

THE JOURNAL OF THE KEW GUILD



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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 2005-2006

Officers:

President: Robert S. Hebb, B.Sc. (Hort), Dip. Hort. Kew

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Events Officer: Pamela Holt

Committee Members:

Retire 2006

Peter Gasson

Anthony Ross

Michael Wilkinson

Retire 2007

Roy Foster

Matthew Biggs

Graham Burgess

Retire 2008

Sandra (Emily) Leche

Kenwyn Peardon

Brian Nash

Sandy Atkins

Ex Officio Members:

Archives Officer: David Hardman

News of Kewites: Richard Ward

Award Scheme Chair: Allan Hart

Student Committee Representatives:

Year 3: Phil Kennedy

Year 2: Paul Sadler

Year 1: Vicky Whaley

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F. Nigel Hepper, B.Sc., C.Biol., F.I.Biol., F.L.S.

Martin J. S. Sands, B.Sc., C.Biol., F.I.Biol., F.L.S., F.R.G.S.

John B. E. Simmons, O.B.E., M.Hort (RHA), F.I.Hort., C.Biol., F.I.Biol., V.M.H.

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EDITORIAL

It was with a great deal of mixed emotion that I tendered my resignation as Honorary Editor of the *Journal* this January. Editorship is like being invited to join in an extended conversation with many voices chiming in from all over the globe. I have learnt so much from all of you that enriches my working life and continues to fill me with amazement at who we Kewites are and just what we achieve. All contributors have an impact on the *Journal* – you are its heart and soul and I know you will support my successor (and predecessor) Richard Ward as you have me. I will miss the stream of missives, electronic and otherwise, that pass over my doorstep.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the immense contributions of a few who make the editorial burden lighter year in and year out: Nigel Hepper's contributions in print are there for all to see, but his biggest support is as copy editor and font of enormous knowledge without which many more mistakes would be made; Anthony Ross whose artist's eye has transformed the design of covers; Graham Burgess who puts in many long hours teasing information out of a variety of sources to create obituaries worthy of those they remember; and not least Richard Ward who is always there to pick up the pieces, first as compiler of News of Kewites, and latterly as my successor.

Long meetings and hours of soliciting articles and editing have left my passion for the Guild undiminished. I am convinced now more than ever that the way forward is being relevant to our membership and to the modern world Kewites emerge into. If the *Journal* is our mouthpiece, then certainly the Committee is the backbone of the Guild – the few representing the many. The nature of silence means there is a risk that the vocal minority fails the mute majority: only by giving voice through involvement in the affairs of the Guild or in the pages of the *Journal* can the individual ensure that the diversity of influences representing the majority is heard. Every voice makes a difference. Get involved.

Floreat Kew!

Jennifer Day

Honorary Editor: editor@hotmail.com or wienaw@aol.com

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Cover design by Anthony Ross. Photography by Robert Hebb.

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Bob was born in Providence, Rhode Island (USA) on 31 July 1942. He must have been destined to be a horticulturalist, as many of his earliest childhood memories revolve around plants, nature and gardens.

By the time he was four years old, Bob actively assisted his grandfather with the family vegetable garden, where a major yearly goal was always to produce the season's first ripe **tomatoes** in the neighborhood, hopefully before the national holiday on the 4th of July. By the time he was ten, Bob had his own garden plot, and was learning about soil husbandry, seed sowing, garden maintenance and, best of all harvesting. **Zinnias** were his favorite flowers, especially the large cactus-flowered cultivars. Around the neighborhood, he was known as the 'bug boy' as he made his rounds of people's gardens, picking Japanese Beetles off plants they were chewing on, and killing them in jars of water – his early attempt at 'biological control' of this introduced major garden pest.

Through his teen years, many summers were spent in Canterbury, Connecticut, on a dairy farm owned by a distant cousin. Bob never tired of walking through the forests and open fields there in pursuit of new plants, and of experiencing the childhood sense of wonder that accompanies each new discovery. Very early on he realised that some of the most interesting plants had specific requirements and occurred in their own special habitats. For example, he knew where all the **lady-slipper orchids** on the farm grew, though it would be much later that he would know them by their scientific name, *Cypripedium acaule*. He also discovered the haunts of plants such as **maidenhair fern**, *Adiantum pedatum*; **jack-in-the-pulpit**, *Arisaema triphyllum*; **pinxterbloom**, *Rhododendron periclymenoides*; **marsh marigold**, *Caltha palustris*; and many more. Botanizing was to become a lifelong favorite activity, even if at the time the young lad might have thought that catching (and releasing) snakes, turtles and frogs from the brook and the farm pond was even more fun.

While studying for his undergraduate degree in horticulture at the University of Rhode Island, Bob had the good fortune in 1962 to be chosen for a summer work program at Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania. University students were given supervised practical experience and the opportunity to work closely with the professional staff. Patrick Nutt (Kew Guild President, 2001-2002) soon became a good friend and mentor, the ideal 'plantsman' and role model. It was the experience that summer at Longwood, and especially Patrick's enthusiastic talk about Kew and Wisley, that helped Bob to decide he wanted to pursue a career in botanical gardens. Obtaining a place on the Kew Diploma Programme became the goal—or rather, the obsession, as no other alternative seemed nearly as challenging or as attractive.

"More practical work experience needed, preferably in Great Britain," was the firm response from Kew to Bob's application. A short stint at Waterer's Nursery in Bagshot led to a chance meeting with Sydney Pearce, Assistant Curator at Kew. Then there came an invitation for an interview. Sir George Taylor, Leo Pemberton, Stanley Rawlings and several other members of the administrative staff emphasized the need for additional practical experience to a very nervous candidate, but followed that advice with the wonderful offer of a job in the 'Trop Pits', at the rank of Improver.

Bob thought he had entered Paradise. A youthful John Woodhams was the ever-patient and kindly foreman, never too busy to stop and answer a question or to make a tactful suggestion about how to do a task better. Hans Fleigner, with his vast knowledge of plants and his intuitive approach to growing them, was in charge of the propagation house where Bob worked that first year. So many fond memories remain to this day: propagating *Nepenthes* from seed and cuttings, opening crates of plants sent straight from the wild by collectors in exotic sounding tropical places, watering everything by hand with rainwater stored in pits under the floor, preparing plants for display in the T-Range and the Palm House, helping to set up a display at the Linnean Society, helping to make a floral tribute for the Queen to place at the Cenotaph in London, hand-thinning grape clusters in the Director's greenhouse, learning the importance of making notes and keeping records, the joy and responsibility of weekend duties on one's own – but certainly the best of all in that first year was when Bob's college sweetheart and fiancée, Winnifred, arrived at Kew, and their marriage took place on a sunny February day at St. Anne's, Kew.

Bob's first assignment as a student was, of all places, the same Trop Pits (now demolished) in the Melon Yard, where he had spent the previous year working. Subsequent moves to the Fernery (alas, now demolished), the T-Range (now demolished and replaced by the Princess of Wales Conservatory), the Decorative Department, the Temperate House and Assistant Curator's office (John Simmons), and the Arboretum, provided the desired wealth of practical experience he sought. The opportunity to work with outstanding staff of 'the old school', whose attention to detail, high standards and many years of experience working in their particular area, all combined to teach the student the meaning of professional pride, and satisfaction in a job carefully done.

Kew always has had many fascinating foremen. Bert Bruty in the Fernery was so knowledgeable, he claimed he could walk into a greenhouse and "smell" whether a plant growing there was over- or under-watered—and he could. However, Bob had George Nicholson in the T-Range baffled as to why flowers on many of the **orchids** in the display houses went by so quickly. The secret was that Bob was very busy in the mornings, but in the afternoons, when the public was admitted, he had to just stand around keeping guard. To combat boredom, he taught himself how to hand pollinate various **orchid** species. George never quite figured that one out. The students were so ingenious when the foremen were absent. Water fights using the large hand-held syringes in the T-Range were outstanding. And one could catch a few of the myriad cockroaches, place them in a *Nepenthes* pitcher, and in a few days obtain the most incredible stink imaginable.

Bob and Winnifred set up housekeeping under the eaves in a second floor flat at 5 Mortlake Road, about as close to the Garden as one could get. Winnifred obtained a position as Scientific Assistant on Flora Zambesiaca in the Herbarium.

The opportunity to participate in botanizing trips around England with Herbarium staff opened new doors for Bob to enrich his collection of native flora, a required project at that time for the Diploma Course. When he received a grade of 99 for his collection, the highest ever given, Bob asked an incredulous Pat Brennan why he did not get 100. Mr. Brennan's reply was that there must have been a mistake somewhere, although he couldn't find it!

Bob and Winnifred met for lunch daily on the grounds, to botanize and to share thoughts about their morning work experiences. Winnifred often had exciting things to relate about the Herbarium. One day, after a hasty lunch under a *Laburnum* in the Rhododendron Dell, she said, "you'll never believe it, but I opened a draw, and there were some of Hooker's original drawings of the **Himalayan Rhododendrons** – we still have time for you to come to the Herbarium and see them!" Life was so much simpler 40 years ago before all that security became so necessary at Kew!

Some of the course work seemed dull to Bob as it repeated or paralleled ground he had covered in his undergraduate studies at university. The living plant collections and the practical work captured most of his attention and energy. He received his Kew Diploma in September 1968. Along with it came prizes for the highest grades on Plant Identification quizzes over a three-year period, the best collection of a Flora of the British Isles, and Best Practical Work over a three-year period. He considered the latter to be a triumph, in light of his lowly start at Kew.

Bob was fortunate in his subsequent professional career to work in some wonderful places. The first job was at the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University in Boston, as Assistant Horticulturist. He oversaw the plant records, mapping and labeling projects, placement of new plants on the grounds, and registration of cultivar names in genera where the Arnold Arboretum serves as International Registration Authority. He staged exhibits in local flower shows, taught classes in the adult education programmes, and answered numerous queries from the public about plants and garden problems. Bob's two daughters with Winnifred, Elisabeth and Sarah, were born during this time of professional growth. He also wrote the book *Low Maintenance Perennials*, which became quite popular in America at the time. The family lived in a delightful old house on the edge of the Arboretum.

Bob could spend much of his free time walking the Arboretum grounds, with their rich collections, and so many mature specimens collected in China and Japan by the famous ex Kewite, Ernest Wilson. Other classic collectors and nurserymen, whose plants share equal pride of place at Kew, are well represented at Arnold. The names Sargent, Rock, Bretschneider, Vilmorin, Veitch, Hillier and many others are quite familiar to the curatorial staff of both great collections.

The Arnold Arboretum is a leader in introducing new woody plants into American horticulture. Many introductions have resulted from expeditions abroad, particularly to temperate parts of Eastern Asia. Observations of variations in seedling populations in the collection lead to the naming of numerous cultivars. Bob was active in the selection, naming and distribution of *Malus* 'Donald Wyman', a very disease-resistant **crabapple** that retains its bright red fruit in excellent condition through the cold New England winter. Another plant, *Magnolia stellata* 'Centennial' has flowers with an increased number of tepals, hence a nearly double form, and is one of the most beautiful *M. stellata* cultivars to date. It was named to help celebrate the Arboretum's 100th year in 1972, and is presently in cultivation in Great Britain.

After 8 years at Arnold, opportunity knocked again, and it was time to move on to become Director of Horticulture at the new Cary Arboretum of the New York Botanical Garden. The 2000-acre arboretum is in Millbrook, a beautiful Mid-Hudson Valley town about 80 miles north of New York City. During his 10-year tenure, Bob recruited the horticultural staff; developed a large glasshouse-nursery complex and several display gardens, and got a vigorous start on acquiring living collections of documented wild-collected plants. One result of his travels far and wide was the annual publication of an Index Seminum, which he sent to botanical gardens around the world

As part of a scientific exchange program between the U.S. and the then U.S.S.R., which was coordinated for the U.S. government by the New York Botanical Garden, Bob had the opportunity to participate in expeditions to the Caucasus, throughout Soviet Central Asia, and many parts of Russia. He also became the van driver and took Soviet botanists on collecting trips in many parts of North America. Bob was the "seed collector" on all these trips, and the Cary Arboretum collections soon contained many interesting species. He received the Silver Medal of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for his "leadership in American Horticulture and development of the Cary Arboretum collections".

One plant, which Bob obtained during a visit to the Tashkent Botanical Garden in Uzbekistan, has become a popular street tree in Southern California. It is a bigeneric hybrid between the **desert willow** of the American southwest, *Chilopsis linearis*, and *Catalpa bignonioides* from the eastern U.S. The two American natives had to go to Central Asia to be crossed (after numerous attempts) by Professor Russanov at Tashkent. The two clones from this cross that Bob carried back have been named *Chitalpa x tashkentensis* 'Morning Cloud', and *Chitalpa x tashkentensis* 'Pink Dawn'. The former clone is a vigorous, upright tree with large clusters of pale pink flowers, and in the later, the growth is more spreading and the flowers are light pink. Although both clones are hardy at least to New York City, they are subject to mildew in the muggy summers of the eastern US and do not prosper there. In the Mediterranean climate of Southern California, they are excellent small street trees with a long blooming period, and have become firmly established in the nursery trade.

In 1984, Bob seized the rare opportunity to help start a brand new botanical garden, and moved his family to Richmond, Virginia. Named for an early magnate of the Virginia tobacco industry, the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden was created from 90 acres of land and a small endowment bequeathed to the City, and later set up as a private foundation. Bob's task as founding Executive Director was to take a series of long abandoned farm fields and a dilapidated set of estate buildings and create a garden of major horticultural and educational significance that would also add to the growing number of tourist attractions in Virginia's capital city.

Bob's mandate was to develop a Master Plan to guide the development of the Garden into the foreseeable future. The need to establish programs and clearly define the Garden's mission led to a series of conferences that brought well-known horticulturists and botanists from around the country to give advice. The Board of Directors had to be developed with community and business leaders who could best represent the Garden to the public, and in the very necessary fund-raising areas. Bob became immersed in liaison work with landscape architects, hiring staff and coordinating activities of key members of the board and of board committees. He oversaw development of the financial and business structure for the Garden, establishing plant collections policies, starting the Garden's Library and its Herbarium, renovation of the old estate buildings on the land, and he represented the new Garden at meetings and activities throughout the community. By the time Bob chose to retire seven years later, a Master Plan had been adopted, the entire grounds were being graded and a central lake along with major paths, roads and utilities were being installed. A three-acre perennial garden was being constructed. Many capable people in the community had been 'cultivated' for their interest and ability to help the Garden financially, and plans for a vigorous capital campaign and for future construction were well developed. All of this was exhausting work, with little or no real opportunity to work with plants. Bob needed a change from administration and fund raising.

How to creatively spend retirement years became the next challenge. For a few years, consulting on the development of gardening books with *Time-Life Books*, and *Sunset Books* helped to re-ignite all the old "plantsman" tendencies, and gave Bob insights into the publishing world. The desire to work for himself, and to travel and visit gardens also helped to rekindle an old interest in plant photography. A business partnership with Kevin Wah, a talented graphics designer with advanced computer skills, led to the formation of their horticultural stock photograph company, Apis Images. For the past six years Bob has been traveling and photographing nearly full time in gardens throughout North America and Great Britain, building the basic stock for the Apis Images files. The aim is to have one of the most complete photographic collections of cultivated plants in existence. Already there are over 200,000 photographs of more than 25,000 different plants. The business plan for Apis Images is to go on the Internet by the end of 2006 with a major website of several thousand pictures, and publication of the full stocklist, and to start cultivating horticultural book and magazine publishers at the same time.

Bob has had the pleasure to spend lots of time at Kew during the past several years, making the Garden and the hospitality of Kew Guild members the base for photography activities around the England. He has thousands of pictures taken at Kew, including those on the covers of this edition of the Journal. Things have come full circle for Bob at Kew, from those idyllic student times 40 years ago, to the pleasant "retirement" activities botanising with his camera.

Finally, Bob's wish is to give some advice here to present day Kew Diploma students, based upon his own experience. "Be keenly aware how quickly your time at the Garden will pass and make best use of every precious moment. Kew is the greatest botanical garden in the world. It has the best-developed and most diverse living plant collections of any garden. It is extraordinarily rich in its traditions. No other garden can match the sum of its research programmes, many of which are on the leading edge of plant science. Some things that may seem as boring or irrelevant to students now will appear in a very different light later on. Students should use their initiative to meet and get to know as many members of the garden and scientific staff as possible – they are accessible and interested, and many of them can be helpful later on. There is far more at Kew than a person can absorb in three years; do your best in everything, but choose that which is of most interest and pursue it with vigor. Get to know fellow students well, and form friendships built around professional interests that will last a lifetime. Wherever you go and whatever you do after graduation, *remember your Alma Mater*. Join the Kew Guild so you can stay in touch, and stay a member!" Floreat Kew!

NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

EMILY A. LECHE

Emily Alexandra Leche, known to her friends as Sandra, was what we would call a career-changer when she arrived at Kew in 1971 as a garden labourer: she had worked as a secretary to the Assistant Editor and Editor of *Vogue*, and as a private secretary to members of Parliament. Between 1971 and her departure from Kew in 1977, Sandra managed to undertake her City and Guilds Horticulture Stages I and II, Horticultural Machinery: Stage II; LGBT Uncertificated Gardener Examination and Certificated Gardener Examination as well as the RHS General Examination in Horticulture 1974 and Certificate of Examination in Division II, and the Kew Diploma which she completed in 1977.

Sandra joined the Royal Geographical Society Mulu (Sarawak) Expedition 1977-1978 as Assistant to the Scientific Co-ordinator and Visiting Botanists, undertaking the identification of **palms** with Dr. John Dransfield and the collection of **Ericaceae**, **Musa** and **Orchidaceae** species with Dr. George Argent of the R.B.G. Edinburgh. In addition to the detailed collection of tropical trees on numbered plots in areas with different vegetation, she botanised, collected and visited botanic gardens and horticultural institutions in: Sarawak, East Malaysia; Sabah, East Malaysia; Brunei, Borneo; Java, Indonesia; Singapore, West Malaysia and Hong-Kong, China. After a year with C. Russell Ltd., London, as Assistant to

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Garden Department Manager landscaping and maintaining London gardens, Sandra immigrated to Chile where she has lived ever since. She has undertaken a diversity of jobs, from installing the designs of noted landscape architect Russell Page and planting specimens imported from Exbury Gardens to designing, planting and managing landscapes and plant collections, and of course sharing the knowledge she has gained as a teacher of garden staff.

Currently, Sandra is Horticulturalist for Agrícola Santa Isabel Ltda., Isla Illeifa, Futrono, X Región where she oversees the collection of Chilean native plants, rare and endangered species, collected in the wild or bought from nurseries dedicated to the production of Chilean plants (It has become very fashionable to produce Chilean species). In addition to the general maintenance of gardens on Isla Illeifa, approximately 9.4 hectares with woodland areas, three beaches, **Azalea** and **Rhododendron** gardens, Grey Garden (designed by R. Page), Private Garden, Secret Garden (R. Page), kitchen garden and nursery, Sandra teaches the garden staff. Her continued involvement in the wider horticultural community is attested to by her many memberships: Kew Guild (1974); National Trust Life Member (1965); Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society (1979); Royal National Rose Society (1979); Foundation & Friends of The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew - Premier Friend Joint Staff Member.



Sandra Leche spraying in the Palm House in 1971

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE KEW GUILD

By **Tom Risely**, Secretary 2005-2006

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Kew Guild held at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew on Saturday 10th September 2005.

- 01-05** The President welcomed members and their partners. Thirtyone members attended the meeting, slightly up on last years number of 27. The President made a change to the Agenda, bringing forward the Retiring President's report from item number 15.05 to item number 6.05. Hence all following reports will be numbered accordingly.
- 02-05** **Apologies for Absence**
Attached as addendum to the minutes.
- 03-05** **Notice of Deaths of Members** Members were advised of the deaths of Ian Leese (2005), John Redman(1941) and Alun Williams (1959). A period of silence was observed in their memory. This was followed by a time to acknowledge the achievements of members. Congratulations were

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extended to: Tom Wood and Tony Lord, who have each received the Victoria Medal of Honour (RHS); Jennifer Day, who received a silver medal at Chelsea; and to David Cutler on becoming President Elect of the Linnnean Society.

04-05 Minutes of the 2004 AGM: These were printed in the Events of 2004 Journal. They were moved as a correct record: proposed by Allan Hart, seconded by Colin Jones and unanimously approved.

05-05 Matters Arising: There were no matters arising from the Minutes of the 2004 Annual General Meeting. There were no matters arising that were not on the agenda.

06-05 Retiring President's Report: (item was brought forward on the Agenda).

The President thanked the Guild and its members for the developments that had been possible during the year. He had enjoyed his year in office a great deal and had been privileged to lead such an enthusiastic and talented team.

The President opened the proceedings by reviewing the principal committee initiatives explaining that a number of these would need to be agreed later (06-05.08 and 06-05.11) by the meeting before they could be developed any further by the committee.

Committee Management

06-05.01 Job descriptions: Job descriptions had been prepared for all Committee Members. These had been circulated for comment, placed on the web site for general comment, and would be reviewed annually.

06-05.02 Strategic planning: A strategy meeting was held in August 2005, specifically to brainstorm and come up with ideas to guide the Guild over the next 10 – 15 years. It was attended by 20 members and led by a professional facilitator, George Oakham, who gave his time free of charge. A report is being compiled and will be circulated for discussion and used as a basis for future Guild developments.

06-05.03 Member portfolios and co-opted members: Ordinary committee members are to be increasingly allocated specific responsibilities, for example, Richard Ward who is involved in the gathering and production of items for 'News of Kewites' will also help with the promotion of the Guild. The Guild committee will also be Co-opt members with specific skills, for example, we now have an IT Editor, Christopher Weddell.

06-05.04 Project Groups: Working groups will be used to maintain the momentum of key projects between committee meetings. For example, the Guild medal and the Guild garden project have small project groups and the journal editor has the support of a small sub-committee.

06-05.05 Outsourcing: The Guild will also continue to outsource specific areas of work. Currently the Guild has the help of an appointed Coordinator, and it is about to appoint an archivist on a short-term contract to make-safe the guild archives and set up a system for their long term management.

06-05.06 Improved communications: The Journal is now in colour and again includes a list of members, the web site has been opened to the public, and from May 2005 agreed a commitment to announce the Annual Dinner and the George Brown Award in *The Times*. The impressive programme of regional meetings arranged by Pamela Holt will also continue to develop, and in 2006 will include a visit to the United States of America.

06-05.07 Membership Developments and Awards: Part time and voluntary service is now agreed as a basis for Guild membership and will be followed up by targeted recruitment. Progress has also been made on a proposal to create a Guild Medal and an Honorary Fellowship and efforts are being made to put forward Guild Members for public and professional Honours.

Having congratulated the committee on its strong package of measures, the President explained that a number of these needed the approval of the AGM before work on them could continue. These included the Guild Medal, Associate Membership, Fellowship of the Kew Guild, the Kew Guild Garden Project, and the choice of the 2009 President.

06-05.08 Guild Medal: (reported by Colin Hindmarch)

A small working group has been developing an idea by David Cutler for a Guild Medal. The medal would have international stature, recipients would be chosen by a panel of independent members that would include key figures from a number of professional organisations and a senior representative of the Guild.

A concern was raised over the expense and the benefit of the medal to members. Jennifer Day noted that the object of the initiative was to raise the profile of the Guild, to recognise personal achievement and to spend the money of the Guild in a wise and constructive manner. The President informed the meeting that all expenditure would be consistent with Guild rules and Charity law, and would be cleared by the Guild Treasurer.

Anthony Ross described the medal as having the Guild Coat of Arms on the front with space for engraving of up to six lines. Two estimates have been obtained so far, which indicated that a working budget of £4,000 would cover the cost of making the die and pressing an initial batch of ten medals. At today's prices, subsequent pressings would range between £80 - £100 per medal.

It was agreed to post the medal design on the Guild web site for comment by members. Martin Sands suggested that at this stage it should stay within the Kew Guild domain and not be made public.

Jennifer Day proposed that the medal project should proceed in line with the proposed arrangements and budget. This was seconded by Mike Wilkinson and carried by the meeting.

06-05.09 Associate Membership (reported by Alan Hart):

The committee proposed to create a new category of membership. This would be offered to the spouses and partners of full members. It will be free of charge. Associate members will not receive a separate copy of the Journal. Upon the death of the full member, surviving associate members will be offered full membership and upon payment of the subscription will receive full membership benefits. The motion to create a new category of associate membership was proposed by Martin Sands, seconded by Nigel Hepper and carried.

Tom Risely suggested a small rise in the membership fee for RBG Kew and Wakehurst Place of £3 per year, from £12 to £15. Following a debate the motion was proposed by Richard Ward, seconded by Allan Hart and carried.

06-05.10 Guild Fellowship (reported by Allan Hart):

The committee proposed the award of a 'Fellowship of the Kew Guild'. This would be a non-voting honour, open to high-profile people who have had an association with Kew. Fellowship of The Guild would be restricted to distinguish horticulturalists, botanists and those with a high level of public services. The maximum number of fellowships at any one time would be 25, although it is anticipated that this level would not be reached for a number of years. Nominations would be received by the Awards Scheme Sub-Committee, with recommendations to and for ratification by the Committee of the Kew Guild. Fellowship would be for life and there would be no annual subscription payable.

Proposed by Jennifer Day, seconded by David Hardman and carried.

06-05.11 The Kew Guild Garden (reported by Stewart Henchie):

A number of meetings and discussions had been held regarding the Kew Guild Garden at RBG. The original idea for a Kew Guild Garden had been put forward by Sandy Atkins and followed by discussions between the Director of Kew, Sir Peter Crane and members of the Guild committee. Although a number of options had been discussed, the most attractive involved redesigning the student's vegetable plots. Stewart Henchie distributed a draft plan of the proposed area for the garden (attached at Addendum 3). The garden would consist of a students' vegetable garden with plots and brick paving in between. It would be open to the public and easy for the students to manage. In order to meet planting times, the garden would have to be started by December 2006.

The President commented that because Kew was a World Heritage site, the final design would need to be validated and drawn-up the RBG appointed Landscape consultancy, which had prepared the overall plan for all new projects. Allan Hart, an award winning Chartered Landscape

Architect would liaise with Nigel Taylor at Kew and with a number of other outside organisations including the Henry Doublday Association and the Brogdale Trust.

The Guild would make a contribution to the gardens, (provisional budget of £70,000). This would come via donations and sponsorships. Nigel Hepper raised the point that it should retain the name 'The Kew Guild garden', with Martin Sands agreeing. Graham Burgess did not attend the AGM, but noted in a letter that the vegetable garden was not his favourite idea.

The meeting was asked for comments. Jennifer Day suggested that there could be an annual Guild Award for the student who produced the best vegetable plot and that the Guild could hold meetings and have tea in the area when it was completed.

