that evening, Tony Schilling's lecture at Kew at the end of October and Gren Lucas' lecture at the Linnean Society in November. Mr. Sands thanked Barry Phillips for organising the series.

There was also the special event in Winchester on 16th October organised by Colin Hindmarch. All in all it had been a very exciting year and again Mr. Sands thanked everyone who had been involved.

Students' Prize Day: The President reported that the Students' Prize Day had taken place on Friday 10th September, and that the prizes had been presented by Lord Aberconway, V.M.H., President Emeritus of the Royal Horticultural Society and the vote of thanks was given by Robin Herbert, Chairman of the Trustees. The theme of Lord Aberconway's speech had been the importance of horticulture and the importance of training, together with the very strong links between the R.H.S. and Kew. The Guild was thanked by the President for the many awards it gives every year to the horticultural students.

Election of Officers: The President thanked all the retiring members of the Committee. The recommendations of the Committee were unanimously agreed 'en bloc' and their names appear at the beginning of the *Journal*.

Auditors' Report: The Auditors reported that they had scrutinised the Guild accounts and found them to be in order.

Any Other Business: There was no other business.

Installation of new President: The outgoing President, Professor G. T. Prance, summed up his very exciting year of office and wished his succeeding President a good year. He read out a letter from the new President, John O. Taylor, who is resident in New Zealand, and then ceremoniously removed the chain of office and in the absence of the next President, laid it on the table.

There followed a vote of thanks to the President from the Vice President, Mr. John Woodhams.

Date of next Annual General Meeting: 10th September, 1994.

At the end of the A.G.M. the Centenary raffle was drawn and the prizes given as follows:

The R.H.S. Dictionary
Colour T.V.

B. Waters, Berks.
T. Chamberlain, Herts.

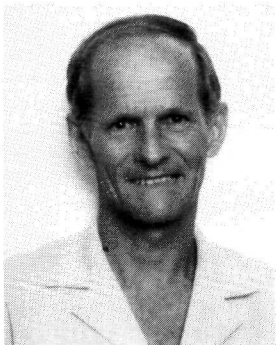
Camera
Aquatic plants
Spirits
Spirits
Case of Wine
Case of Wine
Champagne
Champagne
Sherry
Car pump

Professor and Mrs. Bell, S.W.20
F. A. Ashby, Cambs.
Mr. Dix, Sussex
D. Ferguson, Amp. Assoc.
M. C. Elton, Wolverhampton
M. Harrington, Kent
Mrs. Bird, N.21
Mrs. Bird, N.21
J. C. Leppard, Surrey
0457 852012

NEW KEW GUILD COMMITTEE MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT

MICHAEL BENTALL

Having left Kew in September, 1964, I had a holiday of a lifetime travelling around the Mediterranean for three months with Brian Salter — ex Kew. This was followed by a year's course at The Grotto. I spent a further three years in England shared between Bromley (Mr. Stocks) and Crawley, during which time I married Christine Kanolty, a primary school teacher from Hertford. She was practically a neighbour to Jenny Nau who married Errol Scarr, now in Durban, and our families have grown up together.



Michael Bentall.

This was followed by three years as Horticultural Superintendent of the Copperbelt Province in Zambia, landscaping and maintaining all government buildings, staff training and establishment of a Nursery. It is a great country and, I am sure, filled with many potential garden plants waiting to be domesticated.

I then returned to South Africa, firstly as Parks Superintendent at Amanzimtoti, which is under the shadow of Durban, followed by my present position in East London as Environmental Services Manager. My responsibilities cover Cemeteries, Parks and Cleansing.

I have three children, Alison 23, just completing her B.A., Timothy 21, now studying Veterinary Nursing in March, Cambridgeshire and Stephen 18, just commencing his B.A. Human Movement Science — arising from the family interest in running.

I restarted my participation in running — having run the Kew/Wisley run for The Grotto — five years ago and have run in three 35 mile ultra marathons as well as the biggest event in South Africa, the 56 mile Comrades from Durban to Pietermaritzburg. Other interests are tennis, table tennis, walking and travelling — the latter reason why Christine is still teaching!

ALLAN HART

Allan Hart entered Kew in 1956 after training at Bodnant Gardens and Hayes Nursery in the Lake District.

Following Kew he worked in local and central government agencies during which time he gained professional qualifications in Parks and Recreation Administration and Landscape Architecture.

Allan established a landscape consultancy in 1968 and in the intervening period he has served as a Guild Committee member for two terms and was instrumental with Tom Risely, Anthony Dimball and Brian Lowe in the foundation of the Awards Scheme, and was elected Vice President for 1982-1984.

DIANNE MARIE OWENS

In 1966, uncertain which career direction to follow, catering or secretarial, Dianne took courses in both. She studied at the Eastbourne College of Domestic Science and the London School of Secretaries. After training, attracted by the diversity that a secretarial role could offer, she joined an agency in London to gain more experience. Later, wanting to add to her qualifications, she enrolled on a Business Studies Course at the Basingstoke Technical College.

From Basingstoke she moved back to London accepting a job working for the Chairman of a public relations company. The organisation was small, but the job was interesting and varied, requiring contact with people from all over the world. Organising and catering for the company's regular business lunches meant that her catering skills were not wasted.

She joined Burmah Oil's Shipping division in 1980 to work for the Operations Director. This role involved working closely with the US and the Far East. In 1983 she was transferred to work for the Chief Executive taking over a wide range of activities including the management of their international conferences. In this capacity she travelled extensively in Europe and North America.

In 1987 Burmah closed its London office. Dianne decided to take some time off fulltime employment to travel, she also bought and refurbished a house in Ham. During this period she registered with a local employment agency and advised them that she would do anything that came up at Kew, no matter how boring!! A temporary vacancy in 1987 led to working for the Curator in 1988.

This was an enjoyable period, coupled with a second job as a gardener to top up her salary. However, keen to have more challenge she joined the Friends in 1990, has been with them now for nearly four years becoming involved in all aspects of the organisation's growth. Dianne is currently responsible for Friends events and 100 volunteers.



Dianne Marie Owens.

PETER STYLES, Dip.Hort. Kew, Dip. L.A., F.L.I.

Peter Styles was born in Bristol on the 5th April 1946. After leaving school he worked in the Bristol Zoological Gardens under John Hughes, and the Bristol University Botanic Gardens, gaining his R.H.S. General Certificate before entering Kew as a student on the Diploma Course in 1966.



Peter Styles.

At Kew, under the guidance of tutor John Brookes, he developed an interest in landscape design and on leaving Kew in 1969 he accepted a place on the post graduate landscape design Diploma Course at the University of Greenwich. The part time landscape course enabled a full time job to be held during the day, initially within the Landscape Division of the Greater London Council and latterly with the London Borough of Ealing Architects Department.

After completing the course in 1973 he went on to take the professional examinations of the Institute of Landscape Architects and was elected as an associate in 1974. During the same period he accepted a position as Principal Landscape Architect with the London Borough of Wandsworth and he was responsible for creating the landscape team within the Architects Department.

In 1976 he went into private practice with a London based firm of landscape architects and later he was made partner in the architectural firm of Brian Lingard and Partners. In 1982,

together with Brian Lingard, he formed his own practice of landscape architects. Lingard and Styles now have offices in Llandudno, Cardiff, Mid Wales and Chelsea and they are particularly well known for their design work. They have received many landscape design awards for their landscape schemes throughout the U.K. and Europe.

Although not so involved with horticulture these days as he would like to be, he maintains close links with Kew as a member of the Diploma Course Independent Assessment Panel and as external examiner in landscape construction. He has also contributed to many publications both as writer and illustrator, lectures widely and is currently Chairman of the Wales Landscape Group, the Welsh Chapter of the Landscape Institute. He is also a member of the Prince of Wales Regional Committee, Secretary of the Newtown Civic Society and Council Member of Artworks Wales.

He lives in Welshpool on the Wales/Shropshire border with his wife and two daughters. His wife Elizabeth is also an ex Kewite, having worked with George Nicholson in the Orchids and Bert Bruty in the Ferneries during the 1960's.

REPORT ON THE KEW GUILD CENTENARY DINNER

By D. J. Breach, Events Organiser

Before reporting on the actual 'Event' it may be of interest to reflect, that it was from a suggestion made at a Guild meeting some years earlier that the Guild should stage several special events to celebrate it's centenary year, that the idea of a special centenary dinner was born.

Initial investigations centred on holding such a dinner in Kew Gardens, this being considered the most appropriate venue. The possibilities of using marquees or the Temperate House were both examined closely. Unfortunately both proved to be too costly. A review was then carried out of the venues thought to be suitable; it transpired that only a handful of these could cater for the 'anticipated' number of guests. Ultimately the Natural History Museum was selected as it appeared to provide the most appropriate accommodation and facilities, was favourably located and paramount was affordable. A similar method of selection was followed to select the Caterer.

As to the event itself, it could have been billed 'The dinner of the century', for it was probably the grandest annual dinner the Guild had ever held. This prestigious event was held on the 22nd May 1993, in the magnificent setting of the central hall of The Natural History Museum. There 202 members of the Kew Guild and their guests assembled to celebrate 100 years of the Guild's existence which they did in style, under the watchful eye of the dinosaur.

From the time that the museum closed until the time when the guests were admitted much work had to be done in a very short space of time. At the point of closing, a small army of museum staff very quickly cleared the public from the building. That 'clearance operation' was followed by a security check carried out by members of the Metropolitan Police Force. Then several operations occurred simultaneously in what I can only describe as a period of frenetic activity. Waiters very quickly arranged, clothed and laid-up tables as though it was a competition upon which their very lives depended.

Electricians worked quickly and diligently installing and checking lighting and sound systems, while Kenwyn Pearson and his team beavered away setting up the floral decorations.

It seems to be a rule of life that no matter how well detailed the plan, or how carefully it is executed, something just has to go wrong and the Centenary Dinner proved to be no exception to this unwritten rule. When the waiters sought the menu cards to complete the laying of the tables it was discovered that these had inadvertently been left in the Herbarium at Kew; and the arrival of the Royal party was imminent.

Such a discovery is a sure way of galvanising one into action, so I took off for the Herbarium accompanied by Matthew Biggs, acting as navigator (I did not know the route from the Museum to Kew). Well, thanks to Matthew we made it in time to have the precious menu cards placed

on the tables before the guests entered the dining room. But what an experience! I would strongly recommend Matthew to any rally driver seeking a navigator.

As members gathered in the reception area eager to greet their patron, one became aware of the unique cross section of the Guild present. The young and the not so young, from Guild Member to President, from Student to Director, all inextricably bound by the ties of the Guild. Finally, the moment that everyone had been waiting for, the arrival of Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra and Sir Angus, who were received by Professor and Mrs. Prance. Miss Anna Bayley presented a posy to Princess Alexandra who then signed the Guild Guest Book. The Princess and Sir Angus were then introduced to some of the members and their guests, while the photographer flitted here and there, doing his best to capture enough of a profile as to be recognisable for a treasured souvenir photograph.

Meanwhile, between the nibbling of Italian Shortbread, the sipping of champagne and the buzz of friendly discourse (that very important pre-requisite for a successful social function), diners awaited the Toastmaster's invitation to take their places at the tables. Then at the appropriate moment a sharp rifle-like crack of a gavel rent the buzz of conversation and was followed by the sonorous tones of the Toastmaster, Mr. Ivor Spencer, inviting the guests to take their places at the tables. He then escorted the President and his lady and guests to the top table.

Guests then passed from the gallery into the Central Hall, which provided a splendid setting for the evening, being sympathetic to such an occasion as the celebrating of 100 years of history; with its grand stairway and balconies so reminiscent of a baronial hall. The architectural details were enhanced by illumination, or softened by shadow, according to a cleverly arranged lighting system especially installed for the evening. The extensive floral decorations were much appreciated by all, as they softened architectural line and generally beautified the hall. The Guild are appreciative of the efforts of Kenwyn Pearson and his team in providing the floral display on that evening.

The guests having assembled at the tables, the Toastmaster announced Grace, which was said by the Reverend Hugh Flower. The guests then sat for the first course which comprised of Filo Tartlets with grilled Courgettes and Parsley Puree, accompanied by Les Vieilles Vignes Chablis '91. This was followed by a main course of Noisettes of Lamb with Port wine Sauce and Roast Baby Potatoes, together with a Melange of Cauliflower and Broccoli Florets, Mangetout, Baby Corn and Turned Carrots, with St. Emilion Grand Cru '89. The dessert course consisted of Chilled Chocolate Fondant with Hazelnut Cream followed by Coffee and Petit Fours.

During the main and dessert courses the President took wine with Past Presidents of the Kew Guild, Overseas Visitors, Students and Golden Ticket Holders. Following coffee the after dinner proceedings commenced with the toasts and the accompanying speeches. The toasts were:

The first toast of the evening was to Her Majesty The Queen, which was proposed by the President.

The toast to the Patron was proposed by the President who, addressing our Patron, said that the Guild was greatly honoured to have her as its Patron and that few organisations could have such an 'appropriate person' as their Patron, firstly because she was a neighbour (being a resident of Richmond) and secondly because she was a keen gardener. He concluded, "I and all the Officers of the Kew Guild would like to thank you for becoming our Patron during this important time in our history, our Centenary".

In response to which our Patron, Princess Alexandra, expressed her delight at being present to celebrate the Centenary of the Guild and its achievements in providing support to the leading role of the Royal Botanic Gardens in botany and horticulture around the world, as well as the role played by its members, over the years, in helping to make the Gardens an institution of international renown. She paid tribute to the Guild's expansion and achievement since 1893 and how, by the provision of prizes and awards, it supported training, study and travel.

In conclusion the Princess stated "I have no doubt that the Royal Botanic Gardens and the Kew Guild will meet the future with the same vigour and enthusiasm of the past 100 years". She then proposed the toast to the Kew Guild.

The toast to The President was proposed by Nigel Hepper (Past President), who congratulated Professor Prance on his recently becoming a Fellow of the Royal Society and informed the guests that our President had received many honours on both sides of the Atlantic.

Our President, after graduating from Oxford, had gone to the New York Botanic Garden, where he had stayed for some 25 years, becoming Senior Vice President for Science. He then came to Kew with his wife Anne, who had endeared herself to all at the Gardens.

In his Presidential Address, following the toast given in his honour, the President firstly thanked all those who had contributed to the Kew Guild Centenary celebrations. He then said that "One of the amazing features of the Kew Guild is its worldwide international influence." Indeed some overseas guests were present and members from many countries had written to congratulate the Guild on its Centenary.

The President continued, "Every good horticulturalist knows that a garden is planted for the future. It may not look much in the initial stages, but as the garden matures, one realises the importance of each carefully placed seed or plant. Each Kewite, from the foundation of the Garden to the present day, has been a seed for the future that has led to the great Institute that we have today".

He continued, "This year's *Journal* shows that we continue to progress well and sow seeds for the future. It is the responsibility of today's staff and students to sow the seeds for the future; and of the Kew Guild to support this effort and to look forward rather than backwards so that we can have an equally happy event to celebrate, the Bicentenary of the Kew Guild".

After making some observations on fund raising he went on to explain that "The new corporate plan which we have just completed, looks towards the future and how the various departments within Kew can work more closely together to address some of these problems. It presents our work under eight programme areas rather than departments. These days continue to be exciting times for the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and I hope that these Centenary Celebrations will cause us to look forward and work together for the future of our Institution, rather than to bask in glories of the past. I hope that the Kew Guild will join me in taking The Royal Botanic Gardens into the 21st Century".

Other toasts were the toast to Our Guests, which was proposed by Robert Brett (Student Representative) and was responded to by Jack Andrews (a guest). The toast to Absent Friends was proposed by John Simmons (Curator, RBG, Kew).

On completion of the toasts, the President announced the recipient of the George Brown Award and then presented the award to Martin J. S. Sands. Martin thanked the President and the Guild for the award and explained that he was particularly honoured and delighted to receive the award because, firstly, he had worked closely with George Brown, secondly, because he was receiving it on such a special occasion and, thirdly, because it gave him the opportunity to say thank you to all those who had assisted in the preparation of the Centenary events.

A bouquet was then presented to Princess Alexandra by Rachel Martin on behalf of the Guild. A bouquet was also presented to the President's Lady by Anna Bayley. The presentation of the bouquets completed the formalities of the evening, after which the Royal Party retired accompanied by the President and his Lady and escorted by the Toastmaster.

The formal proceedings of the evening being finished, Members and Guests mingled and conversed for some time before finally departing after signing the Guest Book.

THE CENTENARY YEAR — 1993

By Martin J. S. Sands

The Centenary of the Kew Guild has come and gone and with pleasure we can reflect upon the events and achievements of a very memorable year. It was indeed a brief but particularly special period in our history when the Guild could look back with justifiable pride at the

achievements of the first hundred years and, at the same time, anticipate with eager enthusiasm the ways in which the Guild, now perhaps more vigorous than ever before, can develop and flourish in the future.

For some of us, however, the Centenary was not such a brief affair. Planning for the special year actually began as long ago as 28th January, 1986, when a few members formed a small sub-committee to begin considering appropriate and feasible ways in which the Guild might celebrate in the then distant future of 1993. Making up the first sub-committee were Tony Dunball (1953), Nigel Hepper, Martin Sands, Margaret Stant (1984), Ted Storey (1952) and Richard Ward (1963). After a year or so Tony and Margaret were replaced by Graham Burgess (1972), Ray Desmond and John Simmons. Derek Breach (1963) and Michael Maunder soon joined the sub-committee and later, when Ted Storey sadly had to resign because of ill health, his place as Guild Treasurer was ably taken by Rebecca Bower.

At first, free and wide-ranging discussion yielded a rich harvest of exciting ideas but, as time passed, the luxury of contemplating numerous very good possibilities was replaced by the increasing need to concentrate on planning those which were actually achievable. In all, between January 1986 and April 1993, the sub-committee met 38 times and, as the work inevitably increased, more members joined the team: Matthew Biggs (1987), Sylvia FitzGerald, Roy Jones (1959), Jim Keesing, Chris Kidd, Kenwyn Pearson (1975), Barrie Phillips (1972), Michael Sinnott and Valerie Walley. As Chairman, both personally and on behalf of the Guild, I would like to thank everyone involved, including many outside the sub-committee as well, for the time and dedicated effort that brought all our Centenary events to fruition.

At an early stage it was decided that to be granted patronage for the first time in its history would be very appropriate for the Guild as it approached its Centenary. Accordingly, we were delighted when Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra kindly agreed to become our Patron with effect from 1st September, 1990.

At about the same time Ray Desmond and Nigel Hepper were beginning their work on a Centenary book which was to include many excerpts from the Guild Journals, and Derek Breach was advancing the various arrangements for our historic 1993 Annual Dinner. Richard Ward, as Editor of the Journal, was soon very busy gathering copy and, with the committee, planning the format and content of a special centenary edition. Martin Sands began discussions with Professor Gren Lucas with a view to developing a special Guild Room in the Herbarium at Kew and Graham Burgess played a leading role in obtaining an early offer of £10,000 from British Rail, Network SouthEast, to sponsor the Guild in its Centennial year. Most of this generous financial support was eventually used to mount a special exhibition, its later planning being steered by Roy Jones and Sylvia FitzGerald.

In September, 1991, the Director, Professor Ghilleen Prance, joined the main Guild Committee as President Elect enabling him to be more closely involved in planning, before taking office the following year and appropriately serving as President during our Centenary celebrations.

Nigel Hepper and Michael Sinnott successfully secured the sponsorship of Parker Dutch Bulbs Ltd., who generously donated a large consignment of daffodils and, in November, 1992, with the bulbs evenly scattered on freshly rotavated ground across Kew Green, it took just 45 minutes for about 50 members of staff and Guild to plant all 10,000 of them! Thus began the events of the centenary and, as the President, writing in December, 1992, recorded in his message to members (*Kew Guild Journal*, 11:91), "... the Kew Guild ... daffodils along Bird Cage Walk on Kew Green are just beginning to sprout as the first sign of the Centenary". By early March, 1993, there was a glorious golden sward of *Narcissus* 'February Gold' that gradually paled to white as the later flowering *Narcissus* 'Verger' extended the display throughout April.

In March, the first in a series of Centenary lectures was associated with the Kew Mutual Improvement Society and given by Nigel Hepper on 'East/West Africa'. This was followed in June at Merrist Wood Agricultural College, by a second lecture, entitled 'C.I.S./Central Asia' given by John Whitehead (1972). Barrie Phillips, who played a key role in arranging the series, next lectured in association with The Friends of Kew on 'Bermuda, a Botanical Bonanza' in August and, at the Royal Society's New Hall in London in September, Professor Ghilleen Prance,

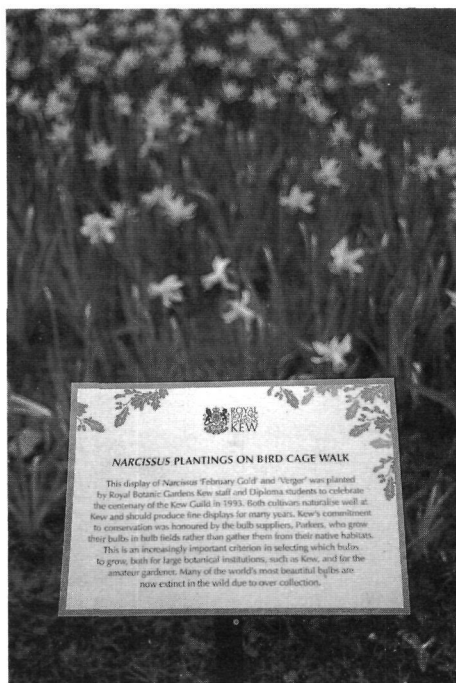


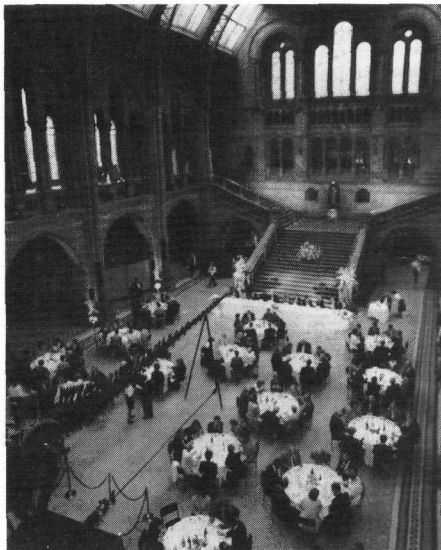
Above and below: Centenary daffodil planting.

then as immediate Past President, delivered a joint RHS/Kew Guild lecture on 'Amazonia'. The final Centenary Lecture, which was associated with the Kew Winter Lecture Series, was given in October by Tony Schilling (1991) who spoke on 'Bhutan' in the Jodrell Lecture Theatre at Kew.

'A Century of Kew Plantsmen' by Ray Desmond and Nigel Hepper was published in April and its launch on 15th May marked the beginning of a 'core' fortnight of Centenary events. This was timed to include the week of the Chelsea Show for those visiting from abroad or travelling some distance for the Guild celebrations. The launch, which was also a pleasant social occasion, was held in the new Victoria Gate building and was attended by about 60 people who enjoyed refreshments, had special access to the Kew Shop and were able to purchase signed copies of the Centenary Book.

The Centenary Reception and Dinner, held in the Waterhouse Building of the Natural History Museum, proved, as anticipated to be the highlight of the year. After a Champagne Reception, an excellent Meal was served in the grand surroundings of the central hall with the massive dinosaur





Above left: Nigel Hepper and Ray Desmond signing a copy of their book at its launch. *Above right:* The Centenary Dinner in The Natural History Museum.

(*Diplodocus*) skeleton as an impressive centre-piece, its extensive tail having been recently raised high off the ground, according to the latest research, and on display for the first time. In the presence of our Patron, Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, accompanied by Sir Angus Ogilvy, the Centenary Reception and Dinner — with its happy and convivial atmosphere, enhanced by imaginative lighting and beautiful floral decorations — was a very special occasion long to be remembered by all the many members and guests who attended.

During the evening, the Patron signed a new, specially bound guest book, thereafter open for everyone else to sign, and the Guild Journal, as usual, became available to members for the first time at the Dinner. The Centenary Edition, a great credit to its Editor, Richard Ward, had 160 pages (many more than in other years), a stiffer white (rather than green) cover with the Guild coat-of-arms in colour on the front and a portrait of our Patron within, and the rich and varied contents. The Guild is greatly indebted to Brian Rowling and his company, Rowling Printers Ltd., for their long service (over 40 years) in printing the *Journal* and, in the Centennial year, for kindly donating the printing of the Dinner tickets and Menus.

One week after the Centenary Dinner, during the afternoon of Saturday, 29th May, a special Centenary Clog and Apron Race (see photo elsewhere in this *Journal*), involving an assemblage of 'veteran' and current students, took place along the Broad Walk. New clogs were generously provided by Walkley Clogs Ltd. of Hebden Bridge and Alan Titchmarsh (1974), taking time out from broadcasting, started the runners, gave a 'cycling' commentary and then presented the winner's cup. Perhaps predictably, Chris Kidd, a third-year student (and incidentally a member of the Centenary Sub-Committee!), won the race but, close behind and very respectfully in second place, was David Coleman who left Kew in 1967. The afternoon was fine and sunny and many members of the staff, Guild and public enjoyed a memorable occasion.

In the early evening on the same day, the new Guild Room (formerly the old Central Library Room) was inaugurated, the occasion being celebrated with a buffet supper and wine. In preparation for its new status, the room had been recarpeted and redecorated and the Guild had commissioned a specially designed suite of cupboards for its archives, made



The Centenary Dinner, *left to right*: Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, the Director and Sir Angus Ogilvy.

by John Pulsford Associates, brass door-plates, and five panels, beautifully painted by the lettering craftsman and designer, Kenneth Breeze. All the panels have a deep green background, the centre one displaying a magnificent Guild coat-of-arms and the other four the names and dates of all the Presidents through the century, listed in gold. The cost of the panels was in part funded by a generous gift from Mrs. Cherry in memory of her husband, Edwin, who was Guild President from 1975 to 1976. We were delighted that Mrs. Cherry and her daughter were

able to be present for the inaugural occasion. As Vice President, John Woodhams gave a short address and introduced Professor Gren Lucas, Keeper of the Herbarium and Library, who then formally 'opened' the new room.

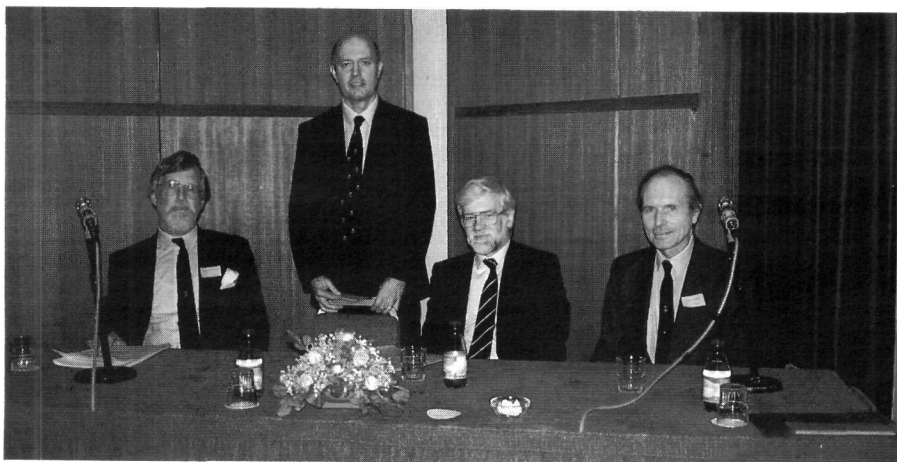
During the morning of September 12th, the Centenary Exhibition, situated in the Tropics Display area of the Princess of Wales Conservatory, was formally opened by Keith Robinson, the Planning and Marketing Manager of British Rail, Network SouthEast, who was introduced and thanked by the President, for British Rail's generous sponsorship. The exhibit consists of two panels about the Guild (one of them explaining the Award Scheme) and a permanent, large illuminated world map which, by push-buttons operating pin-lights, can demonstrate various distributions including, for example, the global scatter of Guild members.

After the opening, the President and guests walked to the Guild Room where they enjoyed an excellent buffet lunch prepared by Kenwyn Pearson. A residual £1,400, after production of the exhibit, is being used by the Award Scheme Committee for an additional travel award.

Kenwyn Pearson was also responsible for organising a very successful Centenary Grand Prize Draw during the first eight months of the year which resulted in more than £500 net profit for the Guild. On September 12th in the afternoon, the prizes were drawn in the



John Woodhams (Vice President) at the opening of the Kew Guild Room, May 1993.



