

THE JOURNAL OF THE KEW GUILD

Founded in 1893

The Association of members of the Kew staff past and present

Events of 2000 and Index for 1996-2000

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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 2000-2001

Trustees:

Professor E. A. Bell, B.Sc., M.A., Ph.D., C.Chem., F.R.C.S., F.L.S.
 Professor Sir Ghilleain T. Prance, F.R.S., M.A., D.Phil., Fil.Dr., F.L.S.
 M. J. S. Sands, B.Sc., C.Biol., F.I. Biol., F.L.S., F.R.G.S.
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 Honorary Treasurer: Ms R. M. Bower
 Honorary Membership Secretary: D. M. Barnes
 Honorary Editor: Ms J. S. Hirsch
 Events Officer: T. F. Risely

Committee Members:

Retire 2001

Ms L. Allen	Oxford
A. G. Burgess	Whitchurch
C. Hindmarch	Romsey
N. Taylor	Kew

Retire 2002 (four year period)

D. Hardman	Wakehurst Place
T. Martyn	Brentford
D. Taber	Cheam
K. Woolliams	U. S. A.

Retire 2002 (three year period)

Prof. D. F. Cutler	Kew
G. A. Patterson	Woking
P. L. D. Wood	Australia

Retire 2003

K. R. Jones	Ashford
H. J. Fleigner	Twickenham
C. Funke	Godalming

Ex Officio Member: I. Leese
 Award Scheme Chair: A. Hart
 Students' Union Representatives: Ms S. Crawford and Ms K. Steele

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Enclosed with this publication you will have found a copy of the Guideline for Contributors. Please interpret this as an invitation to contribute to the pages of the *Journal*. The deadline for non-computerised text is January 15th as in years past, and for computerised contributions, February 15th. I look forward to receiving wonderful offerings in the coming months.

The Index to Volumes 12 and 13, which you find at the back of this Issue, represents over a hundred hours of voluntary effort on the part of a committed few, and from which all of us benefit. To them and all the others who gave to the production of the *Journal* this year, thank you very much.

Jennifer Hirsch
Hon. Editor

Your Guild contacts are:

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Membership/Subscriptions: David Barnes on 020 8332 5567 (telephone), 020 8332 5580 (fax), email d.barnes@rbgkew.org.uk

Honorary Editor: Jennifer Hirsch on 01825 791 451 (telephone), 01825 791 615 (fax), email kewguildeditor@hotmail.com

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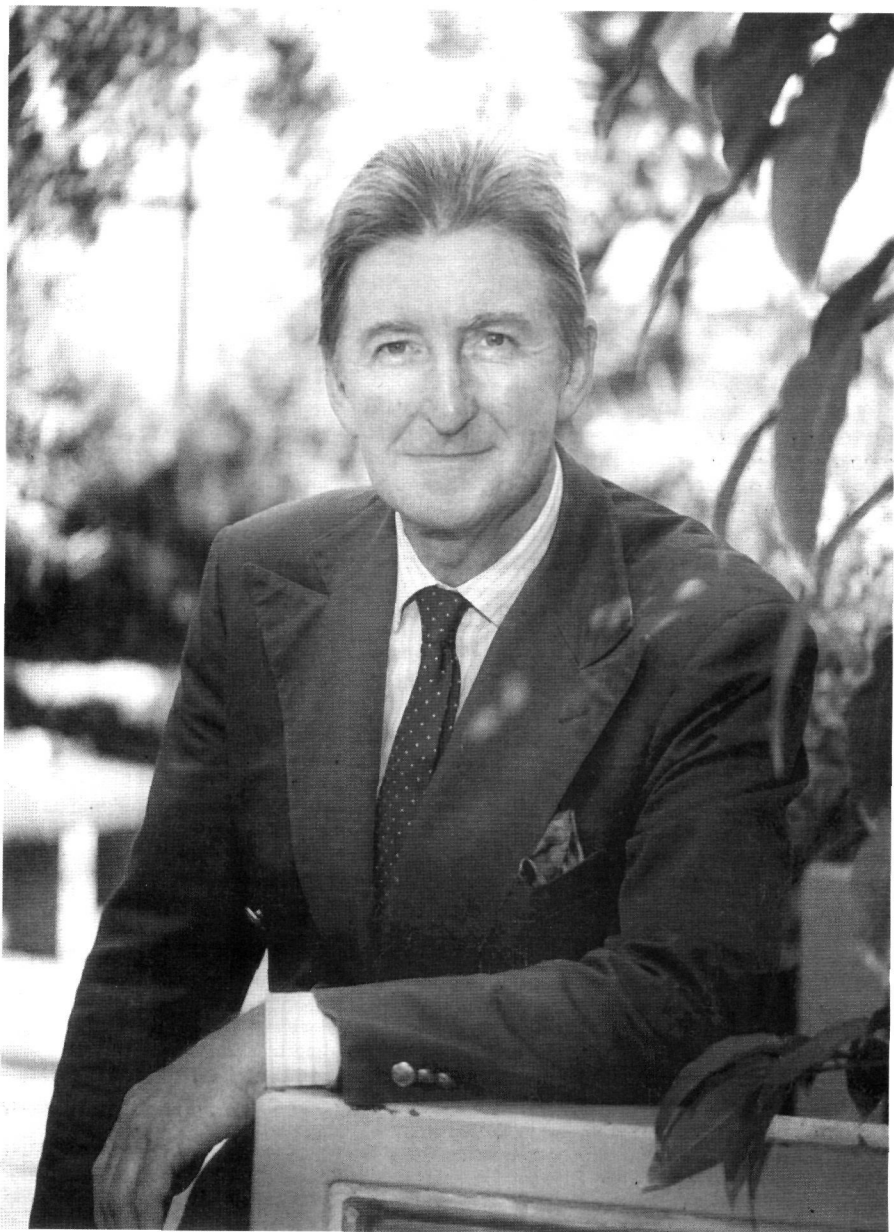
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ALLEN PATTERSON, M.Hort(RHS), M.Ed., F.L.S.

President 2000/2001



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President 2000/2001



Dropping out of school at the age of 16 after a pretty mediocre school certificate (failure in Latin – how bizarre to then take up one of the few careers in which it is still of use), Allen Paterson was taken on as an improver at Cambridge University Botanic Garden (CUBG) in January 1959. Suddenly, though all was not light and joy, the world seemed to open. Away from home, on the fringe of university activities and soon attending first year Tripos Lecture in botany, it gradually appeared he was not as dim as had been feared. Plants became a passion, one that was shared by everyone at the Garden.

Two years later, R.A.F. National Service intervened, a period which, especially seen in retrospect, was rather jolly. With the dizzy rank of corporal, he spent most of it instructing fighter plotting in the remote Hampshire village of Middle Wallop, well out of sight of the Cold War. Back to CUBG for a further 18 months, which was an exciting time: the charismatic John Gilmour had become Director, the Garden was doubling in size, and the collections continued to increase.

Moving to Kew was a natural progression horticulturally and in other ways. London was suddenly just up the road and Allen attended one play and two operas in his first week, including seeing the legendary Lucia Popp as the Magic Flute's Queen of the Night. Sadly, Covent Garden is no longer so student-friendly nor affordable. He was very fortunate in his RBG placements: Temperate House, Decorative Pits, Ferneries and Arboretum Nursery, learning a lot of plants and making many friends.

Deciding to teach, he joined a one-year post-graduate course, specialising in Rural Studies, at Newton Park near Bath. The beauty of the place and the huge fun of the course with delightful people didn't really prepare him for the reality of starting a Rural Studies department in a Hampshire Secondary Modern School. But the sea was in sight, and Allen enthusiastically took up dinghy racing again after a ten-year gap.

In 1961, he was appointed Lecturer in Rural Studies at Culham College, a part of Oxford University's Institute of Education, and the next dozen years offered much. It was a pleasure and privilege to be part of a close college community with daily morning chapel and high table meals. There were good college grounds and teaching collections, and these became wonderfully extended when Nuneham Park, the once-famous country house of the Earls of Harcourt, was taken over as a hall of residence. With the Capability Brown park, remains of, arguably, the earliest informal flower garden in the Western world, scope for plant-based education literally blossomed.

Extending into Professional Studies, he took a year's sabbatical and an M.Ed. degree at Reading University. A senior lectureship followed, as did marriage to Penelope and, in turn, the arrival of son Mark (Kew 1994-1997). Living at Nuneham was idyllic with views of Oxford's dreaming spires and gasometers from the kitchen window. But it was three floors up and hardly convenient for tiny children, and when the curatorship of the Chelsea Physic Garden was offered (and greater involvement in educational sociology and philosophy becoming less congenial), it seemed a good moment to return to the world of botanic gardens.

Back to London with Covent Garden and the English National Opera up the road again, Chelsea Physic Garden was a famous name, but an institution that had been rapidly overtaken by time. It had rather lost its way and was rapidly losing its funding. It became apparent that the Curator's job was to repel, Canute-like, the forces of change and, simultaneously, try to re-invent a legitimate role for this historic place. At least closure was averted. A difficult eight years, but not without excitements: 1976 marked the beginning of global warming when on December 6th, Allen harvested seven pounds of ripe fruit from Chelsea's old olive tree. Suitably treated to remove the bitter glycosides from fresh olives, they still tasted disgusting. A more significant event was the birth of daughter Eve in 1974.

Having become somewhat known in North America through lecture series and a couple of books, Allen was offered the directorship of the Royal Botanical Gardens in Canada. Situated at the north-western tip of Lake Ontario, it consisted of 3,000 acres of gardens and wonderful natural lands: the walk to work each May was through a wooded valley whose sides were white with *Trillium grandiflorum*. RBG's funding came from three levels of government, an

increasingly flourishing Friends Membership, private donations, and from any individuals whom the Director could chat up. Naturally, it was never enough, and balancing income with the contrasting and sometimes contradictory demands of science, education and public amenity was a continuing concern. However, within a couple of years a major conservatory project had begun. Its collections concentrated on plants from the five world regions with a Mediterranean climate, both to capitalise on their ability to give winter interest when all was under snow outside, and to emphasise, ironically, that this was no far northern land. RBG lies latitudinally level with Nice and, consequently, winter light is good. Outside, themed gardens and collections continued to increase with concomitant improvements in propagation and staff facilities. A major strand was a flourishing volunteer Auxiliary which supported many staff activities, ran the gift shop and pursued other fundraising activities. It is often feared, especially in Britain, that volunteer bodies can get above themselves; at no time, through 12 Presidents, was RBG's Auxiliary anything but a great force for good.

Other activities occurred: Allen was appointed Professor in the Biology Department at the associated MacMaster University, a somewhat nominal position as few lectures were expected and no pay given at all. He was honoured by Chicago Botanic Garden with the award of the Hutchison Medal, by Brooklyn Botanic Garden by being named a Distinguished Adviser, and by the RHS with a Veitch Memorial Medal. For over 30 years, he has led plant-study tours around the world from Equator and the Galapagos to the Himalayas; thus those student periods of intimate contact with botanic garden collections paid off handsomely. It is extraordinary how the names come back.

In 1993, Mark having completed his B.Sc. and Eve high school, it seemed a suitable time to gather up the family and return to Dumfriesshire to cultivate the roots that had been first put down 25 years earlier. Retirement was immediately modified by acting as Consultant Editor for another Readers Digest blockbuster. Election to the RHS Council also involved regular travel to London, and, through RHS shows and lectures, a return to British horticulture. How good to be with old friends again. Allen is now Convener (chairman) of the National Trust for Scotland's Gardens Committee. This ensures that he frequently visits some of the best Scottish gardens and this is a great spur to the development of his own, for which (a cliché of the retired) there is never enough time.

LEO PEMBERTON

Vice President (2000-01)

Leo Pemberton started in horticulture on a Kent fruit farm. From there he went to study for the Certificate in Horticulture at the Kent Horticulture Institute (KHI), where George Brown encouraged an application to Kew: success came after a spell working in Ealing Parks Nursery section. Once at Kew, with 'Big Bill Campbell' as Curator and lectures in the old Iron Room (sited where the present Jodrell Lecture Theatre is situated), Horticultural Education became the focus of his attention. On completion of the Kew Course, the position of Demonstrator at the University of Reading's Demonstration Garden became available. There he gained the N.D.H., precursor of the M.Hort.(RHS), and also joined the Horticultural Education Association (now absorbed into the Institute of Horticulture). From Reading, Leo proceeded from demonstrating to lecturing at the KHI, filling a vacancy caused by George Brown becoming Assistant Curator of the Arboretum at RBG, Kew. Then came an opportunity to do extra-mural work in Worcestershire and with it, the freedom to get married to Melda and a promotion. This post was not to last too long, for a new principal had been appointed to the KHI and he wanted to start a new department of Nursery Practice. At that time no county college had such a course . . . not even Surrey.

So back again to Swanley for Leo, and a new challenge: to start nursery stock production etc. In those days, everything was starting: garden centres, containerised stock, larger plants grown in large cans (courtesy of Messrs Heinz!). Later, the Institute was planned to move jointly with the Farm Institute to become Hadlow College. At this time, 1963, two new positions were

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Today's Kew Diploma students might take some of the current provisions for granted, but there have been quite a number of notable changes. Firstly, Gumley Cottage: but for John Simmons on his appointment as Curator forgoing his right to Gumley Cottage, the students would not have had a residential centre. The fact of a School of Horticulture, as opposed to just a diploma course, was a logical step forward, but it took a long while to come. Also, the housing of the school: originally its academic home had been the Jodrell Lecture Theatre. Although very satisfactory in terms of facilities, it was far too large and impersonal, the laboratory and drawing office too awkward. The School's current centre was a natural choice: after all it was the Bothy in the past. The move from the Jodrell Laboratory enabled that building to expand and the vacated office space in Descanso House to have other uses!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE KEW GUILD

by M. Clift Secretary 1998-00

At 11.30am, Saturday 9th September 2000, the Guild President, Prof. Arthur Bell welcomed the 28 members present to the Annual General Meeting and, for this occasion, to Wakehurst Place.

Apologies for absence had been received from; Bob Adams, Louise Allen, David Barnes, Mrs. Phyllida Barker, Matthew Biggs, E. Bird, Lord Blakenham, Henry Bowles, Derek Breach, Peter Bridgeman, Graham Burgess, H. M. Burkill, Ernest Chantler, A. J. Chantler, Jill Cowley, Prof. P. Crane, Silvia Crawford, Eric Curtis, Dr. David Cutler, Sir Philip Dowson, A. G. Dixon, Viscount Eccles, T. Elton, Prof. Linda Fellows, Rev. Hugh Flower, Sylvia Fitzgerald, H. J. Flegner, J. E. Gibbons, Paul Gooding, B. E. Grant, M. J. Griffin, F. J. Hebden, Norman Hickman, Jean Hingston, Antoine Hoog, Arabella Lennox-Boyd, Prof. Gren Lucas, David Menzies, C. J. Mitchelmore, Mrs. J. M. Noble, J. F. Norris, Patrick Nutt, Diana Polhill, Trevor Preston, Mark Roberts, S. J. Roberts, Lester Searle, F. Senogles, Margaret Stant, Prof. Charles Stirton, R. E. Straughan, S. Wain, John Ward, Barry Wendon, John Woodhams, Arthur Woodward, Keith Woolliams and Winifred Worth.

The President called upon the Secretary to list the members of the Guild who have died during the last 12 months. These were, J. H. Turner (1936), Geoff Graham (1967), Frank Eul, Past President (1935), Don MacGuffog (1951), Dick Shaw (1972), Roger Storr (1970), Theo Dumont, Past President (1957), J. R. Sealy (1967) and J. E. Souster (1964). A period of silence was kept in their memory. The President commented that the passing of Theo Dumont had come as a great shock to many as he was so active in his Presidency only two years ago.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11th September 1999 were agreed as a true record of that meeting.

Secretary's Report: M. Clift commented that at the end of a year in the Guild's activities it is useful to look back over this period to note some of the items that have been considered by the committee. A previous draft of the rules was further revised and agreed by the Committee. This will be raised later in the agenda. A sub committee under Arthur Bell has started to look into the important subject of promoting the Guild. This matter was raised when it was noted that few of the students who completed their course in 1999 had continued their Guild membership. This sub committee is looking at ideas to make the Guild more relevant, not only to the essential younger members, but also to the older members and to potential members from all areas of activity related to Kew. Plans for the reorganisation of the Guild Archives are in hand. The *Guardian* newsletter is now sadly deceased. We shall need to review whether its successor will be of use to the Guild. Members of the Committee are due to report at the next meeting. Database and website development will be linked to and form a relevant part of the promotion scheme. In conclusion he thanked all members of the outgoing Committee for their help and

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assistance over the past year and particularly noted the help given by Arthur Bell, Richard Ward and Nigel Taylor.

In the discussion which followed, it was suggested that the new newsletter, which is a fortnightly newspaper, might well be impractical for Guild uses. It was also commented that the discontinuation of *The Guardian* would be a concern to many members, who would feel that another contact with Kew has been lost. The President noted that the Committee would be considering this matter soon.

Treasurer's Report: Rebecca Bower referred members to pages 410 and 411 in the 1999 *Journal*, for the accounts of the financial year to 31.12.99. She pointed out that this account showed a donation from a film company of £2,000, in return for permission to remove daffodil blooms from part of Kew Green during filming. Rebecca also noted that the *Journal* of the previous year used fewer pages and was less costly. Concerning the Award Scheme, fewer Awards were made and the Scheme of Network South East had also finished. Overall, the year showed a surplus of £3,000. The President thanked Rebecca for her work in looking after the Guild's funds.

Membership Secretary's Report: In the absence of David Barnes, the Secretary provided the following details regarding membership.

Staff	39
Students	31
Corporate	2
Life Members	30
Trustees	2
Standard	337
This gave a total of	441

An enquiry was made as to how the numbers compared with those of the previous year. The Secretary replied that an increase had been reported at the last Committee Meeting, but that more needs to be done to encourage membership.

The President commented that a sub committee had been set up to address this matter. He also reported that the Director had agreed to provide secretarial help so that the names and addresses of former Diploma students could be incorporated into a Guild database. This database will eventually form an invaluable source of information relating to all who are members and all who are eligible for membership of the Guild. He emphasised that the Guild should be relevant to all at Kew and this should include the students in the Herbarium and Jodrell Laboratory as well as the Diploma students. The President viewed the Millennium Plantings at Kew and Wakehurst Place as being symbolic of the Guild's support for the RBG and the highest standards of science and horticulture for which they have always stood. He viewed the creation of the Millennium Database as being a practical means of maintaining contact with Kewites (past and present) throughout the world, enlarging the Guild and increasing its influence.

Editor's Report: The President opened this item of the agenda by acknowledging with gratitude the 25 years of service that Richard Ward has put in as Editor. He added that this achievement had also been acknowledged by the Gardens with the presentation of a Golden Pass. Amid much applause, Richard Ward began by thanking all Kewites for their assistance over this period and he wished Jennifer Hirsch all good wishes as she took over this role. He added that he had been on the Committee for half of his lifetime. He then thanked Arthur Bell, Mike Cliff and the Committee for their stalwart efforts for the Guild.

Events Officers Report: Tom Risely, reviewing the past year, commented on the tree planting, both at Kew by Princess Alexandra, the Director and Arthur Bell, and today at Wakehurst Place by both Arthur Bell and Allen Paterson. We have also had two successful visits, one to Oxford Botanic Gardens in April and the other to Marks Hall, in Essex, in July. The Dinner this year was, for once, held on a Thursday and it attracted 80 members. He concluded by asking members to submit ideas to him regarding any changes they would like to see. He would refer any potential ideas to future meetings of the Committee.

The President thanked Tom for his Report.

Award Scheme Report: Nigel Hepper commented that the awards made by the Guild were now accepted as a very significant matter. Today, some £4 - 5000 were made available annually from our investments. This year, two meetings have been held to make awards. One award, for £1,000 was made to enable the final year of the Diploma Student Course to be able to join with Reading University students to study the Spanish Flora. This award was appreciated by the students and was also commented on at yesterday's Prize Day. Nigel Hepper noted that his period as Chairman of the Award Scheme had now concluded, and he added that Allan Hart was prepared to take on this role. The President then thanked Nigel for his efforts as Chairman of this group and for promoting this scheme over recent years.

Student Prize Day: The President reported that he had attended the Prize Day at Kew the previous day. Roy Lancaster was the Guest Speaker. Arthur Bell commented that this was a happy and successful occasion. He was very pleased to relay the comments made at the prize giving for the valuable assistance provided by the Guild to the Diploma students at Kew. Perhaps in future, research students might benefit as well.

Rule Revision 2000: The President began by thanking the Secretary for the work involved in preparing the draft documents. This was a further revision of a draft prepared in 1997. The President noted that the Law of the Land had now been changed to make all Committee Members Trustees of their funds. The original Trustees who had provided a valuable link in the past were now available to the Guild as Advisors. It was this altered role of advisors that concerned many members. Would they still have voting rights or were they ex officio members? They could effectively provide a valuable source of continuity to the Guild.

Discussion then moved to Rule 8, regarding Life Membership. As this had not been available to members for many years, Allan Hart proposed, seconded by Leo Pemberton, that this item be removed from the document. This was agreed. Rule 9 was considered unwieldy and should be renumbered. Agreed.

In discussion, Martin Sands commented that with the recent death of Robert Sealy, the Guild had lost its only existing Honorary Member. S. A. Pearce had been the other.

It was then agreed that we accept the rules with the amendments noted as they stand and that the Committee review the Role of advisers and brings specific proposals to the next A.G.M. This was proposed by Tom Risely and seconded by Allen Paterson. This was then accepted by the meeting.