Colin Hindmarch proposed that the meeting should endorse the idea of developing the vegetable plots as the Kew Guild Garden project, along with the associated costs and procedural commitments. This was seconded by Martin Sands and carried by the meeting.

06-05.12 Future President: 2009 will be the 250th Anniversary of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. With this in mind, the committee proposed that the current Director of Kew, Sir Peter Crane should be invited to take the 2008/2009 Guild Presidency. Sir Peter had been approached informally on the matter and had expressed his delight at the suggestion. This motion was proposed by Jennifer Day and seconded by Nigel Hepper and carried by the meeting.

The President thanked Tom Risely, Honorary Secretary for the work he had done during the year and handed over to him for his report.

07-05 Hon. Secretary's Report – Tom Risely: In January 2006 a letter of condolence was sent to our Patron, Princess Alexandra upon the death of her husband, the Rt. Hon. Angus Ogilvie. A reply was received and circulated to Committee Members during the meeting on 28th January, and a copy can be found in the Guild Archives. Thanks were extended to Stewart Henchie for his work with the mailings throughout the year.

He reported that the Committee had met on four occasions during the Guild Year. All meetings had been well attended under the Chairmanship of the President, Colin Hindmarch. Copies of any minute or minutes are available to members upon application to the Hon. Sec. The Guild continued to engage Sara Arnold as Communications Officer, she maintains a Committee and Guild Officer database and prepares and transmits minutes and communications – electronically where possible.

2005-06 Committee Meetings. Due to an overseas President next year, dates for 2005/06 have already been set. Bob Hebb, President for 2005/06 will be attending meetings set on the following dates: 30th September 2005, 20th January 2006, 5th May 2006. A further meeting is scheduled for 6th July 2006. The AGM for 2006 has been provisionally set for Saturday 9th September and is subject to confirmation.

Martin Sands asked if any member could sit in on Committee Meetings. Tom Risely replied that they could, but that they could not vote.

08-05 Hon. Treasurer's Report: – Jennifer Alsop

Jennifer was absent from the meeting, but reported that the accounts for 2004 were contained in the Journal. The finances were generally in a healthy state: income exceeds expenditure. The Guild received £1,192 in donations, including £500 from the Philip & Granville Trust. Income in 2004 totalled £16,984 of which £5,258 was from subscriptions and £7,432 from investments. The Guild invests its funds in the Charities Official Investment Fund and the value of this has increased during 2004.

Awards and prizes of over £5,000 were made during the year. This enabled many students to make interesting trips that related to their botanical interests and also support other members in the furtherance of their education.

Total expenditure was £14,701 giving a net surplus for the year of £2,283. This has been added to reserves and increased by the investment gains so that overall Reserves finished at £203,070 as compared with £190,447 at the end of 2003.

Tom Risely to write to Jennifer thanking her for all her hard work during the year.

09-05 Hon. Membership Secretary's Report: – Stewart Henchie

Stewart reported that membership now stands at 405: 311 standard, with the balance of student, life and miscellaneous. (This figure is up from 394 reported at the 2004 AGM).

Problems continue with members who pay full subscription, but for whom we have no current address and who therefore receive no Journal or membership benefits. There is to be an increase in subscription for staff members, from £12 to £15. Stewart will write to those involved to increase the charge.

10-05 Hon. Editor's Report: – Jennifer Day

Jennifer thanked Anthony Ross for the painting on the cover of this year's Journal. She was pleased it had been printed in four colours. She said that they were putting the printing of the Journal out to tender, in line with regulations, but her own feeling was that the Guild should stick with the printer they have been using for many years, as they need to factor in good will when choosing a contractor. For next year different layout options are being considered, for example, A4 size. This would be put to discussion and presented at a later date.

Martin Sands suggested that if the size of the Journal is going to change, a good time to do it would be at the end of a 'volume'. All agreed. Thanks were extended to Eric Curtis for his financial support for the development of The Journal.

Jennifer requested information and photos from new members for the Journal. Deadline dates for articles etc. is January 15th for paper or non electronic means, February 15th for electronic copy.

11-05 Hon. Events Officer's Report: – Pamela Holt

Pamela reported on the visit to the Heseltine's garden, where 24 people visited.

The wintery weather in November didn't put off people on a visit to the Winter Gardens in Sheffield and later in the day to Sheffield Botanic Gardens

The snowdrops in the Cotswolds with Allan Hart in February proved to be successful, with 25 people attending.

The annual dinner was attended by 77 people, 11 of whom were students.

In spite of the July bombings, only three people were unable to attend the visit to the London Wetlands centre in Barnes, and a brave turnout led to a pleasant day.

Pamela's report on events and visits will be printed in full in the Journal.

12-05 Awards Committee Chairman's Report: – Allan Hart

Allan reported that £5,500 was available for awards (less than last year) and 12 were made, 10 of which were to students. A full report and activities of the Awards Committee will be included in the Journal. A condition of the award is a 500 word article which applicants are obliged to complete. This produces a formal structure to give stability to the award scheme. It is funded by donations and subscriptions and there needs to be a push to bring in more income. 2006 is the 30th Anniversary of the Award Scheme - Appeal.

Allan asked that the Awards Committee be re-elected for a further year.

A. Hart, J. Alsop, Emma Fox, Susyn Andrews, David Barnes, Mark Pitman, Simon Rice and Katy Steele.

The re-election was unanimous.

13-05 Election of Officers: The Committee has proposed (all correctly nominated, seconded and agreed at the 17th June Committee Meeting)

President for 2005 – 2006: Robert Hebb

Vice President for 2005 – 2006: Stewart Henchie

President Elect for 2005 – 2006: Tom Risely and to be President for 2006 – 2007.

Committee Members for three years 2005 – 2008: Kenwyn Pearson, Brian Nash, Sandra Leche (Chile).

Kew Representative: Late nomination - David Hardman (proposed by Mike Clift, seconded by Jennifer Day and unanimously agreed).

All the current Officers had agreed to continue and there were no other nominations for these positions. As there was only one nomination for each of the positions, the President proposed election of all on block and this was agreed unanimously.

14-05 Any Other Business:

Katrine Herion, Student Representative brought along copies of a questionnaire sent out to members regarding their skills and knowledge base. Katrine attended the strategy meeting, where it was thought that this information could be useful to the Guild in the future. The copies were given to Sara Arnold who will put this on the Agenda for the next meeting.

Katrine also mentioned the inaugural Ian Leese Memorial Lecture, being held on Monday 19th September.

The student representatives wholly endorse the idea of a Kew Guild garden.

Bob Ivison spoke about the Royal Parks association, an organisation that has similar aims to the Guild. He thought it would be ideal to create a link with this organisation.

Stella Ross-Craig is 100 next year. The Guild would like to consider a response to this for June/July next year in recognition for all of her work over the years.

15-05 Inauguration of new President

The President, Colin Hindmarch, formally handed the responsibilities of Office to Bob Hebb for 2005-2006.

The new President, Bob Hebb thanked the Officers, Members and Committee for their work over the year and for the honour of becoming President of the Guild. After an absence of 40 years, he returned to Kew three years ago on a photographic project for his own business. He was pleased to meet old friends and meet new ones and hopes to pay back the diligence left from Colin's continuing agenda.

The President invited members and friends on a visit to the United States, the agenda of which has already been circulated. The visit will be combined with a regional meeting and it was hoped up to 25 people would attend.

16-05 Date of the Next Annual General Meeting

The date of the next Annual General Meeting of the Kew Guild is to be held on Saturday 9th September 2006 (to be confirmed).

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW SCHOOL OF HORTICULTURE

by Nigel Taylor, Curator

PRESENTATION OF KEW DIPLOMAS AND PRIZES 2005

(Course 40)

We are going to begin with the presentation of Kew Diplomas and prizes to third-year students of Kew Diploma Course 40. But first I want to thank the generous sponsors of our prizes, many of whom are in the audience today, and say a few words about our graduating students. In particular, I must thank the Kew Guild, whose President, Dr Colin Hindmarch, is on the platform. The Guild, an association of past and present Kew staff and students, give several awards today, as well as in excess of £5000 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. In addition, the Royal Horticultural Society, the Merlin Trust, the Bentham-Moxon Trust, the Southdown Trust and the Oleg Polunin Memorial Fund have all given grants to our students and Kew staff this year.

Over the past two years, for half a day each week, I have greatly enjoyed working hands on with Student gardeners and other trainees in the many different areas of Kew's horticulture. I have to admit that this aspect of my job has given more pleasure than any other. This has also provided a graphic insight into the day-to-day workings of horticulture and the super personalities that the profession includes. The present third years are a great bunch of people and having worked with most of them, I know at first hand that they will be successful and this will in turn reflect well on Kew. They are the first group to work under a revised marking scheme, wherein the practical aspects of their work and training have been given weighting equal to the academic aspects. It was not always this way on the course, but in a world where practical hands-on ability is now an increasingly rare commodity I know their future employers will recognise the exceptional qualities they can bring to any job.

Their immediate futures include further education – three are going on to do Masters courses in ethnobotany or conservation – others are taking up head gardener or senior horticultural positions in private or public gardens, yet others are travelling to acquire further experience, be it to the Jerusalem BG or New Zealand, which brings me to another point. The Kew Diploma is really an international course: in this year's graduates we have students of Brazilian, German and US nationality and previous years can add to that list so that the international network the Diploma's alumni represent is an ever growing one and one that continually enriches Kew itself.

Now, to the prizes themselves. I shall first read out the awards, followed by the name of the person who is to receive them.

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TOM ATTWOOD

The Paul Temple OBE Prize sponsored by the international landscape designer, who is in the audience today, for the best overall performance in landscape design, and the *Kew Diploma* Credit grade.

HELOISE BROOKE

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 awarded by the City of London Livery Company – we have Members of Court with us today – which also recognises the top student position.

The Fred Larkbey Cup sponsored by Mr Graham Larkbey in memory of his father, who worked at Kew for 23 years as foreman in charge of all the extensive areas of bedding plants. Mr Larkbey has asked that the Cup be awarded annually to the best practical student each 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. All of these and the *Kew Diploma* Honours grade.

ANDREA BRUNSENDORF

The Kingdon-Ward Prize given by Winifred Kingdon-Ward in memory of her brother Frank, the famous plant collector, to the student attaining the highest marks in their final-year dissertation.

The Ian Hudson Prize for Ecology for outstanding results in this subject, and donated by the lecturer of the course.

The Lecturers' Prize donated by Drs Phillip Cribb and Nicholas Hind of Kew's Herbarium to the student gaining the highest mark for their Systematic Botany project.

The Peter Cantor Memorial Prize donated by Vivien Cantor in memory of her husband, to the person who has done most during the course to make the desert more productive.

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

The Prize for the Best Vegetable Plot for obtaining the joint highest marks in that project.

The British Friends of Jerusalem Botanical Gardens Scholarship for a third-year placement at the garden in Jerusalem. All of these and the *Kew Diploma* Honours grade.

CHRISTINE BUCHMANN

The Metcalf 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 Dummer Memorial Prize sponsored by the Kew Guild, for the best Plant Portfolio project.

The Prize for the Best Vegetable Plot for obtaining the joint highest marks in that project.

The Ernest Thornton-Smith Travel 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. All of these and the *Kew Diploma Honours* grade.

JACKIE CHAMBERS

Kew Diploma Honours grade.

LUCY COLE

Kew Diploma Honours grade.

SI HEWITT

Kew Diploma.

LUCY COLE

Kew Diploma Honours grade.

RENATA MAZZINI

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.

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

Kew Diploma Credit grade.

RICHARD MORTON

The Worshipful Company of Gardeners' Prize awarded by the City of London Livery Company, to the person who has done most for the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew during the course.

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 F Nigel Hepper Cup presented by a Kew botanist who is in the audience today, with a long association with the Kew Diploma course. Mr Hepper has asked that the cup be given in recognition of the highest achievement in plant identification assessments.

The George Brown Prize donated by the Kew Guild, in memory of a former Assistant Curator, to the runner-up in the Kew Mutual Improvement Society's student lecture competition. All of these and the *Kew Diploma Honours* grade

CHRISTOPHER RICHARDSON

Kew Diploma Credit grade.

GLYN SHERRATT

Life Membership of the Students' Union for services rendered as President over the past year.

Kew Diploma Credit grade.

TRACY STICKLER

The Kew Gardener Arboricultural Prize sponsored by Matthew Vincent of 'The Kew Gardener', an ex Diploma student.

The Kew Guild Individual Study Prize for the person attaining the second highest marks in their third-year Dissertation.

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

Kew Diploma Credit grade.

That concludes the presentations relating to the third-year students. We turn now to Second Year awards.

VICKY DAVIES

The Rotary Club of Kew Gardens Vocational Service Award is presented by the local Rotary Club to the person who has done most for charity. She has been active in the local community. This year she is donating the prize money to Riding for the Disabled.

RORY DUSOIR

The Sir Joseph Hooker Prize is augmented by a cup donated by Mrs Hazel Hyde who retired as Administrative Officer of the School of Horticulture in 1993. This is awarded to Rory as joint-Chair of the Kew Mutual Improvement Society.

LUCY HART

Last season's Kew Mutual Improvement Society weekly lecture programme was organised by several second-years. *The Kew Mutual Improvement Society's Prize* is presented to the student who has done the most to organise the lectures. As joint-Chair of the Kew Mutual Improvement Society, she is also the joint recipient of the *Sir Joseph Hooker Prize*. The prize is presented on behalf of the Director in memory of his famous predecessor. The David Dalziel Travel Scholarships are donated by Mr Dalziel who lives in Florida. Lucy, a second year student, went to California to study native species growing in their wild habitats and in cultivation. She visited the Channel Islands and Yosemite National Park, and gained work experience at Santa Barbara Botanic Gardens.

TOM PRICE

Another second year student, he went to New Zealand on a botanical study tour. He visited botanic gardens and wild temperate plant communities throughout New Zealand to study the native flora.

SARA REDSTONE

Sara went on a three-week study tour of institutions of New York and Chicago. Her aim was to investigate the provision of education and interpretation for teenagers, build connections and exchange information with educators she met, and to report her findings to colleagues in education and interpretation at Kew.

MASAYA TATEBAYASHI

Another second year student, Masaya went on a study tour to New York and Denver gardens in the United States. He looked at horticultural therapy for young people in difficult situations, helping to establish contacts between Kew and organisations and botanic gardens in the USA.

KEIKO UYAMA

Our final David Dalziel travel scholarship winner travelled to Japan to carry out research in *in-situ* conservation strategies of old trees and plants endemic to Yakushima Island, which like Kew is a World Heritage site. She also learned about the cultivation of the sacred Lotus.

JEEUN SONG

The *Margolas Study Tour Award* provided by the Margolas Trust in recognition of the conservation value of the project.

That concludes the presentations relating to the Second Year students. We turn now to First Year awards.

KATRINE HERIAN

The Plant Identification Tests Prize donated by the Students' Union to the person with the highest marks overall in these tests. This year's winner is receiving this prize due to the remarkable achievement in achieving 100% for her marks throughout the year.

The Institute of Horticulture Prize sponsored by the Institute. This is awarded to the person gaining the best overall performance in the first year.

DAN LEIGHTON

The Professor Keith Jones Cup is donated by a former Keeper of Jodrell Laboratory to the person who has given the best 'item of interest' talks to the Kew Mutual Improvement Society.

PAUL SADLER

The Tom Reynolds' Prize for Plant Biochemistry and Physiology is awarded to the person obtaining the highest marks in this subject in the first year.

We now move on to prizes awarded to staff.

The John Scott-Marshall Travel Scholarships are available from a bequest of Mr Scott-Marshall, who was a former editor of 'Gardeners' Chronicle'.

Our first prizewinner is unable to attend today's ceremony. He travelled to the Canary Islands to study the wild flora and developing contacts at the botanic gardens. He is

CESAR DEL ARCO GARCIA

Our next prizewinner travelled to Sri Lanka to study *Nepenthes*, learning cultivation techniques with a professional grower. She is

CAROLYN DREW

The final prizewinner in this category, is currently in South Africa and Namibia to study *Lithops*, *Crassula*, *Conophytum* and *Welwitschia*, amongst other drylands plants. He is

ASHLEY HUGHES

Student Union Life Membership for services rendered

ANDY McCLURE

We now move on to the presentation of certificates to Rotational Trainees. This is still a relatively new training programme at Kew, focused on practical horticulture, and gives the trainees a broad experience in the diverse areas of horticulture covered at Kew. They are called 'rotationals' because they rotate around the three principal sections of Great Glasshouses, Arboretum and Hardy Display, spending a year in each. It remains very popular and has ensured that Kew has retained the ability to recruit garden staff with the highest potential.

The *Certificate of Training in Botanical Horticulture with Merit* is awarded to

JOY CORBETT

MICHELE SANCHEZ

IZABELA WILLIAMS

And the *Certificate of Training in Botanical Horticulture*

HELEN MARRIAGE



KATHLEEN ARBER
4045

JAMES BEATTIE
3948

LISA CAMPBELL
3941

LOTTIE CASE
4047



AUDE DE LIEDEKERKE
4048

JANE GLEESON
4046

SAM HARVEY
4044

SANDRA KING
4043



GAVIN MEGGY
4039

LOURENS MALAN
4040

THEA PITCHER
4042

SCOTT TAYLOR
4049



VICKY WHALEY
4041

A'KOS ZUBER
4038

COURSE 43

THE KEW GUILD ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

The Annual General Meeting of the Kew Guild held on Saturday, 10 September 2005, ratified the recommendation of the Committee to incorporate a new category of membership - that of 'Associate'. This is in recognition of the support of wives, husbands and partners have made, and continue to make, in significant contributions to the administration and activities of the Guild.

It is proposed that 'Associates' will not pay a subscription, as they are already covered by that paid by their partners. It is anticipated that those partners who are already full members in their own right, will continue in this role. In the event of the death of the member partner, if the 'Associate' wishes to remain a member of the Guild and continue to receive the *Journal* and other mailings, this would be by payment of the annual subscription. The 'Associate' would not be eligible to vote.

Application forms are available from the Membership Secretary Stewart Henchie, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 3AB.

Applications submitted will be subject to the normal adjudication by the Committee.

KEW GUILD EVENTS OF 2005

by Pamela Holt, Honorary Events Officer

Sheffield Sunday 20th November 2004

Despite snowy weather over the Pennines and a bitterly cold wind deterring seven people, it was encouraging to welcome fifteen Kewites and friends to Sheffield's Winter Garden. Opened in 2002 this 2,500 square metres of glass with a larch and glue laminate structure has already become the city's best loved modern piece of architecture. Designed by in-house architects and Weddell Landscape Design; principal Mike Weddell worked closely with Rentokil Plants to source the representatives of 150 species seen growing there. David Howgate, the recently retired Horticultural Manager who was there at its inception, guided our party around and the Peace Garden outside. This holds 100 different species, from a succession of flowering bulbs, shrubs, trees and bog plants to a range of herbaceous material. The well-designed garden, with fountains and rills representing the rivers of Yorkshire, is a justifiable winner of the Britain in Bloom Awards. A beautiful colour booklet, produced by Sheffield City Council and the local Rotary Club, describing these two gardens and the plants they hold has been given to the Guild.

Snowdrop Weekend 5th and 6th February

Allan Hart arranged a superb Gloucestershire weekend for twenty-five people where the emphasis was on snowdrops. The day began at Painswick Rococo Garden with its quaint garden features, swathes of snowdrops beneath the trees along steep banks and a recently planted maze. Lunch was taken in the cosy restaurant before moving on to Rodmarton Manor where owner Mr. S. Biddulph gave a personal

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guide of his Arts and Crafts home. Members wandered around the peaceful garden with its many varieties of snowdrops. Many folk were able to enjoy a convivial evening meal at a local pub.

Sunday's events began at another fine example of an Arts and Crafts home, where members were treated to the personal touch of Cotswold Farm owner Mrs. I. Birchall with coffee and biscuits over the talk on the house. After admiring the formal and informal garden features, lunch was taken at a nearby pub. The afternoon was spent in the company of Covertside owners John and Lyn Sales. A pleasant stroll took in their two acres of intensive garden, which includes Iron Age fortifications liberally covered in snowdrops and an interesting and fast-developing shelterbelt. The day concluded with a welcome cup of tea served with delicious homemade cake.

Kew Guild Annual Dinner Saturday 21st May

A fine evening saw members and their guests enjoying a reception on the terrace prior to being ushered into the Orangery by Master of Ceremonies Richard Ward. President Dr. Colin Hindmarch presided over the three-course meal and proposed a toast to Her Majesty the Queen, while Graham Burgess proposed a toast to the President. In turn the President proposed a toast to the Kew Guild before speaking briefly on his aspirations for the guild and the importance of biology in today's world. Colin then introduced his guest, Professor Geoffrey R. Dixon of the University of Strathclyde and Green Gene International. The professor spoke widely, revealing the great scope for horticulture and biological advances in the light of fresh scientific discoveries and changing international circumstances. The George Brown Award for 2005 was presented to Michael Clift who has served the Guild in many capacities for almost 50 years.



President Dr. Colin Hindmarch and his guest, Professor Geoffrey R. Dixon of the University of Strathclyde and Green Gene International

Absent friends were toasted by the Guild Student Representative Rory Dusoier. As usual the students present ran a successful raffle, the proceeds of which supplement their annual study tour to Spain.

Marie-Therese Ross raised a nice sum for the Kew guild award scheme through acting as auctioneer for the orchid painting executed and donated by her husband and Guild committee member Anthony Ross. This was greatly appreciated by all present on a very social occasion.

Welsh Weekend June

by John Whitehead

During early June, we hosted a group of Kew Guild rarities, headed by our Kew Guild President, **Colin Hindmarch** and organiser **Pamela Holt**, on a long weekend visit to North Wales. Our itinerary started locally at Glynllifon Country Park and Grade 1 Historic Mansion and Garden. It was opportune to have a Kew appraisal on the new mile long Tree Trail with 50 selected trees, each having blue trilingual (Welsh, Latin and English) botanical labels. Along the attractive wooded valley of the River Llifon are Automatic windup audio guides in Welsh, English and Gaelic, these interpretation stations were funded by grants from the benefits of twinning Glynllifon in north Wales with Woodstock in southern Ireland.

Two other Kewites live in the area.

Russell Sharp (Kew 1958-61), the Head Gardener at Portmeirion, guided us on a tour of the vast collection of plants in an area where the favourable microclimatic conditions have resulted in the growth of unusual champion trees such as *Maytenus boaria* from Chile and *Plagianthus regius* from New Zealand. A month later at Portmeirion, Russell asked me to help him identify a huge umbelliferous sub-shrub with a large head of white flowers. The impressive architectural plant was the **Giant Black Parsley** *Melanoselinum decipiens*, a monocarpic plant from Madeira and the Azores.



Kew Guild group at Glynllifon, North Wales. Left to right ; **Stephen Bristow, John Whitehead, Tom Wood, Jill Cowley**, the President of the Guild and his wife **Dr Colin and Valerie Hindmarch, Pamela Holt, Davina Wood, Pauline Perry, Margaret Johnson.**

The other Kewite, **Stephen Bristow** left Kew in 1980 and after a number of years working in Africa, he and his Austrian wife Andrea, settled near Caernarfon where they have converted a little Welsh valley into an educational and family adventure park called The Green Wood Forest Park. This popular attraction, set in the foothills of Snowdonia, is situated within easy reach of Caernarfon Castle and the Snowdon Mountain Railway. During our visit, Stephen gathered us at the lookout point where the panorama of mountains had their profile and named peaks reproduced onto a large wooden slab of **Welsh oak**. There are many diverse attractions ranging from the Forest Theatre, Welsh Rainforest and activities including longbow archery and the Green Dragon Coaster. The environmental award winning coaster ride works by a downward lift system of people power. It was an amazing coaster ride of Kewites headed by the President of the Guild, arborists, botanists, head gardeners and eminent nurserymen.

The world of new plants from the mountainous regions of Taiwan, Vietnam and Central America were on show at Crug Farm Plants. Bleddyn and Sue Wynn-Jones gave us an encyclopedic plant tour of their nursery and plant centre. The wonders of nature were integrated with our visit to Treborth Botanic Garden, University of

Bangor. The Curator, Nigel Brown explained his holistic approach in using the botanic garden as a dynamic area of learning. Below ground, we viewed the earth world of creatures and roots in the Rhizotron. A splendid Poplar Hawk Moth was found in the egg boxes of the moth trap adding to the ongoing records of research. The microscopes in the Laboratory helped us with close encounters of the fossil kind. The small **orchid**, **succulent** and tropical houses add to the wealth of plants grown at Treborth. The grounds are famous for their meadow plant islands and wild orchid display in the summer. On the rock garden we inspected, the local native *Cotoneaster cambricus*, one of the rarest shrubs in the world. Our short visit ended with enough time to admire the southern hemisphere area with *Bulbinella*, *Moraeca* and *Hesperantha* in flower and a specimen of the south African *Widdringtonia*, an unusual **conifer** surviving the Welsh winters.

An extra day was spent on Holy Island with our Kewite botanists **Jill Cowley** and **Margaret Johnson**, who were joined by **Pauline Perry**, also addicted to monocot mania and a founder of the Friends of Treborth Botanic Gardens. During many years in South Africa, Pauline produced monographs on South African *Bulbinella* and *Eriospermum*. On Holy Island at South Stack, special plants in flower included **Bloody Cranesbill**, the rare **Spotted Rockrose** and the endemic *Tephrosia integrifolia subsp. maritima*. The day ended with Red Billed Choughs, Guillemots and Puffins.

London Weekend 9th - 19th July

A cool grey morning gave way to a lovely warm and sunny afternoon for six kewites and friends who ventured into London despite the atrocities of the 7th. We were rewarded with an excellent tour of the London Wetland Centre given by one of the many enthusiastic volunteer guides. Opened to celebrate the millennium, much of the site has matured well from its earlier use as a water reservoir for the city. We learned how material was displaced and mounded to create a series of fourteen imaginative habitats from a South East Asian **rice** paddy site, **silver birches** to represent Scandinavia, rocks and bare earth- the austerity of Iceland to the mountain streams of New Zealand or tropical style plants of South America.

Throughout the site **bullrushes**, **willows** and **alders** enabled several traditional buildings thatched with **reeds** or hides with roofs of **succulents**, to be positioned unobtrusively. The abundance of natural flora gave good sport for the botanists to identify! Watching sand martins fly in and out of the clever artificial sandcliff was a highlight for many. Much discussion was prompted when we learned how little maintenance could be afforded on the innovative gardens themed for sustainability and conservation. The first by Land Art (an ex Kew student is part of this practice) features perennials for pollen and scent with a slate path spiralling to resemble a butterfly's proboscis. The second designed by Anne Maynard uses turf-topped walls and split **oak** logs with a meadow planting theme. The third by Clive West and John Woodford depicts Barnes Wallis's Bouncing bomb skimming over the surface of a pond - appropriate being in Barnes!