Professor Prance, Colin Hindmarch, John Simmons and Nigel Hepper at Winchester Guildhall, Guild Centenary event.

Jodrell Lecture Theatre after the Annual General Meeting (see report, page 252). As usual, refreshments were served after the meeting and then, later, the evening began with a splendid special lecture given by Brian Mathew, entitled 'Crocus and Iris, a tale of two monographs', which traced the history of Kew's botanical and horticultural involvement in the study of these genera during the past 100 years. Afterwards members and their guests were given a conducted tour of the new Jodrell Laboratory extension (see *Kew Guild Journal* 11:164) before having a delicious buffet supper organised by the Award Scheme Sub-Committee in the School of Horticulture.

To complete a memorable Centennial year, almost the final major event of the celebrations took place not at Kew, but in Winchester Guildhall, Hampshire, on Saturday, October 16th. The Guild is indebted to one of its Vice Presidents, Colin Hindmarch (1968), for organising the occasion in association with Hilliers of Winchester Ltd. and the Institute of Biology. About 70 members of the Guild and the Institute and their guests were welcomed by the Mayor of Winchester, Councillor Mrs. Glasspool, and then, during the afternoon after an excellent lunch, Professor Ghilleen Prance, Nigel Hepper and John Simmons each spoke on aspects of the 'Conservation of the Biosphere' (see photo on previous page).

1993, I am sure, will always be remembered as a very special year in the history of the Kew Guild.

THE KEW GUILD — SERVICES TO MEMBERS

Information kindly compiled by Tom Risely

During 1993-94 the Executive Committee has given consideration to how the Guild can be more effective in communicating with members and in providing a better service. Also ways in which membership can be increased. It was considered that the Guild was rather remote from its membership, usually with no more than three communications a year, i.e. notice of the Annual Dinner, the *Journal* and notice of the A.G.M. with associated events. It has been decided, therefore, to send copies of the *Kew Guardian* to all members outside Kew (Kew staff and students already receive copies). This is a newsletter about events at Kew, the activities of Kew staff and related information. This will keep Guild members in frequent touch with *alma mater* and at the same time remind them more frequently of the organisation. This *Guardian* is published 11 times a year, so in future members will be hearing from the Guild on a monthly basis.

Associated with the circulation of the *Guardian* it is intended to set up a detailed reporting network to receive information from members about themselves, their work and horticultural/botanical activities in their areas. These reports will be published in the *Guardian* and thus members will receive monthly information not only about activities at Kew, but also of Guild members worldwide. For the latter aspect to be successful the Guild will depend upon the co-operation of you all.

It is also intended to initiate a membership recruitment drive. Too few of those eligible are actually members. The first step will be the preparation of a colour publicity brochure detailing the activities of the Guild and the benefits of membership. Copies will be sent to all existing members and you are requested to contact any Kewites known to you with a view to their joining.

An increase in the membership fee will be required to fund the new activities and to cover inflation in recent years. The Executive Committee considers that the benefits of the increasingly active Guild will by far outweigh the small cost per member, and that 1994 is the correct year to initiate these steps. The Centenary year was exciting but there is a danger of things going flat, and the new activities will counter this. It is an organisation for all its members and it is hoped that in future those living and working in areas away from Kew will feel more in touch and actively part of the Guild.

KEW GUILD AWARD SCHEME REPORT FOR 1993

By Kenwyn Pearson

The Award Scheme Committee has had a busy year dealing with the applications for award and it has been marvellous to support many projects again this year. The Committee has also played its part in the Kew Guild Centenary Celebrations.

During the year the Committee met in March, July and October.

The planning for the following year and constitution of the Committee starts in the previous year at the autumn meeting. Publicity is a matter that receives a frequent airing as is the fact that the Award Scheme is available to all the membership of the Guild to support schemes, projects, travel and many needs. A notification is posted in the Gardens in the early part of the year inviting members to apply, but the Committee does want to stress that it welcomes applications from the Guild Membership wherever they are.

The amounts available for award in 1993 were from the Dallimore Award (£800), the Tom Arnold Bursary (£180), the Edna Redman Award (£1,400) and from general funds £1,300. Similar amounts will be available in 1994 with one further addition — the British Rail Network SouthEast Award of £200 to support travel to any part of the world. British Rail kindly sponsored the Exhibition in the Princess of Wales Conservatory and some money remained. After consultation with BR it was decided that the money was to be used to support travel for a period of five years.

The Committee decided to support Student Gardeners wishing to attend the Centenary Dinner. Eighteen applied for assistance and £450 was used from general funds to support this. The Committee also decided to give two special needs awards to members of the Guild to help overcome difficulties.

The Committee were pleased also to be able to support the Editor of the *Guild Journal*, Richard Ward, to attend a Workshop Study Day on Journal Production and a good report was sent back from Richard that this had proved useful.

Other awards in the year went to Simon Miller, with £300 from the Dallimore Award for a study tour to the Canary Isles, studying flora and present methods of conservation. Robert Brett was awarded £300 for a study tour to South East Asia looking at **Orchid** breeding, propagation, collection and distribution. Doris Francis received £300 from the Edna Redman Fund for a study tour to Brazil for ethnobotanical research. Rachel Martin received £300 from the Edna Redman Fund for a study tour to Moscow for research into **Orchids** and **Euphorbiasceae**. Sheelagh Kell went on a study tour to Columbia to help establish a National Palm Collection and received £300 from the Edna Redman Fund. Chris Kidd received £200 from general funds to help finance a study trip to Gothenburg Botanic Garden with members of the Alpine Department of Kew. Sophie Piebenga received an award of £185 from general funds to help with Post Graduate Studies at the University of York. Wayne Page and Nickie Daubney were supported from the Dallimore Award with £500 to top up funds from the Thornton Smith Scholarship on a fieldwork study trip to Brazil. Dusha Hayes received £150 for a study trip to Brazil and £150 to Tarja Ravenhall, also on a study trip to Brazil. Darrin Duling received £150 from the Edna Redman Fund to help with study in Brazil.

The Committee also organised a buffet for the opening of the Guild Room, following the Clog and Apron Race on 29th May 1993. It provided lunch for British Rail and guests when the Guild Exhibition was opened in the Princess of Wales Conservatory. The success of the A.G.M. day and the talk by Brian Mathew followed by the buffet supper in the School of Horticulture brought to an end a very successful 1993.

Thanks go to the Committee for all the hard work they put in to keep the Award Scheme flourishing, thriving and developing and for administering what has become a very important part of the Guild's work.

The Committee for 1993/94 is comprised of the following:

Kenwyn Pearson — Chair
 David Barnes — Secretary based at the School of Horticulture
 Hugh Flower
 Don McGuffog
 Nigel Hepper
 Mark Pitman
 Shelagh Kell — Student Representative

STUDIES IN BRAZIL

Darrin Duling, a second year Kew Diploma student, spent the Christmas holidays in the Macaé de Cima Forest Reserve in Brazil.

During daily excursions a wide variety of micro-habitats were encountered at 600 to 800 metres altitude. These ranged from high canopy buttress-trunked forest, through stunted 'Elfin' forest with **epiphytes** growing at eye-level, to grassy high mountain fields. Within these areas large tracts of virgin Atlantic rain forest were observed and compared with regenerating forest sites which had been clear-cut and/or burned 10 to 50 years previously. This afforded a valuable insight into the dynamics involved in the re-establishment of tropical forest.

A primary goal accomplished during these excursions was a general study of **Begonias**, which are incredibly rich and diverse throughout the reserve; many species encountered assume gigantic proportions, with some possessing woody stems up to four metres in height and leaves up to one metre across.

A highlight of the visit was the time spent botanising with staff from the Rio Botanic Gardens, who were invaluable for their help in identifying many plant species in the forest.

Sharing in these escapades were Kew Living Collections Department staff Dusha Hayes and Tarja Ravenhall, who were looking at **Orchids** in the reserve. Together they helped researchers locate and identify seven species previously unrecorded in the area.

All three wish to thank the Kew Guild for its help in funding this study trip. Additionally, Darrin would like to express his gratitude to The Royal Horticultural Society and The American Begonia Society for their encouragement and financial assistance.

KEW GUILD AWARD, LEARNED JOURNAL PRODUCTION

By Richard Ward, Hon. Editor

I would like to thank the Award Scheme for sponsoring me on the above course, organised by the British Printing Industries Federation at 11 Bedford Row, London WC1 on 26th April, 1993. The Programme included talks on U.K. Journals/Serials Manufacturing Industry; Composition and Reprographics; Pre-Press, Machinery and Binding; Mailing and Consolidation; The Journal/Series Market; How a Learned Journal is Published; The Learned Journal Production Department.

All the speakers were excellent, although the whole subject was a bit too technical for the likes of the *Kew Guild Journal* and especially myself!

What makes a good Editor? they asked! He or she must be knowledgeable, well-respected, persuasive, hardworking, tactful and motivated. (I had decided to abandon the course at this stage.) Ideas pertinent to the *Kew Guild Journal* that emerged included looking at recycled paper (again); the possibility of using 'peer reviews' or 'referees' to check articles; asking authors to let the Editor know if particular areas on photos need special treatment or high-lighting during the printing processes; getting the Printers to mail direct to authors for checking proofs to save time and direct to subscribers with the finished article/Journal. It is the Editor's job to decide editorial comment. "Make the Journal as attractive as possible by selecting the most appropriate articles and ensuring that they are delivered to the subscriber in a timely fashion" as one speaker put it!

Why do Libraries cancel subscriptions? (and subscribers). Price, uniqueness, usage, impact factor, alternative access. Commercial success? Maximum revenue, minimised costs.

Use standardised computer discs for our/Printers use to save costs and improve speed and accuracy. Maximise on advertising revenue. Create end-user demand-incentives/interest/participation. Look at different mailing services to reduce postage.

The above is a brief resumé of a very full day course. I have taken on board some of the information gained and am confident that it will help me with future editorship of the *Kew Guild Journal* and hopefully a better one.

Many thanks for your support.

SCHOOL OF HORTICULTURE PRESENTATION OF KEW DIPLOMAS AND PRIZES 1993 (Course 28)

Friday 10th September was the Annual Presentation Day for the outgoing students. The Director, Professor Prance, gave the introduction and reminded us that 30 years ago the students were guinea pigs on the re-vamped three year course. He also mentioned the Kew Guild and its support role at Kew and urged the students to join.

He welcomed the guest of honour, The Rt. Hon. The Lord Aberconway and mentioned the links between the Royal Horticultural Society, Wisley and Kew. He invited Ian Leese, Director of Studies, to give his report.

"Your Worship the Mayor, Lord Aberconway, Chairman, Director, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen. The academic year 1992-93 has been a year of anniversaries. Centenary celebrations have taken place both here and at the Royal Horticultural Society for different reasons. The Kew Guild, an association of past and present students and staff has held a series of special events commemorating its establishment 100 years ago, a little after formal horticultural training first began in these Gardens. Many of the prizes available today are donated by the Guild.

Two highlights of these celebrations so far have included the Veterans' Clog and Apron Race run down the full length of the Broadwalk and won, not surprisingly, by a current student, Chris Kidd, rather than one of the veterans. The prizes were given out by Alan Titchmarsh, a former Kew Diploma student.

Then there was the Centenary Dinner, held in the Dinosaur Hall of the Natural History Museum, in the presence of the Patron of the Kew Guild, Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra. Some of our current students were presented to Her Royal Highness and a memorable vote of thanks was made by Robert Brett, a second year student.

The celebrations at the Royal Horticultural Society's Garden, Wisley, were for the Centenary of the General Examination administered by the Society. At the Garden Party which I attended, it was good to meet up with a group of current and former Kew staff and students who had taken this examination in the past. Indeed, this qualification is still taken by staff and students, usually prior to their arrival at Kew. They may then progress onto the Society's Master of Horticulture examinations with the passage of time and experience.

Another anniversary for the School of Horticulture this year has been the start of Course Number 30. That means it is now 30 years since the completely revised format for the Kew Diploma was initiated, and the first Director of Studies was appointed. All that we, both staff and students, now currently enjoy has developed from the firm foundations which he laid down all those years ago.

Mention of the Kew Guild reminds us that it is not just the achievements of Course 28, who graduate today, that should be considered at this prize-giving. The career progression of our former students should also be noted. Some examples include Stuart Phillips who has been appointed Head of Horticulture at Moulton College, Ursula Buchan, who is now Gardening

Editor of the *Sunday Telegraph*, and Matthew Biggs who has featured with Roy Lancaster in a new Channel 4 gardening series.

Academically, there have been a host of successes. Sarah Rutherford was awarded a Master of Arts in Conservation of Historic Landscapes, Parks and Gardens by York University. At the same university another former student, Sophieke Piebenga, has begun a PhD studying William Sawrey Gilpin, a review of his work as a landscape gardener, and its conservation.

There have been similar gains at Reading University. Charlie Butterworth, a former Kew Diploma student, was awarded an Upper Second Class Honours degree in Botany. James Compton is engaged in a PhD doing a world revision of *Cimicifuga*. Mike Maunder, a former student and current member of Kew staff, is undertaking a PhD with a conservation theme relevant to his work as Head of the Living Collections Department Conservation Unit. Andy Jackson, another former student and current Woodlands Supervisor at Wakehurst Place, Kew's satellite garden in Sussex, is registered at Birmingham University for a PhD studying the conservation of the native **Plymouth Pear**.

There are one or two Kew Diploma Post-graduate Scholarships available each year. Last year's holder, Tim Upson, was funded for a year's Master of Science in Plant and Fungal Taxonomy course at Reading University, where he was awarded his MSc with distinction and was the top student. Subsequently, while working back at Kew, he has won a Reading University Scholarship to do a PhD in connection with aromatic plant conservation in Morocco.

The current holders of the Post-graduate Scholarship are Carolin Göhler and Terry Sunderland. Carolin has just completed a Masters of Landscape Design at Newcastle University. She was the top student in her class and was awarded a prize by the Department of Town and Country Planning. She has now begun her year's placement back at Kew under the terms of the scholarship.

Terry Sunderland is about to complete a year's Master of Science in Forestry and its relation to land use at the Forestry Institute, University of Oxford. He has just been appointed Horticultural Officer at Limbe Botanic Garden, Cameroon, and will start work there in October.

These successes are not just confined to former Kew Diploma students. Our current students have shown themselves to be more than equal with their contemporaries at other universities and colleges throughout the United Kingdom. Louise Allen, who graduates with honours today, has accepted a place on the Master of Science in Horticulture course, with specialisms in Social and Therapeutic Horticulture, offered by Reading University. Because she has a job as Education Officer at Oxford Botanic Garden, she will attend the course on a part-time basis.

Sigrid Zundel and Mark Poswillo, both final year students, have won scholarships awarded by the British Friends of Jerusalem Botanic Garden in open competition with graduates from other U.K. universities and colleges.

Final year student, Chris Kidd, along with second year students Alan Hulme, Rachel Martin and Simon Miller, received grants for study tours from the Merlin Trust, administered by Lady Scott (Valerie Finnis) in memory of her husband and son. Again, this is open to applicants throughout the country.

Second year student Annabel Chantler won the Canterbury Farmers' Club Bicentenary Award of £2,000 towards her study tour of the Pacific north-west coast of the United States of America and Canada.

Another second year colleague, Doris Francis, received funding from the Iris Darnton Foundation for part of the cost of attending the Third International Conference of Cycad Biology in South Africa.

Not to be outdone, a first year student, Anna Bayley, has just begun a 12 month placement on the International Gardener Training Programme at Longwood Gardens, Pennsylvania, United States of America. Anna is a sixth-form entrant onto the Kew Diploma. As such, she needs this further one year's work experience away from Kew before completing the final two years of the course.

With the ever-increasing success of our past and present students, what has been happening to the progress of the School of Horticulture itself over the past year? Wide links abroad have continued to be made through the three-month internship programme, which consists of a mixture of work experience and study. Interns who have come to us through the year included four from Spain, three from France, two from India, one from Japan, Sri Lanka, Nigeria, Canada, Switzerland, Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom respectively.

Further overseas links were made with a new Summer School, the International Diploma Course in Botanic Garden Management, which was held over two months, and finished last Friday. The course was targeted at middle managers of tropical botanic gardens. Fifteen participants were accepted out of over 40 applications. These came from a range of different countries — Malaysia, Singapore, Australia, Hawaii, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, St. Vincent, Brazil, Venezuela, Chile, Israel, Kenya, Ghana and Madagascar.

Two former Kew Diploma students were involved in the planning and administration — Sue Macdonald as Course Manager and Sarah Rutherford as Course Supervisor, and the course was run in association with Botanic Gardens Conservation International.

The course was a means of dealing with the need for training amongst overseas staff, and had contributions from all departments at Kew and Wakehurst Place. All 15 students were successful in obtaining their diplomas, and their results were externally validated by Dr. Barbara Pickersgill of Reading University.

Besides these course developments, there have also been some staff changes in the School. Earlier this year, Hazel Hyde retired as Administrative Officer after 13 years in post, and a total of 27 years at Kew. It is good to see her in the audience today. She has been replaced by Barbara Hanson, and I think that all will agree that the transfer has gone very smoothly.

Sadly, we have also had to say farewell due to illness to Bill Bailey, Plant Pathology lecturer since 1979, and a former member of Kew staff. Again, it is welcome to see the recovery that he has made, so that he too is able to be with us today. Bill's position has been filled by Dr. Steven Shaw, Senior Lecturer at the North-East Surrey College of Technology.

It is pleasing to report that Dr. Monique Simmonds of the Jodrell Laboratory, who took over as Entomology Lecturer for the first time this year had a very successful start, being voted the best lecturer of the Foundation Trimester as a result of student course questionnaire returns.

Two of our External Assessors, who validate all Kew Diploma results, Dr. Stephen Jury of Reading University, and Jim Marshall of the National Trust, also came to the end of their terms, although they continue as External Examiners. Their places were taken by Dr. Renée Miller of the University of Greenwich and Brian Humphrey of Notcutts Nurseries, who join David Welch, Chief Executive of the Royal Parks Agency.

One of the most encouraging aspects of this year has been to receive the comments of our External Assessors who, after having interviewed all of Course 28, said how impressed they were with the whole group. This is rightly a reflection on the quality of these students, but I think it also results from the commitment of all connected with the Kew Diploma course, and the quality of the training which is available.

I thank all of Course 28 for their contribution to the on-going work of Kew while they have been here. I know they will be worthy ambassadors for Kew in their future careers. I would also like to thank all staff and sponsors of the course, many of whom are with us today. Finally, my special thanks for the encouragement and support received from the Chairman, Mrs. Lennox-Boyd and the rest of the Board of Trustees, the Director and Deputy Directors, Peter Gimby, Chairman, and other members of the Independent Panel, and John Simmonds, the Curator who, together with David Hardman, the new Deputy Curator, could not be more supportive.

I have heard it said that the Kew experience is unique. I hope that Course 28 have found it to be so, but equally relevant to the needs of the present time. The challenge to keep the Kew experience unique and relevant, mindful of our great heritage, and the anniversaries mentioned at the beginning of the report, is one which we accept without hesitation.

PRESENTATION OF KEW DIPLOMAS AND PRIZES 1993

We begin with the presentation of Kew Diplomas and prizes to our third year students. Each person has also passed the BTEC Certificate in Computer Studies, and the Management and Administration module of the BTEC Certificate in Leisure Management.

LOUISE ALLEN

The Kew Diploma

The Kingdon-Ward Prize given by Miss Winifred Kingdon-Ward in memory of her brother, Frank, a noted plant collector, to the student attaining the highest mark in the management thesis.

The Dummer Memorial Prize awarded by the Kew Guild for the best Herbarium Weed Collection Project.

NICOLA DAUBNEY

The Kew Diploma

The Ernest Thornton Smith Travelling Scholarship, as joint winner. The Scholarship is presented by the Ernest Thornton-Smith Young People's Trust to allow a Kew Diploma Graduate to travel overseas, in this case to Mauritius to join the Mauritian Plant Conservation Programme.

WENDY GOLLEDGE

The Kew Diploma

CHRISTOPHER KIDD

The Kew Diploma

The Sir Joseph Hooker Prize which is presented by the Director in memory of his famous predecessor to the student who has done most for the Kew Mutual Improvement Society. The winner has been Chairman for the past year. For the first time the prize has been augmented by a cup presented by Hazel Hyde for this purpose after her retirement earlier this year.

The Proudlock Prize donated by the Kew Guild to the runner-up in the Herbarium Weed Collection Project.

Prize for the best vegetable plot, a practical first year project.

The Lecturers' Prize awarded by Drs. Phillip Gribb and Nicholas Hind of the Herbarium to the student obtaining the highest mark for their Systematic Botany Project.

MARK LAMEY

The Kew Diploma

The George Brown Prize donated by the Kew Guild in memory of a former Assistant Curator to the runner-up in the Kew Mutual Improvement Society's Student Lecture Competition.

WAYNE PAGE

The Kew Diploma

The Ernest Thornton-Smith Travelling Scholarship as joint winner with Nicola Daubney to go to Mauritius.

The Kew Guild Individual Study Prize presented to the student with the second highest mark for their management thesis.

The Kew Mutual Improvement Society's Prize for his participation as Secretary of the Society.

MARK POSWILLO

The Kew Diploma

The British Friends of Jerusalem Botanical Garden Scholarship firstly for a six-week placement undertaken at Jerusalem earlier this year, followed by a further award for a six-month placement to begin this autumn.



Kew Diploma graduates and award winners pictured with (front row from left to right) Ian Leese, Director of Studies, Lady Aberconway, Lord Aberconway, Professor Ghilleen Prance, Director, The Mayor of Richmond, Mrs. Arabella Lennox-Boyd, Board of Trustees, John Simmons, Curator.

The Landsman's Bookshop Prize awarded for the best Third Year Landscape Design Project.

Matilda Smith Memorial Prize donated by the Kew Guild in memory of a botanical artist at Kew, and given to the best practical student.

JANE REYNOLDS

The Kew Diploma

The C. P. Raffill Prize given to the winner of the Kew Mutual Student Lecture Competition.

Life membership of the Students' Union for services rendered as fund-raiser and year representative in her second year.

ABIGAIL SQUANCE

The Kew Diploma

JEFFREY STEPHENSON

The Kew Diploma

The G. C. Johnson Memorial Prize administered by the Bentham-Moxon Trustees on behalf of the magazine *'The Grower'*, in memory of an ex-Kewite. The prize is for the best overall performance on the Kew Diploma course.

The Metcalfe Cup donated by the late Dr. Metcalfe, a former Keeper of the Jodrell Laboratory, to the student attaining the highest second year examination marks.

The Kew Guild Individual Study Prize as joint winner to the student for the second highest mark for their management thesis.

The Plant Identification Tests Prize awarded to the person attaining the highest marks overall in these tests.

SUNIA TEO

The Kew Diploma

MATTHEW VINCENT

The Kew Diploma

SIGRID ZUNDEL

The Kew Diploma

The British Friends of Jerusalem Botanical Garden Scholarship for a 12-month placement in Jerusalem to begin this autumn.

Life membership of the Students' Union for services rendered as Secretary in her second year and as Year Representative in her first and third year.

The Rotary Club of Kew Gardens Prize donated by the local club to the person who has done the best work towards charity, in this case as one of the leaders of *The Junior Church of Holy Trinity Church, Richmond*.

That concludes the presentation to our third year students. We turn now to second year students who have been awarded travel scholarships. We begin with:

SHELAGH KELL

The Henry Idris Matthews Award. This is given by the Trustees of the Bentham-Moxon Trust to allow a second year student to travel overseas. This year's winner, Shelagh Kell, is currently in Colombia, South America, working with a scientific research organisation in establishing a national palm collection at the botanic garden in Tulua.

ANNABEL CHANTLER

The Hozelock Prize is donated by the manufacturers of garden irrigation equipment to fund a student to travel abroad. This year's winner has just returned from a trip to the north west Pacific coast of the United States of America and Canada.

ROBERT BRETT

The David Dalziel Travel Scholarships are given by Mr. Dalziel, who lives in Florida. This year's winners have travelled widely.

Robert Brett is still suffering from jet-lag after returning two days ago from studying orchids in Singapore and Malaysia.

ANN FORRET

Ann Forret made an earlier trip to Denver Botanic Gardens, Colorado and the surrounding areas to study the cultivation and conservation of alpinists.

DORIS FRANCIS

A study tour of Brazil will be made later on to visit an Atlantic Forest Field Studies Centre to study the sustainable management of forests.

KATE JACOBS

Closer to home was the trip to France which included visits to Gardens holding collections of the Conservatoire des Collections Végétales Spécialisée in Paris.

ALAN HULME

An interest in arboriculture prompted a visit to Mexico where time was spent at Xalapa Botanic Garden and the Botanic Garden of Unam in Mexico City.

RACHEL MARTIN

Recently returned from a trip to Russia where she visited the Main Botanic Garden and the University Botanic Garden, Moscow.

There are two first year students present today to receive awards. One is due to the generosity of one of our lecturers, Mr. Tom Reynolds. To mark his official retirement from Kew's Jodrell Laboratory earlier this year, but not, happily, from his involvement with the Kew Diploma, Tom gave a donation to the Kew Guild to establish an annual award.

JAY VENN

Jay was this year's winner of the *Tom Reynolds Prize* for Plant Biochemistry and Physiology having achieved the highest marks in the subject in the first year examinations.

DARRIN DULING

The Professor Keith Jones Cup presented by a former Keeper of the Jodrell Laboratory to the student giving the best items of interest talks to the Kew Mutual Improvement Society.

KRISTIAN VRECKO

The School of Horticulture is co-ordinating the *International Dendrology Society Bursary* for the second year running. The award was established to help young dendrologists travel and study abroad. We are very privileged to have Mr. Michael Bonn, Chairman of the IDS with us today. This year's winner, Kristian, comes from Ljubljana, Slovenia, and is making a study of the Eastern Asiatic collections of trees at our satellite garden, Wakehurst Place in Sussex.

Lord Aberconway congratulated the students on completing their course. He encouraged leadership, ambition, knowledge and enterprise. Noting the large percentage of female students he said that women have a great future in the gardening profession.

Jane Reynolds thanked Kew on behalf of the students.

Robin Herbert, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, gave a vote of thanks to those presiding at the Presentation Day.

The Kew Medal Awards were introduced by the Director and presented by Lord Aberconway.

PROFILE ON HAZEL HYDE **Administrative Officer, School of Horticulture** **Kew Medal Winner 1992**

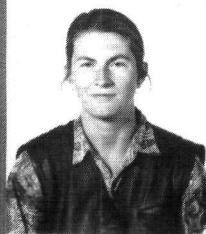
Hazel Hyde began her career at Kew on the 1st of April, 1966, working in the Office Services Section. "We were involved in all sorts of things," she remembers. "Every Thursday afternoon we used to have to go on our rounds with a barrow-load of guide books, making sure all the gates had a good supply for the weekend."

Hazel also looked after the stationery supplies for the Gardens and was involved in ordering furniture for an expanding Herbarium and a new Jodrell Laboratory building.

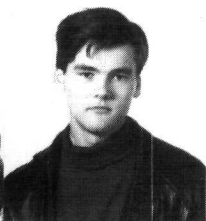
In 1980 Hazel transferred to the School of Horticulture as Administrative Officer, where she worked first for Leo Pemberton, then Graham Bass and now for the present Director of Studies, Ian Leese. "I had known Hazel from the days when I was a student at Kew myself," said Ian. "When I came back to do this job it was great to be working with someone I could relate to straight away. Apart from being the anchor of the School administration she has an excellent relationship with the students and plays a very important role as a student 'counsellor', helping to sort out all sorts of problems — including accommodation worries and finding jobs."

It is probably this part of her job that gives Hazel the most satisfaction. "I get a lot out of helping people, whoever it is," she says. "I particularly enjoy dealing with the students at Kew because they seem so dedicated to what they are doing here. I like to be here for them because there can be all sorts of problems. Some will be living away from home for the first time and there are all sorts of stresses caused by that, and by exams and so on. They know they can come into my office and a lot of things can be said that will never be repeated outside."

"Some of them say I'm like a mother to them but that is not how I would look on it — I don't mind 'aunt' but never 'mother'."