Retiring members of Committee: The President asked the Secretary to list these members: As Vice President. Granville Turley. As Committee Members, John Woodhams and Pat Nutt, who was President Elect. He omitted to mention Kenwyn Pearson and also Richard Ward.

Election of Officers: Arthur Bell listed the following members, who had been nominated by the Committee:

<i>President</i>	Allen Paterson
<i>Vice President</i>	Leo Pemberton
<i>President Elect</i>	Patrick Nutt.
<i>Editor</i>	Jennifer Hirsch
<i>Committee Members</i>	Roy Jones
	Hans Fliegner
	Charles Funke.

These were all individually proposed and were approved by the meeting. The President commented that we were one Committee Member short, but he suggested, that the Committee make a further selection.

Any Other Business: Nigel Hepper suggested that Allan Hart ought to be formally elected as Chairman of the Awards Scheme. This proposal was accepted with great acclaim. There were no further matters to discuss.

Inauguration of the New President: Arthur Bell then invited Allen Paterson to step forward and amid great applause transferred the Presidential Chain of Office.

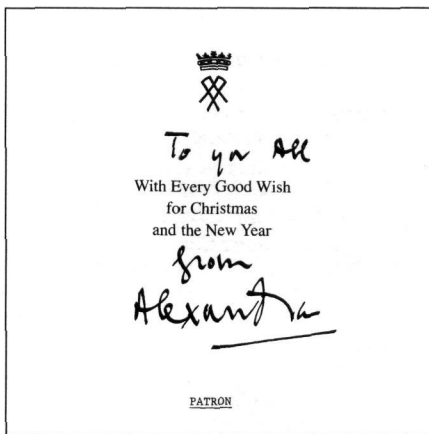
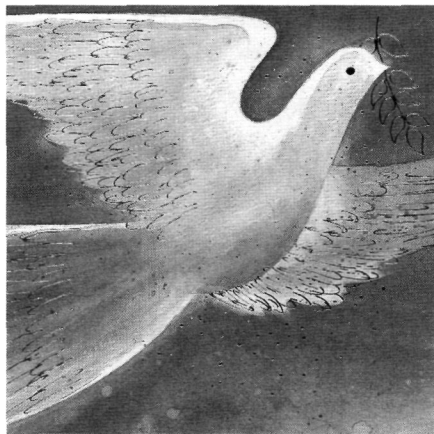
Allen Paterson began by thanking the Guild for the great honour and trust that they had put in him and thanked Arthur Bell for all the effort and work that he had put into the Presidency over the last twelve months. He added that he would do his best to continue in Arthur's footsteps. He then thanked all members present for their comments and closed the meeting at 12:40pm.

KEW GUILD EVENTS 2000

by **Tom Risley**, Events Officer

Professor Arthur Bell, who succeeded to the Presidency of the Kew Guild in September 1999, was determined to mark the Millennium Year with memorable Guild events. He certainly succeeded. Floreat Kew, as they say.

The Guild year began with the first of the tree planting events. This was held on Monday 6th March, in the Gardens. Four trees were planted: two **Tilia cordata** 'Greenspire' and two **Acer platanoides** 'Olmstead'. James Coles Nurseries of Leicester supplied the trees. The planting, in the Pagoda Vista, replaced trees lost in the storms of October '87. What made the day special was the enthusiastic participation of the Guild's Patron, H.R.H. Princess Alexandra and her husband, Angus Ogilvie. Not only did she plant a tree, but they spent two hours involved in Guild and Guild members' affairs during the reception, which was held at the Marianne North Gallery. The event was generously sponsored by Kew's Bank, the Co-Op Bank, whose representatives also participated in the tree planting. The other trees were planted by the Director, Prof. Peter Crane and by Guild President Prof. Arthur Bell.



Christmas card from Guild Patron H.R.H. Princess Alexandra.

The next Millennium event was a visit on April 16th to the world's oldest botanic garden, that at Oxford. The visit was organized, and an interesting tour was led, by Kewite, Louise Allen. During the lunch break, Louise suggested that members might go through Magdalene College grounds, to the river, to see the **Fritillaria** meadow. In the afternoon we visited the Harcourt Arboretum at Nuneham Courtenay.

The highlight of the Guild's year, the Annual Dinner, was held in the Orangery at the Gardens on Thursday 25th May, with the reception in the Princess of Wales Conservatory. Arthur Bell presided and the principal guest was Chris Brickell. Silvia Crawford represented the students in proposing the toast to Absent Friends. The new Director, Prof. Peter Crane joined us at this, his first, Guild Annual Dinner.

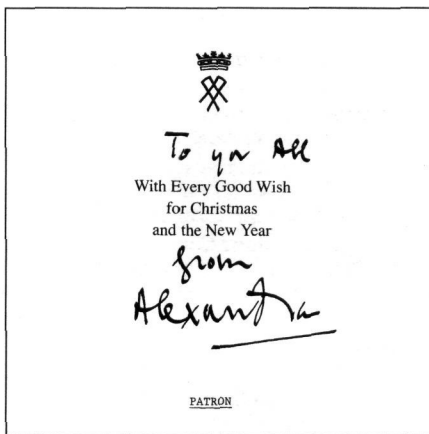
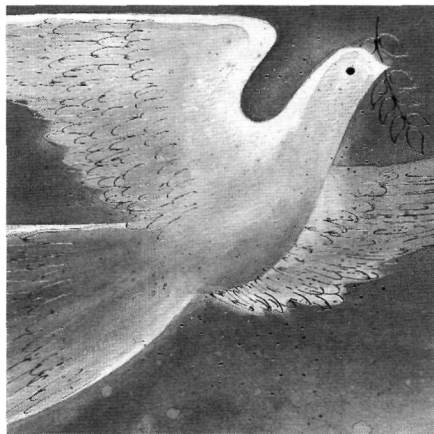
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H.R.H. Princess Alexandra planting a Millennium tree on the Pagoda Vista, Kew.



H.R.H. Princess Alexandra discussing Guild affairs at the Millennium Tree Planting.



Guild President Prof. E. Arthur Bell planting one of four Millennium trees.

On July 2nd, Guild members paid a further visit, this time to Marks Hall, near Coggeshall in Essex. Our President, being a Trustee, introduced the Curator, Jonathan Jukes who led the group around this interesting and still developing Arboretum.

The A.G.M. events were held at Wakehurst Place and were efficiently organised by David Hardman. It began with a tour of the 'inner' gardens. After the A.G.M., at which Allen Paterson succeeded Arthur Bell as President, members lunched 'al fresco'. Then followed a visit to the newly completed Seed Bank and here we met Dr. Hugh Pritchard who gave us detailed explanations of its workings and techniques. During the day the incoming and outgoing Presidents jointly planted another Millennium tree.

KEW GUILD AWARDS SCHEME REPORT FOR 2000

by **F. Nigel Hepper**, Chairman

The Sub-committee met on Tuesday 14th March 2000 to consider ten applications for awards. Two applications had been received from students who had not been members of the Guild for 12 months and therefore did not qualify. One award from 1999, to Robert Brett, had not been claimed as he has left his post at Kew and was unable to go to India.

The following were agreed:

Mirco Berenbrinker. (Dallimore Award). New Caledonia to study endemic flora £500.

Jinyong Chen. Yunnan, China to study orchids £650.

Alys Fowler. (Redman Award). New York to study community garden programmes £500.

Tom Hoblyn. (Redman Award). South-east U.S.A. to study carnivorous plants £500.

Helenka Jurgielwicz. Lebanon to participate in the Darwin Initiative Coastal Flora Survey run by Kew, AUB and Reading University £500.

Anthony O'Rourke. (Dallimore Award). Hawaiian Islands, to study the palm genus *Pritchardia* £500

Kew Diploma Course 35. Third year field trip to Andalucia, Spain £1,000.



Guild President Prof. E. Arthur Bell planting one of four Millennium trees.

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A second meeting was held on the 4th of September when four more applications were considered. However, with limited funds available for awards, only two of the applicants could be satisfied:

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Emma Fox (of the Palm House and Waterlily House). To join an expedition to Brazil to see the *Victoria* waterlily in the wild £300.

My thanks go to the current members of the Awards Scheme sub committee: Annabel J. Chantler (Hon. Secretary), Rebecca Bower (Hon. Treasurer), David Barnes (Training), Mark Bridger (Arboretum), Alan Hart, Colin Hindmarch, Jennifer Hirsch (Student Rep.). As Chairman, my term has come to an end and I am pleased to announce that Allan Hart will take over for the next few years.

NEW CALEDONIA – REFUGE FOR THE LAST DINOSAURS ON EARTH

by Mirco Berenbrinker

On the 18th of August 2000, one Kew Diploma student set out on a journey that would take more than a month to complete – the destination being the Pacific islands of New Caledonia.

Located about 1500km off the Australian east coast, this small archipelago lies just north of the Tropic of Capricorn. New Caledonia encompasses five islands: the main island "Calliou" or Grande Terre, the Isle of Pines, and the three Loyalty Islands of Lifou, Mare and Ouvéa. A number of small, uninhabited coral islets form part of the archipelago. They belong to the great coral reef that surrounds the whole of the main island at distances of 5 to 20km from the coast. New Caledonia's Great Reef (Grande Récif) is second in size only to the Great Barrier Reef of Eastern Australia, and I had one day of snorkelling in the lagoon to view and photograph the marine flora as part of the original Travel Scholarship proposal. Grande Terre, at a length of 400 km and a maximum width of 50 km, is quite reminiscent of Israel in size and shape. New Caledonia is a French overseas territory, hence the national language is French. The capital is Nouméa, which is located in the southwestern part of the main island.

Grande Terre itself and also the small Isle of Pines at its southern tip, are of major interest for plant life, due to their ultramafic soils derived from peridotite oceanic crust. These soils are red, with high iron levels and also contain high amounts of nickel and chrome. During the Earth's history, large parts of New Caledonia were submerged for certain periods and only the schist mountaintops of the northern mountains remained exposed. Most of the vegetation survived there. After the retreat of the ocean, plants from the north re-colonised the peridotite soils. They had to develop a large variety of adaptations to cope with the extreme soil conditions, as well as with drought and high winds up in the mountains. The plant communities that have evolved on the peridotite were the main targets of the Travel Scholarship. Plants include many endemic species that often only occur on a single mountain. The major plant groups are the gymnosperms, the orchids, the palms, and the mosses and ferns. The plant families of **Cunoniaceae** and **Epacridaceae** are quite predominant.

Botanists identify some of the mountain habitats of New Caledonia as most reminiscent of the Earth's flora as it existed during the Cretaceous Era, 65-144 million years ago. Indeed, the moist and often foggy conifer communities explored by the recipient seem like time capsules that transfer the visitor back to a time long gone. Dense moss and fern covers on the spongy ground and on tree trunks further add to this effect.

The original focus of the Travel Scholarship was on gymnosperms, especially on the **Araucariaceae**, the monkey-puzzle family. The family includes the genera **Araucaria**, '**Agathis**' and the recently discovered Australian genus **Wollemia**. Sixteen of the ten known species of **Araucaria** grow on New Caledonia, 13 of which are endemic! All of those 13 species were viewed and basically described by the author at the herbarium of the *Institut de Recherche pour*

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le Development (IRD) in Nouméa. The author's contact there was Dr. Tanguy Jaffré, Head of the Botany Department, who was extremely helpful and co-operative in giving advice and organising the necessary permits to visit certain nature reserves.

Accommodation and subsistence were generously provided by a nurseryman in the village of Palta, 12 kilometres north of Noumea. The connection was made through the Palmengarten in Frankfurt, Germany. Main field trips undertaken by the author are listed below. As described above, the main target areas for field trips were in the south of the archipelago, especially in the mountains: Mount Mou; Mount Dzumac; Mount Humbolt; Territorial Park of the Riviere Bleue (Blue River); Plaine des Lacs (Plain of Lakes) and Madeleine River, Montagne des Source (Mountains of Springs); and Isle of Pines.

Apart from a few exceptions, all the plants that I aimed to find and study were actually discovered and photographed. These plants include:

Parasitaxus ustus (Podocarpaceae), the only known (semi)parasitic conifer on Earth.

Xeronema moorei (Liliaceae), 'New Caledonia Poor Knight's Lily', a plant with iris-like foliage and a bright red, horizontal "toothbrush" flower.

Dacrydium guillauminii (Podocarpaceae), named as the rarest conifer on Earth by Dr. Stephen Schneckenburger, Darmstadt Botanical Garden (ex Frankfurt).

Neocallitropsis pancheri (Podocarpaceae), a conifer that is equally rare, growing in the Plain of Lakes.

Actinokentia divaricata (Arecaceae), a palm that produces the most outstanding juvenile foliage which shines bright red amongst dense rainforest vegetation.

Blechnum franckii (Blechnaceae), unfortunately not seen in its wild habitat, but a dried herbarium specimen at the IRD made up for the loss.

A STUDY OF ORCHIDS IN YUNNAN

by Jinyong Chen

In June 2000 I had my three weeks study tour in Yunnan Province, southwestern China. The topography and climate vary a lot in Yunnan. There are over 18,000 species of higher plant, among which 540 species are orchids. The aims of the trip were: to understand the collection and conservation work in the botanical gardens in Yunnan; to gain knowledge of orchid cultivation, especially on medicinal plant **Gastrodia elata** and other commercial ornamental orchids; to understand the habitat of terrestrial and epiphytic orchids, especially **Cymbidium**, **Cypripedium**, **Dendrobium**, and **Paphiopedilum**.

I flew to Kunming, the capital of Yunnan on the 8th of June. First, I visited Kunming Botanical Garden and saw the flowering **Calanthe argento-oriata**, **Paphiopedilum hirsutissimum**, **Dendrobium falconeri**, **Phalaenopsis wilsonii**, **Cleistoma paniculatum** etcetera in the orchid house. I also visited two other gardens in Xishuangbanna Prefecture, southern Yunnan. I visited Xishuangbanna Medicinal Plant Garden in Jinghong first. Formerly, they grew more than 100 species of orchids, but now most of them are horticultural species. I saw flowering **Aerides rosea**, **Hygrochilus parishii**, **Dendrobium falconeri**, **Cymbidium lowianum**, **Thunia alba**, **Phaius tankervillea** and **Trichoglottis** etcetera in the orchid house. The next one was Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden in Menglun town. Previously, the garden collected over 275 wild species of orchids, but now only some 100 species remain. I saw flowering **Arundina graminifolia**, **Pholidota imbricata**, **Dendrobium chryseum**, **D. moschatum**, **Phaius columnaris**, **Aerides rosea** and **Hygrochilus parishii** in the orchid garden.

On the 9th of June, I went to Xiaocaoba Forestry Administration, Yiliang County Zhaotong Prefecture, in northeastern Yunnan to see **Gastrodia elata** cultivation. The site is on the top of Baigongshan mountain at an altitude of 1,960m. **Gastrodia** requires a cool, humid, cloudy climate, and most soil with good drainage. It also grows in close relationship with the fungus

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Armillariella mellea. I saw the flower stalk coming up in a shady place. When the flowers come out, they will be pollinated by insects and get fruit pods. Then seeds will be sown on the prepared bed where branches and leaf mould are layered to stimulate the growth of fungi. The rhizome usually develops underground for more than three years before it is mature and flowering. When the flower stalk comes out, the rhizome can be dug out and washed, then dried slowly on the stove.

In order to see the industrial production of orchids, I visited Jingzheng Flower Ltd. In Anning County near Kunming. It may be the largest orchid company in China. The major products are the cultivars of **Phalaenopsis**, **Cymbidium hookerianum**, **Oncidium**, and **Dendrobium phalaenopsis**. I visited the tissue culture house, the young seedling houses, the mature plant houses and the plant sale house. It is large-scale production and flower quality is good. They produce pot plants and cut flowers for the market.

My interest was to study the habitat of tropical and temperate orchids and to see their conservation status. First I went to a limestone mountain near Menglun town in Xishuangbanna. The altitude is above 1,000m and the vegetation is very rich. The epiphytic orchids grow on the trunks and branches of the trees and on the rock surface. I saw a lot of **Bulbophyllum** and **Eria** there, as well as **Liparis**, **Dendrobium**, **Coelogyne** and **Pholidota**.

To study the habitat of **Paphiopedilum** I went to Wenshan Prefecture, southeast Yunnan. First I went to the Malipo County and climbed the Mingzishan Mountain. At about 1,060m I found three species of **Paphiopedilum**, **P. dianthum**, **P. henryanum**, and **P. micranthum**. They grew under the trees on the humus soil where the humidity and soil moisture are high. Moreover, I saw **Liparis**, **Malaxis**, **Eria**, **Pholidota**, **Hemiphila cruciata**, **Vanda concolor**, **Thunia alba**, **Bulbophyllum odoratissimum** and **Geodorum** as well. Then I went to Dashidong, Manguan County. At the altitude of about 1,400m I saw **Paphiopedilum malipoense** and **P. dianthum** and **Cymbidium cyperifolium**, **C. lancifolium**, **Dendrobium densiflorum** and **Malaxis**. They grow in limestone forest where it is shady, moist, and the soil is rich in humus. I also saw **Dendrobium chryseum** growing on trees.

My last interest was **Cypripedium** in northwestern Yunnan. I went to Ganheba grassland in Lijiang and at 3,050m I saw **Cypripedium flavum**, **C. tibeticum**, **C. margaritaceum**, and **Calanthe delavayi**. Then I travelled further north to Zhongdian County. I went to Napahai grassland and at an altitude of 3,200m I saw two more species, **Cypripedium guttatum** and **C. yunnanense**. **Cypripedium** usually grew at the edge of the forest, or on the open land with other perennial plants. Normally they liked humus soil which can keep moisture and have good drainage as well.

After the trip to Zhongdian, I finished my work. It is great to travel to some parts of Yunnan to see the diverse species of orchids. I saw the typical Chinese medicinal plants **Gastrodia elata** and other ornamental orchid species. I saw the habitat of epiphytic and terrestrial orchids in the tropical area and terrestrial orchids in the temperate region. I gained a lot of knowledge and understanding from the trip.

GRASS-ROOTS COMMUNITY PROJECTS IN NEW YORK

by Alys Fowler

In June 2000 I travelled to New York to study community outreach programmes. I had previously lived in New York for a year before coming back to London to study at Kew. During that time I was working at the New York Botanic Gardens, there I witnessed a very wonderful movement happening. All over the Bronx, Manhattan and Brooklyn, there were little green oases, small patches of community gardens run by local residents. On returning to London, I set out to see what was happening here in the way of community gardening. To my delight I found a thriving population of community gardens all over London. The movement here in London has been happening for nearly 20 years, and yet we are far behind our American cousins in terms of the support offered towards such sustainable grass-roots movements. My

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trip back to New York was a chance for me to gather more information on how and what support was offered in the New York area.

I concentrated on visiting two major programmes that work in the New York area: New York Botanic Gardens has the longest established community outreach programme, Bronx Green-Up. It works with individual and community groups to improve urban neighbourhoods through greening projects. It helps residents transform rubble-filled lots into gardens, provides educational programmes in local schools, and sponsors a regional composting project. Bronx Green-Up has over 350 gardens and lots registered as members. I spent a week working with the Director of Programmes, Michael O'Connor, looking into two areas of the programme: service and programmes for existing community gardens, and the development of new greening projects. One of the new developments is Courtroom Classrooms, a programme which helps local schools set up living laboratories. These accommodate a class at a time, allowing teachers to build the garden into lesson plans. The second major programme I visited is Brooklyn Botanic Garden's GreenBridge. Running for seven years, it concentrates on children's education, but also helps to set up community gardens, runs a contest for the "Greenest Block", and courses on citizen tree pruning.

There isn't enough space to write in detail about the work these two programmes have achieved and continue to do so. Their work has had a profound effect: both Brooklyn and the Bronx are affected by poverty. The work these programmes have done to introduce refuge, inspiration and nature into these areas has had a great influence. These programmes have provided not only the pleasures of gardens, but also contribute greatly to the social, physical, economic and environmental well being of these communities. The travel scholarship highlighted my desire to work with the environment on small-scale projects. Since coming back, I have begun my dissertation on a proposal for a community outreach programme here at Kew. On a final note, I would like to thank all my sponsors, especially the Kew Guild.

A STUDY TOUR TO LEBANON

by Helenka Jurgielewicz

Based at the American University in Beirut for three weeks during May and June 2000, I had the opportunity of participating in the Darwin Project in Coastal Vegetation Survey for Lebanon. This project was initiated by the University, along with Kew's Conservation Projects Development Unit, in response to the rapid redevelopment and building taking place after the civil war. The aim was to make a botanical inventory and establish what may be under threat.

With the students, I visited many coastal and littoral sites, from the extreme north on the Syrian border to the Chouf Mountains south of Beirut. Surveying the sites involved collecting herbarium material from along an established sampling line. It was a great opportunity to botanise: highlights were seeing orchids *Orchis sancta* and *Epipactis helleborine*, and many labiates such as species of *Salvia*, *Teucrium*, and *Micromeria*. The coastal flora is largely Mediterranean and some of the sites were idyllic – abandoned terraces and meadows peppered with olive, pistachio, and carob trees and full of a great mixture of flowers, herbs and grasses. Others were rather less attractive, rubbish-strewn dirty beaches flanked by busy roads and advertisement boardings. But there were still gems to be seen – tight hummocks of bright blue *Eryngium maritimum* and the occasional tortoise!

