

THE JOURNAL OF THE KEW GUILD



Founded in 1893

The Association of members of the Kew staff past and present

Events of 2013

Published in 2014

Volume 16
Number 118

Registered charity No. 306064

ISSN 2046-1526

Editor: Alexandra Ward
Advisory Editor: Richard Ward
Email: editor@kewguild.org.uk

Printed by The Green Tree Press Ltd., 1 Parham Drive,
Boyatt Wood Industrial Estate, Eastleigh, Hampshire, SO50 4NU.

Royal Botanic Gardens
Kew

The Journal cover remembers Kewites who have contributed enormously to world botanic horticulture. Front cover, clockwise from top left: Alexander B Westland, William Crowther, George S Jenman, and Harold Henry Welch Pearson. Back cover, clockwise from top left: Richard Irwin Lynch, Berthold Seeman, Walter Broadway and Walter Hill; and centre Philip MacMahon.

© The Kew Guild 2014. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means – electronic, mechanical, photocopied, recorded or otherwise – without the prior written permission of The Kew Guild or its designated reproduction rights organisations.

Copyright of photos are held by the article author unless otherwise indicated.

Contents

Trustees and Committee	277
Editorial	278
Robert Ivison, President.....	279
Tim Upson, Vice President	281
New Committee Members	282
Annual General Meeting of the Kew Guild.....	285
School of Horticulture, Kew Diploma Prize Day	299
Course 51	305
Student Report	306
Kew Guild Events in 2013.....	307
Guild Trip to Spain.....	307
Annual Dinner.....	310
North of England weekend	312
South East weekend	214
Kew Guild Awards Scheme 2013	319
Awards Scheme Reports	319
Developing ex-situ Conservation Collections.....	319
Parks and Plantings in Southern Germany.....	320
A Conifer Journey to South America	321
Botanical Conferences in the United States	324
Rock Gardens and Alpine Plants of Colorado	325
Giant Tortoises and Heterophyllous plants	326
Urban planting in Tokyo	328
The Advance of Legume Science Continues... ..	330
Study of New England Salt Marshes	334
The Kew Guild Honorary Fellowship	336
News of Honorary Fellows	337
Kew News: 2013.....	343
World War 1 and Visitors to Kew	344
2013: A Review of the Wakehurst Year	346
Committee Discussions	351
Celebration of World Horticulture Seminar.....	351
News from the Himalayas	354
The British Rock.....	359
Sundials.....	359
The other Dr Hooker: William Dawson Hooker.....	360
From the Kew Guild Journal: 100 years ago... ..	363
News of Kewites in 2013.....	364
Obituaries.....	378
Financial Accounts.....	389
Address List of Members.....	391

The Kew Guild

Patron: Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra

The Kew Guild Committee 2013-2014

Officers:

President: Bob Ivison
 President Elect: David Hardman
 Vice President (elected 2012): Tony Overland
 Vice President (elected 2013): Tim Upson
 Past President: Jim Mitchell
 Acting Secretary: Sara Arnold
 Honorary Treasurer: Jennifer Alsop
 Honorary Membership Secretary: Ian Hudson
 Events Officer: Pamela Holt
 Publicity and Promotions: Jean Griffin
 Website Manager and Editor: Jonathan Rickards
 Website Officer: Bob Ivison
 Archives Officer: Kiri Ross-Jones

Committee Members:

<i>Retire 2014</i>	<i>Retire 2015</i>	<i>Retire 2016</i>
Charles Funke	William Bessler	Bryan Howard
Jim Handley	Graham Burgess	Adrian Lovatt
Tony Overland	Terry Sunderland	Sylvia Phillips
Alan Stuttard	Richard Ward	Clive Popham (Australia)

Ex Officio Members:

Head of School of Horticulture: Martin Staniforth
 Awards Scheme Chairperson: Chris Kidd

Student Committee Representatives:

Year 1: Paul Eguia Year 2: Aaron Marubbi Year 3: Suzanne Patman

Advisors:

Professor David F Cutler BSc PhD DIC PPLS
 Professor Sir Ghilleen T Prance FRS MA DPhil FilDr FLS VMH
 Martin J S Sands BSc FIBiol FLS FRGS
 John B E Simmons OBE MHort (RHS) FIHort CBiol FIBiol VMH
 Richard Ward, Advisory Editor

Non-Committee Posts:

Editor: Alexandra Ward
 Communications Secretary: Sara Arnold

Editorial

Dear fellow Guild members,

Our editorials started in 1976. Our pleas at that time were little different from those we make to you today – we want to give you more opportunity for comments, and identify more closely with the main function of the Guild of ‘promoting mutual and friendly intercourse between past and present Kewites, and to foster their interests’.

38 years ago it would have taken some weeks to correspond with members in far-flung places of the world. Nowadays it can take less than a minute. The history of the Guild, and your own history, is available at the click of a button. You have no excuse: become part of it! We look forward to receiving your news (with limited space we will give preference to paid-up Guild members’ news in the Journal). The quality and design of your Journal has changed for the better, the cost is less, and the Guild website is gradually being honed to provide you with more and better information about our activities.

Despite technology and the ease of communication the Kew Guild currently has 490 members. 100 years ago we printed and distributed 750 Journals – although 200 members didn’t pay their subs!

We urge you to help build our numbers, invite your friends, colleagues, and the non-Guild Members mentioned in this Journal to join (visit kewguild.org.uk/pages/join), volunteer your help on the Committee, attend the Dinner, AGM and outside visits, and enjoy the fellowship offered by the Guild. Your Committee are working hard to help.

Finally, thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Journal this year, particularly to Prof David Cutler for his proof-reading, Pamela Holt for News of Kewites and Graham Burgess for preparation of obituaries.

Floreat Kew.

Alexandra Ward Editor
Richard Ward Advisory Editor

62 Mortlake Road, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4AT
Tel/Fax: (020) 8878 6696 Email: editor@kewguild.org.uk

President	president@kewguild.org.uk
Acting Secretary	secretary@kewguild.org.uk
Treasurer	treasurer@kewguild.org.uk
Membership	membership@kewguild.org.uk
Events	events@kewguild.org.uk
Publicity and Promotions	press@kewguild.org.uk
Awards Scheme	awards@kewguild.org.uk

Bob Ivison
Sara Arnold
Jennifer Alsop
Ian Hudson
Pamela Holt
Jean Griffin
Chris Kidd

Robert Ivison FI Hort., Dip. Hort. Kew, DMS, Dip PRA
President 2013/2014



Bob, following in his father's footsteps, embarked on a horticultural career as an apprentice with The Royal Parks in 1968, followed a year later by his brother, David. During Bob's time with The Royal Parks he spent a year in the gardens of Buckingham Palace under Head Gardener, Mr Fred Nutbeam. After successfully completing the apprenticeship with Apprentice Master George Cooke, he was encouraged to engage in further study and to apply for the Kew Diploma course. In 1971 he was successful in his application and joined Diploma Course 9 at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Three years of study and a good measure of sporting activity, including being part of the football, cricket and running teams and playing a bit of table tennis, resulted in him being awarded the Kew Diploma in 1974. From Kew he moved through the technical and managerial positions at the London Borough of Enfield, Harlow District Council and the London Borough of Haringey, working with other Kewites including Robin Bletsoe, Alan Stuttard, Norman Hamblett and Mike Collett before finally returning to Enfield in 1985 and moving into the position of Head of Service in 1992.

During that time he gained extensive experience in all aspects of parks and open space management and has had responsibility for a range of services from Landscape Design, Parks Management, Horticultural Management, Contract Management, Arboricultural Management, Environmental Sustainability, Health and Safety, Events Management, Competitive Tendering, Sponsorship and Fund Raising, Emergency Planning, Green Flag Award, Best Value and Beacon Council Status 'Improving Urban Green Spaces'.

Alongside the parks and countryside management he has also held responsibility for the management and operation of one of the largest allotment provisions in London; the management and operation of five cemeteries; the management and operation of a Park Ranger Service providing environmental, ecological education and an outreach service to the community as well as a park security function, and the management and operation of the Arboricultural Service tending the treescape of Enfield.

He has always believed that training and personal development are an important feature in an individual's professional career and he has supported training initiatives throughout

his own career. This has included lecturing to students on the Institute of Leisure and Amenity Management Diploma courses on topics relating to parks and recreation management, technical and landscape studies.

After more than 20 years at a senior management level he left Local Government in 2005 to form his own company, Ivison Consulting, providing strategic and management support to Parks Services and other agencies.

He joined the CABE Space's Strategic Enabling Panel, advising Local Authorities on Green Space Strategy development and best practice for the better management of parks and open spaces.

He has been involved in several major projects; at the London Borough of Enfield he managed the development and submission of two successful multi-million pound Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) projects through to completion. In addition, working with English Heritage he coordinated and edited the Conservation and Management Plan for Chiswick House Gardens, another very prestigious £12million HLF project. Alongside this work he has produced and/or advised on the development of many management plans for the Green Flag Award and the Green Heritage Accreditation Scheme.

He judges for several horticultural programmes including Communities in Bloom International Challenge Awards in Canada, Asia, Europe and the UK; for London in Bloom and also for the Green Flag Award and the Green Heritage Accreditation scheme.

He has been an active member of the Kew Guild serving on the Committee in various capacities for the past 20 years. In addition he is a Committee member of The Royal Parks Guild; Chairman of the Horticultural Affairs Committee of the Institute of Horticulture; an Advisory Panel member of the Chartered Institute of Water and Environmental Managers and past Chairman of the National Contractor Forum. He is also facilitator for the East Region Parks and Open Spaces Forum.

He sits as Deputy Chairman on the Transitional Board for The Parks Alliance developing the case for a national strategy for addressing the issues facing the whole green space sector in what are very challenging times for the industry.

In 2003 he was proud to be made a Fellow of the Institute of Horticulture and Fellow of the Institute of Leisure and Amenity Management, and in 2004 he was thrilled to be admitted to the Freedom of the City of London and a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Gardeners.

Throughout his professional career he has always maintained contact with Kew and being primarily London based also allowed him to make many visits to the gardens with his wife Teresa. Visiting the Christmas grotto in the Princess of Wales Conservatory was always a favourite with the family, Emily, Alexander, Edward, Gregory and Sophie, and indeed the pine seedlings given by Father Christmas on one occasion are now quite sizable trees in the back garden!

Bob knows that The Kew Guild is a very special and unique organisation and that its members have played a significant part in the development of world horticulture in the past, but he believes that today the skills, knowledge and expertise of its members are probably needed even more. Therefore The Guild, through its members, have to continue to exercise their influence at every opportunity and in every quarter to ensure that horticulture and the conservation of our natural heritage have their place in this world's future. Floreat Kew.

Tim Upson
Vice President
Elected 2013

It is an honour to continue my association with Kew as a Vice President over the coming years. Having joined as a Diploma student in 1986, Kew provided both training and opportunities, as it has for many others, for the last 17 years as Curator of Cambridge University Botanic Garden (most recently as Acting and then Deputy Director). As I write, a new door opens and I shall be joining the Royal Horticultural Society as Director of



Horticulture in March 2014 and look forward to continuing my association with Kew in new ways. I am pleased to be joining the RHS at an exciting time in their history with major investments planned – from a new Science Building and entrance at Wisley, perennial meadows and Mediterranean plantings at Hyde Hall, to a new urban garden.

A recent highlight at Cambridge was the flowering in September 2012 of the Chinese tree, *Emmenopterys henryi*, only the sixth time in the UK (the first being at Wakehurst Place in 1987). Writing this up for Curtis's Botanical Magazine brought me back to Kew and a reminder of the incredible records, literature and specimens held. The herbarium holds the type specimens collected by Augustine Henry and also those of E.H. Wilson who introduced the tree to cultivation, revealing that he collected material in flower and returned in the autumn to the same tree for seed. Charlie Erskine, formerly Head of the Arboretum, correctly

guessed that our tree came from Kew, micropropagated from one of the original Wilson tree and distributed in the early 1980's, the facts backed up by the archive records in the Kew library.

One of the last projects I will have been involved with at Cambridge is *Voicing the Garden*, an oral history project supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund aiming to collect, celebrate and share the stories of the people behind the plants and garden. Much support and inspiration has come from our own alumni organisation, Cambridge University Botanic Garden Association, with collective memories stretching back to the landscaping of the eastern half of the Garden in the early 1950's and even to the last horse drawn mowers. For me this was about capturing the last sixty years of garden development from those who shaped it and the social changes and experiences from those who trained at Cambridge. These unofficial histories are perhaps amongst the most valuable records, unique stories that include: the singed mallard ducks put up when students set fire to the lake by igniting the marsh gas released when pulling up waterlilies during the 1976 drought; the black market in eels and duck eggs; or the daughters of a former director jumping their ponies over the winter garden hedges. These and other histories are available via the Gardens website or at www.voicingthegarden.com and the project will continue through this coming year capturing the memories and stories of our visitors.

New Committee Members

Adrian Lovatt BSc Hons Lond. Dip Hort Kew. MIHort.

Adrian was born in the Isles of Scilly and into the world of gardening from the word go. Adrian's father, George, was then employed at Tresco Abbey Gardens and lived in the gardener's flat behind the Abbey. After relocation back to family roots in north Shropshire, Adrian's father became head gardener at The Dorothy Clive Gardens, Willoughbridge near Market Drayton. An idyllic place to grow up and a childhood dominated by gardening did not put him off, as might be expected of many head gardeners' children!

A deep desire to understand plants lead Adrian to read Botany at Royal Holloway and Bedford New College, University of London but it was as a fresh faced graduate trying to find a direction in life that Adrian could not ignore the deep yearning to garden. Gaining credible hands-on experience was then the next focus and lead to stints at Bridgemere Garden World, a television garden in Brittany and landscape gardening before he got the break he needed – a year-long work placement with the National Trust at Powis Castle under the 'Welsh Wizard', legendary head gardener and renowned plantsman Jimmy Hancock. This convinced Adrian that the responsibility of caring for and managing a large garden was to be his future direction.

With this driving motivation he applied for the Kew Diploma and was accepted on to Course 31. After three years he had not only gained the best training a horticulturist could wish for but also found his future wife Jane (née Allen), a Botanical Horticulturist in the Palm House with a specialist interest in Cycads.

His first head gardener's position was for Arabella Lennox-Boyd at Gresgarth Hall in Lancashire, before moving to Kent to begin the restoration of the formal gardens originally designed by Sir Reginald Blomfield at Godinton Park. In 2000 he was drawn by the excitement that was brewing in Cornwall and joined the Eden Project to help create a garden from scratch in a disused China clay pit. As Assistant Curator, the opportunity for travel took Adrian on expeditions to Chile, Mexico, California and Spain.

Moving on again Adrian's career turned full circle when he returned once again to Powis Castle as head gardener some eighteen years on. Currently Adrian is the head gardener at Cogshall Grange, a private garden in Cheshire that has undergone extensive restoration and development with the help of designer Tom Stuart-Smith.

Adrian is honoured to become a Kew Guild Committee member and hopes to represent Guild members in the north of the country and provide links with the professional gardening world.



Sylvia Phillips

I joined the Kew Herbarium after graduating in Botany from Bristol University in 1966. I was invited to stay on at Bristol for a Ph.D, but I was already engaged to Brian who was working in Surrey, and so came directly to Kew.

I was put in the South American section and given the task of naming mixed bundles of plants from Peru. This was a good introduction to tropical plant families and to botanical literature. After 18 months I was moved on promotion to the Grasses Section under Derek Clayton to work on the Flora of Tropical East Africa. At the end of 1972 our son was born, and although I resigned from the staff I continued to work on the Flora and grass taxonomy. Our daughter was born in 1974.

In 1979 Brian accepted a job in Freiburg, southern Germany, and we moved there for the next 5 years. We enjoyed the nearby Black Forest, hiking in summer and skiing in winter. We all became proficient in German, the children visiting the local school and becoming bilingual.

In 1981 I received an invitation to write the grass family volume for the Flora of Ethiopia. We returned to UK, and I came back to the Grass Section. This work formed the basis of my Ph.D, gained from Bristol in 1997, later in life than usual. I have made a number of visits to Ethiopia, including field work. More work on Kew African Floras followed, and finally five years' writing and co-ordinating the Grass volume for the massive Flora of China project.



In retirement I continue to work in the herbarium as an Honorary Research Associate. I am also a Fellow of the Linnean Society and of the Royal Geographical Society.

Bryan Howard

Bryan was determined to make horticulture his career, well before his school days were over. In 1957 he joined Southampton City Parks Nursery to help grow high quality plants for its parks and grand civic building functions. The opportunity came in 1960 to gain wider horticultural experience, first with Toogoods Seeds and then to practice horticultural skills at Merrist Wood (Surrey) College. Full time Certificate studies at Sparsholt (Hants) College resulted in him joining the staff as a horticultural demonstrator.

In April 1963 Bryan was accepted into the final two year Kew Certificate entry but within six months he readily accepted a transfer to join the brand new three-year Kew Diploma course in September – possibly making him the very first Diploma student! Although he was invited to join Kew's staff on completing studies in 1966 he instead sought an opening in the teaching and advisory sectors.

After a spell helping to prepare for public entry to Wakehurst Place he joined an intensive Further Education/Lecturers training course at Wolverhampton Teacher Training College. In 1967 he accepted the post of Horticultural Advisor with Shropshire Council to service

the needs of Council departments, schools, careers guidance and day/evening courses, and helped to establish a town based horticultural education centre.

He married Joan, a Head of Geography teacher who had recently returned from VSO in Sierra Leone, in 1970. She is an experienced traveller so Bryan owes it to her that they have visited so many places abroad. As a 'home stay family', students have often given warm hospitality following their stay at the Howards' Shrewsbury home.

In 1983 the family took part in a one-year teacher exchange on the 'flora rich' island of Tasmania – a truly unforgettable experience. On his return and for some twenty-five years Bryan enjoyed being part of BBC Radio Shropshire's regular Gardening Programmes, assisted with Wyevale Garden Centre staff training and also spent some years assisting two UK travel companies offering gardening holidays.



Bryan and Joan have two well-qualified sons and four grandchildren who reside in Oxford and in Helsinki.

While Bryan continues part-time as a plant advisor for Dobbies Garden Centres and as a Shrewsbury Town Guide, this leaves ample time to walk Shropshire's 'wild flower' hill country and its many sites of interest. His home garden and allotment always call for attention but this has to be in balance with his many interests such as supporting award winning 'Town of Flowers' efforts, attending wonderful concerts at Shrewsbury School and by contrast joining crews for exciting times of ocean sailing.

Bryan will be ever grateful to Kew for opening up a myriad of opportunities to work with plants and people in many places and comments that Kew offers its staff and students a unique fusion of craft skills, applied science and the chance to develop artistic flair.

If granted a second time round Bryan says he would certainly pursue the same plant focussed career he has enjoyed over the years.

Bryan wishes today's Kew students every success in their work with plants and people in many places at home and abroad.

Clive Popham

I commenced my horticultural education before leaving school by taking O Level Agricultural/Horticultural Science.

On leaving school I went to Dartington Hall Gardens, a private training scheme run by the Elmhurst family and trustees. No apprenticeships were available in Devonshire, making this training unique. Shortly after I commenced, Guild Advisory Editor Richard Ward joined us. We were advised that following Dartington we should move frequently to gain experience. To this end I worked at Rosewarne Research Station in Cornwall – here experience was gained in bulb growing and other locally grown crops. After two years I went to St. Bridget's nursery where I acquired skills in budding and grafting roses, fruit trees, and ornamentals. I returned to Dartington to work on special garden projects and after six months a successful application was made to RBG Kew for a studentship.

At Kew I worked in the Palm House/No 15 Tropical Lily House, Tropical prop pits, Ornamental prop pits and the Flower Garden. When in the Flower Garden, Tony Overland and I did the ground works for the Kew Palace garden. Richard Ward was also a student at this time, renewing our friendship.

Following Kew I went to the New University of Essex, where I worked closely with, and gained much knowledge from, George Brown who was doing a tree survey and advising on Arboricultural problems. I gained experience in estimating and executing landscape works and the supervision of staff.

After six years at Essex I became Assistant Superintendent at Bristol University, and Superintendent about 18 months later. Bristol had extensive gardens attached to halls of residence, some of historic importance, and gardens around academic buildings.

After seven years at Bristol we emigrated to Australia. I first worked at the RBG Sydney and then after six months was appointed Landscape Curator at La Trobe University Melbourne, which has predominately Australian Native planting with some exotics around the main building complex. The University was still developing, requiring landscaping around new building. I also undertook the supervision of developing a new lake for landscape value and irrigation.

After 18 years I took a voluntary redundancy from La Trobe. About 12 months later, Julia and I established a small business growing and selling Iris and Spring/Autumn Flowering bulbs. Nine years later we decided to retire and I now enjoy hybridising and growing various orchids with a particular interest in Disa.



Minutes of the 2013 Annual General Meeting of The Kew Guild held on Saturday 7th September 2013 Jodrell Lecture Theatre, RBG Kew

Those present

Committee:

Jim (and Val) Mitchell (President)
Bob (and Teresa) Ivison (President Elect)
Jonathan Rickards (Vice President)
Pamela Holt (Vice President)
Judy Hancock (Membership Secretary)
Jennifer Alsop (Treasurer)
Sara Arnold (Acting Secretary)

David (and Sue) Cutler (KG Medal Chairman)
Alexandra Ward (Editor)
Richard Ward (Advisor Editor)
Martin (and Wendy) Staniforth
Jean Griffin
Brendan Mowforth
Tony (and Jan) Overland

Alan Stuttard
Graham Burgess

Pamela Holt
David Hardman

Members:

Mike Clift
Jill Cowley
Charlie Erskine
Tricia Fisher
Hans Fleigner
Patricia Gleave
Jim Handley
Allan (and Joan) Hart
Colin (and Valerie) Hindmarch
Bryan Howard
Cliff Iles
Margaret Johnson

Colin Jones
Chris Kidd
Simon Owens
Ben Penberthy
Sylvia Phillips
Brian Pitcher
Peter Styles
Granville Turley
Mike Wilkinson
John Woodhams
Robin Lack
Errol (and Jenny) Scarr

01.13 Welcome by the President Jim Mitchell

The President opened the meeting at 14:36 and thanked everyone for coming. The meeting today is attended by some very distinguished people from all over the world, including South Africa, Canada and Ireland.