KATIE BUTLER



STEFAN CZELADZINSKI



ROSIE FARR



SARAH HIGGINS



GWENDRA KITCHENER



CHRISTOPHER LEACH



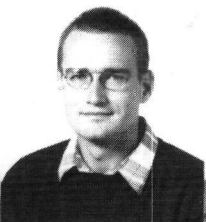
STEWART LESTER



ADRIAN LOVATT



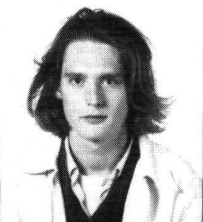
RICHARD OTTAWAY



MARKUS RADSCHUIT



JOE ROWNTREE



JO SCRIVENER



HARVEY STEPHENS



DARREN WEBSTER

COURSE 31

One of the biggest problems for the students is finding somewhere to live and this is one of Hazel's most important jobs. The school maintains a list of local accommodation and there is also Gumley Cottage, on Kew Green, which is home to nine students each year. "It is always difficult to find accommodation for the students at the sort of price they can afford — it gets very expensive around here," says Hazel. "We try and place people according to their circumstances. For example, we try and use Gumley Cottage for those who may be away from home for the first time, to give them time to make the change, while others may have more experience and be more used to looking after themselves."

Other official duties include helping prepare timetables for lectures and exams, administering the exam papers — "Please don't think I have anything to do with setting the questions or marking the answers though!" — and helping to administer applications from prospective students. "Last year we had over 180 applications for 14 places on the course so applications keep us busy."

Students are sometimes offered garden work in their spare time by local people — sometimes involving quite major landscaping — and Hazel is usually the first point of contact for the customer. "I put them in touch with the students likely to be interested and let them sort things out — no I don't get an agent's percentage." She has also helped many students find permanent jobs.



"It is the sort of job where you just get on and do whatever needs doing — from being a parlour maid in Gumley Cottage, to clearing up after a leaky roof in the School. I don't have the luxury of a staff I can delegate to but luckily I am just the sort of person who gets on with things."

Hazel retired from Kew on 30th April, 1993, to a house on the south coast she and her husband bought ten years ago. Before then she said, "I will be sorry to leave. I count myself lucky to have been able to work at Kew. I was absolutely delighted when I heard I had been recognised with the Kew Medal and I would just like to thank those who put my name forward for it".

An official retirement party was held on 26th April and attended by 200 current and former students and staff. The Director spoke of Hazel's achievements and third year student, Abigail Squance, thanked Hazel on behalf of the student body for all her work over the years. Several hundred pounds were raised in a collection towards the cost of a large diamond and sapphire ring which Hazel chose as her retirement gift. The Director also presented her with an album of messages received by the School of Horticulture wishing Hazel well in the future.

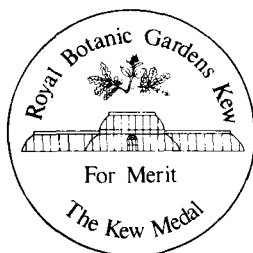
At the celebration organised by the students which followed in the Jodrell Atrium, Hazel was presented with a cake of the School of Horticulture, made by second year student David Higgon.

THE KEW MEDAL AWARD 1993

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

The Medal, struck in silver-gilt, was first awarded in 1980 and is inscribed "FOR MERIT". The face design illustrates the Palm House (build 1844-48) 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.

MR. KEITH D. BOYER — L.C.D.

Keith has unbounded enthusiasm for his work which is freely imparted to all of the visitors to the Loder Valley Reserve. His combination of craft skills and personal observation makes him an unrivalled and invaluable member of Kew's staff.

MRS. ANNE MORLEY-SMITH — Herbarium

Anne has brought her special and dedicated approach to arranging accommodation for visitors which she does with efficiency and good humour, and saves other staff an enormous amount of time. The service she provides adds in a special way to a visitor's experience at Kew.

DR. HAZEL P. WILKINSON — Jodrell

Hazel Wilkinson has been a tireless worker for Kew for the last 20 years, both as an employee and as a volunteer. Hazel has always kept a low profile, preferring to work conscientiously on a subject which she loves, and this work has been to the considerable benefit of Kew's reputation.

MR. FREDDIE RAYMOND — M.A.F.F.

Frieddie has been the officer in M.A.F.F. responsible for Kew and has worked tirelessly to ensure the best possible levels of grant-in-aid funding. He is a true friend of the institution.

THE KEW STUDENTS' UNION ANNUAL REPORT

By David Robert Higgon, President

The present Committee is as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| President | David Robert Higgon |
| Secretary | Guillaume Baltz |
| Treasurer | Richard Smedley |
| Fund Raiser | Kate Jacobs |
| Sport and Social Representative | Robert Brett |

At prize day the Students' Union awarded the prize for the Best Plant Identification Score to Jeffery Stephenson and recognised the work done for the Union by two other students by awarding them life membership. Sigrid Zündel had been a year representative and the Secretary, and Jane Reynolds had been a year representative and the Fund Raiser.

This year has seen student representation at the Independent Panel meeting and meetings with John Simmons, David Hardman and Ian Leese. These meetings have proved very successful as a forum in which to discuss problems as well as general issues affecting students. The following is a summary of the many things achieved in the last year.

Practical appraisals

Supervisors now discuss their reports with the students before they leave the section.

Students are made aware if their performance is not what is expected part way through their placement so that they have time to improve before their final report.

A complaints procedure has been agreed for students who cannot resolve their differences with the Supervisors concerned.

Careers advice

Having recognised that current provisions were insufficient, an agreement has been reached with St. Marys College, Twickenham for Kew students to use their facilities. The existing careers advice will continue to be available from Reading University.

Bicycles

Four bicycles have been provided for the use of students stationed in the Stable yard and an approved route through the Gardens has been created.

Videos

In order to supplement the lectures on soil science, ecology and structural botany, programmes from the 'Plant Life' series on Channel 4 and from Open University transmissions on BBC 2 have been recorded and made available to students during their lecture blocks. Other relevant programmes will be added to the collection as and when available.

The Edinburgh Exchange

The exchange of students between Kew and Edinburgh Botanic Gardens is to continue for the next two years, even though Edinburgh is no longer taking on new students. After this period the exchange may continue with staff from Edinburgh.

Prize Day

For the first time second year students were invited to attend Prize Day and the seating arranged so that prize winners' families had as good a view as possible.

Under negotiation at the moment is the provision of student counsellors. These will hopefully be members of staff who are prepared to help students with any course problems they may have.

Last year saw the retirement of Hazel Hyde from the School of Horticulture. She enjoyed a very special relationship with the student body and so, when it came to putting on a farewell party, we were happy to see to all the details. It only remains to thank Hazel for her many years of service and to thank Ian Leese and the other current members of staff in the School of Horticulture for their continued help and support.

STUDENTS' UNION SPORTS AND SOCIAL REPORT 1993

By Robert Brett, Sports and Social Secretary

Another year has passed by too quickly to remember exactly what's happened, or not as the case may be? Apologies must be made for the lack of events happening this year.

However, the 1993 season of activities got under way back in the spring, when Kew's football team struck a deep blow to the visiting Edinburgh team, with a triumphant win at home. This compensated for the previous October game played up there in those sunny lands, when Kew's visit could not prevail against the disastrous blows dealt by Edinburgh. The ties that are

made with Edinburgh on this particular event are also socially important and, although with the sad loss of Edinburgh's course, I hope that these ties can still be maintained.

Wakehurst, although tied with Kew, has also offered a means by which Kew has been able to play both football and cricket. Kew's visit earlier on this year for football ended with a negative result when Wakehurst was able to strike home some lucky goals. However, a return visit by Wakehurst for a jolly game of cricket caught Wakehurst off par. With Kew in bat, the last ball was struck for a single run, thus enabling Kew to slide in for victory. The score ended with Kew 118, Wakehurst 117.

Whilst on the subject of cricket, we must not forget the annual tradition of L.C.D. versus The Rest. The game, which is the climax of the cricket season (if you can call it a season?), was played with 25 overs and culminated with The Rest being beaten by 31 runs. The scores were L.C.D. 157, The Rest 126.

With September upon us, the new influx of first years arrive and this is a gentle reminder to search through the student stores for those very old artifacts, the clog and aprons. This year's race was held in perfect conditions, and surprise, surprise, the new intake didn't know what hit them! First over the line was Christopher Leach and the first lady was Katie Butler.

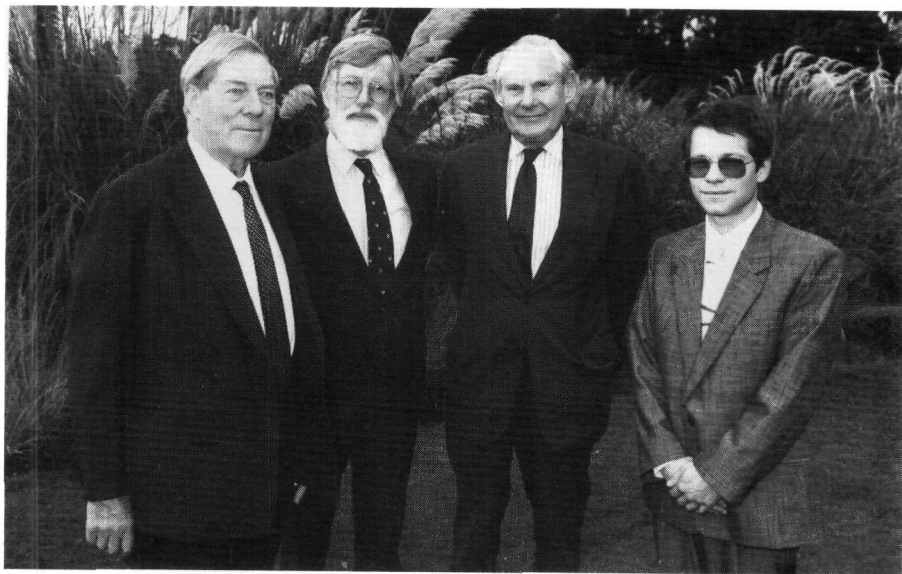
Having just about managed to catch my breath, it was now time for another yearly tradition, the Round the Gardens Race. This year we extended the course from the previous few years. Instead of finishing along the Broad Walk, the final stretch is around the Princess of Wales Conservatory, towards the Duke's Garden, and then back towards the Orangery for the finish. This year's race had a good turnout of competitors even with the weather being bitterly cold and I hope that this will continue in the future (the number of competitors, not the weather!). The winner was Nigel Rothwell (Tropical Ferns) with a time of 14 minutes 35 seconds.

WHAT'S ON THE AGENDA : having spoken to a few people at Wisley, we are hoping to revitalise the Kew/Wisley Race. This year we will try not to forget the Pancake Race — oops!!! There will also be the continued L.C.D. versus The Rest cricket match and the Round the Gardens Race, as well as the usual football matches.

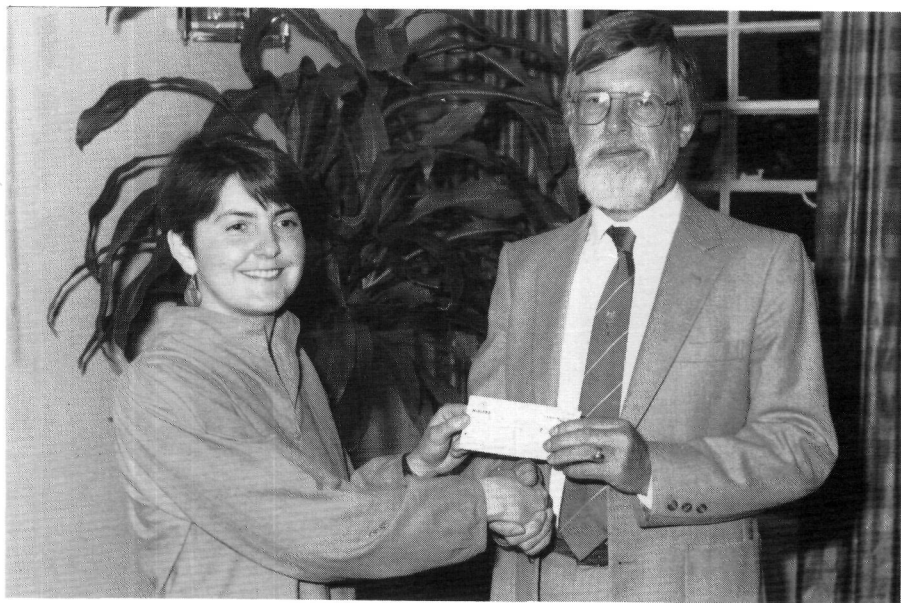
I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those people who have helped out with the various events that have been going on throughout the last year.



Christopher Leach (front), holding the Clog and Apron Race Winner's Cup surrounded by his colleagues after the race.



Left to right: Lord Aberconway, Professor Ghilleen Prance, Mr. Michael Bonn, Chairman of the International Dendrology Society, pictured with Kristian Vrecko from Slovenia, winner of the International Dendrology Society Bursary.



Shelagh Kell, winner of the Henry Idris Matthews Award, receiving her cheque from Professor Ghilleen Prance, the Director.



Members of the Kew Diploma Course No. 31 being taken on a behind-the-scenes tour on their first day by Ian Leese, Director of Studies.



Photo: courtesy of Prototype Communications

Left to right: Ian Leese, Director of Studies, watches Annabel Chantler, winner of the Hozelock Prize, receiving her cheque from Ges Walker, Marketing Director, Hozelock Limited.



Valerie Finnis (Lady Scott) pictured with some of the Kew Diploma recipients of grants from The Merlin Trust.



Ian Leese, Director of Studies, pictured with members of the International Diploma Course in Botanic Garden Management. Sarah Rutherford (left) was the Course Supervisor and Sue Macdonald (not in picture) was the Course Manager. There were 15 participants from 14 countries.

THE KEW MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY AUTUMN 1993 REPORT

By Darrin Duling, Hon. Chairman

The Mutual entered its 124th year with quite a few noteworthy changes. New officers elected were: Chairman, Darrin Duling, Secretary, Robert Brett, Assistant Secretary, Guillaume Baltz and Treasurer, Alan Hulme. Returning members of the overseeing committee were Dickon Bowling, Peter Brandham and David Cooke. Joining them this year was Chris Kidd, last year's Mutual Chairman and now a permanent member of staff in the tropical section at Kew.

Bowing to the pressures of escalating operating costs, membership dues were raised from four to seven pounds, after having remained constant for many years. The increase will primarily provide enhanced funding for lecturers fees and travelling expenses. Included in the new membership price is admission to the Christmas party (more on this later).

New links were formed with the *Friends of Kew*, as a mutual (no pun intended) agreement between both groups was made in which each will support and assist the other in advertising and implementing events. Part of this plan includes an ongoing position for the Chairman of the Mutual in a newly formed events policy board which is instrumental in formulating programmes for the Friends. Additionally the *Friends Kew Magazine* has begun to feature the schedule for Mutual lectures and, in turn, Friends lectures and events are now announced as part of the business of each Mutual evening. This new found collaboration is something to be applauded as it promises to strengthen the educational outreach of both organisations.

In developing the new season's lecture schedule, it was decided that this being a time of Rio Summits and Global Initiatives, an underlying theme featuring world habitats and conservation programmes would be appropriate. The response from requests for lecturers was fantastic, and as the time for definite decisions drew near it was difficult to make choices; however, 13 lecturers were eventually selected. Following comment that in recent years Kew's own resource of expertise had been under-utilised by the Mutual, almost half of those chosen were members of staff. Along with four outside speakers, the autumn schedule was rounded off by three of the eight Kew Diploma student travel scholarship recipients, who each presented excellent accounts of their journeys; Robert Brett spoke on his trip to Singapore, Alan Hulme on Mexico and Rachel Martin told of her experiences in the former Soviet Union.

The season started off with the traditional Cheese and Wine Party to welcome the incoming student group. This year the function was held in the Cambridge Cottage lounge and was well attended by Kew staff and students. All those who were there agreed that it was an excellent way to start the ball rolling.

The first lecture on 20th September was given by Mike Swift of Lingholme Gardens in Cumbria, in which he exhibited an amazing selection of slides taken during his exploration of Yunnan and Tibet, all the while imparting to the audience a graphic insight into the trials encountered while travelling in that part of the world. For example, the necessity of chasing pigs out of the latrines before entering!

In the following weeks Jodrell staff member Alec Pridgeon shared with us his love of scuba diving and marine biology through a lecture on whales and dolphins, and landscape architect, Robert Bray, demonstrated ways in which wildlife habitat could be designed into amenity landscapes. (At last report, Alec is still digging out that *whale* pond in his back garden . . .)

John Dransfield, Kew's own 'Palm Guru' posed the question "Sustainable use of Palms?", pointing out that the immense diversity and durability of products produced from that family could be used on a much more effective scale than at present.

John Woodhams returned once again to the jungles of Roiraima in Brazil; he was aided in his trip down memory lane by Chris Kidd, who staged a mock 'This is Your Life, John Woodhams' to celebrate the fact that John had first addressed the Mutual 30 years ago in 1963. (Now, where will *Chris* be in 2023?)

Further lecture highlights included Christopher Bailes' presentation of the creation of the Royal Horticultural Society's garden, Rosemoor, and Paul Pierce-Kelly of the London Zoo spoke of the Invertebrate Conservation Programme, bringing with him some creepy-crawly friends for visual support.

We later went back to the Orient, this time to Taiwan with Tony Kirkham, who enthusiastically expounded on the splendid plants and scenery of that island. One tree that caught everyone's attention was *Taiwania cryptomerioides*, a spectacular giant conifer which has sadly become increasingly rare in its namesake land.

On 6th December Andy Jackson and Simon Linington trekked from the wilds of Wakehurst Place to talk about their involvement in Kew's conservation programmes, primarily focusing on the maintenance of Loder Valley Reserve and the International Seed Bank.

The final lecture of the season was presented by Laura Ponsonby, who expounded on the life and travels of the artist Marianne North. For those of us who have attended her lectures in the past, it was heartening to note that this time quite a few hands were raised when she asked her standard audience question: "How many of you have visited the North Gallery...?"

Things were brought to a sensational close on 15th December with the Christmas Party held in the School of Horticulture. Music was provided by 'Blues Canvass' and many partygoers were pleasantly surprised to witness our present Treasurer, Alan Hulme, banging away on a guitar with a great deal of style and talent! In only its second year of existence it looks as if this event will be recognised as THE party of the year at Kew, providing an excellent opportunity for people from all sections of the garden and the community to join together in celebration.

In the coming year we plan to host a series of in-depth conservation lectures; many speakers, ranging from international conservation liaison officers to Kew Diploma students, will be speaking on their involvement in the global effort to preserve and restore the environment. Perhaps an ultimate solution will be provided when Gren Lucas poses the question "Can Botanic Gardens Save the World?". However, following fast on its heels will be conservation debates addressing the actual impact that both botanists and horticulturists have on the plant conservation movement.

Judging from feedback garnered thus far, the Mutual continues to accomplish its intended goal of enhancing public awareness of the natural world and related issues which affect our lives daily. We are all proud to be a part of this flagship of Kew tradition and look forward to its future expansion and innovation.

RUNNING WITH GEORGE: 1951-1952

By Graham Burgess

During my trip to New Zealand during our Centennial Year I met and stayed with George Fuller. He put into my hands the records relating to his involvement with the Running Club, 1951 and 1952.

The records, now just yellowed scraps of paper, still convey his enthusiasm and energy. While at Kew he not only resurrected two pre-War races, the Clog and Apron and the Round the Gardens Team Race, but also initiated another, the Kew/Wisley Relay Race.

The first Kew/Wisley Relay Race started outside the Curator's Gate on a warm Sunday, June the 3rd 1951. Dr. Bor was the starter. George had earlier mapped the route by bicycle. It went from Kew to Richmond, Kingston, Esher, Street, Cobham and finally Wisley, a total distance of about 16.3 miles.

The Kew Team of P. Huggett, L. Carn, P. Nutt and G. Fuller took 1 hour 38 minutes 30 seconds to complete the course beating their Wisley rivals by 8 minutes 45 seconds. From thence on George Fuller hoped that the race would become an annual event called the Festival Relay Race.

Indeed, the following year saw the race staged again with the John Innes Institute Team entering the fray, so now there were three teams of six, this time running the other way from



Alan Titchmarsh starts the Veterans' Clog and Apron Race. Ex-Kew students participating included Mike Bentall, John Gaggini, Graham Burgess, Richard Ward (last!), Brian Pitcher, David (Jock) Coleman, Tom Risely and Barry Phillips. The clogs in both these pictures were kindly donated by Walkley Clogs Ltd., of Hebden Bridge.



Alan Titchmarsh presenting the Winner's Cup for the Veterans' Centenary Clog and Apron Race to Chris Kidd (right). David Coleman (left) was the runner-up (Kew student 1961-63).

Wisley to Kew. The race had to be cancelled once as March the 29th saw snow and terrible conditions but it was finally run on Sunday 27th April and again the Kew team was victorious. Tea was provided by Dr. Bor at the Coach and Horses, where a Challenge Cup was presented to the winners by Mr. George Pring, Director of the Missouri Botanical Gardens and to the runners-up, the John Innes Institute, a pair of carved Maori batons given by George Fuller "as a token of his interest in the race and its future".

A collection of George Fuller's Running Records (Reports and letters) is held in the Archives.

THE DIRECTOR'S ACTIVITIES DURING 1993

The highlights of the year were the Director's election to Fellowship of the Royal Society and the award of the inaugural International Cosmos Prize, arising from the Expo '90 Exhibition in Japan and its basic concept: the harmonious co-existence of nature and mankind.

He went to the United States to visit the Biosphere and should have gone on to address a large number of American Friends of Kew in San Francisco. Unfortunately a violent rainstorm grounded the plane in Tucson and he was left sitting on the tarmac for four hours, while the Friends sat in California wondering where he was! He visited Brazil three times: one a fleeting visit on behalf of WWF, the second when he and Mrs. Prance led the first Friends of Kew cruise to the Amazon, and the third when he visited the R.B.G. project in the north east, *Plantas do Nordeste*, and also chaired a Ciba Foundation symposium on medicinal plants in Fortaleza.

In June, he went to Hong Kong at the request of the Kadoorie Foundation to advise on the establishment of a botanic garden. In August, he and several other members of staff represented Kew at the International Botanical Congress in Tokyo. He was back in Japan in October to receive the Cosmos Prize; this took place in the presence of the Crown Prince and took the form of a very large medal on a rainbow coloured ribbon. In return, he was required to attend some ten days of functions and give several lectures, so he worked hard for the astronomical number of yen which accompanied the Prize.

The Director is in demand for ever increasing numbers of lectures, seminars, etc., to a wide variety of audiences. He spoke on the work of Kew to the London-based Friends of the Jerusalem Botanic Garden and the 'Nature in Art' group in Gloucestershire; he opened the new Visitor Centre at Mark's Hall in Essex, with which Kew has been connected since before World War I; he presented prizes at Dean Close School, Cheltenham, Waingel's Copse School at Woodley in Berkshire, at Framlingham Junior School and Culford School, Bury St. Edmund's, both in his native East Anglia. He gave seminars to various under- and post-graduate groups at the Universities of Bath, Reading, Oxford, Birmingham and University College London. He contributed to the various events connected with the 250th anniversary of Sir Joseph Banks, including the unveiling of a blue plaque on Sir Joseph's house in Isleworth, now part of West Thames College. He lectured at the 200th anniversary celebrations of Gilbert White and the Linnean Society Regional Meeting at York in commemoration of Richard Spruce. He also delivered the prestigious Bishop Grosseteste Lecture in the Chapter House of Lincoln Cathedral and addressed the Paterson Cancer Research Institute in Manchester.

As President of the Kew Guild in its Centenary Year, the Director chaired the Centenary Dinner in the Dinosaur Hall of the Natural History Museum, in the presence of our Patron, Her Royal Highness The Princess Alexandra and Sir Angus Ogilvy, which is described in greater detail elsewhere in the *Journal*. As part of the centenary celebrations, the Director, the Curator and Nigel Hepper took part in a programme of lectures in Winchester.

He continued to serve on numerous organisations, notably the Royal Horticultural Society, for whom he chaired a Working Party on their Scientific, Advisory and Education activities, which reported in December. He continued as Botanical Adviser to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as a board member of Botanic Gardens Conservation International and World Conservation Monitoring Centre, the Horniman Museum, the Margaret Mee Amazon and Lovaine Trusts, the Plant Sciences Advisory Committee of Reading University, the Church of England Synod Board for Social Responsibility and the World Humanity Action Trust. His period

as a member of the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) International Board came to an end in December but he assumed the Presidency of the newly formed U.K. Chapter of the Society for Economic Botany in its place. He has also taken on an advisory role in the Environmental Change Unit of Oxford University and the board of Pro Natura, an international environmental organisation, based in France. His old school, Malvern College, appointed him a Governor, while Keble College, Oxford, elected him an Honorary Fellow. Having elected him to its august Fellowship, the Royal Society immediately pressed him into service for the Hooke and Soirée Committees. The Director is a busy man.

Visitors

In February the High Commissioner for Uganda came to view the work of Dr. Linda Fellows and to have lunch with the Director. Lord Howe, the M.A.F.F. Parliamentary Secretary in the Lords, paid a 'behind-the-scenes' visit, as did Sir Derek Andrews's successor as Permanent Secretary, Mr. Richard Packer. H.R.H. The Prince of Wales came on an informal visit to see some of our work on conservation and to meet staff involved. Other visitors were Sir Bernard and Lady Ingham and Mrs. Penny Gummer and her children. In September, Mr. Maurice Strong came to deliver the fourth Kew Environmental Lecture.

The Director and Mrs. Prance continue to host numerous breakfasts, lunches and dinners in order to promote the work of Kew among persons of influence.

As a result of the autumn Cabinet changes, Mrs. Gillian Shephard became Minister of Agriculture in place of Mr. John Gummer; she will be visiting Kew in the spring.

There were changes on the Board of Trustees. Sir Leslie Fowden and Professor Edward Cocking, both of whom were among the original appointments, retired from the Board. Sir Leslie was succeeded as Queen's Trustee by the Earl of Selborne, the current Chairman of the Lords Science and Technology Committee. Mr. Christopher Brickell, known to many at Kew in his capacity as Director General of the R.H.S., also joined the Board and Mr. Julian Pettifer took Sir David Attenborough's place. Another of our Trustees, Sir Philip Dowson, was elected President of the Royal Academy.

ON WRITING 'A CENTURY OF KEW PLANTSMEN — A CELEBRATION OF THE KEW GUILD' (1993)

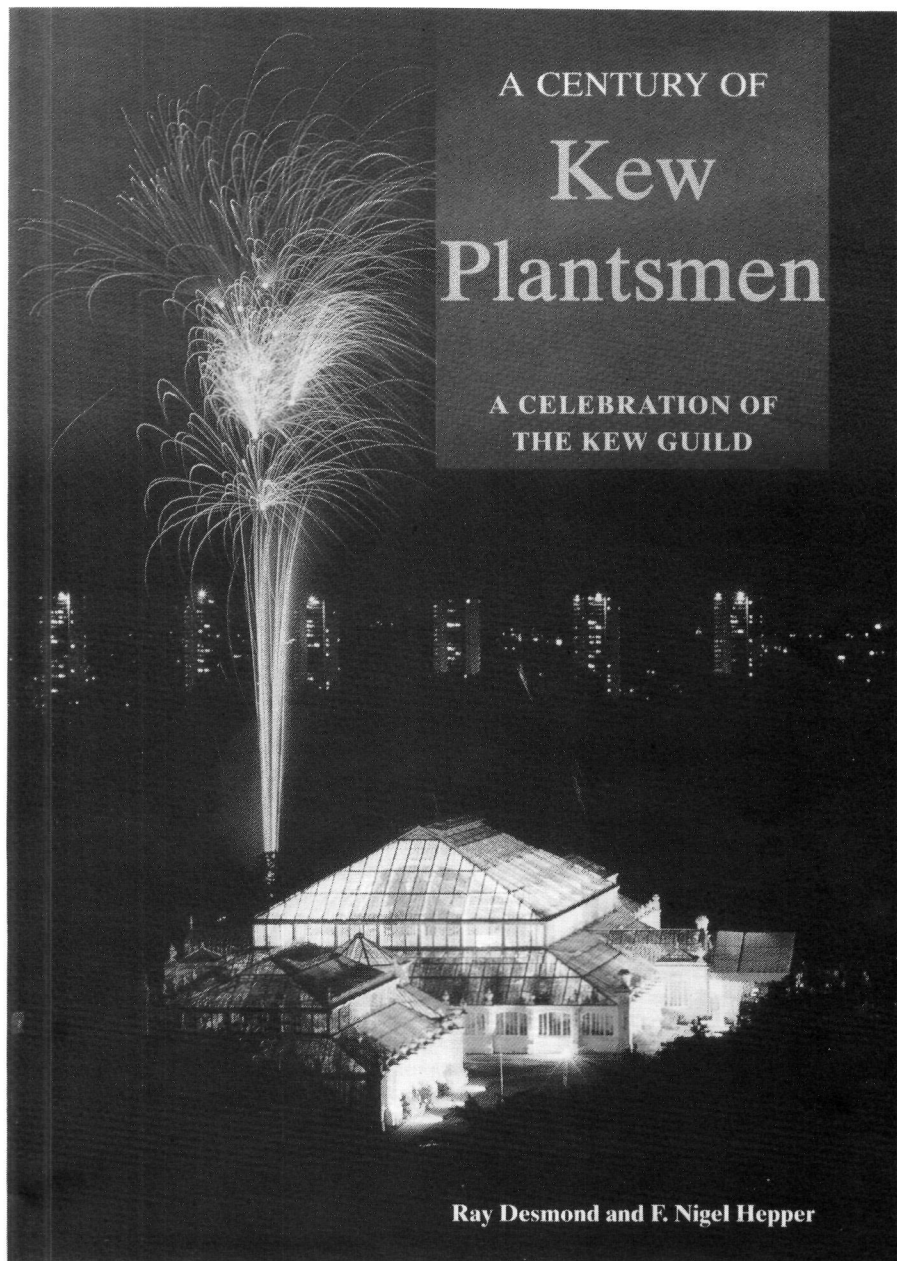
By Ray Desmond and F. Nigel Hepper

When Richard Ward, the Editor of the *Journal of the Kew Guild*, suggested that we write about our preparation of *A Century of Kew Plantsmen*, we were doubtful whether it was necessary. However, on reflection we realised that since the book was prepared as an anthology from the *Journal* itself, our comments might be of historical interest, perhaps even for our successors at the bicentenary in 2093!