After an excellent lunch the group enjoyed discovering trees on the tree trail at Fulham Palace Historic Grade II gardens across the river. Inhabited by Bishops of London from 703 to 1973 this site once boasted the largest moat in Europe around

its perimeter until filled in during 1920 as encroaching housing deemed it a health hazard. Bishop Compton used his missionaries to help establish the American collection of the first introductions to this country. What is believed to be the first **Holm oak** brought over from Europe in the 1500's has a plaque nominating it as a great tree of London. We explored the walled botanic garden with its **herb** collection, Braille information panel plus early **fruit** collection and viewed the sadly dilapidated vinery built along a curved wall. The Victorian park beyond run by the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham retains much of its original plantings and features. However one of the paddling pools has now been adapted to suit young people's desire for skate boarding but the original terracotta balustrade has been retained.

Sunday, an unbelievably hot day, saw a different set of six kewites tour Battersea Park with Guild committee member Mike Wilkinson.



In the order beds at Chelsea Physic Garden with our guide Leo Photo credit Graham Burgess

He was head of Wandsworth's Parks and Restoration Project Manager until December 2002 so was in a unique position to show how £6.9 million (the largest grant ever given to a single park by the Heritage Lottery fund) was used. Wandsworth council added a further 50% to enable restoration of the Victorian statues, 1km of river wall, fountains, the grand vista, zoo and areas left from the old Festival of Britain site to take place. Mike was able to show groups original plans and how these have been interpreted today. Following lunch in the gardens, members walk across Albert Bridge to the Chelsea Physic Garden where an enthusiastic

AGM and Social Saturday 10th September

volunteer guide explained the background and ethos of this fascinating garden. Cream teas on the lawns concluded a very interesting day.

The students are to be congratulated on a wonderful spread of cakes and tea served after the AGM. Stewart Henchie gave an insight to the design and construction of the new Alpine House while members gazed in awe at the stark incomplete interior. Professor Mark Chase then gave a highly entertaining and informative illustrated talk on DNA sequencing and its relevance to plant classification. A convivial evening at the Coach and Horses was attended by 35



Kew Guild group pose with a Henry Moore Sculpture Photo credit Graham Burgess

people and one student. This gave our new president Bob Hebb the opportunity to bestow the first Associate Membership certificates to Mesdames: Winnifred Hebb, Marie Therese Ross, Joan Hart, Valerie Hindmarch, Helen Hepper, Davina Wood and Wiена Ward.

Kent Weekend 15th and 16th October

Unseasonably warm weather added to the enjoyment of this event. Fifteen members and guests met Tom Wood, our guide, for Saturday at Oakover Nurseries, Hothfield near Ashford. Following a welcome cup of coffee and biscuits, the tour began on the seedbed, transplant and general field production area. Here we were able to watch seedbed sterilization in progress: tractors rotovating in Basamid and covering with black polythene. This is done on a three-year rotation. Most seed is locally sourced, treated, and stratified before being direct drilled. Under polythene tunnel protection a wide range of container grown trees and shrubs were seen with the majority of container production being held outside. Although Oakover specialise in native trees and shrubs, demand has been dropping recently owing to cheaper imports from Eastern Europe. Other field production areas were viewed by tractor and trailer, where members expressed surprise at the lack of purchasers for the arresting *Heptacodium moriensis*, a vigorous upright Chinese late summer flowering evergreen shrub. The small white flowers are scented and the persistent calyx becomes deep pink and red.

Tom, managing director, and his son John, explained how the recent completion of the Channel Tunnel rail link and M20 have bisected the nursery. The upheaval and logistical problems this has created for the efficient running of the business was deplored by all. Despite the ever-present traffic hum, the group enjoyed discovering the fine specimens being grown here. Similarly in quieter conditions more specimens were examined wandering around Tom's own woodland garden after taking lunch in the nearby pub. Delicious tea and cakes produced by Davina Wood made a very pleasant end to the day. Most opted to stay on for an evening meal locally where the conviviality continued. It was especially pleasant to welcome Ron Rule and his wife.

On Sunday morning in brilliant sunshine, ten members were warmly welcomed with coffee and biscuits to Brogdale Horticultural Trust in Faversham. Being apple connoisseur weekend plenty of **apples**, fruit trees and fruit-based products were available in the shop. Originally this priceless collection (of over 2,300 varieties of **apple**, 500 varieties of **pear**, 350 varieties of **plum**, 320 varieties of **cherry**, many bush fruits, nuts and vines) was held at the RHS Gardens Wisley until Brogdale Farm was purchased in 1952. When political pressure was put on research and the orchards, a generous loan from the Duchy of Cornwall in 1992 saved the National Collection and the Trust was formed with support from DEFRA.

Mike our guide, enthusiastically conducted the party around the orchards with delicious samples of **apple** or **pear** on the way. Most notable was *P. 'Beurre Brown'* a soft textured juicy pear not available commercially which has an exquisite taste. We then partook of a wholesome lunch liberally washed down with various types of Brogdale apple juice. Apple and pear fruit specimens could be viewed in the barn, laid out on plates with name and origin.

Dragging ourselves away, the final visit to Mount Ephraim Gardens proved a tranquil change with rolling parkland, arboretum, modern grass maze garden, water features and Japanese rock garden. A delicious cream tea was taken in the Victorian mansion surrounded by lawns, roses and topiary work.

KEW GUILD AWARD SCHEME REPORT 2005

by Allan Hart, Chairman

The Award Scheme Sub-Committee for 2005 was composed of: Ian Leese (Acting Secretary), Jennifer Alsop (Hon. Treasurer), Susyn Andrews, David Barnes, Emma Fox, Mark Pitman, Katie Steele, with Irina Noack as Student Representative. Stewart Henchie advises on the eligibility of all applicants, who must meet the basic criteria of having been a Guild member for at least twelve months.

The Funds available for allocation were as follows:-

Dallimore - arboricultural	£ 855.00
Redman - travel	£1,490.00
Arnold - nursery work	£ 180.00
Turner - uncommitted	£ 255.00
Philip & Granville Trust - uncommitted	£ 500.00
General - uncommitted	£2,100.00
Centenary Appeal - uncommitted	<u>£ 170.00</u>
	<u>£5,550.00</u>

This is a slight reduction from the 2004 figure of £5,780.00.

At the meeting in March £4,550.00 was allocated, with the remaining £1,000 left for distribution at the July meeting. Applications were up to sixteen, of which twelve were successful.

Two of our more mature members, Susyn Andrews and Steven Robinson, both qualified for awards. We would encourage more applications from this section of the membership.

Marcella Corcoran	Study of alpine flora - Tibet (Redman)	£500
Victoria Davies	Conservation of Cacti - Mexico (Redman)	£590
Lucy Hart	Study of native plants - California (Turner)	£205
Irina Noack	Study of Magnolias - Yunnan Province, China (Dallimore)	£565
Tom Price	Study of Temperate flora - New Zealand (Arnold) (Dallimore)	£180 £290
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Sara Redstone	Study tour, research into horticultural (Philip and Granville) education provision for teenagers Chicago & New York (Trust)	£500
Jeeun Song	Study tour - British Virgin Islands (Turner) (Centenary) (General)	£50 £170 £280
Masaya Tatebayashi	Research into horticultural therapy - USA (General)	£600
Keiko Uyama	Conservation studies - Yakushima Island, Japan (General)	£190
TOTAL AWARDED:		<u>£4,550</u>

The second tranche of the available funds was approved at the meeting on 12 July 2005. Awards were made to:

Susyn Andrews	Lavender conference - New Zealand (General)	£295
Steven Robinson	6th International conference on Dormice - Poland	£450
TOTAL AWARDED:		<u>£745</u>

The remaining £255 will be included in the 2006 General Fund.

TOTAL FUNDS ALLOCATED IN 2005		<u>£5,295</u>
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The Kew Guild is indebted to the dedication and enthusiasm of the sub-committee, which administers the Award Scheme funds in such a professional manner. Particular thanks are due to the late Ian Leese who stepped into the breach to take on the role of Acting Secretary at very short notice, with humour and generosity. He will be greatly missed.

MASTERS PROGRAMME IN BIODIVERSITY AND TAXONOMY OF PLANTS AT THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN, EDINBURGH

by Ruth Bone

My interest in plant conservation was initially sparked by my participation in a six week volunteer programme at the National Tropical Botanical Garden, Hawai'i (funded by the Merlin Trust). On my return I began a year of training at the RHS Wisley Garden, where my interest in taxonomy developed through the regular plant

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ID tests. Following this I volunteered at botanical gardens specialising in native plant collections in New Zealand, South Africa and Hawai'i, partially funded by an RHS bursary. I then embarked upon the formidable three year Kew Diploma. The plant systematics course, then taught by Peter Boyce, deepened my interest in taxonomy, and a lecture by Mike Fay on conservation genetics led me to the Jodrell when the time came to choose a dissertation topic. Mike was extremely welcoming and gave me the great opportunity to work with him and Olivier Maurin on a conservation genetics project for the **Lady's Slipper Orchid** that summer. Thanks to Mike and Olivier's patient supervision I had the opportunity to work on one of Britain's rarest species and contribute to research required for management of the species by English Nature.

During this period I started to look into Masters degree programmes. Colin Clubbe mentioned the Biodiversity and Taxonomy of Plants course at the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh (RBGE). Unfortunately, without an undergraduate degree, I wasn't eligible for one of the funded places awarded by NERC. So, after selling my lovingly restored Mini Countryman to a collector in Japan, writing numerous applications to funding bodies and attending interviews, I scraped together enough money to enrol.

I'd recommend the course to anyone with a strong interest in plant taxonomy and conservation. People interested solely in conservation of plant genetic resources should perhaps consider the programme at Birmingham (also offering NERC scholarships). The RBGE course is run jointly by the University of Edinburgh and RBGE, with virtually all lectures held at the botanic garden. For me, this was another great appeal of the course, as it gives students the opportunity to get to know the scientific and horticultural staff at the garden, and both the living and preserved plant collections, very much like Kew.

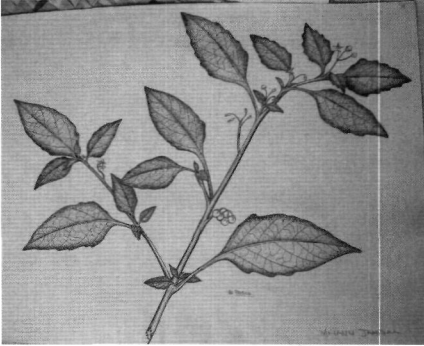
The course covers subjects such as plant geography, evolution and systematics, the history and philosophy of taxonomy, and population genetics, and includes a two-week botanical inventory course in Belize run by RBGE botanists. Botanical horticulture, taxonomy and conservation genetics go hand in hand in effective species management, and the combination of training that can be achieved through the Kew Diploma and the Masters programme at Edinburgh has helped me to find work in the field that interests me most: plant conservation, and particularly management of critically endangered species.

After graduating from RBGE I found work in Mauritius with the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation as Horticulture Co-ordinator, running two conservation nurseries for restoration of islet floras. Although the Masters degree was by no means essential for this job, the scientific foundation of this course helped me enormously in my approach to the work.

BLACK NIGHTSHADE FOR DINNER? AN ETHNOBOTANICAL SURVEY IN RURAL KENYA

by Christine Buchmann

Curiosity about the traditional use and cultivation methods of **black nightshade** and other African indigenous vegetables led me to Kenya in July 2004. Whereas in Europe **Solanum nigrum** L. is considered poisonous, in East Africa its leaves are consumed as a leafy vegetable.



Solanum nigrum illustrated by local artist Bosco Kahindi



Informants in Yala: Tatro women's group

The quest for the **nightshade-spinach** began at the Kenya Resource Centre for Indigenous Knowledge (KENRIK) in Nairobi. Their African Leafy Vegetable Programme surveys and promotes the use of traditional indigenous vegetables, results being recorded in a database.

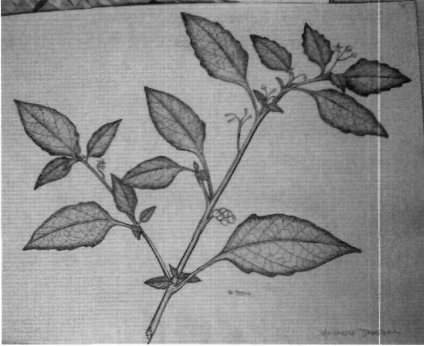
With the convenience of travelling with the Kew Land rover, Rory McBurney (CEB, RBG Kew), Ruth Adeka (KENRIK) and I headed west towards Kisii. Via the red dusty roads we reached remote villages and farms far away from the main roads. Before each interview both parties signed a 'Prior Informed Consent' (PIC), ensuring that the indigenous knowledge recorded will not be used commercially. Written reports on their cultivation and preparation methods have been sent back to all farmers' groups. To understand the scale and environment of the plots, we were led to the fields, the cultivation process being described with practical demonstrations. Farmers in Kisii, Kilgoris, Butere and Yala were visited, before heading back to Nairobi to type in the data gained.

Unfortunately Rory caught malaria, so I left for the Coast with Margaret Njeri, a volunteer from KENRIK. This time we were travelling by train from Nairobi to Mombasa, this route being the last surviving fragment of the legendary and once so important East African Railway. From Mombasa we headed North towards Kilifi. There we met up with the local Coastal Forest Conservation group and the home economics officer, who led us to local farmers groups and assisted with translation.

BLACK NIGHTSHADE FOR DINNER? AN ETHNOBOTANICAL SURVEY IN RURAL KENYA

by Christine Buchmann

Curiosity about the traditional use and cultivation methods of **black nightshade** and other African indigenous vegetables led me to Kenya in July 2004. Whereas in Europe **Solanum nigrum** L. is considered poisonous, in East Africa its leaves are consumed as a leafy vegetable.



Solanum nigrum illustrated by local artist Bosco Kahindi



Informants in Yala: Tatro women's group

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The experience of meeting the local farmers, being part of their life for just a few hours, was touching. They shared their traditional knowledge with complete strangers. Would we open the door for a stranger, not to mention giving away our grandma's cooking recipes? As for the *Solanum spinach*: The young leaves and shoots are cooked with **tomatoes**, sometimes fried with **onions** in oil. Similar cooking methods apply for the **spider plant** (*Cleome gynandra*) and several **Amaranthus** species, both used as a bedding plant in Europe. All dishes were very tasty!

This trip was promising in a way: the farmers we met, were growing and using Kenyan indigenous food plants. But it was alarming to see that the traditional knowledge is gradually lost with new generations. The importance to pass the knowledge on to future generations and its link to biodiversity conservation was promoted. I hope that this project made farmers realise the value of their traditional knowledge that is linked with the immediate environment and resources. It reflects the adaptation to difficult environmental circumstances, such as droughts, and shows the optimised use of natural resources like water.

THREATENED PLANTS OF MADAGASCAR

by Lucy Cole

RBG Kew has been involved with Madagascar for decades. Deforestation and over-collection, including exportation are huge threats to the island. After years of monitoring the 'Threatened Plants Appeal' (TPA) was set up in June 2003 to raise £250,000. The most endangered species were targeted which included six **orchid** species, three **palm** species and six **succulent** species. The TPA required horticulturists to observe the newly funded facilities and to comment on future improvements and some staff training. I visited the island in June 2004 along with a tropical plant propagator colleague, Nick Johnson. Malagasy TPA co-ordinator, Tiana Randriamboavonjy accompanied us whilst in Madagascar to act as an interpreter.

In the capital, Antananarivo (Tana) we visited the national botanic garden, Parc Botanique et Zoologique de Tsimbazaza (PBZT). The garden grows target **orchid** and **palm** species in a nursery. The TPA is funding a new **orchid** display and shade house, which is built on the nursery site. **Palm** species, are also displayed in the TPA, funded Palmetum

The nursery manager had been trained at RBG Kew in the 1990's, and used similar techniques to grow **orchids** and **palms**. Facilities and equipment were very basic and essential anti-viral sterilisation was not carried out for **orchid** production. Due to the climate, **palm** seed germination was simple and successful.

Centre Technique et Horticole d'Antananarivo (CTHA), also based in Tana, contains a micropropagation laboratory and glasshouse, where target orchid species

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Centre Technique et Horticole d'Antananarivo (CTHA), also based in Tana, contains a micropropagation laboratory and glasshouse, where target orchid species

are propagated from natural sourced stock plants. They also propagate **orchid** seed for PBZT and return the seedlings. The laboratory was well equipped, hygienic, successful but very basic. The trip continued to the tropical East Coast town of Toamasina to visit Parc Ivoloïna. Due to the rough terrain, it took 6 hours to travel 360km even with RBG Kew's Landrover and driver!

The park had an immaculate and well-organised TPA funded nursery where seed grown **palms** will eventually be planted in the forestry station, reproducing a primary forest on site. The park also has a model garden which teaches the local population economical methods of **fruit** and **vegetable** production.

The National Parks of Andasibe / Mantadia are situated between Tana and Toamasina in the montane rain forest. Many **orchid** species were observed including the target species *Eulophiella hamelinii*, which only grows epiphytically upon a *Pandanus* (*Screw Pine*) producing a symbiotic relationship. Target species of **orchids** will eventually be re-introduced to the Mantadia National Park.

The proprietor of Antsokay Arboretum had requested propagation training for his gardeners on **succulent** plant species. The garden has the largest collection of SW flora, in which most are endemic to the region. I trained two experienced gardeners who had worked in the arboretum for many years but with no formal training.

Many plants were growing too close together in the arboretum restricting their natural shape so we looked at allowing plants more space. The team at Antsokay Arboretum worked very well together, using their initiative and were willing to learn.

I am extremely grateful to the Kew Guild for their bursary towards my travel scholarship.

TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP TRIP TO CALIFORNIA IN MAY 2005

by Lucy Hart

I was thrilled to receive the Kew Guild Award to fund a three-week trip to California in May 2005 to study native plants in the wild and in cultivation. During the trip I visited a variety of natural habitats and specialist California native botanic gardens. California is one of the twenty-five biodiversity hotspots of the world where there are exceptional concentrations of endemic species. Californian species are not fully represented at Kew. One of my objectives for my trip was to make recommendations to improve the collections. I was also to undertake specialist cultivation and propagation training to pass onto Kew staff.

Whilst staying in the San Francisco area I visited a number of gardens. Tilden Botanic Gardens is devoted to the collection, growth, display and preservation of California native plants. The gardens are set on a scenic valley and display the extensive collections beautifully. Berkeley Botanic Gardens is equally as charming and its California collections were also immaculately kept and displayed. I was shown round San Francisco Botanic Gardens by Scot Medbury, the Director and again I was impressed with their native habitat gardens and native collections.

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I then drove inland to Yosemite National Park which is located in the central Sierra Nevada. I embarked upon a three day botany course in Hetch Hetchy where a trained botanist Susan Swedo lead the course, identifying and keying out the native flora of the area. We came across many interesting species such as the saprophytic *Sarcodes sanguinea*, many *Arctostaphylos spp*, native pines including *Pinus lambertiana* (sugar pine) which has the longest pines in the genus (on average 1 ft long) and beautiful wildflowers including *Fritillaria atropurpurea*, *Lupinus stiversii* and *Castilleja applegatei*.

My next stop was to Santa Barbara where I started a 10-day internship at Santa Barbara Botanic Gardens which is again dedicated to Californian plants. Here I helped maintain the display beds, plant out new species and work alongside Andrew Wyatt, Propagation Manager who is a former Kew Diploma student, in the nursery. Andrew taught me specialist propagation techniques including seed dormancy treatments, optimal rooting environments and material selection.

Andrew and I went out on a couple of seed collecting trips around the Santa Ynez Mountains. Here the habitat borders the desert. This was a great contrast to the lush natural environment of Yosemite. During our trip we observed some fantastic native plants such as *Delphinium cardinale*, *Romneya coulteri*, *Ceanothus strictus*, and *Fremontodendron californicum*.

After talking to botanic garden staff and studying plants growing in gardens and in the wild, I have been able to recommend some species to grow in the Temperate House that have an ornamental, endemic or rare value. These plants include: *Arctostaphylos insularis*, *Dendromecon rigida* subsp. *halfordii*, *Eriogonum giganteum*, *Eriogonum grande* subsp. *rubescens*, *Arbutilon parvifolia* and *Trichostema lanatum*.

It was an invaluable experience to witness endemics and natives growing in their natural habitats, something I will never forget. It was also a privileged to meet the plant experts and gain such specialist knowledge from them. I would like to thank the late Ian Leese who was a guiding light for my travel scholarship project where his encouragement and support was endless.

TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA TO STUDY THE CULTIVATION OF TEMPERATE BAMBOOS

by Richard Morton

I always had an interest in **bamboos** and was surprised to learn that Kew had never sent anyone to China just to study their cultivation. Any visits had always had a purely botanic taxonomic/ conservation bias and so this provided a good theme around which to build a travel scholarship proposal.

My trip was for three weeks to The Bamboo Research Institute, which is at the Forestry University in Nanjing, Jiangsu Province. The University campus alone is about the size of Kew (just over 300 acres) and teaches many land-based science

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subjects. My mentor whilst there was Dr Yulong Ding, who is the Director of the Institute.

Most of my working days consisted of theory covering propagation, pest and disease, rhizome control, feeding, pruning, harvesting, growing culms for tensile strength, growing for edible uses and regenerating stands of **bamboos**. This theory would precede trips to the collections and demonstrations by Institute staff. The collections within the University grounds were extensive and Kew's entire Bamboo Garden would have fitted into their collections many times over.

Trips were also organised for me by Dr Yulong of which the most interesting was to one of China's 10 designated **bamboo** regions. Anji was situated about 300 miles south east of Nanjing. Here the mountainsides are cloaked in *Phyllostachys pubescens*, which is grown for timber. The culms are grown to an unbelievable diameter of 15cm. This plant takes over as the dominant canopy and will crowd out fully-grown *Pinus sp.*

At the Bamboo Museum in Anji the living collections of temperate **bamboos** were just as impressive as the plantations in the surrounding hills. Unlike Kew (which uses a plastic membrane) the Chinese use walls sunk into the ground, which are constructed of concrete blocks for rhizome control. Each stand of **bamboo** (accession) was also considerably larger in some cases maybe even quarter acre.

I returned to Nanjing via Shanghai which was roasting in 41°C of heat. Nanjing is slightly cooler than Shanghai because it has extensive street tree plantings, mostly of *Metasequoia glyptostroboides* (seed raised not cuttings) and many *Platanus x hispanica*, which Dr Yulong attributes to the colonial past of the city. However Nanjing still cooked in daily temperatures of 36-38°C, which made the shade of the **bamboo** groves a welcome relief, except for the swarms of mosquitoes that prefer to live in them as well.

The soils on which the finest **bamboos** grow is quite often clay, and weeds are not removed to any great extent, even the nursery beds in summer, because they are claimed to stop more soil water evaporation than the weeds transpire.

My whole time in China was very enjoyable and the Chinese people I met were very warm and friendly (I did not see another western person for the whole of my first week). Nothing was too much trouble and I should like to thank Dr Yulong Ding and everyone else that made the experience so enjoyable.

COMBINED HND AND FOUNDATION DEGREE IN ARBORICULTURE AT MYERSCOUGH COLLEGE

by Alex Piddington-Bishop

Whilst undertaking the Kew Diploma course (1998-2001, Course 36), there was a great opportunity to increase my knowledge towards the care and management of woody plants. This opportunity was expanded in various ways, from working within the arboretum units and the opportunity to work with the tree maintenance

subjects. My mentor whilst there was Dr Yulong Ding, who is the Director of the Institute.

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team across the gardens. The dedication and enthusiasm practised by these teams assisted me in deciding to pursue a combined HND and Foundation degree in Arboriculture at Myerscough College, part of the University of Lancashire. I started the course in the September 2001, one week after completing the Kew course. Again, the course provided a combination of lectures, coursework and practicals towards the management of trees within an urban environment.

One important aspect of the course was the industrial experience year with a chosen employer. For many that had very little day-to-day hands on arboricultural experience, that included me, it was a vital necessary requirement. For the year I worked with F.A. Bartlett Tree Experts, Springfield, Virginia, approximately 20 miles from Washington D.C.

Working in the United States provided an insight into tree care management, plant health care and woody plant identification. The Bartlett office where I worked approximately employed 12 staff and five tree sale representatives who would engage the customer with arboricultural services, these comprised of general pruning and removal of trees but also a broad range of tree and shrub care management, such as crown support systems using cables (the U.S is reluctant to use 'cobra' that is commonly seen and used at Kew), soil management by decompacting the root zone within the canopy scaffold with a tool called an air spade, this is commonly used within the United States and is gaining momentum across Europe. Further soil management included applying programmes of fertilizer and mycorrhizae to the root zone, whereby the tree system can benefit from increased levels of nutrient uptake, particularly phosphorus, drought tolerance and water absorption. Bartlett customers also had the choice, if required to have trees and shrubs undergo plant health care checks (Integrated Pest Management, IPM). This comprised of regular monthly inspections for pests and diseases, with the required applications of either pesticides or fungicides. Many of the applications were by aerial sprays via high-pressure hoses connected to spray trucks, but technology is rapidly moving towards the application of fungicides via small insertions through the cambium and individual canisters are pushed into the insertion around the diameter of the tree stem, with the fungicide transported by the xylem. As an individual employee with Bartlett Tree Experts I was involved in all of the operations that the Springfield office undertook, from hands on climbing and pruning to driving trucks undertaking regular IPM visits, it was a challenging and varied experience.

After completing the arboriculture course with success I decided to complete the Honours degree in Landscape Management. By having a broad range of knowledge from horticulture, arboriculture and landscape management will provide me with the opportunities to communicate, discuss and resolve problems confronted within urban park and landscape management. Many would say that after completing the Kew Diploma, this was a backward step, but for me I was building and expanding upon education, which I require for a rapidly changing industry for now and in the future. I appreciate the Kew Guild in supporting my application.

ENGAGING WITH TEENAGERS IN CHICAGO AND NEW YORK

by Sara Redstone

My travel scholarship stemmed from encounters with a number of reluctant teenage visitors to Kew. My aim was to study ways in which institutions like us – botanic gardens, museums and zoos (aka wildlife conservation centres!) – work to engage with teenagers. To get the most from my three-week study tour I focused on institutions in two great North American cities – Chicago and New York – each with a distinctively different climate and flora.

Chicago has nearly 3 million inhabitants and lies on the southwest shore of Lake Michigan, the 5th largest freshwater lake in the world, in the heart of America's mid-west. Called the city in the park, it's a green city with a marvellous architectural heritage. Much of my time there was spent with education staff of Chicago Botanic Garden (CBG). Established by the Chicago Horticultural Society and opened in 1972, the Garden's mission is conservation. Like Kew, it has recently undergone re-branding and is busy with capital projects to ensure a successful future. The standard of horticulture across its 385 acres and 23 gardens was impeccable.