Other visits I made were east into the Bekaa Valley and a short excursion to Syria. The Bekaa is a plateau between two parallel mountain ranges of Lebanon with an arid climate, cold in winter and hot in summer. We teamed up with a group from the University field station out researching wild wheats, and also with Michel van Schlageren from the Seed Bank at Wakehurst Place on his Middle East collecting tour. At times we were only 4km from the Syrian border and in the distance the spectacular snow-covered high peaks of the Anti-Lebanon mountain range were clearly visible. Amongst many other memorable sights were the stunning purplish-blue flowers of the bulb *Ixiolirion tartaricum*, large colonies of silvery asphodels on

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steep scree and tiny legumes with bright pink spiny pods. Friendly shepherds would appear out of nowhere proffering coffee from traditional beaten metal pots, strong and refreshing. Syria was surprisingly fertile and hilly in the west and a desolate desert plain to the east that leads onwards to Iraq. It is an amazing landscape formed out of a pale calcareous dirt peppered with flints and inhabited by Bedouin, the military and a small tufted succulent that looked like a glasswort.

Back at the university I undertook the task of designing and writing a proposal for a native-planted area on campus. It is the premier university in the Middle east and fabulously located on hilly terrain overlooking the Mediterranean Sea: a real oasis in a hectic city. Already planted with a mixture of ornamentals, wildflower schemes would add a new dimension, forming a fantastic resource as well as being attractive. The report has been submitted and hopefully the recommendations will be accepted.

I definitely learned a great amount about the flora and the country during my stay, and would like to thank the Kew Guild for their generous support. Looking at plants in the wild is a truly valuable experience.

IN SEARCH OF ENDEMIC BULBOUS AND HERBACEOUS PLANTS OF TURKEY

by Bernd Mengel

From the 1st to the 22nd of May, 1999 I studied the Turkish flora from northwest to southwest Turkey. In Istanbul I had the opportunity to meet with Professor Nereman Oezhatay in the Institute of Pharmacy at the University of Istanbul. He helped to identify some of the plants I found on my tour through western Turkey, and, with Andrew Byfield from Fauna and Flora International, to discuss conservation issues regarding the Turkish flora. During the first days in Istanbul, I met with Sema Atay, a colleague of Andrew Byfield, who gave me the opportunity to drive with her to the Atatürk Arboretum where she is in charge of the maintenance of a small plant conservation garden. It is at present largely devoted to bulb cultivation, but in time will be expanded to include other groups of Turkish native plants. Part of its aim relate to ex-situ conservation, but its principal use is as an educational facility. The following paragraphs are a short extraction of the main report to give the reader an idea of the vegetation I saw during this study trip.

My first stop outside Istanbul on the Asian mainland of Turkey was at Bursa, the foot of the 2543m high Ulu Dag. On a cloudy afternoon I was driven to the ski resort of Ulu Dag (1850-1900m) where we took a break near a mosque (1630m). Clumps of *Muscaria armeniacum* were in flower amongst prostrate *Juniperus* species. The surrounding forest, mainly *Abies nordmanniana* ssp. *Bornmuelleriana*, which were covered in moss and lichen, consisted at this time of withering or closed flowers (due to the bad weather) of *Crocus gargaricus* ssp. *Herbertii*, growing in shallow coniferous humus. The ski-resort consisted of about ten ski hotels next to each other and many new ones under construction. Conservationists consider some plant species to be under threat, mainly caused by people picnicking on the mountain – in good weather, sometimes several thousand a day.

After stops at Bergama and near Denizli, I spent two days around Daça, a small coastal town on the peninsular Resadiye Yarımadası, which extends from near Marmaris westwards in to the Aegean Sea. The vegetation, which is termed garrigue, consisted mainly of dwarf shrubs about 50cm high and dominated by *Cistus creticus*, *C. parviflorus* and *C. salviiflorus*. From a 'bulb interested' point of view, this vegetation can be rather interesting since many bulbous plants are adapted to such habitats. The abundance of dried-out inflorescences of *Urginea maritima*, which are toxic to grazing animals, and the various narrow tracks I walked along were clear indications of sheep and goats which seemed to graze the whole hill. Towards the top, I found *Euphorbia acanthothamnus*, which formed large spiny cushions amongst rocks near a wild olive tree.

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Gardens staff of the Living Collections Department, of which the School of Horticulture is a part, have benefited in recent years from the *John Scott-Marshall Travel Scholarships*. These are available from a bequest of Mr. Scott-Marshall who was a former editor of 'Gardeners' Chronicle'.

PHIL GRIFFITHS, who is unable to be here today, made a trip earlier this year to study Lithops and the associated flora of South Africa in the Karoos and Namaqualand, in collaboration with the National Botanical Institute, Kirstenbosch.

TOBY SUBIOTTO

Another trip to the southern Appalachian region of the U.S.A. to study the diverse endemic woodland flora associations and habitat ranges, as well as visits to botanic gardens and nurseries, was made by Tony, the member of staff responsible for the upkeep of Kew's woodland garden

That concludes the presentation of Kew Diplomas and prizes. I will now hand over to the Director to read the citations for the award of the Kew Medal.



Ian Leese (centre) and David Barnes (far left) pictured with members of Kew Diploma Course 38 on their first day at Kew.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE KEW GUILD

The fellowship and contacts of the Guild are second to none, so update your Standing Order and encourage the other Kewites you keep in contact with to join.

NEWS OF KEWITES AT HOME AND ABROAD IN 2000

Compiled by J. R. Woodhams

Alan Barber (1965) continues his high profile consultancy work with regard to the broad issues relating to parks. Alan spoke on "Moving Parks up the Political Agenda" at Parks 2000 – Green Leisure in the 21st Century, held in Birmingham from September 11 to 13, 2000. Alan



Students of Kew's School of Horticulture (two back rows) at their annual Prize Day at which they received their Kew Diplomas as well as a number of other awards for outstanding achievement. Among those present were (front row left to right) Dr. Shirley Sherwood, Roy Lancaster, plantsman, author and broadcaster, who was guest of honour, Professor Peter R. Crane, Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Dr. Jenny Tonge, M.P., Her Worship the Mayor, and Dr. E. Arthur Bell, President of the Kew Guild.

Earlier this summer, a trip to study the ecology and conservation of Orchids in Yunnan was made by JINYONG CHEN. A study tour of cacti and succulent plant collections in Monaco, and the French and Italian Riviera was completed by SILVIA CRAWFORD. A study of carnivorous plants in the south-east U.S.A. was made by TOM HOBLYN. A study of the conservation work in Hawaii of *Arecaceae*, especially with regard to **Pritchardia**, was made by ANTONY O'ROURKE.

We end second year prizes with an award of the Kew Mutual Improvement Society. *The Sir Joseph Hooker Prize* is presented by the Director in memory of his famous predecessor to the student who has done most for the Society, and in this case is given to the two people who have been joint-Chairs in the last season. The prize is augmented by a cup donated by Mrs. Hazel Hyde who retired as Administrative Officer of the School of Horticulture in 1993. The winners are IAN HUDSON and ANTONY O'ROURKE.

The achievements of two first year students are recognised today:

HARRIET PARSONS

Due to the generosity of one of our lecturers, Mr. Tom Reynolds of Jodrell Laboratory who is with us today, the *Tom Reynolds Prize for Plant Biochemistry and Physiology* is awarded to Harriet, the person obtaining the highest marks in this subject in the first year.

JANET THOMPSON

The Institute of Horticulture Prize is sponsored by the Institute whose President, Mr. John Love, is in the audience. This is awarded to Janet, the person with the best overall performance in the first year.

The George Conrad 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 Worshipful Company of Gardeners' Prize, donated by the City Livery Company, which also recognises the top student position.

Kew Diploma Honours grade.



Christine Lavelle and Andrew Wyatt (right) received prizes from The Worshipful Company of Gardeners at the Spring Court Dinner. Christine's prize was for the person who has done the most for R.B.G. Kew during the Kew Diploma course, while Andrew was the top Kew graduate in 2000. Also pictured is Vivan Robinson, Q.C., the Master of the Company.

That concludes the presentations to third-year students. We turn now to second-year student prizes:

MATTHEW REESE

The Merlin Trust, as I mentioned at the beginning, gives substantial support to our students and staff, including helping some travel scholarship winners towards their overall costs. Valerie Finnis, the Honorary Secretary, is in the audience. This year a special 'Merlin Millennium Tour Scheme' was available as a national award. This enabled Matthew to take part in the Alpine Garden Society's tour to Tien Shan, Kyrgyzstan, situated between China, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan.

MIRCO BEREBRINKER

The David Dalziel Travel Scholarships are donated by Mr. Dalziel who lives in Florida. He is unfortunately unable to be with us today, although both he and his son were here earlier this year.

Mirco is currently on a trip to New Caledonia studying local plant communities, including endemic Gymnosperms, Ferns, Palms, and Orchids. Mirco also won *The Margolas Study Tour Award* towards the cost of his travel. Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Biddle, two Trustees of this fund, are in the audience. In addition, Mirco has gained the *Kew Mutual Improvement Society's Prize* for his work as Secretary of the Society over the past year.

ESTHER MCMILLAN

Professor William Stearn, who is in the audience with his wife, has presented as special prizes this year three copies of the book, which he edited, on the life of John Lindley. Lindley is highly significant on this occasion because he produced a report in 1839 fully supporting Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew at a time when the government wanted to close down the institution. Lindley was administrator of the garden of the Horticultural Society of London (now the Royal Horticultural Society). The first award of *The Professor William T. Stearn Prize* is made for an outstanding Conservation Studies project dealing with the British Isles.

Kew Diploma Credit grade.

BERND MENGEL

The Donald Dring Memorial Prize, sponsored by the Bentham-Moxon Trustees in memory of a former mycologist of Kew's Herbarium, for the student attaining the highest marks in the Crop Protection project.

The Plant Identification Tests Prize, donated by the Students' Union, to the person with the highest marks overall in these tests.

The F. Nigel Hepper Cup presented by a Kew botanist, who is in the audience, with a long association with the Kew Diploma course and who is currently Chairman of the Kew Guild Awards Sub-Committee. Mr. Hepper has asked that the cup be given in recognition of the highest achievement in plant identification assessments.

The Professor William T. Stearn Prize for gaining outstanding results in the assignments set by the University of Reading during the third-year Spanish field trip.

Kew Diploma Credit grade.

IAN MILLER

Life Membership of the Students' Union for services rendered as Course representative over the past three years.

Kew Diploma Honours grade.

KATE PRITCHARD

The Landsman's Bookshop Prize for the best third-year landscape design project.

The Paul Temple O.B.E. Prize sponsored by the international landscape designer who is in the audience today, for the best overall performance in landscape design.

Kew Diploma Credit grade.

CHRISTOPHER WEDDELL

The George Brown Prize, donated by the Kew Guild, in memory of a former Assistant Curator, to this year's joint runner-up in the Kew Mutual Improvement Society's student lecture competition.

A further Kew Mutual prize, the *Professor Keith Jones Cup*, donated by a former Keeper of Jodrell Laboratory, is presented to the person who has given most 'items of interest' talks to the Society.

Life Membership of the Students' Union for services rendered as President over the first half of this academic year.

Kew Diploma Honours grade.

ANDREW WYATT

The Prize for the best vegetable plot, donated by the Kew Guild, to the student obtaining the highest marks in this practical first year project.

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

The Kew Guild Individual Study Prize, donated by the Guild to the person attaining the second-highest marks in their third-year Dissertation.

JENNIFER HIRSCH

The Lecturer's Prize, donated by Dr. Nicholas Hind of Kew's Herbarium, to the student gaining the highest mark for their Systematic Botany project.

The Rotary Club of Kew Gardens Prize, a joint award this year by the local Rotary Club, to the person who has done most for charity. In this case, a series of 11 lectures on a variety of horticultural subjects were given at the Mobility Roadshow, Donnington Park, organised by Peugeot cars to help disabled people.

Kew Diploma Credit grade.

SARAH HORNE

Life Membership of the Students' Union for services rendered as Secretary for one and a half years.

Kew Diploma Credit grade.

CHRISTINE LAVELLE

The Proudlock Prize, donated by the Kew Guild, to the runner-up in the Plant Portfolio project.

The Mike Bracegirdle Prize for Ecology and Conservation, for outstanding results in these subjects, and donated by the main lecturer of the courses who is with us today.

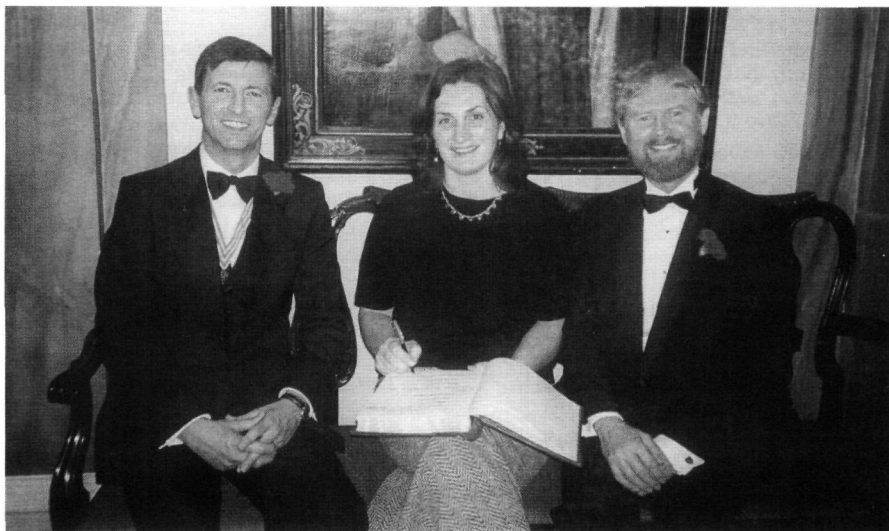
The C.P. Raffill Prize, donated by the Kew Guild to the winner of the Kew Mutual Improvement Society's student lecture competition.

The Rotary Club of Kew Gardens Prize, as described above.

Life Membership of the Students' Union for services rendered as Treasurer over the past three years.

The Worshipful Company of Gardeners' Prize, awarded by the City of London Livery Company, and we have the Master and Members of Court with us today, to the person who has done most for the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew during the course.

Kew Diploma Honours grade.



Christine Lavelle, recipient of The Worshipful Company of Gardeners' Prize, poses between James Seymour, Assistant Warden of the Worshipful Company of Gardeners, (left), and Principal of the School of Horticulture.

Kew Guild Journal. Christine Lavelle has been appointed as lecturer in horticulture at Writtle College, and Rosminah Brown has gained the major travel award. As you pursue your careers, we ask that you keep in touch with us through the Kew Guild, and that you seek to uphold the mission of Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew which is "To ensure better management of the Earth's environment by increasing knowledge and understanding of the plant and fungal kingdoms – the basis of life on earth."

PRESENTATION OF KEW DIPLOMAS AND PRIZES 2000 (COURSE 35)

We begin with the presentation of Kew Diplomas and prizes to third year students. Thanks must go to all sponsors of our prizes, many of whom are in the audience today. In particular, I must thank the Kew Guild, whose President, Professor Arthur Bell, is on the platform. Professor Bell is a former Director of Kew, so he knows these surroundings well. The Guild give several awards today, as well as in excess of £4,000 towards travel scholarships. Thanks should also go to the Friends of Kew whose gift of a year's free membership to each of our graduates will help them keep in touch. The Merlin Trust, as well as the Royal Horticultural Society, both give significant funds to our students and Kew staff.

GARETH BIRD

The Kingdon-Ward Prize, given by Winifred Kingdon-Ward in memory of her brother, Frank, a noted plant collector, to the student attaining the highest marks in their final-year Dissertation, jointly awarded this year.

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

Kew Diploma Credit grade.

ROSMINAH BROWN

The Ernest Thornton-Smith Travelling Scholarship which is the major final-year travel award, presented by the Trustees of the Thornton-Smith and Plevins Young People's Trust to allow a Kew Diploma graduate to travel overseas. In this case, the trip will be to South Africa and New Zealand to look at plants of Mediterranean climates.

The Dummer Memorial Prize, sponsored by the Kew Guild, for the best Plant Portfolio project. The Squire's Garden Centre Prize, donated by the local garden centre, for the most appropriate and imaginative use of plants in the final-year landscape design project.

Life Membership of the Students' Union for services rendered as President over the past half year, having been Secretary for half a year before that, and for being a Course representative over all three years.

Kew Diploma Honours grade.

CLAUDIA HEIDIEKER

The British Friends of Jerusalem Botanical Gardens Scholarship for a third-year placement at the garden in Jerusalem.

'The Kew Gardener' Arboricultural Prize, sponsored by Matthew Vincent, a Kew Diploma graduate, and proprietor of 'The Kew Gardener', situated near Kew Gardens Station.

The George Brown Prize, donated by the Kew Guild, in memory of a former Assistant Curator, and a joint award this year, to the runner-up in the Kew Mutual Improvement Society's student lecture competition.

Kew Diploma Honours grade.

as Trainee Parks Manager for South Hams District Council, Totnes, Devon. Simon Litt was appointed Contract Supervisor for the Corporation of London's Parks and Gardens Department. Few Kew Diploma graduates are involved in commercial horticulture. However, one who is pursuing a career in this direction is Azra Secerbegovic who has been promoted to be European Marketing Manager for the large Israeli plant import/export company, Agrexco.

In addition to these individual career successes by Kew Diploma graduates, this year has seen many opportunities where the School, its current students, and its graduates have promoted Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew to a wider audience both at home and abroad. School of Horticulture staff members, David Barnes and Linda Pilgrim, prepared a display for this week's Institute of Groundsmanship's Saltex exhibition, which has been staffed by students from all year groups.

Earlier this year, second and third-year students worked at the Daily Telegraph's Gold Medal Chelsea Show garden, which had been designed by landscape design tutor, Christopher Bradley-Hole. Thanks to the involvement of our other landscape design tutor, Brita von Schoenaich, second-year students designed part of the landscape in the St. James Homes local housing development as an exercise in collaboration with the company. Third-year designs for a garden at St. John's Hospice, St. John's Wood, were displayed as part of a fund-raising campaign to construct a new garden there. First and second-year students took part in a gardeners' question time panel for the local Kew Horticultural Society. Third-year students, Jennifer Hirsch and Christine Lavelle, promoted Kew at horticultural workshops at the Ideal Home Exhibition, Selfridges, and the Mobility Roadshow organised by Peugeot cars.

Overseas, at the First World Botanic Gardens Congress, held at Asheville, North Carolina, attended by almost 1000 delegates from botanic gardens around the world, Madeleine Groves gave a presentation on practical restoration of bog plant communities, and Tony Kirkham held a workshop on field collection techniques. Third-year student, Kate Pritchard's landscape design was chosen as an exhibit at the international garden festival held at Chateau Chaumont in France. An indoor exhibit between Kew's School of Horticulture, the Awaji Landscape Planning and Horticulture Academy, and the School of Horticulture, Niagara Botanical Gardens was displayed at Japan Flora 2000 at Awaji Island in Japan, where a total of 6.5 million visitors have so far visited the garden festival since its opening in March.

As you can see, it has been a full year. I want to pay tribute to the School of Horticulture staff, David Barnes, Pam Black, Chris Downes, Barbara Hanson, and Linda Pilgrim, who have worked unceasingly to support all the activities of the School, the lecturing staff, garden staff and our students, including during the times when I have been abroad on business. Sadly, Chris has moved on to further her career in practical horticulture, and we wish her all the best in that venture.

Finally, I want to thank the third-years who are graduating today. You have all had a tremendous impact on this organisation while you have been here. Your practical work has helped maintain the high standards and quality of the horticulture visible to the public and behind the scenes. In researching projects you have integrated across all parts of the institution and at all levels. You have produced material, such as text for Kew's website, which it would not have been possible for others to compile because of your intimate knowledge of the place. Through your travel scholarships and study tours, you have represented Kew extensively overseas. In your extra-curricular activities, such as the Kew Mutual Improvement Society and your contributions to the Kew Guild, you have shown yourselves to be worthy ambassadors of the organisation.

Your academic results are impressive, but equally important is the next stage in your careers. Two of you, Gareth Bird and Christopher Weddell, have been recruited onto Kew's staff. Kate Pritchard has a position at Oxford Botanic Garden and Sarah Horne and Ian Miller are seeking employment at the Chelsea Physic Garden and Ventnor Botanic Garden respectively. Claudia Heideker, Bernd Mengel and Andrew Wyatt are progressing onto higher education Masters courses at Edinburgh and Reading Universities. Esther McMillan and Jennifer Hirsch have journalist positions as a reporter on *Horticulture Week* and Editor of the

Garden in Kirkcudbright. Chris Crowder, Head Gardener of Levens Hall in Cumbria, has been elected as a Fellow of the Institute of Horticulture. Christopher Bailes celebrated ten years as Curator of the Royal Horticultural Society's Rosemoor Garden in Devon. Tammy Woodcock was appointed Deputy Head Gardener for Mr. Michael Heseltine. Kathryn Kidby, Deputy Head Hampton Court Estate, Herefordshire, saw the public opening of the property in June. Lance Ingram became Senior Gardener at Turville Court Estate, Henley-on-Thames.

Jane Reynolds, Head Gardener at The Holme, Regents Park, works for Waterers, a landscape maintenance company who won the British Association of Landscape Industries' Principal Award for domestic garden maintenance at The Holme. Adrian Lovatt was appointed Supervisor of Botanical Collections at the Eden Project, one of the Millennium Commission's Landmark Projects in Cornwall. Dina Gallick and Iris Otto-Knapp, as Horticulturist and Assistant Horticulturist, at another Millennium project, @Bristol, were involved in the opening in July. Last year's graduates, Justin Turner and Tony Blanchfield, were appointed as Head Gardeners for private estates in Somerset and Norfolk respectively. Overseas, Darrin Duling became Director of Horticulture for the American Orchid Society in Florida.