In preparation for the Centenary several Kewites joined a sub-committee in 1986 under the chairmanship of Martin Sands. In the next few years the Centenary Sub-Committee held 34 meetings. We were both members and we each had suggestions for a centenary publication. As in most organisations, those who suggest something are landed with doing the job, so it was with this publication.

Primarily we decided that it would be about Kew people, rather than Kew plants, over the last hundred years of the Kew Guild. We each made a list of subjects which could form chapters and then compiled from a century of annual *Journals* a long list of possible items. It was interesting to find how similar were our selections.

Kew history and the people who formed it obviously figured prominently in our selections, and fascinating they were too. Here buried in a publication of limited circulation is living history in the current events and recollections of the day. Some of these recollections went back more than 60 years, so we were dealing with people who had been on the staff when Kew was a Royal Garden.



A CENTURY OF
Kew
Plantsmen

A CELEBRATION OF
THE KEW GUILD

Ray Desmond and F. Nigel Hepper

The book cover of 'A Century of Kew Plantsmen'.

Superimposed on the official history was that of the Kew Guild linking present and past staff around the world. It was appropriate, therefore, to include a history of the Guild, as well as lengthy excerpts of letters from outposts of the British Empire.

Obituaries are a rich source of personal information in the *Journal*. Selection was, of course, difficult in order to give a wide spectrum of distinguished Kewites and yet to keep within reasonable bounds of print. Most of the entries needed to be edited in order to keep the information orientated towards Kew — early education and extra-mural interests were usually deleted.

When we considered which illustrations to include here we could range far wider than the *Journal*. We had the extensive archives of Kew Library at hand, thanks to Sylvia FitzGerald, and this proved to be a time-consuming task with tremendous personal fascination. It was rather frustrating, too, as we wanted to include far more than we could possibly print in a book of reasonable size, so we chose many that were unlikely to appear in conventional histories of Kew, and action shots rather than studio portraits.

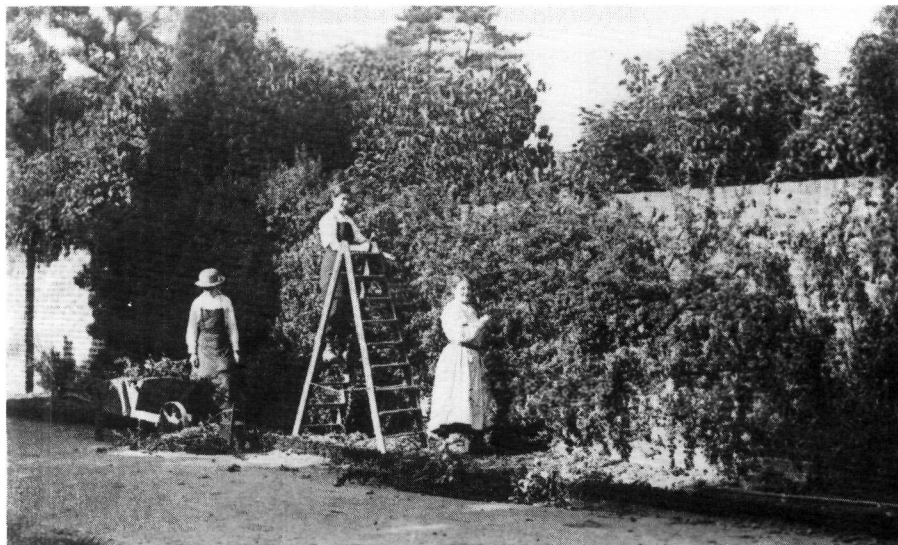
It has been gratifying to see the reviews published in several periodicals around the world. The following one from *Taxon* 42: 937 (1993) by an American reviewer gives a point of view of Kew and the Guild as seen from the other side of the Atlantic:

"Whether or not you have walked through Kew you will enjoy this book. Out of the attic have come words and 95 unconventional archival photos spanning two centuries, from the Temple of Aeolus to the Princess of Wales Conservatory. Seven chapters open potting sheds, tell how 'misguided females' wrecked the orchid house, describe Princess Mary 'as a rollicking good-natured girl of 14,' and much more, all with tidy quips such as 'hard work will not shorten life'. Quotations come from *Journal of the Kew Guild* (1893-date), little known outside her gates, and profiles of 'distinguished Kewites'. Thomas Meehan, for instance, tells of Sir William Hooker having proposed that Meehan present the Queen with a 'very fine bunch of bananas' ripened in the glasshouse. In his shirt-sleeves, hat in hand, Tom held out the bananas until weighted down, he popped his hat on his head, and took the bunch with both hands. Presently 'Sir William sent for me . . .' (see p. 56). Nor was this the only Hooker-Meehan confrontation. Turning to the May 1894 *Journal*, we read how when Meehan offended the Director he was sent 'for punishment to work in the Cactus House, which no one cared for but I early acquired a liking for it'. Later in Philadelphia Meehan met visiting George Engelmann when ***Cereus tuberosus*** flowered for the first time in America. After Meehan's sojourn in Colorado he complimented his 'life-long friend' by naming Engelmann Canyon. (Who will write the life and times of the spirited editor of *Gardener's monthly*, the Kewite, who as a Philadelphia resident strategically saved Bartram's Garden from dismemberment?)

"Among 'Kewites abroad' reporting from Turkey to Japan, Papua to Sri Lanka, Calabar to Columbia, is E. H. Wilson and his Chinese exploits. For 30 years almost every issue of the *Journal* told of Wilson's seed and stamp collecting (including fraudulent stamps the Japanese made for collectors). There is Montague Free at Miss Willmott's Warley Place and Kew, before he came to Brooklyn. Kew is pin-pointed as the navel of the horticultural world. Out of Kew came George Harry Pring to St. Louis; A. W. Hill, who botanized in Peru and Bolivia; W. B. Hemsley, co-author of *Biologia centrali-Americana* (1886 etc.); George Nicholson, perhaps nearest the ideal Kewite; and W. B. Turrill, an 'omega taxonomist'. William T. Thistleton-Dyer appeared in Wilfred Blunt's *In for a Penny* (1978); here are three more photos of the pompous 'botanical pope'.

"Before you next press the turnstile at Kew, re-read Desmond & Hepper. And for some of their other books see *Taxon* 37: 202, 40: 712, 42: 283." [Joseph Ewan, Missouri Botanical Garden]

Editor's note: Copies £15, including postage inland, from The Kew Guild, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 3AB. All Kewites should have one and encourage libraries to purchase one too.



First World War, Lady Gardeners at Kew 1915, from a postcard in the private collection of Jim Keesing. Note it is the Duke's Garden wall and two of the Misses are Taylor and Bell.

KEW GUILD COMMITTEE MEETINGS

During 1993 the Guild Committee discussed a wide variety of issues. These included Past Presidents' badges; investment of assets, Centenary celebrations; advertising in the *Journal*; Award Scheme details; recognition of donations to R.B.G., Kew; Aiton's Memorial, Alumni Association; George Brown Memorial Awards; Annual Dinner organisation; P.R. and communication with members.

NEWS RELEASE — KEW SEASON TICKETS EVEN MORE OF A BARGAIN

Regular visitors to Kew Gardens — and to Kew's 'country' establishment at Wakehurst Place in West Sussex — will gain under a new pricing structure to be introduced at the start of 1994. Standard season ticket holders will be able to take a guest into the Gardens, at a reduced price, and new concession season tickets will be available to people in receipt of state benefits.

Although single adult admission is being increased from £3.50 to £4.00, the standard season ticket, which gives admission to both gardens throughout the year, is kept at £17.00. The standard family season ticket is also held at £33, and holders will be able to take two guests into the Gardens at £2 per guest instead of £4 per guest.

New single and family concession season tickets are being introduced at a lower price than the Senior Citizen season tickets which they replace. The concession family season will cost £16.00 (formerly £28.00), and the single concession season £10.00 (£14.50). The concession season will now apply not only to senior citizens, but to students, the unemployed, the long-term disabled and to people in receipt of family credit and income support.

The single concession admission price will be £2.00 and that for a child — or for an adult an hour before the gardens close — £1.50. A family day ticket, covering two adults and up to four children up to the age of 16, will be £10.00.

Kew remains one of the least costly of the major London attractions, with admission to others currently ranging from £4.00 to £6.70.

THE GREAT CRESTED NEWT



One hundred Great Crested Newts were released at R.B.G. Kew on 1st July 1993, after a three-month study of the newt population in the conservation area, Queen's Cottage Grounds. The project was funded by British Open Cast Coal. Pictured above (from left to right) are Clare Bradley, the Blue Peter Gardener and former Kew Diploma Course 22 student, Robert Bray, a landscape architect who acted as herpetological consultant to British Open Cast Coal, and Alan Hulme, one of the current Kew Diploma students involved in the study.

Population levels will continue to be monitored in the future by Kew Diploma students as part of their ecological studies.

NEWS RELEASE — NEW KEW TOURS OF GARDENS' SPECIAL FEATURES

The guided tours service of Kew Gardens has introduced a series of tours which concentrate of specialised aspects of the world-famous Gardens.

They are available — in addition to the general tours of the Gardens — on specified days until March, and include Architecture at Kew, the Temperate House — which houses many South African and Mediterranean plants — and a look at some of the many plant species used in folk and modern medicine.

Two tours have been especially designed to cater for family parties: 'Dinosaur Plants', a look at the living relatives of plants from the age of the dinosaurs, and 'The Secret Life of the Sea', the fascinating and colourful world of Kew's Marine Display.

Full details can be obtained from the Guides Co-ordinator, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 3AB. Telephone 081-332 5623.

BUTTERFLIES AT KEW

By Sandra Bell

Butterflies are amongst the most beautiful and obvious of all insects adding to the enjoyment of Kew's visitors throughout the summer months. Despite the destructive tendencies of one or two species, whose larvae feed on cruciferous plants, it is hard to imagine having too many butterflies. The last two years have provided an opportunity to study Kew's existing populations and to plan for their enhancement.

Members of the London Branch of the national organisation, Butterfly Conservation were invited to survey Kew's butterflies by visiting the Gardens and marking the species seen on a map. Over 100 visits were made in 1992 and 24 species recorded. The survey confirmed that the nationally rare White Letter Hairstreak, whose larvae feed on elm, has survived at Kew despite dramatic decline throughout the country following Dutch elm disease. Many other species are represented by flourishing populations such as Meadow Brown, our commonest butterfly, and Purple Hairstreak which is not often seen, as adult insects spend most of their time around the tops of oak trees where they feed on honeydew.

Butterfly Conservation commissioned ecologists Marney Hall and Karen Buckley to produce a Management Plan for Kew's butterflies based on the data collected in the survey and this was presented to Kew staff at a seminar in January 1993. The Plan shows how our butterfly populations can be maximised by providing shelter and food plants for larvae and nectar sources for adult insects. Many of our butterflies are grass feeders in their larval stages and amendments were proposed to our management of long grass areas in the Arboretum to provide foliage at a suitable stage of development for each species. The mowing regime was agreed at a meeting in June and is now being implemented. Some areas will remain uncut for over a year to allow butterflies to complete their life-cycle in larger numbers.

New machinery is required to remove cut grass so that nutrient levels in the soil are reduced to the point at which nectar-bearing wild-flowers can compete with vigorous grasses. Areas for wild flower enrichment will be pin-pointed during 1994 and seeds collected from our own populations of suitable species.

Volunteers continued their survey throughout 1993. From 1994 recording will be done on a more scientific basis. A number of transects will be established and these will be walked regularly to provide useful information about the effectiveness of our management, allowing fine-tuning if necessary.

A Kew Information Sheet called *Butterflies at Kew* (No. K18) was written by Rupert Hastings to interpret our work with butterflies to the public. Signs which explain the benefits of the mowing regime will be placed in suitable areas of the Arboretum. We hope that visitors will enjoy more butterflies and wildflowers at Kew for years to come and appreciate that the Gardens can be managed for their pleasure and the benefit of wildlife too.

THE IRREVERENT ANTHROPOLOGIST

By Louise Bustard

The 2nd of October 1992 was a very difficult day for me. After 12 years at Kew; three on the Diploma Course and nine growing the cacti and succulent collections; it was my last day. Two days later I walked nervously through the doors of Goldsmith's College in east London, part of the University of London. I was nervous because I didn't know what to expect. I had never been to university before and here I was a 'mature student' (mature in years, if not behaviour!) and I was terrified of the prospect of being the only antique (37 actually) on the course. I need not have worried though, throughout all the departments in the college there were a large number of mature students, in fact, it brought a whole new meaning to the words 'antiques roadshow'.

So here I was, with the help of a Kew Guild Award, embarking on a Master of Arts degree in social anthropology. A strange departure from plants many might think but the subjects of plants and people compliment each other perfectly. The question now was 'Why was I changing direction at this time in my career?' To answer this I have to go back to 1988 when, with the help of a Kew Guild Award, I went to the American southwest, specifically the Mojave and Sonoran deserts (see *Kew Guild Journal* 1988, Vol. 10, No. 93, pp 754-755).

During this fascinating six week tour the emphasis of my interest in plants changed completely. I no longer found I was interested in the plants for their own sake. As a result of the educational approach of the botanic gardens I visited there, I became completely enthralled by the relationship and inter-action between the people of the region and the surrounding plant life. For example the botanic garden in Phoenix, Arizona has a trail which visitors can follow taking them from the pre-conquest civilizations through the various habitats and indigenous plants and how those people utilised them; to the plant introductions of the Spanish conquerors (e.g. **Punica granatum** — the pomegranate) and on to the present day native people, and how they are endeavouring to integrate the plant knowledge of native, Spanish and Anglo cultures. This really was the spark that ignited my interest in ethnobotany.

Consequently, on my return I felt rather like a racing car being driven by a very nervous driver, capable of a great deal more if only someone would push the throttle to the floor. I searched for a course in ethnobotany but there were none in Britain, although in America it has been included in university courses for several decades. However, finding the fees for an American university is like the impossible dream. So as ethnobotany is the study of how people utilise plants it seemed to me that the next option was the study of people — anthropology.

I was delighted when the University of London accepted the Kew Diploma in place of a first degree and accepted me onto the M.A. course in social anthropology. Out of the wide variety of courses we could choose from, the theory course was obligatory and for me, the most difficult. Having always studied factual subjects in the past, I found the philosophical approach hard to grasp at times. I was grateful that I had visited Highgate Cemetery some years ago to look at the wild flowers growing there — for as a result I knew who and where Karl Marx was — but ask me to recount his philosophy? — well, it doesn't really matter any more, does it?

Much more interesting (for me at least) were the three other courses I took. The 'Worlds Religions' was fascinating and clarified so many of today's world news topics, e.g. the history of Islam and the different sects within that religious sphere. With a greater knowledge of other beliefs comes a greater understanding of other customs, rituals and events.

'Food, Health, Fertility and Development' covered the history of eating habits (a subject very close to my heart) worldwide, nutrition and the causes, effects and politics of droughts and famines. It became clear whilst studying this subject how much more could be achieved to overcome famines if only more nutritionists and politicians knew more or, alternatively, consulted much more closely with agriculturists and horticulturists. Much more money should be given to provide, or teach, such expertise in the third world countries to avoid these tragedies, rather than waiting until it happens and then pouring the money in.

My final subject was the 'Anthropology of Medicine'. This did not cover cures or treatments but how different cultures around the world approach the subject of disease or illness and how each philosophy would then approach treatment. This covered, among other things, shamen ('witch-doctors!') in Africa, North America and Siberia, traditional Chinese medicine and the western approach to terminal illnesses such as AIDS and madness. This last subject overlapped considerably with religious aspects and one of the major essays I was given was on 'European Witchcraft'. At last I had found a subject involving plants. For the European 'witches' (really just old, wise village women with a vast knowledge of herbal remedies) were a remnant of the original pagan religion (one reason why they were so persecuted) and used plants a great deal in their rituals. I suppose one could call them the 'junkies' of their age for hallucinogens played a very large part in their practices. Among their stock in trade were: **Aconitum napellus** (Monkshood), **Atropa belladonna** (Deadly Nightshade) and **Hyoscyamus niger** (Henbane).

Having come to anthropology a little later than some of my fellow students, my thoughts and approach were once described as 'refreshing', a wonderfully polite way of saying naive. After one three hour lecture on the life and works of a particularly eminent anthropologist who had spent his entire life formulating a philosophy that few people could understand, the lecturer asked for my viewpoint. My declared opinion that if no-one could understand him he would have been better off going out and finding himself a job, extracted a somewhat shocked response and spread through the department rather quickly. Some days later the Head of Department confided in me that many anthropologists agreed with my opinion but it was not 'politically correct' to come out and say it.

The course lasted just one year, but I worked harder in that one year than I had ever worked before. To keep up it meant reading for at least five hours each day, usually considerably more. Despite that, I loved every minute of it. I learned about subjects that before I barely knew existed. In November 1993 I learned that it had all been worthwhile and I had achieved my degree. My head swelled to medically impossible proportions and I immediately set about looking for work. The first job I applied for as an horticultural researcher informed me they could not consider me for the post as I was 'over-qualified'. As the man said, (was it Karl Marx or Confucius?) "It's a mad, mad, mad, mad world".

NEWS RELEASE — KEW TO THE RESCUE OF MADAGASCAR'S ORCHIDS

A three-year programme to study and save the threatened orchids of the African island of Madagascar is to be undertaken by experts from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, in London, with the backing of a £260,000 donation from the Weston family to the Kew Foundation.

Madagascar has one of the most diverse populations of plant life in the world, with the vast majority of its 12,000 species unique to the island. But already about 80 per cent of its natural vegetation has been cleared or degraded, through the felling of hardwoods, followed by charcoal making and, finally, clearance for cropping or grazing.

Since 1989, Kew has had an accord with the Malagasy Government to collaborate on botanical research and to carry out horticultural training in the Parc de Tsimbazaza, the national botanic garden.

Over 1,000 species of orchid have been found in the island, but, with over-collection to supply the export trade to collectors in Europe, America and Japan, many species are on the verge of extinction.

The Kew programme will be directed by Dr. Phillip Cribb, Assistant Keeper of the Herbarium at Kew. As well as making a checklist of orchids, it will identify areas for conservation and re-introduction and develop means of propagation so that the export trade can be maintained on a sustainable basis.

NEWS RELEASE — KEW BENEFITS FROM PROPERTY BEQUEST

The sale of one of Essex's finest gardens — the five acres with the house, Hill Pasture, at Broxted — has resulted in a bequest of £80,000 to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

The former owner, Mr. John Scott-Marshall (sometimes Editor of *'The Gardener's Chronicle'*, the oldest of all gardening magazines) died in summer 1992. Mr. Scott-Marshall had past connections with Kew and he worked with some outstanding experts in the design and maintenance of the garden of Hill Pasture, which is familiar to many people in Essex.

Kew is the residuary beneficiary of the estate and thus approximately half of the proceeds of the sale will be used to endow a travel scholarship for young horticulturists at Kew.

As a separate part of the bequest, Kew has accepted some of the lead ornaments from the garden for use at Kew and Wakehurst Place (Kew's Sussex garden).

Mr. Giles Coode-Adams, Chief Executive of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew Foundation said: "This bequest will do much to progress the cause of botanical education and international co-operation in plant protection".

LIVING COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT REPORT

By David Hardman, Deputy Curator (Kew)

The Guild Centenary celebrations are now complete, Christmas has come and gone and is just but another memory. It is my pleasure to bring you up to date on some of the events of 1993. Last year John Simmons, in presenting this report for 1992, hinted at some of the events expected to happen so I will build upon his report to tell you how things have worked out.

There are no longer any gardeners in Kew! This was the headline I was expecting to see in the Trade Press, heralding the introduction of the new Botanical Horticulturist grades. However, in the event it did not happen. The new grades came into effect on 1st February. This went very smoothly, considering the enormity of the task, which reflects the enthusiasm and professionalism of all the Gardens staff towards change. The work undertaken by the Personnel Section and my predecessor, Ian Beyer, must also be recognised, as their careful negotiations ensured a new system with benefits for everyone.

The final piece of the new grade scheme came in July when the first Senior Botanical Horticulturists were appointed. The six at Kew include John Sitch and David Gardner in Tropical, Annette Wickham and David Cooke in Temperate, Ray Townsend in Arboretum and Fiona Dennis in the Herbaceous Section. With Keith Boyer at Wakehurst Place, all have begun to settle into their new roles as the year has progressed.

As part of the process in the Arboretum, mobile shelters arrived for use by staff for their tea break purposes and not as another entrepreneurial venture from Charlie Erskine (Assistant Curator) in his bid to obtain additional funding for the Section by offering "traditional gypsy style caravan holidays" in the Gardens.

The year has seen a number of new and continuing projects in the Arboretum. Tony Kirkham (Supervisor) and his team in the North Arboretum started a Berry Border to the south of their base but came to a stop when an offer to create a special garden directed towards the senses was made with donor funding. The work will not be wasted and a new location close to the Tea Bar is being prepared for the Berry border.

The Lilac Project Programme will see the beds replaced over several years in order to create a more attractive feature which will have added educational benefit. Phase 1 started towards the end of the year when the first beds were dug out and the surrounding area turfed, more to follow about these projects next year. Meanwhile in the Rose Garden a bed of 'The Lady' has been planted following a donation of 150 roses from the magazine carrying the same name.

Phase 1 of the Cherry Walk was completed with ten pairs of Cherries planted in March culminating in an official planting on 17th April with the sponsor of the project, the Sakura Bank of Japan. Phase 2 of the project continues and links King William's Temple to the north end of the Temperate House. The old Cherries and **Buxus** have been removed, the ground prepared and turfed. Unfortunately the preparation work prior to turfing had to be done twice. The first time the site was just ready when a torrential downpour washed away much of the finely prepared soil — incidentally the same downpour caused havoc to the Rock Garden soil preparation work in the bog area. The area was finally turfed over quickly using the 'big rolls' system with the appropriate machinery and the area awaits planting. Incidentally the view of the Temperate House from the seat is now quite amazing and opens up a vista lost for many years.

In the West Arboretum the Azalea Garden has been cleared and the whole site renovated and seeded under the watchful eye of Mark Pitman (Supervisor). Again this project is being sponsored and includes an irrigation system to be installed which will reduce the maintenance input for the future. The new beds have been prepared and wait to be planted as the material is sourced and obtained.

In March the Bamboo Garden saw 12 new plantings as work progressed on the development and improvement of this important collection, whilst Phase 2 of the Magnolia Walk was completed.

To complete the review of the Arboretum, Mark Bridger (Supervisor) and his team in the South have highlighted the **Philadelphus** collection for improved interpretation and display, verification

of the existing Arboretum plants was completed in August and propagation material is with the Temperate Nursery. The new site for the collection will be to the south of the Pagoda, the outlines to the beds have been sprayed out at the end of the year in readiness for digging over in the new year.

A management plan for the Queen's Cottage grounds is in preparation to determine a strategy to develop the whole site in harmony with its conservation requirements. The task is quite immense and will have to be taken gradually as there are no additional resources currently available. It will need to be undertaken by careful planning and use of existing resources if it is to succeed.

Mapping of the tree holdings on a grid pad system is continuing. Much of the data has been recorded and the co-ordinates have been linked to the CAD system in Technical Section. Soon it will be possible to utilise this information in the Gardens using portable computers and relating the data back in the office to the main database and plans.

The Rock Garden nears completion. The pumps were turned on in August and the waterfall cascaded from the large outcrop, giving a new dimension to this part of the Garden. The designs that Charles Shine had drawn up before building, closely resembled this new feature now that it actually exists. All that remains now is the final planting of North American species and some rockwork at the access point before the official opening in April 1994.

In the Duke's Garden the old island beds are to be removed and two new large beds have been created alongside the paths, thus creating a large, open, central lawn area. One of the new beds was planted in early spring, with the second bed prepared in autumn ready for planting early in 1994.

An accession from 1909 of *Leucojum aestivum* which has been growing in the Aquatic Garden was reintroduced to what is thought to be its original location, on the banks of the River Thames.

The Temperate Nursery was finally completed and at the end of January the first plants were moved into the new propagation house. The building is of a Wilco Industries design, being 40 x 8 metres and includes heated mobile benches, humidification system, thermal screens and supplementary lighting. A new boiler house at the south end of the site supplies all the heating required. Outside, tarmac roads provide improved access. The Nursery team have settled in well and excellent results are being achieved by Martin Staniforth (Supervisor) and Annette Wickham (SBH).

In the Palm House the first recorded fruiting of a coconut drew a great deal of attention from the media, unfortunately not all quite for the right reasons. A small mouse appeared in the palm just as the photographer was taking the picture. Needless to say the coconut became secondary to the mouse, which appeared in the *Daily Telegraph*. The next day saw a plethora of press interest with the usual ridiculous requests for the mouse to make another appearance for the cameras.

His Royal Highness Prince Charles made a private visit to the Gardens on 20th July. He met a number of L.C.D. staff on his tour, learning about biological control programmes using integrated pest management systems in the Palm House from Mark Sparrow (Supervisor) and in the Jodrell Glass Unit, where he was shown the quails by Phil Griffiths (Higher Botanical Horticulturist). He was also informed about the Sustainable Environment and Development Strategy for St. Helena by Tim Upson — this is a joint programme with O.D.A. as well as other organisations. Out into the sunshine and onto the Palm House, but on the way he managed to catch the Herbaceous Section having lunch outside their messroom. Sadly, subtle hints from the Prince for a sample of the fare were wasted on the staff who were not for sharing their lunch.

Finally, at the Palm House for a photocall, he planted a *Neodypsis* palm from Madagascar and then moved into the Marine Display where Peter Morris (Supervisor) showed him around, explaining some of the delights of the collections. The Display is still attracting a great deal of visitor interest and, as a collection, is settling down well. So much so that in the rocky shore tank

dozens of baby winkles were found in October, which is quite rare in captivity. This display is complex in its management and I understand that it requires some 254 separate pieces of essential equipment to keep it running.

Biological control in the glasshouses continues, being a constant challenge due to the diversity of the pests as well as the plants. The various pests are not always attacked by the predators and further collaboration between Kew and Wye College is ongoing. Some interesting pests have been spotted which will require further study, as the predators currently available do not seem to be interested in attacking these pests.

A central purchasing system, organised by Dave Davies (Supervisor Decorative) and Fiona Dennis (SBH Herbaceous) with one supplier, has been established, which has given a departmental-wide overview of the situation, and a regular forum to exchange ideas and observations is now achieving good results.

The World Orchid Conference was held in Glasgow during May where L.C.D. exhibits gained six rosettes. The Kew exhibit received great interest and John Stith (SBH Tropical) made a presentation at the **Pleurothallid** forum. After the Conference visitors arriving at Kew were able to see a display of seed propagation in Zone 6 and **Cymbidium** hybrids in Zone 7 of the Lower Nursery. John Woodhams (Assistant Curator) and the Tropical team are to be congratulated on their success for all their efforts.