CBG operates a wide range of classes, workshops and summer camps for teenagers and is very pro-active in its approach to delivering 'education'. Similar challenges exist for teachers on both sides of the Atlantic – finite resources and difficulties getting kids out of school – and they are handled in a determined and imaginative fashion at CBG.

CBG's Green Youth Farm, a one acre summer **vegetable** farm run by a crew of twenty 15-18 year olds was a moving demonstration of horticulture's capacity to change lives - with teens learning to grow, market and cook food crops while developing their self-esteem and encouraging business and entrepreneurial skills.

Whilst at CBG I was asked to talk to Research and Horticulture staff about Kew and the Diploma – and was rewarded by the chance to discuss invasive non-native species with Head of Conservation, Dr. Kay Havens – a helpful boost for my dissertation research.

In the milder, zone 7 climate of New York I shadowed staff at Brooklyn Botanic Garden (BBG) and witnessed many aspects of their work – including the Brooklyn Academy of Science and Environment, a formerly-failing high school now being successfully run by a partnership including BBG. Experiencing the routine that US students undergo to get into school was an education in itself.

My days at BBG were interspersed with meetings at Bronx Zoo and other collections-based institutions, giving me a broad view of the range of activities and materials they provide for teenagers. Bronx Zoo's internet-based 'Teens for Planet Earth' which encourages teenagers to develop their own community conservation and restoration projects, while being mentored by zoo staff, looked like another idea that might transplant to the UK.

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I would like to extend my grateful thanks to those organizations that helped fund my travel scholarship, especially the Kew Guild, and to everyone in Chicago and New York who made it such an interesting and rewarding experience.

TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP TO THE BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

by Jeeun Song

In June of 2005 I was fortunate enough to receive funding from the Kew Guild and other trusts towards a trip to the British Virgin Islands. The objectives of this trip were to aid the British Virgin Islands National Park Trust (BVINPT) with some design work, and to see flora and habitats of the Virgin Islands. I joined forces with Martin Hamilton, currently doing conservation work in this area for Kew under the direction of Colin Clubbe.

I started my journey in the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the best experience was on the island of St. John, where trekking through the tropical and dry forests on the coast afforded me opportunities to see endemic and introduced species flourishing. I was familiar with some through my placements in the Palm House at Kew as well as the Temperate Nursery. One plant that impressed me was the spectacular *Delonix regia* (**flamboyant**). The intense flowers of this tree you could see from a far distance and it was a very different thing from the sorry specimens that were my charge in the Temperate Nursery! I could see why it was important to see plants in their natural habitat.

Once I reached the island of Tortola of the BVI, I started work on the first half of my project. This was to create a map for the J. R. O'Neal Botanic Garden. This 2.8 acre garden is the only botanic garden on the BVI, and is full of interesting plants and landscape features as well as a **fern** house and an **orchid** house. My aim was to help with the development of this garden by providing them with a garden map to be included in their brochure, put onto their website, etcetera. I stationed myself and my laptop in the upstairs of Fishlock Hall, and with fans and insecticide in action, got to work. The product was simple yet clear, and should be a good base for the many future uses it could have.

The next day I left for the island of Anegada with Martin and Michelle Hamilton, also from Kew. We spent some time looking at the various habitats around this very flat, dry island. Limestone scrub and limestone thicket were abundant, and after two days I could recognise easily about 20 species, many endemic, which made up the major part of the flora of this very unique place. The second part of my overseas project was to design a garden for the endemic and endangered Rock Iguana (*Cyclura pinguis*). They live in cages in a fenced off area, with very few plants or landscaping. As it is most popular of the very few tourist attractions on Anegada, it could send a strong conservation message by being planted with native plants that provide food for the iguanas. I drew up an existing conditions plan complete with labeled plants, and then proceeded to create another plan with a new path and fence, a new small office, and many more plants.

I would like to extend my grateful thanks to those organizations that helped fund my travel scholarship, especially the Kew Guild, and to everyone in Chicago and New York who made it such an interesting and rewarding experience.

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I presented all my drawings to the BVINPT, back in Tortola. They were pleased and the conversation turned quickly to how they would source these plants. Under Kew's direction many of the endemics are already under cultivation, but there remains plenty more to do on these beautiful islands whose habitats are under threat.

HORTICULTURAL THERAPY IN THE USA

by Masaya Tatebayashi

First of all, I would like to thank the Kew Guild whose financial support helped make this travel possible. I chose horticultural therapy as my subject of the project. I was a total beginner in this subject, but I believe in the healing power of horticulture. When I grew vegetables, I found any work at the vegetable plot was rather therapeutic. Therefore one of the main purposes of this trip would be to find the facts which support this idea.

Horticultural therapy has broad meanings and it can apply to various occasions: from young to adult, physical or mental disabilities, substance abuse and so on. I planned to visit different types of organisations or programmes to increase and spread the general idea of horticultural therapy. This is a new direction for horticulture. To be involved in such a scheme would be rewarding to the participants and the therapists. It would be great to be a pioneer and well worth the necessary effort. Passing on horticultural knowledge to the people who could benefit from it would be a fulfilling experience.

I have been to New York, Chicago and Denver for four weeks in the summer of 2005 for my project. The trip started with a week in New York to visit nine horticultural organisations and local programmes. I visited hospitals, a psychiatric centre, a detention home and a botanic garden and had very special experiences.

One of the highlights during my stay in New York was visiting the Horticultural Society of New York. 'Green Team Service' was the name of the programme, which was for the people who were just released from prison. They had already experienced horticulture in prison and the programme is for those whom someone wishes to continue benefiting from this. All the participants were very friendly and we became good friends.

In Chicago, I visited the Chicago Botanic Garden. They have the Enabling Garden, which specialised in horticultural therapy. It was full of ideas and thoughts such as raised beds, vertical wall gardens, tactile bed, etc. There are 70 volunteers working in this Enabling Garden and 25% of them are disabled. Thus the Enabling Garden is providing accessibility not only for the visitors but also for the workers.

I stayed at Denver for two and half weeks as my final destination. I visited nine horticultural organisations and local programmes. Each programme had a different aspect. These programmes consisted of practical work, using experienced horticultural therapists, youth workers and participants of the scheme.

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The four weeks flew so quickly and it was a more successful trip than I expected. I established good contacts in the USA in a short period. I would like to thank to all those who gave me great support and help. Since I am so fascinated by this subject, I would like to be involved in it in the future, especially with young persons in difficult situations. I believe it is rewarding and my energies would be well spent.

THE GARDEN AT WAKEHURST IN 2005

by David Hardman, Head of Horticulture and Estate Management

'As we like it' could have been the strap line for 2005 following yet another successful year, but in fact during late spring and summer, William Shakespeare's play *As You Like It* was made into a film by Kenneth Branagh, actor and film director, at Wakehurst. The film was inspired by 19th Century Japan and filming took place in several locations including: the Water Gardens, the Loder Valley, Westwood Valley lake wetland and picnic areas and the Himalayan Glade. Actors included Bryce Dallas Howard who plays Rosalind, David Oyelowo as Orlando, Adrian Lester as Oliver and Alfred Molina played Touchstone. Brian Blessed and Kevin Kline were also in the cast. Proceeds from the location fees were directed into a new stone stairway leading onto the Croquet Lawn.

'Winter's Tale' – The Wollemi Pine

May 10 was a very exciting moment and saw Kenneth Branagh unveil one of the first plantings of the **Wollemi pine**, *Wollemia nobilis* (family **Araucariaceae**) on UK soil at Wakehurst Place. The tree has been dated back 90 million years and was presumed extinct. Having one of the world's rarest trees adds significantly to the development of the Southern Hemisphere Garden. Reflecting the Wollemi's scarcity, less than 100 trees have been found in the wild, it is protected by a metal cage.

It was discovered in 1994 in an inaccessible canyon in the Blue Mountains, 150km northeast of Sydney, Australia. It was found by and named after David Noble, a ranger for the National Parks & Wildlife Service whilst he was canyoning (abseiling) with friends in a remote gorge in the Wollemi National Park.

It was thought to have become extinct almost two million years ago, but with the help of **Wollemi Pine** International, Birkdale Nurseries and the Department of Primary Industries Forestry, a major comeback in cultivation of this primitive tree is planned. In March, Kew signed up to an agreement with **Wollemi Pine** International to run hardiness trials at Kew and Wakehurst Place and to plant the first public display trees outdoors, outside Australia.

The delivery of 30 trial trees and display specimens was taken in March and planted in locations, where their growth habits are being closely monitored on a monthly basis to assess the growth patterns and hardiness in the UK.

In October the first-ever cultivated 'Collectors Edition' **Wollemi pines**, the first to be grown *ex situ* and sold commercially were sold via Sotheby's, the

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international auctioneers, with royalties going back to the protection of its natural habitat in New South Wales, Australia. The trees, up to six years of age and around three metres tall, came with their own authentication certificate detailing its provenance and care instructions. Under 300 trees were available as part of 148 lots for auction, ranging from single trees to an avenue of 20 trees from the same parent. One of the major lots, the Sir Joseph Banks Collection, included one tree from each of the 15 trees in the wild from which cuttings were taken.

'Two Gentlemen of Verona' - Wakehurst staff notch up 82 years service

This year two members of staff in the Logistics team achieved a staggering 82 years' service between them. David Marchant MBE and Richard 'Lou' Lewis are celebrating 40 and 42 years respectively and know the 500-acre estate better than most. David Marchant, Logistics Manager grew up on the estate and was awarded the MBE in 2002 for services to horticulture, he lives on the estate with his wife Jennifer. 'Lou' was employed by the Prices, the last private family to own the gardens before joining the staff of Kew.

After a lifetime of service to plants and the environment we said farewell to Tony Ovenden who left on 14 February after more than 30 years' service. His knowledge of the plants of the southern hemisphere has been vital and his work culminated with the dramatic flowering of our Australian **Banksia**.

'The Tempest' - Go wild about orchids at Wakehurst Place

Wild orchid plants grow all around Wakehurst and could be seen in a photography exhibition in the newly opened Mansion Gallery. The display ran until 5 June and detailed Kew's passion for these exquisite plants from the first records of cultivation in 1768 to the current collection and featured rare international beauties as well as homegrown hardy varieties.

The exhibition gave an insight to Kew's **orchid** work, from unravelling the complicated inter-relationships between **orchid** species, providing a classification, to carrying out research to determine how orchids interact with their pollinators. It also explained how this knowledge and expertise contributes to conserving the plants for future generations through partnerships around the globe.

'Taming of the Shrew' - Watch the buzzards.

The buzz of wildlife in action was in evidence at Wakehurst for the Wild View Festival through fascinating live images of some of Britain's less common nesting birds. The festival ran until the end of June, incorporating footage of a variety of birdlife, ranging from how birds select and build a nest, to laying their eggs and nurturing their young.

By installing miniature cameras inside nest boxes we literally zoomed in on the nesting behaviour of wildlife at Wakehurst. Some of the boxes were directly linked to giant plasma screens in the Visitor Centre and the Seed Café. Other boxes were too far away to be linked so recordings were made locally and are now shown to visitors. Iain Parkinson was pleased with footage from a buzzard's nest—one contained three eggs, which hatched by the end of May. The female sat on the eggs

for around six weeks, and then the chicks remained in the nest until about August before leaving. Our cameras were trained on them all that time. Known as the common buzzard, they are relatively rare in this part of Britain. Buzzards have declined in numbers since the Second World War and in this area the species has not been seen for the past 30 years. In addition to recordings of thrushes and starlings, there was film of two nuthatches, which had taken up residence in a bluetits' box.

'Midsummer Night's Dream' - Community arts

Lots of people enjoyed a week's worth of the best in community arts between 31 May and 5 June as the croquet lawn was turned into an outdoor theatre. The first night saw a classical recital of some of the most popular piano works, which followed an afternoon performance of *The Samurai* by the Chichester Festival Youth. The week also included jazz and big band as well as opera.

For many the highlight was the production by scores of young people from schools across Mid Sussex who spent the week learning their roles in *The Selfish Giant* before performing the opera, based on Oscar Wilde's well-known story, as the finale to the festival.

'As You Like It' again! - Wakehurst's eco-friendly charcoal

Making eco-friendly charcoal to satisfy the needs of barbecue users is a messy business, as at Wakehurst staff know only too well. Those involved in the process have a love/hate relationship with the product. The process is undeniably an extremely mucky and messy one. Selling the bags of "green" charcoal proves popular with locals and its sale helps keep alive a traditional practice and contributes to wildlife conservation at Wakehurst Place. Over the years, two members of staff in particular have borne the brunt of the messy nature of the estate's charcoal making. Trudy Ede, logistics team and Dave Ross, gardens unit worked behind the scenes to sift and grade the raw product into the five-kilo bags for sale at the Visitor Centre.

Visitors to Bethlehem Wood could observe our investment in two small kilns and a grader, then observe the burning process as we meet the rising demands for this homemade product. Like other British hardwood charcoal, a mixture of **ash** and **birch** is easy to light and quick to reach a high cooking temperature. Wakehurst charcoal is superior in quality to most imports and provides an alternative to charcoal produced from endangered sources such as tropical rain forests and **mangrove** swamps.

The kilns were stacked with timber hand split and stacked to speed up the drying process ready to be turned into finished 'Bar-B-Kew' charcoal arising from the estate's winter tree pruning programme and restoration of over-shaded rides in the Loder Valley Reserve.

'All's Well That Ends Well' - Millennium Seed Bank welcomes new leader

Dr Paul Smith, a specialist in ecology and plant diversity in southern, central and eastern Africa was appointed Head of the Seed Conservation Department and has taken over from Roger Smith OBE as leader of the £80M Millennium Seed Bank

Project. Paul was born in Kent, but spent his childhood in southern Africa where his father was a university lecturer. Paul says his immediate aim is to build on the excellent foundations laid by the Project team, and successfully conserve 10 per cent of the world's flora in the seed bank by 2010.

'Comedy of Errors' - *Hypericum* collection verified and expanded

Dr Sara Crockett of Karl Franzens University, Graz, Austria, sampled *Hypericum* flowers and fruit from the National Plant Collection. Her research centres on compounds in *Hypericum* that bees may collect and use. Since there are several endangered solitary bees in the area of Austria near Graz, this may help in their conservation.

The National Collection provides a large, fully documented resource of material for such work, and is also in regular use. Chemical compounds extracted from samples in spring may prove similar to those of commercial **St. John's wort**. On this occasion Sara was accompanied by Dr. Norman Robson of the Natural History Museum, who verified the collection and gave names to several Chinese collections we received un-named.

'Much Ado About Nothing' - a ten-year programme to clear *Rhododendron*

Work began in the Francis Rose Reserve at Wakehurst Place to clear *Rhododendron ponticum*. Although its purple flowers are well loved by many, this particular species has become one of the United Kingdom's most invasive plants. It was introduced to the local landscape in 1763, but due to the dense evergreen canopy of its thickets, it is now considered a pest, not just in the Sussex Weald, but all over the country. The Snowdonia National Park alone has spent £45 million on trying to eradicate it as native plants are struggling to survive.

Rhododendron ponticum has become the greatest threat to the **ferns, mosses, lichens** and **liverworts** in the reserve and a ten-year plan has begun to clear a 50m length of the species from the natural sandstone outcrops. This is a very complex task as great care is needed to remove seedlings, which survive in the **moss** carpets on the rocks. A simple error could mean that rare species are pulled off along with the rhododendron. A substantial part of the costs is being funded by English Nature. Staff at Wakehurst will then monitor re-growth of the native vegetation on the rocks.

'Measure for Measure' - Wakehurst bumper year for visitors

It was a bumper summer for visitors who flocked to see the colourful displays and witness conservation in action. Wakehurst had its most successful August ever, welcoming more than 46,000 visitors during the month. This was more than a ten per cent rise over the previous August. The statistics bucked the trend, which saw tourists stay away from many attractions following the bomb attacks in London on 7 July. The gardens are attracting more and more younger visitors and Kew's policy of admitting everyone under 17 for free is certainly paying off, during the summer around 20% of our visitors were children. It is vital that we encourage young people to experience horticulture and botany hopefully to provide the next generation's workforce in these vital areas. The final visitor total was a staggering

442,458 which was a 7.1% increase on the previous year and a new annual attendance record.

'Love's Labours Lost' - *Nothofagus gunnii* stolen

The only recorded example of **southern beech tree**, *Nothofagus gunnii*, in the UK was stolen from Coates Wood. The tree, a two-foot tall sapling, was being monitored for the mycorrhizal interaction between the soil and its roots because it is so very hard to grow in this country, the theft was discovered during a routine inspection and will probably die, since there was considerable root damage when it was ripped from the earth, and because of the careful attention needed to cultivate it. In its native Tasmania the species provides magnificent autumn colour when most of their trees are evergreen — and everyone there has their favourite spot from which to view this iconic tree.

The tree was torn from the ground and was the only one that survived from seed collected by David Hardman and Andy Jackson in Tasmania in March 2000. The expedition with colleagues from the Royal Tasmanian Botanic Garden, in Hobart, has now resulted in a fruitful partnership with Kew's £80m Millennium Seed Bank Project to further conserve endangered species.

'Midsummer Night's Dream' - Autumn arrived early!

Early summer saw experts predicting 2005 to be one of the most spectacular autumns on record. Wakehurst was ahead of urban areas due to the exceptionally dry period Sussex experienced over the summer months when some leaf fall was noted. A succession of trees and shrubs throughout the Gardens changed early to their autumn tints but then held on to their leaves into late November, and some even into early December. The **kadsura**, *Cercidiphyllum japonicum*, began the season as usual by producing powerful strawberry scents, likened by some to toffee apples or candyfloss.

'Twelfth Night' - Art draws in visitors

The 'Big Draw' campaign returned following a highly successful launch in 2004. The scheme runs drawing events in October for all ages and abilities across the UK and this year there were five different workshops. The event combined science and art, taking 'Growing in Line' as its main theme. The west wing in the Mansion has been converted and opened as the new 'Science Zone', which will enhance our learning programme. The dedicated laboratory will be used by thousands of young people who visit us each year on school and college trips.

'Merchant of Venice' – New ventures

The release of 'As You Like it' the film is still eagerly awaited as are the lambs from our new flock of Southdown sheep. These have been introduced to promote local conservation initiatives and support grazing on the estate. As the driest year in recent times came to an end (Table 1), and with the successes to enjoy such as the new restaurant extension, we look ahead to the next, in great anticipation.

WAKEHURST PLACE WEATHER – JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2005													
2005	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year (Totals)
Month's Total rainfall (mm)	49.6	29	57.5	36.8	37.4	18.1	72.2	53.6	30.6	109.6	63.6	53.6	611.6
<i>For Comparison 2004</i>	125.8	33	44.3	81.7	44.8	28.6	61.3	97.9	26	145.2	34.9	67.3	790.8
<i>For Comparison 2003</i>	114.1	37.6	18.9	37.3	54.3	38.0	87.0	47.9	6.6	51.8	141.1	94.0	728.6
<i>For Comparison 2002</i>	102.9	109.9	56.8	41.3	139.3	61.1	83.6	47.4	39.3	83.0	186.2	168.7	1,120
<i>For Comparison 2001</i>	(129.9)	(123.5)	(119.8)	(85.0)	(32.4)	(15.6)	(53.1)	(99.9)	(102.5)	(159.3)	(40.7)	(28.3)	(989.5)
<i>For Comparison 2000</i>	{35.9}	{83.0}	{22.5}	{123.9}	{120.1}	{14.9}	{47.5}	{38.6}	{137.3}	{288.7}	{222.0}	{202.5}	{1,336.9}
<i>For Comparison 1999</i>	{120.8}	{8.35}	{40.2}	{56.5}	{33.7}	{60.5}	{10.2}	{117.5}	{152.7}	{66.8}	{36.4}	{165.8}	{869.45}
Rainiest day (mm)	10th 11.0	10th 7.9	29th 16.7	24th 10.0	19th 14.3	3rd 2.9	24th 28.0	22nd 13.0	15th 6.0	12th 26.0	1st 17.8	1st 16.1	
Rainless days	12	7	17	13	16	20	19	20	16	11	13	16	
Highest Max. Temp. (°C)	12.8 20th	13.4 12th	24.4 19th&22nd	24.9 30th	32.4 27th	32.6 19th	30.2 13th	31.1 31st	29.2 4th	21.6 15th	15.5 8th	11.9 24th	
Lowest Max. Temp. (°C)	4.5 24th&26th	2.0 24th	1.6 2nd	5.7 8th	11.3 10th&19th	15.7 6th	17.1 29th	12.7 19th	14.1 28th	12.6 18th	2.0 13th	0.6 28th	
Highest Min. Temp. (°C)	8.8 8th	6.6 4th	9.6 17th	10.8 30th	12.8 1st	17.7 20th	15.2 11th	16.6 31st	16.7 5th	14.6 12th	12.3 3rd	5.7 24th	
Lowest Min. Temp. (°C)	0.4 26th	-5.5 28th	-5.5 4th	-3.4 9th	-3.3 5th	3.6 13th	9.5 7th	7.7 8th	3.0 17th	4.2 3rd	-3.5 30th	-6.4 18th	
Nights with air temp. below freezing	1	9	7	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	12	17	
Windiest Day (mph)	8th SW 32mph	13th NW 32mph	3rd ESE 36mph	28th SSW 23mph	13/14th NNE 24mph	5th NW 18mph	21st NNW 22mph	25th NW 21mph	16th NNE 19mph	26th SW 27mph	3rd SSE 31mph	2nd N 32mph	

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<i>For Comparison 1999</i>	{120.8}	{8.35}	{40.2}	{56.5}	{33.7}	{60.5}	{10.2}	{117.5}	{152.7}	{66.8}	{36.4}	{165.8}	{869.45}
Rainiest day (mm)	10th 11.0	10th 7.9	29th 16.7	24th 10.0	19th 14.3	3rd 2.9	24th 28.0	22nd 13.0	15th 6.0	12th 26.0	1st 17.8	1st 16.1	
Rainless days	12	7	17	13	16	20	19	20	16	11	13	16	
Highest Max. Temp. (°C)	12.8 20th	13.4 12th	24.4 19th&22nd	24.9 30th	32.4 27th	32.6 19th	30.2 13th	31.1 31st	29.2 4th	21.6 15th	15.5 8th	11.9 24th	
Lowest Max. Temp. (°C)	4.5 24th&26th	2.0 24th	1.6 2nd	5.7 8th	11.3 10th&19th	15.7 6th	17.1 29th	12.7 19th	14.1 28th	12.6 18th	2.0 13th	0.6 28th	
Highest Min. Temp. (°C)	8.8 8th	6.6 4th	9.6 17th	10.8 30th	12.8 1st	17.7 20th	15.2 11th	16.6 31st	16.7 5th	14.6 12th	12.3 3rd	5.7 24th	
Lowest Min. Temp. (°C)	0.4 26th	-5.5 28th	-5.5 4th	-3.4 9th	-3.3 5th	3.6 13th	9.5 7th	7.7 8th	3.0 17th	4.2 3rd	-3.5 30th	-6.4 18th	
Nights with air temp. below freezing	1	9	7	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	12	17	
Windiest Day (mph)	8th SW 32mph	13th NW 32mph	3rd ESE 36mph	28th SSW 23mph	13/14th NNE 24mph	5th NW 18mph	21st NNW 22mph	25th NW 21mph	16th NNE 19mph	26th SW 27mph	3rd SSE 31mph	2nd N 32mph	

LOOKING BACK

Compiled by Graham Burgess

100 YEARS AGO

Most of the British Empire's tea, coffee, cocoa, rubber and other plantations were managed by Kewites.

The gardens were visited by 2,339,492 people, and on August 6th 113,131 walked through the gates. It was a very hot summer with a September high of 94.5 degrees Fahrenheit.

The Journal had a distribution of 636 copies and 129 people attended the dinner.

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This year revealed a large number of American students attending Kew, including the late Tom Everett.

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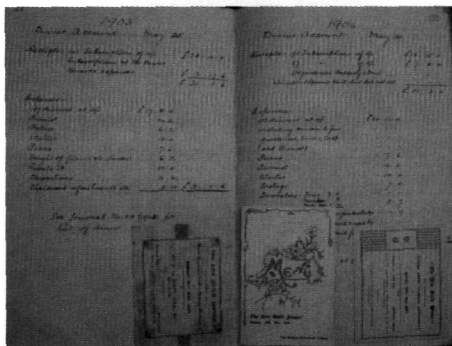
Nigel Hepper's mostly private work to do with phenology, the study of recurring natural phenomena, revealed some of the effects of global warming locally as his records on what flowers and when at Kew go back many years.

THE ARCHIVE CATALOGUING PROJECT

by Mandy Ingram

A project is now underway to catalogue and re-package the Kew Guild's collection of archive material which is deposited with RBG Kew's own archive and which

extends back to the Guild's inception in 1893. This project is being undertaken by Mandy Ingram, a qualified archivist, who will be working on the project until May 2006. Mandy was the Graduate Trainee in the RBG Kew Archives from September 2003-August 2004 after which she undertook her MA in Archives and Records Management at University College, London, graduating in August 2005.



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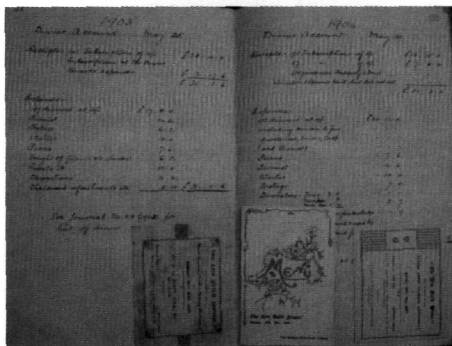
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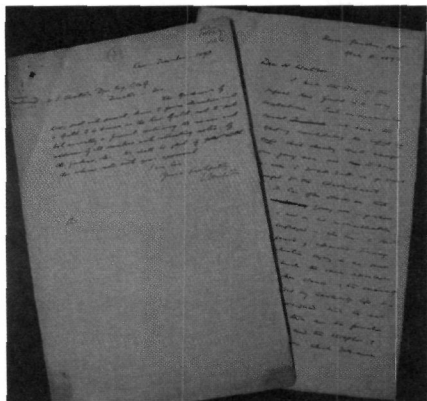
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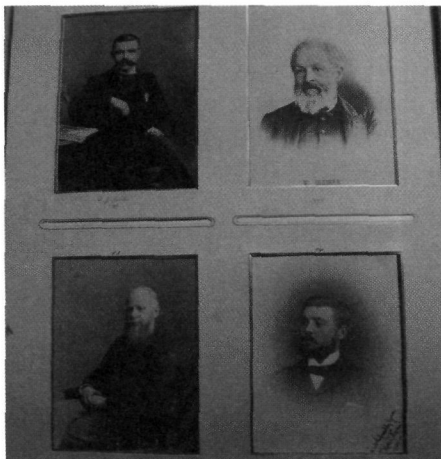


The bulk of the Kew Guild archive collection is comprised of general administrative paperwork covering areas such as minutes of meetings, correspondence including news and information sent in by members, Guild finances, the Award Scheme and events. In addition, there is also a photographic collection that consists of over 600 photographs, many of which are from the early days of the Guild and show the annual dinner, the annual 'group shot' and many individual portraits. As part of the project, conservation work is being

carried out on these photographs to ensure their continued survival.