Landscaping is another popular career direction for our graduates. Guillaume Baltz qualified as a landscape architect during the year while working with Land Use Consultants in London. Janet Burnell has been working for the London Ecology Unit compiling a nature conservation evaluation of overland sites belonging to London Underground. Rupert Golby's design for the Walled Fruit and Flower Garden at Osborne House, Isle of Wight, owned by English Heritage, was opened. This will be tended by the Kew Diploma graduate Head Gardener, Debbie Goodenough.

The South Moat of another English Heritage property, Eltham Palace, was designed by Isabelle van Groeningen, and opened in July. Isabelle and Kew Diploma graduate, Gabriella Pape, won the Tudor Rose for the best show garden at Hampton Court Palace Flower Show in the same month. Lady Lennox-Boyd, Honorary Trustee of Kew's Foundation and Friends, earlier won a Gold Medal at Chelsea Show with Kew graduate, Annabel Chantler, as one of her staff involved with the exhibit. While the opening of the Millennium Dome at the beginning of the year has received mixed reviews, the landscape designs of Daniel Pearson outside the structure have been impressive achievements. Abroad, Marcus de la fleur moved to the Morton Arboretum near Chicago to produce a master plan for the garden. Peter Thurman attended the opening in August of the English-style garden which he designed for a public park in Okayama Prefecture, Japan.

A number of Kew Diploma graduates continue their studies into higher education. Junko Oikawa, from Japan, successfully gained her Ph.D. from Reading University this summer, and is soon to join the staff of Kew. Paul Longden has begun his M.Phil. research at the same university into the history, impact and management of the London Plane in the London Borough of Westminster. Jane Tibbott has gained a place on the M.Sc. in Vegetation Surveying and Assessment course at Reading. Vanessa Wells has been appointed Garden Curator, with a teaching role, at Berkshire College of Agriculture, while David Barnes has a similar position as Head Gardener at Warwickshire College.

Several Kew Diploma graduates pursue journalism as their career. Perhaps the most famous of all our graduates, Alan Titchmarsh, was awarded the M.B.E. earlier this year for services to horticulture and broadcasting. Graham Rice, Gardening Correspondent of the London Evening Standard, was appointed Editor-in-Chief for e-garden, a gardening website. Upaneetha Abeygunawardana is studying management while also working for crocus.co.uk, currently the United Kingdom's largest gardening website. Rachel Martin, Head Gardener of Trebah Garden, Cornwall, has begun writing for Garden Inspirations magazine.

While in the past, most Kew graduates went into parks management careers, there are now less opportunities in that direction. This year, however, John Palmer was appointed General Manager for parks and countryside at Guildford Borough Council after having been Parks Manager for the past five years at the London Borough of Sutton. Andrea Benson started work

JENNIFER HIRSCH

An American, Jennifer came to horticulture by a circuitous route. After receiving a B.A. in Literature and pursuing post-graduate work in Information and Library Science, she saw the light and eschewed academia and the confines of an office in favour of a position as Senior Apprentice with noted plants woman, gardener and designer Frances Parker in Beaufort, South Carolina. Her international gardening career began with stints at Lambeth Palace in London, and Chateau de Cormatin, France, after which she joined the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew as an intern in the Orchid Unit. Four years later, having successfully completed the Kew Diploma in Horticulture, Jennifer is joining the Kew Guild Committee as Honorary Editor.

SCHOOL OF HORTICULTURE KEW DIPLOMA PRIZE DAY SPEECH 2000

by Ian Leese, Director of Studies

Your Worship, Mr. Lancaster, Director, Mr. President, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, may I add my welcome to you on this day, which is the main event in the calendar of the School of Horticulture. It is an honour to share the platform with a living legend in the field of plant exploration and broadcasting, Mr. Lancaster. Preferring five-star hotels, I am not sure that I will ever join you camping on one of your plant collecting trips, however.

It is my pleasure to give a report on the activities of the School of Horticulture over the past academic year, highlighting the successes of our students and graduates. I must thank everyone who contributes in any way to the course for ensuring that our students receive the best possible start here which is the basis for their future success.

Firstly, let me review the career progress of some Kew Diploma graduates who are on the staff of Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Several people have been on seed collecting expeditions overseas, following in your footsteps, Mr. Lancaster. These include Stewart Henchie, Head of the Arboretum Section, who visited Chile, Tony Kirkham, Head of the Horticultural Operations Support Section, who went to China, and David Hardman, Head of Collections at Wakehurst Place, and Andy Jackson, Woodland Unit Manager, who visited Australia and Tasmania. Martin Staniforth and Greg Redwood have both been promoted to Acting Heads of Temperate and Technical Sections respectively. Madeleine Groves and Helen Long have both covered maternity leave, with Helen gaining a permanent position in Technical Section.

My deputy, David Barnes, the Departmental Staff Training Manager, has successfully achieved his D32/33 NVQ Assessor award along with Sandra Bell, Manager of the Orchid Unit, and they are now working towards the D34 Internal Verifier award. Sandra has also been responsible, in partnership with the Kew Foundation and Friends, for the environmental endorsement of a major housing development in the Kew area which will safeguard the wildlife and enable the promotion of Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew's Green Gardening Code to all the households. Last, but not least, Emma Fox, who took control of the Palm House on her graduation a year ago, has coped extremely well with extensive media attention comparing her very favourably with Charlie Dimmock.

Besides Kew, opportunities exist for our graduates at botanic gardens throughout the world. The past year has seen Wolfgang Bopp, Curator of the National Botanic Garden of Wales, involved with the opening of this major development in May. Chris Kidd moved from working for Mr. Michael Heseltine to become Deputy Head Gardener at Ventnor Botanic Garden on the Isle of Wight. Last year's graduate, Emmanuel Spicq, was appointed Curator of Ajuda Botanic Garden in Lisbon. Roger Fisher, after gaining his M.Sc. in Horticulture degree from Reading University, became Managing Director/Curator at Bern Botanic Gardens, Switzerland. Dr. Mike Maunder has been appointed Director of Conservation at the National Tropical Botanical Garden, Hawaii.

The next largest field of opportunity for our graduates is to work in private estates. Nick Hoskins was appointed Head Gardener of the National Trust for Scotland's Broughton House

been in cultivation for many years, very little is known about this species. The project aimed to investigate a population growing wild around Las Negras, southern Spain, to plot their distribution and sex, and to make observations on the size and maturity of the individuals.

The effects of *Thymus vulgaris* and *Lavandula multifida* on the surrounding vegetation

The investigators tested the hypothesis that *Thymus vulgaris* and *Lavandula multifida* secrete substances which inhibit plant growth in their direct surrounding area. This hypothesis was suggested several years ago for plants that secrete volatile oils. It was seen as a kind of chemical control against surrounding plants, competing for water, nutrients and space. The results of the project clearly show that this was not the case, because the control measurements did not differ significantly from the plants under investigation. Furthermore, *Thymus vulgaris* seems to act as a 'nurse-plant' for the establishment of a range of other plant species that grow on the site.

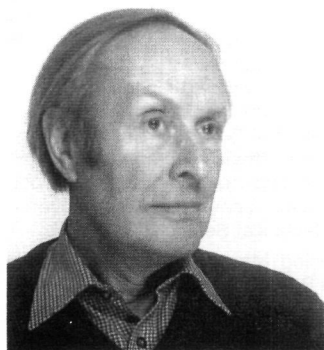
THE KEW GUILD AWARD SCHEME

The Kew Guild Award Scheme provides valuable support to its members. Please help the Guild to continue this tradition of giving and support the Award Scheme by making donations or by recognising the Scheme in your will. Plant a seed!

NEW GUILD COMMITTEE MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT

HANS FLEIGNER

'I became a member of the Kew Guild 37 years ago, and this is the second time I serve as a committee member. Since my retirement from Kew five years have passed, during which time I continued to keep in contact with former colleagues. Occasional consultancy work at home and abroad give me the chance to see developments in other gardens and institutes, but also leaves me enough time for my non-horticultural interests.'



CHARLES FUNKE

Charles Funke (pictured right) gained his first work experience at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, then went to Bodnant Garden in North Wales. After his military service he joined the well-known horticultural firm Hilliers of Winchester. In 1950, still in his early twenties, he was approached by the BBC and began a weekly national radio broadcast. He has since become a sought-after landscape and garden designer, involved in the development of many important estates and prestigious projects in London, Ireland, France, Spain and the Middle East. In 1987, His Highness Shaikh Zayed bin Sultan Al-Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, retained Charles to develop the landscape of Tittenhurst Park, near Ascot in Berkshire. He has designed a number of exhibits for His Highness, winning Chelsea gold medals in 1998 and 1999 and silver in 2000.



Initially, the trip was based at Las Negras, a small fishing village on the south eastern coast of Spain. The first couple of days were spent on treks along the coast and up the numerous dry ramblas (seasonal waterways). Here it was possible to see many food crops growing in the small fields and back yards in and around the village, as well as some of the flora being exploited by the farmers for feeding the numerous goats and sheep. Abundant here were **Opuntia ficus-indica**, **Agave americana**, **Arundo donax**, **Phragmites australis**, **Ceratonia siliqua** and **Hyparrhenia hirta**, all indicators of the arid thermo-mediterranean climatic zone. Also noted were **Ophrys lutea**, **Genista umbellata** and **Lobularia maritima**.

Over the next few days the trip started to move inland and to higher altitudes to look at the transition zones between the thermo-mediterranean and the meso-mediterranean. With further distances to cover, much of the travelling was done by coach with short forays by foot being completed at noted locations. When the coach ascended to around 1,000m in the hills there was a noticeable change in vegetation as we moved out of the thermo-mediterranean and into the meso-mediterranean zone. The common thermo-mediterranean indicators switched to extensive open forests of **Quercus ilex** and along the roadsides were dense populations of *Narcissus cantabricus*. Before the trip moved to its final location and a change of hotels, three days were spent on group projects, some of which left off where previous groups had finished the previous year, and others were carried out due to group participants' interest.

The second area the trip visited was high in the Alpujarras near the small town of Lanjaron. Here we had left the thermo-mediterranean well behind, and were deep in the meso-mediterranean zone. Walking through deciduous woodland it was interesting to note **Quercus faginea**, **Q. robur**, **Castanea sativa** and **Melissa officinalis**. We were also able to see natural regeneration of the flora after summer fires the previous year. The most dominant plant on the landscape was **Asphodelus cerasiferus**, followed by vast numbers of **Cistus albidus** and **Lavandula stoechas** seedlings, as well as sprouts of both **Quercus ilex** and **Q. coccifera**. The regrowth of **Thymus vulgaris** was especially fragrant.

Course 35 would like to thank all the tutors and staff of Reading University and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, who assisted in the field course, and the Kew Guild for part-financing the trip.

A SUMMARY OF THE PROJECTS

A survey of areole production on *Opuntia ficus-indica*

It is hypothesised that plants such as **Opuntia ficus-indica** do not invest great amounts of energy in defence unless required to do so. Thus, after disturbance by foraging animals, there should be a notable increase in areole numbers. The investigators counted areole numbers of 100 undamaged cladodes arisen from damaged cladodes from five unique populations, and 100 undamaged cladodes that had arisen from undamaged cladodes within the same five populations. Results indicated that new cladodes growing from damaged cladodes displayed a 21.53% increase in areole numbers over undamaged ones. This agreed with the hypothesis although many other uncontrolled variables may have contributed to the results.

Worth their weight in gold: Exploring the uniformity of *Ceratonia siliqua* beans.

Measurement relies on the uniformity and integrity of the measuring tool. For the beans of the carob, **Ceratonia siliqua**, to have been the basis of the jeweller's measurement, the weight beans would have to be fairly uniform, and difficult to adulterate without external signs. While the results of this study showed that the average weight of a ripe **Ceratonia siliqua** bean was close to the modern jeweller's weight of 0.200g, the study was statistically inconclusive because of the inaccuracy of the means of measurement. What the study did reveal was that beans are easily adulterated, becoming lighter or heavier depending on the treatment of drying or wetting. This means that as a measurement, **Ceratonia siliqua** beans were not tamper-proof and could be weighted in the owner's favour.

Report on *Chamaerops humilis*, Las Negras, Spain

Chamaerops humilis is the only native European palm, although its natural range is restricted to small areas in the thermo-mediterranean region around the Mediterranean Sea. Whilst it has

From Daça I travelled eastwards to the Fethiye area, which was my last base in southern Turkey. Near the snow covered mountains behind Fethiye, I stopped a farmer who had just sown peanuts into his field with the aid of an ox. The following day, he went with me up the mountain where we found, amongst other plants, the endemic **Eremus spectabilis** on a steep slope at about 2,000m. After we came back from the mountain, he also invited me for a small evening meal. There, I was able to enjoy the Turkish basic, but kind and somehow admirable, rural lifestyle.

The most beautiful plants I found on the whole trip were just behind Fethiye near sea level: a population of **Allium amethystinum** with a flower head of about 5-6cm in a brownish, wine-red colour, the flowers of which the pedicel seemed to elongate to stand the flower upright at anthesis with a total length of about 3-4cm. The plants varied in height from 1.2 to 1.6m, and possessed withered leaves at flowering time.

To search for the, for me legendary, **Liquidambar orientalis** woodlands, I spent my last day in the south of Turkey near Dalyan by Ortaca. The woodlands I was looking for are the last relics of a genus that was, in the Tertiary, spread over parts of Europe, but could not spread again after the last ice age. The woodland I found was covered in **Smilax excelsa** and **Lonicera** species. The tree roots were partially washed out by water and tapering into the stream, which gave this woodland a mysterious character. The **Liquidambar** trees also had large patches of missing bark, a sign that these trees are still used to produce the exudates amber or Levant storax (the balsam of Gilead of the Bible), which is used for its scent and medicinal purposes. Near that area also grew the newly described **Iris xanthospuria**.

To organise and undertake my first study trip was a great experience, enjoyable and very useful to help grow such plants more appropriately in ex-situ situations. For me, Turkey remains a country that needs to be visited more than once. Plans where to go next already exist to look at other aspects of this fascinating country. I am most grateful to the Kew Guild for the generous contributions that helped make this tour possible.

ANDALUCIA 2000: A REPORT OF THE COURSE 35 FIELD TRIP HOSTED BY READING UNIVERSITY 23rd March - 6th April 2000

by Christopher Weddell

Shortly before Easter 2000, and with the majority of the Diploma Course completed, ten members of the course set out with Reading University to participate in a field study course to look at the Mediterranean flora of Andalucia, Spain. While this trip was a welcome break from both the Kew weather and the pressures of the course, it was also a great opportunity to study the flora, habitats and environment of southern Spain. Though to keep our minds sharp, two projects had to be completed for the Diploma Course.

The two stated aims of the trip were to learn about the flora and physiology of the Mediterranean climates, and to enhance theoretical botany courses with hands-on practical experience. These aims were completed by undertaking practical field studies and by carrying out a series of surveys to assist with ongoing studies of rare and endangered Spanish flora. The projects consisted of creating individual plant lists as assigned by Dr. Steven Jury, and undertaking and compiling a small group project as assigned by Dr. Jim Ross.

The Plant List Project, tutored by Dr. Steven Jury, enabled the participants to concentrate on certain categories of plants. These included bulbous plants, parasitic plants, cacti and succulents, Liliaceae, aromatic plants, crops and trees. The group projects included a survey of areole production on **Opuntia ficus-indica**, an investigation into the uniformity of **Ceratonia siliqua** beans, a report on **Chamaerops humilis**, and the effects of **Thymus vulgaris** and **Lavandula multifida** on the surrounding vegetation. A summary of the projects is included at the end of this report.

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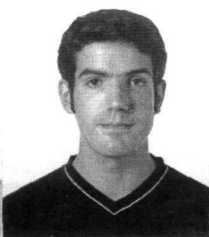
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AARON BERTELSEN



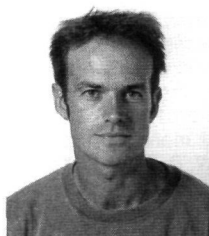
ROWAN BLAIK



TINA CHILLINGWORTH



TOM COWARD



JOHN EVANS



CHIE HATTORI



FUMIKO ISHIZUNA



JENNIE JUDD



EMMA LOCHNER



ANDREW LUKE



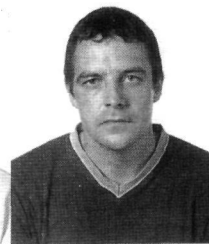
BOB McMEEKIN



ROSSANA PORTA



MARK WARD



MIKE WHATMORE

COURSE 38

used New York's Central Park as an example of how parks can be moved from the periphery of political thought to the centre. Alan was quoted in *Horticulture Week*, August 24:5, 2000 as saying, "What is interesting here is the inclusion of speakers who promote gardening in the media. People like Peter Seabrook and David Bellamy will highlight the importance of the UK's gardens."

Revd. Geoff Collins (1955) provided information for the News of Kewites section after the compiler contacted him by letter to his home on the Isle of Skye. **Leo Pemberton** (1988) kindly provided Geoff's address as they had kept in touch with each other over the years. Geoff writes, "Starting from Kew – where else would you start from for an interesting career in horticulture?"



They were great times. Early days for the colour photographer and transparencies – so useful for lectures in subsequent years even if one had to give up the dinner hour to capture some fleeting specimen." Geoff says he remembers there were fierce debates on all manner of ideas, a Christian Union was started and there followed the inevitable debate on evolution and creation. He mentions that it predictably generated more heat than light but that "at least **Dr. W. B. Turrell** was on our side." After Kew there followed a period at Derby Parks where Geoff realised that he was a potential plantsman at heart, and this led to a subsequent move as Head Gardener at Tresco on the Isles of Scilly, a move that fully satisfied this interest. Geoff writes, "I was told by the late Lt. Cmdr. T. Dorrien-Smith, 'I don't want you to grow anything here that will grow on the main-

land', which on reflection is a pretty good description of these wonderful gardens. Sunday trips to neighbouring Bryher to help out at the Baptist Church were exciting and sometimes quite hazardous in a small boat. Forthcoming education problems for our two children (at that time) took us on to the Birmingham Botanic Gardens and me as Curator. What a change! We certainly needed a glass roof over our sub-tropical and tropical collections there. It was at this time that I became an Anglican Diocesan Lay-Reader."

Geoff continues in his letter that his next move was to the west of Scotland partly because of health problems and says that it was in some ways a step of faith as he was thrown back in to hard physical work as Foreman at the R.B.G. annex garden at Benmore, Argyllshire where he mentions rainfall – 120" in a wet year and 80" in a dry one! The next move was further north to the National Trust for Scotland garden at Inverewe. Geoff enthuses about this garden writing, "As Head Gardener I could write pages about this great garden. On the same latitude as Moscow and Newfoundland, but blessed by the North Atlantic Drift – (and rain and wind). After ten happy years and having gained experience of life in general, we reversed our drift north and came south again; surprisingly perhaps to Hampton Court – all that bedding! But unexpected opportunities arose to teach apprentices in the formation of a new garden and in a three-year lecture programme. This included a weekly Bible teaching in the lunch hour for those interested. 'They will never come to that!' But they did or at least some did, over a fifteen-year period. I was an ordained Minister of The Free Church of England by this time and retired a little early to take charge of a church in Farnham. A small salary was greatly helped by an unexpected offer of a Consultancy back at Hampton Court!" Geoff concludes by saying once a gardener always a gardener for he and wife Margaret are making a new garden on the Isle of Skye and says there is plenty of scope for they have five acres there. It seems it is not all gardening though, for Geoff helps out with taking Church Services there. Many thanks for providing the above account Geoff and dare I ask for a few lines on Inverewe for a future Guild Journal?

The Kew Guardian, March 2000 edition featured **Jill Cowley** under its 'Profile' heading. Jill retired in March on completing 32 years at Kew having initially applied for a job in the Temperate Section of L.C.D. while working at a houseplant nursery at Claygate in Surrey. Jill applied on the advice from a friend and former student **Martin Alderson**. The job of propagator soon came her way and for four years had the responsibility for producing plants for the Australian, Temperate and Palm houses under Supervisor **Bill Bridle** (See Obituaries, *Kew Guild Journal* 11, No.97:212,1992). Jill then applied for a job in the Herbarium and eventually found herself working on petaloid monocots under **Brian Mathew** and **Wessel Marais**. Jill stated, "They taught me so much about taxonomy and nomenclature and I'll be eternally grateful for their patience, wisdom, friendship and encouragement which gave me the confidence to develop my studies of the family *Zingiberaceae*." Jill participated on a number of Kew expeditions and recalled one in particular. "One incident I'll never forget was in Korea with **Charles Erskine** and **Ian Beyer**. We were put on a coach and ended up at the end of the line in a remote area with no one to meet us, no money, hot, tired and unable to read any of the signs. With perfect timing Ian, who must have been aged about 58, stood up straight and reflecting all our thoughts exactly, exclaimed 'I want my mummy!' Perfect." Jill also traveled to Turkey, China and to Brunei where many new ginger species were found. Retirement will be a gradual affair as Jill is to be an Honorary Research Associate at Kew, producing a monograph on *Roscoea*s for the *Botanical Magazine* with **Richard Wilford** writing the cultivation information. Jill was for many years the Guilds Honorary Membership Secretary, relinquishing this task after the A.G.M. in 1998, and has contributed in numerous ways to the work of the Guild. Thank you Jill on behalf of the Guild and happy retirement.



Photo reproduced from the *Kew Guardian*.

Following the tradition of students before them, the third year Diploma students of Course 35 included in their end of course celebrations the planting of a "For Sale" sign outside the Director's house on Kew Green. A photograph of **Professor Crane** with his son Sam appeared in the October 23rd issue of the in-house newspaper *Vista*, where the caption indicated the prank was taken in good humour.