02.13 Apologies for Absence

There were numerous apologies for absence:

Committee: Charles Funke, Tim Upson, Kiri Ross-Jones, Bill Bessler, Stewart Henchie.
Members: Graham Ross, Lyn Sales, Edward Neighbour, Chris Searle, Roger and Diana Polhill, Sue Thorne, Shirley Sherwood, Stuart Cave, Emily Leche, Eric Curtis, C A Attwood, John Whitehead, David Frodin, Norman Robson, Trevor Elton, Sheila and Neil Gilmour, Chris Bailey, Rupert Browning.

03.13 Notice of Death of Member

The President asked members to stand to remember those friends who have passed away during the year:

Nigel Hepper, a long standing committed member of the Guild, Robert Millard, Walter Joseph Slade, Mark Reeder, Anthony Edward Reginald Goodale, Alexander George Dixon and any others we may not be aware of.

04.13 To approve the Minutes of Annual General Meeting of 8th September 2012 printed in the Journal.

There was one attendance omission; Mike Griffin was in attendance for the meeting. With this amendment the minutes of the meeting of the AGM were approved and signed by the President as a true record of the meeting.

05.13 Matters arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda

There were no Matters Arising.

06.13 The Acting Honorary Secretary's Report – Sara Arnold

'The Committee has met four times during the year in the Kew Guild room in the Herbarium. The year has been extremely busy for the Secretary and Communications Officer.

Further to the initiative started by the ex-President Stewart Henchie regarding mass mailings to members, this has been taken further by Jim Mitchell who introduced a quarterly Newsletter, sent both by email and snail mail to those members who are not on email. This has proved very popular and encouraged members to change the way they communicate with us. I enjoy compiling this and the feedback I have had from members is very positive. The statistics provided by the mailing programme shows that members are reading the newsletter and clicking through to the website. I can actually see who opened, read and clicked.

We have also used this method to contact as many of the ex-students as we can. We tried to contact 875 past students by post and by email. The postal mailing to over 300 resulted in 50 of them being returned, so they are now considered out of contact. The MailChimp campaign was sent to over 500, of which 30 bounced back and so these too are out of contact.

I would like to start a Twitter feed for the coming year to build upon the success of the electronic communications.

The joining form has now been redesigned and is on the website. Thanks to Judy Hancock, Bob Ivison, Jonathan Rickards, David Hepper and Richard Ward for their help.

I am pleased to say I have answered many queries from members, ex-members and also some members of the public and the Committee.

It has been great working with Jim, who has provided us with a busy year, but everyone has risen to the tasks before them.

I hope there are some nominations for Secretary for next year, and I will give my utmost support to anyone who feels they would like to carry out the role.'

The President thanked Sara for all her hard work over the year and said he could not have done everything without her.

Richard Ward asked what the costs to the Guild of sending out Journals and newsletters to members. Sara said about £1,000 per year for all her work and this includes postage (of about £100 for each newsletter mailshot).

The President asked the membership for a volunteer to take over the Secretary role. Jean Griffin formally nominated Sara as a permanent Secretary for the Guild as she does a phenomenal job and the Guild should consider making her role permanent. Tony Overland seconded.

Martin Staniforth said that the Guild Constitution as it stands at the moment cannot accommodate this. To go ahead with this the Constitution needs to change, and this change passed through the Charity Commission for approval. Wendy Staniforth looked into this last year and informed members that the Motion would need to be put to the next AGM or an Extraordinary General Meeting called to deal with it.

Graham Burgess asked for the views of those present regarding changing the Constitution. There was a majority show of hands. Jennifer Alsop added that any paid appointments must be viable for the Guild.

The matter was referred back to the Committee to take steps to approve this motion and it will be on the agenda for the first Committee meeting of the year.

07.13 Treasurer's report – Jennifer Alsop – Financial Statements printed in the Journal

‘The accounts for the year ended 31/12/2012. The restricted funds increased by £6,049 and the unrestricted funds increased by £23,100.

Income in 2012 totalled £32,756 of which £6,562 was from subscriptions, £20,592 from our investments and £1,000 from donations. We are very grateful to the Philip & Granville Trust for their kind donation.

Awards and prizes of £6,994 were made. £6,300 was spent on producing the Journal, which again was of very high quality. Governance costs were £3,739 this year which includes £2,566 for secretarial costs. This includes postage for newsletters and notices. There were unrealised gains on the Guild's investments of £39,280.

The endowment funds are invested in the Charities Official Investment Fund Units which is considered to be relatively safe. £94,869 in the endowment funds, £68,983 in restricted funds, £303,682 in designated funds and £73,444 in the unrestricted general fund have been carried forward to 2013.

I would ask you to approve these accounts of which a copy is in the Journal.’

The membership approved the accounts. Jean Griffin proposed, David Hardman seconded. Motion carried.

Jennifer also asked that the appointing of an Independent Examiner or Auditor for the Annual Accounts of 2013 is approved. The Independent Examiner the Guild has appointed in the past is not available in the future and Jennifer asked if anyone can nominate a replacement. Alan Hart proposed, Martin Staniforth seconded. Motion carried.

It is proposed that the subscription rates remain the same as 2012. A full review of subscription rates will take place during 2013/14. David Hardman proposed. Pamela Holt seconded. The membership voted in favour.

08.13 Membership Secretary's report – Judy Hancock

Membership as at 14 August 2013

Membership category	Numbers
Staff	57
Students	30
Library/Corporate	0
Standard	370
Life	10
Total	467

Membership

Numbers continue to improve, slowly but surely. I gave a talk to the new intake of Horticultural Trainees and Apprentices (17 in total) about membership of the Kew Guild. They were all given membership forms. The students have to be at Kew for three months before they are eligible for membership.

Although I will have resigned from the role of Membership Secretary by the time the new intake of Diploma students start on 16th September, I am booked in to inform them about membership of the Guild.

Membership Secretary Vacancy

Due to pressures of work as Administration Officer in the School of Horticulture at RBG Kew, I will be standing down as Membership Secretary of the Kew Guild as from 7th September 2013.

Notice of my resignation from this voluntary role was given to the Kew Guild in February 2013, to allow the Committee to find a replacement. At the time of sending this report out, I don't believe a replacement has been found.'

The Membership Database is on Judy's computer at Kew. It is very easy to email the database but security will need to be tight.

Judy made a plea to the meeting for a volunteer.

The membership thanked Judy for all her work for the Guild over the past few years.

Richard Ward reiterated the plea and, later, Ian Hudson volunteered from the floor of the meeting.

09.13 Events Officer's report – Pamela Holt and Jean Griffin

Following a survey last year members asked if there could be more regional meetings and Tony Overland and Jean Griffin took up the challenge set by the President.

Both events took place within a month of each other, the North West tour in June and the South East tour in July.

The weather was fair and a good time was had by all participants.

Despite the request for regional meetings the take up from members was very poor, just over 20 people for each area.

A great deal of effort is put into the organisation and so it was disappointing to realise that there were few local Kew Guild members at each event although the tours had been widely advertised and a flyer put out at the Dinner in May. Also there was a very poor response from the Committee itself and no response whatsoever from the student body.

Thanks also to the overseas members who supported the Guild at these two events.

The membership discussed the numbers of people participating on these tours, both of which attracted around 20 participants but that no members of the Committee were present.

Jean Griffin and Tony Overland thanked the membership for their support as an enormous amount of work had gone into organising both trips.

Pamela Holt called upon members in the room to come up with ideas of their own to try to get a more geographical spread of Guild events. The Guild needs to be careful not to lose members if we don't pull together.

The Spanish trip had included culture as well as horticulture, and participants had a lovely time.

The important thing about tours is the comradeship, and association between people is as important as the places visited.

It was stated that 20 participants on a trip should be deemed a success and one member stated that the organisation of overseas trips should be undertaken up to a year in advance to give plenty of time to market the event. The President agreed, saying that events need as long as possible to get off the ground. This year, all events, including the Annual Dinner were all agreed by December.

The membership thanked Bill Bessler, Pamela Holt, Tony Overland and Jean Griffin for all their hard work.

David Hardman said a few words as he joined in both the UK trips and the Spain trip. They were fantastic trips and a great opportunity to meet people and make friends. Everyone did a marvellous job. Thanks to all who were involved.

10.13 Editor's report – Alexandra Ward

'The Events of 2012 Journal was published on time at a cost of £4,895. I would like to thank all the contributors to the Journal, particularly Graham Burgess and Nigel Hepper. Pamela Holt has kindly offered to take over the News of Kewites for next year.

I am in the process of obtaining a new 3-year fixed quote from the Printers and will report on this to the Committee at the October meeting.

In October I will be sending out the guidelines for regular and required contributors for the next Journal. The final deadline for all copy is 31st January 2014 (except for Financial Accounts and Membership list). As last year, I will need an email from the authors with their contribution, stating that they own the copyright of the text and all illustrations.

I encourage you all to send in your news for the next Journal.'

David Cutler congratulated Alexandra on an excellent product.

11.13 Web site report – Bob Ivison, Jonathan Rickards

Jonathan has been working with the website hosts SomCom to correct some issues on the Journal searches which were not operating correctly.

A strategy was drawn up for development which focuses on the items that have been outstanding from their original brief. These have now been done and signed off.

The next phase of the web development is membership and online renewal. There are a

number of options, with different costs and the Committee needed outside help to take this forward. David Hepper came forward and has been appointed to take on this role. David will provide a report which will advise us about online membership and renewal. This would reduce the amount of work for any new Membership Secretary as many of the systems will become automated.

The Members section which contains knowledge exchange and personal profiles is not accessible yet as it is tied up with the membership part of development. Jonathan gave members the Login and asked if they would take a look and submit comments. Jonathan asked for contributions from members, but they do not have to be about Kew.

The photographic gallery has had 200 hits. It is a means of communicating with members and is cheaper than using mail. There is a way of counting the number of visitors to the site and SomCom would be able to provide that information.

Richard Ward asked if David Hepper is being paid, and whether he has been given a deadline to report back. Jonathan replied that he has a contract with the Guild but that no deadline has been set, but a timeline agreed instead. The Guild feed through to David what we require and David then liaises with SomCom. Things are taking much longer than originally anticipated. David's contract was for a 3-month period to clarify the position relating to the journal searches and a number of other items on the original list. David's contract is renewed on a 3-monthly basis. The Guild are not going to finish with SomCom, but need make sure they are not undertaking designs on the website when we don't require it; we just need membership renewal and payment which doesn't need to be designed specifically for us.

Jim asked how much the redesign of the database is costing. Jonathan replied £1,000 for the first three months. SomCom ongoing costs are approximate £2,000. Pamela Holt asked that when new events have been posted up, where are the old events going? Jonathan replied that all photos and items are on the website at all times and explained how to get to historical items. Graham Burgess felt SomCom have cost far too much and shouldn't be charging extra to correct outstanding issues. Jonathan replied that this is what David Hepper is working on.

Bob Ivison said the website is almost a full time job. The site itself cost lots to set up, but the Guild will reap rewards as time goes on. More information is available to membership which is invaluable, rather than value in profit.

12.13 Award Scheme report - David Barnes. David sent his apologies.

There was no report forthcoming but David provided regular reports to the Committee.

13.13 Archives report – Kiri Ross-Jones

'Kew Guild Archive Display – Wolfson display space, LAA Reading Room, 1st floor Herbarium, Library, Art & Archives building.

To celebrate the Kew Guild and showcase the Guild's Archives held in LAA, Kew's Assistant Archivist (Lorna Cahill) and I have put together a display. The display draws on the Guild's archive collection, revealing some of the fascinating stories from the Guild's history and will include a number of varied and interesting objects from the collection. The display will run from 4 September – 21 October 2013 and all are welcome to come and see it. The Reading Room (where the display is hosted) is open Mondays-Fridays, 09.00-17.00 and accessible to all. From late September, you will also be able to read about

the display on the Library, Art & Archives blog - <http://www.kew.org/news/kew-blogs/library-art-archives/index.htm>

Kew Guild Grand Reunion Day and AGM

As part of the celebrations, a display featuring the Kew Guild Archives and also some treasures from RBGK's Archives will be set out in the HLAA Reading Room for attendees to view. Kew Archives staff will be available to answer any questions. If members have any archival items (i.e. papers and photographs relating to their time at Kew) which they would like to donate to the Archives, please contact me (k.ross-jones@kew.org).

Celebratory Publication Research

Kew's Archives Graduate Trainee, Elisabeth Thurlow, was employed by the Guild as a private researcher to carry out research into suitable themes and personalities for the publication. Elisabeth discovered a number of interesting stories and has compiled some excellent research notes. Her research has been added to the Guild's collection.

The Kew Guild Archives

I have received a number of additions for the Archives over the last year from Committee members past and present. However, the Guild Committee agreed that it would be best were papers not added to the Archives until they are five years old, as once papers have been added they are open to the public. I will be holding any papers received as the Archivist of the Guild and will add them to the Archive collection once five years has elapsed.

The Story of Kew Gardens in Photographs

This book by myself and Lynn Parker, was published by Kew and Arcturu in April 2013. It draws on Kew's photographic collections and includes many images from the Kew Guild Archives. Some Guild members may find themselves amongst the pages! Copies can be bought in the Reading Room on the morning of 7th September and can also be bought in the Kew bookshop and from Kew's website.'

14.13 Result of Prize Day

Martin Staniforth said Prize Day was a very successful day and is grateful for Guild support.

15.13 Retiring Presidents Report – Jim Mitchell

It has been a busy year and Jim thanked the Committee for their endurance throughout the year. With this busy programme of events and improved communications we hope members have not been overwhelmed. Planning was done early and we achieved our goals. The 50th Anniversary is a significant year and we set out to recognise achievements of Kewites around the world.

Celebrations commenced in Spain but Jim wasn't able to attend. Similar events in North and South of England were organised and Jim thanked Bill, Jean, Pamela and Tony.

The next trip is to South East Asia in February 2014 and thanks go to Nigel Taylor and Stewart Henchie for planning this. It will be an exceptional itinerary. More details can be found on the website.

The Annual Dinner at Cambridge Cottage was well attended despite the high cost. Thanks to Richard Ward and Jennifer Alsop for their organisation.

The Committee understands the cost of the Annual Dinner is high when taking into consideration travel costs etc., and the regional dinners were considered a good alternative and were very successful.

The President asked for nominations for the Awards Scheme in plenty of time so nominees could be considered.

The exhibition put together by Kiri Ross-Jones and the work carried out by Elizabeth Thurlow are fascinating and the Guild thanked them for their hard work.

The booklet to commemorate Kew's contribution to world horticulture is coming soon.

Jim was hoping to see an exhibition of Kewites achievements in the Gardens, but this didn't happen; however the commemorative plaque will be mounted in the School of Horticulture and is being designed at present.

Graham Burgess' seminar is being held on 28th September in Jodrell. Thanks to him for his single-handed hard work.

There has been an exceptional programme this year and Jim appreciates members' efforts. Without their knowledge and efforts the Guild would not survive. The President thanked the long-serving members of Committee Jonathan Rickards, David Barnes and Judy Hancock who are all stepping down this year. The commitment of the Acting Secretary ensuring events run smoothly is very much appreciated. Jim also thanked his wife Valerie for her unending support through the last two years.

'I would like to thank you all for coming and electing me President and I would like to give my good wishes to the new President for 2013-14.'

16.13 Retiring members of the Committee

Jean Griffin, Tim Stretton, Brendan Mowforth, Tim Upson, David Barnes and Judy Hancock

The meeting thanked the members for their contribution.

17.13 Election of officers: Proposed

President	Bob Ivison (from President Elect)
President Elect	David Hardman Proposed Alan Hart, seconded Jean Griffin
	Charles Funke Proposed Graham Burgess, seconded Tim Upson
Vice Presidents	(First year) Alan Stuttard Proposed Bob Ivison, seconded Jim Mitchell

Tim Upson
Proposed Colin Hindmarch, seconded Tony Overland

Tony Overland (second year)

Honorary Secretary (Acting Secretary, Sara Arnold)

Honorary Treasurer Jennifer Alsop (vacant from 2014)

Honorary Membership Secretary Ian Hudson

Award Scheme Chairperson Chris Kidd

Kew Gardens Representative **Vacant**

Events Officer Pamela Holt

Publicity and Promotions Jean Griffin

Editor Alexandra Ward

Website Officer Bob Ivison

Website Manager Jonathan Rickards

Archives Officer Kiri Ross-Jones

Committee members to be elected

For 3 years Bryan Howard
Sylvia Phillips
Adrian Lovatt

Rebecca Bower withdrew her nomination to Committee

Overseas representative: Clive Popham

Results of elections: Brendan Mowforth as Returning Officer gave the results of the election to the President:

President Elect for 2013-14 David Hardman

Vice president (first year) Tim Upson

Colin Hindmarch commented that the Honorary Treasurer is a crucial role within the Guild and ideally should be taken on by a person employed at Kew, and suggested approaching the Friends of Kew organisation. He also asked if Jennifer would revisit the Job Description to give a tight brief of what the role involves.

18.13 Any Other Business

David Cutler asked for nominations for the Kew Guild medal. The closing date is 1st March 2014.

Allan Hart said the Guild should hold five meetings per year and asked the incoming Committee to arrange; perhaps a regional meeting would be appropriate to coincide with a regional dinner. Alan also suggested meetings could be held with members participating on Skype.

Granville Turley said he had heard most of what was said at the meeting but asked if the PA system could be used for the next meeting.

Graham Burgess said that there have been a lot of members passing away this year and to stop the Guild membership from declining new members are urgently required. He also drew the members' attention to his seminar on 28th September and would be available should anyone have any questions.

19.13 Inauguration of the new President – Bob Ivison

Jim Mitchell welcomed the new President for 2013-14, Bob Ivison. The Committee applauded as the Ceremonial Chains of Office were handed over.

The new President is very pleased to take on the role as he remembers, 42 years ago, being here in the Jodrell as a student. Bob thanked everyone for the nomination and said that to follow Jim would be a real challenge.

The regional dinners were in the North and South last year and he has East and West in mind for this year. He is talking to people around the country to make this possible.

Future dates to put in your diary: Annual Dinner, 22nd May 2014. (Later changed to 20th).

Bob presented the Past President Jim Mitchell and Vice President Jonathan Rickards their certificates which had been prepared by Allan Hart.

20.13 Date of next Annual General Meeting:

Saturday 6 September 2014. The President Jim Mitchell closed the meeting at 16:45.

Grand Reunion and AGM

7th September 2013



We started the day at 10.30am with a Kew Guild Archives display organised by Kiri Ross-Jones in the Herbarium Library. A fascinating range of material was on show including historic invitations to Kew Guild Dinners and memorabilia, with some Kewites recognising themselves amongst the photographs!

On entering the Gardens, the

rain threatened to change our plans but the skies cleared in time for the Grand Reunion in Kew's Director Richard Deverell's garden, which he had kindly offered to Guild members and guests. Over 110 Kewites and guests enjoyed their picnics and meeting old and new friends.

This was followed by the AGM, the minutes of which are included above. Jim Mitchell gave an address to the assembled members:

'The year has flown by and this will be my last address as President – what a pleasure! And a memorable year it has been. I have certainly appreciated the opportunity to renew my links with Kew and enjoy the fellowship of Kewites living around the world.

I would first like to thank the Guild Committee for their endurance through this very active year. Last September we embarked on an ambitious plan to provide a programme of activities for all members and to improve communication and I trust you have not been too



Editor Alexandra Ward
accompanied Granville Turley to
the AGM picnic



overwhelmed by the outcome. We endeavoured to have a full year's programme in place by Christmas so members could plan their year and I am pleased to say this was achieved, and contributed immensely to its success.

Excuse me from quoting Curator W. Watson, from the first Kew Guild Journal published in 1892:

“Kew’s influence in science and commerce has long been acknowledged as pre-eminent among botanical establishments. It is also a great training school for horticulturists, but the important part she plays in horticulture has not hitherto been generally recognised.

The Kew Guild will, we think, go a long way towards showing how much Kew has done, and continues to do, in the development of scientific horticulture, not only in the British Empire, but in all the civilised countries in the world.”

This statement, I believe, is as relevant today as it was 120 years ago and has helped to drive the year's programme.



2013 is the 50th Anniversary of the last intake of Kew Certificate students and the commencement of the Kew Diploma. Being such a significant year we set out to recognise the achievements of Kew graduates from the time these educational programmes started in the early 1800's and the contribution of Kewites to World Botanic Horticulture around the world ever since.

Celebrations commenced in Spain with a very enjoyable tour of the southern region and I was disappointed in not being able to attend. Similar events were organised in the North and South of England and my thanks go to Bill Bessler, Tony Overland and Jean Griffin for their tremendous efforts to make these events a success.

I am pleased to advise that the proposed Tour of SE Asia, although delayed to February next year, is still on the cards thanks to the involvement of two local Kewites – Nigel Taylor, Director of Singapore Botanic Garden, and Stewart Henchie, our Past President presently at Penang Botanic Garden, consulting to the Malaysian Government – who have helped to put together an exceptional itinerary.

The Annual Dinner this year was again held at Cambridge Cottage and well attended in spite of the relatively high cost which the Committee recognises as an issue, and my thanks go to Richard Ward and Jennifer Alsop for their considerable efforts to organise the event.

Additional Regional Dinners are, in my view, perhaps the answer and a start was made to introduce these this year in Cheshire and Sussex as part of the Tour programmes. This needs to be developed further to encourage fellowship by members who are unable to attend the May Dinner at Kew.

The presentation of an Honourable Fellowship Certificate to the distinguished Australian horticulturalist, Graham Ross, the first for a colleague living in the Southern Hemisphere was, for me, a memorable achievement. I look forward to the election of other distinguished horticulturalists from other parts of the world such as Japan, Singapore and China. Don't forget all nominations are welcome by the Awards Chairman before June each year.

I am pleased to advise that the Guild engaged Elizabeth Thurley, an Archival Research student, under the guidance of Kiri Ross-Jones to put together an historical paper of Kewites activities living abroad from the early 1800's. There are many fascinating stories of those involved in establishing botanic gardens, collecting and distributing numerous economic crops, restoration of historic gardens such as the Taj Mahal and much more. In time the Guild hopes to produce a booklet to 'Commemorate Kew's Contribution to World Botanical Horticulture'. In the meantime I will endeavour to put the research paper onto the Guild website.

It was hoped that an exhibition of Kewites achievements would be assembled this year in the Gardens but due to resources this didn't happen. However I am still pleased that an informative Commemorative Panel to be mounted near the School of Horticulture is being designed thanks to the tremendous efforts of Past President Allan Hart.'