In the Princess of Wales Conservatory the **Victoria amazonica** '**Longwood Hybrid**' was planted earlier than in previous years — during March — the plant thrived well throughout the year. Mike Marsh (Supervisor) and Chris Kidd (Botanical Horticulturist) totally changed the aquaria in Zone 1 during August and September and created a great deal of interest for visitors. Sadly I have to report a case of vandalism in the Princess of Wales Conservatory, where a specimen of **Agave parryi** had to be removed following serious graffiti damage caused by a knife to the leaves.

Anyone visiting the Filmy Fern House will have seen the vast improvements that are being made to this display. Pete Bradley (Supervisor), working with the Building and Maintenance Unit, have opened up the display and improved the low level lighting under the benches and the quality of the spotlighting effects to the collections.

An **Amorphophallus titanum** was received from Leiden B.G. with thanks from Wilbert Hettterscheid for support on this **Amorphophallus** project and will make an exciting addition to the collection. Other plants of interest throughout the year have included **Oncidium fuscais**, **Quisqueya karstii**, **Comparetia speciosa**, **Encyclia boothiana** var. **erythronioides** which all flowered in December for the first time. Other first flowerings at Kew included **Roscoea purpurea**, a new species with a geranium-red flower form, **Gladiolus rogersii**, a rare Cape endemic, both in September. **Prionotes cerinthoides** was spectacular in flowering during August and **Cleome gynandra** in the Herbaceous Section. Two other plants of interest in the Arboretum were **Heptacodium miconoides** and **Astilbe longicarpa**.

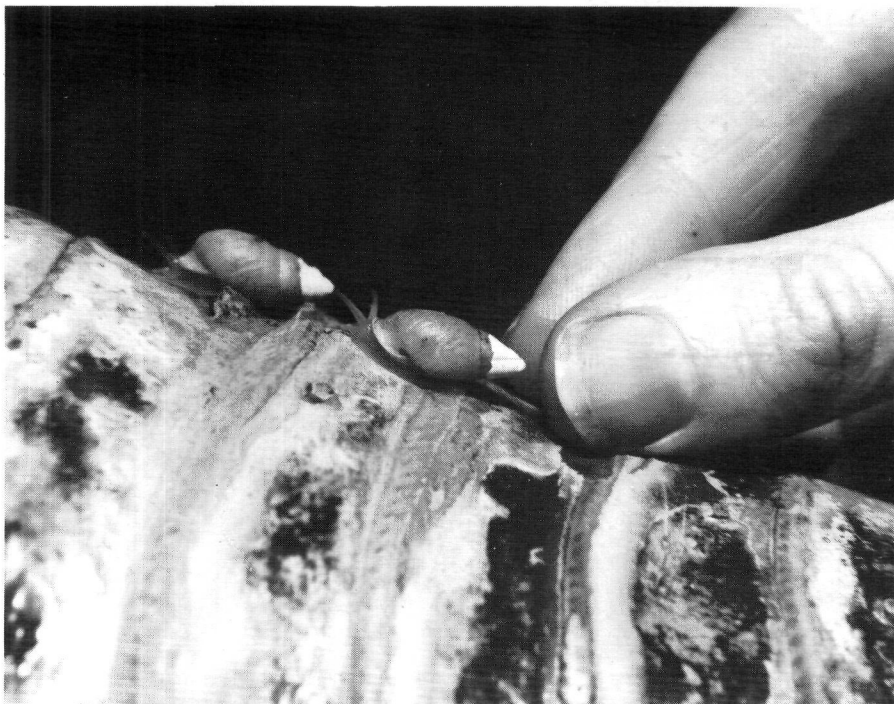
The first International Diploma Course in Botanic Gardens Management successfully ran throughout July and August in the School of Horticulture, with input from a number of L.C.D. staff, too numerous to mention here. But I must record the enormous effort put in by Sandra Bell (Supervisor Orchids), David Cooke (SBH Palm House) and Hans Fliegner (Assistant Curator Temperate), who all helped to make this new venture such a success and establish it for next year.

In the Services Section the 13th March saw the long awaited arrival of the 'Jenz' shredder, with the 'Farwick Favourite' screening machine arriving on 16th April, which brought to a conclusion a great deal of meticulous research by Stewart Henchie (Assistant Curator Services). It has been all systems go in the Stable Yard with the composting process, which means that the majority of all garden waste is now being recycled. Anyone seeing these machines cannot fail to be impressed by their power and the products they produce. Visitors have included a large number of Foundation Friends who were introduced to the system on a September evening visit. The show put on by Mike Lucie (Supervisor) and his team of Ron Bicheno, Mick Roberts and Barry Wendon was greatly appreciated and was a major talking point for the rest of the evening.

The L.C.D. plant record computer database continues to receive meticulous attention to detail. Pat Ives (Scientific Officer) is working through the records on a process known as 'de-duplication'. This involves her in checking all the names and authorities for correctness and removing all inaccuracies. The end result will be a very accurate database. Meanwhile, at the other end of the Gardens, in the Lower Nursery, Nonnie Bishop and her team are checking the quality of the information and supporting the Assistant Curators in stock checking their collections. This group is not often mentioned in despatches, but without their dedication the records would soon deteriorate and the value of the collections diminish rapidly.

During the night of 8th/9th December strong winds caused damage to two of the Christmas trees. The one outside the Main Gate and the other in front of the Orangery were both snapped off near the top of the cradles supporting them. The Arboricultural team, under Roger Howard's guidance, quickly reduced them and had them back in their cradles before the visitors arrived. It was as though nothing had happened.

In closing, the whole of L.C.D. awaits the arrival of the M.A.F.F. Staff Inspectors, whose appearance has been scheduled since early March but postponed through various reasons until now. They are scheduled to arrive early January and will be looking closely at the work of most of the staff in L.C.D. I believe that the last time this happened was in 1977 when yours truly was but just a student — happy days! 1994 looks set to be yet another busy year.



Staff in Temperate Section, with volunteers and London Zoo, spent two weeks monitoring the release of *Partula taeniata*, a Polynesian tree snail, in the Palm House. This species became extinct on the island of Moorea (South Pacific) in 1987. The project is part of a re-introduction programme.



In the Rose Garden, Charles Erskine (Assistant Curator) and Robert Smith (HBH Arboretum) prepare to plant 'The Lady' rose with Arlene Usden, Editor of *The Lady* Magazine.



His Royal Highness Prince Charles is informed about the Sustainable Environment and Development Strategy for St. Helena by Tim Upson as John Simmons (Curator) looks on.



His Royal Highness Prince Charles catches the Herbaceous Section having lunch outside their messroom. Sadly, subtle hints from the Prince for a sample of the fare were lost on the staff who were not for sharing their lunch.



Recipients of the Kew Medal in the Grass Garden with Lord Aberconway and the Director are, *left to right*, Keith Boyer (Wakehurst Place), Dr. Hazel Wilkinson, Anne Morley-Smith and Freddie Raymond.



Daffodils in bloom. Administration staff enjoying the benefits of last year's Centenary planting scheme on the Green.

NEWS RELEASE — KEW COURSE FOR OVERSEAS STUDENTS RECEIVES 'DARWIN' GRANT

A Kew Gardens course which enables students from around the world to learn the techniques of preserving plant specimens and managing a herbarium has been granted government funding of £20,000 for 1994/95, with a promise of £20,000 for 1995/96. The grant, from the Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species, the scheme initiated by the Prime Minister after the Rio Earth Summit last year, has been announced by The Environment Secretary, John Gummer.

A herbarium is a collection of dry plants mounted on sheets of paper, together with field data. Herbaria are of fundamental importance for the identification and classification of plants. They are also invaluable in the study of plant compounds, in plant conservation and in surveys in countries of high plant diversity. The maintenance of a herbarium to high archival standard is thus a vital aspect of any biodiversity programme.

The Herbarium at Kew, with some six million specimens, is the world's leading collection.

Kew's 'International Diploma Course in Herbarium Techniques' primarily aims at helping students from the tropics, where plant diversity is greatest and the least explored and where archival conditions are the hardest to achieve. The eight-week course will be run next summer under two members of the staff of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Diane Bridson, Senior Tutor and Barrie Blewett, Course Manager.

KEW SCIENTIST

Issues 3 and 4 (April and October 1993) were received. These give news from the Living Collections, The Herbarium and the Laboratories at Kew and Wakehurst Place. Much of the information is technical or not relevant for reproducing in the *Kew Guild Journal*. But with the kind approval of Professor Michael D. Bennett (Editor, and Keeper of the Jodrell Laboratory) we reproduce the editorial in the October Issue.

'The International Botanical Congress (IBC) is held every six years and forms one climax in the rhythm of life at Kew. The latest, the XVth, was held at Yokohama, Japan, in late August and early September 1993. With over 4,200 delegates from more than 60 nations, it offered over 200 symposia in 18 parallel sessions. Its importance stems not just from its sheer size but also from the great breadth of fields which converge and are communicated at its sessions.

Meetings of scientists with a common interest invariably promote a feeling that their shared discipline is important and merits more appreciation by others. However, the XVth IBC went well beyond this. From the very start there was a clear message that botany and plant science issues are moving steadily into the centre of world attention, so that plant scientists face increasing expectations from, and responsibilities to, society.

The opening ceremony was honoured for five hours by the presence of His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince Naruhito and Crown Princess Masako, and by a telegram from Japan's Prime Minister. In his address the Prince noted that: "Natural resources on the earth are being expended at a rapid pace . . . environmental degradation has given rise to many serious problems . . . As many of those concerns have much to do with plants, which form a green cover on the earth, plant science will be able to play an important role for a secure future of mankind." Significantly the Prince and Princess stayed to hear the two plenary lectures by Professor Jeff Schell and Professor Peter Raven.

Peter Raven dedicated his lecture to the memory of Dr. Alwyn Gentry, recently killed in a plane crash in Ecuador while on a reconnaissance trip for Conservation International's Rapid Assessment Programme, and to Kew's Professor Ghilleen Prance, the first recipient of the International Cosmos Prize for his work to harmonise the co-existence of nature and mankind.

Kew's science was strongly represented at the Congress. Its 17 delegates gave 11 oral and three poster papers, contributed in many workshops and committee meetings and represented Kew at the nomenclature sessions, while three (Professor Bennett, Dr. Mark Chase and Charles Jeffey) co-organised symposia.

A touching highlight of the closing ceremony was the award to Britain's Professor W. T. Stearn of the Engler Medal (in gold) by the International Association of Plant Taxonomists for contributions to the field over many years. Professor Stearn, who attended his first IBC at Cambridge 63 years previously, epitomises lifelong enthusiasm and devotion to botany.

As the spotlight of history falls increasingly on the role of plants and those who study them, meeting the challenges which we face will require similar personal contributions from many individuals in all nations.'

Professor Michael D. Bennett

EXCERPTS FROM KEW GUARDIAN — OFFICIAL STAFF NEWSLETTER

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MAJOR REGRADE FOR HORTICULTURAL STAFF

FEBRUARY 1993

Changes intended to improve the career prospects of over 100 horticultural staff are introduced this month. 'Industrial Horticultural Staff' will become Botanical Horticulturists as part of the long-promised regrading scheme that aims to better reward acquired skill and experience and reduce staff turnover.

Other changes include improved overtime payments that bring botanical horticulturists into line with other non-industrial staff at R.B.G. Kew.

The new career structure will be unique to Kew. There will be three main grades: Botanical Horticulturist; Higher Botanical Horticulturist and Senior Botanical Horticulturist, fitting in below the existing Supervisor grade. But within each of the three grades there are 'spine points' which will allow pay increases to be made for gaining skill and experience.

"After two years of negotiation with the Ministry of Agriculture, the Treasury and the Union representing the staff involved, it is really pleasing to see it come to fruition," said John Lavin, Deputy Director, Operations. "Our horticultural staff have traditionally been included in the Industrial Civil Service framework but this has meant that their unique work at Kew has never been adequately catered for in either career structure or pay.

So we decided to bite the bullet and make a case for a completely separate structure. Our main rationale was the uniqueness of Kew and, although R.B.G., Edinburgh is also working on its own form of regrading, Kew is really at the frontier of restructuring in the public sector."

Lavin said there were three basic principles behind the new grades:

- Firstly people can be rewarded gradually, year on year, by providing annual performance increments within a grade as they gain experience.
- Secondly there is progression between grades.
- Thirdly the Senior Botanical Horticulturist grade provides a natural progression into management.

"The scheme will cost around £600,000 over the first five years," said Lavin. "To afford it we had to increase efficiency by ending some existing practices such as walking and automatic washing time. Changing from weekly to monthly payment of wages also saves money and we have made a one-off extra payment to all staff involved to help over the transition period. But the savings made through these changes go straight back into funding these other improvements.

At the end of the day, the longer our horticulturists are here the more valuable they become to Kew. That's what the regrading sets out to recognise."

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN SUSSEX

FEBRUARY 1993

At Wakehurst Place a new project is under way to demonstrate that sustainable conservation programmes can operate in sympathy with, and be supported by, commercial considerations.

A new range of Christmas trees is being grown as both a trial and a commercial crop in association with the British Christmas Tree Growers Association, who are paying for the trees.

- L.C.D. staff at Wakehurst Place are getting upgraded office and workshop accommodation as part of the plan to move the public catering facility into the Stable Yard.

NEW KITCHEN UP AND COOKING

FEBRUARY 1993

The new Gallery Kitchen in Cambridge Cottage is now up and cooking, ready to serve guests who hire the Lounge and Gallery areas in Cambridge Cottage for corporate events.

Kew's existing designated Caterers, Payne and Gunter and Town and Country Catering, have been granted exclusive use of the kitchen. "I know this may cause disappointment to some groups within Kew," explained John Lavin, Deputy Director, Operations, "But that is the only way they can comply with the various constraints of all the food hygiene and health and safety legislation. Any failure there could lead to instant closure of the facility. I hope staff will understand why we have had to make such an arrangement and will be supportive of these efforts to raise revenue for Kew by building a successful corporate hiring business."

Staff groups will be able to book the Kitchen for internal events and social functions held in Cambridge Cottage if they use the in-house caterers. Bookings can be made through Sarah Corser of the Commercial Development Section (x5616).

KEW'S ORCHID SEEDLING DISPERSAL

FEBRUARY 1993

Sandra Bell, of the Orchid Unit, reports that the annual distribution of seedlings is now in full swing, with many rare or unusual species being offered to botanic gardens, nurseries, national orchid societies and others with a commitment to orchid conservation around the world.

"Highlights this year include *Paphiopedilum rothschildianum* and *P. druryi*," says Bell. "Both species are now severely threatened by over collection and habitat destruction and our aim is to ensure that they become common and readily available in cultivation so that the incentive to collect from the wild is reduced."

An orchid being distributed for the first time this year is *Dimorphorchis rossii* var. *graciliscapa*. It comes from Borneo and flowered at Kew for the first time four years ago. It was pollinated by Orchid Unit staff and some of the resulting seed was

grown skillfully by Dickon Bowling in the Microprop Lab. He was able to return the sturdy young plants to the Orchid Unit and many are now being distributed.



Sandra Bell: helping to reduce the threat of over collection in the wild.

WE HEAR

FEBRUARY 1993

- Foreign Language Guide Sheets are being produced for the first time at Kew, by the Education and Marketing Department. They include French, Italian, Spanish, German and Japanese versions. A special large print guide sheet for the partially sighted has also been produced.
- Health and Safety Consultants are to be appointed to follow up points raised in Professor Mike Bennett's health and safety survey conducted last year. They are expected to conduct a full audit covering both employee and visitor health and safety.

PEOPLE IN FOCUS

FEBRUARY 1993



Tom Reynolds (left) retired from the Jodrell Laboratory at the end of January, after 26 years at Kew. He headed the Biochemistry Section for many years and is well known throughout the Gardens for his role as Chief Safety Officer, and for the lectures he gave to the Diploma students.

WE HEAR

MARCH 1993

- Broadcaster Julian Pettifer, whose work includes wildlife and current affairs documentaries for both BBC and ITV, is to join the Board of Trustees, R.B.G., Kew. He replaces Sir David Attenborough, whose three year term of office has come to an end. Arabella Lennox-Boyd, Victoria Wakefield and Sir Phillip Dowson have been re-appointed. Sir David Attenborough remains on the Board of the Friends of R.B.G., Kew.

NEW ORCID RESEARCH GRANT

MARCH 1993

Jodrell scientists can begin work on a project to discover more about the relationship between orchids and fungi, thanks to a grant of almost £84,000 from the Leverhulme Trust.

"The work will build on a study undertaken by John James, who has been working at Kew as a Ph.D. student from Greenwich University," said Dr. Simon Owens, who will be supervising the project. "It will fund a post-doctoral scientist who will be able to continue the research for another three years — hopefully John will be able to do the work once he has gained his Ph.D."

"This is the largest grant I have been involved with, and I am grateful to Giles and his staff in the Foundation, and to Mike Bennett, for all the hard work they have put in to achieve it."



Simon Owens: investigating symbiosis.

The orchids are one of the largest families of plants in the world, representing 10 per cent of all known species, and Kew's orchid collection is one of the largest grown under glass in the world, containing 5,000 wild species.

Most species cannot live without the development of a symbiotic relationship with a fungus, forming a mycorrhiza in and around the roots.

"The fungus helps the plant absorb nutrients from the soil and may protect it from attack by other fungi," said Owens. "The interesting thing is that many of the species that form these beneficial relationships with orchids actually cause diseases in other plants. Our research aims to find out how the orchid prevents the fungus becoming pathogenic."

One theory to be investigated at Kew is that the fungi which form mycorrhizae with orchids are themselves infected with viruses, which somehow switch off the genes that make the fungus pathogenic. About 80 per cent of all plant species develop these mycorrhizal relationships with fungi so whatever is learned may not just apply to orchids. And if we discover that viruses do play a role in controlling whether or not a fungus becomes pathogenic,

it may give clues to possible future biological forms of controlling plant diseases.

- The Leverhulme Trust is a charitable organisation that makes grants to fund research in science and the arts.

KEW'S BUTTERFLY AUDIT

MARCH 1993

The environmental charity, Butterfly Conservation, has completed a survey of the butterfly population of Kew Gardens, and made recommendations to the Living Collections Department on management techniques that would help make the Gardens a better habitat for butterflies.

The survey was carried out last summer by volunteer members of Butterfly Conservation. The results and recommendations were presented to John Simmons, Curator, at a Butterfly Conservation Seminar, held in the Jodrell Laboratory, last month.

"We have not had a chance to analyse the recommendations fully yet," Simmons said at the seminar, "But it is nice to be able to build links with groups such as Butterfly Conservation and there may be many opportunities to spring from such an exercise. You can be sure we will work towards making the changes that will help our butterfly population."

"We believe our proposals are sympathetic to Kew's needs as well as to the butterflies," said Marney Hall, who drew up the management plan for Butterfly Conservation. "It is compatible with the use of Kew by visitors and with the management resources available. It shows great foresight by Kew to try and improve the Gardens for butterflies. Increasing their numbers will add beauty to the Gardens."

She said that since 1906, eight butterfly species had gone from the Gardens, mainly as a result of different methods of managing the grass and woodland areas. But many of the species that had gone were in national decline, it was not just a Kew problem. What was encouraging, she said, was the number of species that were still here. Twenty-four species had been recorded on the survey, a good number for the size of area.

Only small changes in some of the management regimes, such as grass cutting schedules in the less formal areas of the Gardens, would make big improvements for butterflies, according to the report.

NEW JODRELL SECTION

MARCH 1993

Monique Simmonds is heading a new section in the Jodrell Laboratory working on biological interactions between plants and insects.

It will work closely with several other existing sections and forms an important link in Kew's key research areas of systematics conservation and economic botany.

MILESTONE FOR MYCOLOGY

MARCH 1993

The Mycology Section of the Herbarium has made its 22,000th accession since a numbering system was introduced in 1988.

"This impressive total was assisted by a number of important gifts," said Brian Spooner of the Fungal herbarium. "Including the British herbarium of E. A. Ellis and exchange material such as that from Karl Franzens University, Austria, which included 38 species not previously represented at Kew."

But Spooner points out that despite reaching this impressive landmark, there is still a lot of 'catching up to do' to even the balance with plant-loving colleagues.

"We now have around three quarters of a million mycological collections," he said. "But it is believed that six species of fungi exist for every one species of plant. Ironically this ratio is almost exactly the opposite of the proportion of space the mycology collections occupy at Kew — so the planned move to the new Mycology building will provide some much-needed expansion space."

PEOPLE IN FOCUS

MARCH 1993

Terry Sunderland, a Kew Graduate in 1991, has just returned from a placement in Limbe Botanic Gardens and Rainforest Genetic Conservation Project. Funding was from the Ernest Thornton Smith Travel Scholarship, the O.D.A. and other sources, including the Kew Guild and Rotary Club of Kew. A return air ticket was donated by Lufthansa. One of his main tasks was training a team of tree surgeons and climbers to make forest botanical collections.

PROFILE — THE COMPUTER UNIT

MARCH 1993



The Computer Unit is a close knit team.

In the 1880s, Kew as a world leader in information technology — it was one of the first organisations to install an internal telephone system. But it was rather later than most to get involved with computers.

"The Computer Unit was set up in 1984, with the original Prime central computer," remembers Bill Loader, who has been Head of the Computer Unit ever since. "Before that time Kew kept some records on the Ministry of Agriculture Computer at Guildford but many of its data bases were on card indexes. One of the Computer Unit's first jobs was to transfer many of those card files onto the Prime."

The Unit currently has eight staff, including Bill. Mark Jackson heads the software development team, with Sarah Edwards and Jerome Farnon. They work with the computer users to develop applications for them, such as the new Index Kewensis database; a new specimen database for botanists in the Herbarium; and the next phase of the plant Toxins System. "Many people do not realise how long it takes to develop an application," says Bill. "We set ourselves a limit on the recently completed L.C.D. database of what could be achieved in two years — we could easily have worked on it for another five."

The support team is headed by Derek Martindale, with Kevan McPaul, Ken Bailey and Jeff Wheatley. They look after some 300 desk-top personal computers and 11 pc networks, numbers that are steadily increasing, as well as the central Prime computer. They are also responsible for installing and commissioning new computers and software. The Herbarium is the biggest user of pcs and is in the process of being networked.

The Prime is Kew's main database system and contains records from all the departments: for example wood anatomy and plant biochemistry databases from the Jodrell; the SEPASAL database of plants from semi-arid lands from the Economic Botany and Conservation Section; the Index Kewensis and other taxonomic databases from the Herbarium and the Living Collections Department's plant records. The Index Kewensis alone holds some 950,000 records.

"The big task over the next year or so will be replacing the Prime with a more up to date and flexible system," says Bill Loader. "We can purchase and install the new equipment gradually and transfer the data as we go." Bill hopes the first phase of this work can begin in the spring.

Besides completing our own corporate network, the Unit is also working on a communications system that will link scientists at Kew with the databases in other institutes and organisations around the world, to both send and obtain information. "They'll be able to communicate with a database in the U.S.A. or electronic mail system in, say, the U.S.A. as fast and easily as they can communicate with another computer at Kew," said Bill. "One of the most important tasks with such a system, though, is to ensure that our own data remains secure and can only be accessed by those authorised to do so. We also need to make sure staff are aware of their obligations regarding the dissemination of information held on Kew databases."

Ensuring users at Kew stay within the laws about data protection and software copyright is an important aspect of the Computer Unit's role. "Most people are now aware of the Misuse of Computer Act which covers hacking and getting hold of unauthorised data. We used to have a lot of problems with people breaching copyright by installing software they had borrowed from colleagues outside Kew but that has quietened down now. It has quite serious implications. Software companies are tough on offenders and there have been enormous fines."

Viruses are another potential problem at Kew. "People often need to use information from colleagues that has been sent on disks but there can be viruses on those disks that neither the sender nor the user at Kew are aware of," said Bill. "People should not be using disks from outside unless they have been checked by us first for viruses. We recently found seven disks in a batch of ten containing viruses. Once they get into a system they can destroy huge amounts of data or even bring the system down."

Viruses have not caused a major disaster yet, but individuals have lost months of work. And every time a virus is found every machine that is likely to have received it must be checked. With 70 pcs in the Herbarium alone that can be a time consuming and expensive task.

Kew now has a much wider range of computer applications than most organisations, including computer controlled and enhanced electron microscopes, graphic design, garden design and plotting, statistics, databases, desk top publishing, and portable computers for field work.

"But it is important to realise computers or new software are not always the solution to your problem," said Bill. "And it is important, too, to make sure that when you do your sums to

cost out a new system that you include an element for staff training. A lot of requests for help from the Computer Unit are really problems of not knowing how to use the equipment or software properly. We also see around Kew too much staff time being lost by people trying to help each other which is not always the most effective way of learning." The Computer Unit is always willing to advise on training and runs its own courses on using the Prime.

WE HEAR

APRIL 1993

- Trials began last month of a powered vehicle to transport visitors with limited mobility around the Gardens. Sponsorship is being negotiated for the development and construction of a vehicle suitable for the existing path network. It is possible that other organisations would be interested in purchasing such a vehicle.
- Eighty species of truffles and their allies feature in a new publication by David Pegler, Brian Spooner and Tom Young of the Mycology Section of the Herbarium. *British Truffles, a revision of the British Hypogeous Fungi* is the first major revision of these fungi for 40 years and includes descriptions plus original full colour and line drawings. As well as the sought-after edible species of true truffles it includes the false truffles and pea truffles which produce their fruit bodies under ground.

PEOPLE IN FOCUS

APRIL 1993

Kew's Director, **Professor Ghilleen Prance**, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. It is particularly fitting that this honour should have been made in the year Kew celebrates the 250th anniversary of the birth of Sir Joseph Banks. Banks, Kew's first, though unofficial, Director, was Chairman of the Society.

Lady Sainsbury has agreed to sponsor a Sensory Garden at Kew and landscape architect Anthea Gibson has been appointed to develop its design. The sponsorship includes a sum to pay for a member of staff who will both maintain the garden and act as Horticultural Therapist for visitors with disabilities.

PROFILE — COMPOSTING KEW'S ORGANIC WASTE

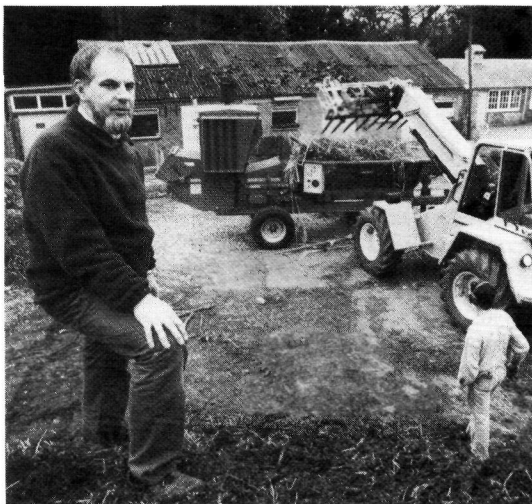
APRIL 1993

Managing Kew's Living Collections can generate a lot of waste — dead leaves, tree and shrub prunings, grass clippings and so on, up to 10,000 cubic metres of organic material per year. Material that, composted correctly, can be recycled for use as soil amendments and mulches around the gardens.

New shredding and screening machinery, bought for the Services Section of L.C.D. with a special Ministry of Agriculture grant, arrived at Kew last month and will allow Stewart Henchie and his team to produce a range of such material to meet various needs around the Gardens.

"Ever since the Gardens began, some of the organic waste has been composted," he said. "Apparently in the 1950s we were using prison labour to turn the compost heaps.

When Ian Beyer set up the Services Section in 1969 one of the elements was a central site in the Stable Yard for composting leaves, waste soil and so-on," But much of the woody material, which does not compost easily because of its bulk, had to be burned.



Stewart Henchie and his team feeding the new compost shredder.

"There had been no pressure to stop burning this waste but by about three years ago we began to look for more environmentally acceptable ways of dealing with it," said Stewart. "I had already begun assessing some of the machinery and equipment manufactured in Germany, where they are much further ahead in the recycling business than we are, but at that stage most of it was on a scale too big for our needs."

Purchasing a shredder and screening equipment was really the only alternative, believes Stewart. "We had already decided burning was becoming increasingly unacceptable. We didn't have the space to just let the uncompostable woody waste pile up. The only other alternative was paying a contractor to take it away and dump it. As well as being a poor choice, environmentally that would have been very expensive — £50,000 to £60,000 per year, roughly the same as the purchase cost of the machinery. It would have meant a large number of trips by heavy lorries, dumping in landfill sites, and we would have had to buy in organic material to use as mulches and soil improvers."