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The March 2000 edition of the *Kew Guardian*, carried the news that **Mike Fay** of Kew's Conservation Genetics Unit had been awarded the prestigious Linnean Society Bicentenary Medal. The medal is awarded annually to recognise the work of a biologist under 40 years of age. Mike has worked at Kew since 1986 and for the first ten years he was in charge of the Micropropagation Unit in the Lower Nursery, having taken over the reins from **Ann Chabert**. Mike moved in 1996 to take charge of the new Conservation Genetics Unit, which was established to take advantage of the range of recently developed DNA-based techniques for studying plant populations. This edition of the *Guardian* also mentioned that the Linnean Society had recognised the work of Kew Ph.D. student **James Richardson**, who received the Society's Irene Manton Prize for the best thesis in Botany.

Those visiting the Hampton Court Flower Show 2000 will no doubt have seen the fine display of organically grown plants in the "Go Organic" Garden, sponsored by *You Magazine*, subtitled as 'The New Way to Garden'. The designers for the garden were **Isabelle Van Groeningen** and **Gabriella Pape** (both completed the Kew Diploma course in 1988) working under their design company Land Art. The garden, constructed by Factory Furniture and students from Writtle College, was judged Best Show Garden. Isabelle and Gabriella work in the U.K., and mainland Europe and specialise in organic and environmentally sensitive designs

and historic restoration projects. The free handout at their Hampton Court Garden contained text and photographs relating to their home garden in the Cotswolds where the perennial borders contain not only decorative plants but a selection of vegetables too. This theme was the basis for the Hampton Court garden. The article quoted Isabelle as saying, "It's a style of kitchen gardening called 'integrated gardening' – designed to encourage gardeners to mix their veg with their flowers. It also shows that if you only have a very small space there's still room for some fresh food." The garden initially needed time and effort to restore its ecological equilibrium and the article recalls Gabriella saying that it was three full years before nature was rebalanced there and the garden really began to thrive, with butterflies, ladybirds, hoverflies and countless pest-eating birds frequenting it. Congratulations to both of you on the success of this and your other projects.

Issue Number 5 (9 October) of *Vista*, the new fortnightly staff newspaper which commenced life in early August, featured **Tony Hall**, following the Alpine Garden Society awarding him the prestigious Lyttel Trophy. The award is made annually, and the newspaper printed the following, "Tony Hall is a familiar figure in the Alpine Garden Society, known as much for his wry sense of humour as for his outstanding knowledge of plants (particularly alpinists and hardy bulbs). Tony has made a major contribution to our knowledge of alpine plants, particularly hardy bulbs, being a masterly grower and propagator, while the R.B.G. Kew Alpine House has become a showpiece both admired and envied all over the world. In addition, Tony has ensured that the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew play a major role in the Royal Horticultural Society's Joint Rock Garden Committee, both as a member of the committee and by ensuring that a succession of excellent plants are presented at the fortnightly shows in London and elsewhere. Tony has also been an important contributor to the *AGS Bulletin*, always writing in an informative and witty style. Perhaps his greatest contribution is the way he has so freely conveyed his knowledge to all those interested in alpinists and hardy bulbs; he is almost certainly the world's leading authority on the cultivation of bulbous irises, although he has a wide interest in other plants." Congratulations Tony from the Kew Guild.

Tropical Section at R.B.G. Kew received further publicity in relation to the plant genus *Araceae* in *Horticulture Week* (December 9, 1999:4), which featured Higher Botanical Horticulturist **Adam Harrower** in the Princess of Wales Conservatory. Adam was pictured with the flower spike of *Amorphophallus konjac*. The article mentioned the flowering of *Amorphophallus titanum* in this building in 1996.

While reading through the *Richmond and Twickenham Times* (edition published Friday 7 July 2000), the compilers eye alighted on an entry under Family Announcements. It recorded the death on 29th June at Hillingdon Hospital of **Frederick Larkbey** at the age of 82. Many will remember Fred during his time at Kew as first Foreman and later Supervisor of the Decorative Pits in the Melon Yard. Fred was responsible for the production of bedding plants for the decorative beds on the Palm House front, Broadwalk, Circle beds and other areas. A major part of his work was to provide a continuous supply of flowering and foliage plants for the Decorative Conservatory (House No 4). Fred was a believer in "XL fumigant" an insecticide that needed to be vaporised. Those who worked in the Conservatory were required to take a measured quantity of the product – 'in a container' – to the greenhouse and set-up a number of spirit lamps, on top of which were placed copper vapourising saucers which held a small quantity of the fumigant. The lamps were lit and the operator vacated the house. The process was usually effective to control a number of insect pests. Much of the decorative plant material was raised in the old Melon Pit houses in the Melon Yard. Students working there would have to get used to Fred's habit of walking through the pits indicating which plants were to be disposed of at the end of their useful life. He did this by walking along the path with arm outstretched knocking flat all that were to be scrapped! Fred's knowledge and expertise with regard to the production of decorative plants, especially providing a continuous year-round display for House 4, were amply demonstrated. The conservatory was a particular draw to visitors, especially in the late winter and spring seasons, invariably having a queue of people waiting to enter the house. The Guild sends condolences to Fred's family.

Simon Litt (1994) has taken-up an appointment as Contract Supervisor for the Corporation of London's parks and gardens where he will oversee all contractors on site and act as a point of contact for clients. Simon's horticultural background includes working at the Royal Horticultural Society's garden at Wisley for two years as a student studying for the Wisley Certificate. From there he moved to Writtle College, gaining a National Diploma in Amenity Horticulture. Following this he was successful in obtaining a place at Kew on the three-year Diploma course. Prior to his latest move, Simon was a Landscape Manager for landscaping company Hasmead in Milton Keynes, where he worked on landscape contracts for corporate clients.

Phil Lusby (1981) was featured in *Horticulture Week's* "Move of the Week" (October 19:40,2000). The article stated that Phil will teach the Higher National Diploma in horticulture and plantsmanship when he commences lecturing at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. It mentions that Phil began his career in the Alpine Unit at Kew, and after completing the Kew Diploma moved north to read Botany at Aberdeen University. The article goes on to say that Phil worked for the Scottish Field Survey Unit, evaluating habitats and monitoring rare plants. He then joined the Scottish Rare Plants Project advising on habitat management. The article indicated that Phil will be instilling students with his enthusiasm for Scottish flora and he was quoted in concluding the piece, "There's more awareness today of native flora and concern for threatened habitats."

Chris Margrave (1985) Head Gardener at Wentworth Castle featured in an article by John Brown entitled "Joint bid wins gardens a facelift" (*Horticulture Week* August 31:35, 2000). The Heritage Lottery Fund awarded £120,000 to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council and Northern College to develop a project at Wentworth Castle and the surrounding Stainborough Park. The 200ha site contains historical monuments, formal pleasure gardens, woodlands and a lake. Chris stated, "We want to take the best horticultural aspects from its history and include them in the project," but noted that more detailed research had to be done to investigate what plants could be included in the gardens. Attention will have to be given to access and to damaged monuments. The Castle and the surrounding park is the only Grade-1 registered landscape in South Yorkshire and dates from the 18th century.

Kew staff, students, and ex-students frequently appear in the pages of *Horticulture Week*. It was on page 13 of the January 7, 2000 issue that the compiler noticed an article penned by **Margaret MacQueen** under the 'Soapbox' heading with the title "It's time to get stuck into Best Value". Margaret is Conservation Officer with Broadlands District Council based at Norwich, and has particular responsibility for trees and landscape issues. Margaret is also the Senior Director (there are four) of the National Association of Tree Officers. This organisation moved its headquarters as of December 2000, and is now with Trevor Roberts Associates Ltd. based in Bolton, Lancashire. They are the nationally registered training providers for local government officers and others whose work may involve issues related to trees in the broadest sense. Margaret indicated that David Williams at T.R. Associates will be dealing with all N.A.T.O. inquiries. The contact telephone number is 01204 385 678. Margaret completed her pre-college year at Kew 1973/4 before taking a H.N.D. course at Askham Brian. This led into work in the private sector looking after amenity and forestry plantings until late 1989 when she ventured into local government. Margaret has been Conservation Officer with her present Authority for 11 years, and has studied for the A.A.'s Technician's Certificate and R.F.S. Certificate in Arboriculture at Reasheath. She is currently studying a degree course with the Open University. The compiler made phone contact with Margaret who said that she remembers her short year at Kew as filled with a lot of excitement given the wealth of plants and opportunities to start a life-long appreciation of plant form and diversity in its widest sense – though it seemed a long time ago now! She said her time at Kew had stood her in good stead at the start of her career. Margaret did say during our conversation that my contacting her was quite a "blast from the past". Thank you Margaret for putting-up with an intruding phone call and sparing time in a busy schedule.

Mrs. Constance Martin (1942) wrote in July to inform us that an error had occurred in her address. Constance lives in Weymouth, Dorset in Old Castle Road and in the last *Journal* we had missed printing the word Old. Apparently there is a Castle Road in nearby Portland and

thus confusion could have been possible. Hopefully, our Membership Secretary **David Barnes** has corrected this error. Constance, who is a Life Member of the Guild, informed us that she has lived in Weymouth for 50 years. She says, "My horticulture is now somewhat limited, but I enjoy my visits to local gardens and the amount I can do in my small garden, that seems to get larger every year!" Thank you Constance for writing to us, and good luck with your horticultural endeavours. I am sure your suspicion that the garden seems to get larger by the year is a commonly experienced phenomenon!

Glancing through our local freebee paper in September, the compiler happened to see an entry headed "Chance to feel the ground force," and reading on, found the headline related to a further education course. Offered under the auspices of the Open College of Arts, further details were available from the (O.C.A.) or by telephone from **Claire McCormack** in Richmond, Surrey. This was too good a chance to miss and following the compiler contacting Claire, information for the *Journal* duly arrived. Claire joined Kew as an Improver Gardener in 1971, working initially in the Temperate Pit Nursery before joining the Diploma course in 1973. On leaving Kew in 1976 Claire joined the Chelsea School of Art, first taking a Foundation course followed by her gaining a B.A. (Hons) in Fine Art in 1981. Claire mentions that it was at Chelsea School of Art that she met her husband Jim Cowan. They now have two teenage sons and live in Richmond.

Claire started her own garden design business in 1981, specialising in helping keen amateurs create their own organic gardens. Her own small garden, listed in the *Gardens of England and Wales Open for Charity*, as the 'Yellow Book' is properly titled, features slug and snail resistant plants and has proved very popular with visitors. Claire writes, "Over the last 20 years I have also advised community and school conservation projects and have been an active environmental campaigner. Since 1981 I have taught adults at various colleges and now run garden design tutorials for the Open College of Arts, which is an open access organisation affiliated to the Open University." Claire included a copy of her CV (along with her text for reproduction here in the *Journal*) which lists her prizewinning artistic work, some of which has been in collaboration with her husband James Cowan, and with Kevin Burrows and Paul Argent. Claire writes, "I have been involved in several prizewinning art projects including a kinetic neon sculpture for the Arts Council-funded 'Art into Landscape 3' at the Serpentine Gallery, London, an environmentally friendly 'Recycled Dragon' with neighbours in the Hampton Carnival parade, and a float in the Edinburgh Festival Fringe parade featuring TV cameras and interviewers for the Medicine Ball Theatre Company review 'Channel 4' – which predated the real channel 4 by several years!" I note from the CV that this latter project was awarded Best Float in Fringe Parade at the Edinburgh Festival in 1977. The text concludes, "Thirty years of working in horticulture is beginning to take its arthritic toll, so Claire has just branched out into a new career, teaching fine art part time at Merton College – less stressful on the knees and not dependant on the vagaries of the British weather". Thank you Claire for so promptly providing information for the *Journal* and good luck with the Fine Arts teaching.

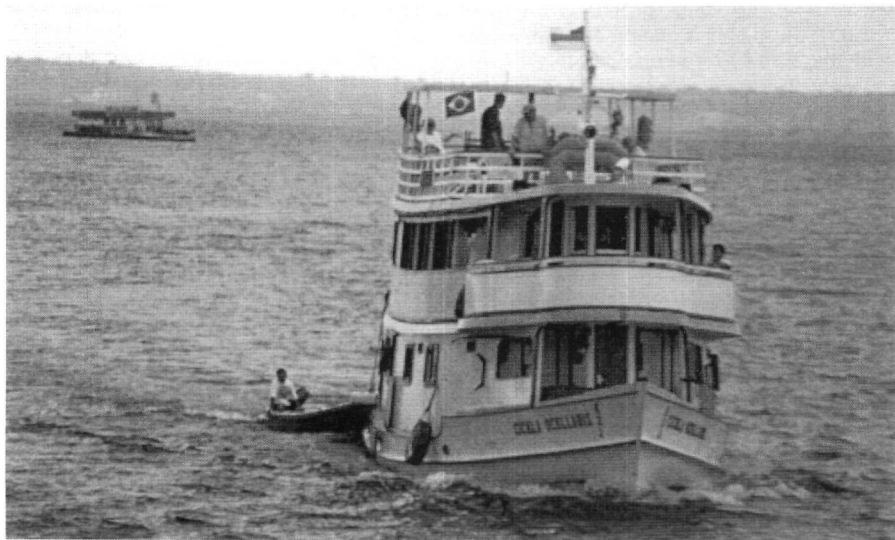
In early December, the compiler received an interesting reply from **Jim Mitchell** (1966) from Palmerston, Darwin, Australia. Jim commenced by saying he was taken back by the cream envelope and had, ever since 1962, expected all mail from Kew to be in manila envelopes marked O.H.M.S.! He says he cannot take any more changes, which he remembers starting with the hosteliies on Kew Green selling Fosters and the knocking-down of the Boathouse Hotel. Jim mentions that he has lost touch with several ex-Kew people through his moving around Australia, although he noted that **Julie** (nee **Hyde-Trutch**) and **Clive Popham** (1964) rode off to the Victorian Alps to raise cattle and experience the snow some 15 years ago never to be seen again. The letter continues, "I am still the Parks Manager at the City Council. We have settled down very well in Darwin on our ten-acre orchard and enjoy developing the garden. We had 1,000 visitors when we were involved in the Open Garden Scheme, which I helped to introduce. Believe it or not, I am developing a hedge maze using *Ixora chinensis*. The maze is surrounded by a moat with a couple of wrought iron bridges. I think all the 1,000 visitors came to see the work of this eccentric Englishman still dreaming of the old art. I was at Kew in August

and enjoyed the stone sculptures from Africa. Pleased the hedgerow display along the Broadwalk was only a one-off affair as I have fond memories of digging the bedding display beds with **Ken Robinson** (1966) for a little overtime and a great opportunity to chat-up the shellias! Whilst in the U.K. Val and I visited Ireland for the first time, which isn't surprising since I have still to visit New Zealand. Saw some great gardens and hope to go back in 2001, hopefully with Diana and **John Jones** (1966) who we caught up with this year. I also caught up with Janet and **Tony Overland** (1965) at their delightful nursery, garden centre and cottage in Cheshire. Tony can still knock back a pint but not in three seconds, which the Kew Champions did in 1965. Not sure if it is because of age or the fact we have turned to Cabernet Sauvignon from Jacobs Creek!" Jim mentions that the wet season had started with a vengeance after a record dry. His mango orchard is looking like England: flooded. He has taken over as Chairman of the Darwin Garden Show, which he says is not up to the standard of Chelsea . . . yet. It is more like the Hillingdon show, but he has high hopes for the event. In conclusion Jim says he hopes to have more information for the *Journal* next year and ends, I am sure with tongue in cheek, "If they cut down the wheat fields I could be visiting Kew next autumn."

Following the compiler's initial contact, a letter was received in late November from **Dr. Hugh Nunn** (1961). Hugh was on the Improver Gardener scheme at Kew and says his employment at Kew seems a very long time ago now, but that they were good days. "Kew provided a great backdrop against which to gain a picture of what the world of plants was all about. It has stood me in great good stead over a working lifetime. My wife and I currently run a plant-growing nursery in Worcestershire specialising in gentians, hellebores, kalmias and trilliums: quite a mix! We only sell on a wholesale basis and include the Wisley Plant Centre and Syon Park among our customers. It's a strange thing, but some of the plants that 'took my eye' at Kew have recently become very popular. I should have followed my instincts rather earlier than I did. When I was at Kew, I never took a great interest in things tropical, but then I took a job with Shell International in Nigeria followed by one in Brunei, Borneo. I quickly had to learn a great deal about tropical agriculture in order to make sense of helping local people within a community context. Passing through Singapore on a number of occasions, I never failed to be inspired by the Singapore Botanic Garden. What an amazing place and how beautifully kept."

Patrick Nutt (1953) our President Elect has kept in touch with the compiler with four mailings through the year. At the end of February, Patrick wrote of a recent journey by car to Canada. He experienced almost blinding blizzards in upstate New York and mentions the large trucks covering his little Honda Civic with salt spray and sleet. He attended the 53rd Annual Education Conference held at the Renaissance Fallsview Hotel, Niagra Falls Ontario, where he gave a paper on the opening day entitled "The Search for the Great Waterlily of America – 1998-99". Patrick also spoke to a gathering of the Connecticut Horticultural Society on February 17, 2000. The society's newsletter carried a lead article to encourage members to come along to hear Patrick talk on Longwood Gardens. They gave a little of his background mentioning that he was born in Hendon England in 1930 and that on many occasions during the Second World War, Patrick had slept in an Anderson air-raid shelter with his family. Meagre food rations were supplemented by growing their own vegetables. Among other activities, Patrick is assisting with the rescue and reclamation of McKee Jungle gardens in Vero Beach Florida. This garden was designed by William Lyman Phillips, who later designed Florida's Fairchild Tropical Garden.

From a mailing in July, the compiler notes that Patrick spoke on the subject "Aquatic Plant Nutrition" on the second day of 'Pondpalooza 2000' billed as the only national conference in the U.S.A. for the water garden trade. The event was held at the Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta, GA, from August 1-3 2000. It seems that the year was not all work related, for with his wife Ann he enjoyed a two-week break in Norway during the summer. It left Patrick enthusing about the 'wonderful bogs and flora'. Corresponding in September, Patrick mentions that he is looking forward very much to his Presidential year. He says that this year's weather has provided a moist summer and that Longwood was looking great. Longwood hosted a Garden Writers meeting in September, with several British writers and horticulturists attending.



The Amazon expedition's vessel nearing Manaus.



Dr. Meade, a member of the Amazon expedition, with specimens of *Victoria amazonica*.

Patrick concluded by saying that he will soon be away to the Amazon again and from correspondence received in early 2001, it seems the Amazon sojourn was again rewarding for Patrick. Seed of *Victoria amazonica* was collected and distributed to the Eden Project in Cornwall and Chatsworth House in Derbyshire among others. Joseph Paxton was the first to achieve flowering in cultivation of the Amazon waterlily at Chatsworth in 1849. Patrick mentions that two other Kewites were also on the expedition, **Emma Fox** who, following her studentship

now has charge of Kew's Palm and Waterlily Houses and **Andrew Pierce** from Denver, Colorado. Water levels were low as it was the dry season though the expedition was lucky to be able to take advantage of a light spotter aircraft to locate good sights of the giant waterlily. Patrick included a copy of a letter from **Professor Sir Ghillean Prance** (immediate past Director at Kew), who is spending a year in Hawaii as a visiting McBryde Professor at the National Tropical Botanic Garden, Kauai. Professor Prance asked Patrick to supply seed to boost stock at the Hawaii garden, and also for the Eden Project in Cornwall.

The compiler was able to make contact with **David Painter** (1971) through information supplied by **Stephen Scarr** (see below). David is the Parks and Open Spaces Officer for Weymouth and Portland Borough Council and has gone full circle, for he commenced his horticultural career at Weymouth during the time when Fred Ashley was still Parks Superintendent there. David joined the Improver Gardener scheme at Kew before gaining a place on the Diploma course, and on completing this, was accepted for the 'Grotto' at Reading. David said he remembered that five or six students from his year at Kew also gained a place on the course there. Following this training he was appointed as a Technical Officer, Parks, with the London Borough of Waltham Forest for five years, after which there followed a move to Ealing Borough Council again as a T.A. The draw of his hometown brought David back to Weymouth in early 1987 and he was Client Services Officer when Compulsory Competitive Tendering was introduced. David commented that although CCT is now almost phased-out, it is extremely difficult to maintain the standards he would wish as Head of Parks, especially when budgets are pared and under such pressure.

John Palmer (1982) was featured in 'Move of the Week' *Horticulture Week* (April 6th :44,2000) on his appointment as General Manager for Parks and Countryside at Guildford for the Borough Council. The article mentioned that John would be responsible for 1,000ha of open spaces with his initial role to review the service as part of Best Value. Previously John was Parks Manager for five years at the London Borough of Sutton and also Operations Manager for the London Borough of Merton. John commented, "My job is to improve the services that have not had much attention in the past, particularly park patrols and biodiversity schemes".

Clive Parker (1978) has moved from Head of Arboriculture and Enterprise Manager at East Durham College, Houghall, where he had worked for 16 years. He will take up the post of Director of Training and Environmental Services at PSL Training, the Harrogate based training division of International Horticulture Consultant, Philip Swindells.

Jane Reynolds (1993) wrote to the Compiler in October to inform that the name of the garden at Regents Park in London where Jane is Head Gardener was incorrectly spelt in the *Kew Guild Journal* (Vol. 13, No.104:351, 1999). Jane writes, "In the 1999 *Journal* it was incorrectly stated that I am Head Gardener at the Holt. The garden is in fact called 'The Holme'. At the 1999 BALI Awards, the Garden won the Principal Award for Domestic Garden Maintenance." Jane notes that the garden is open under the National Gardens Scheme for two days each in spring and late summer and details are to be found in the 'yellow book'. Congratulations Jane on the BALI award and apologies for the error in the last *Journal*.