A selection of work by current students of Kew was available to view in the School of Horticulture after the AGM, along with tea and light refreshments served by the students. In the evening, the President Jim Mitchell and other Guild members and friends met for dinner at the Coach and Horses.



Grand Reunion picnic in Director's garden

School of Horticulture Presentation of Kew Diploma and Prizes 2013

Course 48

6th September 2013

Director Richard Deverell began the day with a welcoming address. Martin Staniforth, Acting Principal of the School of Horticulture, followed by introducing those on the platform – Judy Hancock, Administrator of the Kew Diploma who was instrumental in preparing for Prize Day, and Nigel Brown, Guest of Honour. Each year the graduating students may suggest their guest of honour – Nigel is Curator of the Treborth Botanic Gardens, University of Wales, Bangor and has been chosen by the students following their inspirational visit to Bangor last autumn, where Nigel tutored them in ecology. Nigel is an expert in natural history with over 30 years experience in identification, ecology and conservation biology of our native flora; he also has a keen personal interest in ornithology and Lepidoptera. He also introduced Jim Mitchell, President of the Kew Guild, and mentioned that Jim is a graduate of Course 1, seeing the introduction of the Kew Diploma.

Martin went on to say:

‘It has been a privilege and an honour to provide leadership for the Kew Diploma and the School of Horticulture over the last year as Acting Principal. With reduced staffing continued from last year I have been very grateful for the support and extra ‘good will’ of staff in the horticultural sections covering many of the essential duties to keep the course running.

I would also like to thank the School of Horticulture team of Judy Hancock and Pam Black for their exceptional dedication. The Diploma would not exist without the commitment of Kew staff, visiting lecturers and examiners who have given the School of Horticulture outstanding support this year. At Kew we are always looking to strengthen the Diploma and although things have been tough we have made strides in purchasing a minibus that allows more convenient transport for course components taught off-site, and for use by the students to visit more gardens. The School has recently been equipped with Wi-Fi, which has been a top student wish for some time.

I would like to thank Course 48 for their contribution to Kew’s horticulture and for the many suggestions they have made, we have certainly learnt from them, as they have from us by completing the Diploma; it is with pride that we see them leaving us today.

Graduation is very much about celebration of the students’ achievements with the support of their friends and families and an acknowledgement of their hard work to obtain a difficult qualification.

For some it also marks the end of a chapter and the start of a new career beyond Kew; the immediate futures for some of today’s graduates include that of **Katharine Cook** who will be taking up the position of Deputy Head Gardener at the National Trust’s property, Dunham Massey near Altrincham, Cheshire. **Kate Dixon** will be continuing her employment at Kew and joining the School of Horticulture as Horticultural Technician. **Adele Dyer** is also staying in the locality joining a Heritage Lottery Funded project ‘Jam Yesterday, Jam Tomorrow’ as a Horticultural Co-ordinator for the Environment Trust for Richmond-upon-Thames. **Andrew Gdaniec** will be joining the Alameda Gardens, Gibraltar’s Botanic Gardens as Curator. **Beccy Middleton** has accepted a position in one of Scotland’s most remote gardens, Inverewe, Wester Ross, under the care of the National

Trust for Scotland, where she will be looking after the historic walled garden. **Lee Oram** will be joining the landscape design and detailing team of Kew graduate John Sallis-Chandler's Landscape Designers and Gardeners business; he will be in good company as John employs several graduates already. **Wes Olliffe** has accepted the Head Gardener position at Lord and Lady Fairhaven's private estate near Newmarket in Cambridgeshire. **Tsuyeko Western** will be taking up a position as Propagation Manager with the Palm Centre in Richmond.

This leaves 6 graduates **Michael Benedito, Karen Clayton, Georgina Darroch, Sheila Das, Maija Ross, and Jen Sarginson** who have yet to make long term commitments, but it is early days and we wish them well with their future careers.

Finally, thanks must go to all sponsors of our prizes, many of whom are in the audience today. In particular, I would like to thank the Bentham-Moxon Trust, the Royal Horticultural Society, the Rotary Club of Kew Gardens and the Merlin Trust all who have given grants to support our students and Kew staff this year. I must also thank the Kew Foundation for their gift of a year's membership of the Friends of Kew to each of our graduating students.'

Martin then invited the Guest of Honour, Nigel Brown, to make the presentations.

Michael Benedito

Kew Diploma with Credit

Karen Clayton

Kew Diploma with Credit

Katharine Cook

The Proudlock Prize, donated by the Kew Guild, to the student attaining the highest mark in their plant propagation essay;
Kew Diploma with Credit

Georgina Darroch

The Donald Dring and Gilbert Memorial Prize, sponsored by the Bentham-Moxon Trustees in memory of a former mycologist for the student attaining the highest marks in Entomology and the Crop Protection project;
The Rotary Club of Kew Gardens Prize, awarded to the student who has made the biggest contribution to the voluntary or charity sector during their course. This year's recipient has donated her time and experience to regeneration of a pond and wildlife area at Pensford Fields in Kew for the Pensford Field Environmental Trust;
The Squire's Garden Centre Prize, donated by Squires Garden Centres for the best overall performance in landscape studies;
Kew Diploma with Honours

Sheila Das

The George Conrad Johnson Memorial Prize, administered by the Bentham-Moxon Trustees on behalf of the magazine 'The Grower' now incorporated into 'Horticulture Week', in memory of an ex-Kewite. The prize is for the best overall performance on the Kew Diploma course;
The Dummer Memorial Prize, sponsored by the Kew Guild for the joint, best Herbarium project;
The Freda Howson Award, bequeathed by Reginald Charles Howson in memory of his wife. This prize is awarded for excellence in Ecology and Conservation;
The Kew Gardener Prize sponsored by 'The Kew Gardener' a local horticultural

business, to the top student in Amenity Horticulture;
 The Kew Guild Cup for obtaining the highest marks in the 1st year vegetable plot project;
 The Kew Guild Individual Study Prize for the person attaining the highest marks in their Systematic Botany Project;
 Kew Diploma with Honours

Kate Dixon

The Alitex Glasshouse Award, sponsored by the greenhouse manufacturing company. This prize is awarded to the student who has demonstrated the best practical performance during their work placements under glass;
 The Worshipful Company of Gardeners' Prize, awarded by the City of London Livery Company to the person attaining the highest marks in their Practical Management Project;
 Kew Diploma with Honours

Adele Dyer

The Dummer Memorial Prize, sponsored by the Kew Guild for the joint, best Herbarium project;
 Kew Diploma with Honours

Andrew Gdaniec

The C P Raffill Prize donated by the Kew Guild to the winner of the Kew Mutual Improvement Society's student lecture competition;
 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 student achieving the highest marks in their practical work placements;
 The George Brown Prize donated by the Kew Guild, in memory of a former Assistant Curator, to the top student in the Arboretum and Horticultural Services Section. The Head of this Section, Tony Kirkham, has also kindly donated a signed copy of his book 'The Pruning of Trees, Shrubs and Conifers', the original version being written by George Brown – this revised edition is available in all good bookshops!;
 The Matilda Smith Memorial Prize sponsored by the Kew Guild in memory of a botanical artist at Kew, and given to the best practical student overall;
 Kew Diploma with Honours

Beccy Middleton

The F Nigel Hepper Cup presented in memory of the Kew botanist in recognition of the highest achievement in plant identification assessments;
 Kew Diploma with Honours

Wes Olliffe

Kew Diploma with Credit

Lee Oram

The Kingdon-Ward Prize given by Winifred Kingdon-Ward in memory of her brother Frank, a noted plant collector, awarded to the student attaining the highest marks in their final-year dissertation;
 The Worshipful Company of Gardeners' Prize, awarded by the City of London Livery Company to the student attaining the top marks in the final year dissertation;
 Kew Diploma with Credit

Maija Ross

Kew Diploma with Credit

Jen Sarginson

Kew Diploma with Credit

Tsuyeko Western

The British Friends of Jerusalem Botanical Gardens Scholarship for a final year, four-week placement at the garden in Jerusalem;

The Students' Union Prize for services rendered as President over the past year;

Kew Diploma with Credit

Other awards and prizes**Will Burridge**

The Institute of Horticulture Prize – the prize sponsored by the Institute is awarded to the person gaining the best overall performance in the first year;

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

Martin Deasy

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

Last season's Kew Mutual Improvement Society weekly lecture programme was organised by several second year students:

Matt Brewer

The Sir Joseph Hooker Prize is given by the Director in memory of his famous predecessor and augmented by a cup donated by Mrs Hazel Hyde, former School of Horticulture Administrator, in recognition of the work carried out by the Chairman of the Society. The Kew Mutual Improvement Society was established 1871 and is probably the longest running lecture series run by students.

Corin Golding

The Kew Mutual Improvement Society's Prize is presented to the student who has done the most to organise the lectures and support the Chairman.

Simon Creed

The Professor Keith Jones Cup is donated by a former Keeper of Jodrell Laboratory to the person or people who have given the best 'item of interest' talks to the Kew Mutual Improvement Society. This was for his item on orchids.

Travel Scholarship Prizes

As an assessed element of the Kew Diploma, students are required to write a two-week travel scholarship proposal, to travel to a destination of their choice and investigate or study some aspect of plants and or horticulture. This year's recipients have once again risen to the challenge and have experienced some truly amazing plants, in very diverse and varied countries.

The Ernest Thornton-Smith Travel Scholarship is the top second year Travel scholarship award, presented by the Trustees of the Thornton-Smith and Plevins Young People's Trust

to allow a Kew Diploma student to travel overseas. This year's winner, **Amy Moffett**, was able to visit Mauritius and Rodrigues in the Indian Ocean to study heterophyllus plants.

The Stella Ross-Craig Travel Scholarships are administered by the Bentham-Moxon trust in memory of the famous botanical artist. She asked that her bequest be used to support botanical and horticultural students:

Martin Deasy travelled to Germany to study modern ecologically informed perennial plantings.

Tom Freeth travelled to Singapore and Thailand to unravel the factors influencing cultivation of Orchidaceae in Southeast Asia.

Hans-Wilhelm Mackrodt travelled to Ecuador to visit two young organisations conserving Amazonian rainforest, Jardín Botánico Las Orquideas and Finca owned by Amazonia Simbiosis and Fundación Fauna de la Amazonia.

Tom McCarter travelled to Colorado, USA to study alpine plants and their cultivation in a garden setting.

Suzanne Patman travelled to Japan to look at native plants in the Japanese urban landscape – *Acer* species in use in Tokyo.

Susan Urpeth undertook a study tour of New England salt marshes in Massachusetts, USA.

Staff Travel Prizes

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

Sam Edwards is a third year apprentice working in Kew's Hardy Display Section. He wrote his proposal to visit the Chilli Pepper Institute at New Mexico State University, to see the research they carry out; covering disease resistance, yield, flavour, pigment (for dye), heat, and their production of cultivars. He also carried out study and practical skills in cultivation and propagation focusing on *Capsicum*.

Doris McKellar is also a third year apprentice working in Kew's Hardy Display section. She has visited coastal Peru to join Project Huarango; a Kew managed conservation and restoration ecology programme.

Kit Strange is our final winner, who works in the Alpine Unit, part of Hardy Display Section. For her travel scholarship she visited northwest Spain with Kew Taxonomist Anna Trias-Blasi this spring, to help with research into taxonomy and collect specimens of *Narcissus triandrus*, angel's tears.

The John Morley-Davis Travel Scholarships are available from a bequest of Mr Morley-Davis given for horticultural and conservation training in the UK, given to two recipients:

Iain Parkinson works at Wakehurst Place. For his scholarship he visited fifty meadows across the UK throughout the summer from Somerset to the North Pennines; he has established some important partnerships for plant conservation and as a result more rare British native plants will be grown at Wakehurst Place.



© Andrew McRobb, RBG Kew

Simon Creed is a third year apprentice in Kew's Hardy Display section – apprentices write a travel proposal as part of their studies in the second year. He visited Dorset, Somerset and the New Forest, exploring different wetland bog sites and to Suffolk looking at a carnivorous plant nursery.

Guest of Honour Nigel Brown (left), then spoke fluently about his admiration of the outgoing Diploma students who he had taught for a week last October at Treborth. He welcomed the annual arrangement and finds the Kew students unique in their knowledge, of 'botanology!' He said that this was a moving occasion and that he felt honoured to give out the prizes at Kew. He reminded guests that Treborth was set up in 1960 with help from Kew's then Director Sir George Taylor and he stressed that personal relationships and contacts made by students would be invaluable for the rest of their lives.

Lee Oram and Jen Sarginson gave the student vote of thanks, to School of Horticulture staff, external lecturers, storekeeper, constabulary and many others, and flower bouquets were presented. They had prepared a humorous video cameo of all the outgoing students which was presented 'à la Big Brother' with a live commentary.

Guests were invited to afternoon tea at the School of Horticulture after the ceremony finished, and then to enjoy a tour of the Gardens on the Kew Explorer, from the Grass Garden and returning to the Medici Urn, close to the Princess of Wales Conservatory.



Outgoing Course 48

© Andrew McRobb, RBG Kew



Kasia Babel
5177

Alex Cairns
5178

Gareth Cox
5179

Paul Eguia
5180



Neville Evans
5181

Rupert Harbinson
5182

Gill Hobley
5183

Alex Hoyle
5184



Iain Middlebrook
5186

Beth Newman
5185

Gareth Porteous
5187

David Richter
5188



Peter Furski
5189

Bob Woodling
5190

Course 51

Student Report

by Aaron Marubbi

A September in the School of Horticulture has two constants; the end of one Course of students and the beginning of an adventure for another. This year the culmination of three years of vigorous botanical training was celebrated at the graduation of Course 48 in the company of esteemed guests including Guild President Jim Mitchell. Course 48 is a year group to remember; certainly they have left their mark on Kew with delightful reinterpretations of the veg plots and the unearthing of the Diploma Student Dungeon – I now take extra care when passing the Ice House and I warn you all to do the same! The Graduates are now gleefully employed as private and public head gardeners, propagation managers, landscapers and Botanic Garden Curators in the UK and abroad. We wish them all the best with their future endeavours.

Course 49 has been very busy on Travel Scholarships around the globe from the United States to Singapore, Mauritius, Germany, Japan and Ecuador. Their experiences and intentions were all very different and make for some fascinating and enjoyable Kew Mutual Improvement Society lectures. Having survived the notoriously gruelling second year of the Kew Diploma, Course 49 were packed off to Wales for a week of hiking, garden visits,



Course 50 at Constance University Botanic Garden visiting their invasive weed collections © AJ Marubbi 2013

and ecology lectures at Bangor University's Tredboath Botanic Garden on the Menai Straits. The infectious enthusiasm of their tutor Nigel Brown and beautiful natural landscape of North Wales made for an unforgettable trip. They are already preparing for their next study trip to Andalucía. This trip aims to tie together threads that run through the entire Diploma such as vegetation surveying and plant identifying in the field.

Further afield, Tom Freeth has been awarded a three-month scholarship to work and study in Jerusalem Botanic Gardens. Also, Ashleigh Edwards has been awarded the RHS and Garden Society of America's Scholarship to work at Longwood Garden in Pennsylvania for a year-long placement. Our congratulations go to them both!

It's been a bumper harvest this year on the Kew Guild Student Veg Plots, with Course 50 capitalising on their efforts with very popular weekly veg sales, raising a significant contribution to their third year Spanish field trip fund. In the same vein they have been busy organising fundraising events at Ham House fairs as well as organising a day of lectures titled 'Growing Veg, Communities & Sustainability'. This was a huge success with notable speakers including garden designer Cleve West, and maintained a great atmosphere of excitement throughout the day.

Life for the first years has centred on the plots this year, especially with Kew's 'IncrEdibles' Festival, holding weekend 'Ask the gardener' drop-in sessions and a stream of blog posts to share their successes and of course the failures they encountered of growing your own!

A highlight and a real treat of this year was a trip to the 'flower island' of Mainau in Lake Constance, on the invitation of Count Björn Bernadotte. Here students were able to see first-hand how a commercial garden and tourist attraction can successfully operate, whilst also enjoying the local scenery, flora and the delights of German Biergartens.

With the growing season over, the bounty of this year has been gathered and the stage set ready for the arrival of Course 51! They've already made an energetic start with the annual 'Clog and Apron' race down the boardwalk. Ian Middlebrook stormed ahead, winning the Cup with an excellent time of one minute four seconds, followed by Beth Newman taking first place for the ladies! Many of them are already going the extra mile and helping out with lots of initiatives at Kew, such as the UK Overseas Territories project in the Herbarium. They're fired up and ready for the next three years of the Kew Diploma!



Course 51 putting their best foot forward for the 2013 Clog and Apron Race! © Andrew McRobb, RBG Kew

Kew Guild Events in 2013

Guild Trip to Spain

19th-27th March 2013

Andalucía: Land of Castles, Palaces and Gardens

'Arriving in warm and sunny Malaga, eighteen Guild members, partners and friends were introduced to our tour leader Mar Hernandez by Bill Bessler, who arranged a splendid cultural trip round Andalucía. That evening we perused our itinerary with eager anticipation.

The following day we were driven to Seville, passing through the largest olive producing area of the region. Despite the rain on arrival, the narrow cobbled streets, alleyways with their beautiful orange trees and our peaceful courtyard hotel were a delight. The programme was rearranged in view of the weather allowing lunch and a siesta before an enjoyable walk to see the Royal Alcazar Palace with its mixture of Moorish and Christian architectural styles. It is still used by the Spanish Royal family when visiting and for royal wedding feasts. A myrtle maze, orange trees, various fig trees and wonderful fountains were explored within the different courtyards. It was lovely to see the almond trees in blossom within the gardens.



Sandra Leche, in front of *Senecio petasitis*

Heavy rain that evening did not dampen the enthusiasm of flamenco dancing that accompanied the evening meal.

Fortunately the following day dawned warm and sunny as we were taken around the Casa de Pilatos, a 16th Century palace belonging to the Dukes of Medinaceli (the current Duke still lives in part of it) with its fine decorative Mudejar ceilings and glazed tiles with many statues, including three Roman

ones dating from the 5th Century which were being cleaned by architectural students. Many myths and legends have given rise to the name of this property following a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Intimate courtyards held *Bougainvillea sp.* and clipped *Buxus sempervirens*, with pots of geraniums and a fountain imported from Genoa.

Next, Santa Maria de la Sed built on the site of a 12th Century mosque between 1401 and 1507, where the disputed remains of Christopher Columbus reside. This building is in the Guinness Book of Records as the largest Gothic Cathedral in Europe. The Giralda tower or minaret is all that is left of the original Mosque. Vast silver collections and reliquaries fill the various side chapels and the tranquil courtyard of orange trees soon filled with tourists as we made our way onto the street.

Following lunch, a memorable ride in horse drawn carriages was taken through the streets and Maria Luisa Park with its amazing sub tropical trees many with informative plaques. The beautiful *Cercis siliquastrum* was flowering in great profusion throughout this huge park which was created for the 1929 exhibition. Many buildings, now museums, are scattered throughout the park, the most notable and impressive being the Plaza de España designed by Anibal Gonzalez. This vast semicircular complex of brick and tile was built just prior to the Wall Street crash as part of a huge exhibition on Spain in 1929. Around the crescent, beautiful azulejo scenes and maps depict each province with two theatrical towers, fountains, majestic stairways and four bridges which cross a curving placid canal. This stunning ensemble has featured in several films from Lawrence of Arabia to Star Wars. Many spent the afternoon exploring the city including the futuristic Plaza de la Encarnacion opened in 2011 – six giant interlinked parasol-like structures dubbed Las



Setas (the mushrooms), left.

Next day we set off for Cordoba where an enjoyable morning was spent visiting the tranquil and cool Palace of the Marquis de Viana. A guided tour took in the elegant rooms before going out into the stunning sun-lit patios. These formal gardens included a variety of wall shrubs and climbers from *Rosa banksii*, *Wisteria chinensis* and *Plumbago capensis* to *Magnolia delavayi* and *Jasminum polyanthum*. Each courtyard displayed a different theme

both in the name, planting and landscaping, from the original entrance Courtyard of the Orange trees dating from the 15th Century to the most modern Courtyard of the Columns, created in the 1980s to accommodate outdoor events.

A guided tour of the spectacular Cathedral followed, a complex mix of church and mosque consecrated in 1236. Initially the church of St Vincent was demolished following the Islamic invasion of Cordoba with a mosque constructed in 785. Inspired by the Mosque of Damascus with a strong Hispanic-Roman influence, this original part contains 19 naves and is divided by 1,000 columns holding up two levels of arches. The columns are made of marble, jasper and onyx with the arches decorated in alternating stripes of red brick and white stone. Later additions exhibit Christian symbolism with gothic, renaissance and baroque creations, vaulting, mural paintings, altars and chapels.

Wandering through the Jewish quarter, leather craft workshops and narrow streets festooned with flower-filled terracotta pots, we arrived at a typical restaurant for an enormous lunch.

That night we travelled to Granada checking into a hotel initially built in the 16th century within the world heritage site alongside the river. Entering the cobbled courtyard and gazing at the wooden galleries it really felt that one had stepped back in time.

From here we were able to walk up to the Alhambra the following morning, where a local guide equipped us each with headphones. This was a good way to hear the English description of the buildings and grounds we were shown whilst surrounded by organised groups all speaking in other languages. The tour continued up the hillside to take in the Generalife with its famous courtyards and fountains. Being early in the season, not too many plants were in flower and there was a fair smattering of snow on the distant Sierra Nevada, however gardeners were busy planting, including large rootballed trees.

All too soon it was time to head back to Malaga via a delightful cactus and succulent garden in the village of Casarabonela. Some 2,500 species are grown here both outside and under glass. Bill added to his collection from the plants on sale before the bus departed for lunch. By now the weather had turned cool and very wet, thus the last garden tour four km north of Malaga took place in the rain. This added to the luxuriant subtropical effect of the gardens of Concepción, founded by Amalia Heredia and her American husband



Left side of table, from front: Sandra Leche, Allan and Joan Hart, David Hardman and Jan Collins, Bill Bessler. Right from front: Peter Styles, Leo Pemberton, Mrs Styles, Jill Cowley and Tony and Jan Overland.

George Loring, a mining tycoon who collected plants from all over the world. From the enormous Wisteria on its pergola, the Bamboo, *Monstera*, *Ficus*, *Magnolia*, Palms, and grand Plane trees to the Mediterranean rock garden leading up to a mirador giving stunning views over Malaga, it was well worth getting wet!’