Some of the interesting items included in the archive are the original correspondence between William Watson and William Thiselton-Dyer proposing the formation of the Guild, early membership, account and dinner books, papers relating to the Guild Centenary, the Grant of Arms award and organisational papers concerning the annual dinners and A.G.M. events. There are also some artefacts including Guild badges, a cricket cap and a footstool.

In addition to the archival project, guidelines on current records management will be produced to ensure that present and future committee members are able to continue to put forward appropriate sets of records for inclusion in the archive. After the project has finished, a new process will be instigated whereby the committee post of Archives Officer will gather together papers from the other officers on an annual basis, produce a listing and description of them and send them to the Kew archive for deposit with the collection.

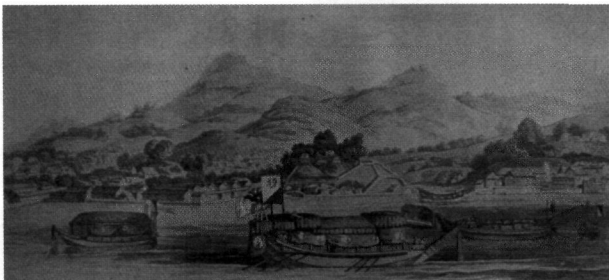


The collection will be managed by the RBG Kew archivist to whom any queries regarding the archive should be directed. The collection will be subject to their standard conditions of access including rules on Data Protection which are particularly relevant for more recent papers.

If anyone has any documents or photographs relating directly to the Kew Guild that they feel might be of value to the archive, they should contact the Guild's Archive Officer, currently Dave Hardman.

MYSTERY ARCHIVE ITEMS

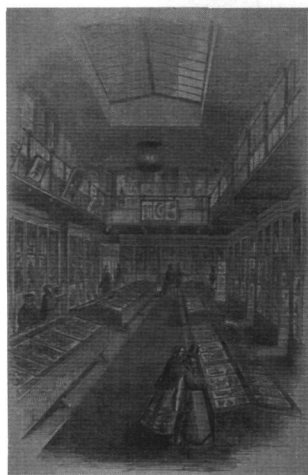
These items that were found in a box of Kew Guild photographs. The stamp looks like a proof for publication and the picture is a reproduction of a painting. They have no distinguishing marks and Mandy has been unable to determine what they are or which Journal they might have appeared in. Applying the philosophy that many eyes, minds and memories will be better than one, we have included them on the off chance that someone might recognise them and perhaps know their relevance (if any) to the Guild?



BOOK REVIEW: Leonard Jenyns: Darwin's Lifelong Friend

by F. Nigel Hepper

Wallace, Ian. (ed.)2005. *Leonard Jenyns: Darwin's Lifelong Friend*. Hardback, pp.372, fig. 60. Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institution, 16 Queen Square, Bath BA1 2HN. £18 + £4.50 p&p. ISBN 0.9544941.1.3

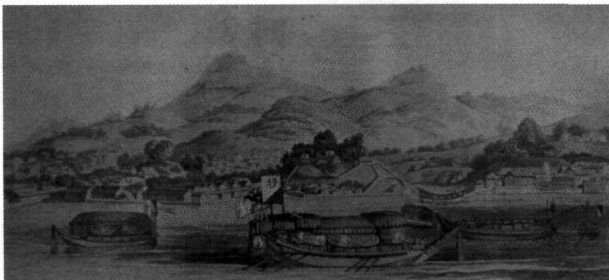


Engraving of the Museum as it appeared in Jenyn's day

I must confess that I had never heard of Leonard Jenyns (1800-1893) until this book arrived at the instigation of Jennifer Day, so now I am delighted to make his acquaintance through this fascinating biography. Biography, yes and also his autobiography is reproduced here, but so much else. Jenyns was one of the select group of parson naturalist/scientists of former centuries, and a splendid review (by Prof. Jack Meadows) of such men is included. Jenyns donated his natural history collections and library to the Bath Institute, hence this is their publication which shows the depth of his scholarship – herbarium and shells, publications on mammals, birds, and excellent drawings of fish (he described Darwin's fishes collected during the voyage of *The Beagle*). In fact Jenyns had been invited by Fitzroy to be the naturalist on *The Beagle* but he turned it down, thus enabling Charles Darwin to go instead. I wonder what Jenyns would have made of the Galapagos finches had he sailed there – it is unlikely that Darwin would have written *Origin*

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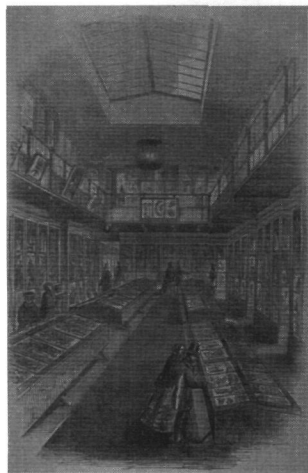
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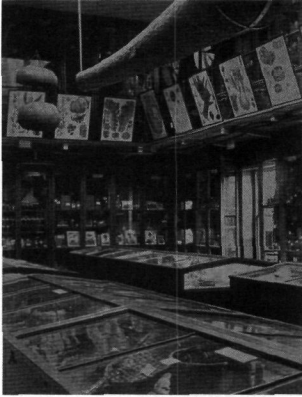
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This book is beautifully produced in stout hardback one seldom sees these days. It is very reasonably priced and ought to be in any natural history library. (It is only obtainable directly from Bath as indicated above).

Where does Kew come into the story? Darwin and Kew's Joseph Hooker worked closely together as part of the network of nineteenth century scientists. Jenyns corresponded with Darwin and Hooker as well as C.C. Babington, J.S. Henslow, Adam Sedgwick, P.J. Selby, William Yarrell and numerous others, and their letters are reproduced in this volume. On page 12 there is an engraving of the Kew Museum (almost as I recall it in the 1950's!) where the School of Horticulture is now. Jenyns was a field naturalist who was immensely influenced by Gilbert White (another parson) through his *Natural History of Selborne*, of which Jenyns later produced a new edition. Gilbert White is often quoted for his pioneering phenological observations which



Museum in its current use as a lecture room for the School of Horticulture.

DECIMUS BURTON AND KEW

by Graham Burgess

What a family the Burtons were. Richard, the brother of Decimus, was one of the most prolific explorers of Egypt and Egyptian symbolism. He researched the hieroglyphics and deeply explored and measured the ancient symbolism. Richard translated the *Karma Sutra* and the *Perfumed Garden* and history tells us he spoke nearly thirty-three languages. The flow of information fed interested cognoscenti in Europe and that included brother Decimus.

Decimus was so named because his father, another person keen on symbolism, named him as the tenth child. In 1818 he gave Decimus his first job aged eighteen. Eighteen is the number of Isis so the portal of Decimus's career was a symbolic one.

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This first job was at The Holme in Regents Park.

At a time relating more to the astronomical calendar than the world politic Decimus was asked to re-shape the landscape at Kew. The year chosen was 1844. Here we see another of the key symbolic numbers coming into play and that is the approximation of the cyclic number of the sun, the number eleven. Versailles built for The Sun King is full of elevens. So we have tens as of the digits and Decimus's order in his family, eighteen for Isis and elevens.

There was a political struggle on site as the then curator John Smith sought to have his own idea of a Palm House designed by Turner installed. Burton's concept design was not the elegant form we see now but a more rugged interior like the Temperate House. Turner had long experience in making big open spans, many a railway station benefited from this. He had opened an ironworks in Hammersmith ten years before. The two combined their skills and we have the building that graces Kew now.

Burton had complete control over the positioning and you can see from the plan how he placed his protractor on the benchmark at Kew Bridge, the bridge that ran exactly north - south. Ten degrees Decimus fixes the centre of the Temple of Aeolus, designed by William Chambers many years before and moved by Decimus. Twenty degrees, twice Decimus, positions the centre of the Palm House. The angle of the Palm House does address the solar gain but interestingly at the time he was doing the drawings there was an interesting alignment of the planets. A line from the centre of the Palm House reaches out through the corner of the OS map to the obelisk situated due north of The Kew Observatory, built to plot the transit of Venus in 1797. The skeleton laid down by the ancients was honoured in a harmonic way.

Now to the buildings. The width of the Palm House a multiple of ten, its length and the height of the campanile sun numbers. None of this is obvious for the philosophy of revelation requires that not all should be revealed until special times obtain.

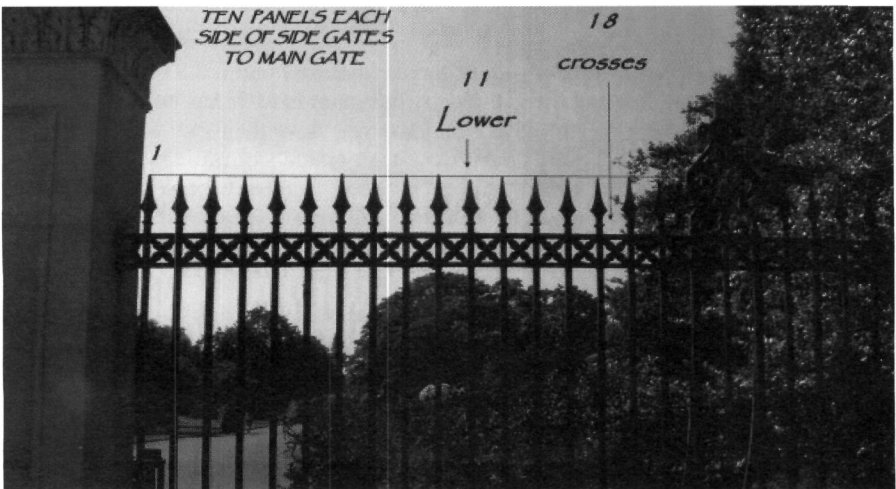
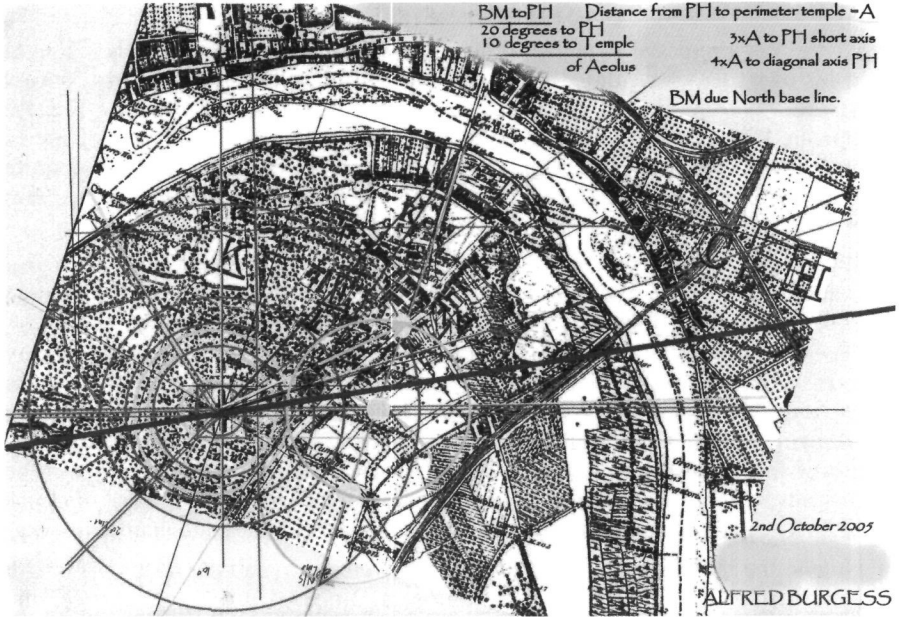
I think I wrote in an earlier *Journal* of the day before I entered Kew as a student, when I stood quaking holding the railings by the main gate. It has been a long time since I re-visited that spot and saw what was on view then but what I did not perceive. Decimus has implanted clues. How many panels of railings either side of the gate? Ten. How many crosses within each panel? Eighteen. Look closer and see how on the first panel on the right as you enter one of the spearheads is lower than the rest. The eleventh spearhead. Sun numbers continue also tens as you pass through the side gates.

One other memory I had and someone was with me when I was working in the Alpine and Herbaceous in my first year as a student. I looked across the path to the Temple of Aeolus mound and said I could see the widest blade of grass on there. I picked it and challenged myself and my fellow worker to find a wider one amongst the many thousands. We could not. I thought nothing more of this until July 2005 when I discovered the important tangent that is part of the sacred geometry

underlying Kew at that very place. If that person is reading this please make contact with me. I believe this was a clue and at its core the concept of measure. Then I was young and un-familiar with the language of the ancients.

Decimus died on a lunar date 14th, in a month bearing his name in part, December in a palindromic, Isis and Sun number year 1888.

What a marvelous set of co-incidences.



FROM OUR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

If you live or work outside Great Britain and would like to 'take the temperature' of horticulture or botany in all its forms in your part of the world, please get in touch with the Editor.

FROM THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST: OUR MAN IN VANCOUVER,

by Roy Forster (1957)

The Pacific Northwest may be described as the coastal terrain, including the islands, from Oregon to Alaska. The entire region is blessed with a benign climate. High mountains hold back cold air from flowing from the interior and the Japanese current moderates extremes of temperature year-round. The indigenous flora is magnificent, including some of the tallest trees of the world. At the coast there are mediterranean elements at least in the Southern part, and the mountains, two of which are in the 4,000m range, have a rich alpine flora. The region has one of the great temperate rainforests of the planet. The preservation of the remaining old-growth forest has been a source of conflict between naturalists and industrial interests for many years.

Kewites visiting these coasts can have the delightful experience of finding the flora in a pristine habitat. There is scarcely any need to visit gardens when such riches can be seen so close to urban centres, and perhaps this is the reason that most of the gardens of the region, botanical or otherwise tend to focus on exotic plants. This should come as no surprise, as the mild climate [zone 8] offers almost unlimited possibilities for garden making. However, it is the natural flower gardens of the alpine meadows that give the most excitement. Mount Rainier, easily reached from Seattle, at 4392m is the highest volcano in the Cascade Range. In July and August the meadows are spectacular and easily reached. The same can be said for Hurricane Ridge on the Olympic Peninsula, with the added attraction of the rain forest valleys descending to the shores of the Pacific ocean.

In Seattle, the University of Washington Arboretum has the most extensive woody plant collections of the region. The landscape, laid out in a fine naturalistic style, was designed by the Olmstead firm, once the leading designer of public gardens in America. Not far from Seattle are two fine former estate gardens now open to the public. The Bloedel Reserve on Bainbridge Island and the Elisabeth Miller Botanical Garden on Puget Sound are superbly designed and planted. Both gardens limit visitor numbers and an appointment is required.

Just across the border, Vancouver has two Botanical Gardens. The University of British Columbia garden lays claim to being the oldest botanical garden in Canada. In addition to having a successful plant introduction program this garden has a magnificent collection of Asian plants housed under gigantic old growth *Abies grandis* and *Thuja plicata*. There is a fine rock garden and native plant collection.

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Old growth forest is easily accessible from Vancouver and sub-alpine flora in the local mountains close by. Fine alpine meadows are accessible within a three-hour drive from the coast.

There are two horticultural show gardens, offering visual delights for tourists, one on the mainland, the other, the famous Butchart Gardens near Victoria on Vancouver Island. Also on the island at Qualicum Beach is the Milner Garden and Woodland, a former estate garden now administered by Malaspina College as a botanical/educational facility. Built by Veronica Milner, a lady of British aristocratic descent, this charming garden overlooks the Georgia Straight. During her lifetime, members of the Royal Family were visitors on several occasions. At these times, the main house being rather small, Mrs. Milner was obliged to move into the gatehouse.

Roy was Director/Curator of the VanDusen Garden, retiring in 1996.

OVERSEAS NEWS FROM CHILE

by Sandra Leche

During the past twenty-five years there has been a marked economic growth pattern due to a more stable and positive political atmosphere. The basis of this success is due to a very competitive attitude and great business ability to negotiate internationally. Chile produces skilled and well trained management and is industrially interesting in global markets with a low inflation and competitive labour availability. Production and export potential is facilitated by a good infrastructure like roads, railways and many ports.

Its geographic position provides good phytosanitary conditions for plants in general, because its natural boundaries isolate a long thin country - the Atacama Desert in the north, the Andes Mountains to the east and the Pacific Ocean on the west and south.

The different climates, except for tropical, and its beautiful natural landscapes ranging from the desert to the Patagonian steppes and further south, the Chilean Antarctic, is a botanist's paradise providing beautiful and interesting groups of plants for all tastes. There is also the endemic flora of Easter Island and the Robinson Crusoe Islands

Chile is the longest country in the world and approximately 20% of its surface area is protected by its National Parks, Reserves and Natural Monuments managed by the National Forestry Corporation (CONAF) since 1972. The diversity of the protected areas, together with the range of Chile's activities and recreation, are enjoyed in natural environments: in 2005 between January and the end of November, there were 45,173 UK nationals who visited Chile (SERNATUR, Chile).

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OVERSEAS NEWS FROM CHILE

by Sandra Leche

During the past twenty-five years there has been a marked economic growth pattern due to a more stable and positive political atmosphere. The basis of this success is due to a very competitive attitude and great business ability to negotiate internationally. Chile produces skilled and well trained management and is industrially interesting in global markets with a low inflation and competitive labour availability. Production and export potential is facilitated by a good infrastructure like roads, railways and many ports.

Its geographic position provides good phytosanitary conditions for plants in general, because its natural boundaries isolate a long thin country - the Atacama Desert in the north, the Andes Mountains to the east and the Pacific Ocean on the west and south.

The different climates, except for tropical, and its beautiful natural landscapes ranging from the desert to the Patagonian steppes and further south, the Chilean Antarctic, is a botanist's paradise providing beautiful and interesting groups of plants for all tastes. There is also the endemic flora of Easter Island and the Robinson Crusoe Islands

Chile is the longest country in the world and approximately 20% of its surface area is protected by its National Parks, Reserves and Natural Monuments managed by the National Forestry Corporation (CONAF) since 1972. The diversity of the protected areas, together with the range of Chile's activities and recreation, are enjoyed in natural environments: in 2005 between January and the end of November, there were 45,173 UK nationals who visited Chile (SERNATUR, Chile).

They visit parks like Lauca National Park (N.P.) in the Altiplano, the Alerce Andino N.P. near Puerto Montt created to protect *Fitzroya cupressoides*, the (**alerce**), and the Torres del Paine N.P., 2000m above the Patagonian steppe created in 1959 with flora and fauna like *Lama guanicoe* and *Felix concolor*.

There is great interest in gardening, and it has become currently fashionable for businessmen to dedicate time gardening as a hobby to disconnect from their work pressures. There are a few good landscape architects and garden designers who have studied in Chile and abroad including in the UK at Kew, Edinburgh and the RHS. Others have also studied forestry in Scotland.

Ornamental horticulture is not economically important, although there is great potential for the production of trees and shrubs which make excellent ornamental contributions to European gardens. When I arrived in 1980, there were very few nurseries and certainly no specialised garden centres. But now supermarkets like Carrefour and the Home Centre display a good range of healthy plants, garden equipment and machinery. There are two specialised **rose** nurseries that import from Ireland and the USA. And a few native plant nurseries can be found, but the market generally cannot be compared to other flower producing countries like Columbia.

Commercial horticulture is principally represented by **fruit** and on a larger scale wine for export. Chile's natural resources, climatic factors, and lower production costs have made it the main fresh fruit producer in the southern hemisphere. It is also the only international out of season producer of quality **blueberries** to Europe, Asia and the USA. The fruit boom began in about 1985 with table **grapes**, **apples**, **pears** and **avocado pears**. **Cherries** are also capturing an attractive market because of its acid soils and climate. Commercial ornamental crops include bulbs and tubers bulk-up and cut flower species of *Lilium*, **tulips** and **calas**. Commercial seed production includes flowers of **pansy** and **primula**, agricultural and **vegetable** seeds all for export.

Chile has always been a botanist's paradise because of the climate and many different species in varying locations. One of the main attractions is the flowering desert in the Norte Chico. Chile has a high percentage of endemic species, about 50% of 5105 native species. 60% of the total flora and endemic species are concentrated in the central zone. The maximum diversity of tree species are mainly found south of the Rio Maule, in the coastal Cordillera south of Concepción, and Chiloé island (Smith-Ramirez 2004).

The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew with Kew's Millennium Seed Bank and the Instituto Nacional de Investigación Agraria (INIA) are working together to save seeds of endangered and threatened species in the Mediterranean climate area and on the coastal desert flora based in La Serena. Also bulbs like *Leucocoryne* and *Rhodophiala*. Martin Gardner of the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh in conjunction with the Universidad Austral de Chile in Valdivia have published an excellent book called *Plantas Amenazadas del Centro-Sur de Chile* – Distribucion, Conservacion y Propagacion. It was supported under the Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species Project (2002-2005), an integrated conservation programme for threatened endemic forests species in Chile (DR-11012).

There is a project to found a botanic garden called Jardín Botánico Chagual with the Municipality of Vitacura in Santiago. There is also an active Club de Jardines in Santiago and other regions. I have attended several seminars: Propagacion de Plantas Ornamentales (Temuco, 2003); Proyecto CONOZCAMOS NUESTRA FLORA NATIVA. Seminario de Seguimiento (Santiago, 29-30 de junio 2005); 1er Simposio de Horticultura Ornamental (Valdivia 29-30 de septiembre de 2005).

Forestry is also very important. In the 1980s there were approximately 400,000 hectares dedicated to silviculture compared to 2,500,000 hectares in 2005. Planted forests with short rotation crops like *Pinus radiata* (Monterey pine), *Eucalyptus globulus* (Tasmanian blue gum), *Eucalyptus nitens* (silver top) which withstands colder temperatures, are produced for long and short fibre cellulose exported mainly to Asia, Europe and North and South America. Also exported is sawn timber of *P. radiata* and other wooden products like furniture.

Our team consists of an Agronomist-Botanist who has been in charge of the field collections for thirty years; a Forestry Engineer, Administrator, responsible for all the properties; and myself, a Horticulturalist. There are five properties to maintain but I am based in the south of Chile in Isla Illeifa, Lago Ranco in the X Region. It has 100 hectares with native woodland, an arboretum of native and exotic trees, ornamentals and a nursery dedicated to the production of native endangered species. Russell Page designed part of the ornamental gardens in 1980-1981.

In March 2005 I had a wonderful five-day trip to the breath taking Archipelago Galápagos Islands in Ecuador, sailing in the M/V Galapagos Explorer 11, crossing the Equator four times and a Neptune party. The guides were all university trained speaking several languages, and very professional. The emphasis on our tour was principally on wildlife rather than vegetation. We did not have time to visit the Charles Darwin Foundation Inc.

We arrived in Isla Baltra, sailed to Isla Santa Cruz (Indefatigable) and Isla Bartolomé, has two beaches, a pinnacle and the distinctive 'Chinese Hat' near the coast of Isla Santiago (James). Isabella (Albermarle), the largest island. Fernandina (Narborough) is the most westerly island dominated by the 1450m high active volcano and barren rough lava but with many fresh flows. Punta Espinosa is the only place one can visit, with its interesting lagoons, mangroves and sandy beaches. Isla Seymour and departing from Puerto Baquerizo Moreno (Punta Wreck) in Isla San Cristobal (Chatham), here we saw the giant tortoises to which they give their name Galapagos.

The emphasis of our intensive tour was principally on the wildlife rather than vegetation like the attractive lava cactuses. Old plants turn blackish when dying, but we did not see them in flower. We saw the most beautiful land and marine iguanas, giant tortoises that are the symbol of the Galapagos, sea lions and seals. And birds like the Blue-footed Booby, Cactus Finches, Brown Pelicans and the Galapagos Hawk. The Flightless Cormorant climbs on the rocks with its miniature wings held open to keep its balance. The Galapagos Penguin were on the lava banks in Punta Espinosa: they only breed here and on Isabela. The Great Frigatebird, resident of Fernandina and the elegant Galápagos Flamingo are but a few of the Galápagos' rich birdlife. Also the amusing Sally Lightfoot, or Red Larvae Crab, and last but not least there was no rubbish anywhere!

HORTICULTURAL TRENDS IN TROPICAL AUSTRALIA

by Jim Mitchell (1966)

Some 30 years ago Darwin, located in the top end of Australia, was totally devastated by Cyclone Tracey. It was so bad that, according to Lord Mayor George Brown who was a former Curator of the Botanic Gardens, "even the green ants left town". It was a terrible experience, but it does provide a fixed date to begin to age the trees growing throughout the region.

To quickly 'green' the city, there was a trend to plant fast growing vegetation. New species were introduced and one such tree was the **African mahogany**, *Khaya senegalensis*, a truly magnificent specimen. Many examples still grow around the older suburbs and even in the cemeteries that are 30m high with a canopy of similar dimensions, making a beautiful tranquil picture on a dry quiet day providing much needed shade. They were planted throughout the public domain and even on small suburban lots. They can be found in streets and car parks and because of their beauty, they are held in high regard by the community. Unfortunately, there are few peaceful periods in the tropical wet season: strong winds, gales and even cyclones offshore are common, and to compound the problem Darwin's soils are poor and shallow even by Australia's standards. I joined Darwin City Council on the 9th December 1999. On my first day as Manager of Parks and Reserves, sure enough, I was taken out to see a **mahogany** that had fallen over during the night wiping out a couple of cars, a power line and a few fences, missing a house with a sleeping family by a matter of centimetres. It became very difficult to protect these beautiful giants from that day on and I must admit the City is the loser.

I recall regularly my old Professor at the University of NSW who often stated, "A problem is only an opportunity in disguise." Consequently there is a steady replacement program now being implemented.

For better or for worse, the use of indigenous vegetation has become common following the worldwide trend. In theory, this is sound practice, but there is little arboricultural knowledge on how many of the monsoon forest trees being planted will cope in an urban environment. Perhaps in 30 years after another cyclone we will know and may provide material for another article in *The Journal of the Kew Guild*. I'll put it into my diary.

NEWS OF KEWITES AT HOME AND ABROAD IN 2005

Compiled by Richard Ward

I would like to thank the acting editor of *Vista* for the use of excerpts in our news and for various amounts of help from **John** and **Joan Woodhams** this year. I have, with great difficulty and no small amount of frustration, learnt the basic rudiments of computers, but acknowledge the help given for this edition, not only by contributors, but by my seventeen year old daughter Alexandra, without whose help you would not be reading this today. Bring back the quill pen! Actually you may contact me for future News of Kewites information at wienaw@aol.com.