During the process of gleaning information, the compiler made contact with a number of Kewites, one of whom was **Stephen C. Scarr** (1968). Stephen has held the post of Superintendent of Grounds at Exeter University for the past 21 years. He and I were Improver Gardeners together at Kew, Stephen joining in 1960 following time as an Apprentice Gardener at Queens College, Cambridge, where he says a wide variety of fruit was grown including apricots and peaches together with cut flowers and pot plants. Stephen writes, "I left Kew in 1962/63, the year of the great snow, and went to Swanley Horticultural College in Kent, joining a general horticultural course. I remember the thick snow that covered roads and hedges burying cars. Early morning duty was something never to forget! I decided to make my career in parks and on leaving Swanley went to Brighton Parks Department for two years as a student. These were the years of 'Mods' and 'Rockers' confrontations, particularly at Easter. Fortunately none of the bedding displays were ever damaged. Brighton is particularly memorable for it was here that I first met my wife, Jackie."

"I returned to Kew in 1965, this time as a Diploma course student and particularly remember the landscape design lectures given by John Brooks. When I graduated from Kew I went to the 'Grotto'; the Staff College of the Institute of Parks and Recreation Administration at Reading, where I was taught those skills that people would actually pay me a salary for. I started my first job in 1970, as a Technical Assistant at Norwich Parks, running four full time landscape construction teams and designing playgrounds, allotments and areas of parks. After two years I moved to Folkestone as a Technical Officer doing the same thing, but also managing the maintenance of the grounds and gardens. I had, shall we say, the interesting task of working with P.A. Management Consultants, developing and implementing a work-studied bonus scheme. However the most important event was the birth of our daughter, Jenny. After four years and one local government reorganization, I moved back to Norwich, this time as Assistant Parks Officer, where I managed a larger parks department with two hundred gardening staff, the task to maintain the parks roundabouts and gardens to a very high standard."

Stephen mentions that after some four years, being a gardener at heart, he started looking for something that would bring him closer to plants. It just so happened that one of the graduate trainees then employed at Norwich brought Stephen's attention to an advertisement for the job of Superintendent of Grounds at Exeter – the lady had played hockey at Exeter whilst at University and thought it would be an ideal opportunity. Stephen says "I applied and was lucky enough to be appointed and have been at the University for the past 21 years. Exeter University has a 400 acre estate, including 250 acres of maintained gardens and 60 acres of sports fields. It has been developed in a style that could be called 'botanical landscape' creating a beautiful setting. During the past thirteen years the University has had an on-going multi-million pound development programme, with associated landscaping which I have either designed or specified. Currently I am also project manager for the construction of a new twenty-three acre sports ground, a sand-based synthetic hockey pitch and a water-based synthetic hockey pitch constructed to international standards." In concluding his letter, Stephen says, "The past 21 years have been great fun."

John Simmons (1995) forwarded the following news to the compiler in January 2001 and writes as follows: "In continuing with his many commitments John had a more eventful year than expected; coming close to death in western China. In the mountains of Sichuan, close to the place where Pere David built a church and Wilson later visited, two lorries crashed head on by his side, as he walked on a narrow mountain road, knocking him unconscious, three to four metres down onto rocks in a white water river. He was swept away by the current but luckily caught on some rocks 50m down river where, just in time, he was rescued by some local Chinese who, holding hands formed a human chain in the river to reach him. After a short spell in hospital (in Chengdu), where great press interest quickly made him a hospital celebrity, he was able to resume leading the R.H.S. tour. Most of his wounds healed quickly though head injuries needed a longer recovery period."

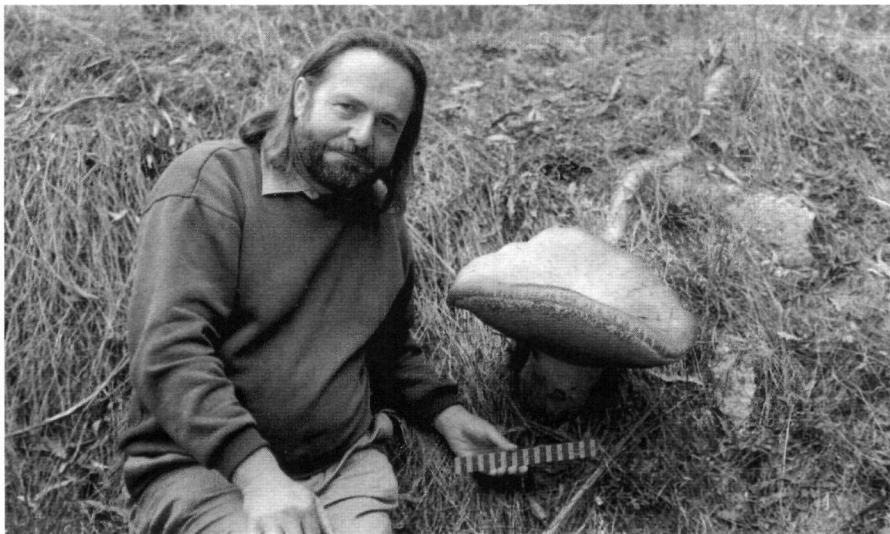
"The book on William Morris and his gardens (published in 1998) of which he was joint author with Jill Hamilton and Penny Hart, was published in German in 2000 as *William Morris Gartenkunst und Ornament*, while with the same authors a further book *English Plants for Your Garden* was also produced in 2000. The underlying purpose of these books is to promote the cultivation of native plants for the benefit of our countryside's beleaguered wildlife."

Nigel Sinnott (1969) wrote from his home in Australia to **Richard Ward** following his receiving the last *Guild Journal* (No 104), to say how interested he was to read **F. Nigel Hepper's** account "Fifty Years Ago in Kew Herbarium." Richard passed a copy of the letter through to the compiler for it contained further interesting information relating to the Kew Herbarium and the writer's time spent there. There followed mailings between the compiler and Nigel, who responded with great efficiency sending text and photographs, which I set down more or less as received. Nigel writes, "Reading the last issue of the *Journal* and the fascinating article by F. Nigel Hepper about the Kew Herbarium in the 1950s brought back a number of memories for me of the Kew I knew a decade or so later." Nigel mentions **Dr. W. B. Turrill**, "He died, alas, about a year before I started work at Kew in 1963, but I met his widow at Richmond Scientific

Society meetings. Dr Turrill hailed from Woodstock, Oxfordshire, and one of his childhood friends was Robin Clifton Morley, later the town pharmacist and my maternal grandfather.”

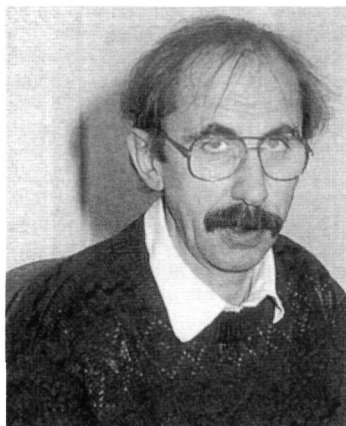
“One of the things I loved about the Kew Herbarium in the 1960s was the old library (illustrated in Nigel’s article), and the book-lined corridors leading off it into Wing B. They seemed almost charged with history, with the past illuminating and inspiring the present, and represented for me all that was best in nineteenth-century science. I do not believe in ghosts but, had I come across the shade of **Sir Joseph Hooker**, quietly checking a reference, I would not have batted an eyelid: it would have seemed so normal and appropriate.

In about 1967 I was asked to go through the Mycology Department’s spirit collection, as preservative levels in some of the older bottles were getting low. The spirit collection was kept in the Herbarium’s dusty, dimly lit basement, which was below the flood level of the Thames in those days. I did not mind being down there for a day or two, as it was quiet and cool. I worked my way through the bottles, topping up those which needed it with preserving spirit. If a bottle was bone dry, my instructions were to salvage the contents and turn them into an exsiccatum for the main herbarium collections. Eventually I reached a large glass cylinder. It had been well sealed, and did not need topping up, but I was interested in the contents, some spherical objects which I recognised as tree morels (*Cyttaria*), a curious group of ascomycete fungi which grow only on Southern beech (*Nothofagus*). The jar contained *Cyttaria darwinii* Berk., and then my eyes alighted on the rest of the neatly printed label: “Tierra del Fuego / Coll. C.Darwin, Esq.” I do not know how long I sat there in the silence and gloom, gazing in awe at the cylinder and its contents, for time seemed to stand still. It was one of the great moments of my life! For all I know, young zoologists handling one of Darwin’s finch skins from the Galapagos may feel the same. One of my unfulfilled ambitions is to go fungus hunting in South America. Since 1976 I have lived in Victoria, Australia, and from 1992 I have had easy access to some very fine stands of Myrtle beech (*Nothofagus cunninghamii*). Every year, from the end of October, many of the trees start producing Beech oranges (*Cyttaria gunnii*), which look a bit like small orange golf balls. I always look forward to spotting my first Beech orange of the season, and I think of Kew, and Darwin, and the old herbarium basement!”



Nigel Sinnott and ***Phlebopus marginatus*** (Boletales) on the Highlands Plateau, Victoria, Australia on the 22nd of April, 2000. Photograph by Kathleen Sinnott.

Nigel mentions **Dr. Norman Loftus Bor** (1893-1972), "Whom I, and many others, remember with immense affection. Dr. Bor was one of the most delightful people I have met. He was particularly generous to staff who wanted character references. In 1965 I grew a beard, and for years afterwards Dr. Bor would greet me – from one end of the herbarium wing to the other – with a window-rattling bellow of 'Hello there, m'dear fellow! How's the growth?' The growth has some white hairs now, but it is still going strong. How could I ever shave it off?" Thank you Nigel for, as you say in your covering letter, your "memoirs". I note from your earlier letter that you have kept in touch over the years with **Desmond Meikle, David Pegler, Pat Halliday and Jean Brennan.**



Roger Smith. Photograph reproduced from the *Kew Guardian*.

Roger Smith, Head of the Seed Conservation Department, was awarded an O.B.E. in the New Year's Honours List 'for services to the Millennium Seed Bank'. Roger was quoted on the front page of the *Kew Guardian*, February 2000, as saying he was surprised the honour was made before completion of the project, and insisted that the award's initials stood for 'on behalf of everyone' involved. Apologies Roger – our run-up to printing was underway when your award was announced, thus we are somewhat late, but congratulations from the Guild on your award.

The last page of the Kew in-house newspaper *Vista* (Issue 2, August 21 2000) recorded congratulations to **Professor and Mrs. Stearn** who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 3rd August 2000.

Margaret Stones, the renowned botanical artist, has been presented with the Kew Award in recognition of her outstanding contribution to botanical art. Her nomination for the award states, "There can be no doubt that Margaret is one of the greatest botanical artists of the 20th Century. As a draughtsman and

designer she combines supreme artistic and technical skill with rigorous observation of botanical detail, as witnessed by her many original analytical drawings accompanying her more than 400 drawings for the *Botanical Magazine* and her plates in publications such as *The Endemic Flora of Tasmania* and *The Flora of Louisiana*. When not actually drawing at her strategically chosen base camp in Bushwood Road, Kew – actually a mini art gallery and botanic garden in itself – she will either be found searching for new and interesting subjects in the Kew collections, or further afield in the natural vegetation of America, Africa or Australia, or in the library, poring over some conundrum of botanical art history or helping some budding artist or horticultural student to further their career". The article in the *Kew Guardian*, March 2000 in which this text and photograph appeared concluded, "To her many friends, Margaret is a most supportive, cultured, witty and entertaining companion. She is no respecter of personal vanity and her various honorary doctorates and other distinctions are never mentioned, nor her generosity to various causes and individuals at Kew." The Keeper of the Kew Herbarium, Dr. Simon Owens, presented Margaret with her award.



Margaret Stones and Dr. Simon Owens. Photograph reproduced from the *Kew Guardian*.

Richard Ward (1963), recent past President of the Kew Guild and active Rotarian, was honoured at the Charter Anniversary Evening (the 16th) of the Rotary Club of Kew Gardens held on October 11 2000. The President, Suzanne Sheffer, presented Richard with the Paul Harris Fellowship. The Fellowship is Rotary's highest personal honour. *The Richmond and Twickenham Times* (Friday, October 20: pp.4,17, 2000) carried a report of the meeting and photograph of the President and Richard after presentation of the award. The text stated, "Suzanne Sheffer paid tribute, not only to his far-sighted and determined efforts in the birth of the club, but in the recipient's unstinting involvement with Kew in all manner of personal ways, giving the community of his personal time and energies since his days as a student at Kew Gardens. This was not to forget his involvement with international Rotary projects." The report continued, "**Professor Peter Crane**, Director of Kew Gardens, congratulated and thanked Richard for his tremendous efforts in supporting Kew students in particular and helping raise the profile of the Gardens locally and further afield." Congratulations Richard from the Guild on this well deserved award.

John (Log) Whitehead (1972) telephoned the compiler in December promising to send a few lines on his travels this year. This duly arrived as follows: "Journeying with Bren (Brenda March) from northern Chile down to Punta Arenas included time for fascinating visits to the Falklands and Robinson Crusoe Island. At Pucon, the national flower *Lapageria*, was in full bloom on peninsula of the Lago Villarrica. The area is managed by **Sandra Leche** (1977). Nearby, at her home were fine views of volcano Villarrica. On the veranda was an array of container plants including a sturdy Chinese rose, collected from China by Roy Lancaster and delivered by him to Sandra and to a local plantsperson's garden at Donegal near Pucon. Sandra invited us to a Chilean meal and we were joined by **Stewart Henchie** and **Charles Shine** from R.B.G., Kew who were on a seed collecting expedition. We swapped stories of everyone seeing amazing numbers of ant populations within alpine plants on cindery volcano slopes, to the old Kew plant banter of **Brian Halliwell** days. During the summer I have been in north Wales working on the long-term renovation of my 1962 MGB and the car is now ready for sale to finance future botanical journeys!"



Sunday, January 14 2001 proved a very special day for **John Woodhams**. John's 60th birthday was the excuse for a slightly belated get-together at a luncheon party organised by Joan

Woodhams for family and friends at the Kingston Lodge Hotel. At the suggestion of **Richard Ward**, a Kewite group photograph was eventually organised. Members attending spanned some 19 years of the Kew Horticultural training course from 1947 through to 1966. The group included **Leo Pemberton** who as Supervisor of Studies set up the Horticultural Diploma Course in 1963 – we were so pleased to have Leo and Melda with us. Thanks must go to **Peter Bridgeman** for an excellent 'Red Book' presentation during the afternoon. The other Kewites attending were: **Arthur Woodward**, **John Gaggini**, **Derrick Breach** and **Andrew Barnes**.

THE DIRECTOR'S ACTIVITIES DURING 2000

by Eleanor Bunnell

Peter Crane's first full year as Director has been extremely busy. During 2000, he has attended external meetings on behalf of Kew, given lectures, welcomed visitors and V.I.P.s, pursued his research – all this whilst running Kew at the same time.

The main event of the year was the completion of the Millennium Seed Bank at Wakehurst Place and the opening took place on November 20th by the Prince of Wales. The opening, the building design and the Millennium Seed Bank project received a lot of good press coverage. The seed collecting is going very well and by the year 2010 the large underground vaults in the M.S.B. building will store seed from about 24,000 wild plant species, mostly from dryland areas. Ministers from Kenya, Madagascar and Burkina Faso visited in September for the official signing of some of the seed collecting agreements. Seed collecting agreements are also now in place with several other countries including U.S.A., Egypt and South Africa.

While coming to grips with the day-to-day running of the organisation, Peter has been focussing amongst other things on producing a Science Strategy for Kew. This document covers all the science that takes place at Kew and will be a key part of the Science Audit, which takes place early next year. Some staff are also starting work on the Site Masterplan and this will progress into next year.

Peter has made time to travel to several international meetings including the opening of the new Centre for Evolutionary Biology in Uppsala, the Global Integrated Plant Conservation Initiative in Las Palmas, the World Botanical Congress in Asheville, U.S.A., the Botanical Society meeting at Portland, U.S.A. and the Geological Society of America meeting in Reno, Nevada at which Peter concluded his term as President. Very early in the year he made a visit to St. Louis and Washington, D.C. to secure a seed collecting agreement with the U.S.A. He also chaired the science review of the National Botanical Institute at Kirstenbosch, South Africa. As a member of both the Smithsonian Council and the Board of the National Museum of Natural History he attended their meetings in Washington, D.C. In July he went to Brazil where he met some of Kew's collaborators in the programmes there and in October had a productive fundraising trip to Singapore and Japan. Peter also made a couple of short trips to Stockholm for his research.

During the year Peter gave numerous lectures at universities, which included the University of Kent in Canterbury and Sheffield University. He also lectured at Ness Botanical Garden, spoke at the Geology 2000 meeting in Manchester and gave several lectures to local societies.

In January, the Director was proud to present Miss Margaret Stones, the artist, with the well-deserved Kew Award in recognition of her work for Kew. Later in the year Mr. Roy Lancaster gave away the prizes and made an excellent speech at the annual School of Horticulture Prizegiving. The Kew Environmental lecture was given to a packed lecture theatre the day after the opening of the MSB by Secretary Babbitt of the US Department of the Interior and Dr. Peter Raven, Director of Missouri Botanic Garden. Baroness Hayman from M.A.F.F. visited Kew and also attended the opening of the M.S.B. The Minister's Permanent Secretary, Mr. Brian Bender, visited Kew in late November. Several V.I.P.s including Prince Philipp of Liechtenstein attended in December for the launch of Walther Lack's book *A garden for eternity: the Codex Liechtenstein*.

Visitor attendance for the year to date at the end of December was 0.1% down at Kew and 1.4% up at Wakehurst Place in relation to last year. The consistently bad weather in May, early July and throughout the autumn was the main cause of the low attendance in those key months. However, in the context of other major attractions in the London area the results were encouraging. To persuade more visitors to attend, staff have been working hard at the seasonal events and festivals.

The very successful Chapungu exhibit, opened by Lord Attenborough on the 24th May, has been extremely popular and Peter has received many letters of praise about it.

The L.C.D. restructuring began later in the year and this will result in a more logical distribution of functions and a more accountable structure. There will also be increased emphasis on education at Kew, which will need greater involvement from L.C.D. staff. Therefore the Education Department will be merged into L.C.D. creating a new "Horticulture & Public Education Department".

Professor Chris Payne and Ms Moira Black have been reappointed to the Board of Trustees for a further three-year term and Miss Jill Preston was appointed Head of Commercial Activities.

NEW MILLENNIUM LANDSCAPE STYLE: HISTORY BEING MADE

by Graham Burgess

In June of 2000 Phillippa Lloyd commissioned, on behalf of the Royal Horticultural Society and BBC Gardeners World Live, the installation of the very first example of The New Millennium Landscape Style. The landscape was installed in a prime position outside the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham adjacent to The Middle Earth show area. At a time when there is a fashion in minimalist gardens the new style takes a profound step even closer to the basic tenets of design.

Most of our garden styles are to do with the use of lines to make enclosures. The word garden comes from *gyrdan* a fence or enclosure. From the simplest forms of enclosure serving to protect crops and other plants from depredation by animals we see increasing complexity develop as layouts respond to sacred geometry and other geomantic devices all controlling the arrangement of houses; gardens; woods; lakes and even cities. The compartments themselves were enriched with more varied plant mixes ranging from the culinary to purely aesthetic or in the case of Botanic Gardens scientific and educational mixes. Most of the development of garden and landscape design has been towards enriching the complexity. The New Style seeks to draw attention to this but also to ask vital questions about the origins of all design-thought and action. It uses plants to do this. As the two faces of Janus looked in opposite directions so does the new style, one towards complexity and the other towards simplicity.

The style is based on lines of plants. Because the lines are so simple they do not obfuscate the opportunity for us to ask basic questions about any line of plants. A line is made up from points and these points are separated by a distance. Any distance between two things is a function of two things, a module of measurement and a number. When we look back over the history of measurement we see a rich store of symbolic measures and symbolic numbers. For example Versailles is based on eleven's because the ancients knew that the sunspot activity was and still is in periods of eleven years. The Sun King of France had his palace built according to the cyclic number of the sun. The new Style at Birmingham followed that approach. Three lines were placed in a giant roundabout. Each line studiously avoided reference to the surrounding landscape. The N.E.C. is a strongly structured built element so some care was taken to avoid aiming the lines at verticals in the building or framing the main entrance in a symmetrical way. Each of the lines of plants avoided reference to each of the other lines. Any hint at an avenue is not what was wanted.

The application was called Bar Code. Having established the direction of the lines we addressed the spacing within the lines and decided that we would make a little exploration into complexity and base it on measurement. There are measurements in existence that we use and others that have been important but which have fallen out of use. We tried to apply a hierarchy to these. The oldest measurement used in one line was the remen (0.3701 metre equivalent). It underlies the pyramids, many of the Mayan temples and the stone circles. The next was Imperial a form of measure being phased out here but still in active use in America. For the third line we used a totally new measure. You can make your own if you like. Corbusier did it with his Modulor and based many fine buildings upon it. We got a small, four-year old boy called Alex to throw a stone. He threw it, we measured the length of the throw and called it an Alex and its imperial equivalent was 5' 4".

In another step into complexity we chose plants of some relevance. The trees in the first line were of American origin, the hybrid between **Cupressus macrocarpa** and **Chamaecyparis nootkatensis**; we know it as **Cupressocyparis X Leylandii**, the Leyland Cypress (a contentious plant which one could discuss further). The second line was planted with *Cedrus libani* for those trees would have been used to build the temples when the remen was extant. The third line of Alex-spaced plants was planted with **Ilex aquifolium**, each one Alex apart. The aquifolium hinted at the artificial rill that was put in place to celebrate that ancient brook which lies beneath the N.E.C. and which is called Hollywell Brook.