Adding organic matter to the soil is important at Kew because the local soil is so sandy and dry. Organic material helps retain moisture, so cutting the need to irrigate, and helps nourish the plants. Used as a mulch it also helps prevent weed growth so keeping herbicide use down.

Kew does not produce enough waste to be completely self sufficient, so some organic material is still brought in to mix with it — horse manure from the Horse Guards and Royal stables, plus agricultural straw. By using the shredder, Kew's waste cardboard packaging can also be recycled as compost.

The Services Section currently produces two basic composts — a fine one composed mainly from leaves and wood chips and a coarser one using material from the shredder. These two, when fully composted, can be mixed in varying proportions for different uses.

Anyone who has ventured into the Stable Yard will have seen the magnificent, steaming compost heaps there. The aim is to keep the internal temperature of the heap up to about 55 degrees C — the heat kills weed seeds and pests and disease organisms. The heaps have to be turned regularly to keep them aerated — a continuous task for Jerry, the JCB driver, rather like painting the Forth Bridge once you get to the end you have to start all over again. It takes about 12 weeks to produce the finished compost. It looks so much like soil it is hard to believe none is added.

"Kew is quite a pioneering organisation in this field in the U.K.," said Stewart. "I don't know of any other gardens doing what we are doing, although some local authority parks departments are experimenting with recycling waste and a number of them have come to see what we are doing."

FRIENDS RAISE £29,000 FOR SEED COLLECTING

MAY 1993

The Friends of Kew has raised over £29,000 to fund the second Seed Bank Collector, in its first major fundraising campaign since its launch. And we can also report that this excellent result tops a very successful year for the Friends organisation. With more than 10,000 memberships taken out the Friends has become self-financing.

"We are delighted with the success of the Seed Bank Campaign," said Michael Godfrey, Manager of the Friends. "One of the benefits to Kew of a Friends organisation is that we have a large body of supporters willing to give extra financial help for specific conservation and other projects. They have responded extremely well to the vital conservation work that the Seed Bank is undertaking."

Contributions from the appeal are still coming in and the final total is expected to exceed £30,000. Many Friends members made the suggested donation of £25, but there have been individual donations of up to £700 from ordinary members. "We are particularly grateful to Founder Friends and Trustees, who were asked to underwrite the appeal, and who between them donated the first £18,000," said Godfrey.

Professor Prance, Director of R.B.G., Kew added "This is a particularly significant time for our Friends operation. Not only because of the success of its first fund-raising campaign but

because it has reached its breakeven point in just under three years since the first member was recruited. From now on it will be able to make an increasing financial contribution to Kew, to match the contributions in other areas that it has already achieved."

"We are extremely excited that so many ordinary individual members of the Friends have taken money out of their pockets to help us get closer to the Seed Banks' objectives," said Roger Smith, Head of the Seed Physiology Section of the Jodrell.

ENTERPRISE KEW

MAY 1993

Kew's trading company, R.B.G. Kew Enterprises, was formally established on 1st April. The Board of the company is as follows: Robert Baumann, Trustee of R.B.G. Kew, (Chairman); Robin Herbert, Chairman of Trustees of R.B.G. Kew, (Vice Chairman); John Lavin, (Managing Director); Rebecca Bower, (Company Secretary); Lord Blakenham, Trustee of R.B.G. Kew and Brinsley Burbidge (Directors).

Lavin said the role of R.B.G. Kew Enterprises was to generate funding through commercial activity, including the shops, product licensing, publishing, corporate hire of facilities, and concerts.

WE HEAR

MAY 1993

- Planting is now complete on Phase 1 of the Bee Garden, between the Queens Garden and Sir Joseph Banks Building. The plantings are designed to show the history of beehives, and a selection of plants commonly associated with bee-keeping.

PROJECT FOCUS — THE MARKETING OF KEW

MAY 1993

"Marketing is something that everybody here is becoming involved in," says Kew's first Marketing Manager, "and Kew is pretty good at it already". He sees the Marketing Section not as a 'bolt on' function but as a catalyst for focusing activity on our key customers.



Roger Joiner: aiming to improve visitor experience.

Roger Joiner started in August and sees Kew as having two very unique 'products' to offer. "The most important is the scientific mission and we must never forget it in our marketing approach," he says. "We need to help in communicating that work to government, other scientific institutions and, of course, the tax payer — so that they understand that Kew is giving them good value for their money."

The second 'product', but the one that is receiving most attention at present, is Kew as a visitor attraction. "People come to Kew expecting to enjoy their visit and perhaps to learn

something about our work; in return we expect them to pay for their visit," says Roger. "Our job is all about making sure both sides of the transaction end up satisfied.

"Kew is a unique and wonderful place to visit. The gardens; the vast range of familiar and exotic plants; spectacular glasshouses, beautiful art in the galleries. That is the basic product and there is no need to change any of it. It is the things that are peripheral to that, many of them a result of our history, that could be improved to give visitors a better time.

"For example, information on how best to enjoy a visit; more presentations about Kew's work, improvements to catering and toilet facilities. Marketing can focus attention on a lot of the detail things that everyone seems to agree need attention but up to now have never come to the top of anyone's priority list."

There is a huge potential for growth in the number of paying visitors at Wakehurst Place. "We are beginning to work out how to promote Wakehurst to people visiting Kew, as well as in other ways," said Joiner.

"I am also pleased that we have been able to strike an agreement with the National Trust which owns Wakehurst, that we can ask their members for donations to Kew as they come into the Gardens there."

He is also looking forward to the opportunities that will arise from the new Visitor Centre planned for Wakehurst.

One of the first moves was to set up a series of groups with knowledge of various aspects of 'visitor services', with representatives from a whole range of departments in Kew: ticket officers, constabulary, L.C.D., education and so on. Everyone put forward their recommendations for detailed improvements and most of these are now under way.

"We must also start looking ahead to more difficult issues. Car parking, for example, can be a nightmare for visitors on a summer weekend."

Long term, Roger believes we can raise visitor numbers by about 30 per cent on the 1990 levels, from just under a million now to around

1.5m. "At that level we would be close to the limit of what Kew can handle without giving visitors, or the local community, a poorer deal." Historically, Kew has had greater visitor numbers, though probably nothing like the four million some reports have suggested.

So how are Roger and his team aiming to increase visitor numbers? "First of all we have to recognise that the best way of getting customers is to help them enjoy being here so that they return — and so they tell their friends to come too. That means making sure we minimise the negatives: queues, service problems and so on." A small team has now been formed to come on duty at busy weekend periods to monitor such problems at first hand.

"Then there are a number of short term things we can do to improve visitor's experience. For example the new map ticket will help people get a better day out at Kew, and it will be supplemented by an insert that will be updated every two months, to tell people what to look out for at that particular time.

"Staff who meet the public face to face are absolutely vital. We all know how a smile and an extra bit of help can really make a difference.

"In the longer term we need to be more aware of the different types of people coming to the Gardens and market ourselves differently to suit." Roger believes Kew is, for tourists, very competitively priced compared to places such as Hampton Court (£6) and The Natural History Museum (£4).

On the other hand, research has shown that local people feel very strongly that the new pricing policy introduced two years ago has deprived them of a 'superior local park'. "Local support is important to us and we must deal with the local market properly," says Roger. "We must get things like the Season Ticket value right, possibly with a lower priced season ticket."

Research has also built on what most of us knew already, that the single biggest factor influencing a visit to Kew is the weather. Visitor numbers show an amazing correlation with figures for sunshine hours. "When we introduced the £3 entrance fee visitor numbers fell

markedly, but when we looked at the weather figures we saw the sunshine hours had dropped dramatically too. I'm not saying it was just the weather but at least now we know how important the weather is — and have a way of accounting for it when we try to monitor the performance of other factors such as pricing or the effect of advertising."

In fact Kew does very little direct advertising. The level of awareness of Kew and its work is already extraordinarily high amongst the general public, thanks to what Roger says is a 'very dynamic and well focussed public relations operation'.

"Christine Brandt and her team have developed an excellent relationship with the media. Coverage on TV alone last year would have cost £3.5m if we had had to obtain it as paid for advertising, and our PR coverage is now building in the U.S.A. and Europe.

"People know about us, and we are high on the list of places they want to come to. Of course, we need to keep reminding them we are here," says Roger, "and in due course we need to build up fresh points of interest, such as special events."

Kew does advertise in tourist publications aimed at hotels and airports, and Roger is looking at ways to build up relationships with other organisations such as the R.H.S. (the Kew Gardens Gallery R.H.S. exhibition tied in with a cross promotion between Wisley and Kew) and gardening clubs around the country.

"Much of what we do is people, rather than cost intensive, and we are fortunate in having a Media Resources Section able to produce material to such a high standard cost effectively, staffed by people who really understand what Kew is all about."

Roger sees an increase in visitor numbers as vital to Kew for two reasons. Firstly because it will provide a reliable long term source of income, and secondly because there is no better way of broadcasting Kew's mission than by gently working on visitors actually in the Gardens.

"We must always remember that Kew is a science and conservation organisation, and remember that Kew has a tranquility and peacefulness that are part of the attraction that people come to enjoy. It would be wrong to change any of that — there's no way Kew will become a theme park."

Surveys show that Kew is clearly getting its science message across to the general public. Now the team are looking at ways of helping Kew's scientists present their work better to other institutions and the government. "With the addition of Sue Ellison to the PR team we are in a position where we can develop even more stories from all around Kew, so we are asking people to tell us whenever they have something that might be of interest outside.

"It is like the appeals you get from the Police," says Roger, "If you have anything, tell us, you won't be wasting our time."

Work is currently under way on brochures designed to help Kew's scientists put their work across as effectively as possible, not only to other scientists but to government and the public.

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

MAY 1993

Over £600,000 has been earmarked by the Directorate for major Building and Maintenance projects in 1993/94.

The work is to include work on improving the Herbarium Spirit Store, refurbishing the International Mycology Institute building to house the Mycology Section of the Herbarium and the provision of a new catering facility at Wakehurst Place.

Meanwhile, work has begun on the reglazing of the glasshouses in the Lower Nursery; and quotes are being obtained for groundwork in the Temperate Nursery.

Repairs to the Centre Block of the Temperate House have been completed, and a team of painters will be working their way around the house over the next few weeks.

- Finance has also been set aside for refurbishment of some of the toilet blocks to improve facilities for visitors. Mobile catering outlets have been positioned at the Victoria Gate, and between the Victoria Gate and the Ruined Arch; while the old Postcard Kiosk near the Orangery

has been converted to a refreshment Kiosk. "These moves will take pressure off the main restaurants and help to generate more impulse buys" said John Lavin.

- Phase 2 of the catering improvements at Wakehurst Place are due to be completed in 1994. Catering at Wakehurst will be carried out under contract by Cadogan.

KEW BY WIRE

JUNE 1993

Around 3,500km of wiring has now been installed to complete the voice telecommunications networking of R.B.G., Kew. The internal wiring to link all the buildings is 50 per cent complete and will be finished by the end of July. A case has now been put to M.A.F.F. to fund the networking of Kew's computer and data systems. "By the time we have finished installing both systems we should be able to save around £250,000 per year," said Tom Bailey of Buildings and Maintenance, who is co-ordinating the project.

SNAILS' PLACE

JUNE 1993

A group of slug and snail enthusiasts from the British Conchological Society spent a day rummaging through the undergrowth at Kew in March. They turned up some unusual specimens, especially in the Princess of Wales Conservatory, says Jane Reynolds, a School of Horticulture student and member of the Society, who — with Herbarium Botanist and fellow Society member, Bernard Verdcourt — has just produced a report of their findings.

Among the slugs and snails found in the Conservatory were: *Lehmannia valentiana*, a slug from the Canary Islands; *Zonitoides arboreus*, a North American snail that had eaten its way out of a Venus fly-tray; and *Afropunctum seminum*, a tropical African species that has never before been recorded in Britain.

The Queen's Cottage Grounds also yielded some interesting finds, including four species not found at Kew before. "We were lucky enough to find *Testacella scutulum*, a carnivorous slug that usually lives underground but comes nearer the surface in damp weather to hunt worms," says Jane. "I often see them at Kew during digging operations but there was a least one member of the Society who'd never seen one in 25 years of slug-hunting".

The most exciting find of the visit, though, was *Laciniaria buplicata*, a very rare native snail which only seems to thrive on undisturbed places. "The colony in Kew's conservation area looks as if it must have been here many years and is thriving and active. This part of Kew looks like an important place for the protection of this species," says Jane.



PEOPLE IN FOCUS

JUNE 1993

Janet Beveridge, (left) has been appointed as the new Retail Manager, to run the Kew and Wakehurst Shops. She comes to Kew from a position as Retail Manager with Thames Television.

MISSION IS POSSIBLE

JULY 1993

The new Corporate Plan incorporates a revised mission statement that has been drawn up to more accurately reflect Kew's work:

The Mission of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew is to enable better management of the Earth's environment by increasing knowledge and understanding of the plant kingdom — the basis of life on Earth.

The mission will be achieved by maintaining large global reference collections; undertaking world wide research into plants, fungi and ecosystems; publishing the results widely; training botanists and horticulturists from developing countries and informing the public. Kew aims to make available for international science the most comprehensive reference collection of living plants, preserved plant material and botanical literature in the world, adding selectively to the collections wherever possible. Kew will place greater emphasis on collaborative research

partnerships and in enabling developing countries to document and protect their plant resources for sustainable use.

To achieve these goals Kew will be putting more resources into fundraising, supporting collaborative programmes around the world, altering its infrastructure to ensure the safety and scientific value of the collections and improving facilities for the visiting public.

KEW PLANS FOR THE NEXT CENTURY

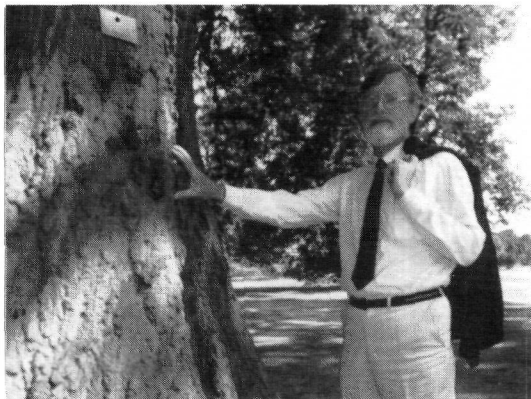
JULY 1993

A springboard into the 21st century is how Professor Ghilleen Prance, Director, describes the latest version of R.B.G., Kew's Corporate Plan, published two weeks ago.

"This is a very different style of Corporate Plan from any that have gone before," said Professor Prance. "It emphasises areas of work, not individual departments and the aim is to foster further collaboration between the departments. It is very much in line with previous plans in one way, and that is the emphasis on our work on key plant families such as legumes, grasses, palms and orchids.

"It also builds strongly on Kew's collections — living plants, herbarium, plant products and library and archives — and the maintenance and development of the collections will be our number one priority. Everything else we do will come out of the strength of the collections."

The Corporate Plan had been drawn up in close consultation with Heads of Department and their Deputies, said Professor Prance. "We have worked very hard to make sure we have involved departmental managers. The plan is very much a consensus, not just a directive from the top".



Professor Prance was keen to emphasise the way the plan integrates the work of support staff and of fund-raising activities with the work of the scientists. It also gives clear performance indicators to help monitor our progress towards its goals.

"Funding is a sensitive issue," said Professor Prance, "But the report gives a financial projection which shows our base funding from the Ministry of Agriculture being maintained, with increasing amounts of revenue being generated from operations such as the Friends and Foundation and the newly established R.B.G. Kew Enterprises."

Professor Prance sees the next few years as "A period of integration in which we implement the ideas in the plan and the changes that have been instigated over the last few years.

"The structure of the plan does, however, give us the ability to be flexible and to update our approach in the light of any external changes that may occur. In other words we can respond more quickly, perhaps for example to undertake new projects in conservation or biodiversity that fall within our area of expertise."

The plan is written in a style that sees Kew very much in business terms, and what we have to offer our customers. But Professor Prance points out that our customers are not only the paying visitors who come to enjoy the Gardens: "Our customers are also the people in developing countries where Kew's expertise is being used to help improve the understanding and management of the plant resources".

Staff training and career development, and the giving of responsibility to staff 'on the ground' is another strong element of the plan. "Training has been neglected over the last few years because of funding restrictions but we are beginning to put this right; for example some staff have

already been on a safety course and we are holding more regular first aid courses," said Professor Prance. "There will be increasing amounts of training to fulfil our aim of devolving more responsibility to staff."

IMPLEMENTING the Corporate Plan will involve changes in Kew's organisational culture, and careful management at all levels will be vital to its success, says Professor Prance.

The plan sets out a number of Kew Issues which need to be addressed if Kew is to be successful in meeting its aims. These include:

Human Resources Development — providing the staff with the skills they need

Planning — developing a corporate view while devolving more responsibility and decision making to employees;

Image and identity — developing a clearer image of the organisation

Fund raising — for new and existing projects

Customer support — balancing the commercial benefits of our science with the needs of customers without funds, e.g. developing countries, charities etc.

The plan sets out two major 'business aims' for Kew, one in science, the other in amenity. The aims are achieved through six primary, and two supporting programmes.

- In Science, the Business Aim is 'to continue to develop, enhance and maintain R.B.G., Kew's position as the world's premier institute for innovative basic and applied botanical research, plant conservation, plant based teaching, the maintenance of plant diversity, and to produce tangible and acknowledged results to improve the way the environment can be managed.'

- In Amenity, the Business Aim is 'to continue to maintain and develop an established and widely reported reputation as an attraction which maximises the pleasure of a visit to Kew and Wakehurst Place by providing first class facilities and opportunities for enjoyment and learning and by so doing to increase revenue from admissions and commercial activities.'

The three important programmes of Collections, Research and Dissemination, and Conservation, reflect the Science Business Aim. The Programmes of Heritage Support and Visitor Attraction help achieve the Amenity Business Aim. The Education Programme serves both science and amenity. To ensure these six programmes deliver results two supporting programmes, Institutional Support and Income Generation, have been identified.

Copies of the Corporate Plan are available on request from Claire Dempsey, in the Deputy Director's office.

WE HEAR

JULY 1993

Some 47 miles of glazing strips have been replaced in the Temperate House by Building and Maintenance engineers.

ETHICS WORKSHOP TO MEET THIS MONTH

AUGUST 1993

An Ethics Workshop, to make recommendations on Kew's policy on how information and plant material is obtained and used, is to be held under the Chairmanship of Dr. David Cutler, from the Jodrell Laboratory.

"The workshop will be run along the lines of a House of Commons Select Committee," said Dr. Charles Stirton, Deputy Director, Science. "Various members of both scientific and non-scientific staff will be called to give opinions and evidence."

The aim of the workshop, which will meet on August 13th, is to produce a code of practice for the acquisition and release of information and plant material. It will cover the possible commercial exploitation of discoveries and the issue of intellectual property rights.

WE HEAR

AUGUST 1993

● Kew now has permanent access to Internet, the worldwide computer-based electronic mail system which will enable staff to communicate with international colleagues and obtain information from a range of international databases, libraries and bulletin boards. "This is a radical change to the way we use computers and means we will need to pay more attention to computer security," said Dr. Charles Stirton, Deputy Director, Science. A draft Information Technology Security Policy Document, outlining staff responsibilities when using computer systems, is currently being considered and will be included in the Staff Handbook when finalised.

PRINCE CHARLES VISITS KEW

AUGUST 1993

His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales, who is Patron of the Friends of Kew, visited R.B.G., Kew on July 20th.

His tour was arranged to show as many different aspects of Kew's work as possible. In the Jodrell Laboratory Professor Bennett, Dr. David Cutler, Dr. Mark Chase, Tony Cox and Dr. Monique Simmonds explained molecular systematics, biological interactions and plant anatomy work.

The Prince then had a tour of the Jodrell Glass, where he was briefed by John Lonsdale and Tim Upson about sustainable development strategies on St. Helena; and about biological control in the glasshouses by Clive Foster and Phil Griffiths.

Biological control was also emphasised in his tour of the Palm House, where he met John Woodhams, Mark Sparrow, David Cook and Peter Morris in the Marine Display. In The Palm House, The Prince planted a specimen of the northern Madagascan palm **Neodypsis** aff. **N. lastelliana**, to highlight the work on palms being done in that country by Kew staff.

Before lunch on the Banks Building Terrace the Prince was given a tour of the Banks Building Economic Botany Collections, by David Field and Frances Cook, followed by an exhibition about the work of Projeto Nordeste, with Karen Pipe-Wolferstan.

● Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, the Princess Royal of Thailand, visited Kew on July 5th. A tour showing the work of Kew included the Jodrell Laboratory, the Alpine House, the Order Beds and Rock Garden, Princess of Wales Conservatory, Palm House, Microprop Unit and Banks Building.

BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION TAKES OFF

AUGUST 1993

Measures have been agreed to help protect the three most vulnerable butterfly species found at Kew, the White-letter Hairstreak, the Purple Hairstreak and the Holly Blue. Most of the measures involve small changes to the tree pruning and grass cutting regimes.

For example, avoiding winter pruning of elm trees will help protect the habitats of the White-letter Hairstreak, and plans are in hand to plant more elms with resistance to Dutch elm disease.

The Purple Hairstreak can be protected by avoiding mowing the grass under oaks in June and July. Measures to protect the Holly Blue include avoiding pruning hollies in May and June; avoiding raking underneath hollies from June to August; and avoiding pruning flowering ivies in winter.

A new area of long grass will be left alongside the belt of trees bordering the towpath between the oak collection and the Brentford Ferry Gate, to be mown once a year during the winter. The area will be enriched with wild flowers, particularly Buckthorn and **Frangula alnus**, to act as food plants for Brimstone butterflies.

The London branch of Butterfly Conservation, which has advised Kew on these conservation methods (see *Kew Guardian* June 1992) will continue its programme of monitoring to see how successful these changes are.

PEOPLE IN FOCUS

AUGUST 1993

John Simmons has a new job title. According to the address on a letter he received recently it is now 'Director, Live and Dead Collection'.

PROJECT FOCUS — HEALTH AND SAFETY

AUGUST 1993

Can you remember Kew's Emergency Telephone Number? A special wallet sized emergency card, to be issued to all staff, is being produced as part of Kew's drive to improve safety systems and safety awareness. First aid training, fire prevention and water safety also feature on the initial list of priorities to be tackled as part of the organisation's commitment to the health and safety of both staff and visitors.



Health and Safety, the way forward.

"From January this year it became a legal requirement for all workplaces to have proper health and safety management systems," said Julie Bowers, Central Services Manager and Secretary of one of two new health and safety groups that have been established to review current Kew practices and systems and make recommendations for the future.

The formation of these two groups follows a major review of health and safety at Kew. Some members of staff may remember being interviewed by Professor Mike Bennett, as part of a survey to assess awareness of health and safety procedures by staff. This was followed up with a consultation report by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA), which recommended the types of management systems that should be set up to handle health and safety issues. They also recommended that Kew should undertake a full Quality Safety Audit covering all aspects of our operations.

The two new management groups that have been set up following RoSPAs advice are the Health and Safety Policy Development Group and the Health and Safety Steering Group.

The Policy Development Group consists of Martin Sands (Chair), Julie Bowers (Secretary), Tony Kirkham (L.C.D., Arb.), John Dickey (Jodrell) and Malcolm Anderson (B. & M.). Their aim is to formulate health and safety policies and systems which will be approved by the Steering Group (consisting of the Directorate plus Professor Bennett and Bill Webb, Head of Administration).

"The Policy Group has been chosen to represent work areas rather than individual departments," said Bill Webb. "This helps prevent the possibility of departmental interests getting in the way of important health and safety issues".

The staff on the Policy Group will be undertaking a heavy commitment. Their managers have been told to expect them to be spending the equivalent of one day per week on health and safety work. And they begin by going on a five day RoSPA health and safety training course — specially tailored to suit the needs of the Kew group.

The members of the Group will not all remain for the same length of time, so that there is always a mixture of new and experienced members to ensure continuity.

"Until these arrangements are under way it is important that staff realise that existing health and safety systems and structures will stay in place, so current safety representatives and fire officers will continue with their responsibilities — and of course staff must remember that everyone is responsible for the health and safety of themselves and colleagues," said Bill Webb.

Among the first areas to come under the scrutiny of the Health and Safety Policy Group will be first aid; fire prevention and water safety.

The aims will be to get the best possible geographical spread of first aid cover in the Gardens and to find out which members of staff are willing and able to undertake the first aider role and to see if any refresher training is necessary.

On fire safety the initial focus will be with the Fire Prevention Officers, giving them the chance to look at their roles and responsibilities. "I am pretty sure they will identify a need for more training there," said Julie Bowers.

A consultant has been commissioned to look at the safety of the water features in the Gardens at both Kew and Wakehurst. At Wakehurst progress has already been made and staff there report that safety can be improved without intrusive fencing by sensitive design of planting schemes that keep people away from the water.

"The remit of the Health and Safety Policy Group is to cover both public and staff safety," said Julie Bowers. "Eventually every aspect of Kew's work will have to be assessed for risk but it will be a rolling programme taking three to five years. Obviously one of the first jobs is to set priorities. We will have to look at every area of legislation relating to health and safety, not just to make sure we are taking the right actions, but to ensure that our safety system is robust."

Kew Guardian will carry regular reports on progress with Health and Safety.

RECORD YEAR FOR KEW MEDAL

SEPTEMBER 1993

Four people, believed to be a record number, are to be awarded the Kew Medal this year. They are Keith Boyer, Anne Morley-Smith, Dr. Hazel Wilkinson and Freddie Raymond.

Keith Boyer (pictured right) is a Higher Botanical Horticulturist, working in the Woodland Conservation Unit at Wakehurst Place, where he is Warden of the Loder Valley Nature Reserve.

He has worked for R.B.G., Kew since it took over responsibility for Wakehurst in 1965 but has been associated with the estate for over 40 years. The Kew Medal Selection Committee said "Keith has unbounded enthusiasm for his work which is freely imparted to all of the visitors to the Loder Valley Reserve. His combination of craft skills and personal observation makes him unrivalled and invaluable member of Kew's staff."



Anne Morley-Smith is an Administrative Assistant in the General Services Unit and Office in the Herbarium. She has been a member of staff since 1989. Arranging accommodation for visiting botanists is one of her many duties and she has built up a large network of accommodation throughout the Richmond area, ensuring every cultural or religious requirement can be met. She also assists with specimen and book despatch and helps Herbarium staff with forms and



Anne Morley-Smith.

an employee and a volunteer" said the Selection Committee, "Hazel has always kept a low profile, preferring to work conscientiously on a subject which she loves, and this work has been to the considerable benefit of Kew's reputation".

Freddie Raymond has been the officer at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food with responsibility for Kew. "He has worked tirelessly to ensure we receive the best possible levels of Grant-in-Aid funding," said the Committee. "He is a true friend of the organisation".

The Kew Medals will be presented at the School of Horticulture Prize-giving ceremony on September 10th, by The Rt. Hon. The Lord Aberconway, V.M.H., President Emeritus of the Royal Horticultural Society.

The Kew Medal Committee is: Dr. Paula Rudall (Chair), Julie Bowers (Secretary), Miss R. Davies, Mr. P. Richards.

record keeping. "Anne has brought her special and dedicated approach to arranging accommodation for visitors, which she does with efficiency and good humour," said the Selection Committee. "The service she provides adds in a special way to a visiting scientist's experience at Kew".

Dr. Dazel Wilkinson (pictured below right) is a specialist in plant anatomy in the Jodrell Laboratory. She became a member of R.B.G., Kew staff in 1985, but has actually worked here for much longer, funded by the Bentham-Moxon Fund. Now retired she continues her research on a voluntary basis. Dr. Wilkinson made a tremendous contribution to the painstaking work involved with Kew's revision of the series of publications on *The Anatomy of the Dicotyledons* — her particular interest being in the structure of leaf surfaces. "She has been a tireless worker for Kew over the last 20 years, both as



ELECTRONIC MAP FOR VISITORS

SEPTEMBER 1993

An interactive, electronic map of the world, designed to help explain to the public Kew's involvement with botanic gardens overseas, is to be installed in the Tropical Section of the Princess of Wales Conservatory.

The map, the cost of which has been sponsored by Network SouthEast (North London Lines), is to be in place in time for the Kew Guild Annual General Meeting on September 12th, as part of the Guild's Centenary celebrations.