Haydn Bell wrote, "After Kew (1963), I married Margaret in 1963, with **Richard Ward** as best man, and I studied at The Grotto (1964). We then moved to Kingston upon Hull and I worked in the Parks Department developing housing estates and

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Haydn Bell wrote, "After Kew (1963), I married Margaret in 1963, with **Richard Ward** as best man, and I studied at The Grotto (1964). We then moved to Kingston upon Hull and I worked in the Parks Department developing housing estates and

playing field facilities." He mentioned that in 1970 he had two years with Skelmersdale Development Corporation, concentrating on the development of playing fields from filled material. In 1972 he moved to Cheshire County Council, Education Department as Assistant County Playing Fields Officer (Development). Margaret and Haydn lived at Mold, North Wales. The work was very varied and interesting (manic at times). In time, synthetic surfaces came on stream and they converted many hard porous pitches into multi use facilities. Competitive tendering brought catastrophic results to the maintenance staff. As the building programme reduced, the Development Team took the Client side running the maintenance contracts.

Haydn took early retirement in 1992. He was appointed District Commissioner in charge of 20 Scout Groups for 6 years, having worked voluntarily and for the Movement since 1974. In 2000, Margaret's mother passed away in Mold, North Wales, and they decided to move back to Kingston upon Hull to be near their eldest daughter, Alison and two granddaughters. Their youngest daughter, Joanna, lives in Manchester, working in PR. Haydn has returned to Scouting as Secretary to the local Scout Group and they have joined the WVRS and help in the Café at the local Hospital. His aspirations now are to introduce his granddaughters to the pleasures of horticulture i.e. digging over the vegetable patch and harvesting their organic vegetables.

A note from **Robin Bletsoe** (1969 -1972) says "Although I have annually enjoyed receiving and reading the Journal of the Guild I have been guilty of being a zero contributor. I hope the following goes in some way to correcting this failing on my part. Firstly though I would like to express my deepest and sincerest condolences to family and friends of **Ian Leese** who was so tragically taken from us last summer. I will always remember his enthusiasm as an ambassador for the training of young people in the skills and arts of horticulture at the Gunnersbury Training Centre and then at Kew.

After leaving Kew and the former IPRA staff college I found myself managing the parks and open spaces of what was then the New Town of Harlow in Essex. Although initially intending to stay for no more than 3 years I managed to keep going for almost 30 years. I took early retirement at the ripe age of 55 in 2001 having decided that I could no longer sustain year on year budget reductions while 2,000 acres of maturing and diverse landscapes (including a unique 200 acre town park) needed rejuvenation and yet still additional landscape features were being adopted with little supporting quality funding.

I keep in touch with Pat Gibberd, **Frederick Gibberd's** widow, who still lives in the family house in Old Harlow. Their garden has also been restored and is now open to the public at limited times during April to September. I had a good rapport with Frederick and we had mutual respect and understanding of each other. Pat still harps back to the good old heady days when Harlow's urban landscape was at its prime and had visitors from around the globe. She recently wrote to me saying I was sorely missed and that is an appreciation I much value.

I now keep myself busy in my own garden and have become a 'volunteering' gardener for the elderly in the Hemingfords and St Ives area. It has been a great experience gardening with and for people who truly value and treasure the delights of a maturing out of doors space rather than the culture of the instant soulless garden which has been the fodder of the late 20th century.

I have not really kept in contact with Kewites of my peer group although in 2001 **Jim Emerton** (1969 - 1972) made contact with me and we now both correspond erratically. He keeps me informed of contact he has had with **John (Log) Whitehead** (1969 - 1972). Perhaps of interest to both former students and Kew staff during the 1960's to 1970's was my brief visit to Ostia Parmense, an Italian mountain village, 45 kilometres west of Parma in Emilia Romagna in July 2005. I had the



Robin and Lena

chance to spend 36 hours with Lena and Andy Ferrari, previous owners of the Penguin Café (now Browns' Restaurant) on Kew Green, reminiscing about our golden days at Kew. Lena sends her best wishes to everyone who remembers her and specifically seeks to know the whereabouts of **John Warrington** (1960's - early 1970's) and **Bob Hughes** (1970 - 1973?). She has become a very keen small holding gardener and is certainly self sufficient in most of her vegetable and salad crop needs. Kew has the ability to convert all, though in Lena's case her cooking, especially her Italian cuisine, is still something to die for. Should anyone wish to make contact with Lena please email me at r.bletsoe@ntlworld.com and I will happily provide her address in confidence.

I have two daughters from my first marriage Laura (27) who is teaching in Bangkok since 2004 and Amy (25) who is a Legal Secretary in York. I moved home from Harlow in 1990 to be with my current partner Jo, who is now an infant school teacher in Sawtry. We have two children Chloe (14) and Tom (13) at our local secondary school. Tom is a member of the St Ives Youth Theatre which performed at this year's Edinburgh Fringe.

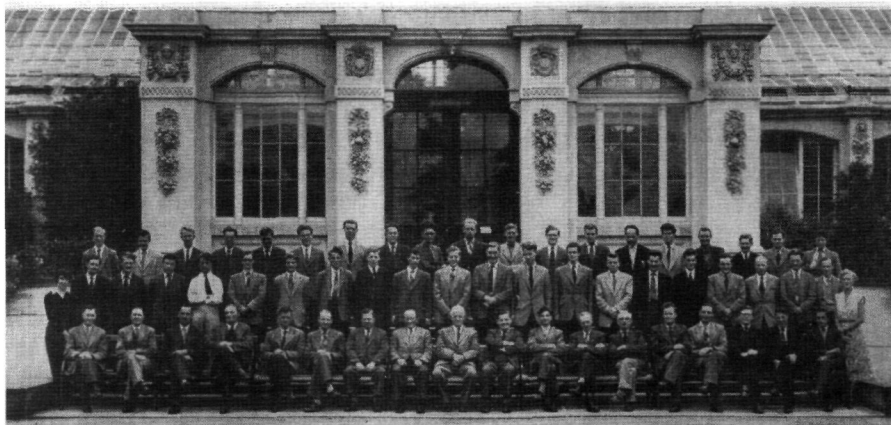
Maybe I should close at this point as having started I feel I could ramble on indefinitely. Best wishes to all, but in closing, are there any 1969 -1972 inmates still around? Maybe **Ken Eccleston**, **Barry Phillips**, **Trevor Savage**, **John Cox**, **Trevor Gilbert**, **Amidt Herscovitch**, **Paul Everitt**, **Dave Trevan**, **Liz and Peter Dunwood** - to name but a few."

Steve Bristow wrote to tell us that after a suggestion from **Steve Ashworth** for a 25th anniversary reunion in the autumn of 2004, he started gathering contact details for Course 15 members (1977 - 1980). By Christmas a date for the gathering was agreed - Sat 25th June 2005 - and **Stewart Henchie** had very kindly offered to give them a guided tour of the gardens, as well as offering the use of his garden for a lunchtime picnic. A huge amount of email correspondence later, they had a list of some 23 ex students and staff who wanted to come, plus a similar number of accompanying family members.



Course 15 reunion 2005 (Peter Thurman). Back row (left to right): **Chris Bailes, John Fielding, Ian Hodgson, Steve McNamara, Tom Casey, Ian Cowe, Pete Jackson, Steve Bristow**. Front row (left to right): **Steve Ashworth, Pete McKenzie, Ann Harrison, John Palmer, Debbie Green, Antoine Hoog**.

On the day (dry if not blazing sunshine) they had 17 ex students/staff and 21 family members - enough to make a great party! They all met at Stewart's house at 11 for coffee, and then had a fascinating guided tour to see the various developments that have happened over the last 25 years. They repaired to Stewart's garden for a picnic lunch and then split up for more walks in the Gardens. Some of them met up later at the Coach and Horses to chew the cud after a great day of reminiscing, catching up with news and being amazed at the effects of time. A big thank you to **Stewart** and **Pat Henchie** whose hospitality and generosity was greatly appreciated by all of them. They vowed to meet up again, and not leave it 25 years next time.



GARDEN STAFF PHOTOGRAPH, 1958

Back Row :—P. Gooding, K. Skan, T. Wood, R. Adams, B. Thames, W. Dunnenberger, B. Carter, C. Binham, L. Mills, J. Jobson, H. Overender, T. Deans, T. Henshaw, Olivier, A. Vogt, J. Strabel, T. Sutcliffe, P. Catchpole, P. Adshead.
Centre Row :—M. Parkin, L. Barker, A. Williams, T. Risely, A. Hart, M. Clift, A. Toogood, J. Norris, D. Wakeford, D. Waterman, A. Pedley, S. Bird, M. Collett, D. Gilkison, I. Dowell, M. Johnson, D. Storer, K. Turton, J. Prudden, R. Coghlan, D. Tomlinson, L. Atkinson.
Front Row :—R. J. Chuter, H. Bruty, W. Bridle, H. Collin, G. E. Brown, S. W. Rawlings, G. H. Preston, L. Stenning, W. H. Campbell (Curator), S. A. Pearce, J. E. S. Souster, G. C. W. Gardner, H. W. Ruck, N. Hickman, G. Nicholson, A. J. Hale, G. H. Anderson, A. G. Cook.

This photograph was provided by Lucy Cleminson (né Atkinson) in the autumn of 2005. She is Chairman of the Derbyshire Historic Gardens Trust and lives in Derby with her son Chris. She well remembers **Tom Wood, Bob Adams, Tom Risely, Allan Hart, Mike Clift, Alan Toogood, Bill Bridle, George Brown, Alan Cook, John Hale, George Preston, Stan Rawlings** and **Mr. Campbell** the Curator. She is retired after a career in Horticultural Education.

The tragic death of **Ian Leese** just days before the reunion cast a shadow over the day. Ian had been very helpful in providing contact information, and although would not have been able to join us that day, was very pleased that it was happening. We all send our condolences to his family.

Dr. Philip Cribb (Herbarium) was awarded the Gold Medal and Fellowship of the Orchid Society of South-East Asia and the Gold Medal of the American Orchid Society.

Susan Hunter (née **Eul**) wrote to **Stewart Henchie** in September that her father, **Frank H. Eul**, who was a student at Kew from 1932 to 1935, was to be formally remembered in the planting of a **yew** tree at a commemorative ceremony in October, in Hall Place Gardens, Bourne Road, Bexley. Frank was director of Parks in Bexley from 1944 – 1974, and was President of the Kew Guild in 1971 – 1972.

Following the death of **Ian Leese**, **Emma Fox** has been appointed to the role of Principal of the School of Horticulture on an interim basis from August to provide stability as students move into a new academic year and a recruitment campaign commences to fill the role on a permanent basis.

On 13th October 2005 **Gordon Rowland Fraser** was called to the Bar of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple. Gordon was delighted that one of his guests at the ceremony was his great friend and fellow Course 21 student **Matthew Biggs**.



Gordon with (left) his friend Sinead, (rear) Matthew Biggs and Gordon's mother.

Gordon began his horticultural career in 1978 under the watchful eye, and with the gentle encouragement of, Kewites **John Studley**, **Peter Maunder** and **Jim Heyworth**. In 1983 he became the first ever apprentice from Portsmouth parks department to obtain a place as a Kew Diploma student. Thanks to the encouragement of **Dr Keith Jones**, the patience (!) of **Leo Pemberton**, and the support of his many friends at Kew, Gordon graduated in 1986 and became a contracts manager for Kewite, **Chris Baylis**. From 1987 to 1990 Gordon developed and managed a trading division of the country's largest private forestry and landscaping organisation and subsequently set-up and managed his own firm of landscape contractors.

Between 1990 and 1993, whilst continuing to develop his business, Gordon studied to obtain the status of Chartered Landscape Architect (MLI) and from 1995 to 1998 the qualification of Master of Business Administration (MBA). Armed with his breadth of knowledge and experience, Gordon transformed his company into a much-respected professional consultancy specialising in the administration of commercial landscaping contracts; at the same time teaching professional practice, law, and business administration in some of the country's leading design schools.

In 2003 Gordon returned to full-time study intent on qualifying as a barrister and specialising in construction law. He firstly had to undertake a postgraduate diploma in law (LLB) before progressing to the Bar Vocational Course (BVC). Gordon completed the latter in 2005 obtaining an overall 'Very Competent' grade with 'Outstanding' grades in both his conference and professional conduct assessments. Such is the iterative nature of education that Gordon found himself exposed to aspects of the law way beyond those concerned with contracts. In particular, he was

greatly inspired by the intellectual and sociological aspects of criminal law. Alongside his studies Gordon spent a great deal of time gaining experience with both the Metropolitan Police and the Crown Prosecution Service. As a result, he has recently been offered employment with the latter where he hopes to establish himself as a successful crown prosecutor.

Gordon would very much like to take this opportunity to thank, or to pay tribute to, those who have supported and encouraged him through a career in horticulture; a career of which he is very proud and for which he is extremely grateful. Horticulture remains an abiding passion, which he intends to enjoy as a hobby, but Gordon feels sure that those who know him of old will agree that a professional career in which he is employed to construct and present lucid arguments will prove to be an entirely appropriate and fulfilling outlet for his range of skills and experience. Gordon served as a member of the Kew Guild committee from 1992 to 1995.

Alex George (1968) ended a year as Australian Botanical Liaison Officer at Kew at the end of August. He then spent a fortnight touring Northern England and Scotland, accompanied by his wife Roberta. On the journey they stayed at the homes of President elect, **Tom Risely** and Immediate Past President **Colin Hindmarch**. Whilst in the North West, Alex and Roberta visited the Herbarium at Liverpool Museum (accompanied by Tom). They were welcomed by the keeper, John Edmondson, who eagerly sought Alex's assistance on identifying or confirming identification of a variety of Australian specimens at the Herbarium. As a thank-you for the hospitality, Alex presented Tom and Colin each with a copy of his book *William Dampier in New Holland*. As a serving Committee member (retired September 2005) Alex was able to participate in affairs of the Guild during his stay at Kew including attendance at Committee meetings and joining the post-meeting suppers at the Coach and Horses.

In May 2005, **Harvey Groffman** became only the third member of Kew Staff in recent times to qualify for the prestigious RHS Long Service Medal having completed forty years continuous service. Of the two previous recipients, **John Holmes** (1959 – 1999) continues to enjoy his well-earned retirement in Whitton, whilst **Pat Smallcombe** (1964 to date) was also awarded the Kew Medal in 2003 and nominated for an MBE in 2005.

As many of his former and present colleagues are aware, Harvey is no stranger to receiving awards, having entered his own private garden into local and London-wide competitions over thirty years and receiving a total of 247 prize winning entries to date. Opening annually under the National Gardens Scheme, part of the display each year is devoted to a notable event or anniversary. In 2005, a depiction of the White Cliffs of Dover inspired by Dame Vera Linn's famous wartime song commemorated the 60th anniversary of VE Day, winning first 1st prize locally and a silver medal from the London Gardens Society. A personal letter of congratulations was received from Dame Vera. Harvey's efforts have been featured on several occasions on both national TV and the horticultural press. Her late Majesty the Queen Mother visited in 1982 as part of her annual London Gardens Tour.

In more recent years, surprise visits have been made by well-known ex-Kewites, including **Joan** and **John Woodhams**, **Jean** and **Prof. Arthur Bell** and **Lady Elinor** and **Prof. Sir Peter Crane**. In 2005, former head of administration **Eric Timbs**, now retired and living in Hounslow, was an unexpected guest and from further afield came ex-Kew student **Marcus Radscheit** who now operates a successful Garden Tours Company in Germany. Who will be Kew's next forty-something?



Left to right: Harvey Groffman, John Holms and Pat Smallcombe.

John Halhead (1954) emailed in August, "In May of this year my wife and I spent a holiday by Lake Maggiore, Northern Italy. The nearby Villa Taranto jogged a distant memory as a holiday haunt of the late **W. M. Campbell** (Curator), so we resolved to pay a visit. The Villa and extensive gardens, founded and developed by Captain Neil McEachern and bequeathed by him to the Italian Government, are kept in immaculate condition. They are of immense botanical interest and the presence of *Victoria amazonica* made one feel that Kew's influence was still present.

While by no means unique, I could not help but reflect on the influence that Kew and various Kewites have had on my career. **Phil Haywood** who introduced me to Kew. **Charles Collins** Superintendent Colchester B. C. where I was Nursery Foreman. **Stewart Brown**, Superintendent Redcar B. C. who employed me as Senior Foreman. **Ken McCready** with whom I was Senior Technical Assistant, Southend County Borough Council. **Hector Willis** to whom I was Deputy Parks Superintendent, Uxbridge Borough Council. My very good friend **Edwin Cherry** who I succeeded as Parks Manager, London Borough of Sutton. Finally **Alex Dixon** who was my Deputy at Sutton and with whom I still maintain contact. Where would one be without Kew?!"

Past President **Allan Hart** brought to our attention that **Pete Styles** of Lingard Styles Landscape Architects won a Street Design Award from Gwynedd County Council in 2005 for the Princes Memorial Garden. Allan has also invited Peter to rejoin the Guild!

Guild Events Officer, **Pamela Holt** has now had a break from teaching Horticulture and Arboriculture for the last twenty seven years and has branched out into self employment as a tree surveyor currently pounding the streets of Slough. In her spare time Pamela continues to rock climb and mountaineer. Notable achievements this year being ascents of Cenotaph corner and Left wall in the Llanberis pass of North Dales. In 2002 she hit the headlines when avalanched with

her climbing companion Mike Doyle on the East face of Anoch Mor, near Fort William, Scotland. He suffered two broken ankles and a dislocated shoulder necessitating a thirteen-hour hobble for Pamela through a blizzard to raise the alarm. The ensuing newspaper publicity "Hurt heroine braves blizzard" meant that not only did the Lochaber Mountain rescue team receive £500 but she got on TV too when BBC 999 did a reconstruction screened in January 2003. Now Woman magazine have just picked this up again with an article – on how it feels to survive an avalanche!

In the September edition of Kew's Staff Newsletter, Vista, we were told that **Susan Hunt** has joined the learning programme team at Wakehurst to concentrate on developing Kew's resources to help



teachers to better promote plant science elements in biology classes. In her role (also at Kew) Sue will focus on developing resources suitable for teaching plant science to top GCSE and A- Level science students in schools and colleges. The idea for the job came about as a result of the publication of research findings by the Wellcome Trust confirming the poor status given to both the teaching and study of plant science and conservation by teachers and students. The findings of *Life Study: Biology A Level in the 21st Century* found that teachers find these topics hard to teach and students find them uninteresting and challenging to learn. For more details or to help, email Sue at s.hunt@kew.org.

Laura Jennings, Herbarium, completed the Flora London Marathon on 17th April. She ran in aid of two UK charities, Butterfly conservation and the Marine Conservation Society and raised over £500.

Congratulations to **Dr. Tony Lord** having been awarded the Victoria Medal of Honour in mid-2005.

In Kew Gardens

I like Kew – when the sun is high,
 when the sky is a dome of blue,
 when dear London is parched and dry,
 I like Kew.

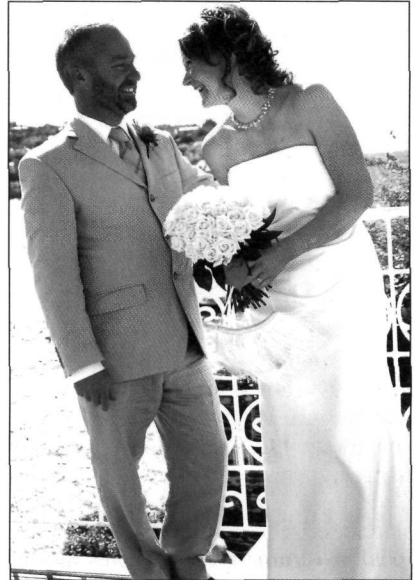
There in June on a day,
 we two listened to the tree-tops sigh,
 wandered happy the gardens through,
 watched the river go rolling by.

There you asked – though of course you knew –
 “Don’t you like it?”, “Oh Yes”, Said I,
 “I like you”.

Journal of the Kew Guild December 1902

Jane Lovatt (née **Allen**) sent the above poem together with news of her recent marriage to **Adrian Lovatt**, which took place in Fowey, Cornwall on 16th September 2005 (see photo below). She continues, “Shortly after we both arrived at Kew in 1993, we were introduced by **Caroline Sitch** (née **Ross**) at Gumley Cottage. Adrian had first noticed me cycling through the **Rose** Garden during my regular excursions from the **Palm** House to water the plants in the Temporary **Cycad** House! (Now the Climbers and Creepers exhibit - Adrian was a student on the Kew Diploma course and I was a Botanical Horticulturist in the Palm House). **Harvey Stephens** and his wife Nadia were among guests at the wedding and during the ceremony Adrian read the poem above which was first published in the Kew Guild Journal in 1902.

We have been living in Cornwall and working at the Eden Project since July 2000. Adrian is the Assistant Temperate Curator and I am a Skilled Horticulturist in the Humid Tropics Biome. **Dina Gallick** is the Supervisor of the Humid Tropics Biome, **Glen Leishman** supervises the



Warm Temperate Biome and **Sue Minter** is the Director of Horticulture. In the summer we met up with **Linda Lever**, now Head Gardener of a lovely private garden in Hampshire and **Yoke Van Der Meer**, Head Gardener at Rodbaston College in Staffordshire, where she holds the National Collection of *Salvias*. We had all previously travelled together to Oaxaca, Southern Mexico in November 2004 to botanise the flora. (I received an award from the Kew Guild towards the cost of the trip). They have both recently joined the Guild.

We try to visit Kew at least once a year. This year I attended the International Palm symposium in April and more recently we came to have a look at the fantastic Chihuly exhibition."

During the year **Mike Lycett** reported serious health problems and now has a pacemaker and has been advised against travel. He regretfully had to resign from the Guild Committee and was sent a letter of thanks together with Guild wishes for a good recovery.

Following **Jim Mitchell's** visit to Kew in 2004, he comments, "The changes at Kew continue and the improvements commenced during **John Simmons'** (1995) days are absolutely fantastic although couldn't come to grips with the loss of the display beds along the Broad Walk. I have a soft spot for these having spent many hours digging them over with the future Director of Leisure and Amenity Liverpool City Council **Ken Robinson** (1965) chatting up the girls. I spoke to Ken whilst in the North. He is also now in retirement but is still his spirited self. Well worth the contact.

I enjoyed the *Journal* after a gap of a few years as unfortunately my membership lapsed probably due to distance and the monetary exchange. Although I missed the membership list, I hope this 'administrative' difficulty can be overcome for future years and even perhaps return to the days when all Kewites addresses, although not financial, were listed. **John Woodhams'** article was of particular interest particularly the coverage of **Peter Bridgman**. Peter taught me a lot, particularly on how to chat up the females. Whilst reminiscing on this era I spoke to **Clive** and **Julie Popham** (1964) a few weeks ago. They are developing a bulb farm in the delightful Victorian Alps region and are now planning their retirement. I must pay them a visit when the **bulbs** are at their peak in June before this day arrives.

Whilst also in the UK I caught up with **John Jones** (1966) and his wife Dianna (who was a nurse with Val at Richmond Hospital as well as our bridesmaid). John is still running his successful Landscape Contracting business in Yorkshire. I also spoke to **Alan Barber** (1965) former Director Parks & Leisure at Bristol Council who is still very active as a Commissioner with the Millennium Fund and as a consultant. I tried to make contact with **Tony Overland** (1964) but he was overseas at his weekender in Spain – alright for some! Tony retired some years ago from his Director of Infrastructure position with a Merseyside Council. I note from one statement in the *Journal* that there had been a new direction of careers away from local government for Kewites and when I remember the successful careers of the above I wonder why, as our local parks need them.

I have also retired from my position as Manager of Parks and Reserves with Darwin City Council and am presently doing voluntary community work with Greening Australia Northern Territory, which also puts me on the National Board hence my interest with the Seed Bank. The NT is a very unique place and being only a short drive away from the Wetlands at Kakadu is well worth a visit and I would love to catch up with any Kewites passing this way. I am not sure exactly when we will next be in the UK – perhaps 2006 would be appropriate being the 40th Anniversary of the first graduation of the first Kew Diploma students. I'll give this some thought."

In September Jim wrote again saying, "I was in Adelaide a few weeks ago and took the opportunity to catch up with **John Beswick** (1967). John is retired now after a marvellous career with the South Australian Governments, Roads Department. I hadn't seen him for about 20 years so we had a lot to talk about. It only seemed like last month that we were playing tricks in the Palm House swinging on the boson chair." Jim is planning to visit Kew in October 2006 to catch up with fellow students on the inaugural three year course – 40th anniversary. He would therefore like to hear from 1963 – 1966 students and staff at jimmit@bigpond.net.au. The compiler notes that there are a lot of Kewites in Australia who are not Guild members. Jim has agreed to enrol them!

Patrick Nutt and Tomasz Anisko were invited to join the Botanic Gardens of Adelaide in celebrating their 150th anniversary in 2005 with an expedition to Guyana, an expedition that was truly an adventure of a lifetime. Following in the footsteps of Richard Schomburgk, the Garden's second director (who had four expeditions to Guyana from 1841 – 1844), the expedition embarked on a tour specifically designed for the Adelaide Botanic Gardens by Wilderness Explorers tour operators.

A key focus for this commemorative expedition was to celebrate plants associated with Schomburgk, particularly the **Giant Amazon Water Lily, *Victoria amazonica***, which the Adelaide Botanic Gardens has arguably grown continuously since 1865. **Victoria water lilies**, the national flower of Guyana, are found in seasonal ponds there. Tomasz noted that the water temperature where *Victoria* is found are cooler than our Water Lily Display pools. They collected 2,000 seeds, most of which went to Australia; some seeds will be shared with Longwood. They enjoyed an authentic experience. Guyana is actually one of the few tropical areas in the world that still has the majority of its forests intact. The remarkable biodiversity of the region, both flora and fauna is largely unexplored and unexploited.

Leo Pemberton is very happy to report that on 10th of June 2005 he married Mary Burridge, a near neighbour and friend of Melda and Leo for many years. After a very quiet wedding, their honeymoon was spent in the West Country with a surprise attendance at a lecture by **Chris Bailes** in Buddleigh Salterton (a very popular and sell-out event). Chris coped very well with the presence of the surprise visitor (rather like having a surprise inspection!). Later in the year, having been given marital permission for absence, Leo went on a return trip to China with his elder daughter Veronica and her husband David – they were very pleased to be in

the same group as in inveterate traveller, **Rebecca Bower**. It was a very illuminating experience which showed the extent of the radical changes that have taken place over the past twenty years, although there are still very many bikes (still without lights!). There are now vast numbers of cars and expressways (motorways) as well as continuous traffic jams. Professor Xuhen Su met up with Leo for a brief reunion in Beijing. Su is still very active, and working on many Landscape projects which are all over China.