So the lines and modules of measurement were established and then the number of modules worked out so that the scheme fitted the site. The number of remen between each cedar and the number of feet between each cypress was 12 celebrating the wonderful way the Sumerians split up the circle of the heavens also the number of inches in an imperial foot. At this point the designed complexity finished.

Looking in the other direction there is a short journey of thought. We have decided upon the criterion that gives us the next point in our line for us to plant a tree. The next question is why are we planting anything at all at that. This is a key principle we all too easily lose track off. Plants are used in this scheme of things so as to amplify the fact that plants are important. We can ask why and perhaps discover the importance of plants in the general mix of things. The next question after that is "What is the point of doing anything?" Should we "do" things or is there a level of consciousness available only through "letting" things be?

These philosophical questions have tantalised Man since he first thought about things. The New Style seeks to release plants from the bounds of architectural and urban constraint. Properly designed and placed these powerful lines will draw attention where more complex schemes will confuse the issue.

OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S REPORT (1999-2000)

By E.A. Bell

The Guild celebrated the year two thousand in proper style. The first and most notable event was the visit on March 6th. of our Patron, Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra accompanied by the Right Honourable Sir Angus Ogilvy. The Princess planted the first of four trees given by the Guild to the Royal Botanic Gardens to mark the Millennium. The trees had been chosen to replace storm losses from the Pagoda Vista. The remaining trees were planted by Mr Peter Townsend representing the sponsors (The Co-operative Bank), the Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens and the President of the Kew Guild.

The planting was followed by a reception in the Marianne North Gallery to which all members of the Kew Guild Committee were invited. Altogether it was a most happy and successful day and I should like to take this opportunity to express the appreciation of the Guild to Princess Alexandra for being such a loyal and supportive Patron. I should also like to thank the Director and all those staff of the Royal Botanic Gardens without whose help nothing could have been achieved.

Following last year's very enjoyable visit to Longstock, it was decided that two expeditions were in order for the millennium year. On April 16th. members of the Guild were given a guided tour of the University of Oxford Botanic Garden and the Harcourt Arboretum. This memorable day was organised by Louise Allen who was also our guide. She also organised the weather and we ate our lunch outside in warm sunshine. A second visit, this time to the Markshall Estate and Arboretum, was made on July 2nd. In contrast to the Oxford Botanic Garden, which is the oldest in Britain, the Arboretum in Essex is in the process of development and we were very grateful to the Curator, Jonathan Jukes, who gave up his Sunday afternoon to show us what has been achieved and what is planned. Both visits were well supported, some members coming quite long distances. At Markshall we were particularly pleased to see John Simmons looking remarkably well after his recent accident in China.

The Annual Dinner was organised by Tom Risely with his usual efficiency and proceeding were handled by Richard Ward with his usual aplomb. The meal was excellent, Keith Jones proposed the toast to the President and the Director introduced the Chief Guest, Mr. Christopher Brickell, before proposing the toast to all our guests. Mr. Brickell replied on behalf of the guests. He reminded us of his long associations with Kew and encouraged students to develop stronger links with their cousins at Wisley.

The final event of the Guild's millennium year was the Annual General Meeting which was held at Wakehurst Place on September 9th. David Hardman arranged a supporting programme which included a tour of the Upper Garden and the ceremonial planting of an oak tree by the President and President-elect before the meeting. In the afternoon there was a conducted tour of the Millennium Seed Bank in the company of our new President, Allen Paterson.

I should like to thank all members of the Committee for their help and support in a year which was unusually full of activity. Apart from the millennium events and garden visits to which I have referred the Committee addressed itself to necessary changes in the rules of the Guild and also to the need to increase membership and make that membership more representative of all aspects of life at Kew. To this end David Barnes is creating a database containing the names of Kew alumni whether members or potential members of the Guild and all these will ultimately be consulted as to ways in which the Guild can serve them more effectively both professionally, or in arranging social events that enable them to keep in touch. Finally I should like to thank Richard Ward for the enormous contribution he has made to the Guild by editing the *Journal* for 25 years. Jennifer Hirsch has volunteered to take over this major responsibility and I should like both to thank her on behalf of us all and wish her every success.

YEARLY WEATHER SUMMARY R.B.G. KEW – 2000

Like the rest of the U.K., this was the wettest year in the 20 years the weather has been recorded at Kew. The previous wettest was 1998 with 762mm.

The table on the following page gives the relevant statistics.

YEARLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR R.B.G. KEW 2000 kindly provided by Robin Graham

2000	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year (Totals)
Month's Total rainfall (mm)	12.6	68.9	35.4	112.7	97.3	21.0	60.2	31.1	120.2	145.7	110.6	61.4	877.1
Most rain in one day	3.8	19.3	7.6	16.9	19.2	7.6	12.5	4.3	36.5	33.8	22.7	13.7	Sep 36.5
Highest temp. Max.	14.0	14.3	16.7	19.3	26.1	30.6	26.0	28.1	27.6	19.2	15.2	13.9	June 30.6
Lowest temp. Max.	4.0	8.9	8.5	6.7	11.9	15.8	16.1	19.5	15.6	11.1	8.6	2.0	Dec 2.0
Lowest temp. Min.	-6.0	-6.7	-2.5	-1.7	5.5	7.4	6.0	7.9	5.3	2.2	-2.1	-12.0	Dec -12.0
Highest temp. Min.	10.3	8.3	11.0	10.8	14.7	15.2	13.8	17.6	16.6	11.9	7.7	12.3	Aug 17.6
Max Average	8.7	11.2	13.1	13.4	18.9	21.2	21.1	23.5	20.7	15.2	11.5	9.1	15.6
Min Average	0.0	2.2	4.2	4.1	9.6	11.7	11.4	14.5	11.8	7.0	3.0	3.3	6.9
10cm Average	3.7	5.3	7.4	9.0	13.9	17.6	17.4	21.0	15.3	10.8	6.3	5.8	11.1
20cm Average	4.2	5.6	7.4	8.9	13.3	16.5	16.5	17.7	15.2	11.3	7.0	6.5	10.8
30cm Average	4.7	6.0	7.9	9.3	14.5	16.8	17.0	18.2	16.1	12.3	8.1	7.4	11.5
100cm Average	6.6	7.0	8.2	9.0	12.6	14.8	15.5	16.6	15.6	13.3	10.1	9.0	11.5
Snow days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4
Hail days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Thunder days	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	9
Gale days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Lowest grass temp.	-12.1	-9.3	-8.0	-7.1	-1.1	2.4	2.7	2.5	1.0	-2.1	-7.5	-11.5	-4.2
Lowest concrete temp.	-8.8	-5.5	-4.5	-4.0	2.0	5.1	3.2	4.3	2.0	-1.0	-4.2	10.2	-0.1
No. days air min < 0°C.	16	8	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	41
No. days grass min < 0°C.	21	18	17	12	2	0	0	0	0	6	17	15	108
No. days concrete min < 0°C.	17	14	11	7	0	0	0	0	0	2	15	12	78
Rain hours A	29	106	45	139	No readgs	21	61	46	89	127	151	116	930
Rain hours B	16.6	63.1	24.2	28.9	No readgs	14.1	34.0	22.7	54.5	69.8	77.6	63.8	519.30
Hours sunshine	69.0	100.3	118.0	137.2	193.9	171.9	163.1	216.5	122.1	94.4	71.9	43.9	Aug 216.5
Av. Mean sun per day	2.46	3.46	3.81	4.57	6.69	5.73	5.44	6.99	4.21	3.15	2.40	1.41	Aug 6.99
Most sun in one day	6.9	8.5	9.7	12.7	12.9	14.4	14.0	13.1	10.8	8.7	7.3	6.0	June 14.4
Fastest wind speed (knots)	26	22	16	20	18	15	14	16	14	34	22	29	Oct 34
And Gusts	42	37	31	36	31	30	24	22	24	48	38	44	Oct 48
And Direction	WSW	SW	SW	SW	SW	W	ENE	3	N	NNW	SE	NE	NNW
No. of days with no sun	5	5	5	5	3	2	3	1	3	6	6	14	58
No. of days with no rain	18	11	22	6	12	24	16	19	14	7	9	17	175
Deepest snow depth (cm)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	Dec 2 cm
Fog days	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
pH Range	6.68-6.83	6.50-6.94	6.68-6.85	6.40-6.85	6.44-7.17	7.35	6.37-7.10	6.73-7.12	6.47-6.86	6.45-7.28	6.44-6.89	6.52-6.97	6.37-7.35
pH Average	6.74	6.72	6.73	6.60	6.67	7.35	6.63	6.90	6.70	6.72	6.67	6.78	6.77
pH No. Tests	3	10	4	15	13	1	8	8	10	10	8	3	93

OBITUARIES

THEO DUMONT 1930-2000

It is only a few years since in 1997 the Kew Guild Journal carried a full-length article on the life and career of Theo Dumont when we celebrated his election to Presidency of the Kew Guild.

His passion for gardening began at home where his father had a woodcarving and cabinet-making business. The war was some impediment to his early career, but eventually he came to Kew where he was admitted as a student in 1955. Theo was critical of the standards in Luxembourg and the experience at Kew was to add to the enhancement of his own standards, proving all along that he was right in his early views.

It is ironic that one who he worked under at Kew, John Souster, was to leave Kew for the very same reasons. Many years later Theo stood by his principles and in spite of working hard to upgrade the conditions in Luxembourg he retired early in protest at the poor standards. In spite of frustrations at work Theo was optimistic and never lost his keen enthusiasm and love of plants. He loved life and shared his enjoyment of all aspects of it; good food; good wine and travel with his wife Maureen and their children. He never resigned from the Kew Guild. In it he found the pure qualities of spirit and commitment we all share.

It was his wish to be buried wearing his Kew Guild tie and this was honoured. I remember he always smiled and so many others did and said it in letters to Maureen. An old vicar said, "He was certainly one whom I believed lived his life under the hand of God." Maureen who was his love, his pupil and best and truest friend, experienced all his blessings and she cherishes one memory of him laughing amongst thousands of daffodils. She tells also of his collecting seeds wherever he went.

One of the purposes, I believe, of these obituaries is to re-sow the best seeds of our memories so the quality passes on through time. Theo had a tough time of it at the end but that is passed and we send Maureen and their family and friends all our support.

If I should die and leave you here awhile,
Be not as others, sore and wan, who keep
Long vigil by the silent dust and weep.
For my sake, turn again to life and smile
Nerving thy heart and trembling hand to do
That which will comfort other souls than thine.
Complete those dear unfinished tasks of mine
And I, perchance, may therein comfort you.

T.D.

DONALD MACGUFFOG 1927-2000

Don was born in Chadderton, Lancashire on 21st May 1927. He joined his uncle Bill who worked in a private garden at Hest Bank near Morecambe and there discovered his love of gardening. In 1946 he moved onto the Royal Estate at Sandringham and worked for two years under the head gardener Mr. Charles Cooke. After a brief spell in local government at Cheltenham Parks department he entered Kew in Feb 1949 as a student.

On leaving Kew in 1951 he took up an appointment with Leicester Parks Department. In 1958 he was appointed Divisional Superintendent in Sheffield and later promoted to Parks Superintendent. In 1964 he moved back to the seaside where he became the first superintendent at Eastbourne. The famous sea-front gardens, parks and tennis courts at Devonshire Park were all under his control as well as large areas of the surrounding downlands. When the big local government re-organisations took place he moved to Royal Tunbridge Wells where spent a happy 15 years as their Chief Recreation Officer.

In 1980 Don was elected President of the Institute of Parks and Recreation and after amalgamation another term as President of I.L.A.M. He always kept in close contact with the Guild and served on committees from time to time. Only ill health brought this to a close. In his retirement he travelled to Canada, Australia and Hong Kong visiting various family members.

He died suddenly on January 11th 2000 of a heart attack. To his wife Barbara, two sons, two daughters and four grandsons we send our deepest condolences.

J. ROBERT SEALY

1907-2000

It is with sadness that we record the death of Robert Sealy on 1st August, 2000. Known to all his contemporaries as 'Bob', he was a lively person, as well as a very good botanist and, although reserved, could make friends easily. A kind-hearted man, generous with his very considerable accumulated knowledge of botany, he often appeared at first to be severe,



and indeed could be very assertive and sometimes even aggressive in discussion! But he would invariably relax into good humour and a broad smile, often combined with a deep characteristic chuckle, his dark inquisitive and merry eyes (accentuated, in later life, by dark-rimmed spectacles), half covered by drooping eye-lids that dipped to laughter lines. As a younger man, he was an excellent swimmer, played cricket, rowed, and was always willing to learn anything, such as lettering and music, which he loved.

When Robert began work at Kew in about 1925, he was assigned to the Tropical Houses and attended botany lectures given by Dr. Sprague. Then in 1927 the Director, Sir Arthur Hill, had him transferred to the

Herbarium to work for Dr. Otto Stapf on the *Botanical Magazine* and by 1940 he had officially become an Assistant Botanist on the Kew staff. Thereafter, although the Second World War and its aftermath prevented Bob (and others) from undertaking fieldwork abroad, he developed a keen interest in China, building up an extensive knowledge of its geography and flora.

Robert very much enjoyed talking to people and, on some mornings much later in his career, could reminisce for an hour or more before any work could commence! On such occasions he might recall his early days in the Gardens, or his time studying extramurally for his degree in botany at Chelsea College, which he attended with Stella Ross-Craig, who he later married, and Bill Burt, then on the Kew staff and now an honorary research botanist in Edinburgh (both of them are life members of the Guild). Especially, however, Bob would refer to his time working with Otto Stapf about whom he always spoke with respect and even reverence and affection. Such recollections could occasionally be charged with emotion and then a pristine white handkerchief, always meticulously square-folded in the breast pocket of his jacket, would be characteristically withdrawn with a straightened right hand, allowed to fall open one fold, and used thus to wipe his eyes before being refolded and returned precisely to the pocket.

Robert's father, after leaving the army, entered Kew as a Constable and in due course became Superintendent. Thus it was that Bob had an association with the Gardens very early in life and this, together with his formative period working with living plants was to prove an important prelude to his subsequent time at Kew. His career spanned more than 40 years during which he developed a wide-ranging botanical expertise, especially relating to plants well known in cultivation, and became a renowned authority on several genera. Not the least of these was the genus **Camellia**. In 1957 he was elected an Honorary Fellow of the American Camellia

Society, in recognition of his contribution to the 'cause of the *Camellia*' (JKG: 62: 461) and his *Revision of the Genus Camellia* (which he also illustrated) was published as a book by the Royal Horticultural Society in 1958, for which he was awarded the R.H.S. Veitch Memorial Medal in Silver (JKG: 63: 559).

As well as his many publications on specific genera, including **Arbutus**, **Hippeastrum**, **Hymenocallis** and **Sarcococca**, he contributed greatly to the eighth (revised) edition of W.J.Bean's *Trees and Shrubs Hardy in the British Isles* and published important papers on Roxburgh's drawings of Indian plants. In the *Journal of the Kew Guild* in 1964, he wrote an historical account of 'The Young Gardeners at Kew' (JKG: 69: 426-429). In 1964 and 1965, as a member of the Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart Committee (and proof-checking subcommittee), he was deeply involved in the production of a new R.H.S. Colour Chart. Printed in 1966 and made available by the turn of the year, this was innovative, being designed as shade-graded card strips assembled in a set of fans, uniquely enabling a specimen to be placed immediately adjacent to any shade of colour for comparison.

However, of all his botanical achievements, Bob may well best be remembered for his long association with the *Curtis's Botanical Magazine*. In total, his vast number of accounts accompanying the plates, beginning in 1934 and continuing until after his retirement, probably rival those of any other contributor in the long history of this prestigious journal. Furthermore, having begun in 1927 by helping Dr. Stapf with the *Botanical Magazine*, he later became for several years, its editor in all but name under the directorship of Sir George Taylor. Quite frequently, as in other projects on which they collaborated, the plates for which he prepared accounts, were the very fine work of his wife, the artist Stella Ross-Craig, and, in recognition of their association with the Magazine over many years, Volume 82 (tt. 748 -791; 1978-1980) was dedicated jointly to them: '*To Joseph Robert Sealy B.Sc., F.L.S. and his wife Stella Ross-Craig who began their association with this magazine more than fifty years ago during the editorship of Dr. Otto Stapf and diligently upheld its high standards when modern techniques of publication were introduced and whose other contributions to botany notably the 'revision of the genus Camellia' and the 'drawings of British plants' reflect their deep concern that integrity in science and excellence in art should happily combine this volume is dedicated'*

Appropriately, in 1959 he took charge of a new Section in the Kew Herbarium dealing with the naming and taxonomy of plants cultivated in the British Isles (JKG: 64: 694). In 1962 he attended the International Horticultural Congress in Brussels, during which he gave a paper entitled 'The Modern Role of the Botanic Garden' at a Symposium sponsored by the International Association of Botanical Gardens (JKG: 67:194). In 1966 he was promoted to the rank of Principle Scientific Officer (JKG: 71: 365) and then took early retirement at the end of 1967 (JKG: 72: 781). Speaking on behalf of the staff at a presentation of a tape recorder to him on 12th January 1968, the Director, Sir George Taylor, paid tribute to his skill and reputation as a botanist and to his work for the Kew Guild (JKG: 72: 812). Thereafter Bob continued to work in the Herbarium at intervals for several years. Assertive in debate, Bob Sealy will be remembered not only for his exceptionally meticulous work but also for his generous sharing of his very extensive botanical knowledge, particularly of cultivated plants.

Not least among his many achievements was his extensive support and work for the Kew Guild over many years. He was a life member (and later one of only two Honorary members) of the Guild, of which he was Honorary Secretary from 1960 to 1967. During this period he was successful in getting the Guild made into a Charity (JKG: 66: 19-20 & 72: 812) and together, he and Stella were deeply involved in acquiring its Grant of Arms (JKG: 66: 22-23) and the design of the coat-of-arms and crest (see JKG: 67: special inserts).

Bob Sealy died on 1st August 2000 in a Twickenham Nursing Home after his health deteriorated rapidly a few days before his 93rd birthday, and our deepest sympathy is extended to his wife, Stella. He will be warmly remembered by all those friends and colleagues who knew him, particularly during the long period that he spent at Kew, and for his very special contribution to the life of the Guild.

Martin J. S. Sands

RICHARD LENDRUM SHAW

1927-2000

My first recollection of Dick Shaw was when I was a new student. I noticed that he was younger than most and that he moved quicker across the ground. He was intelligent and in later months would find time to indulge in intellectual argument with humble students. When one looks into the history at that time, we find a Kew undergoing massive internal change. Sir George Taylor, a wily Scot, felt things changing so he employed Dick Shaw to help him make decisions he was unable to make himself. So at a time when Sir George was making more traditional and worthy improvements, there was this massive undertow of change, much of it concealed and much of it new ground. Dick Shaw's background was very much in the Kew tradition. He was one of three brothers born in Dorset to Scottish parents. His father was in the diplomatic service so they moved around a lot. Dick was schooled in Fort William and at the Sea Training School in Scarborough. He was in the Navy at the end of the war. Overseas travel inspired him, as it did so many Kewites, when he sailed to New York on the Queen Mary.

Dick's serious horticultural training started at Cannington in 1951 where he was the best student and gained a Distinction. Between 1952 and 1954, he studied at the Royal Horticultural Society's Garden at Wisley and there won the Nicholson Prize. After a period in teaching which he did not enjoy, he joined Studley College where he met his wife-to-be Cynthia. When Dr. Harold Fletcher moved from the Directorship of Wisley to Edinburgh, he remembered the young Shaw and his record so he was disposed to appoint Dick to the post of Foreman of the Glasshouses in 1955. In 1956 Dick obtained his National Diploma in Horticulture. In 1957 the job of Foreman at the Younger Botanic Garden became vacant, and with the attraction of a nice tied cottage, Dick and the long-wooded Cynthia married and moved away from the mainstream. Their two daughters were born at Ben More. Ben More was **Rhododendron** country and Dick set to renovating a garden that had suffered neglect. The plantings were given nomenclatural structure and Dick came to have a thorough knowledge of the group. The R.H.S. awarded him the Wisley Medal for his work there and he made valuable contributions to the 1964 *Rhododendron Handbook*.

In 1965 Dick again came south where he took up the post of Assistant Curator at Wakehurst Place. He had not been there long amongst more **Rhododendrons** when Sir George offered the reluctant 38 year-old the post of Curator at Kew. It was a job which required the development of a new nomenclature, that of paperwork and bureaucracy. Everything was questioned in an environment where it had never happened before. We can only begin to imagine what was happening in those days, but when asked about progress, he was heard to say, "We are making a leap forward into the present." It was at that time that the inertia was overcome and Kew started to move into new areas. There was little relaxation except for a trip financed by the Ernest Thornton Smith Trust when Dick and Cynthia toured the West Indies, Chile, Bahamas and Miami.

In 1972, Edward Kemp retired from the Curatorship at Edinburgh and Dick moved back to Scotland. Sir George retired also and the new Director, Professor Heslop Harrison took over. He learned of what had recently gone before and revealed through some of his public statements more of the reality of that time of change: "The task facing the curator had been one of intimidating magnitude because of the diversity of the activities within the gardens and the often conflicting interests the Curator has to reconcile. Dick Shaw had brought knowledge, energy, drive and above all ideas and the capacity to express them. In striving for change he developed a chronic case of . . . impatience with the restraints of traditional behaviour patterns and vested interests, mounting at times to intolerance. He fought what he diagnosed as obsolete management and inefficient practices at all levels and now we are beginning to see the fruits of his work."