Pamela Holt

Annual Dinner

23rd May 2013

The 50th anniversary of the Diploma course was celebrated at the Kew Guild Annual Dinner with a nostalgic look at the past 50 years of horticultural education at Kew, including a few thoughts for the future by the Guest of Honour, Leo Pemberton. Coinciding with the centenary of the Chelsea Flower Show, this year’s Dinner was attended by 74 members in Cambridge Cottage.

Leo spoke with pride about his



involvement in the Diploma course, and the changes that had been made over the intervening years as well the success of the Guild. Known by so many for the 25 years that he was Supervisor of Studies at RBG from 1963, Leo became something of an institution himself up to his retirement in 1988.

The two recipients of the Honorary Fellowship of the Kew Guild, Graham Ross and John Massey, both spoke of their passion for horticulture

and then expressed their real appreciation in being given Fellowship of the Guild. The George Brown Award was presented to Dr Norman Robson.

Our President, Jim Mitchell, was sadly unable to attend but he had written a personal welcome to members which was read by Stewart Henchie, Past President and our host for



Tim Upson, left, with students



Left to right: Bill Bessler, Claire Pearce, Leo Pemberton, Val Mitchell, Stewart and Pat Henchie, Jan and Tony Overland

the evening. He was accompanied by Val, Jim's wife, who had made the journey from Australia to attend the evening. The cold weather that had recently dominated our climate did not dampen the spirits of the evening, which was warmly appreciated by all who attended.

The toast to 'Our President' was proposed by Bill Bessler, and to 'Absent Friends' by Diploma student Suzanne Patman. The Dinner was organised by Jennifer Alsop and Richard Ward and the MC was Tony Overland. Over £900 was raised by an auction and raffle organised by the students, for their travel fund.

North of England weekend

1st-2nd June 2013

'We were lucky to enjoy excellent fine weather on this trip, part of the 50th anniversary of the Diploma Course celebrations. With the exception of the Jodrell Bank, all the garden venues chosen were managed by Kewites. The tour commenced at Adlington Hall near Macclesfield, where we were welcomed by head gardener Anthony O'Grady (1984).



The group outside Adlington Hall

Anthony took us on an extensive tour of these historic gardens, including the Yew Maze, Laburnum Arcade and the Father Tiber Water Garden. In a fascinating walk around the 'wilderness' we saw many ancient artefacts which continue to be discovered as ongoing work progresses on this part of the estate. Of particular interest was the 1688 Lime Avenue, believed to be of Dutch provenance, the oldest in the country, and planted as a sign of loyalty following the 'invasion' of William III. The Avenue is entered through the original dated wrought iron gates.

We then adjourned for lunch at the Egerton Arms Chelford, before making our way to The University of Manchester's Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre. Here we were able to see the Lovell Radio Telescope – the awe-inspiring construction that has been probing the depths of space since 1957, and we were fortunate to witness the rare occurrence of the whole

structure revolving on its base. This was followed by a walk through the 35-acre arboretum which holds National Collections of *Sorbus* and *Malus*.

Then on to Stonyford Cottage Gardens where I was able to take the group around our family business, the informal gardens, with its collection of shade tolerant and moisture loving plants, along the pool sides with plantings of Swamp Cypress and Dawn Redwoods, and

via the boarded walks through groves of alder and willow trees.



In the 'wilderness' at Adlington Hall

Afterwards we enjoyed an excellent informal dinner, provided by my family, in celebration of the 50th anniversary. The members were welcomed and thanked for their involvement by the President elect Bob Ivison.

Day two commenced with a visit to The University of Liverpool's Ness Botanic Gardens with the curator Paul Cook (1987), (now Curator at the RHS Garden Harlow Carr). Ness Gardens were founded in 1898 by Arthur Kilpin Bulley, a Liverpool cotton merchant who sponsored many notable plant collectors, introducing plants such as *Primula bulleyana* and the genus *Beesia*, named after Bulley's company, Bees Seeds, which traded for many years after his death in 1942.

Paul, who has undertaken major improvements at Ness, took us on an extensive tour of the ornamental areas featuring Rhododendrons, herbaceous plantings, the rock gardens and terraces

which display many less hardy plants. Ness has the largest UK collection of *Sorbus* and most of the 49 known species of Birch. At the conclusion of the tour we enjoyed a pleasant lunch at the Garden's visitor centre.



David Taber, Jean Griffiths, Clive Popham and Julia Popham at Ness Gardens

After lunch we travelled to nearby Chester Zoological Gardens and were welcomed by



Lunch at Ness Gardens

the Horticultural Curator, Mark Sparrow (1986). Chester Zoo covers a vast area with so much to see, but with Mark's guidance we were able to visit many of the substantial planted areas such as the grass garden, the butterfly house and many more fauna and flora attractions. Most notable was a visit behind-the-scenes to the nursery, where we could have spent the whole afternoon

touring the national collection of orchids – a stunning display which generated many photo shots from some of the orchid enthusiasts in the group. Also of note was an extensive collection of *Sarracenia*. After a brief coffee break we made our way back through the wonderful animal displays, by now late afternoon and so concluding a very enjoyable two days, full of interest, fellowship and many reminiscences.'

Tony Overland, event organiser

South East weekend

6th-7th July 2013

'Following close behind the North West Guild meeting, twenty two intrepid Kewites and friends went to West Sussex on a hot July weekend. I had tried to vary the programme to include several branches of Horticulture – Amenity and Landscape at the Sussex Prairies Gardens; two very different Historic House gardens (!), Arundel Castle and Parham House; and Walberton Nursery, a large commercial concern.

At each venue we were privileged to be met by the Head Gardeners, owners and/or managers who gave a comprehensive and informative tour, which was enjoyed by us all.

The Black Rabbit, a riverside pub in Arundel, was a lovely setting for an evening meal. The only downside was that the President, Jim Mitchell and his wife Val, were unable to join us.

Let's hope that this trend for area meetings continue in future years to promote friendship and information, whilst promoting our common interest in plants.'

Jean Griffin, event organiser

From An Attendee

'Last year Julia and I visited the UK from our home in Australia for six weeks. We were able to dovetail our holiday with the garden visits organised by Tony Overland and the

weekend in West Sussex by Jean Griffin – both tours were excellent.

The weather over the weekend of the 6th-7th July was perfection for visiting gardens, sunny without being too hot.

We first visited the Prairie Garden near Henfield. Wikipedia explains prairie as:

‘Prairies (/ˈprɪəri/) are ecosystems considered part of the temperate grasslands, savannas, and shrublands biome by ecologists, based on similar temperate climates, moderate rainfall, and a composition of grasses, herbs, and shrubs, rather than trees, as the dominant vegetation type’.



This perfectly describes this garden which covers some six acres. It is owned, planted, and maintained by Paul and Pauline McBride. Pauline describes the garden as a ‘naturalistic planting style involving the use of flowering plants and grasses that have a close relationship in form, foliage and simplicity of flower with their native or non native counterparts’.

The plantings are in gently curved interlocking beds which are generous in width to allow groupings of herbaceous plants and grasses. The groupings are generous in numbers to show the plants to their best advantage; cross paths of

contrasting mulch directs visitors through the beds allowing one to be amongst the plants.

In an answer to a question regarding how they dealt with the dry spent herbaceous growth, Pauline told us they burnt the beds off, adding that “everyone loves a good fire” – I couldn’t help thinking that that sort of comment could invite you to become a person of interest to police in Australia!

Unfortunately the burning has the downside of also destroying much of the municipal mulch which has to be replaced annually, and it also makes labelling impractical. We were also told that herbaceous ground cover efficiently reduces maintenance to a minimum. Sculptures are placed through the garden; many are for sale aside from a procession of life sized steel sheet bison at the far end of the central vista. Seating is also artistic but practical in design. For further information go to www.sussexprairies.co.uk

Following an excellent lunch in the Prairie’s restaurant we proceeded to Walberton Nursery, a large wholesale production nursery on a grand scale. They commenced life in



1974, adapting a tomato nursery with just under an acre of glass on a six-acre site, for growing garden plants. The nursery now covers about 36 acres. Plants are grown and propagated in glasshouses, polytunnels, some with pull over plastic coverings, and a laboratory.

The site is surrounded by a woven plastic windbreak stapled to wooden uprights and water is supplied from a deep aquifer via a bore hole.

We saw a huge water tank that the water from the glasshouses roofs drains into; the tank is always open and slowly drains – this helps to prevent flash flooding down stream. I asked why the tank water

was not fed back into the aquifer via the bore, as this would seem a sensible use of water. I guess living in a dry country one develops a deep sense of value regarding water.

The nursery was a founding member of the ‘Farplants Group’, a cooperative where members specialise in growing different varieties of plants. Warlburton grow about 400 varieties and specialise in *Mahonia*, *Helleborus*, *Penstemon*, *Camellia*, *Helenium*, *Euphorbia* and Brown Turkey fig. We also saw various citrus grown from cuttings; my understanding from Australia was that citrus had to be grafted to be successful – you learn something new every day!

The evening was spent at the Black Rabbit pub restaurant on the banks of the River Arun and in sight of Arundel Castle, our first venue on Sunday morning. It was interesting how Kewites react with one another – although some had only met for the first time that weekend, it was as though all had known one another for decades.

We arrived early and found free parking close to the gates, entered via one of the imposing historic portals and proceeded up to the first of a number of gardens within the Castle’s outer wall. The first visit was the White Garden adjacent to the family chapel, which is still divided by a screen, Roman Catholic on one side and Protestant on the other. The small garden is surrounded by a high stone wall and planted with all white flowering plants including *Cosmos*, Lupins, *Dahlia* and Roses.

Next was the Italian garden, an imposing garden with all wooden arches, pergolas, and hornbeam plantings. A central cascade and rill with side spouts ends in a waterfall over a scalloped curved edge into a pool. We proceeded to the central lawn which used to be a car park; it now has a central raised planting with boulders from the local Littlehampton quarry randomly placed to support the bed. Mixed perennials, *Alchemilla*, *Stachys*, *Dahlia*

Bishop of Landaff, Asiatic lilies, cornflower, and Foxgloves.

On to the Water Fountain Temple where water gushes from a central rock to support a rotating crown; our host turned the water off to show the bowl shaped centre of the crown which causes the crown to float at a couple of metres.

The next garden was the stumpery. Huge stumps were used in its construction. All were brought in from the surrounding Arundel Castle estate, they had to remove gates and enlarge gateways for access. The stumpery was the best Julia and I have seen of the many gardens we visited; to be effective the stumps need to be large and imposing. Plantings here were dominated by digitalis (foxgloves) and other herbaceous and annual plants.

We passed through a gateway to the vegetable garden, run on organic principals. We were



told that they lost fruit due to not netting – the black net catches birds, which they wish to avoid. It was pointed that in Australia only white nets are used which the birds see and do not get entangled.

Along one wall was a lean-to glasshouse which replaced one that was demolished in the 1950's. The new one is identical in design and construction, and plantings include geraniums, vines and tomatoes.

Walking back down the drive we were shown a small cordoned-off area of British windflowers which are sown into turf and transported to the site, how sad that so little of the natural meadows of old still exist.



Our final visit was to Parham House, an Elizabethan mansion. Parham is the family home of Lady Emma Barnard who has lived here since 1993; her great aunt Veronica Triton bequeathed the estate to Lady Emma and it is now owned by a Charitable Trust.

We were met by the head gardener and his young son who volunteered to guide us through the gardens. Following the garden tour we were also generously offered the opportunity to visit the House



with the entry fee waived. Our tour commenced from Fountain Court in front of the House, it is now grassed with a central water feature planted with *Iris pseudacorus* and *Cannas* in pots. A walled garden is entered through a wrought iron gate guarded by stone lions, with *Cytisus battandieri* (= *Agyrocytissus battandieri*) and *Wisteria* adorning the walls to either side. Grass paths bordered with herbaceous perennials and annuals lead to a rose garden with an oval central bed and small semi-circular beds around it, there only appeared to be two varieties of roses planted.

The vegetable garden is made up of a number garden beds surrounded by box hedges and the ground is covered in weed mat with slits cut to plant the vegetables including onions, lettuce, cucurbits, and brassicas all thriving, due to the technique used all weed free. Cut flowers are grown with twenty buckets a week required in specific colours to decorate the house, each colour complementing the decor of a specific room. Only one of three earlier greenhouses remains, a lean-to with the back wall covered in *Bougainvillea*. The front raised bed has a collection of geraniums and it is also used to raise seedlings for spring plantings. A corner of the garden wall has a brick built two level Wendy house. It is child-size in every way – the oak front door, miniature working fire range, wooden dresser with stairs leading to upstairs rooms, our guide's son hailed us from an upstairs window, with he and the window in perfect scale.

The original grassed orchard has two original apple trees, Newton Wonder. They are now replanting to the original plan. It was interesting to note that they have a problem with Mistletoe parasitising the trees, which is controlled by pruning out the infected wood.

Our host was duly thanked and the party passed the hat around for the group to show their appreciation of his donated time and commentary. We must thank Jean for a job well done organising the trip, much appreciated by all who attended.'

Clive Popham

Kew Guild Awards Scheme 2013

Over 2013, there were nine successful applications for funding, with a total of £6,800 being awarded to support the projects. Recipients write a report on their project, which are included below.

Applications are invited for the Award Scheme. They are available to all members of the Guild (except Trustees) to:

- assist purposeful travel (fares and subsistence)
- assist members' further education
- assist in the purchase of books and equipment
- pay tuition or examination fees
- provide grants to aid publication of specialist books or papers
- provide financial assistance to enable attendance at Kew Guild and other horticultural events
- assist other projects which the Award Scheme finds acceptable to assist purposeful travel

Full rules of the Awards Scheme and applications are available on the Guild website. The closing dates for receipt of completed application forms are 28th February and 30th June each year.

Awards Scheme Reports

Developing *ex-situ* Conservation Collections in the British Virgin Islands

by Marcella Corcoran

I spent a fascinating three weeks exploring four islands in BVI; collecting seed and taking propagation material to secure British Virgin Islands Native plant species in *ex-situ* collections at the J.R. O'Neal Botanic Garden (JROBG) on Tortola.

This visit included the expansion of existing collections at the Botanic Garden and acquisition of new living collections (for BVI & RBG Kew). It also allowed the BVINPT



to acquire necessary new material for the living collections at the gardens which has improved and further developed the conservation and horticultural collections.

The team and I worked closely with BVI National Parks Trust (BVINPT) staff in the garden to identify species that could be collected in the wild for propagation and cultivation at JROBG as well as identifying material already in the nursery that could go on display. Several new species – *Eugenia*

sessiliflora, *Bastardiopsis eggersii*, for example – have now been brought into the garden's collections.

At the same time I and the rest of the team were training BG staff in collection of plant material, processing, propagation, and monitoring techniques; strengthening Kew's links with the BVINPT and local conservationists.

The three weeks of fieldwork was undertaken on the islands of Tortola, Beef Island, Virgin Gorda, and Anegada. The material collected ranged from live (plants, seeds and cuttings) to preserved (dried herbarium specimens, silica dried DNA samples, alcohol preserved spirit samples). The seedlings were rescued from disturbed areas and areas with heavy grazing where the collection was not detrimental to the survival of the species and/or the seedlings were thought to be in a perilous position. Cuttings and seed of several species were collected where the collection was not detrimental to the survival of the species. Particular attention was paid to the following species: *Pitcairnia jareckii*, *Bastardiopsis eggersii*, *Machaonia woodburyana*, *Eugenia sessiliflora*, *Croton fishlockii*, *Malpighia woodburyana*, *Cordia rupicola*, and *Zanthoxylum thomasianum*.

I wish to thank The Kew Guild for their funding and support of this important work. Also thanks go to BVINPT for their continued support and assistance in providing necessary research permits and letters to other government departments to facilitate the visit. And last but not least to our small team (UK Overseas Territories Programme) here at RBG Kew.

Parks and Plantings in Southern Germany by Martin Deasy

In July 2013 I spent two weeks in southern and south-western Germany, investigating innovative planting techniques that exploit ecological principles to create low-input, long-lasting perennial plantings with high aesthetic impact. My first destination was Hermannshof, the influential trials garden in Weinheim, near Mannheim. Here I spent a



Marcella Corcoran sharing the population discoveries on Great Camanoe Island with a volunteer youth explorer group



Marcella Corcoran watering newly propagated endemics, collected as cutting during training.

fascinating week learning about the design and management of mixed plantings. The director Cassian Schmidt, and head gardener Till Hofmann, were welcoming hosts, and I am very grateful for their generosity in taking time to answer my many questions. A highlight of my visit was the striking *Salvia-Achillea* steppe plantings, a biome as yet little explored in British contexts, but with great potential for dry and low-fertility sites. With Prof. Schmidt, I visited several municipal plantings designed to exploit this type of plant community, including dual-carriageway reservations and corporate sites, prompting me to investigate the potential of such plantings in UK contexts.

During the second week of my trip, based in Munich, I visited other important examples of this ‘New German Style’. At the Munich Westpark I was able to observe the evolution over time of the first such designs – Rosemarie Weisse’s mixed plantings for the 1983 International Gartenschau – in the company of the park’s superintendent. Falling staffing levels are a challenge at the Westpark, but I was struck by how surprisingly resilient the plantings have proved, remaining colourful and attractive despite significant weed infiltration. At the famous trials garden at Weihestephan, northeast of Munich, Frau Ulrike Leyhe gave me a memorable tour of the varied plantings, and explained the stages of the planting trials process.

Among the important lessons I learned on my travels was that sophisticated ecologically-informed design principles can indeed deliver greatly reduced maintenance, but that the maintenance that *is* needed calls for skilled horticulturists able to interpret what they see. I was also struck by the sophisticated approach to landscape construction used with mixed plantings, specifically the widespread use of mineral mulches and low organic content substrates.

As a counterpoint to my research into modern planting techniques, I also visited a selection of the region’s historical gardens, in order to understand the evolution of German horticultural taste over the past four hundred years. I visited two very different Renaissance gardens, Eichstätt’s Hortus Eyestetensis (c.1598; reconstructed 2006) and Heidelberg’s ‘lost’ Hortus Palatinus (1616-19), in its day hailed as the ‘eighth wonder of the world’. Eichstätt is rather out of the way, but I can recommend this small but fascinating garden unreservedly: as much a re-imagining as a restoration, its historically-informed plantings are extremely unusual and superbly executed. At Schloß Nymphenburg (1715-26) and Schloß Schwetzingen (1753), where I was charmed by the playfulness imparted by the extraordinary 18th-century designer Nicolas de Pigage, I saw first-hand how French-influenced baroque layouts were gradually inflected by the ‘English’ landscaping principles of Friedrich Ludwig von Sckell. Experiencing Sckell’s innovations at these gardens helped to set into context the ambition and novelty of the celebrated Englischer Garten in Munich (Sckell, 1789) – Europe’s first public park.

Finally, my visit to the Riemer Park east of Munich brought together the two strands of my trip. Here, the German landscape tradition passing from Sckell through the twentieth-century Westpark merges with the modern planting design principles I had investigated at Hermannshof and Weihestephan, in the work of Heiner Luz. I returned to England with my outlook broadened and knowledge deepened, and am extremely grateful to the Kew Guild for helping to fund the trip.

A Conifer Journey to South America by Aljos Farjon

Towards the end of last year, 2012 I made a journey to some of the conifers of South America, from 9 November to 16 December, visiting Brazil, Argentina and Chile. The objective was to see the species in their natural habitat and photograph them. I am working



on an 'Atlas of the World's Conifers' with distribution maps of all 615 species based on herbarium specimen data. Texts, maps and photos all emphasise the occurrence in habitat, and seeing some of South America, the only relevant continent I had not visited yet, could turn out very helpful. And so it was; the chapter on this continent has improved as a result and is now well illustrated. I thank the Kew Guild for the contribution towards the costs of this trip they were able to give. Support for other trips (The Journal of the Kew Guild 15: 512-513; 16: 52-54) by the Guild have also contributed to the Atlas Project.

Araucaria angustifolia in forest remnant near Cambará do Sul, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil



South America is not terribly rich in conifers; there are a mere 34 species. They are very unequally distributed. The map shows where conifers occur according to herbarium collections made over many years and kept in many herbaria, Kew (K) among them.

The Andes is the main area, but there is an interesting big gap between ca. 30° South and 33° South, caused

by dryness of the regional climate. Also empty is the Amazon Basin. I went to Rio Grande do Sul in southern Brazil for about a week and then to southern Chile and adjacent Argentina, where I spent most of the time, about four weeks. Perhaps the two most

interesting conifers to really experience in the wild were the two araucarias, *Araucaria angustifolia* in Brazil and *A. araucana* (mostly in Chile). Their ecology is quite amazing and they are of course truly iconic trees, now fortunately better protected after a long history of exploitation and devastation. In this report I wish to tell the readers a few remarkable facts about how these majestic trees survive in the wild.

The Brazilian species once covered 200,000 km² of which only 4,000 km² remain in mostly very scattered patches, a decline of 98%. The best stands are near the small town of Cambará do Sul, where spectacular canyons are cut into an east-facing escarpment. The araucarias grow in forest on the plateau, often right up to the edge of the abyss or in narrow valleys leading to the canyon. Elsewhere, they form forest patches in tussock grassland (see photo). *Araucaria angustifolia* is a typical emergent; it rises well above the canopy of the forest when mature. This forest is a mixed angiosperm forest with one other common conifer, *Podocarpus lambertii*, which looks much like the angiosperms and mixes among them. Tree ferns (*Dicksonia*) and small palms are also common. Although the araucarias are taller than the other trees, on the peaty or stony soils near the canyons they are not big trees. Near the town of Canela I saw the ‘Pinheiro Grosso’, a veteran tree estimated to be 700 years old; it is 42 m tall with a circumference above a buttressed base of 7.5 m. It has its own small nature reserve (a municipal park). This is a remnant of forest on deeper soils and this single tree gives an idea of what it might have looked like before Europeans came with their axes and saws. Here, too, the araucaria is an emergent tree. To my surprise, I found seedlings and saplings as well as younger trees, up to perhaps 30 m tall, in this small forest. Can *Araucaria angustifolia* successfully compete with the angiosperms? There is



Araucaria araucana in Parque Nacional Concuillio, near the volcano Llaima, Chile

a crow-like bird, the ‘Gralha-azul’ (*Cyanocorax caeruleus*, Corvidae) that eats but also disperses the large seeds. Several Jays (also Corvidae) are famously involved with conifer seeding in the Northern Hemisphere by hiding them for later use. I could not get clear information as to whether this blue Brazilian crow has similar habits.