Congratulations to **Leo Pemberton** who married Mary Burridge on 10th June 2005.

Allan Hart writes that his last major project, the landscape of the new headquarters building for Suffolk County Council in Ipswich, was awarded a Civic Trust Commendation for its innovative planting design. His election as a Fellow of the Institute of Horticulture was a very pleasant surprise. Allan continues to maintain an involvement with local (Richmond upon Thames) planning issues and is currently a member of the Council's Design Panel, which reviews contentious planning applications.

Allan also informed the editor that **John Maddox** (1963) who has been involved with Rotary and a hospice in Luton for many years, has been elected as a Deputy Sheriff for Bedfordshire County.

Peter Green informed those present at the last AGM that **Stella Ross-Craig (Mrs. Robert Sealey)** will soon celebrate her 100th birthday and that the Guild should commemorate this in some way. Allan Hart and Peter arranged to visit her at the Kew Abbeyfield Residential Home, and presented her with a framed copy of her membership certificate and a bouquet of flowers. As her 100th birthday will fall on the 19th March 2006, another visit will be arranged on that date. Stella was in very good form, relating past memories of Kew for which she has many fond memories. She insisted on positioning her certificate in a prominent place in her room, so that she could show it to all her visitors, and tell them how proud she is to have been associated with the Guild for so many years. (Regrettably Stella died in early February 2006 and her obituary will be printed in next year's *Journal*).



Stella Ross-Craig Botanical Artist in Residence at Kew Gardens for many years December 2005 photograph by Richard Ward

The Kew Guild had decided to issue certificates in recognition of the offices of all past Presidents and Vice Presidents and also a new certificate for the George Brown Memorial Award. These were designed by Allan and Joan Hart in the Guild 'house-style'. The certificates were signed by the Patron, **Princess Alexandra**, before being franked and posted from Buckingham Palace. Most of the recipients were unaware of the issuing of these new certificates and their arrival created much interest. **Neil and Sheila Gilmour** wrote to say that their postman was very intrigued. He rang their door-bell and reverentially informed them that he would not bend the two envelopes sent from Buckingham Palace!

John Sales wrote to **John Woodhams** in June to say how much he enjoys reading the *Journal*. He remains very active as a Garden Consultant on a variety of projects, mainly historic gardens like Harewood, and also private estates. He was currently working for the Church Commissioners on mini conservation/management plans for all the Bishops Gardens. He also judges large show gardens at Chelsea and Hampton Court. John had delighted in welcoming the Guild to his garden and **snowdrop** collection.

Members will be sorry to hear that past Guild president **Dr. Margaret Stant** suffered a stroke in April. We send her our best wishes.

John Tuck and his partner Jeanette wrote in August to tell us that having had the benefit of gaining early retirement with a civil service pension, he has purchased a house with two and a half acres of land in Axminster, Devon, which he intends to develop into a garden and open for charity under the National Gardens Scheme within five years.

John (Log) Whitehead sent the following news, "In January, Bren and I sailed from Antarctica after seeing numerous penguins (Welsh: pen = head, gwyn = white) and a sparse tuft of grass! We then hired a car and visited some impressive *Araucaria* forests in southern Brazil. Our big tree hunting adventure in the autumn began west of Seattle and later travelling by bullet train in Japan and ferries to Yakushima Island.

In August, **Malcolm Leppard** (Kew 1970) visited us in North Wales. Since leaving Kew he has lived in Zimbabwe and worked as an Assistant Curator, Landscape Designer and now has an arboricultural business in Harare. At the summit of our local welsh mountain, the Rivals, he recalled some dramatic stories of guns and jungle in his early army days in Africa. During his stay, Malcolm was researching for his proposed book on Arboriculture in Zimbabwe. In our Kew Mutual Improvement days, Malcolm encouraged me to give lectures in arboriculture to his gathering of interested students. In 1972 he joined me in Kenya for part of my Thornton-Smith Scholarship when we drove the Nairobi Herbarium, Kew Landcruiser up Mt Kenya into the high altitude zone of giant Groundsel Trees. I remember years ago, my first meeting with a young arboricultural student at Merrist Wood College and I asked him, "What's your favourite interest in trees?" His rapid and unusual response was, "Cones!" We have postcards sent by him from all corners of the world and he is often seen on television as a celebrity star treeman. Cones can only get better – now we have **Tony Kirkham!**"

Congratulations to **Tom Wood**, who was awarded the RHS Victoria Medal of Honour (VMH) in mid-2005. Tom is Managing Director of Oakover Nurseries in Kent and has significantly contributed to the world of horticulture through his work on the NFU as chairman of the Nurserymans' Committee before becoming President of the HTA in the late 1980s. Tom has actively supported the Guild over many years.

In *Vista*, we read that Rob Yates, Friends and Foundation manager at Wakehurst Place since early in 2005, has been getting his hands dirty to see what makes Wakehurst tick. On his first day he worked with Asian Heath Garden Team Leader Paul Reader. Rob, 39, was shown a variety of tasks, including pruning, planting, and mulching. He commented that it is vital to know what is going on in all areas of Wakehurst to make the fundraising as effective as possible.

WILLIAM T. STEARN: A PERSONAL TRIBUTE

by F. Nigel Hepper

When William Stearn died in May 2001 aged 90, newspapers and journals around the world published long obituaries to this remarkable botanist and scholar. This is not the time or the place for another one. As I have many memories of his friendliness and how he shared his scholarship while poring over a herbarium specimen or proof in the Natural History Museum, I would like to share a few with Kew Guild members. Actually at that time he did not qualify for membership to the Guild, but now with our wider rules we should have been honoured by his membership as he was closely connected with RBG Kew and in retirement became an Honorary Research Associate. Years before he had moved to a house nearby with a large garden where he cultivated ancient cereals with primitive tools!

I did not know him when he was the librarian of the Royal Horticultural Society, but he amused me by describing his first day at the RHS in 1933. He said that nobody had informed the retiring Librarian, Mr. Hutchinson, that Stearn had been appointed. He went upstairs and said, "I'm Mr. Stearn, the new Librarian." Hutchinson asked whether he had come to the right library! "You'd better go down and see Mr. Chittenden." He was the Head Librarian who confirmed that there was an overlap and agreed it was a pity that Hutchinson had not been informed.

Although he was a librarian dealing with botanical and horticultural books all day, he became a major systematic botanist and the authority on the genera *Epimedium*, *Lilium* and *Allium*. Once he recalled his first visit in about 1930 to the Paris Herbarium to study *Epimedium*. He was taken to a students' hostel where, as a Quaker teetotaler he was shocked to witness a drunken fight. While he lay in bed early the next day he was puzzled by the insects on the ceiling, only to find they were bedbugs full of his own blood! He also had a longstanding interest in the genus *Anemone*. In 1946 the RHS gave him several months leave of absence to work with E.A. Bowles of Enfield on a horticultural monograph of the genus. For decades Bowles had collected and studied the species and cultivars of *Anemone* in the wild and in gardens and Stearn hoped to tap his experience to complete a joint publication. In spite of intensive work, they were unable to finish before the RHS summoned him back to their library, and for many years the work was abandoned.

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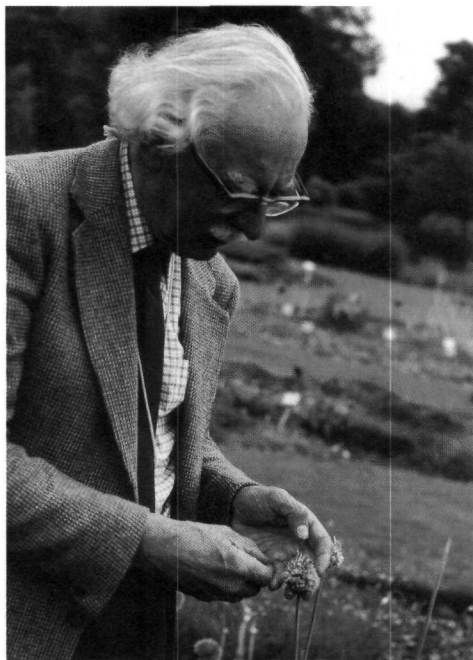
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William Stearn Examining an Allium in Cambridge University Botanic Garden, 16 July 1980. Photo F.N. Hepper

In 1952 Stearn moved to the Natural History Museum as a taxonomic botanist and had no time to continue *Anemone*. He told me that his appointment was largely due to Dr. (later Sir) George Taylor asking whether he had seen the advertisement in *The Times*. No, he had not. "Are you interested?" The post was to be in charge of a new section and continuing the Flora of Jamaica. Bowles thought Stearn should apply and he was interviewed, but his appointment was a foregone conclusion as he was being headhunted by the Museum (he found that the NHM botanical library was run by two scholarly ladies, Miss Edwards and Mrs. Cardew, hence the rude name of that library as 'the henroost'). Later, he went on a botanical collecting expedition to Jamaica and I recall his vivid description, including the trek over knife-edge lava. After his involvement with Captain Cook's

expedition and the printing of the Parkinson drawings after 200 years, he told me how Cook's expedition in Queensland had to repair their ship with unknown timbers, and how the horses later taken to Australia died of starvation as the natural herbage is unpalatable. Another day he explained how European ambassadors to Constantinople had sent home **crown imperials** and tulips to the benefit of horticulture; and how botanists were gradually allowed to Japan, but only with restricted travel, hence their plant introductions to British gardens reflected this limitation until the country was opened up in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. On other occasions I was fascinated by his description of his visit to the monasteries on Mount Athos; how he opened up to me the works of Theophrastus and Dioscorides and the history of botanical art. His table in the NHM was always covered with papers, dried plants and letters from his huge correspondence tapping into his scholarship. He even commented on my biblical plants MSS and drawings. When I showed my slide of his table at a lecture to a society, I heard a mighty guffaw as Stearn was a member of the audience!

Stearn often lectured to the Linnean Society, where he became President and as quite a showman he reinstated the traditional three-cornered hat. One day, he arrived at my room in Kew Herbarium with a brown-paper parcel tied up with string. Inside was the disordered collection of *Anemone* manuscripts and typescripts

by Bowles and Stearn, and I was honoured when he hoped I would take it over as he knew of my interest in the genus. As I sorted them out and typed them chapter by chapter, I frequently conferred with Stearn at his home where Ruth always provided coffee and biscuits. Both William and Ruth, as well as their family, have been beacons of hospitality to generations of botanists. When Christine Kabuya from Nairobi Herbarium was staying with them in about 1968, they invited me and my young family to tea. Thereafter my wife and I have been included in their family celebrations up to the present time.



The General Herbarium at the Natural History Museum in 1976, with Stearn just visible sitting on the left of his table which is covered with his papers and specimens. Photo F.N. Hepper

As he became increasingly infirm he was confined to home, and each time I visited him we had a fascinating chat with his reminiscences. He had the enviable gift of instant recall about any person he had read about or volume he had investigated. As to his RAF wartime service he reluctantly confided that he was one of the select gang who broke the enigma code at Bletchley Park – until recent years a deep-kept secret. Following a fall at home in April 2001 he was admitted to hospital where, sadly, his condition worsened and he passed away on 9 May 2001. Perhaps his greatest memorial among his numerous publications is the erudite *Botanical Latin* which is such a boon to taxonomists around the world and will be used for the foreseeable future.

I am grateful to Ruth Stearn for letting me publish these memories. As for the *Anemone* typescripts, I am glad to report that these are now being worked on by Chris Brickell.

OBITUARIES

Compiled by Graham Burgess

ARTHUR GEORGE ALPHONSO

1921-2005



George Alphonso trained as a gardener at the Singapore Botanic Gardens during the Directorship of Professor Eric Holttum. In 1954 after the war, during which he continued to work in the garden, George came to Kew on the two year course. During his two years at Kew he developed a love of the gardens and made many lasting friends.

On his return to Singapore, George resumed work at the Gardens as Senior Curator and, not long after the retirement of Professor Humphrey Burkill as Director in 1969, was appointed Acting Director, a post that he held until 1976. He developed the orchid hybridization programme in the gardens and also introduced many novelties. He always welcomed visiting Kewites: in 1975 Graham Patterson spent four and a half months collecting in Papua New Guinea with Martin Sands. He also gave kind hospitality to Yong Fann Chinn and J. Roberts. Following his retirement he continued to take an interest in the Gardens, but developed a new career as a garden designer, travelling as far afield as Australia and the Philippines, where he advised President and Mrs Marcos. He continued to work with orchids and was a regular lecturer at World Orchid Conferences and other events into the 1990s. George eventually settled in Perth, Australia where his daughters are resident, but made frequent forays back to Singapore where he remained active in the Orchid Society of South-East Asia for many years. The hybrid orchid genus *Alphonsara* is named in his honour.

George passed away on 27th July 2005 in Perth. He leaves behind four daughters and their families, his wife Margaret having predeceased him.

HENRY BOWLES

- 2005

Having entered Kew on 8th April 1947 from the Manor House in Farningham, Kent he joined a rich range of fellow students from parks departments all over England, four from Botanical Gardens and research stations, seven from private Gardens and six from the horticultural trades.

He played an active role in the social life at Kew, from 1948-49 he was a member of the Mutual Improvement Society Committee and this was at a time when most of the Student lectures were moving into working hours as a result of the post war socialism.

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He left in October 1949 and moved to Dunstable in Bedfordshire. In 1957 he moved to Newton Abbot when he spent most of his working life. In 1991 he was living in Dymchurch in Kent. He passed away on 13th December 2005 after a period of illness. To his wife Kathleen, son, Dave and daughter, Alice, we send our deepest condolences.

DR DOROTHY MARGARET CATLING

1927-2005

Dorothy Catling was educated at Sutton High School; her father's death meant that she left school to find a job rather than go to university. In 1950, she obtained a post as assistant to Dr Metcalfe in the Jodrell Laboratory, where she was taught plant anatomy by Mr Richardson and became skilled in slide preparation and plant identification. In 1969 Dorothy left Kew to join the Metropolitan Police Forensic Science Service, where she built up a reference slide collection and was involved in many court appearances. She collaborated with John Grayson in writing a book on fibre identification and wrote a thesis on the composition and identification of chipboards, which gained her the Diploma of Imperial College, London; this later enabled her to study for a PhD in spite of not having an ordinary first degree.

After her retirement Dorothy moved to Durham where she enrolled in 1992 to study for a PhD in the Biological Sciences Department of Durham University under the supervision of Dr P.J.Gates, graduating in 1996. Her thesis was entitled 'The systematic anatomy of Grevilleae and Persooniinae (Proteaceae)'. During a visit to Australia she enjoyed discussions with many Australians working on Proteaceae; several of these remained her close friends.

Dorothy continued to work in the department at Durham from 1996 doing research and tutoring biology students. She published several papers based on her work on Proteaceae. She ran summer schools on fibre and wood identification, at first at the Institute of Archaeology in London and then at Durham; the profits from these courses were used to help students. She was a member of Collingwood and Trevelyan Colleges where she was also tutor to many students, helping and encouraging them in various ways.

Dorothy was a keen tennis and squash player in her earlier years and a member of the Kew Lawn Tennis Club (tennis courts were at that time on land behind the herbarium). As a member of the Kew Guild she was one of those involved in setting up the Awards Scheme. She served on the council of the Royal Microscopical Society for several years. Her expertise in fibre identification was recognized when she was invited to give a course on the subject in the Philippines, under the auspices of the United Nations, and she collaborated with staff at the National Gallery and in galleries in the Netherlands on the composition of canvases used by famous painters.

In 2003 Dorothy embarked on a degree course at Durham in French, which she found demanding but very rewarding. She was planning to spend time in France as part of her course, but this sadly could not take place. She went into hospital in March 2005 and was diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer. Dorothy remained cheerful, courageous and glad to see visitors until the end, which came peacefully on the morning of 15 April. The funeral was held at Durham Crematorium on 25 April.

This Obituary is compiled by Mary Gregory

JAMES (JIM) BOUGHTWOOD COMBER

1929-2005



Readers will be sad to hear that Jim Comber, the eminent authority on Indonesian orchids, passed away suddenly on 7th September 2005 at his home in Southampton after a knee operation. Jim was born in February 1929 in Garlieston, Scotland, into a famous horticultural family, the eldest son of Harold Comber, the well-known plant collector, and grandson of James Comber. He worked at Sutton & Son of Reading before coming to Kew as a trainee in April 1951. His training at Kew was interrupted by National Service, during which time he was sent to Singapore where his love of South-east Asia and its flora was nourished. He returned to Kew and completed his course in 1955, overlapping as a student with George Alphonso, later Director of the Singapore Botanic Garden and a life-long friend. George sadly predeceased Jim by a month. In 1955 Jim was given leave by Kew to spend time in Java with Anglo-Indonesian Plantations.

Following graduation in 1960, he took up a post with Anglo-Indonesian Plantations as assistant manager of the largest rubber plantation in Sapang, near Tenom in Sabah (then British North Borneo). When the legendary manager there, Mr Baxter, left James took over. The local 'lads' of several different tribes were always eager to join him hunt both for the pot and for Jim's Kew collection. He had success with his dried and pressed specimens by drying them over an old suitcase with a light bulb in it and then keeping them in an air-conditioned room until he could hand them over to Kew. He was fluent in several local languages and enjoyed communicating with indigenous people, recording their music, stories of headhunting etc. He even collected eyeglasses when on leave, for the local craftsmen. He remained at Sapang through Malaysia's independence celebrations but his close association with the plantation workers, many of whom came from Indonesian Kalimantan, aroused the suspicions of the authorities. Jim left Sabah in 1971, moving to a similar posting near Medan in north Sumatra, joining Ciba-geigy as an agronomist, and spent another fourteen years in Java and Sumatra, then in Thailand. He continued to collect and photograph orchids. Initially he was based in Jakarta, close to Bogor with its famous botanic garden (Kebun Raya) and herbarium (Herbarium Bogoriense). On his frequent visits to examine herbarium material and to use its library, he made many friends amongst the staff of both institutes. He started and ran the Sunday Orchid Club, mainly comprising members of the Herbarium and Gardens staff, who joined him on orchid forays on the volcanoes in West Java. From Bogor he was transferred to Surabaya and set up home in Tretes on the slopes of Gunung Arjuno. He hosted many friends, including visiting botanists, at his home in Tretes.

In 1974 Alan Paterson received his kind hospitality. In 1967 he met up with two other Kewites Mike Wilkinson (1955) and George Alphonso (1955) at a three-day planters conference in Kuala Lumpur. His orchid forays continued in East and Central Java, thereby developing a deep first-hand knowledge of the country's rich orchid flora of almost 700 species. Initially, Jim photographed the orchids that he saw and built up a superb and comprehensive collection of images of Southeast Asian orchids. His first book, *Wayside Orchids of South-east Asia* was published by Heinemann-Asia, Kuala Lumpur, in 1981. At about the same time, after becoming frustrated at the difficulty of naming the orchids that he had photographed, he began to press specimens so that specialists could provide accurate identifications for him. This proved to be an inspired decision because he built up an extensive herbarium that he was able to consult in his retirement while researching his books on Indonesian orchids.

Jim often returned to Kew and the Herbarium spending weeks at a time usually during the summertime. His visits were regular through from 1978 to 1985. This was all towards his authoritative and well-illustrated book, *Orchids of Java*, published in 1990 by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Jim generously funded and oversaw its production. He retired in 1991, shortly after his marriage to Riam, to the UK, settling in Southampton. He was appointed one of Kew's first Honorary Research Associates on his retirement and was a regular visitor to Kew for the next 12 years. During that time he completed his monumental *Orchids of Sumatra* (2001), the first illustrated account of the rich orchid flora of the island. It was also published by Kew in collaboration with Natural History Publications, Kota Kinabalu. The size of this task can be judged by the fact that the flora numbers some 1500 species, almost as many plants as are found in the whole of the British Isles.

Jim was immensely generous with his photographs, lending them to many botanists, authors and editors who were unable to obtain images of many rare species themselves. I think it is true to say that Jim was the only person to have photographed some of the rarer South-east Asian species and certainly the only person to have photographed many of them in the wild. His photographs and articles have graced the pages of many orchid journals over the years, including the *Orchid Review*, *Orchid Digest*, *Orchids* (American orchid Society Bulletin) and the *Malayan Orchid Review*. He discovered many new species in his travels, *Sarcoglyphis comberi* J.J.Wood is named in his honour.

Plants were in his genes. His great grandfather James Comber held prizes for flowers and vegetables displayed in local shows. Following extensive horticultural training, his grandfather, James Comber VMH, took (and held for 56 years) the position of head gardener to Ludwig Messel of Nymans where together for they conceived one of the finest gardens in England. Jim's father Harold F. Comber, an honorary associate of The Linnaean Society, was a horticulturalist, botanist and plant collector in the Andes and Tasmania. He was an authority on lilies and in 1949 wrote a new classification of the genus. In 1952 Harold joined Jan de Graaf in Oregon where he produced many new procedures in growing disease-free stock and exhibiting internationally.

Jim leaves behind his wife Riam, son, John, and daughter, Elizabeth His sister, Mary Comber-Miles, has documented Jim's and his father's plant-hunting travels and hopes to publish the account in the near future.

This Obituary is compiled from information sent by Phillip Cribb, Mary Comber Miles and other research.

IAN LEESE

1948 - 2005

There are bound to be many, many kind words written about Ian and his contribution to Kew. Here, colleague Alex Henderson, who worked with Ian from 2001, has penned his own tribute, alongside remembrances from the Director and other colleagues who knew Ian well.

"Ian started his long working relationship with Kew in 1979 after joining course 17 of the Kew Diploma course. He had moved into horticulture following a career as a social worker. On completion of the Kew course he went into horticultural education, becoming a lecturer in amenity horticulture at Hadlow College in Kent. From there, he moved to be Head of the Horticulture, Arboriculture and Management Department at Capel Manor College, near Enfield, Middlesex. He came back to Kew on secondment in 1989, and then became the Principal of the Kew Diploma course in the School of Horticulture in July 1990.

Everybody at Kew knew Ian and we all were aware of his legendary appetite for life, meeting people and food. Ian was indeed never happier than when entertaining guests or colleagues, particularly in the Orangery. Ian was of course one of Kew's greatest and most vocal ambassadors. Within his job Ian always enjoyed meeting staff, students or interns to give advice on projects or future career plans or in providing lists of global contacts and networks, a sign of his great generosity of spirit. The list of people who have benefited from his advice, wisdom and help is simply too great to number. He also kept in touch with Kew Diploma graduates around the world in order to build partnerships with botanical institutes. He could often be heard to say "I am now back to being a social worker, but in the wonderful environment of Kew." Although not much of a gardener anymore at work, at home he was particularly proud of a grape vine he was growing in his conservatory, but was also keen to explain to Gill, his wife, the importance of conservation areas, in order that he didn't have to mow the lawn too often. In his spare time Ian loved to share with Nicholas and Alexander, his two sons, a love of music and sport. Ian was a valued colleague but more importantly a very dear friend to those who knew him and he is sadly missed. If you want to remember the very essence of this wonderful man and his love for life, take a quiet moment to yourself and reflect upon the joy of his unique and infamous laugh echoing through the walls of the School of Horticulture. Ian, without doubt, the pleasure was all ours!"

Director Peter Crane:

"Ian made a unique contribution to the lives of generations of students who came to him for guidance and support. His impact on them – and through them on Kew – was huge. We should all be grateful. Our challenge now is to continue Ian's work

by maintaining the supportive atmosphere that makes the School of Horticulture such a special place.”

Curator Nigel Taylor:

“Ian was the life and soul of the School of Horticulture – much loved by a generation of students, many of whom can contribute their success to Ian's dedication and work.”

Simon Owens, Keeper of the Herbarium:

“In the first instance, I remember Ian as a diligent student who applied himself wholeheartedly to the job in hand. He achieved his results by dint of hard work. He was gently spoken, thoughtful and patient – he needed to be looking after high-spirited students! He had a great sense of humour, at all times he was friendly and he cared very much about staff and students and about Kew. He was a much better Christian man than I.”

Colin Clubbe, Head, Conservation and Higher Education Section:

“My first contract at Kew was working with Ian in the School of Horticulture in 1994 to re-develop a two-month training programme for Botanic Garden Management, a summer school which is still an influential provider on the international botanic garden stage. His influence was felt by many. In fact I was working with one of our alumni in Montserrat when Ian died. Our alumni will be as saddened as I am by his premature loss. Ian was a generous spirited and charming man who loved life, good food and his students – we'll all miss him.”

Tom Reynolds (Kew Gardens Christian Fellowship):

“Ian was much loved and sympathetic, and sensitive to people.”

JAMES REDMAN

- 2005

James entered Kew on the 13th March 1939 from The John Innes Research Station at Merton. After studying at Kew, he served in The Royal Air Force as we were now at war with Germany. After the war James spent three years at Reading University and he gained a First in the Landscape Course. He received a Diploma in Landscape Architecture, and of course he had a John Innes Certificate. He left for Canada where he became Gardens Superintendent in Hamilton Ontario. While in Hamilton James developed the Spring and Rose Gardens and instituted plant breeding for Iris, Hemerocallis and Asters. He was an All American Trials Judge for eight years. He left Hamilton in 1967 and bought a place in Florida. In 1993 he sent pictures of the terrible storms in Florida and the devastating damage it did to his home there.

James kept in touch with the Guild and is recorded as giving a donation to the Benevolent Fund in 1945. In 1949 he contributed five shillings to the Permanent Security Fund, both Guild charities. He was an overseas Guild committee member 1993-1995. Sadly his wife passed away peacefully in 1991 and the Guild benefited from his generous bequest in her honour, enabling the awarding of The Edna Redman Award.

JOHN OSBORNE TAYLOR

1925-2005

John was President of the Kew Guild 1993/4 and he accepted this honour with tremendous pride, and indeed it was applauded throughout the whole of New Zealand by all those involved or attached to the horticultural profession.

John was born in New Zealand on 31st October 1925 and commenced his career as an apprentice at the Christchurch Botanical Gardens in 1940. His apprenticeship was interrupted when he joined the Royal New Zealand Navy as an Officer-Cadet in 1944. He was on H.M.S. Raleigh in Plymouth when the war ended. He then applied for admission as a Kew student, commencing his two-year studentship on November 1945. John said that being a student at Kew was the privilege of a lifetime; he took full advantage of the education and was awarded the C.P Raffill Prize for his outstanding work and delivery of his lecture to the Mutual Improvement Society. He left in October 1947.

Back in New Zealand in 1948, he continued his work in the Christchurch Botanical Gardens and in 1949 he was granted Student Fellowships to continue his studies in the United States at The Arnold Arboretum and New York Botanic Gardens. In 1954 he married Morag and for a few years he was involved in commercial enterprise on four acres in Christchurch and employed a staff of 18. The company, J.O. Taylor Ltd., combined with Bedford Seeds and Martin Ormandy Ltd. to form a new horticultural division of Crothall and Co. Ltd., and grew to serve worldwide markets.