In his new post at Edinburgh Dick returned to work with plants. The outpost gardens of Ben More and Logan and later Dawk were widely spread. He added design to his repertoire, installing informative gardens. One was too futuristic to be accepted, but Dick had never lost his interest developed with Fletcher years before in modern architecture. He remained in post at Edinburgh until 1987 when he retired.

In "retirement" his consultancies included advice on landscape architecture to developers of shopping malls and the Metro Centre in Gateshead. He was resident expert on Hilary Gunkels Tours of the Trossachs. In 1991 he suffered a mild stroke, and in 1996 a more serious one which paralysed his left side and put him in hospital. He fought his way out of that one learning again to walk. Even in hospital he was a source of advice often illustrating his letters with coloured drawings.

Throughout his life he was madly interested in cricket, daughters and grandchildren were taught how to play. I suspect his love of The Goons was rarely expressed in official circles at Kew, or his love of the beauty of glass, of which he had a collection. I have written before of Kewites, far fitter than the rest of us and far more adventurous, who would swim in the River Thames, well Dick also stripped off and swam in rivers and lochs whenever he could. In his official mode he was presented to Her Majesty The Queen; The King of Sweden and Emperor and Empress of Japan. He hated public speaking and naturally moved out of any limelight preferring the meticulous role of re-writing the old scripts for the new audience. His attention to detail might be seen in his minute handwriting which I used to think was designed to get the most onto the small memos one would occasionally see. I have one anecdote, which arose during a discussion on the Order Beds. It was at a time when modern psychology was being applied in business and I had read that if people were negatively predisposed subconsciously, it would affect their actions. The topic was people turning up late for work. I said, "If they are not enjoying work they will be predisposed to being late." He was so committed to hard work that he could not conceive that sort of attitude ever being a subconscious, never mind a conscious, thought and he was so honest and naive in the best sort of way to express that view to a young student. He proved to me that you can speak your own mind and still be a great manager and plantsman.

On January 6th 2000, Dick succumbed to a final stroke aged 72. His life was celebrated at a Humanist funeral on January 14th 2000 and attended by many family and friends and colleagues. In his eulogy his friend Leslie Bisset said, "We in horticulture can leave some mark of our passing and Dick Shaw left many, the gardens, the ideas, the influences the friendships and those drawings." To his wife Cynthia and his loving family and friends we send our deepest condolences.

JOHN EUSTACE SIRETT SOUSTER

1912-2000

The shuttle of John Souster's life ranged across the world from his birthplace in Northampton to Auckland in New Zealand where he worked on his father's smallholding. He left to work on a dairy farm, but asthma, a common thread that was to recur through his life, forced him to move to other jobs.

The Depression forced him, at the age of 21, to move back to England. He found no work in London and moved to Bedfordshire where for 16 months he worked as a window cleaner. In April of 1937, John got a job at Wye College, Ashford. Now close to a centre of learning, he took various courses and performed well. In 1938-39 he was a Student Gardener at Cambridge Botanical Gardens. As war broke out he enlisted in a unit of the Territorial Army, which later became part of The Royal Army Medical Corps.

In September 1939, John was called up and served initially as a Nursing Orderly. Between January and June 1940, he set up a 600-bed hospital under canvas, but he fell ill himself and became a patient in his own hospital. He returned to England and continued his medical training. He was to have gone out to North Africa with a medical unit, but again he fell ill with bronchitis, which led to his being invalided out of the army.

In the autumn of 1943, after a period on food-production at Wye, John was admitted to Kew as a Student Gardener. One of the other strands of John's life was fellowship and he threw himself into the Mutual Improvement Society winning the Society's prize in 1943 and 1944. As doodlebugs were assailing Kew, he wrote a poem 'Ode to a Victorian Urn'. Poetry was to remain one of his loves.

Between 1946 and 1948 he trained at East Malling Research Station and put his knowledge to work on a fruit tree Nursery in Western Australia. In 1948 he returned to Kew and took up the post of Curator in the Temperate House. In 1954 he was elected to Fellowship of The Linnaean Society. This often happens at Kew but less frequently his next act, the building of a canoe and a test launch on the lake in the Gardens. In January 1955 he paddled up the Thames to Oxford to take greetings to the Oxford Botanical Gardens, a first. In May of 1957 he was canoeing again, this time to Lechlade.

John's project for 1958 was the reading of the Bible from start to finish, combining this with a University of London course of 24 lectures on the Old Testament. In 1964 he completed a book on plant naming something he had started in 1958. In July 1964 he resigned from Kew complaining of "irreversible decline in the standards" in the gardens. He was offered the post of Curator at Wakehurst Place but declined. He wrote over 60 papers whilst at Kew.

John left to help establish the grounds of a retirement home in Oxfordshire, free from paperwork and bureaucracy. In the 20 years between 1968 and 1988 he worked on the Flora of Oxfordshire, covering 25 tetrads on foot, bicycle and moped. In 1975 he completed the Pennine Way Walk.

At 65 years of age John entered official retirement but it was to be a new beginning. He took courses in Poetry, French, Mathematics, and Geology, gaining A grades in many of the topics. At the age of 74 he made a major tour of New Zealand. He did 3,700 miles by public transport and produced a 90-page journal. Throughout the whole of his life he suffered from asthma and bronchial weakness, but this did not stop him making a statistical analysis of his 9,000 peak hour flow meter readings for the Ostler Chest Clinic at Oxford. He did this for nine years.

At an age when most people would have slowed down, John Souster just carried on. His interest in geology grew to the extent that he attended many Oxford University Geology Society events. It took him all over this country and into Europe. In 1993 he published more poems. At the ripe age of 82 years, he walked the 162 miles of the Thames towpath, and a year later 170 miles along other canal towpaths. In 1995, John published more poems and walked 170 miles of the Grand Union Canal. He began to get cataracts in his eyes, making reading difficult, but again we see him pushing through adversity. In August of 1996, at the age of 84, he began etymological research into the gender of French nouns derived from Latin or Greek.

In June of 1996 he finished the plant list for the Cholsey and Wallingford Branch Line. In 1996 he began his daily journal written in French anticipating starting an Open University French course. Up until June of 1999 he was actively involved with the geology society going as far as Bavaria. In July he took prize-winning pictures of the solar eclipse.

In November 1999 John started a course on computers, but he had suspected that there was something wrong with his health since the spring and now he was convinced. In December it was revealed by x-ray that he had secondary tumours in his lungs. A CT scan on his 87th birthday revealed a disseminated tumour in the region of the liver. John finally succumbed to cancer and passed away on 26th January 2000.

One thought at the back of my mind when writing these obituaries is that they might inspire Kewites young and old. How could anyone reading this very abridged record fail to be enthused? John Souster combined an incredible degree of observation (first recorded sighting of Lily Beetle in Oxfordshire) with measured application (helped Edgar Milne Redhead with Black Poplar Survey) and recorded everything assiduously so future generations can benefit.

We thank his son for the detailed records and send our deepest condolences to his family.

W. E. STOREY
1918-2000

Edward (Ted) Storey was born near Manchester in 1918 where he attended grammar school. At a very early stage he met the renowned W. W. Pettigrew and later Bean, Dallimore, Osborne, Hutchinson and Turrill. He started work in the gardens of Cheadle Royal Hospital at

the age of 17. This garden is now sadly defunct, but in its day boasted some of the finest flower and vegetable gardens in the land. Readers of the Obituaries will remember Tom Everett went from there via Kew to run New York Botanical Gardens. While there, he studied in the evenings at Manchester University. In 1939, aged 21, Ted moved to Manchester Parks Department, but after a few months he was called up for military service, serving in the Royal Artillery in the Orkney Islands, India and Burma.

In 1946, Ted returned to the parks where his potential was recognised by his Kewite superiors. In October of that year, he became a student gardener. After completing the course he became Foreman of the Arboretum Nursery where he stayed for four years. Ted was a sensitive and cultured man and was instrumental in forming the Music Circle. He had expected it to last for a short while, but it ran for 20 years over which period many Kew staff and students enjoyed the hospitality of Dr. and Mrs. Metcalfe in Pensford Avenue.

In 1952 Ted left Kew to join the London County Council Parks Department, first as a Technical Assistant (Tree Preservation), then onto the post of Arboricultural Officer, the first such post in the U.K. He started by training about 60 staff in sound pruning principles. This inspired the creation of similar posts countrywide and the instigation of Arboricultural Training at County Colleges.

In 1965 the Greater London Council was formed and Ted succeeded another distinguished Kewite, Hubert Taylor, as head of the Horticultural Division of the new Parks department. He stayed with the G.L.C. for 30 years. Another achievement was the planting of semi-mature trees along the South Bank for the Festival of Britain. Now the planting of large trees is commonplace, but at that time Ted had to establish new techniques for the formation of planting pits in difficult ground and reliable guying techniques to prevent the trees being blown over in the exposed Thameside locations. In his retirement letter to Ted, Lord Michael Birkett said, "Your friends and colleagues will miss your knowledge, dedication, kindness and your great sense of humour. In your work and by your example you have set standards for this council for which we will remain indebted to you."

Ted was a member of the I.P.R.A. and Chairman of the London branch 1966/67. He was Founder member of The Arboricultural Association and Chairman of the South East Branch. As a committee member of the Horticultural Education Association he founded the way for what we know as The Institute of Horticulture. Ever gaining and passing on knowledge, Ted was to be instrumental in setting up many of the standards for The British Standards on Landscaping Operations. He lectured at Wisley and Regent Street Polytechnic and was one of the external examiners at Kew.

Ted was a staunch supporter of the Guild, President Elect 1977/78 and President 1978/79. In the year of his presidency, the President's Insignia was designed. Between 1984 and 1988 Ted took over from Kenwyn Pearson as Chairman of The Award Scheme. In 1985 he took on the responsibility of Treasurer of the Guild a post he held until he had a stroke in 1989. Ted was part of a committee that considered how the Guild might celebrate the centenary and in 1978 he reviewed the much-acclaimed book *In for a Penny* by William Blunt. The stroke was severe and the man who had been so able to communicate on so many levels could no longer take part in normal conversation. Whilst that had left him, his good nature remained unspoiled. Initially he lived at home with the loving support of Bashir and Tina Dilmehomed and their family and for the last nine years under the unstinting care of Wendy Cashman, his live-in carer. Wendy organised a party for his 80th birthday on 20th June 1998 and all who attended remembered him looking really happy on that beautiful summer's day. Ted passed away on 28th December 2000 after a short stay in Kingston Hospital. He leaves no immediate family but many loving friends and colleagues.

We thank Neil and Jenny Philpott for their help in compiling this Obituary. Neil was with Ted at the G.L.C. and lived nearby in Latchmere Road.

John and Joan Woodhams.

THOMAS ROGER BAILEY STORR
1944-1999

The *Kew Guild Journal* is full of facts about Kewites who have ramified almost every part of the globe, bringing best knowledge and practice in many fields. Some however never move far from Kew.

Roger Storr entered Kew from Burnley Parks Department in 1967. He brought with him a strong northern accent which he never abandoned. He brought also a keen academic mind so no-one was surprised when he graduated as top Student winning the G. C. Johnson Memorial Prize and the prize for the best thesis. He left Kew in 1970 to further his studies at Writtle but was soon to return to the Kew area where he set up locally in the business of landscape contracting. In 1980 he married Sheila, a fellow gardener, and they raised a family of two sons, aged 16 and 10, and a daughter of 14.

Richard Ward was a regular visitor to the various "yards" which Roger bought, developed and sold on at profit. He would be in his office very early to read the papers and plan the day for his lads. 'Rog' as he was known was always available to talk; socialise and discuss new projects. His work covered a very wide field and the whole Richmond and Twickenham area is filled with satisfied clients. He developed a keen interest in antiques particularly clocks; pictures and card-tables and with Sheila enjoyed the game of bridge.

Roger was diagnosed with lung cancer and stoically fought it as best he could, making prudent plans towards the end. Roger died on 23rd March 2000. He was an honest and kindly man who will be sorely missed by friends and family.

To his wife and children we send our deepest condolences.

The Obituaries have been researched by Graham Burgess (unless credited otherwise), often from information from the pages of previous *Journals*. If you would like to contribute to an obituary, please contact the Editor. Thanks go to all those who contributed to the Obituaries, particularly to Graham.

Notification of the passing of Kewites should be made to the Guild Secretary, who will in turn inform other relevant Guild Officers.

GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS TO THE JOURNAL OF THE KEW GUILD

Many of the articles in the *Journal* come from people who are regular contributors to it, or whose work we have solicited. However, submissions from people who have not previously written for the *Journal* are welcome.

Our main requirement is that you must be a Guild member. It helps if you can write reasonably coherent English sentences, but don't let that hold you back: the Editor is far from a polished stylist herself. We publish materials as diverse as the Kewites who submit them, including things from all corners of the globe. We're always on the lookout for columnists with a particular expertise or viewpoint.

When submitting material for inclusion in the *Journal*, please include a cover letter. This should incorporate the following: the author(s) name(s), title, number of pages and figures, any special instructions, a precise mailing address, any pending address changes, and current phone, e-mail address, and fax number for the corresponding author.

1. Article length

Contributions can be of just about any length you wish, ranging from short notes to major articles. Inclusion of articles is at the Editor's discretion.

2. Illustrations

Illustrations are photographs (keeping in mind the *Journal* is not a full-colour publication), drawings, tables or graphs. Photographs and line drawings submitted should be of high quality. To that end, original drawings and photographs are requested. Photostats, even of high quality, invariably mean the loss of some detail.

The caption should include any credit for the photographer or artist, if relevant. No caption should be placed on the art itself, but the contributor should number each Figure in a corner or on the back. All drawings and photographs will be returned. Authors are reminded to pack illustrative material with care.

3. Copyright

We take copyright laws rather seriously and we therefore won't print third-party submissions without having first cleared them with their original authors. This policy is extended to include photographs and artwork.

Should you wish to reprint someone else's article which you saw in the *Journal*, we will attempt to forward your request on to the author or artist for their individual consideration.

4. Deadlines

The *Journal* is published annually, with the deadline for non-electronic formats on January 15th, and electronic formats (on disk or by e-mail) on February 15th.

We aim to have the *Journal* ready for distribution in May, however, sometimes we do run late owing to force majeure. We just don't want to make a habit of it.

5. Electronic formats

We produce *The Journal of the Kew Guild* on a PC, using *Microsoft Word*. Our computer, being the paragon of virtue that it is, can read 3.5-inch floppy disks and cd-rom. Nothing is more frustrating to the Editor than to receive the paper copy of a carefully word-processed document and no electronic copy.

We collect most of our e-mail via Hotmail.com, which is reasonably reliable and free. If you wish, you may send articles to us as e-mail messages or attachments at kewguildditor@hotmail.com. Hard-copies of your work are also nice to have, even if you are mailing a diskette to us. See our advice on paper formats, below.

Our e-mail address, again, is: kewguildditor@hotmail.com

6. Paper formats

We recognise that not everyone is computer literate or has access to one, and want to continue to incorporate everyone's contributions to the *Journal*. To that end, we remain happy to receive handwritten and/or typed submissions. Word-processed copies of the text will be returned to the authors for approval before submission to the printer.

7. Payment for writing

Authors receive fame, fortune and grateful adoration by the people who read their work.

8. Style

The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew is an English institution, and since most of our readers are from the U.K., it seems reasonable to use English spelling. So we do, keeping a large bucket of 'U's next to the computer so that we can honour the colour of the English language as she is writ. We do try to avoid doing violence to quoted material, such as excerpts of letters, but you had best be aware that everything else is energetically Anglified by us.

9. What sort of articles do we publish?

The Journal of the Kew Guild exists to meet the needs of its readers. If we don't publish what our readers want to see, they will stop reading the *Journal*. Since we publish the *Journal* for Guild members, we are open to a vast range of things that might be of interest to Kewites.

As well as recording events of the Guild and life at R.B.G., Kew, the *Journal* is a forum for Guild members. If you are doing, thinking or researching new, different or otherwise interesting stuff, tell fellow Kewites about it! The contents of the *Journal* can be as cutting edge as the Guild members who contribute articles choose to make it.

10. The Buck Stops Here

As the Editor bears responsibility for what is published in the *Journal*, the Editor has final say about what is included in the *Journal*.

**THE KEW GUILD STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2000**

	AWARD SCHEME			Total 2000 £	Total 1999 £
	General Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £		
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Subscriptions	6,581.81			6,581.81	6,440.25
Donations and Legacies	3,400.00		11,000.00	14,400.00	2,095.00
Investment Income – COIF	1,382.40	4,634.66		6,017.06	6,000.12
– Interest	1,458.27			1,458.27	876.82
Annual Dinner	1,970.00			1,970.00	2,531.50
A.G.M. Day				0.00	548.10
Summer Outing	45.00			45.00	191.60
Sale of "Kew Plantsmen"	100.00			100.00	460.00
Sale of Emblems	0.00			0.00	0.00
Journal Adverts	0.00			0.00	0.00
	14,937.48	4,634.66	11,000.00	30,572.14	19,143.39
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Direct charitable expenditure:					
Kew Guild Journal	5,188.00			5,188.00	4,888.00
Prizes	495.00	13.00		508.00	508.00
Awards		5,330.00		5,330.00	4,150.00
Annual Dinner	2,284.73			2,284.73	2,750.14
A.G.M. Day				0.00	1,108.53
Summer Outing	45.00			45.00	200.80
Millennium Celebrations	693.02			693.02	0.00
Postage	473.50			473.50	1,000.00
Other expenditure:					
Cost of "Kew Plantsmen"	93.00			93.00	423.15
Write-off value of stocks	2,932.05			2,932.05	0.00
Insurance	17.80			17.80	21.01
Honorary Officers' Expenses	110.00			110.00	111.36
Membership Leaflets				0.00	508.78
Sundry	149.15			149.15	384.48
	12,481.25	5,343.00	0.00	17,824.25	16,054.25
NET INCOMING RESOURCES	2,456.23	-708.34	11,000	12,747.89	3,089.14
OTHER RECOGNISED LOSSES/GAINS					
(Losses)/Gains on investments:					
Unrealised	-2,250.77	-2,832.67	-5,097.19	-10,180.63	25,010.60
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	205.46	-3,541.01	5,902.81	2,567.26	28,099.74
Balances brought forward at 1 January 2000	66,219.08	58,238.44	95,529.85	219,987.37	191,887.63
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER 2000	66,424.54	54,697.43	101,432.66	222,554.63	219,987.37

THE KEW GUILD BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2000

	2000		1999	
	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS				
Investments		199,380.36		198,560.99
CURRENT ASSETS				
Stocks – Emblems	0.00		565.20	
– Centenary of Kew Plantmen ..	0.00		2,459.85	
			<u>3,025.05</u>	
Debtors	543.93		225.38	
Charities Deposit Fund	23,200.00		19,800.00	
Cash at Bank	628.11		417.12	
		<u>24,372.04</u>		<u>23,467.55</u>
LIABILITIES				
Life Subscriptions	47.77		56.17	
Creditors	1,150.00		1,985.00	
		<u>-1,197.77</u>		<u>-2,041.17</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>23,174.27</u>		<u>21,426.38</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>222,554.63</u>		<u>219,987.37</u>
FUNDS				
General		66,424.54		66,219.08
Restricted		54,697.43		58,238.44
Endowment		101,432.66		95,529.85
		<u>222,554.63</u>		<u>219,987.37</u>

These are summarised accounts extracted from the Annual Report and Accounts of the Kew Guild. The Annual Accounts were approved on 15th January 2001 and have been submitted to the Charity Commission.

These summarised accounts may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the Guild's financial affairs. For further information the full Annual Report and Accounts including the Independent Examiner's Report should be consulted. Copies of these can be obtained from Rebecca Bower, The Kew Guild, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 3AB.

LIST OF R.B.G. STAFF AND HONORARY RESEARCH ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF THE KEW GUILD

(as at 12th January, 2001)

Staff:

Andrews, Roselle	Cutler, Dr. D. F.	Johns, Professor Bob
Andrews, Miss S.	Davis, Steve	Johnson, Margaret
Atkins, Mrs. Sandy	Done, Mary	King, Kathleen
Barnes, David	Edwards, P. J.	Leese, Ian
Beentje, Henk	Ferguson, Ian Keith	Leon, Christine
Bell, Miss S.	Fox, Emma	Morley, James
Bidgood, Sally	Godfrey, Michael	Owens, Dr. Simon
Bower, Rebecca M.	Green, Paul W. C.	Parry, Belinda
Boyce, Peter	Groves, Madeleine	Punithalingham, Dr. E.
Bridson, Diane M.	Hardman, David	Staniforth, Martin
Brown, E. W.	Hastings, Laura	Taylor, Nigel P.
Brummitt, R. K.	Hayes, Mrs. D.	Weddell, Christopher
Crane, Professor Peter	Henchie, Stewart J.	Weekly, R. J.

LIST OF R.B.G. STUDENT MEMBERS OF THE KEW GUILD

(as at 12th January, 2001)

Students:

Beaghen, Jessica	Fowler, Alys	O'Rourke, Antony
Berenbrinker, Mirco	Gardner, Hannah	Parsons, Harriet
Bishop, Alex	Hoblyn, Tom	Pearson, Jane
Bone, Ruth	Hudson, Ian	Porta, Rossana
Chen, Jinyong	Judd, Jennie	Reese, Matthew
Chillingworth, Tina	Jurgielewicz, Helenka	Sharp, Nicky
Crawford, Silvia	McMeekin, Bob	Steel, Katie
Csiba, Mr. Laszlo	Morgan, Sarah	Taylor, Jemima
Emmerich, Frank	Moyle, Keith	Thompson, Janet
Evans, John		