In Chile (and in small parts of Argentina on the eastern side of the Andean divide)

occurs *Araucaria araucana*, in the UK better known as the ‘monkey puzzle’ – in my view an absurd name we had better forget. Neither Chile, Argentina nor the UK has any native monkeys to be puzzled by this tree. This species, too has seen drastic historical decline, although not as severe as its Brazilian sister species. In fact, the natural distribution of this araucaria has ‘always’ been limited. Its populations are divided in some coastal localities and more abundantly, Andean localities. An impressive place to see the coastal trees is P.N. Nahuelbuta in the granitic cordillera of the same name. Trees here vary in size from 10 m tall growing on bare granite to 50 m tall in deep sandy soil in the valleys. There, it grows with the giant tree of Chile, *Nothofagus dombeyi*. These ‘southern beeches’ (not related) make our own beeches (*Fagus sylvatica*) in the New Forest or the Chiltern Hills seem puny. And, amazingly, the araucarias can compete with this evergreen giant. Here I saw unequivocal evidence in the fact that *Araucaria araucana* in many age classes, from seedlings to saplings to pole trees to young tall trees and finally to giants poking their wide

crowns into gaps among the ‘southern beeches’, were abundantly present. When I travelled to the Andes, I saw the same, although there the lower reaches of the *Nothofagus* forest in valleys and on slopes usually were more or less pure ‘beech’ and the araucarias started to appear higher up.

Ascending along a mountain ridge, the trees become smaller, *Araucaria* begins to dominate, is then accompanied by a smaller, shrubby species of *Nothofagus*, which eventually leaves the araucarias behind and forms the tree line, there no longer a tree but ‘krummholz’ or contorted shrubs. But, as the photograph shows, *Araucaria araucana* is also a pioneer tree on new volcanic deposits, be it ash falls (scoria) or lava flows. *Nothofagus obliqua* is also capable of invading these inhospitable places. They are inhospitable because rain water quickly drains away, but the mineral rich rock perhaps compensates to some extent, as long as the trees are quick to take up the water that falls. And here too, I saw no evidence that the conifer is at a disadvantage. And herein lay the lesson of this trip. In many parts of the world, slow growing conifers either escape the competition from angiosperms by growing in severe climate and/or on very poor soils, or they are emergents. The emergents are the few survivors of large scale disturbance, such as forest fires, hurricanes, landslides and other canopy removing ‘disasters’. Only after this removal can they regenerate, but then the fast growing angiosperms come in, crowding them out except for a few ‘lucky’ but slow growing emergents, and the long cycle starts again with the next destruction. This of course may happen here, too, with so many live volcanoes in the region. This strategy of conifers to survive angiosperm competition has been compared by a famous ecologist with Aesop’s fable of the tortoise and the hare. Although the lazy hare (angiosperm) can run much faster, the plodding but indefatigable tortoise (conifer) wins the race. But my lesson here was that the araucarias do not need to escape or wait for destruction. They can take on the big ‘southern beech’ on its own terms.

Botanical Conferences in the United States

by Olwen M. Grace

Conferences are an invaluable way to keep abreast of developments and discoveries in plant science. The Kew Guild generously helped to secure my attendance at two important meetings in my field – Monocots V and Botany 2013 – in the USA during the summer of 2013.

The Monocots V meeting took place from 7-13 July on the Fordham University campus, near the New York Botanic Garden. Monocots comprise about a third of the Earth’s flowering plants and include large, economically important groups such as the grasses, palms and orchids. Specialists and students working on monocots get together every five years to discuss progress and problems. Kew is an important hub for monocots research - the first Monocots meeting was held here in 1993 – and this was reflected in the number of Kew staff who attended. It was fitting, therefore, that Dr Paula Rudall, Head of Micromorphology in the Jodrell, gave an engaging opening address; it provided a context for the exciting research shared in the poster and presentation sessions during the conference. My research in the Jodrell focuses on the succulent genus *Aloe* L. (Xanthorrhoeaceae subf. Asphodeloideae) so I participated in the session devoted to the order Asparagales, in which we celebrated the contributions of Rolf Dahlgren and reviewed the progress in the understanding of evolutionary relationships and classification of the order since his death over 30 years ago. NYBG is one of my favourite botanic gardens, and I used the free time in the conference schedule to while away several happy hours there, and enjoyed seeing the succulent collection in glasshouses behind the scenes.

A fortnight later, following a stop in Texas, I was in for further warm, humid weather in New Orleans at the Botany 2013 meeting, from 27-31 July. This was my first experience

of the annual joint conference of the Botanical Society of America and several other US-based societies, and I was struck by the collaborative atmosphere and thriving student community, despite the vast scale of the venue and the large number of participants. New introductions and conversations to develop ideas for future work meant that several of my collaborators were in the audience when I presented my latest research on *Aloe* in the monocots session. One of the highlights of the meeting was an inspiring plenary by Dr Nalini Nadkarni, who urged us to harness our passion for our science to reach ever wider audiences with messages about the value of plants to people and the planet (Dr Nadkarni's TED lecture, describing her work on forest canopies, is available online). I returned to the UK with food for thought and new insights into the current methods, hypotheses and thinking in botany. I'm grateful to the Kew Guild for financial assistance which facilitated this opportunity.

Rock Gardens and Alpine Plants of Colorado

by Tom McCarter

Eritrichium nanum var. *elongatum* and
Claytonia megarhiza



In June 2013 I flew to Denver, Colorado to begin a long-awaited travel scholarship focusing on alpine plants and rock gardening. After arriving to find 30°C+ heat and the threat of wildfires, I met my host for the week, Mike Kintgen from Denver Botanic Garden.

For the next week I worked with Mike at DBG on the Rock Garden, in the Nursery and also attended a 'Plant Select' conference of the regional horticulture industry. Mike proved to be passionate and incredibly knowledgeable of Colorado's flora and I found DBG to be a small but incredibly interesting botanic garden. It has a balanced mix between ornamental planting and great collections tailored to educate the community, all supported by good infrastructure and fantastic staff.

Horseshoe Mountain



On the Friday I got my first hands-on experience of the plants of the alpine tundra. DBG maintains a field station called Mount Goliath at 3517m on the slopes of Mt Evans, one of the 53 '14ers' (peaks over 14,000ft, 4267m) in the state. Mt Evans is unique amongst the 14ers in having the highest paved road in the United States, winding nearly the whole way up. The road makes for great time-effective botanising and Mike and I spent the day driving up, stopping along the way at Mount Goliath and the summit lake. Every stop revealed new and beautiful plants such as *Pinus aristata* (Bristlecone Pines), *Eritrichium nanum* var. *elongatum*, *Lloydia serotina* and *Claytonia megarhiza*.

On Saturday I undertook another field trip. This time though, Mike and I were joined by four others including my next host, Nick Courtens from Betty Ford Alpine Botanic Garden. After driving through South Park filled with fields of *Iris missouriensis* and scenic views, we rendezvoused with the others at the base of Horseshoe Mountain (13, 898ft, 4236m) before setting out to walk to the summit. Horseshoe Mountain is part of the Mosquito range and has some limestone and locally endemic plants. Whilst being a little early to witness the alpine tundra in full flower, we still encountered many plants in flower including *Trifolium nanum*, *Besseyia alpina* and *Phlox caespitosa* subsp. *pulvinata*.

My next stop was Betty Ford Alpine Botanic Garden, located in Vale, a ski town 2.5 hours west of Denver at an altitude of 2499m. It is a small, community funded, free garden that acts as both a public space and botanic garden with an interesting collection of alpine plants. My week at Betty Ford went quickly and I was involved in a variety of work including planting, maintenance and keying out some unidentified *Penstemon*. Nick was generous with sharing his local knowledge of the area and its plants, and I learnt a lot about some of the challenges of gardening at high elevations.

Over the two weeks I was exposed to a wide range of habitats and ecosystems and a huge range of fascinating plants. I learnt a great deal and I would like to sincerely thank the Kew Guild for helping to fund this trip.

Giant Tortoises and Heterophyllous plants; Conservation Projects in Mauritius and Rodrigues by Amy Moffett

Mauritius and Rodrigues are two small Mascarene islands in the Indian Ocean, and they both have a lot to offer a plant nerd with an interest in island endemism and heterophyllous plants. My trip took me to see the conservation efforts of this heavily threatened flora in several sites across both islands, to the national botanic garden, the national park and the giant tortoise reserve. The contacts I made there were all involved in conservation projects with the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation or Ebony Forest Ltd, and what I saw in their sites was reassuring. However, the sites were



**Getting to know the residents at the
Francois Leguat Giant Tortoise
Reserve in Rodrigues**

relatively small and what I saw surrounding them was alarming.

My first observation of each of the islands was the scale of the invasive plant situation; it is an enormous problem and no wonder there is only 2% of the native flora still intact. *Ravenala madagascariensis* is a beautifully ornamental plant from nearby Madagascar, but it has run riot throughout the hillsides of Mauritius, along with *Furcraea foetida*, *Psidium cattleianum*, *Lantana camara* and many others. Rodrigues paints a similar picture, with all of the above, along with a generous smattering of *Acacia nilotica*.

Conservation on the islands means finding a balance between weed-bashing (with hands, machetes or chainsaws) and planting natives in the gaps. There are various strategies employed, but all revolve around the rainy season in February and March which is the main planting window, as none of the sites have irrigation. From then on it is war tactics all the way; invasive plants can be fought back with less offensive invasive plants; one shading the other out, and the one that wins the fight for light may ultimately cause less damage to the chainsaw blade.

Each conservation site I visited had its own nursery where I saw a good range of native heterophyllous plants including *Cassine orientalis*, *Clerodendrum heterophyllum*, *Mathurina penduliflora*, *Gastonia mauritiana* and many more. Out in the conservation sites, I was often able to see both juvenile and adult foliage on the same plant of many of these species.

On the small island of Ile aux Aigrettes, I witnessed first-hand the ability of the introduced giant tortoise to successfully disperse the seed of native plants like ebony (*Diospyros egyptarum*), thus doing their bit for conservation.

The tortoises were imported from Aldabra to mimic the extinct native giant tortoise, *Cylindraspis inepta*, whose grazing habits are believed to be connected with the evolution of the native heterophyllous plants: As soon as the plant can produce foliage higher than the tortoise can reach (about 1.2m), it will produce adult foliage which is typically larger and more nutritious. While the foliage is within reach of the tortoise, it adopts a typically thinner (frequently linear) appearance often accompanied by a red midrib; thought to be a warning of toxins (whether present or not) and generally gives the grazer an overall idea to look elsewhere for more nutritious food.



Terminalia sp. growing at the tortoise reserve, showing juvenile and adult foliage on the same plant

Unexpectedly, my trip was cut short due to my need for an emergency appendectomy, but despite this I still had a very valuable experience and learnt a great deal, and am very grateful to the Kew Guild for helping to fund this trip.

Urban planting in Tokyo: greening the world's most densely populated city
by Suzanne Patman

Tokyo, located on the island of Honshū, is the capital of Japan, and considered to be one of the most densely populated metropolitan areas in the world, with a population density of 6,029 per/km². Japan is home to a diverse range of species, and the main aim of my trip to Tokyo was to investigate if a city is able to maintain a balance between a unique ecology and culture and such extraordinary urban demands.

Much of my travel scholarship trip was spent investigating the planning and delivery of the green urban landscape within Tokyo. Historically, there have been a large number of 'green spaces' within Tokyo city, originally as gardens and estates associated with the Shogunate and Imperial Palaces, many of which remain today. The estimated total area of 'parks' in Tokyo in 2007 was approximately 3,000 hectares – the equivalent of ten Hampstead Heaths – and the Tokyo Metropolitan Government are planning and implementing an impressive and comprehensive 'Green Plan' to enhance the planted landscape in this intensely urbanised city.



The geographical centre of Tokyo remains the Imperial Palace, together with its publicly accessible East Garden. Dating from the 1600s, this site of a former Edo period castle retains some of its original planting features as well as demonstrating traditional horticultural techniques. Other notable formal gardens include Rikugien (see photo above),

Shinjinku-gyoen and Koishikawa Korakuen. These gardens are not free, but admission is a token amount, around 200 – 300 yen, the equivalent of approximately £2.

Rikugien was built in 1702 for the 5th Tokugawa Shogun, and covers around 21 acres. Literally meaning ‘six poems garden’, it reproduces in miniature 88 scenes from famous poems. The garden is a good example of an Edo Period strolling garden and features a large central pond surrounded by manmade hills and forested areas, all connected by a network of trails. This is a genuinely stunning garden, and offers all the beauty and interest that a Westerner would expect from a ‘Japanese garden’. Koishikawa Korakuen, about 20 acres, is designed similarly as a formal strolling garden in 1629, and is currently undergoing some extensive restoration work, particularly around the aquatic areas. Shinjinku-gyoen originated as a feudal lord’s residence in the 1600s, became a botanical gardens in the 1800s, and was used as an entertainment area by the Imperial family in the early 1900s before being almost completely destroyed in WWII. Reopened as the National Gardens of Japan in 1949, it covers 144 acres. It currently displays a new tropical glasshouse, a French formal garden and an ‘English landscape garden’ as well as traditional formal Japanese garden areas.

The University of Tokyo also maintains Botanical Gardens, with a site in Nikko – about 70 miles north of Tokyo – and one in Central Tokyo itself, Koishikawa Botanical Gardens. A research facility of the Department of Botany for the University of Tokyo, this garden originated as a medicinal herb garden in 1648 and is the oldest Botanical Garden in Japan. The Living Collection comprises around 5,000 species of plants, including the *Ginkgo biloba* used by Sakugoro Hirase to demonstrate the fertilisation of eggs by spermatozoids in seed plants, and the University of Tokyo Herbarium holds 1.4 million specimens. It is a centre of modern scientific botanical research in Asia, and also contains remnants of the natural forest vegetation of Tokyo, dating back 300 years.

While lacking in the multitude of smaller gardens found in London, there are also a number of large ‘public’ parks in central Tokyo, with free admission, such as Yoyogi Park and Ueno Park. Yoyogi Park covers 134 acres, and Ueno Park, Tokyo’s oldest public park, is home to over 9,000 trees as well as a number of museums and includes the 16 hectare Shinobazu Pond, which has spectacular lotus beds that provide an important overwintering habitat for many birds.

In terms of the existence of parks and gardens, then, Tokyo competes relatively favourably with a city such as London. The most surprising feature that I found, however, was not necessarily the provision of city parks but the approach to planting – particularly the planting of trees – which I felt offered a very different urban experience.

Tokyo does not plant trees in parks so much as it plants forests. Yoyogi Park includes a 90-year-old handplanted forest of approximately 170,000 trees, comprising 245 different species. Small city parks such as Shinjuku-Cho contain hundreds of trees and even



formal strolling gardens such as Rikugien are surrounded by a dense canopy of trees. The textures and colours of such mass planting are an incredibly beautiful feature, and the diversity of the flora and fauna that inhabits these mini-forests compared to a sterile wasteland of endless turf is staggering.

Tokyo has the further advantage of being bordered by mountainous, unpopulated terrain, meaning that unmanaged natural habitats (with a lot of trees!) are within travelling distance of the city, with areas such as Mt Takao and Mt Mitake easily managed as day trips. The inspiration for forested parks can be seen very clearly here, with the beauty of mixed conifer/broad-leaved deciduous woodlands apparent even in the doldrums of a humid summer.

Even outside of these specifically designated ‘green areas’ there is a significant profile of urban planting. Mature trees line most roads and avenues, with very few even small streets missing out on at least some planting. Tokyo’s symbolic tree is the *Ginkgo*, so there are a huge number of these, together with *Zelkova*, *Acer*, *Lagerstroemia*, *Camellia*, *Pinus*, *Liquidambar* and *Cedrus*. Many of the larger mature trees are a product of planting initiatives in the 1960s and 70s, but a great deal of tree planting is currently taking place, with Tokyo Metropolitan Government significantly increasing the number of roadside trees.

It is not just Government policy that greens the streets of Tokyo, however. Just as the residents of this intense city take responsibility for keeping it clean – no street sweepers are employed by the government – they also promote a green Tokyo in a way that can only be admired. Such population density, of course, means that housing is often high rise and lacking in outdoor growing space, but residential gardening is prolific nonetheless. Almost every shopfront and residence displays a garden of pots on the street and municipal street planting is frequently augmented by locals. Any space that is available in or around residences is utilised, often with planting that we would deem completely unsuitable, and the urge to plant trees can be seen in the most remarkable of places. Despite the provision of public park space and the official street planting that is apparent, I felt that it was this very ‘grassroots’ approach that made Tokyo feel so green to me – it ensures that no street or corner is lacking in flora, and prevents the very high rise parts of the city from ever feeling like the neon/concrete wasteland that was certainly my perception of inner city Tokyo before I visited.

Many thanks to the Kew Guild, the RHS and the Bentham-Moxon Trust for making this amazing trip possible.

The Advance of Legume Science Continues...

by Charles Stirton

Twenty two years separate the pioneering 1st International Legume Conference (ILC) held at Kew in 1981 and the latest 6th ILC held this year in Johannesburg, South Africa. The theme of the latest conference was ‘Towards a new classification system for Legumes’. The first conference was a *tour de force* of synthesis, masterminded by Roger Polhill, who had badgered the world’s legume experts to provide a new tribal system based on ground-breaking new research from many disciplines. Over the following years a series of regular books (Advances Series) and regional checklists (Legumes of... series) were published which laid the foundations for the next two major breakthroughs in legume systematics: Kew’s beautifully produced and painstakingly researched glossy ‘Legumes of the World’ (edited by Kew Scientists Gwilym Lewis, Brian Schrire, Barbara Mackinder and Mike Lock) and the establishment in 2011 of the Legume Phylogeny Working Group whose task was to build a new classification based around the burgeoning molecular data.

I attended the 1st ILC as a 35-year-old during my stint as the South African Liaison Botanist at Kew. It was a heady time for a young South African to be involved at the cutting edge of legume research and to mix with and learn from the world experts. It fired a life-long interest in Legumes which developed through co-editing Volume 3 of the *Advances in Legume Systematics* series and co-organising, with Jim Zarucchi (Missouri Botanical garden), the 2nd ILC in Missouri USA (*Advances in Legume Biology*). After years of managing botanic gardens I have subsequently returned to the research front line, so while theoretically retired, I find myself at 66 years of age just as excited as I was then to return to the country of my birthplace to learn about the next chapter in legume systematics. And I was not disappointed. For this I thank the Kew Guild for making it possible for me to attend the Conference and the post conference tour to Mpumulanga Province.



The Conference was held in the excellent facilities of the University of Johannesburg, once an exclusive white Afrikaner university but now totally transformed for the new South Africa. The meeting was organised by one of the doyens of South African botany Prof. Ben-Erik van Wyk and his research group who were quite special and a credit to African hospitality. The programme was full and diverse with a number of themes centred on legumes in agriculture, biogeography, floral biology, anatomy, chemistry, new molecular methodology, and of course molecular phylogeny (primarily on the subfamilies Caesalpinioideae and Papilionoideae). With so much going on I will mention just a few things that caught my attention and interest.



The most important paper that will emerge from the conference will be the broad synthesis of a new sub-familial and tribal classification multi-authored by the Legume Phylogeny Working group. Delegates held many discussions (sometimes heatedly) on the early draft and had an opportunity to contribute their ideas to a giant poster in the foyer. The elephant in the room that everyone had to deal with was whether, firstly, to name all monophyletic groups (clades) within a multi-layered phylogenetic classification, thus generating many new taxonomic categories, or to retain the traditional Linnean hierarchy; and, secondly, within the latter to name by preference only monophyletic groups (clades) while in the interim, until further resolution is obtained, to recognise non monophyletic groups (grades) but not to name them formally. In essence, the molecular data suggests that the Caesalpinioideae (13% of all spp.) form a number of distinct 'sub-family level' groups scattered across the Legume phylogeny that are equivalent to subfamily Mimosoideae and subfamily Papilionoideae. Life as we know it will never be the same again. A really good thing to come out of the meeting is an emerging consensus of the placing of genera within a new arrangement of tribes (there will be many

more and smaller tribes).

As a keen gardener I have always tried to cultivate legumes but with limited success and was always puzzled why horticulturists had neglected the third largest plant family. It has long been known that legumes have delicate relationships with bacteria, fungi and soil types for their optimal growth and survival. Our *Biology of Cape Legumes* group at the University of Cape Town have been doing research for seven years into these relationships and work with many labs around the world. This conference brought us and our collaborators together and I was very encouraged that as we work out the optimal growing requirements of legumes, horticulturists may soon have a new bonanza of plants to add to their gardening palettes.

I was surprised by just how many useful characters are provided by wood and bark anatomy and how much they can tell us about ecology and evolution. Similarly, in the march for molecular data we have almost abandoned the exploration of other chemical data that was so much the focus of the first Conference. Other fields almost untouched were cytogenetics, comparative across legume morphological surveys, legume physiology, and monographic studies. I suspect that with the exciting new multi-gene robotic sequencing (provided the software can keep up with the data produced) we will come back to revisit many of the studies from earlier conferences and reassess them in light of the new phylogenetic framework. Already some of them that I have looked at again (seedlings, gland types, pollen, flower colour patterns, endothecium structure) make a more compelling and coherent story.

The presence of many young scientists at the meeting was a testament to the stimulation provided by earlier conferences. Many of the young attendees at the first ILC went on to develop major research groups around the world. I would though have liked to see more young scientists from Africa, the Indian sub-continent and Asia; all regions with a lot of legume diversity. As the new molecular techniques may be beyond the financial reach of many scientists from developing countries, I hope developed world scientists reach out in broader collaborations to compensate for this. After all they are primarily dependent on the legumes from the poorer countries for their research.

The poster session was small but interesting, and most were reports of postgraduate studies. Many students I spoke to were pleased to make valuable new contacts and collaborators. I presented a poster paper with Muthama Muasya (Univ. of Cape Town) on the use and problems associated with developing electronic keys using LUCID and gave some demonstrations of keys in progress. By then I had full blown flu, like a clutch of other delegates, and lost my voice for most of the meeting and into almost two-thirds of the field trip.