In 1972 his career changed when John was appointed Senior Lecturer at Lincoln University to initiate a Diploma Course in Parks and Recreation Administration. From that point John's career was always closely involved with public parks administration and, in particular, the education and training of new recruits to the profession. He was an overseas Kew Guild committee member in 1973 and in 1974 he was one of the first to support the new Kew Guild Award Scheme. All his work and commitment to horticulture, recreation and education was truly recognized when in 1979 he received the Queen's Award, the M.B.E. In that same year he gave a lecture at The Mutual Improvement Society. He was always devoted to the Guild and serving again as overseas committee member from 1983-1987. In 1992 Graham Burgess and fellow Kiwi Gillian Anderson met John and Morag in Christchurch.

John retired in 1986 and led a very busy life being closely involved with the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture: for six years he was Chairman of the Executive and was elected as its President in 1991. He was also President of the Canterbury Horticultural Society and was a very active member of Rotary for 42 years.

As the new Millennium approached, the Christchurch City Council was seeking ideas as how to best celebrate this momentous occasion. John's suggestion of an International Park, including gardens representing Christchurch's six sister cities, was accepted and the Halswell Quarry Park is now attracting increasing numbers of visitors locally and beyond. As a final tribute, the Christchurch City Council

announced, just before John's death, that a new walkway, constructed with the help of John's Rotary Club, would be named the 'John Taylor Walkway'. The Mayor of Christchurch said that he had been receiving emails enquiring about progress on certain horticultural matters only the weekend before his death.

John and Morag celebrated their Golden Wedding in 2004. For his numerous friends and colleagues, perhaps John Taylor's greatest legacy is the kind of person he was. His sense of duty and willingness to serve, to lead rather than be led, to act rather than leave it to others, together with his strength of character, respect for others, wise counsel, generosity and sense of humour endeared him to many. He will indeed be greatly missed by all who were privileged to know him.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Morag and her delightful family.

Thanks to Mitch Mitchelmore for the substance of this obituary.

FRANK SHAW

1913 - 2005



Born in 1913, Frank Shaw was educated at Nantwich and Acton Grammar School, spending his boyhood days at the Cheshire School of Agriculture, where his father was head gardener and glasshouse instructor. From 1930 to 1934 he was an apprentice in the Manchester Parks Department, training in Queen's, Alexandra and Heaton Parks, and with the Parks Surveyor. At the same time, he attended part-time classes arranged by the parks' superintendent and by Manchester University. In 1931 he won first prize (silver medal) in the Royal Horticultural Society's General Examination in Horticulture (junior section). In the following year he passed first class in the senior examination. The next two years were spent as a journeyman at Longford Castle, Salisbury, under Mr S. W. Tucker, who had a staff of 20 gardeners. Frank recalled that the work was hard and the hours were long, but he looked back with gratitude for the experience gained in this private garden maintained in the grand manner; a basic training of the utmost value.

In 1936, Frank fulfilled an ambition and entered the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, where, as a student gardener, he started in the Tropical (Palm House, Ferneries) Department. In the following year, he was appointed foreman in charge of the Propagating Pits of the department. This was one of the years when Kew was particularly rich in students from overseas. His fellow students were from Geneva, Gerona, the Falkland Islands, New Zealand, Luxembourg, Canada, Italy, Potsdam Germany and New York.

In 1938, Frank won The Kew Guild 'Matilda Smith' Memorial Prize for best student of his year, and received the Kew Certificate with nine distinctions. Later in 1938, he was appointed as Horticultural Assistant with the Cambridgeshire County Council and during the war he was actively engaged with the Dig for Victory campaign with the Cambridgeshire W.A.E.C. He obtained the National Diploma in Horticulture in 1940 and was one of the first candidates to receive the N.D.H. (Hons) in 1950, which was then a rare distinction. After a short spell in the National Agricultural Advisory Service, he returned to local government work in 1947 and was appointed County Horticultural Officer to the Cambridgeshire Education Committee, a position he held until he retired in 1975. His many duties included advisory work and teaching, the supervision of a fruit demonstration station, the layout and construction of many acres of school grounds and playing fields, particularly those of Cambridgeshire's renowned village colleges.

Frank loved Kew and had many fond memories of his time there; as an old Kewite, he subscribed to the *Journal of the Kew Guild* and kept every copy going back to 1937. He was elected an Honorary Member of the Kew Guild in 2003. He had fruitful relations with fellow Kewites, Tom Garwood, Head of Cambridge Parks Department and Albert Jones, Head of Rural Science at Impington Village College. Stewart Henchie met Frank when he was at school in the area and it was this early experience that led to Stewart ascending his own career ladder in horticulture.

Frank was shy and reserved, but with a keen, dry sense of humour. Paradoxically, he was a gifted communicator, an excellent teacher, lecturer and speaker. In addition, he was always in great demand as a judge at horticultural shows. Following his retirement, Frank contributed articles to 'Which' magazine, continued to judge at shows and was a regular broadcaster on local BBC Radio Cambridge.

Frank married Dorothy Ada Whitmarsh in 1939 and they enjoyed a long and happy marriage over 66 years. He leaves two daughters and a son.

ALUN LLOYD WILLIAMS

1934-2005

Alun and his twin brother were born to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Williams in a cottage near Arthogbridge, two of five children. Sometime later the family moved to the live at 'Rola', Llwyngwrl when Tom Williams was appointed gardener and groundsman at the outdoor activity centre, Ty Gwyn, in the village.

Alun was educated at the local village school and Tywyn Secondary School. After leaving school at 15 he followed in his father's footsteps and joined the Parks and Gardens Department of the City of Leicester where he and Tom Riseley were apprentices. Their boss, Edwin Cherry, encouraged them both to go to Kew. After his apprenticeship and National Service in the RAF Alun entered Kew in 1957. Roy Jones shared a room with Alun Williams in Mrs. Harris's House, 13 The Avenue for two years. On completion of his gardening studies in 1959 Alun changed careers and successfully followed a Teachers Training Course at the Higher Education College, Bath.

Early in the sixties Alun joined the staff of Ysgol Ardudwy, Harlech, to teach Rural Studies, and was held in high esteem by both staff and pupils. He married Margaret during his first term at Harlech and eventually settled in Llanfair to raise a family of two girls, Catherine and Karen, and a son David.

Alun contributed substantially to the education of many people through his lectures to various gardening clubs throughout Merioneth, and was in great demand as a guest speaker during his stay in Ardudwy. Appointed to the post of lecturer in Gardening and General Science at Coleg Meirionnydd Dlogellau, Alun was welcomed to the staff in the early eighties. He was a much-respected member of that staff until his retirement in 1993 on the reorganization of Tertiary education in Meirion-Dwyfor.

Alun was also a respected judge at local and county shows. As part of his work he arranged the competitions for Wales in Bloom, where he was also a judge. He took part as a team member in the Welsh programme 'Clwb Garddio' for many years. Alun supported many other gardening clubs and social institutions as a judge and a guest speaker until his illness.

Alun passed away in Ysbyty Gwynedd, Bangor.

On the 29th March 2005 a large congregation of family, friends and former colleagues gathered to celebrate the life and pay their final tributes at St. Tanwg Church, Harlech. Tributes to Alun were given by Keith Jones, Llwyngwril, former principal of the college on behalf of his friends and fellow colleagues; on behalf of the Gardening Clubs by his friend Dewi Langley, Chairman of the Harlech and Llanfair Gardening Club where Alun was Honorary President.

We thank Roy Jones for his contribution to this obituary.

PHILIP LAWSON DEAN WOOD

1925 - 2004

Philip Lawson Dean Wood was born in Melaka, in the British colony of Malaya, now Malaysia, on 22 May 1925, the third of four children born to Edith and William Wood. Phil's father (ex Kew Gardens 1909) had been sent to Malaya to establish rubber plantations. In addition, he managed the Royal Gardens and public gardens in Johore Bahru where they lived. In 1931 the family moved back to England to the village of Duxford. Here Phil went to school and was a chorister at the local church where his love of music, especially choral music, grew.

In January 1940 he was accepted as a student gardener at Cambridge University Botanic Gardens and in 1943 he joined the Royal Air Force to become a pilot. In 1945 he was posted to Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, for a Spitfire conversion course. Finding time to pursue his botanical interests he visited the Agricultural Experimental Station in Salisbury and met the Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold, who it transpired, had also been a student gardener at Cambridge Botanic Gardens. An invitation to tea with Henry's family led to Phil meeting Grace, Henry's elder daughter, who became his future wife and mother to their six children.

Phil was demobilised in 1947 and, following a spell at the family nursery in Duxford, he enrolled as a student at Kew in April 1949. He shared accommodation with Neil Gilmour in Bushwood Road. Neil was much inspired by Phil and the large collection of packeted, named vegetable and flower seeds, in test tubes and bottles that Phil left with Neil. While at Kew Phil was awarded the Royal Horticultural Society National Diploma in Horticulture.

Neil's wife Sheila knew Phil before Neil entered Kew and she always said he was very active socially. He attended the music circle at the Metcalfe's home, the photography group run by Stan Rawlings and he was a keen tennis player. On completing the course of study at Kew, Phil enrolled for a six-month residential course run by the Institute of Park and Recreation Administration at Lyme Hall, Stockport, near Manchester. On completion of that course he obtained a job doing landscape design for a horticultural company in Nairobi.

Grace and Phil were married in January 1953 and following two more years in Nairobi, they returned to Southern Rhodesia. There they took over 60 acres of 'Brookfield', the estate where Grace had grown up. Here Phil started a landscaping business, but soon bought land to start a nursery to provide high standard plants which were sent all over the country and even to South Africa. By 1966 this had been extended and Phil had a weekly gardening radio programme and a shared TV programme.

Following open-heart surgery in 1972, Phil gave up the landscaping work and concentrated on the nursery. At this time he wrote his book *Gardening in Rhodesia* which has since been re-published as *Gardening in Zimbabwe*.

Political change was on the way in the early 1970s. Phil was sure that the future would not be smooth and wanted to ensure his family's safety and prosperity. In 1978 the whole family moved to Perth, Western Australia, where he had been appointed General Manager to the Wildflower Nurseries. Later Phil and Grace purchased land at Wanneroo, built their own house and started their own nursery, growing roses in unheated plastic tunnel houses for the cut flower trade. At the same time, at the request of the Nursery Co-operative, he established the Nursery Industry Council. In 1996, when Phil gave up the cut roses, the plastic tunnel houses were adapted and outdoor plantings established for cut foliage for the florist trade. At this time the Nursery Industry Council appointed him Accreditation Officer for Western Australia, in their voluntary compliance scheme for the improvement of nursery products, procedure, hygiene, design and environmental control.

In 1998 when Neil and Sheila Gilmour visited Western Australia Phil, with his usual efficiency and courtesy, met them at the airport and drove them to their hotel. His advice on car rental, maps and where to go made that visit far more enjoyable and useful. He had developed a technique for rooting standard rose stock cuttings, budding them and producing standard rose plants in one season.

Illness was something he found difficult to accept and even the on-set of arthritis could not stop him working outdoors, something he always loved doing. Phil died peacefully on the 13th July 2004 and his ashes were scattered at the holiday cottage he and Grace had built on Molloy Island.

Phil's enthusiasm, knowledge, enormous energy, determination to succeed, together with a mischievous nature, touched many people, not least his colleagues and fellow students during his time at Kew. To Grace and his family we send our deepest condolences.

This obituary is based on the eulogy given by their eldest son at the funeral and notes from Neil Gilmour.

RULES OF THE KEW GUILD

Name of the Association

- 1 The name of the Association shall be 'The Kew Guild'.

Objects

2. The objects of the Guild shall be:

- a The advancement of horticultural and botanical knowledge, particularly in connection with the work of The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and Wakehurst Place (hereinafter included with The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew), and among members of the Guild.
- b. The encouragement of excellence in horticultural and botanical education at The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew by the provision of prizes and grants for Students and the administration of the educational funds of the Guild.
- c. The provision of facilities for leisure time education and recreation in the interests of the social welfare of Students and others having need of such facilities who are within the provisions of Section 1 of the Recreational Charities Act 1958.
- d. The administration of the Award Scheme and other charitable funds of the Guild for the objects of the Guild, and the assistance from such funds to members of the Guild at the discretion of the Committee.
- e. The publication of a Journal in furtherance of one or more of the objects of the Guild.
- f. Generally to do all such acts as shall further the active and corporate life of the Guild as may be lawfully done by a body established only for the purposes recognised by the law of England as charitable.

Membership.

3. a. Membership of the Guild shall be open to:
 - i. Student gardeners, from the beginning of the Diploma Course
 - ii. Past and present staff members, internal trainees, research and liaison scientists and volunteer workers provided that they have worked for a period(s) exceeding in total at least 12 months at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.
 - iii Persons awarded Honorary Membership by the Guild Committee.
 - iv. Former Associate Members who exercise the option to take up full membership on the death of spouse or partner.
 - v. Persons associated with Kew but outside the categories set out in 1a (i) to (iv) who have been awarded membership by the Guild Committee.
Those members included in category 3a shall be full members of the Guild.
3. b. Associate Members. The spouses or partners of full members.
3. c. Honorary Fellow. Persons of professional and academic achievements not qualifying for membership under categories (a) or (b) may be appointed as Honorary Fellows by the Guild Committee. The Committee may not award

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more than three Fellowships in any Guild year and the total number of Fellows shall not exceed twenty five at any one time. Nominations for Fellowship to be considered and approved initially by the Guild Awards Sub Committee before approval by the full Committee.

4. Full Members of the Guild shall have the right to vote at meetings and ll be eligible for election as Officers of the Guild. Associate and Fellow Members do not have voting rights.
5. Any member wishing to resign shall give written notice to the Secretary or the Treasurer before the first day of December in the year of his or her intention to resign.
6. a. The Committee may, by resolution communicated to the member in writing, stating concisely the grounds on which it proposes to act, call upon any individual to resign from the Guild. If the member does not so resign within 48 days, the Committee may, by resolution, terminate his or her membership.
- b. Before coming to any decision, the Committee shall give the affected member proper facilities for stating his or her case to it, either orally or in writing as the Committee may determine.

Annual Subscriptions.

7. Annual subscriptions shall be payable on the first day of January each year and shall be an amount approved at the Annual General Meeting. Payment of the subscription shall entitle full members to receive the Annual Journal and other benefits of membership. Associate Members do not pay a subscription and do not receive a copy of the Journal. Honorary Members and Honorary Fellows do not pay a subscription for membership but receive full benefits of membership (except voting rights).

Management of the Guild.

8. a. The business of the Guild shall be conducted by a Committee consisting of the Honorary Officers: namely, The President, Vice President, President Elect, Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, Editor, Events Officer, Award Scheme Representative, Archive Representative and Principal of The School of Horticulture together with 12 ordinary members including three overseas members and two Horticultural Student Representatives. The Members of the Committee are the Trustees of the Guild.
- b. Nine members of the Committee shall form a quorum. The Committee shall meet from time to time as may be necessary. Nine members of the Committee may, by signed written notice to the Secretary, request him or her to call a meeting of the Committee and if such a meeting not be called within 30 days of the dispatch of such notice the said nine members may themselves call a meeting of the Committee by giving 21 days notice in writing sent to all members thereof.
- c. The Committee may regulate its own proceedings by standing order or otherwise as it may think fit. No act or proceedings of the Committee shall be invalidated by any vacancy on the Committee or on the grounds that a member of the Committee was not qualified at or had become disqualified after the date of his appointment. The Chairperson of the Committee shall have no second or casting vote
- d. The Committee may appoint Advisors to the Committee. Their function will be to bring to the Committee special expertise and experience in respect of Guild Matters.
- e. At least seven days' written notice of a meeting of the Committee shall so far as is practicable, be given to every Committee Member.

- f. A Chairperson of the Committee shall be elected by the Committee to take the Chair in the absence of the President, Vice President or President Elect.
- g. Auditing the Guild's Affairs. There shall be an Independent Examiner appointed by the Guild at the A G M.

Election of Officers and Committee.

- 9. a. Officers, with the exceptions of the Principal of the School of Horticulture, the Award Scheme Representative and the Archive Representative who are ex Officio and non voting members of the Committee, shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. Any vacancy among the Officers shall be filled as soon as possible by co-option by the Committee and any person so co-opted shall hold office only until the elections at the following Annual General Meeting.
- b. Four ordinary Committee members shall be elected each year and shall hold office for three years and they shall not be eligible for re-election to the main Committee for at least 12 months after the end of their term of office. Any vacancy among ordinary Committee Members shall be filled at the next Annual General Meeting, the member elected completing the term of office of the member whom he or she has replaced. The two Horticultural Student Representatives shall be proposed by the Horticultural Students.
- c. Candidates for election as officers or ordinary members may be proposed by any member of the Guild provided that the names of candidates be sent in writing to the Secretary at least twenty eight clear days before the Annual General Meeting.

Meetings.

- 10. The Annual General Meeting shall be held at Kew or Wakehurst Place on either the second or third Saturday in September. At the Annual General Meeting the Report of the Committee and a Statement of the Accounts shall be submitted and election of officers and Committee Members and the Independent Examiner shall take place. At least 14 clear days before the Annual General Meeting the Secretary shall circulate to all members a Financial Statement and agenda of the meeting which shall include a list of candidates for election as officers or ordinary Committee Members or as an Independent Examiner with their proposers.
- 11. A special General Meeting of the Guild may be convened at any time by the Committee and shall be so convened within 42 days of receipt by the Secretary of a requisition in writing. Such a requisition must be signed by not less than 35 members stating the purpose of the meeting and setting out any resolution which it is intended to propose thereat. Notice of the meeting, with an agenda thereof, shall be sent to all members at least 28 days before the date appointed for the meeting. Amendments to any resolution set out in the agenda shall be sent to the Secretary at least 14 clear days before the date of the meeting and shall be sent by him to all members with an address in the United Kingdom at least seven clear days before the date of the meeting. No business shall be transacted at such meeting other than that specified in the notice and any duly proposed amendments. The Chairperson of the meeting shall be nominated by the Committee.
- 12. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting by any members shall not invalidate any proceedings or resolutions at any meeting of the Guild or any Committee thereof.

13. At a General Meeting each individual member whose subscription is fully paid to the date of the meeting shall have one vote and no more except the Chairperson who shall have a second or casting vote in the case of an equality of votes.

Alteration to the Rules.

14. These rules may be altered by a two-third majority of those present at an Annual or Special General Meeting. Any proposals for the alteration of Rules shall be sent to the Secretary in writing at least 21 clear days before the date of the Annual or Special General Meeting and shall be sent by him or her to all members at least 14 clear days before the date of the Annual or Special General Meeting.

Dissolution of the Guild.

15. A motion to dissolve the Guild may only be made at a Special General Meeting and to effect a dissolution at least three-quarters of the members actually present and voting at the meeting shall vote in favour of the dissolution. If a motion to dissolve the Guild is carried by the said majority the Guild's surplus funds, property and assets (if any) shall be disposed of for charitable purposes in connection with education and research with botany and horticulture as the members may at the said Special General Meeting decide, or failing any such decision to a charity connected with botany and horticulture to be nominated by the Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, for the time being, to the intent that no member of the Guild shall receive any of such property and assets by virtue of his / her membership.

Property of the Guild and the Committee.

16. a. The Guild may purchase or otherwise acquire and hold property of any nature and may sell, lease, mortgage or otherwise deal with the same. Guild funds may be invested in the name of a limited company established by and wholly under the control of the Guild for trust purposes.
- b. Investments may be in or upon such shares, stocks, funds, securities, investments and property, real and personal, freehold or leasehold in any part of the world upon such terms and conditions (if any) as the Committee (who are by law The Trustees) shall in their absolute discretion think fit. The Committee may from time to time sell vary and transfer such investments and property.
- c. The Committee may deal with the said investments as if they were the sole beneficial owners thereof.
- d. If legal proceedings of any kind are resorted to or defended by the Guild the Committee shall, prosecute or defend such proceedings in the name of the Guild or otherwise on behalf of the Guild as may be necessary.
- e. The Committee members will be the sole Trustees of the Guild and evidence of its decisions as signed by an official Minute of the Secretary will be conclusive evidence.
- f. The Committee shall be effectively indemnified against any liability costs expenses and payments whatsoever which may be properly incurred or made by them in relation to the trusts of the property and investments of the Guild or in relation to any legal proceedings or which otherwise relate directly to the performance of the functions of the Committee.

**THE KEW GUILD STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2005**

	General Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2005 £
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Subscriptions	5,902.15			5,902.15
Donations and Legacies	10.00	1,950.00		1,960.00
Investment Income – COIF	1,443.63	4,468.94		5,912.57
– Interest	1,767.12			1,767.12
Annual Dinner	2,745.80			2,745.80
Sale of “Kew Plantsmen”	11.00			11.00
Sale of Emblems	3.00			3.00
AGM Soiree	350.00			350.00
Events	235.00			235.00
	12,467.70	6,418.94	0.00	18,886.64
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Direct charitable expenditure:				
Kew Guild Journal	5,633.00			5,633.00
Prizes	495.00	12.00		507.00
Awards	0.00	5,245.00		5,245.00
Annual Dinner	3,847.69			3,847.69
AGM Soiree	514.70			514.70
Postage	110.40			110.40
Events	345.00			345.00
Regalia Restoration	0.00			0.00
Archiving	7,111.79			7,111.79
Kew Guild certificates	5,061.35			5,061.35
Student fellowship	292.20			292.20
Other expenditure:				
Honorary Officers’ Expenses	106.20			106.20
Stationery and Printing	161.36			161.36
Website Software	0.00			0.00
Minute taking service	1,042.12			1,042.12
Computer	0.00			0.00
Sundry	370.88			370.88
	25,091.69	5,257.00	0.00	30,348.69
NET INCOMING RESOURCES	-12,623.99	1,161.94	0.00	-11,462.05
OTHER RECOGNISED LOSSES/GAINS				
Gains on investments:				
Unrealised	5,547.09	7,717.05	12,974.07	26,238.21
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS ...	-7,076.90	8,878.99	12,974.07	14,776.16
Balances brought forward at 1 January 2005	70,462.69	50,723.01	81,884.58	203,070.28
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER 2005	63,385.79	59,602.00	94,858.65	217,846.44

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**THE KEW GUILD BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2005**

	31 Dec 2005		31 Dec 2004	
	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS				
Investments		191,838.10		165,599.89
		<hr/>		<hr/>
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	452.73		472.95	
Charities Deposit Fund	32,050.00		38,200.00	
Cash at Bank	2,571.94		140.52	
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		35,074.67		38,813.47
LIABILITIES				
Life Subscriptions	32.02		35.17	
Creditors	9,034.31		1,307.91	
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		-9,066.33		-1,343.08
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<hr/>		<hr/>
		26,008.34		37,470.39
		<hr/>		<hr/>
NET ASSETS		<hr/>		<hr/>
		217,846.44		203,070.28
		<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>
FUNDS				
General		63,385.79		70,462.69
Restricted		59,602.00		50,723.01
Endowment		94,858.65		81,884.58
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		217,846.44		203,070.28
		<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>

These accounts were approved in principle by the Committee on 20 January 2006.

These accounts still have to be independently examined and final approval

is needed from quorum of the committee.

Jennifer J. Alsop
Honorary Treasurer

HONORARY FELLOWSHIPS OF THE KEW GUILD

(as at 1st August 2006)

Edwards, Mr. Derek
Lancaster, Mr. Roy

Melmoe, Mr. John
Smit, Mr. Tim

Wolf, Mr. Ed

LIST OF RBG STAFF AND HONORARY RESEARCH ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF THE KEW GUILD

(as at 1st August, 2006)

Staff:

Alsop, Mrs. Jennifer J.
Andrews, Mrs. Roselle
Barnes, David M.
Barry, Mr. Neil
Beentje, Dr. Henk
Bell, Miss. S. D.
Bidgood, Ms G.Sally
Bower, Miss Rebecca M.
Brummitt, Dr. Richard K.
Clubbe, Dr. Colin P.
Corcoran, Ms. Marcella
Crane, Professor Sir Peter
Cutler, Professor. David. F.
Dalton, Miss Annette
Davis, Mr. Steve D.

Edwards, Mr. Peter. J.
Everson, Ms Joanne M.
Fox, Emma C.
Gasson, Dr. Peter E.
Godfrey, Mr. Michael C.
Green, Dr. Peter S.
Green, Paul W.C.
Groffman, Mr. Harvey
Hamilton, Mr. Martin A.
Hardman, Mr. David
Harley, Dr. Raymond M.
Hastings, Laura H.
Henchie Mr. Stewart J.
Johns, Professor Bob J.
Leon, Christine J.

Morley, James T
Morris, Ms Mercy J.
Moss Ms. Kath J.
Owens, Professor Simon J.
Phillips, Dr. Sylvia M.
Reynolds Mr. Tom
Robinson, Mr. Steven P.C.
Sanchez Mrs. Michele D.
Scott-Brown, Dr. Alison S.
Shaw, Mr. Wesley K.
Staniforth, Mr. Martin
Taylor, Dr. Nigel P.
Wendon, Mr. Barry J.

LIST OF RBG STUDENT MEMBERS OF THE KEW GUILD

(as at 1st August, 2006)

Students:

Cable, Mr. James
Campbell Ms. Lisa
Sadler, Mr. Paul J.D.
Gleeson, Dr. Jane
Handley, Mr. L. James
Harvey Miss. Samantha J.
Haynes, Mr. Daniel P.

Heleine, Mr. Paul
Herian, Ms. Katrine
Kimberley, Ms. M.
Leighton, Mr. Daniel R.
Magdalena-Rodriguez Mr. J. C.
Meggy, Mr. Gavin
Redstone, Sara J.

Rice, Mr. Simon
Snook, Mr. Robert A.
Tatebayashi, Mr. Masaya
Van Little, Mr. Falkland
Whaley, Miss. V. L. N.
Zubor, Mr. Akos

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Clubbe, Dr. Colin P.
Corcoran, Ms. Marcella
Crane, Professor Sir Peter
Cutler, Professor. David. F.
Dalton, Miss Annette
Davis, Mr. Steve D.

Edwards, Mr. Peter. J.
Everson, Ms Joanne M.
Fox, Emma C.
Gasson, Dr. Peter E.
Godfrey, Mr. Michael C.
Green, Dr. Peter S.
Green, Paul W.C.
Groffman, Mr. Harvey
Hamilton, Mr. Martin A.
Hardman, Mr. David
Harley, Dr. Raymond M.
Hastings, Laura H.
Henchie Mr. Stewart J.
Johns, Professor Bob J.
Leon, Christine J.

Morley, James T
Morris, Ms Mercy J.
Moss Ms. Kath J.
Owens, Professor Simon J.
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