"The map is a 2m wide satellite image of the world," explains Jenny Evans of the Gardens Development Unit. "Lights come on to show the answers to various questions when visitors press the appropriate buttons.

"Panels next to the map will contain information that can be updated and changed on a regular basis. The first will explain what the Kew Guild is, and the map can be programmed to show where in the world Kew Guild members are working. We also want to do one explaining exactly what a botanic garden is, with the map showing their locations."

GOOSE SURVEY IS BIG JOB

OCTOBER 1993

If you think you've got a rotten job, spare a thought for the two researchers from the Central Science Laboratory who were working in Kew Gardens recently.

The job involved taking samples of 'extremely fresh' goose droppings. Apparently one member of the team had to entice a likely looking goose with a piece of bread, while the other waited at the opposite end of the bird until something to sample dropped out.

PRANCE'S VISION FOR KEW

OCTOBER 1993

Breaking down barriers between staff was one of the key issues addressed by the Director of R.B.G., Kew, Professor Ghilleen Prance, in his warmly received lecture 'A Vision for Kew', presented in the Jodrell Lecture Theatre on September 29th.

He also said he wanted to build an atmosphere conducive to creative science, where young scientists could become stars 'to produce a new Hutchinson, Cronquist or Takhtajan'. And he commended the team heading up Kew's health and safety programme.

"I want to see more communication within the institution and less secrecy between staff," he told the audience, a cross section of personnel from all departments. "All staff have a right to get as much information as possible about what is going on.

"Although we need departments for administrative convenience my vision is that there will be no barriers between them. I am glad to see that interdepartmental collaboration is increasing. Departments are vital parts of a whole organisation, not warring rivals."

Dependent

He likened Kew to a Brazil nut tree which would not produce its valuable product unless there were bees for pollination, orchids to attract the bees, agents to disperse the seeds and mycorrhizal fungi to help take up nutrients. "Our departments are mutually dependent, that is why the focus of the new corporate strategic plan is on programme areas rather than departments," he said. "The programmes are designed to encourage interaction. I dream that each department and each section be a stimulus and encourager of the others on which it depends and I see the increase of interdepartmental research groups for specific topics".

Professor Prance said that many staff worked in supporting roles. "These may lack some of the glamour of the other programme areas but they are absolutely essential to the institution as a whole," he said. "I would like to see all staff place more value on people who labour away on accounts, type letters, produce posters, paint offices, raise funds, run computers, collect money at entrances or perform personnel functions, to name just a few".

Professor Prance said one aim of his was to make available more funds for training to equip people better for the various support tasks they perform. "I am too well aware of the gap in training over the past few years," he said.

In science, Professor Prance said he saw Kew's programme being increasingly geared towards conservation and sustainable development. In particular this would include reintroductions of rare species, accelerated seed banking, increased economic botany and ethnobotany, and increased education of the public and school children about the environment.

"But we must practice what we preach," he said. "We have made good progress with alternatives to peat, composting, biological control and ethics. But much more needs to be done to put our own house in order in energy conservation, alternative fuels and recycling. Every new building at Kew must make a strong environmental statement."

Plant systematics should be seen as a vital base to all other biological science, said Professor Prance. "We must maintain a balance between traditional herbarium based work and new techniques such as molecular biology. I also dream of much greater use being made of the living collections for research. We have this great tool but all too few scientists use it".

Target

Turning to Kew's role in amenity and education, Prance said that visitors needed to be treated more as guests than as inconveniences. "This is certainly under way as I receive many fewer letters of complaint about the gardens and restaurants than when I arrived." He said his target was to increase the number of visitors by 50 per cent, to 1.5 million per year.

"I would like to see Kew and Wakehurst the best interpreted botanic gardens in the world, and No. 1 Museum restored and functioning as a dynamic centre for education," he said.

Among his long term dreams he listed computerisation of the label data of the entire Herbarium collection, visitor accommodation for short term scientific visitors and a staff lounge for junior and low paid staff.

SECURITY REVIEW AT WAKEHURST

OCTOBER 1993

A review of security has taken place at Wakehurst Place, undertaken by Inspector Killick and Wakehurst staff, following a major security alert in August.



Police search Wakehurst after evacuating staff and public.

On August 16th the Mansion and Gardens were evacuated by both staff and the public, after two men, seen acting suspiciously, ran away when challenged. "They had been noticed before, when they had parked a car in the staff car park, and on another occasion," said Hew Prendergast of the Seed Conservation Section at Wakehurst.

Basic guidelines on handling emergencies are being drawn up. Mark Flanagan, Deputy Curator at Wakehurst will be responsible for the central co-ordination of response to any future emergencies. The

possibility of installing security cameras in the Mansion and other vulnerable areas is being considered.

The incident happened just days after terrorist bombings in two south-coast resorts, and the local police were taking no chances. Wakehurst remained evacuated all day while police searched the area by helicopter, and with the help of dogs and an underwater unit.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE

OCTOBER 1993

Lady Sainsbury has donated an electric vehicle to enable those who have problems getting around — elderly people and those with physical disabilities — to see areas of Kew that they could not normally visit.

The vehicle has been designed by architects Sir Norman Foster and Partners. "It can carry 16 people, including up to three wheelchairs," explained Catherine Rosborough of the Education and Marketing Department. "There is a large area of glass in its design to allow the passengers a good view in every direction and the windows can be opened so that the smells and sounds can bring people as close to the plants as possible. A wheelchair access ramp and the low passenger deck make access onto the vehicle as easy as possible".

The vehicle has a maximum speed of 12 mph although its speed around the Gardens will normally be less than 10 mph.

It was due to arrive at the end of September and will be on trial in the Gardens throughout the winter. It is expected to be operational by spring 1994. "It will be driven by volunteer guides who will be able to give commentaries to the passengers," said Rosborough.

PRANCE WINS COSMOS PRIZE

OCTOBER 1993

Professor Ghilleen Prance, Director of R.B.G., Kew, is the first recipient of the Flower Expo Commemorative International Cosmos Prize. It is awarded to the scientist whose work most closely matches the Cosmos ideals of creating harmonious co-existence between nature and humankind.

"He has rendered great service in emphasising the way human activity should enable the sustainable utilisation of plant resources and has contributed, in a crucial manner, to the symbiotic development of plants and humans through grasping the relationship between nature and humans in a unified manner from a global standpoint," said the Cosmos Prize Committee.

The prize is one of the richest in science, worth around £250,000 and is funded through the profits of the 1990 Expo in Osaka. Professor Prance has said that he wants to use the money to help him continue his research after he retires as Director of Kew in 1997.

INDEX KEWENSIS ON COMPACT DISC

OCTOBER 1993

On September 14th the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and Oxford University Press launched the long-awaited computerised version of the Index Kewensis.

The Index Kewensis is one of the most widely used botanical reference works, listing almost a million plant names together with a reference to where they were first described. The first index, containing 120,000 names, was published in 1893 under the direction of Joseph Hooker.

All the data from its 20 volumes has now been compressed onto a single CD type computer disk (CD-ROM), which can be read on a personal computer. Instead of painstakingly searching through the printed version the information can now be obtained in seconds. You can also access information even if you do not know the exact name of the plant you are looking for, and can perform a range of searches not possible with the printed version.

GETTING THE TRAINING BUG

NOVEMBER 1993

Fifteen botanical horticulturists travelled to Kent for the day at the end of September for a training course on the use of biological control, *writes Fiona Dennis* of the Herbaceous Section.

The day, at the University of London's Agriculture and Horticulture Department at Wye College, was arranged for Kew by Biological Crop Protection Ltd., the company which supplies the predatory insects and other biological systems used to control pests under glass at Kew.

The 15 staff are all involved in the use of biological control at Kew. The course included a slide presentation and a tour of the laboratories and production facilities, both of which helped staff familiarise themselves with the predators and their patterns of behaviour. From this we can more closely assess their condition, distribution and population levels in the greenhouses at Kew, making it possible to more accurately monitor the timing of predator introductions, thus avoiding waste or inadequate coverage.

WE HEAR

NOVEMBER 1993

- The Donations Box placed by the entrance to Wakehurst Place, to encourage donations from National Trust visitors, raised over £400 between August 20th and September 21st.
- One hundred and fifty bags of Barbe Kew charcoal, produced from coppiced woodland at Wakehurst, have been sold this summer, mostly from the shop at Wakehurst thanks to special efforts made by Phoebe Turpin and her staff, and Roy Harriss and the ticket officers. Two to three tonnes of charcoal are expected to be produced this winter.

PROJECT FOCUS — KEW'S LIAISON BOTANISTS

NOVEMBER 1993

Kew has for many years valued its links with botanic gardens and other institutions overseas. Among the strongest links are those with Australia, South Africa, India and Ethiopia, each of which regularly send Liaison Botanists to work for a period in the Herbarium at Kew.

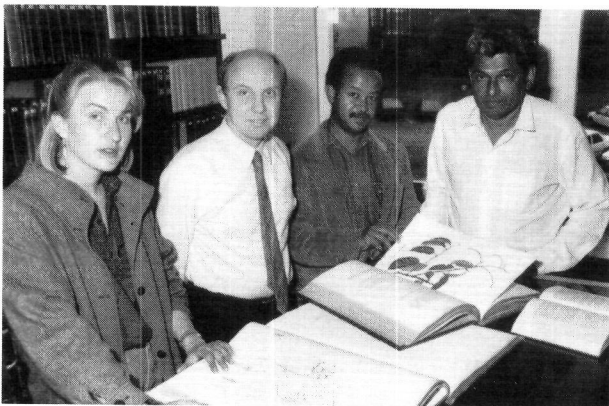
There has been a tradition of a Liaison Botanist at Kew from Australia, India and South Africa since the 1920s and 30s. Liaison Botanists from these regions have worked with us continuously except for a period during the Second World War. Recently a Liaison Botanist has been appointed for the Flora of Ethiopia Project.

The Liaison Botanists are nominated from botanic gardens and other institutions in their own countries and they are also funded from home. Australia, for example, chooses a botanist from each of its main herbaria, in rotation. Normally they are here at Kew for a fixed period of one year, and normally their families would come to Britain too. As well as working at Kew and at the Herbarium of the Natural History Museum, Liaison Botanists often take the opportunity to visit other herbaria and botanic gardens in Europe — Mesfin Tadesse, the Ethiopian Liaison Botanist, is currently spending six months at Ohio State University.

The Liaison Botanist's main role is to use material in the Herbarium at Kew to answer scientific queries from botanists working in their home country. At Kew they have access to Herbarium specimens not available at home. Having the Liaison Botanist on site takes the pressure of dealing with such queries off Kew staff. In addition, some of the countries have sent good collections of material to Kew for their Liaison Botanist to use, which are then

available to Kew staff too. As well as answering queries, most of the Liaison Botanists pursue their own taxonomic research in the Herbarium and Library at Kew.

Current Liaison Botanists



Kew's Liaison Botanists (from left to right): Leanne Dreyer, Laurie Jessup, Dr. Mesfin Tadesse and Dr. V. J. Nair.

Australia — Laurie Jessup

Member of staff of Queensland Herbarium since 1977, where he has carried out taxonomic research connected with the Flora of Australia Project. Has already had four dicotyledon family accounts published in the Flora, and a further six are completed and awaiting publication. He has also undertaken extensive surveys of the plants of the rainforests of North East Queensland, prior to that area being nominated for World Heritage listing.

During his year at Kew, in addition to answering queries from Australia and New Zealand, he hopes to continue his work on a checklist of Asian-Pacific **Annonaceae** and some taxonomy in **Melodorum**, but mainly will be working on the families **Ebenaceae**, **Sapotaceae** and **Symplocaceae** for the Flora of Australia Project.

South Africa — Leanne Dreyer

Has been working as a Scientific Officer at the National Botanical Institute in Pretoria since 1991, when she left university. At Pretoria she had been involved with the identification and curation of the families **Geraniaceae**, **Oxalidaceae**, **Crassulaceae**, **Capparaceae**, **Nymphaeaceae**, **Cruciferae**, **Aizoaceae** and **Ranunculaceae**, and received an award for the best presentation at the N.B.I. Garden Festival in 1992.

She is currently studying for a Ph.D., undertaking a palynological survey of the genus **Oxalis** and says she will have access to scientific literature at Kew which is unavailable back home, which will help her prepare for the project. She also hopes to learn electron microscopy techniques from staff working on palynology at Kew.

India — Dr. V. J. Nair

Since 1961 Dr. Nair has, like most Indian Liaison Botanists at Kew, worked in various regional offices of the Botanical Survey of India. He was Head of Office of the Eastern Region (Assam), when he was chosen to come to Kew. He has made plant collections from the Punjab plains, the western Himalayas, the Malabar coast and the Western Ghats. He has written three books, 65 research papers and 43 Red Data Sheets. These include two new genera and 26 new species, mostly grasses. He has also guided four research students through their Ph.D.s.

At Kew he will be working mainly on the completion of his work on Indian **Panicaceae** (**Gramineae/Poaceae**).

Ethiopia — Dr. Mesfin Tadesse

Started as Liaison Botanist for the Ethiopian Flora Project this year, within his sabbatical period. He has studied at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia and at Minnesota, U.S.A., and Uppsala, Sweden. Has published over 30 papers on taxonomy and plant ecology. His main research interests are in **Bidens** (African), **Compositae** in N. E. Africa and the vegetation of

Ethiopia. He is currently revising the **Compositae** for the Flora of Ethiopia Project. He returns to Kew in April after his six month period of work at Ohio State University.

ROLE FOR STAFF IN PLANNING

DECEMBER 1993

The development of improved long-term planning within R.B.G., Kew takes a further step forward this month with a series of discussion sessions, in which staff will be able to talk with the Deputy Directors about the need for planning, its implications for the way individuals work and their own role in the process.

These sessions coincide with the introduction of the new Business Planning and Management System, effective from December 1st. This is believed to be the first time staff have been presented with information about management changes in this way.

"This is the logical extension of the process that was started with the publication of the updated Strategic Plan in the summer," said John Lavin, Deputy Director, Operations. "The Strategic Plan is the blueprint for what we want to achieve as an organisation. The Business Planning and Management System is the means by which all staff become involved in ensuring that their own individual work fits into those goals. It is also the means by which we ensure we are making the most effective use of our resources. It will allow those resources to be allocated in the right way and also it will allow the organisation to monitor whether they are being used as effectively as possible to deliver the aims of the Strategic Plan.

"It is not cost-cutting, it is not resource cutting, it is not market testing. It is a robust approach to allocate resources and to focus our performance at all levels."

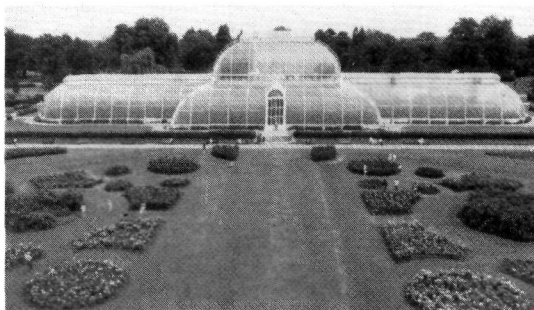
The Business Planning and Management System has been developed following wide consultation within R.B.G., Kew. "Between 40 and 50 in-depth interviews with key staff members, including all who filled in last year's management returns, were undertaken to try and ensure the system is workable and will deliver the right results," said Charles Stirton, Deputy Director, Science. "Although we initially worked with consultants we realised there was enough experience within Kew to develop the system and we are particularly pleased that it has been developed within Kew rather than imposed by outsiders".

"Planning is not an esoteric or academic exercise," said Lavin. "It is a proven way of transferring the aims of a strategic plan into tangible results. The aim has been to develop a system that reduces bureaucracy and involves appropriate staff at all levels in the decision making process.

"For example, budget allocations will be made on the basis of negotiations and will evolve into agreements about how much money is going to be spent on a particular project, what results will be obtained and who is responsible for delivering them. Each person's contribution will be vital and each person must know where their job fits in to their unit's targets and into the aims of the Strategic Plan."

Lavin said that although there had in the past been isolated pockets of joint planning and forward planning within departments, there had up to now been no formal planning on an organisation-wide basis. "We want to ensure all staff are working as a team towards a common goal," he said.

"We believe this is a real sea-change," added Stirton. "We are aiming for a process that is open, focused, with decisions linked to resources and involving everyone. Forward job plans by individuals will accumulate in departments and together at the organisational level. Ultimately we want them to be based on sound complimentary job descriptions that link directly to the Strategic Plan.



"As the process develops we hope more and more staff will become involved in the decision making process. With this responsibility will come more accountability. It will not happen overnight and it will involve a considerable amount of discussion at all levels. We must learn to empower people to take the decisions appropriate to them."

Full details about how the Business Planning and Management process is evolving will be discussed by the Deputy Directors at meetings over the next two weeks. Staff who cannot make the presentation for their own department are encouraged to attend on a more convenient date. "We want to see as many staff as possible at these meetings because we really want to create an open dialogue within Kew," said Stirton.

"We want as much feedback as possible — including constructive criticism — about the management processes at Kew and how people see their rôle within the organisation. These meetings will, we hope, be an important opportunity to discuss the way Kew is going."

KEW GAINS £200,000 FROM DARWIN INITIATIVE

DECEMBER 1993

R.B.G., Kew has obtained over £200,000 of funding from the Darwin Initiative, the British Government's much publicised response to the Biodiversity Convention signed at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro last year.

Kew submitted three projects for funding, of which two were successful. £165,500 goes to a project on the biodiversity of the Brejo forests in North East Brazil, part of the Plantas do Nordeste programme; £40,000 is earmarked for the Herbarium Techniques Course, run by Diane Bridson, which trains overseas technicians and collection managers in the care of botanical collections. The course is a key element underpinning Kew's biodiversity research.

Simon Mayo, who is co-ordinating the Brejo project, explained that it was part of the Biodiversity Sub-programme of Plantas do Nordeste. It will be a detailed botanical survey, concentrating on woody species, and will produce the botanical data required for an evaluation of the biodiversity value of the forest areas. Conservation priorities can then be drawn up. A major element will be the training of Brazilian botanists to disseminate biodiversity information locally.

The funding for the Herbarium Techniques Course will allow five students from Commonwealth or other overseas countries to attend the course.

Kew's projects are among the first 26 projects to receive a total of £3.3 million of Darwin Initiative funding. Over 100 applications were received. Among the other organisations to obtain funding are the World Wide Fund for Nature, Botanic Gardens Conservation International, the International Mycological Institute, The Natural History Museum and the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology. The details were announced by Environment Secretary, John Gummer, at a Conference organised by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

A total of £6m is available for the first three years of the Darwin Initiative and the Department of the Environment is still seeking projects to fund.

R.B.G. KEW ENDORSES NON-CHEMICAL WEED CONTROL

DECEMBER 1993



R.B.G., Kew is to obtain royalties from the sale of Plantex — a mulch mat which controls weeds in tree and shrub plantings and has been in use in the Gardens at Kew and Wakehurst for the past five years — in return for its endorsement of the product.

This is the second product endorsement R.B.G., Kew has become involved in, the first was ICI's coir based potting compost which Kew endorsed in 1992.

Trials with Plantex began at Wakehurst in 1988 when Mark Flanagan, now Deputy Curator, was involved with the replacement of trees lost in the previous year's storm. "It was a good time to start the long term assessment of mulch mats around new tree plantings," he said. "The aim was to control weeds without the use of chemicals, and to help retain moisture in the soil around the roots." After an initial assessment of a number of

materials over six months, Plantex was chosen for the full five year trial and the use of the material was extended to Kew during this period.

"It has certainly reduced the losses we would have expected with new plantings, which is important when you consider the rarity of some of our trees and the effort required to obtain them," said Tony Kirkham, Supervisor of the North Arboretum.

Plantex is a porous fabric that is laid over the soil. It allows air and water through but prevents weed growth. It can be covered with a layer of bark chips to give a more natural appearance and is said to last up to 15 years.

WE HEAR

DECEMBER 1993

• The Wildfowl Trust at Slimbridge on the River Severn has generously donated over 20 ducks of various species to bulk up the collections living on the lake and Palm House Pond at Kew. This is part of an on-going exchange programme — Slimbridge has been given surplus plant material from Kew to help with its landscaping projects.

KEW GARDENS WEATHER REPORT — 1993 SUMMARY

By Dickon Bowling, Microprop Unit

Year's Total Rainfall: 659.3mm
Rainiest Day: September 22nd, 28mm
Rainless Days: 164

Year's Total Sunshine: 1507.6 hours
Sunniest Day: June 28th, 15.2 hours
Average: 4.12 hours per day
Sunless Days: 77

Highest Max. Temperature: 28.2°C on June 8th

Lowest Max. Temperature: 3°C on January 3rd

Highest Min. Temperature: 17.5°C on July 29th
Lowest Min. Temperature: -7°C on January 3rd

Nights with Air Temperature below freezing: 39

Nights with Grass Min. Temperature below freezing: 97

Nights with Concrete Min. Temperature below freezing: 72

Windiest Day: the night of December 8th/9th
pH ranged from 5.69 to 6.95 (mean pH 6.23)

NEWS OF KEWITES AT HOME AND ABROAD IN 1993

Nigel Hepper (1989) has published his illustrated Encyclopaedia of Bible Plants and there are also American and German editions on which he has been working for many years. With **Ray Desmond**, he has published '*A Century of Kew Plantsmen*' (available through the Guild, and an excellent read (HBF)! Later in 1993, Nigel travelled to Hungary to spend a week there in November to lecture at several universities to inaugurate the annual 'Clusius Lecture' series on Kew and biodiversity.

Reg Harrison (1962). Congratulations to Reg on being appointed Vice President of I.L.A.M., leading to presidency in 1995/96. He comments that a Kewite was once commonplace amongst the presidents, but less so now since members are drawn from a wider field than parks and horticulture. During the year he had been in touch with **Des Evans** (1962) who, with his wife, now runs Waterwheel Nursery in Wales, specialising in more unusual and difficult plants.

Mike Lycett (1960) has taken early retirement during the year after teaching for 33 years in Wiltshire, Zambia and Essex. He had a cornea implant in February, but a virus infection, set in and a second operation was necessary. This time the stitches are to remain for two years.

Frank Senogles (1949) wrote from Bristol, happily referring to the Centenary *Journal* with information on some of the members of a group photograph on page 132, one being of himself, another of **Ted Storey** and a third, **Jim 'Ossie' Ward** (U.S.A.), with whom he maintains contact. All are under the watchful eye of **Lewis Stenning**.

Peter Maunder (1954) was awarded an Associateship of Honour in February by the R.H.S. in recognition of his distinguished service to horticulture. Peter joins a list of old Kewites so honoured from 1930 onwards when the award was established and **J. Coutts** and **W. Irving** were

appointed. They were followed by: 1946 W. Nelmes, 1957 C. E. Puddle, 1961 M. Taylor, 1967 C. Rudd, 1971 G. Preston, 1972 P. McCormack, 1977 A. Cook, 1984 F. Constable, 1989 B. Halliwell, 1992 I. Beyer. This is the list so far. Does anyone know of any other names that should be added?



Jim Redman (1941). A Committee member, he wrote to the Secretary and enclosed some photographs of the disastrous floods that hit his Florida home during March. They had a warning of the approaching storm, retired for the night, and were awoken by the sound of running water, which they discovered was two feet deep in the house. It was to rise by another two feet, consequently destroying all of the ground floor furnishings and damaging much of the internal structure. After making repair arrangements, he left for the summer and his home in Canada. The photo on the left is of Jim with the remains of his house contents after the flood.

In October 1992 **Gilbert Briscoe** (1961), **Phil Jew** (1955), **Mike Griffin** (1963), **Sheila Gilmour** (née Nelmes, 1951), **Neil Gilmour** (1952), **Jenny Scarr** (née Nau, 1967) and **Errol Scarr** (1967) attended the World Congress of the International Federation of Parks and Recreation Administration held in Hong Kong. Following the close of the actual Congress they toured the Pearl River delta area of China, visiting many of the parks and gardens in that area, observing the garden and agricultural techniques employed there. Of particular interest were the recreational pursuits, e.g. taking song birds in cages to the park, practising 'tai chi' (slow motion aerobics!) in the parks and playing Mah Jong on stone tables set under the trees. The photograph shows the 'Kew Group' at the I.F.P.R.A. Congress banquet. From left to right: Phil Jew, Claire Jew, Neil Gilmour, Sheila Gilmour, Errol Scarr, Jenny Scarr, Gilbert Briscoe, Mike Griffin.



Richard Ward, Journal Editor, became President of the Rotary Club of Kew Gardens on 1st July. He pledged closer ties with R.B.G., Kew during the year, and to that end the Club elected the Director to Honorary Membership for another year. Rotary annually give a prize to the student seen to have done most for the community that year and for several years have involved themselves with fund-raising activities at Christmas in the Gardens. Much of the proceeds have been, in turn, donated back to various Gardens' projects. Richard hopes that in future other local Kewites might become Rotary members of his Club.

Paul Longden (1991), when he wrote in March 1992, was about to begin work on a tree nursery in northern Germany, so that he could gain further experience in nursery stock production and to learn German. During 1993 he moved to work with a landscape contracting company near Hamburg.

Andrew Geddes (1961) in the earlier part of the year wrote from New Zealand to tell us that he had been appointed arborist for the Waitakere City Council, Auckland.

Derek E. Coates wrote from Boston, Lincolnshire with a potted history of himself, having been invited to join the Guild. He recounts starting work at Boughton House, home of the Duke of Buccleugh(?) in 1953, which was followed by four years with the R.A.F. until 1959. Then onto Laxton Bros. of Brampton, Hampshire, which was then part of the 'Cuthbert' combine, along with Dobbies of Chester and Barnyards of Maidstone. He worked both in the offices as Stock

Recorder and with the field gangs. In 1961 he began at Kew in the South Arboretum under **George Brown** and alongside **Tony Schilling** and **Bill Bridle** in the Temp. pits. He again moved after a couple of years to Wisley to study on their residential diploma course. Following that course, he went into the Public Parks service where he has spent the last 28 years. Currently he is Parks and Grounds Maintenance Officer for Boston Borough Council.

Derek married in 1966, has two daughters, one of whom works with Top Fruit at Writtle College. He is now Chairman of the Eastern Branch of the Institute of Horticulture. He is a playing member of an amateur woodwind group — 'East Winds' — a member of the Boston Soames Rifle Club and Divisional Secretary of S.S.A.F.A.

John Norris (1946) had requested two further copies of the *Centenary Journal* and continued corresponding with our Secretary, Sandy. Having referred in an earlier *Journal* to a model boat that he was building, John now tells us that it is finished and has supplied photographs of it (see right). The work has been ongoing for 18 years and is a scale model 1/64 of the battleship *Black Prince*, circa 1813. His model, of boxwood and lime, is constructed exactly as the original, plank or frame, with approximately 7,000 dowels. It's 5' long and 3'6" to the top of the mainmast.

L. P. Barker (1958) wrote with a change of address in March. he also told us that he is now retired, taking early retirement in 1986. Since leaving Kew he has worked for Burnley Council as a Landscape Foreman, for Lancashire and Staffordshire County Councils as a Landscape Technical Assistant for the design and construction of school playing fields as well as an A.A. running track at Northwood, Stoke-on-Trent.

Hugh Flower (1976) continues working at High Down and Downview Prisons, Banstead and also awaits an appointment to a parish. During the year he was again in touch with **Chris Bath**, **Robert Carrington** and **Claire Cowan**

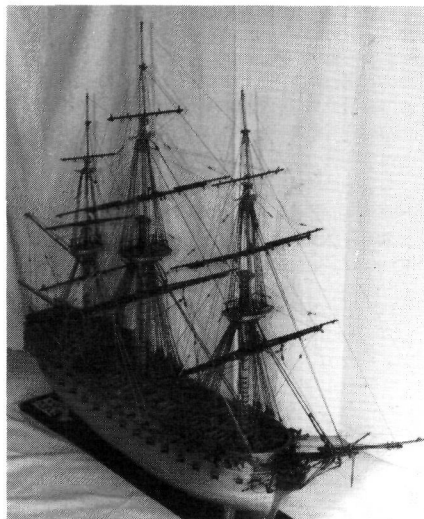
(née McCormack) all of the same year group, as well as others in and around Kew.

Kenwyn Pearson (1975) was appointed Vice Chairman of the G.R.B.S. in April 1993, having been involved with the organisation for many years. In July he was given the freedom of the City of London and is a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Gardeners. In September 1993, after nearly 16 years, he ceased to be Head Gardener to the Cadogan Estate. He is now working from home in Sussex, as a horticultural adviser, consultant and contractor, and is also doing an increasing amount of work on education in horticulture for the National Examinations Board. He continues as judge for the London Garden Society and is on the committee of Metropolitan Public Gardens Association. He enjoys life to the full.