Prior to the post-conference field trip I went on a one-day outing to the Walter Sisulu Botanic Garden near Johannesburg. We were shown around by the Curator Andrew Hankey, an informed and superb host. Many Legume trees were in full flower or fruit whereas the grassland forbs were either fruiting or sterile but with just enough out of season flowers to whet our appetites. The car park was full of fruiting *Schottia brachypetala* and the entrance festooned with a



rampant display of pink-flowered *Indigofera jucunda*. The park and garden legumes were quite diverse but dominated by trees such as *Acacia* (*A. ataxacantha*, *A. galpinii*, *A. gerrardii*, *A. polyacantha*, *A. rehmannii*), *Dalbergia obovata*, *Peltophorum africanum*, *Bukea africana*, and *Pterocarpus rotundifolius*. The lawns were full of the introduced Black Medic (*Medicago lupulina*) and *Tipuana tipu* was a spontaneous weed in some beds. The most attractive shrubs were the intensely red resprouting *Erythrina humeana*, yellow-flowered *Calpurnia aurea* and *Crotalaria agatiflora*, the ubiquitous landscaping plant *Bauhinia galpinni* and an intensely pink flowered and handsome *Tephrosia grandiflora*. *Erythrina zeyheri* and *Elephanorrhiza humeana* were also present in fruit. *Erythrina lysistemon* occurs naturally but we did not see it. The natural *Acacia* dotted grassland adjacent to the garden, which hosts a waterfall and a Black eagle's nest (the birders went twittery), was rich in legumes. We found *Indigofera crebra*, *I. hedyantha*, *I. hilaris*, *Lessertia* sp., *Eriosema cordatum*, *Rhynchosia totta*, and *Tephrosia semiglabra* in flower. Present, but not flowering, were *Chamaecrista mimosoides*, *Eriosema burkei*, *Indigofera oxytropis*, *Leobordea foliosa*, and *Sphenostylis angustifolia*. A rich grassland legume flora indeed! One non-legume attracted my attention (*Seersia* [*Rhus*] *batophylla*) – a *Seersia* that looks like *Rubus ludwigii*; both with potential as landscaping plants.

The post-conference tour was carefully designed by the organisers to cover a range of vegetation types, altitudes, bird habitats, and to also allow some game viewing in the Kruger National Park (KNP). Although I was too ill to visit the Lowveld Botanic Gardens and the Blyde River Canyon day trips and some of the KNP outings I saw a host of legumes starting with some mistbelt montane grassland near Long Tom Pass. In a narrow band of grassland along the road in fine rain we saw *Leobordea eriantha*, the strange purple crinkle-petalled *Pearsonia grandiflora*, and a rampant *Rhynchosia villosa*, whereas on a rocky outcrop were *Indigofera dimidiata*, *Sesbania villosa* and *Syncolostemon teucrifolius*, a stunning lamiaeaceous plant with purple stems, bright apple green leaves and pale mauve flowers that deserves attention from horticulturists. Most of the day was spent travelling. We stayed overnight in Dullstroom in superb accommodation near a lake at the edge of the town. Many had delicious Dutch pancakes for supper.

Our first stop on the second day was a roadside halt which produced an unnamed *Chamaecrista* sp., *Eriosema cordatum*, *Indigofera atrata*, *Lotononis laxa*, *Rhynchosia pentheri*, *Tephrosia macropoda*, *T. semiglabra* and *Zornia capensis*. We were beginning to expect a minimum of five species per stop. It was a long drive though to Nelspruit where we based ourselves for a few days. The drive was through some spectacular countryside as we dropped from the grassy misty escarpment into the subtropical wet, warm and humid Lowveld. I missed the next few outings but joined up with the group again to visit the mountains above Barberton which were rich in legumes. The region has the oldest rocks on earth. Legumes we saw included *Acacia natalitia* (a segregate species from *A. karoo*), three *Indigoferas* (*Indigofera spicata*, *I. swaziensis* subsp. *swaziensis*, *I. melanadenia*), two yellow-flowered *Pearsonia* (*P. aristata* and *P. cajanifolia*), two *Rhynchosia* (*R. nitens*, *R. pentheri*), and *Eriosema cordatum*.

The drive from Nelspruit to the Kruger National Park with the Skukuza Camp as our destination was through luscious sub-tropical wooded countryside via Malelane, the roadsides dotted with farm stalls selling tropical fruits. At Malelane Gate we saw *Bolusanthus speciosus* in fruit and the ubiquitous orange-flowered *Bauhinia galpinnii*. We saw few animals on this first day in the park besides a large elephant at the gate itself, but did see many dominant species of *Acacia*, and purple fruiting *Terminalias*. The roadside verge was filled with *Tephrosias* and *Indigoferas*. We spent a few great days in the Park either walking around the camp or going on game drives. I managed a day and an evening game drive and was pleased to see lions, hyenas, jackals, elephants, water buffalos, vervet monkeys, white-lipped rhinos, giraffes, zebras, kudus, hippos, impalas, and wildebeest.

The camp itself had a large number of different species of legumes including: trees (*Azelia qanzensis*, *Acacia nigrescens*, *A. robusta*, *A. tortilis*, *Bolusanthus speciosus*, *Cassia abbreviata*, *Erythrina humeana*, *E. lysistemon*, *Philenoptera (Lonchocarpus) violacea*, *Senna petersiana*); understory shrubs (*Crotalaria monteroi* ssp. *monteroi*, *Desmodium incanum*); and climbers (*Abrus precatorius* and the resupinate-flowered *Clitoria ternatea* var. *ternatea*). Three non-legumes caught my eye as having real horticultural merit: *Tinnea rhodesiana* (Scrophulariaceae), with its Cape Gooseberry-like fruit capsules, winged seeds and claret flowers with bright yellow anthers in the mouth; the flowers borne on long pendulous stalks; *Terminalia pruinoides* with its climbing habit around trees and pink fruits; and finally *Barleria albostellata* (Acanthaceae) a truly handsome large-leaved white-flowered shrub. I have loaded up pictures of all the species mentioned in iSpot South Africa (www.ispot.org.za).

The latest Legume Conference will become another landmark in Legume research. It was gratifying to see so many Kew scientists at the meeting, building on the excellent work of their predecessors and still providing such a key leadership role. I hope that the young Kew scientists who attended now pick up the baton and continue this great tradition. Thank you Kew Guild for your generous financial support.

Study of New England Salt Marshes for a Riverside Tidal Garden at RBG Kew by Susan Urpeth

Over two weeks, I explored in detail some of the salt marshes and estuaries of Massachusetts, Maine and Rhode Island.

In its 2010 Landscape Master Plan, RBG Kew includes a project to create a contemporary riverside tidal garden. Inspired by this possibility, my aim during this travel scholarship was to learn as much as I could about salt marsh plant communities in nature, including how to manage their integrity, future and possible migration. A second aim was to discover how the interpretation of the importance and fragility of salt marshes is communicated in the US and the ways in which public attention is garnered in the effort to protect, preserve and restore them.

Working with interns from the Plum Island Ecosystems Long Term Ecological Research Program in north-east Massachusetts, I helped take mud samples to test for benthic chlorophyll, part of the TIDE project (Trophic cascades and interacting control processes within a detritus-based ecosystem).

The TIDE project is a nine-year whole-ecosystem nutrient-enrichment experiment and demonstrates that nutrient enrichment, a global problem for coastal ecosystems, can be a driver of salt marsh loss. It shows that

Phragmites australis growing at Marshall point and removing it from marsh edge at Cape Elizabeth River (Photos: Susan Urpeth and Ward Feurt)



nutrient levels commonly associated with coastal eutrophication increased above-ground leaf biomass, decreased the dense, below-ground biomass of bank-stabilising roots, and increased microbial decomposition of organic matter. This



important work suggests that current nutrient loading rates to many coastal ecosystems have overwhelmed the capacity of marshes to remove nitrogen without deleterious effects. Projected increases in nitrogen flux to the coast, related to increased fertiliser use required to feed an expanding human population, may rapidly result in a coastal landscape with less marsh, which would reduce the capacity of coastal regions to provide important ecological and economic services.

Another threat to marsh health, tidal flow restriction for land reclamation, can cause salt marshes to sink and an impounded marsh is all too easily overrun by freshwater invasive species such as *Phragmites australis* (pictured on the previous page).

Visiting the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve in Maine, I learned about the extensive twentieth century dam building programme on the border of Maine and New Hampshire – 800 dams in 1000 square miles – to generate power and create areas for recreational activities. This Reserve is involved in monitoring how salt marshes can re-colonise areas as tidal flow is restored; the Wells NERR is keen to monitor diversity in restored marshes compared to natural, unrestricted marsh.



multiple stations in each salt marsh, plus photos are taken of plants at pre-determined locations during peak growing seasons; this indicates ecosystem restoration).

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the Kew Guild for granting me an Ian Leese Award. Their generosity provided the means to learn about profoundly important yet fragile coastal and estuarine ecosystems.

While in Cape Cod, MA, I was very pleased to work alongside several volunteers for the Association for the Preservation of Cape Cod on their Salt Marsh Monitoring Program. This focuses on four areas, the parameters for which were selected because they are measurable indicators of salt marsh health: salinity (volunteers test water salinity at multiple stations away from the feeding creek in each salt marsh – salinity is an early indicator of tidal restoration); plants (volunteers identify plants and document their percent cover at

The Kew Guild Honorary Fellowship

by Allan Hart

This is the eighth year of the Honorary Fellowship which is awarded in recognition of those who are particularly distinguished in their fields of activity in horticulture and the botanical sciences. The Award is only available to those who are not eligible to become full members of the Guild.

The 2013 nomination goes to Piet Oudolph, the renowned plant breeder and designer of award winning gardens in many countries.

The Fellowship is now represented in Turkey, North America, Australia and the Netherlands, complementing those from the United Kingdom.

Current Honorary Fellows are:

Elected 2006: Derek Edwards, Roy Lancaster, John Melmoe, Tim Smit, Ed Wolf
 2007: Dennis McGlade, Anna Pavord
 2008: John Brookes
 2009: Richard Bisgrove, Niall Kirkwood
 2010: Shirley Sherwood
 2011: Adil Güner
 2012: John Massey, Graham Ross
 2013: Piet Oudolph

Piet Oudolph V.M.H. Hon. Fellow RIBA

Piet's involvement with plants began when his family moved to the eastern part of the Netherlands to the small town of Hummelo, where they established a nursery based on experimenting with plants – selecting and breeding new perennials, many of which have created new colour and architectural form, and are stronger and more pest and disease resistant.

A new company, 'Future Plants', was founded, which adopted the role of protecting native and introduced species, that are both beautiful and reliable, and are also attractive to insects, butterflies and bees.

This new approach and perspective on planting design with perennials and grasses has influenced a generation of landscape architects and garden designers who have collaborated with Piet on a wide range of projects which have included Trentham Gardens, Wisley, The Serpentine Gallery in London, and The High Line in New York.

Piet makes a further contribution with teaching at Harvard Graduate School of Design, USA and is a visiting professor in the Landscape Department, University of Sheffield.

He has been formally recognised for his achievements in research, plant breeding, design and education with an Honorary Fellowship, Royal Institute of British Architects (2012), Gold Medal and Best in Show (Chelsea 2000), Veitch memorial Medal, RHS, and the European Garden Award (2010).

News of Honorary Fellows

Professor Adil Güner

'No garden ever stands still, and Nezahat Gökyiğit Botanik Bahçesi (NGBB) – the Botanic Garden in a motorway intersection in Istanbul – is certainly no exception. The larger of the two Oak Islands has been developed and an access road connects it to Central Island. A large reservoir has been constructed to retain rainwater and this will contribute towards irrigation systems within the Botanic Garden. Hard landscaping of the last major part to be developed, Anatolia Island (so called because of its shape which roughly resembles Anatolia), commenced in the autumn. Like all the 'islands', this 6.7 hectare hilly island is surrounded on all sides by a motorway or slip road, but now has a new road connecting it to Central Island via Picnic Island. Major construction work has been required in some places for the new roads and drainage systems and other services are underway. There will be another car park for visitors and several entrances to the new area.

As Director of Nezahat Gökyiğit Botanik Bahçesi (NGBB), I invited Professor Vernon Heywood, (Emeritus Professor, Reading University), Dr David Rae (Director of Horticulture, RBGE) and Professor Tuna Ekim, (Istanbul University) to carry out a Review of the Botanic Garden in April. Their continuing involvement and encouragement over past years has been invaluable and their comments have been most helpful for us when drawing up our five year review within our Strategic Master Plan.



The Nezahat Gökyiğit Botanik Bahçesi islands, Istanbul, Turkey

Following on from the publication of the first Checklist for the Flora of Turkey (Vascular Plants) last year, this year much of my time has been spent editing the first volume of a new Illustrated Flora of Turkey to be published in the spring of 2014. Meanwhile teams have been set up to prepare Checklists of bryophytes, fungi, algae and lichens. Importantly, and most pleasing to me personally, we are applying a suggested Turkish name for each species.

At the end of June, Margaret Johnson and I attended the 8th Plant Life of South West Asia Symposium hosted by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh. This provided me with a good opportunity to meet with many friends and colleagues and afterwards I was able to work in the Herbarium on the very rich collections of Turkish plants started by Peter Davis and his team in the 1930s. Edinburgh was the home of the Flora of Turkey Unit set up by Peter Davis in the 1960s resulting in the nine-volume 'Flora of Turkey and the East Aegean Islands' 1966-1985, and one supplement in 1998. I prepared a second supplement in Turkey, Volume 11, which was published in 2000.

In October we travelled to New Zealand for the 6th Global Botanic Gardens Congress organised by Botanic Gardens Conservation International and Dunedin Botanic Garden. It was a chance to see several botanic gardens and nature reserves as well as the spectacular scenery and temperate rain forest vegetation. During the year I gave many talks at conferences in Turkey about the new Flora and presented posters about the Istanbul Botanic Garden both in Edinburgh and New Zealand.'

Dennis McGlade

Dennis McGlade, FASLA, is President and Partner with OLIN, a landscape architecture and urban design firm with offices in Philadelphia and Los Angeles. A recent article (words by Alisdair Currie and photos by Andrea Jones) in *Garden Design Journal*, profiled his recently completed work at Camana Bay, a new neighbourhood on Grand Cayman in the British West Indies. Dennis and his OLIN team began with the master planning of this new island community and saw it through the detailed design and construction of the town centre, complete with a new pleasure boat harbour, and linear botanic garden, displaying plants indigenous to Grand Cayman.

This year in California he is participating in the urban redesign of the site of the old City Market, just southeast of downtown Los Angeles. The site was the city's late 19th and 20th Century produce distribution centre. The re-imagined site is intended to be a multi-phased development that creates a vibrant, mixed-use urban centre for this corner of the city. Dennis also leads the landscape design for a mid-rise condominium development in Beverly Hills, California, called 9900 Wilshire Boulevard (above). It will have a private garden for the residents on the roof over the parking garage, and a series of small public parks along the surrounding streets. In nearby Santa Barbara he led the master plan for the historic Santa Barbara Botanic Garden and the design for a garden for the new Pritzlaff Conservation Center. He continues to work on two development projects in Napa, California: the first is for the former site of the Copia Food, Wine, and Arts Center, and the second is for the old Napa Pipe factory site on the Napa River. On the other side of the country in New York City he continues to lead the team working on the comprehensive redesign of the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Fifth Avenue Plaza, currently under construction. The plaza is slated for completion in autumn 2014.



It will have a private garden for the residents on the roof over the parking garage, and a series of small public parks along the surrounding streets. In nearby Santa Barbara he led the master plan for the historic Santa Barbara Botanic Garden and the design for a garden for the new Pritzlaff Conservation Center. He continues to work on two development projects in Napa, California: the first is for the former site of the Copia Food, Wine, and Arts Center, and the second is for the old Napa Pipe factory site on the Napa River. On the other side of the country in New York City he continues to lead the team working on the comprehensive redesign of the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Fifth Avenue Plaza, currently under construction. The plaza is slated for completion in autumn 2014.

Dennis' other continuing projects include the landscape design for the Grace Farms Foundation (pictured on the following page) in New Canaan, Connecticut; Washington University's new Olin School of Business in St. Louis, Missouri; and the University of Chicago's 58th Street closure and transformation into a pedestrian way, as well as for the grounds of the new Milton-Friedman Institute, also at the University of Chicago, in Illinois.

Beyond his project work, Dennis lent his expertise this year to a variety of print



publications and speaking engagements. He contributed a chapter titled ‘Plantings’ to *A Cultural History of Gardens*, a six-volume survey compiled by John Dixon Hunt chronicling the history of gardens and their significance from ancient times to the modern day. In May, he gave a lecture to the Friends of the University of Delaware Botanic Gardens on the use of vines and espalier in garden design. Dennis also wrote an article titled ‘Field Guide to Philadelphia Street Trees and Their Uses’, which appeared on the blog *Hidden City Philadelphia*. And in *Context*, the journal of the American Institute of Architects’ Philadelphia Chapter, Dennis was featured as the interviewer of Conrad Hamerman, a Philadelphia landscape architect, about his long-time friendship and collaboration with legendary modernist landscape architect Roberto Burle Marx from Brazil.

This autumn, Dennis was a guest lecturer and critic for two weeks at the Pantheon Institute in Rome. The Institute runs a studio in Rome for undergraduate architecture students from the United States. Finally, Dennis remains active on the Pennsylvania Horticulture Society, Design and Horticulture Advocacy Committee.

Richard Bisgrove

‘The New Year started, as always, with three days of lectures in garden history at Kew, plus visits to Hestercombe for a Trustees meeting and to Sheffield for a Professional Review Group meeting in the Landscape Department. Also in January came the first of a steady trickle of garden planning visits: two to long-term clients and two new commissions, one a small garden in London and the other contributing to a 480-acre (200ha) estate in Surrey.

This year’s May ‘cruise’ in my brother-in-law’s catamaran was to the Channel Isles, starting with three days in Salcombe / Kingsbridge (Devon) waiting for the gales to slacken, then a 15-hour Channel crossing before landfall in Guernsey. We managed three garden visits in our ten days but nature’s garden beat them all – wildflowers galore. June 16th was the date for our biennial ‘Tokers Green Toddle’ in support of the local Air Ambulance. This year there were only four gardens and the weather was unkind so we only raised about £1500 but everyone enjoyed the day – the garden owners mainly, in retrospect.

This year I definitely over-committed to Oxford summer schools. Much of the spring was taken up with lecture preparation – much harder work as I get increasingly senile – and from mid-June to late September I was more-or-less continuously occupied with elderly alumni from Chicago, Michigan State, Berkeley and North Carolina. These sessions are always very enjoyable: eager, well-informed and appreciative students and some good

visits, but one can have too much of a good thing.

We had four days between the last Summer School and a flight to Oman, where I gave an intensive one-week lecture course on garden design for senior landscape / horticulture staff of the Sultan of Oman. This was not a measure of my worldwide fame but one of our former Reading MSc students was promoted, after graduation, to be in charge of the Sultan's gardens in Salalah. I think he wanted to subject his colleagues to the same tortures that I had inflicted on him in Reading. The carefully planned curriculum became steadily less well planned as the week progressed – I had not taken into account the Sultan's decision to change the Omani weekend from Thursday / Friday to Friday / Saturday nor the time needed during breaks to disappear for prayers – but I think everyone enjoyed the week. My wife and I certainly did.

October saw the start of my Amenity Horticulture lectures to Course 48 at Kew. This year the new minibus had finally arrived so we managed two visits – one to Cliveden, hosted by Chris Flynn and a new venture, a presentation from Charles Funke on his contemporary work (both Kewites) followed by a visit to one of his earlier projects, Stockley Park near Heathrow. We were all greatly impressed by Charles' practice and not less so by his energy, at an age exceeding four score.

The rest of the year is a vague blur of one-off lectures here and there, garden design work and even the odd day of gardening at home, except that I did record a piece on William Robinson for Gardeners' Question Time so my broadcasting career (half an hour on Great Lives in January and three minutes on GQT in December) continues to flourish. As I write this, before the midnight deadline on 31st December, my next job is to prepare for a garden history lecture at Kew on 2nd January. Thus the great cycle of life continues.

John Melmoe

Willerby Landscapes Ltd are back in force at the Olympic South Park, London and are proud and honoured to be trusted in the care of the 2012 Gardens during the transformation year.

Not only are we maintaining the Gardens, but we are also one of the main companies creating the new South Plaza landscaped areas.

The design of the new Park is stunning and we are delighted to be given the opportunity to bring it to reality. It is now January 2014 and we are 10 months into transforming the Park, liaising with the client, the LLDC (London Legacy Development Company) the main contractors, the designers LDA Architects, and with James Corner Field Operation of New York USA.

Additionally, the planting design is the creation of Piet Oudolf and it has been both an education and pleasure to work alongside him.

During our first month back at the Park, the task was to excavate 31 *Tilia* trees from the concourse and transport them down to our Nursery in Kent for safe keeping while the construction work commences. Temporary roads were to be built and the *Tilias* were in the way. Our second task was to plant seven marker trees around the Park, similar to those currently in place, with large circle rings around them, promoting specific site location history.

With the most unusually long and cold winter season last year, the Gardens initially took their time to wake up, but they did come to life eventually and enjoyed the longer season

this Autumn as the North American garden continued to be a blaze of colour. The Transformation of the South Plaza continues and whilst this is going on, we have put the Gardens to bed, so to speak, as the winter months are upon us. Maintenance continues this time of the year with tidying the beds and cutting back the plants for their spring revival.

Having planted over 200 semi mature trees, with at least 100 being positioned along what is known as The Promenade and 23 Pines in an area known as Carpenters Lock, we have been busy building a number of new play areas within the Park. With climbing frames, a sand pit and laying a new events lawn in front of the Orbit, we continue to work all the hours possible, this time of the year, to meet the target of handover to the LLDC by mid-March 2014.

We have also been busy with the soft landscaping of the regeneration of the Kings Cross Development for Argent. The master plan for King's Cross has been developed by Townshend Landscape Architects to create a series of inter-connected open spaces, allowing the life and character of King's Cross to permeate to all areas of the new development. Each space will be a focus for a specific activity whilst allowing continuity and flow of movement between them. Handyside Gardens, designed by Dan Pearson Studio, is one of the first areas to be fully planted.

'An urban paradise, a plantsman's garden, a garden full of secrets – a place to unwind and relax'

The sweeping geometry of the gardens reflects the pattern of the railway sidings that once occupied the site. The sinuous hedges provide breaks between the spaces, focus views, and help to define circulation. There is an ascending hierarchy of planting from south to north. Expanses of mixed perennial planting are increasingly interjected with tall erect grasses, the lines of the hedges, and emergent shrubs refer to the wild spaces that would have connected to King's Cross through the railway network. The plant palette incorporates elements that would have been found on the railway embankments such as *Salix purpurea* 'Nancy Saunders', *Tellima grandiflora* 'Purpurteppich', *Dierama pulcherrimum* 'Merlin' and *Eryngium yuccifolium* to name but a few.

The latter part of 2014 will find Willerby Landscapes Ltd. installing a Public Park on the 35th Floor of the Walkie Talkie building in the City of London. Exciting times!

Ed Wolf

Ed founded 'Indoor Garden Design' in 1975 and has overseen its progress to what it is now – a leading company in creative planting design. After thirty-eight years Ed has passed the mantle over to the three directors – David Grace, Ian Drummond and Pippa Robinson, who have all been with the company since the early days. Ed still takes a keen interest in IGD's work and the team in Highgate. A 'Thank-you' party (never a goodbye!) was held for Ed and his wife Brita in the spring, when the nursery's plant room was filled with staff and



Pop Up Office installation for Plants at Work Week

colleagues, old and new, celebrating his successful career.

Indoor Garden Design has received thirteen eFIG awards, one BALI award, a Silver Gilt medal for the Garden Club of America's show-garden and the inaugural 'Plants People of the Year' award from New Covent Garden. The Chelsea Flower Show stand held a research project with the University of Exeter exploring the effect on people of plants in the workspace.

Derek Edwards

In spite of having to cope with Parkinson's disease, Derek still manages to be involved with the running of the very successful family turf business – Inturf – which he formed over twenty years ago and which is now progressed by his two sons, Alex and Steve. Inturf is at the forefront of turf production and an advocate of long-term benefits to the environment, the turf being a unique eco-system which traps pollutants which are then broken down by soil bacteria. 2013 has been an exceptionally good year for them, largely due to the weather and they have continued to enjoy a wide scope of works from golf and football pitches through to landscaping and retail sales.

Anna Pavord

Anna is still contributing a weekly column to *The Independent* but is gloomy about the survival of the newspaper (and of *The Guardian*) beyond the coming year. It would be a great loss if they were to cease publication.

She has had a rather quiet year, apart from a visit to France in May to see wonderful orchids. A highlight of her visits to various festivals was to a new one held at Titley in Herefordshire, entitled 'Gardens in the Wild'. The idea was to consider gardens as they relate to the wider landscape – a welcome change.

November saw Anna and her husband Michael visiting Madagascar to see *Baobabs* growing in the wild, as nature intended, but they were distressed to see what seemed to be a sadly ravaged island.

Anna is continuing to plant species Magnolias – eleven to date – but thinks that she has run out of space! The last to be planted was *Magnolia macrophylla sub.sp. ashei*. She considers that the most beautiful of all is *Magnolia x weisneri*.

Niall Kirkwood

Niall continues to visit the Far East, giving lectures in landscape design at Tsinghan University (Beijing), University of Ulsan (South Korea), City Hall (Seoul, South Korea) and Smith College (USA).

Niall, who is Professor of Landscape Architecture and Technology at Harvard, together with Jonghyun Baek (MLA 2010) and Yongkym Kim (visiting scholar 2009-10) were successful in having their entry SMART SMALL selected for the installation of a new project in 2013 at the Fourteenth Edition of Le Fondation des Jardins de Métis (International Garden Festival) in Quebec, Canada. This International Festival has been recognised each year for experimental projects that address emerging site materials, new landscape techniques and innovative cultural programmes. The competition attracted a record 290 proposals, submitted by 725 landscape architects, designers and artists from 31 countries. The Kew Guild offers Niall and his colleagues congratulations on this very considerable achievement.

Roy Lancaster

In February 2013, Roy took part in a BBC Radio 4 programme that related the life story of a relatively unknown man – the Reverend Charles Shaw (aka Vicar Shaw) by Wigan born poet Lemn Sissay, and one of Shaw’s now famous protégés, gardener Roy Lancaster.

Shaw was a charming man and a revolutionary botanist, renowned for finding exotic species in rubbish tips, factory dumps, sewage treatment sites and other unlikely places in northwest England.

Allan Hart (a fellow Lancastrian) had heard the programme, which was a fascinating portrait of an extraordinary man.

Kew News: 2013

Recent Guild Journals have contained excerpts from Kew’s staff newsletter, *Vista*. Budget cuts mean that *Vista* is no longer published. For posterity we have selected some of the more historical and useful news snippets that have been disseminated from Kew, including Kew magazine, during 2013:

Three new senior appointments were made at Kew during 2013. Richard Barley as Director of Horticulture at Kew and Wakehurst; Kathy Willis as Director of Science for the Jodrell Laboratory, Herbarium and Millennium Seed Bank; and Gaynor Coley as Director of Public Programmes including education, volunteering and commercial activities.

Kew’s main gate, now named Elizabeth Gate, was first built in 1846. Its latest renovation is now completed, thanks to generous donations from Abdul and Mehbooba Qayyum, the Kew Fund from Friends of Kew, and others.

‘The Story of Kew Gardens in Photographs’, by Lynn Parker and Kiri Ross-Jones (Kew Guild Committee member and archivist) was published in April.

Restoration of the Temperate House, costing £34.3 million, began in the autumn and will be completed in the spring of 2018. The Heritage Lottery Fund has contributed £14.7 million. The Evolution House will become a teaching centre.

Kew Guild members are eligible for a substantial discount when they join the Friends of Kew. Call 020 8332 3200 or email enquiries to friends@kew.org for details. Membership gives free entry to the Gardens, Kew Palace and Queen Charlotte’s Cottage, plus three editions of Kew Magazine each year and other concessions. See also www.kew.org/kewmagazine

The People’s Postcode Lottery has given £100,000 to Kew’s Millennium Seed Bank Partnership to develop a new initiative to protect the UK’s trees.

Gardens full of memories: Kew and Wakehurst offer some wonderful ways to celebrate and commemorate

For many people Kew and Wakehurst hold a special place in their heart, with the gardens and woodlands filled with wonderful memories of happy times shared with family and friends.

There are a variety of ways in which you can commemorate a life, or celebrate a birthday, wedding, anniversary or special event. These form a part of the Kew Foundation’s

fundraising programme for Kew, with monies raised restricted to continuing the work in the gardens. The Kew Foundation is the fundraising arm of Kew and annually raises over £11 million, through membership, major gifts and corporate donations, together with these commemorative schemes and through our annual giving scheme, the Kew Fund.

Sponsor a display of flowering bulbs; choose from five beautiful species available at both Kew and Wakehurst. We have a wonderful selection of library books and pieces of botanical art. You can also dedicate a special area of woodland or one of our heritage trees.

As you may know, we have now re-launched the Commemorative Bench Scheme after a break of over eight years. This scheme has been a great success and has raised much needed income towards the work in the gardens at Kew and Wakehurst. Sponsorship includes a plaque with a personal dedication, and you can select which area of the gardens or woodlands you would like to place the bench.

Or why not ‘Save a species’ outright in the Millennium Seed Bank – there are over 40 available for sponsorship and we have selected a range of different species to offer the widest appeal, including plants used in medicine, endangered species, edibles and a wonderful selection of orchids from Madagascar.

We will be on hand to help you choose the most appropriate way to mark your event or remember someone special. All gifts are recorded on Kew’s Commemorative Touchscreen Registers located in the Secluded Gardens glasshouse at Kew and the Millennium Seed Bank building at Wakehurst. You will also be sent a certificate, complete with your dedication, as a thank you for helping Kew.



Your sponsorship will be used to maintain the gardens at Kew or Wakehurst, support the work of the Library, Art and Archives, or help to fund the work of the Millennium Seed Bank Partnership.

Contact Jill Taylor on 020 8332 3248, email commemorative@kew.org or visit www.kew.org/commemorative

World War 1 and Visitors to Kew by Graham Burgess

In 2014 there will be a national commemoration of World War 1, but what does that mean?

Much is hidden – we can see from the attendance figures at the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew that visitors did not know what was happening in the Somme and other places until late in 1915. The upward trend that started at 1,352,548 visits in 1903, reached its highest ever footfall in 1915 when over 4 million people passed through the gates (4,300,330).

Psychologically people were negatively predisposed to invest time, energy and money enjoying themselves when so much suffering was extant.

After the First World War people began to invest again but the attendance never reached those early high levels. Another societal dynamic – the General Strike, 1926 – caused another dip.

Interest then remained at a moderate level with a relative high spot in 1930, but the Second World War caused another dip. A slight incline was then possibly affected by a key issue in outdoor leisure facilities – namely wet weather. 1950 was very wet and that experience not only affected attendance then, but it affected a key factor in leisure attractions – the revisit dynamic. Having been disappointed, people were negatively predisposed to visit again.

In the early days there was not as much competition and public transport was more effective and more used. Kew was closer to aspects of science that required expensively heated glasshouses so income from science helped. No need to rely on a local tropical greenhouse now, all you need to do is to travel to Heathrow and within hours you can be anywhere in the world.

Year	Attendance	External factors	Year	Attendance	
1903	1,352,548		1937	1,121,480	
1904	1,579,666		1938	1,173,652	
1905			1939	822,928	WW2
1906	2,339,492		1940	825,373	
1907			1941		
1908	2,710,220		1942		
1909			1943		
1910			1944		
1911			1945	1,544,212	
1912	3,815,427		1946	1,567,954	
1913	3,792,581		1947	1,620,960	
1914	4,082,011	WW1	1948	1,721,757	
1915	4,300,330		1949	1,725,431	
1916	713,922	WW1 impact	1950	1,475,431	Very wet year
1917	693,127		1951	1,205,947	
1918	640,729		1952	1,188,925	
1919	1,131,773		1953	1,211,955	
1920	1,236,308		1954	1,110,305	
1921	1,143,758		1955	1,180,324	
1922	1,186,662		1956		
1923	1,535,955		1957	1,064,815	
1924	1,671,840		1958		
1925	1,162,547	General Strike	1959	1,289,271	
1926			1960		
1927	1,079,088		~		
1928	1,127,003		2003	1,033,737	
1929	1,544,212		2004	1,091,114	
1930	1,389,184		2005	1,281,231	
1931	1,068,395		2006	1,480,281	
1932			2007	1,379,165	
1933			2008	1,483,715	
1934			2009	1,373,720	
1935			2010	1,265,002	
1936			2011	1,204,589	
			2012	1,254,253	

2013: A Year of Two Halves A Review of the Wakehurst Year

by David Hardman, Head of Horticulture and Estate Management

For its weather the Wakehurst year was much one of two halves when compared against 2012. As readers will recall in my previous article I reported that there had been a very dry and mild winter, with the onset of drought in early months only for it to change to very wet conditions after April. This had a negative impact on the total number of visitors to the garden for 2012/13 financial year. However the warmer, drier spring and summer saw a resurgence in visitor numbers.

However, the first three months of 2013 started much colder and wetter, with more nights recorded as having an air temperature below freezing and some very icy conditions experienced, especially through March. The summer months were generally drier only for very high rainfall to be recorded in October and December which has continued into 2014. This data can be observed on page 350.

The major projects were achieved against tight deadlines and the different teams pushed hard against the weather to have these completed to meet the onset of spring and summer visitations:

Fences and Paths

The successful applications to Defra for capital funding in the previous financial year included one for replacement, repair and re-alignment in parts of the deer fence to protect the garden and woodlands. These included post and rail fencing at Westwood Lake and visitor car park; stock fencing and gate installation in Yew Tree Meadows; stock fencing behind the newly laid hedge in the Pinetum; replacement fencing and gate installations by the cattle grid on North drive; replacement deer fence in Horsebridge and Coates Wood; attachment of rabbit fencing and a new Loder Valley entrance gate from Westwood Valley (pictured).

Loder Valley Gate

This new entrance gate was installed to include the sculpture made by Walter Bailey that was relocated from its original position in the Visitor centre. As a separate project, later in the year the old gates to the Memorial Garden from the nursery, Stables and West Mansion Border were replaced with new bespoke seasoned oak gates. They were designed with a 'window' to reduce wind resistance, allow people on the far side to be seen when opening a gate and to allow visitors



to view areas they can't normally see.

The second project has witnessed the upgrade of the site roads through Coates Wood; Westwood Valley Lake; the Wetlands Conservation area and pump house path; Bloomers Valley; Horsebridge Woods and the installation of a 12m French drainage system at the northern end of this area. The resulting road surface top-dressed with Fittleworth stone is an important improvement to the old and decaying road surfaces – completion has provided a large investment for the long term future of Wakehurst and improved pedestrian and vehicular access throughout the estate.

Irrigation Project

This has been a very important project over several years and through necessity has been undertaken to maximise the water extraction allowance available for the garden, this has necessitated a new Upper Reservoir Pond being created between the Schools entrance and South Drive Pond and then linking them together to provide greater capacity.

The banks around South Drive Pond have also been raised to increase its volume and to reduce the risk of future water shortages from droughts at Wakehurst. The project has been delivered in defined stages, Phase 1 being the delivery of water from Westwood Valley Lake to the new irrigation reservoir and South Drive Pond through the pipes installed by the Horticulture team last year. This required new pumps, at both the extant Westwood Valley pump house and the new South Drive Pond pump house, to be installed. This project also entailed the installation of a new delivery water pipe to Tunis Bay tank to resolve the problem of losing water in the stream in the Slips whenever there was a power failure. This new link will ensure that the volume of water needed to maintain the circulation is readily available and can be topped up quickly.

Phase 2 has been the replacement of the old irrigation distribution system, which previously provided water directly from Westwood Lake to the irrigation points. However, a new separate system now provides water from South Drive Pond pump house to the irrigation points in the garden. A delivery pipe system needed to be installed to link from South Drive pump house into the existing system through a new route behind the Mansion alongside the swimming pool, through the Memorial Garden then alongside the croquet lawn, continuing around the Mansion Pond and on to Tunis Wood.

The new pumps for South Drive Pond were installed in April and the electric supply provided in June for the pumps to be commissioned on 6th June with the changeover to the new pumps on 12th June, for the commencement of a one month long system test. Distribution testing of up to seven points at once was completed; this demonstrated good pressure levels to the satisfaction of the Gardens Unit Team. The new pumps installed at Westwood Lake were tested whilst pumping water from the Lake up to the new Upper Reservoir Pond. A snag was observed that the pumps were only extracting a third of the daily 20 cubic metres allowance. Further investigations in December have shown that the pumps appeared to deliver the required volume initially but reduced over the test period. The possible cause is the strainers on the pumps blocking and a new maintenance regime has been implemented.

New Garden works

Part of the natural play space project 'Sight seeing' was completed in February. Sand completely fills the excavated floor area and each climbing pole has a spy-hole cut through it at different heights, so that one of six sculptures installed in trees around the picnic site can be observed. A test with children showed they do climb the poles successfully and can

spot the correct sculpture, which they can also name.

In the Southern Hemisphere Garden, the path between the Chalk Bed and Oliver Slocock Bed has been repositioned, widened and fenced with a low post and rail fence in the style of other new paths in this area. This follows a concerted effort by all the horticultural teams to remove two large conifers, grind out and remove their stumps, cultivate the ground and re-profile the beds ready for planting with Chilean CHIX collections.

The new path between the Chalk Bed and Oliver Slocock Bed

The central section of the Iris Dell was completely lifted, the plants divided and replanted by the Water Garden team. This job is undertaken on around a third of the collection each year, but this was the largest single section to complete.

Despite the weather in November, the Parrot Cage in the Specimen Beds, which had been repainted earlier in the year, was replanted using *Wisteria*, *Kerria*, *Hypericum* and *Hibiscus*. This retains the yellow and mauve colour scheme with spring flowering plants and is now augmented by late summer flowering plants in a wider and more robust border around the structure.

Finance and Business Issues

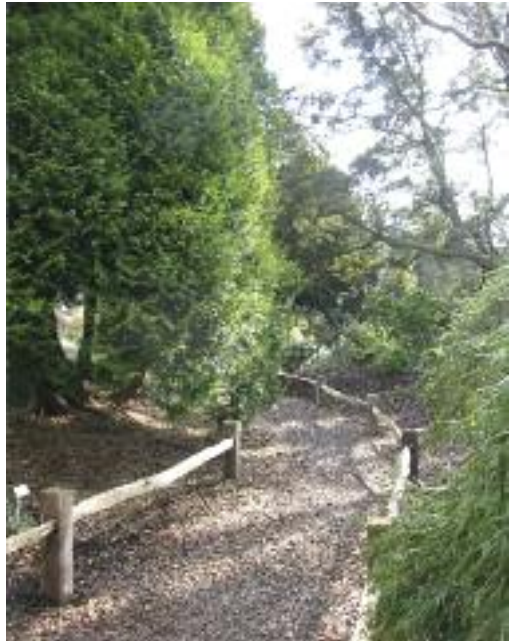
In September, an email to all staff from the Director set out the need to find expenditure reductions or income increases of at least £3m for 2014/15. At the Kew Leadership Forum he outlined the business planning stages and asked budget holders to undertake scenario planning on net budget reductions of 20%, 30% or 40%. The situation is challenging and will need significant changes to be made under the leadership of the Executive Board, so that Kew is once again financially stable in the long term to be able to deliver its essential work. A timetable was set out to send a draft budget and business plan for 2014/15 to Trustees by Christmas. To meet Kew's projected deficit in 2013/14, Wakehurst will save 10% of its remaining non pay budget.

The Wakehurst Consultative Panel approved the technical quality of the Conservation Management Plan; this will now go to Kew's Trustees and the National Trust for final approval and negotiation around the costs of implementation.

Kew's Trustees approved the business model review for Wakehurst and endorsed an approach to implement car-parking charges from February 2014. On 17th October the National Trust's Property and Acquisition Board approved the Kew proposal to charge National Trust members for car parking at Wakehurst.

Notable Visitors

The Right Honourable Owen Patterson, Secretary of State for Agriculture and Food, visited



Wakehurst on 30th October. He enjoyed his visit and was impressed with the entire estate. Professor Ian Boyd, Chief Scientific Advisor at Defra, accompanied him on his visit, and was equally complimentary with feedback.

Lord de Mauley's (Kew's Minister in Defra) visit was a success, he was engaged in all that we do and as a landowner was particularly interested in the success of the meadow creation and the UK Native Seed Hub at Wakehurst.

Staff Changes

Following the retirement of David Hardman in July, a number of his duties were delegated to the Unit managers. The majority of tasks will be delivered collectively but specific tasks have been carried forward on an individual basis as follows: Departmental Health and Safety Co-ordinator – Iain Parkinson (IP); Training – Dave Marchant (DM); Volunteer Co-ordinator – Chris Clennett (CC); John Scott Marshall Travel Award – Chris Clennett and Jo Wenham (JW); Leadership Forum – DM/CC/IP. The Unit Managers continued to carry out their core activities.

Events

'Kew the Movies' at Wakehurst Place grew by 35% this year, with around 800 movie-goers watching *Les Misérables* on Friday 30th August, and just over 500 saw *Raiders of the Lost Ark* on Saturday 31st August.

'School Fields for Mid-Sussex' was officially opened on 23rd July (below). Representatives from the four schools involved including head teachers, art teachers and pupils gathered and were delighted to see their clay figures on display outside the Millennium Seed Bank.

The first ever outdoor civil ceremony took place on the Mansion Lawn for 80 guests on Saturday 20th July.

Now a regular event over the August Bank Holiday Weekend, the Working Horse Trust harrowed Bloomers Valley and attracted good numbers of visitors who watched the horses in action.

The year-end was greeted with a new format event on the 1st December, with the Christmas tree 'Big Switch On', which incorporated the carol concert. This was followed by a programme of activities, including Santa Sundays on 8th, 15th and 22nd December.

In concluding this review I refer to my earlier references for 2013 being a year of two halves and so it was for me. After five years as Deputy Curator at Kew, followed by over seventeen years as Deputy Curator and Head of Horticulture and Estate Management at Wakehurst, I retired on 5th July. I take many happy memories with me and use this opportunity to thank all those I knew and worked with at both locations, and offer them all my best wishes for continued success in the future.



Weather at Wakehurst Place 2013

	2013												Totals
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Calendar Year
Total monthly rainfall (mm)	90.6	41.5	80.5	46.8	65.0	32.7	26.8	51.6	65.0	200.2	84.3	205.8	990.8
Compared to 2012	61.1	25.0	26.9	136.2	65.9	162.3	125.1	57.7	85.9	143.7	97.5	177.5	1164.8
2011	131.5	67.4	19.2	4.3	14.8	90.9	51.3	76.6	47.4	30.1	68.4	119.3	721.2
2010	83.1	119.8	85.5	18.6	26.7	58.2	14.3	120.7	58.4	117.5	85.0	67.0	854.8
2009	123.0	70.5	47.7	43.0	65.1	21.1	81.6	40.2	27.1	74.5	230.1	136.3	960.2
2008	129.5	28.6	112.7	74.0	93.0	47.2	99.2	95.5	74.4	80.7	127.2	67.3	1029.3
2007	80.3	126.4	59.1	5.8	96.3	122.5	125.9	59.7	31.1	49.9	82.9	78.5	918.4
2006	23.9	67.4	65.9	68.7	112.8	23.9	22.9	73.4	73.2	142.5	87.5	142.5	904.6
2005	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
2004	125.8	33	44.3	81.7	44.8	28.6	61.3	97.9	26	145.2	34.9	67.3	790.8
2003	114.1	37.6	18.9	41.3	54.3	38.0	87.0	47.9	6.6	51.8	141.1	94.0	728.6
2002	102.9	109.9	56.8	47.3	139.3	61.1	83.6	47.4	39.3	83.0	186.2	168.7	1120
2001	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
2000	35.9	83.0	22.5	123.9	120.1	14.9	47.5	38.6	137.3	288.7	222.0	202.5	1336.9
1999	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)	26 th	10 th	18 th	13 th	14 th	7 th	27 th	24 th	17 th	27 th	3 rd	23 rd	
Rainless days	1	7	23	13	13	18	22	16	11	7	6	5	142
Highest Max Temp	11.6°C 11 th	12.3°C 19 th	16.3°C 5 th	21.6°C 23 rd	25.8°C 31 st	32.9°C 19 th	35.2°C 22 nd	35.4°C 1 st	32.8°C 5 th	25.1°C 8 th	15.7°C 6 th	13.4°C 11 th	
Lowest Max Temp:	-1.2°C 18 th	0.6°C 22 nd	-0.2°C 11 th	1.8°C 4 th	9.3°C 14 th	16.8°C 11 th	19.6°C 2 nd	19.2°C 24 th	15.1°C 14 th	11.1°C 13 th	7.2°C 21 st	9.0°C 29 th	
Highest Min Temp:	7.8°C 4 th	4.4°C 1 st	7.9°C 8 th	7.9°C 14 th &17 th	12.2°C 31 st	17.7°C 20 th	20.6°C 23 rd	16.7°C 24 th	16.4°C 5 th	16.4°C 4 th	11.4°C 1 st	9.9°C 16 th	
Lowest Min Temp	-4.6°C 22 nd	-2.6°C 3 rd	-4.2°C 12 th	-2.3°C 7 th	2.6°C 3 rd	7.4°C 3 rd	5.0°C 19 th	10.3°C 13 th	7.3°C 19 th	5.2°C 30 th	-2.0°C 20 th	0.9°C 29 th	
Nights - air temp below Freezing	14	15	17	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	56
Windiest day	1 st NW 33mph	5 th W/NW 20mph	13 th NE 23mph	15 th SW 30 mph	10 th W 25mph	16 th SSW 27mph	9 th NNE 19mph	11 th SW 18mph	16 th &20 th SW 16mph	28 th SW 33mph	3 rd W/SW 21mph	24 th SW 31mph	

Committee Discussions

The Guild Committee met five times during 2013, plus the AGM. Much pre-planning was carried out for an extremely busy year that celebrated 50 years since the Diploma course started, and Kew's contribution to Horticulture. Tony Overland stood in to chair most meetings on President Jim Mitchell's behalf.