Tom Reynolds retired from the Jodrell Laboratory after 26 years at Kew. He headed the Biochemistry Section for many years. (From the *Kew Guardian*)

Graham Burgess achieved a major publicity coup for client, Christian Aid. The simulation of an Eritrean Hillside at Hampton Court Flower Show was filmed and syndicated on the world cable TV Network with a proven audience of one billion. He was co-designer of a Stonehenge lookalike for Lord Bath — it goes for planning in 1994. The Maze of Love is almost complete, a grand exposition on the Parterre between Longleat House and the Orangery.

Kewites will be pleased to hear that Mac (**E. W. MacDonald**) is fit and well, though hobbling a bit. This does not prevent him writing to the *Hampshire Chronicle* on topics not too distant from Christianity and Egyptology.



Julian Pettifer, the broadcaster, has joined the Board of Trustees to the R.B.G. He replaces Sir David Attenborough.

Louise Bustard, who left Kew in 1992, gained an M.A. in Social Anthropology in 1993. (See article elsewhere in this *Journal*.)

Noel Lothian wrote to the Director, Professor Prance, during 1993 and congratulated him (as President of the Guild) and his Committee on the excellence of the *Centenary Journal*. Noel also enclosed a donation towards the Award Scheme.

Patrick Nutt wrote in January, saying that he had given a paper on Culture and Pollination of Victorias to the International Waterlily Society at Longwood Gardens last August. Patrick is Assistant Department Head of Horticulture. He mentioned that **Anna L. Bayley** from Kew was currently at Longwood.

Nigel Sinnott wrote in June to point out a few corrections to his details on page 207 of the *Centenary Journal*. He is not 'from Australia', but was born and educated in England. He was on the Herbarium staff from 1963-69 and migrated to Australia in 1976 to join his wife who had migrated earlier. His wife, Kathleen, has not retired. In 1991 Nigel accepted an 'enhanced resignation package' from his employer, the Roads Corporation of Victoria and Kathleen became Head Teacher at Thornton Primary School (half way between Eildon and Alexandra).

Nigel currently acts as his wife's driver and 'social' secretary, has built up their new garden, looks after their two daughters aged seven and four, and collects subalpine seeds and fungi.

Brian Dodds (1963) wrote to our Membership Secretary in June 1993 to update his subscription and asked her to tell the Editor that he would be writing to him. (I'm still waiting Brian! — Ed.)

JOURNEY TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE EARTH

By Graham Burgess

The depression showed no real signs of easing, so I made an enormous hole in my savings and abandoned the cold and sunless wet of England for hot and ozone holey climes of New Zealand.

It was Centennial Year and I had included in my plans visits to as many New Zealand Kewites as possible. I must admit that I did not even look for them in Bali, as I sat up to my neck in the swimming pool drinking a Pinacolada that put James Bond or Del Boy in the shade. The shade, incidentally, was **Frangipani** in full bloom. The level of annoyance had been reduced to their blooms occasionally dropping near to one's drinks.

After four days in Bali we flew to Auckland where I confirmed my arrangements with George Fuller, Ian McDowell, John Taylor, Phil Jew and Jim Ewart. After spending a week in Auckland we headed for the volcanic steaminess of Rotorua. So many New Zealanders, whilst not earning the money we do here, do enjoy a very superior quality of life. The scale of the buildings is small and without the historical perspective and pressure for space, the environment is friendly. The people also have a commitment to something that started faraway in Britain about 200 years ago.

Like the true Englishman abroad I kept my socks on as long as possible but half way through my stay in Rotorua I was photographed by a bus-load of Japanese visitors as a typical Kiwi!

I was in a bizarre mental state, a combination of English, Balinese and Kiwi when I visited Jim Ewart and his wife near Mt. Manganui near Tauranga, North Island. We had drinks in their beautiful garden beside the water and Jim spoke into the video with a message for Kewites back in England.

Soon we were journeying south towards New Plymouth. We arrived late one afternoon at George and Doris Fuller's place. In the street outside, George had liaised with the Council towards species **Sophora** tree planting. The drive down to the house was flanked with giant

Agapanthus in full bloom. Monarch butterflies fluttered around in their glory. George had all the enthusiasm one comes to expect from a Kewite and before long the cheery presence of Ian McDowell appeared on the scene.

They had really been planning hard, so the following day was filled with tours of various parks and gardens, including Pukeiti, where an English-type garden filtered into amazing New Zealand bush. In the orchid section Gopse Gosapao found time to greet us and send a message to various people at Kew on the video. Gillian and I were pretty exhausted and filled with so many exciting experiences. Rest was not figuring too strongly on the programme and that night we walked into Pukekura Park, where a coin in the slot mechanism turned on the pumps and the lights to the various water-features installed by George and Ian years before.

The high quality of the public parks and the spirit of service preserves superb parks with decorative houses filled to overflowing with exotic plants all in the absolute peak of condition.

At the end of February we headed for the South Island. New Zealanders are not thick on the ground in the North Island, but when you get down into the South the magnificent landscapes conceal them even more. We are long time fans of Hunter Cabernet Sauvignon Blanc, so we had to hold over in the Hunter Vineyard. The scenery is breathtaking and driving on the roads is like using one of the old arcade games where there is an open road for ever. Cars are few on the ground and in places roads are few and primitive.

We eventually came upon Christchurch and signs of civilisation. It reminded me of my early days in Manchester, when the parks were in their heyday. In fact it was more like Harrogate or Torquay because the atmosphere was definitely of a seaside town. Our hosts were John Taylor and his wife Morag. We were proudly shown the beautifully designed City Centre, old and new happily integrated. The Floraganza Flower Show organised by John was resplendent.

We left for a tour of the southern parts of the South Island, where I saw amazing natural water features at every turn. To stand in the bush with the light streaming through the **Cyatheas** is an experience among hundreds that I will never forget. Before flying out of Christchurch we had a meal with John and Morag and left with all best wishes. He is President in 1994 and we will see them at the Dinner.

We flew back to Auckland where we finally got to see Phil Jew, about to retire and in the throes of finding successors and handing over the reins. Again that great enthusiasm amongst beautiful parks and gardens.

It is a beautiful country in itself, but there is no doubt that the input made by these Kewites has enriched it even further. Though they are retired, do they stop? No, they are all mad keen enthusiasts.

It really is a joy to experience the true fellowship of the Guild and even more remarkable when the distance in years and distance in miles between Kewites is as nothing.

On our way back we visited Singapore. Yong Fann Chinn treated us to a marvellous meal and he had arranged our bookings in a key location. Raffles Hotel, the superb Underground, you can keep them all. The real reason to visit Singapore is the Botanical Gardens. The Orchid Gardens outside were filled with flowers and young brides and grooms having their photographs taken.

The place is immaculate, financed by the City and free to all, like a public park. Much of the old Singapore has been brutally swept aside, but the ghost of Ridley, so far, may wander about the familiar grounds.

OBITUARIES

Kindly prepared by Graham Burgess, unless otherwise noted

G. H. ADDISON

G. Addison entered Kew on September 17th 1934 from T. C. Hayes at Ambleside, a business that still thrives there.

In 1935 he submitted a plant collection to the British Botany Club, his work was of outstanding merit and he was awarded the Dummer Memorial Prize.

G. Addison's interest in plants seemed to be combined with a yen for travel and new places. In 1936 he left England for Berlin and the Botanic Gardens there, where he worked until 1937, developing a particular interest in Cacti.

During the War he was captured by the Japanese in Burma and spent three and a half years as a Prisoner of War.

After the War he remained in the East, becoming Curator of Singapore Botanic Gardens until 1958/59. He became an authority on orchids and subsequently wrote two books on the subject. In 1957 on a trip to the U.K. he gave a Mutual on Malayan Orchids. By this time he was deeply interested in new hybrids for the cut flower trade.

In 1961 his address was in Battle in Sussex and in 1970 he moved to Eastbourne.

He passed on in 1993. We offer our condolences to his relations.

A. H. V. BARRETT

Arthur Barrett came to Kew as a Trainee Gardener in April 1947 from Green Bank, Grimdesburgh.

In 1948 Arthur left Kew to join Notcutts Nurseries in Suffolk. He left in September 1961 to take up a post as Technical Assistant to the West Suffolk Education Committee. He was not to remain outside of the nursery business for long, for he returned to Notcutts.

For many years he was the Senior Plant Advisor and a much valued member of a company that has grown to an enormous and prestigious size. At the 1981 Notcutts Christmas Dinner Charles Notcutt presented Arthur with a watch for his 25 years of service.

To his remaining relations the Guild offers condolences and best wishes.

PHILLIP W. C. DAVIES

Phillip Davies entered Kew on 24th April 1939 from Fleetwood Parks.

He was in the 1939 Cricket Team under Selby, which beat Ilford Parks by 100 runs. The cricket and his career was interrupted by the War and he was called up to serve in the Royal Artillery.

He remained in the forces until 1945 when he returned to Kew. In 1945 he left Kew to take up the post of Assistant Horticultural Officer with Surrey County Council, taking with him the N.D.H. he had gained against the odds.

He was later appointed an Advisory Officer with the National Advisory Service. In 1948 he was appointed Deputy Superintendent of Parks at Doncaster. He later became Parks Superintendent at the Parks Department at Newcastle upon Lyme, Staffordshire.

He sadly passed on in 1993 after a long retirement. The Guild sends its condolences to his relations and friends.

K. EVANS

K. Evans, born in Shoeburyness in Essex, began his formal educational training at The Royal Horticultural Gardens at Wisley. He left to join Kew on April 3rd 1950.

Two years later, in April, he left Kew with an N.D.H. under his belt and returned temporarily to Shoeburyness. In 1954 he moved to Utley and took up a post at the Undergraduate School of Applied Biology at Bradford University. In 1961 he took up the post of Deputy Superintendent of Utley Parks, Keighley, in Yorkshire.

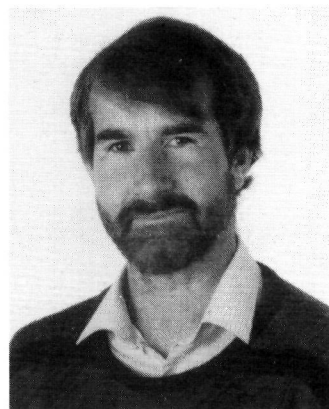
To his surviving relations we send our condolences.

RUPERT HASTINGS — Botanist, R.B.G., Kew 1978 to 1993

Colleagues and friends will have been saddened to learn that Rupert Hastings died on Friday November 5th at Queen Mary's Hospital, at only 38 years of age.

Rupert had worked at Kew since 1978, firstly in the old 'Museums' Division and later in E.C.O.S. Amongst various projects, he was involved with the curation of the Economic Botany Collections and masterminded much of the move from their diverse locations around the Gardens into the Sir Joseph Banks Building. Latterly he was concerned with the search for plants for potential economic value in developing countries. He developed an interest in the New World, particularly Mexico and the caatinga vegetation of North East Brazil, and wrote a number of scientific papers.

Rupert's contribution to Kew was not only as a professional botanist. He was also an outstanding naturalist who loved to wander in the Gardens at lunch times making meticulous observations on birds, plants, butterflies, hoverflies and much more. His care and attention to detail has added much to our knowledge of the wildlife in the Gardens. He was always keen to impart what he had learned and had recently produced leaflets on the Birds and Butterflies at Kew.



Outside Kew, Rupert's greatest interest was in birds, which he pursued in many exotic locations. He was an enthusiastic 'twitchee' and would zoom around the country whenever a rarity turned up. He was an eminent member of the 400 Club — those who have seen more than 400 species in Britain — and indeed was often the first to find the rarities. Rupert's name was often cited in acknowledgements for observations in Bird and Natural History reports. He was the Surrey Bird Recorder for the London Area, and was on the editorial team of the London Bird Report for many years. One of his proudest records was to observe 200 bird species in the London area in 1985, an outstanding achievement that merited a report in the *Daily Telegraph*.

Rupert also made an unparalleled contribution to the knowledge of his local patch, Barn Elms, and he was a consultant to the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, which plans to develop a nature reserve at the Barn Elms reservoir. His ashes are to be scattered at this site, which he loved so much.

Besides being an active naturalist, Rupert was also a keen sportsman. He played in the Kew football and cricket teams and often entered the Round the Gardens Race. It was a particularly cruel blow for such an active person to develop such a physically devastating illness as Motor Neurone Disease, and doubly cruel that this should occur so shortly after his marriage to Laura in 1989. He was diagnosed in August 1990, although the first signs occurred on their honeymoon.

Despite his illness, Rupert never lost his lively wit nor his interest in life. The way he coped with his problems was admired by everyone. He will be greatly and sadly missed by all who knew him. Our best wishes go out to Laura and Veronica (his two-year-old daughter) and all his family.

Reproduced from Kew Guardian, December 1993

C. H. (CLARRY) JONES

Clarry passed away in November 1983, his 87th year, after a full and wholesome life centred around horticulture.

He left Kew in 1930, before completing the course, and returned to New Zealand because his father's small nursery business needed his help. This was during the depression and Clarry was able to build the enterprise into a substantial and profitable business.

Throughout his life he was involved as an executive in many horticultural organisations in his home town of Christchurch. He was a highly respected judge for garden competitions and shows and sought after as a knowledgeable lecturer on trees, shrubs and nursery production.

To his wife and family we extend our sympathy.

Kindly provided by J. O. Taylor

W. NELMES, M.B.E. — 1902-1993

William Nelmes grew up in Berkeley in Gloucestershire, where he eventually entered private service on a small estate. In 1927 he moved to Russells Nurseries in Sheen Road. The firm acquired greenhouses at Syon Park, where William first met up with Kew staff who were later to become his colleagues.



He entered Kew on May 10th 1926. His first year was in the Temperate House under C. P. Raffill and later he went on to the Propagating Section. He did well in his studies, achieving 79% in Plant Pathology and gaining the Dummer Memorial Prize in 1926 for his superior Plant Collection. In 1928, his final year, he presented a Mutual on Weeds.

All this left him well qualified for his first job, looking after the Botanical Collection of Plants at Roath Park, Cardiff. Two former Kewites, A. Pettigrew and Harry Butcher, worked there as Chief Officer and Area Superintendent respectively. Eventually a vacancy of Park Superintendent came up in Newport and William took it until 1936 when Bill Pettigrew passed on. William took over his job where he remained until his retirement to the Forest of Dean in 1967.

During the War Bill Nelmes turned the resources of his department to food production. Over 2,000 acres provided much needed food and for this considerable effort he was awarded an M.B.E.

The streets of Cardiff hold clues to his botanical interest. **Ginkgos** and **Magnolias** stand beside more common plants. He was a major force in The Roads Beautifying Association, the objectives of which are clearly defined in the name. In 1966, a year before he retired, he was awarded the V.M.H.

In retirement the engine continued to run at full speed and he botanised in Spain and then followed the spring north. He travelled in Russia, Central Asia, California and Oregon. I remember him in 1977 a year after his dear wife, Lillian, died. He was President of the Guild and this white haired gentleman drove 125 miles to sit at the head of the table at the Kew Guild Committee Meetings in Descanso House. It must have been all the travelling in the sun that made his hair whiter than the rest and led me to believe that the whiter one's hair became, the nearer one sat to that revered position.

To his sons, one of whom succeeds him at Cardiff, and his daughter, we send our deepest condolences.

A. L. RICHARDSON

Alex Logan Richardson left Kew in 1931 destined firstly for the Government Gardens at Khartoum, where he was interviewed by Sillitoe, before going on to a vetting by Ridley in Malaya. From 1936-39 he was Superintendent of The Palace Gardens Johore, Bahru. He returned to England for a period but was soon to return to foreign climes when he went to the Royal Botanic Garden in Ceylon.

In the war with the Japanese he was captured and worked in the prisoner of war camps of Changi on the production of medicinal plants.

He finally moved to Western Australia where he built up a nursery business. He had to sell it in 1978 for a road widening scheme. He said he always had mixed feelings as he drove by and saw some of the large trees he had planted in its grounds.

He attended the Kew Guild Dinner in 1979, having flown from Singapore in Concorde.

A much travelled and experienced Kewite who is sadly lost. To his relations we send our condolences.

JOCK SLATER

Jock Slater was the first person I got to know when I started work at Kew Gardens in the somewhat bizarre surroundings of the old Temperate House. Then it lay half closed to the public, an abandoned Victorian leviathan, mysterious in its tropical fecundity and redolent of glories long past. It was a fine place to dream and I passed many an hour doing just that. In this eccentric place Jock seemed, at first sight, to fit well. He was a 'character', given to voicing strong, even extreme, opinions and the devil take whomsoever might object, be they ever so high and mighty. He seemed a curious combination of sage, revolutionary and old retainer. He tended to be parsimonious in handing out the respect which figures of authority felt to be their due, a characteristic which made him a great success with youngsters in 1973. He must have been a grandfather to many other people besides me, the sort of grandfather who was capable of scandalising the neighbours, like a retired pirate. He had charisma.

He had been at the Gardens for longer than most people could remember. He and Sid Bonsey could even recall the times when the lawn-cutters had been drawn by horses and the Stable Yard actually contained stables. He was fond of reminiscing approvingly about the ferocity of long-gone Curators and Supervisors, the immensity of the old collections of orchids he had worked on, the rarity of visits by Herbarium botanists to the outer reaches of the Gardens like the Temperate House. Jock loved the Gardens, he was dedicated to it as a great institution and pitiless in his criticism when it failed to live up to the high expectations he had of it. I think he sometimes hated this tendency in himself to selfless devotion to the cause, and some of his more abrasive remarks were undoubtedly a way to disguise this.

As a plantsman, Jock made significant contributions to Kew. Among other things, he had a particular attachment to the Australian House, which he had seen built and which he took care of from its inauguration until his retirement. He had a genuine love of plants and natural history in general and I feel sure that it was there that he found contentment.

Jock was a passionate and creative intellectual and enormously widely read. Conversations with him were always an adventure. His brain was as bright as a button and he was a genuine enthusiast. He was a very talented man, an individualist and an inspiration. Jock made life a more interesting prospect for those of us who were lucky enough to get to know him well. He was a sage after all, although perhaps an unquiet one.

By Simon Mayo

CHARLES STOCK 1904-1992

Charles Stock was born in Iver, Buckinghamshire, in February 1904. He began work at Iver Place, home of the Duchess of Kent and after five years moved to Denham Court, near Uxbridge, remaining there until he entered Kew in April 1925. He was active in the student life of Kew, on the Botany Club Committee in 1926 and Secretary of the Cricket Club the following year.

In November 1927 he left Kew to take up a post at Dartington Estates in Devon, moving on to Torquay Parks Department in 1929 where he stayed for three and a half years. He built on his parks experience and controlled Sports Amenities in Ealing, moving on to Hornsey as first Parks Superintendent in 1935 and became Beckenham's Chief Officer in 1939.

A few months later all was changed, the country was at war and Charles was involved in food production and furniture salvage.



He resumed his career in parks after the War and in 1964 was made Director of Parks, Bromley, one of the largest responsibilities in the U.K. He eventually retired in February 1969.

Charles Stock had a strong sense of community and was involved in many areas of life in various capacities no least in the Kew Guild where he was an active member and attended all meetings. He was President of the Guild 1969-70 and acted as Toast Master at the 1962 Dinner.

In 1958-59 he was President of the Institute of Parks and Recreation Administration and served on the Council from 1936 until 1960. He was Chairman of the International Parks Congress Committee.

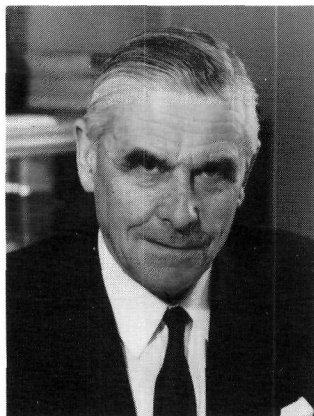
In 1963 he sent out a plea to Kewites to form regional committees. He was Warden Emeritus of Christ Church, Beckenham and a Past President of Rotary.

Charles was one of the diplomats of our profession, serving widely in the area of Public Parks. He is missed by his colleagues and to his children and relations we offer the Guild's condolences.

SIR GEORGE TAYLOR — 1904-1993

Can it have been his experience with the Air Ministry in Harrogate, where he was dealing with the funding of aircraft production, that gave the then George Taylor the management powers that served him so well later in life?

He had earlier proven his academic prowess with a 1st Class Honours in Botany at Edinburgh University, where he also won the Vans Dunlop Scholarship. At the Department of Botany in Edinburgh he met George Forrest and became enthused about the new Chinese plants. This enthusiasm was translated into the work on *Meconopsis* for which he gained his *Doctorate* in 1934. Soon after taking up the post of Assistant Keeper of Botany at the British Museum, Forrest invited him on the 1930 expedition. George Taylor could not go on Forrest's fated last trip, but through his collaboration with Thomas Hay of the Royal Parks he met other collectors, most importantly Frank Ludlow and George Sheriff. In 1938 he collected with them in the gorges of the River Tsangpo. In five exciting months they collected and recorded many new plants.



The 1939 War interrupted the botanical exploits but after the post in the Air Ministry he returned to the Museum where he was appointed Keeper in 1950.

In October 1956 he was appointed Director at Kew. When he took over, the scientific staff numbered 82. Ten years later it was 149. The garden staff increased by eight from 49 to 57.

Three building projects of very different content benefited from a considerable skill in application of funds and control. The modern Herbarium, safe receptacle of so much world knowledge: the Jodrell Laboratory as a place of research and the Queen's Garden, a fitting reproduction of a 17th Century formal garden.

He was Knighted in 1962 and received the Veitch Gold Medal from the R.H.S. in 1963 and the Scottish Horticultural Medal in 1968. The Royal Society elected him a Fellow in 1968.

Like so many Scots he was tough and forthright. It was his favourite Garden and he expanded it with the development of Wakehurst, new home to so many of the plants he saw in the wild in his youth.

The Palm House was restored and the fountain placed in the reflecting pool before it. Two Chinese lions were brought from Bulstrode as if to supervise the area.

I know he viewed the Kew Guild with some suspicion, it being an organisation influenced by 'outsiders' from time to time, but Kew prospered under Sir George and like many young men I found some of the special footholds he engineered very firm.

After retiring in 1970, he became the first Director of the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust. He retired to Belhaven House, Dunbar, still communicating widely all over the world. As time passed his letters became less frequent.

So much work done and value left for others to benefit from. Every Scot dreams of finishing the circle of his life in the country of his birth, and so he did.

He married for the fourth time in 1989. To his wife, Lady Taylor (June Maitland) and his two sons, we send *our condolences*.

(Kewites. Please read Graham Burgess' excellent article on Obituaries on page 215 of the *Centenary Journal* and respond! — Editor)

Notification of the passing of Kewites should be sent to The Kew Guild Secretary please.

KEW GUILD INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1993

INCOME

| | 31.12.93 | | 31.12.92 | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Annual Subscriptions | 5,156.19 | | 5,361.82 | |
| Donations — General | 1,854.83 | | 1,094.68 | |
| — Award Scheme | 90.00 | | 20.00 | |
| — Centenary | 11,392.00 | | 70.00 | |
| Legacies | — | | 500.00 | |
| Centenary Raffle | 1,142.15 | | — | |
| Aiton Memorial | 1,000.00 | | — | |
| | <u> </u> | | <u> </u> | |
| | | 20,635.17 | | 7,046.50 |
| Dividends from Charities Investment Fund | | | | |
| — General Account | 1,167.56 | | 1,156.43 | |
| — Award Scheme | 2,864.10 | | 1,970.82 | |
| | <u> </u> | | <u> </u> | |
| | | 4,031.66 | | 3,127.25 |
| Bank Interest | | | | |
| — General | 295.50 | | 1,488.40 | |
| — Award Scheme | 249.64 | | 441.88 | |
| — Centenary | 237.61 | | 50.44 | |
| — Charities Deposit Fund | 777.72 | | 1,440.71 | |
| | <u> </u> | | <u> </u> | |
| | | 1,560.47 | | 3,421.43 |
| Sale of Kew Plantsmen | 4,181.96 | | — | |
| Less: value of stock | (2,170.47) | | — | |
| | <u> </u> | | <u> </u> | |
| | | 2,011.49 | | — |
| Sale of Emblems | 103.00 | | 38.50 | |
| Less: value of Stock | (83.08) | | (29.27) | |
| | <u> </u> | | <u> </u> | |
| | | 19.92 | | 9.23 |
| Annual Dinner Receipts | 9,697.50 | | 1,950.85 | |
| Less: cost | (16,005.87) | | (1,549.67) | |
| | <u> </u> | | <u> </u> | |
| | | (6,308.37) | | 401.18 |
| Award Scheme Soirée | | 184.74 | | 191.67 |
| Journal Adverts | | 1,155.00 | | 445.00 |
| | | <u> </u> | | <u> </u> |
| TOTAL INCOME | | 23,290.08 | | 14,642.26 |

EXPENDITURE

| | | | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Kew Guild Journal — Printing | 7,988.00 | | 4,084.00 | |
| Prizes awarded by the Guild | 380.00 | | 380.00 | |
| Printing, Postage, Stationery | 1,135.51 | | 656.14 | |
| Award Scheme Awards | 3,503.13 | | 1,800.00 | |
| Insurance | 40.57 | | 40.57 | |
| Bank Charges | 394.80 | | 437.39 | |
| Honorary Officers' expenses | 60.00 | | 90.00 | |
| Centenary Expenses | 1,817.46 | | 319.60 | |
| Presidents' Boards and Cupboards | 4,786.66 | | — | |
| Tropics exhibition | 8,586.00 | | — | |
| Sundry | — | | 62.20 | |
| | <u> </u> | | <u> </u> | |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE | | 28,692.13 | | 7,869.90 |
| (SHORTFALL)/EXCESS OF INCOME | | <u>(5,402.05)</u> | | <u>6,772.36</u> |

KEW GUILD BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 1993

| | 31.12.93 | | 31.12.92 | |
|--|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| INVESTED ASSETS | | | | |
| Charities Official Investment Fund | | | | |
| — General Fund | 4,200.00 | | 4,000.00 | |
| — Award Scheme Fund | 45,400.00 | | 45,400.00 | |
| Charities Deposit Fund | 13,370.00 | | 13,370.00 | |
| | | 62,970.00 | | 62,770.00 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | | |
| Stock — Emblems | 699.42 | | 782.50 | |
| — Past Presidents Jewel | 300.00 | | 350.00 | |
| — Centenary of Kew Plantsmen | 4,798.80 | | — | |
| | 5,798.22 | | 1,132.50 | |
| Bank — General High Interest Account | 7,634.52 | | 15,802.02 | |
| — Award Scheme High Interest Account | — | | 8,490.55 | |
| — Centenary High Interest Account | — | | 4,788.14 | |
| — Current Account | 7,600.60 | | 524.94 | |
| Debtors | 385.13 | | — | |
| | 21,418.47 | | 30,738.15 | |
| LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | | |
| Life Subscriptions | (119.70) | | (119.70) | |
| Prepayments Centenary Dinner and Book | — | | (4,667.63) | |
| Creditors | (950.00) | | — | |
| | | 20,348.77 | | 25,950.82 |
| NET ASSETS | | 83,318.77 | | 88,720.82 |
| FINANCED BY | | | | |
| Capital Fund | | 88,720.82 | | 81,948.46 |
| (SHORTFALL)/EXCESS OF INCOME | | (5,402.05) | | 6,772.36 |
| | | 83,318.77 | | 88,720.82 |

Rebecca M. Bower
Hon. Treasurer

Audited and found correct

Kenwyn Pearson

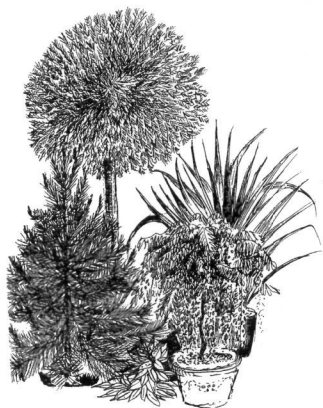
Ian Leese
12th January 1994

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£570 was raised from advertising this year. Although this amount helps in a small way to subsidise the *Journal*, I feel that there is a lot more potential. **But I need an Advertising Manager** following John Gaggini's resignation last year. Volunteers please 'phone the Editor urgently today! on 081-948 2970.

And members, support your *Journal*. See the advertisement details under Editorial on page 244 please. *Editor*