Amongst the many items that the Committee discussed during the year were the Guild's conflicts of interest policy (to which all Committee members sign up); the Guild Risk Assessment policy; Honorary Fellowships; Kew Guild Medal nominations; Annual Dinner ideas; the Grand Reunion AGM, picnic and Archives display; the Kew Guild Room; Membership generally, and database; Guild events and tours; Journal costs, quotations from Editor and printers, improvements including purchasing Quark Express; liaison with Kew's Director, Diploma students (each year group is represented on the Guild Committee); website generally; Friends of Kew liaison, membership, and benefits to Guild members; Kew Guild Award scheme; expenses; Committee nominations.

Currently the Guild pays the Secretary and Editor. Consider volunteering for either job please!

Celebration of World Horticulture Seminar

by Graham Burgess

On 29th September, a full day was packed with amazing stories of Kew students during and after their time at Kew, their influences and successes. The value of the mentoring kept coming up and also how the training was not limiting in any way, as well as many examples of students enjoying themselves in various celebrations and sports activities. Thank you to all who contributed to this fantastic event.

Kew Affecting the World
 Botany Tunes into Worldwide Life
 Science and Linnaeus
 Characters at Kew
 Travelling the World
 Challenges in Landscape
 Superior Landscapes
 Education the Kew way
 Sikkim Himalayas Enriched
 Australia Enriched
 1963-67 at Kew
 Significant Landscape, UK
 Landscape and Entertainment

Graham Burgess
 (Nigel Hepper) Sandra Bell
 David Cutler
 Mike Griffin
 Martin Sands, Ian Smith
 Peter Barnes
 Charles Funke
 Leo Pemberton
 Udai Pradhan
 Jerry Coleby Williams
 Ben Penberthy
 Pete Styles
 David Coleman

A fantastic day of reminiscences, testimonials and experiences of Kew and after, from those who lived through it (and survived), was arranged by Graham Burgess. It was all inspired by the vision of President Jim Mitchell, and Bob Ivison spoke on his behalf. Graham remembered the Mutual Improvement Society and how in 'Items of Interest', students could have their first opportunity to stand up in public in front of real experts and make short expositions.

This time, they were not innocent students; they had applied those early skills of care and effort towards improving our world, worldwide. The big challenge was to fit all this in. Traditionally, 'Items of Interest' had only a few minutes but in this case each participant was allocated 30 minutes. Graham started with a description of his own beginnings as a

student at Kew, and of tuning into where future funding might come from; as the links to worldwide economic crops were not so sound he won a Winston Churchill Travel Fellowship to study the amenity function in Botanical Gardens and Zoos throughout Europe. This led to a Directorship with The John Lewis Partnership. In addition to high quality horticulture, such as Longstock Park Water Gardens, he had responsibility for Waitrose car parks and roof gardens, all under strict and effective management controls.

Once independent, he later designed layouts for the Garden Festivals at Liverpool, Wales and Glasgow and for private clients such as Lord Bath, applying systems of proportion and geometry recognised in several great landscape designers of the past. International work included landscapes in Lanzarote, Tortola and the Nymphaeas in Giverny.

Sadly Nigel Hepper died earlier this year, but a record of his life's work at Kew and special interests were eloquently portrayed by Sandra Bell. She described Nigel as one of the most generous and hospitable members of staff, always inviting students to his home. He joined Kew in 1950 and took part in many overseas collecting expeditions. However, his main side interest, (beside Egyptology), was to record the flowering times of plants, a habit he had followed since childhood. Known as Phenology (not to be confused with Phrenology), it is the 'recording of natural events in relation to climate', which in his case he had done since the 1930s and which ultimately led to his anticipation of Global Warming, in that so many flowers were opening earlier than previously. This work is now continued at Kew.

Professor David Cutler joined Kew before the new Jodrell Laboratory was constructed, working under Dr Metcalfe in the original building of 1877. His first job involved studying the anatomy of the Restionaceae, a group of rush-like plants from the southern hemisphere, particularly Southern Africa, Australia and New Zealand. In addition to helping towards a taxonomic revision, their anatomy showed fascinating links with the phases of the split up of the ancient land mass of Gondwana, at a time when studies in plate tectonics were in their infancy. From here he undertook field and lab work with aloes in the early days of scanning electron microscopy and, with Dr Brandham, was closely involved in the bringing together of cytology and anatomy in the study of plants. In the enquiry service numerous tree root samples were identified from their microscopic structure. The trees concerned were said to be damaging buildings. People sending the samples were asked how far the trees in question were from the buildings. An analysis of the data was published in the book 'Tree Roots and Buildings'. The freak storm of 1987 brought about a new area of study of a very practical nature, measuring the root depth and type of many tree species, adding to our knowledge of tree root structures.

Martin Sands described his experiences of field work in New Guinea and Borneo and how he greatly enjoyed representing Kew as an 'ambassador to the rest of the world' in botanical matters. He joined Kew in 1963 under Charles Hubbard (grasses) and rose to Principal Scientific Officer with a special interest in Begonias. His work beyond this explored the Rhododendrons and floras of the montane forests of the New Guinea highlands, leading to his last expedition there with Graham Patterson for four months. Lighter travels since then have seen him lecturing on Cruise ships, rubbing shoulders with others on board such as Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury at the time. The last experience was to be part of the 40 or so scientists who surveyed part of Australia's NW territory, about 120 miles from Broome, a joint expedition between UK and Australian governments.

Pre and post-war life around 1945 was brought to life by Mike Griffin in an excellent pre-recorded video speech highlighting aspects of a working gardener's life, which began for him on leaving school and working at Kew as a boy before returning as a student in the 1950s. To have such a record of people and characters who worked at Kew at the time is

surely an archive the Guild will want to preserve along with the associated rules of the gardens at the time – such as ‘no cycling after 10 am’!

Peter Barnes started his career in Horticulture in the footsteps of a family of gardeners, from his father and grandfather backwards, and he titled his talk ‘Changes in the Phases of Leisure’. From his student days at Kew, he graduated from the ‘Grotto’ (the Parks and Recreation Administration College in Reading) and after some jobs in Yorkshire and Scotland, settled in the West Midlands. This was a time of much change and, during the 1960s and 70s, he was increasingly responsible for the management and regeneration of vast swathes of derelict land and parks which needed a new look to cater for modern use. As Director for Parks and Leisure, this extended to creating wildlife and geological reserves, the preservation and conservation of the Sandwell canals with lottery funding, and additional river restoration. From a lifetime of such endeavours he can look back at a career from small beginnings at Kew with a great deal of pride.

Charles Funke also started from a background of gardening and nursery work although his father was an engineer, and it was his uncle who worked with plants. Following his father’s interment for a short time during the war due to his German background, the family built up a small nursery business in Feltham. After the war, on leaving Kew, Charles was working in a garden, Coverwood near Ewhurst in Surrey, whilst doing other work including broadcasts on garden subjects for the BBC and lecturing on horticulture to the L.C.C. He gradually progressed to working for himself, focussing on providing exhibitions with plant displays. By concentrating on modified or soilless media Charles built a pioneering reputation for roof gardens, culminating in those he completed at the Wiggins Teape building in Basingstoke, which still stands today. Work with Geoffrey Jellicoe at Sutton Place brought new connections and shallow soils were also required for Stockley Park, a business development near Heathrow over the site of a rubbish tip. By capping and recycling materials he was part of the team who were able to create a green landscaped space with lakes and a golf course. In recent years Charles has worked on many projects overseas and his practice is currently involved in projects in China, Korea and Malta, to name but a few.

A key a pivotal figure in every Kew student’s life, up until his retirement, was Leo Pemberton as Director of Studies for the Kew Diploma course. Although he was not able to be at the Seminar on the day in person, Leo sent in a prepared speech which was read out by Graham. His involvement at Kew was educational in both a direct sense in that he lectured himself, but also by spending so much time ensuring the status of the unique qualification that is the Kew Diploma. The amalgam of practical and academic within the qualification was looked on with suspicion at the time and it is largely due to Leo’s perseverance that it is recognised today as one of the foremost qualifications in horticulture.

Leo was celebrated in the video sent by Jerry Coleby Williams in Australia. Echoing one of the skills embraced by several Kewites, media work, Jerry provided some lovely stories. Udai Pradhan employed another of our modern devices, PowerPoint, to show how he and his family had bridged generations with the excellent horticultural and botanical skills we associate with The Kew Guild. So many hidden assets revealed. Pete Styles revealed he had worked at the Wales Garden Festival at the same time Graham Burgess was there and they had not met. Do you ever watch football matches and wonder who probably put the infrastructure of drainage beneath them? Dave Coleman. No puddles by the goal as we used to get in the very old days! Dave has retained something he had whilst at Kew, namely dressing up and entertaining. His performance on the harmonica sought to encourage us to accept Scotland’s separation from England. We were not able to indulge in other historic experiences like boozing but the students put on teas and cakes; and we reminisced.

There was no way the full record of Kewites' success could be revealed in that one day but the event was filmed and Graham is directing Mark Harman of Redbook Productions in respect of an inclusive video. Separate sessions have taken place with key shots in and around Kew and interviews with the new Directors. Amazing historical data has been supplied by The Herbarium and we have filmed in there.

Watch this space.

News from the Himalayas

by Uday C Pradhan

With the passage of time and loss of senior people – the living libraries of knowledge and experience – many historical matters of interest tend to disappear into oblivion. It is for this reason that Graham Burgess's call for presentations by interested Kew Guild members must be welcomed. Delving into our family history and connections with plants and plants people and most importantly, Kew, Hemlata, Tej, Satyam and I assembled a presentation which we hope will bring into focus the ways in which we could enrich our communities through knowledge and experience gained from Kew and help inspire many young plants people from around the world.

The passing away of Professor Emeritus, Dr Suraj Prakash Vij, Founder Secretary of 'The Orchid Society of India', on 20th October marked an end of an era in Orchid research and promotion of Orchid interest in India. His contribution in the field of Orchid research at the Punjab University Botany Department and Botanical Gardens was commendable and is now being ably carried on by his numerous students.

A month prior to his demise, he had dropped by to meet us on his way back from the National Research Centre for Orchids at Pakyong, Sikkim. Hemlata, Tej and I spent an afternoon exchanging Orchid news and ideas over with him. Both Prof. Vij and his wife, Mrs Usha Vij, have been commemorated by our Orchid hybrids, *Potinara Suraj Prakash Vij* registered to celebrate his 60th birthday and *Aranthera Usha ki Suraj* (literally Usha = morning; Suraj = sun).

His brilliant presentations on Orchid science will always be a source of profound inspiration to all of us who got to listen and interact with him. Henry Oakeley, past Chairperson of the Orchid Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, London, in the volume commemorating Prof. Vij's 60th birth anniversary concludes his chapter on John Lindley '...into this Hall of Fame, we can welcome Prof. S P Vij, who in his selfless labours has inspired many through his work in the Punjab University, its Botanical Garden, in the Orchid Society of India and around the world'. We in the Indian Orchid fraternity will miss a very good friend and mentor for a long time to come. (See also the Kew Guild Journal 2010)

On 25th November, Satyam and Upashana were blessed with a son. Yuvaan, our 'Little Tsunami', has brought a lot of changes in our lifestyle and we hope that one day all our grandchildren will carry the wonderful plant vocation and passion further.

With our warmest greetings and best wishes to everyone in the Guild for 2014.

Below is an edited version of the 'Sikkim Himalayas Enriched' presentation given by Uday at the Celebration of World Horticulture Seminar, 29th September 2014, at the Jodrell Laboratory.

'Our connections with Kew began during the early 1900's when many Himalayan plant

specimens and seeds were sent to Kew from the Chandra Nursery of Rhenock, Sikkim by my granduncles, Rai Saheb Ratna Bahadur Pradhan and Durga Shamsher Pradhan. The specimens can still be seen at the Herbarium! The Chandra nursery was established in 1910. Although my granduncles were not botanists or plants people, how they imbibed and perfected the nursery techniques and plant business is something that still astounds us!



With Mr and Mrs Leo Pemberton and Dr Philip J Cribb during Udai's visit to England, 2002

The Nursery came to limelight with the visit of Her Excellency, the Vicerine of India, Lady Linlithgow in 1940. Later, its fame reached Buckingham Palace, Balmoral Castle to the well know Orchid Nursery of Sanders!

My father, Badri Narayan Pradhan was adopted by one of the granduncles, Durga Shamsher when he was seven years old and he apprenticed and studied under him. It was my father who planted the idea of Kew when I was still a schoolboy, very keen on learning about plants.

When I was about 14 years old I began experimenting with breeding the Amaryllids. I wanted to combine the unique orchid shaped flowers of *Sprekelia formosissima* (the Orchid Amaryllis or the Jacobean Lily) with the *Hippeastrum* hybrids raised by the Chandra Nursery, to bring in the orchid shaped flowers into the group. After countless tries, I succeeded in obtaining the hybrid and it turned out to be exactly in between the two parents. When it flowered I sent a report to the *The Amaryllis Year Book 1970* published in the USA. This was the beginning of a lifelong adventure with breeding and growing plants.

I worked hard in school and topped the Allahabad Agricultural Institute which paved my way to join Kew in 1971 as a Voluntary student. My coming to Kew became possible through the kindness of Leo Pemberton who was then the Supervisor of Studies, and my guardians, Maurice and Joan Street. They made arrangements for my stay with them until I found a suitable place at 16 Kew Gardens Road.

Up until that time there was no comprehensive book for identification of Indian Orchids. One of my aims was to utilise my spare time at the Kew Herbarium to study the specimens of Indian *Orchidaceae* for the guides that I was contemplating writing. I got help and guidance from Prof. Eric Holttum and Dr N L Bor. Dr Bor was well known to one of my granduncles, Rai Saheb Bhim Bahadur, who was then the manager of Sikkim Forest and had accompanied Dr Bor on his field trips. The notes later formed the base for my book, *Indian Orchids: Guide to Identification and Culture*, published in 1976 and 1979. These books formed the foundation for most Orchid research in India.

At Kew, I also learnt the lab techniques of growing orchids from seeds from Dr Peter Thompson and Dickon Bowling. After returning home, I introduced these techniques for

the first time in India. The main intention of learning these techniques germinated from my concern for the large number of Orchids that were being collected at that time from the wild.

After completing my term at Kew, I had the opportunity to join the Central Agronomical Research Station at Versailles, France to learn meristem tissue culture of Orchids under Prof. Georges Morel. From France, I went to Germany to apprentice in orchid cultivation at the firm of H Wichmann Orchideen at Celle.

In 1973, I made my way back to the Himalayas and got married to my school girl friend, Tej and had three wonderful children who are today, in one way or another, connected with plants.

Together, Tej and I have published other books. Amongst them, the book on Himalayan Cobra lilies (*Arisaema*) was the first on the subject, describing all the Himalayan species with notes on how to grow them. I became inspired by the fact that a very beautiful species *Arisaema pradhanii* commemorated Rai Saheb Ratna Bahadur Pradhan and was described by Kew botanist, C E C Fischer.

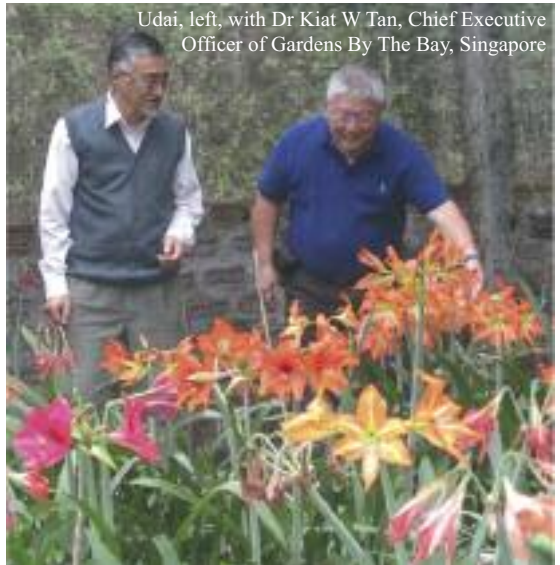
The book on Sikkim Himalayan Rhododendrons, co-authored with my friend Sonam T Lachungpa, was dedicated to Sir Joseph Hooker and also has a Collector's Edition done on the Nepalese handmade paper. A copy gifted to Kew has found its place besides Sir Joseph's classic, as *Hemlata* later discovered!

While a student at Kew, I had the opportunity of meeting and befriending Dr Phillip J Cribb who had just joined the Herbarium. This interaction carried on and it still does to this day. In 1999, on a suggestion from Phil, I organised and chaired the Indian Sub-continent Regional Chapter of Orchid Specialist Group, IUCN/SSC which I had been serving since its inception in 1984. We also co-authored the pages for the endangered Orchid species from India for the first Plant Red Data book published by the IUCN-WWF.

Presently, I am revising the two volumes on Indian Orchids alongside carrying on with hybridising of Orchids and *Hippeastrums*.

I have also been keenly interested in the Jewel Orchids, *Goodyerinae* as subjects for serious conservation attention. During the 18th WOC in France in 2005, we released a small book *Himalayan Jewel Orchids and How to Grow Them*. We are still studying this very interesting group.

Another plant that caught my interest was the Blue *Amaryllis* (*Hippeastrum procerum*, *Worsleya rayneri*). In the late 1950s my father and cousin introduced this species but to their utter dismay failed to cultivate it. This remained etched in my memory. After returning



Udai, left, with Dr Kiat W Tan, Chief Executive Officer of Gardens By The Bay, Singapore

from Kew, I once again approached Robert Blossfeld of Germany who had earlier supplied the seeds to my father. He was able to send me some in the late 1970s, along with details of how it grew in its habitat. We found a corner in our garden that felt like its Brazilian home. It simply loved the location and the mild Kalimpong climate. This unique species flowers with us during our mid-summer and we have named one clone 'Blossfeld's Empress'.

My passion for plants continues with my children. Hemlata became the second generation from our family to go to Kew as a student. When she was about 11 years old she happened to see my field drawings for our books, which seemed to inspire and motivate her.

After completing her schooling and college in India, Hemlata got a place at Kew to complete her diploma in botanical illustration, through a grant from the Elizabeth Greenshield's Foundation, Canada. While at Kew, she was hosted by the Past President of the Rotary Club of Kew Gardens and the Kew Guild, Richard Ward and his family.

Dr Philip J Cribb became her mentor and she trained under two wonderful tutors, Cristabel King and Dr Judy Stone and completed the course with distinction.



Jewel Orchid, *Odontochilus elwesii*

After Kew, she got an admission to the Royal College of Art in the year 2000 to continue her Master's in the field of Natural History Illustration and Ecological Studies with a DFID Scholarship from the Association of Commonwealth Universities, London. She returned home in 2002 to begin a career as a freelance botanical artist and a plant conservationist.

Being a member of the Indian Sub-Continent Regional Orchid Specialist Group, IUCN/SSC, her role was to spread the message of conservation of plants to the public through her paintings. Her paintings have won several awards including the RHS Gold Medal in 1999 and the 18th World Orchid Conference Gold Medal in 2005 for her depiction of India's Wild Orchids.

It was a moment of great honour when the



Hemlata with Philip, Cristabel and Terry during her exhibition at the RHS

Dept. of Philately, Royal Govt. of Bhutan, used her RHS Gold Medal collection of Jewel Orchid paintings (now reposed at Kew) for six postage stamps to commemorate the 3rd Meeting of the Indian Subcontinent Regional Orchid Specialist Group, IUCN/SSC in Bhutan. Her Majesty, the Queen of Bhutan released the stamps on the first day of the meeting. We had the pleasure of presenting a set of the First Day Covers to Kew's Director Prof. Sir Peter Crane in 2002.



Hemlata's *Dendrobium jenkinsii* in full bloom

In 2008, Hemlata was invited by the British Museum to showcase her paintings and conduct a two-day workshop in botanical art (see photo right).



In order to further her dream of combining art, education and conservation, Hemlata initiated a Charitable Trust called the Himalayan Trust for Natural History Art in 2003 with seed funds gifted to her by Lady Lisa Sainsbury. The Trust is presently setting up the Himalayan Institute of Natural History Art in Kalimpong and has been running various hands-on workshops and classes in the field of Natural History Art. The Trust now sponsors and looks after the art education of fourteen talented underprivileged children between the ages of seven and fourteen from the local villages around Kalimpong. While they attend regular village schools during the day, they visit the art school in the evenings, weekends and every major holiday.

The children are taught how to make close observation of nature and document them in the form of sketches, paintings, doodles, words and maps using traditional techniques, methods and materials. This process has not only helped them build their artistic skills but has also helped to develop their confidence and generate an awareness of the biodiversity that abound in the Himalayas.

On the 24th of March 2013, the Art School welcomed Dr Lauren Gardiner, Kew, along with Sir Simon Pugh-Jones, MBE, Sophie McDonell and seven students from the Writhlington School Orchid Project, UK for a day's workshop



and interaction. It was a historic moment for us.

In June, Dr Kiat W Tan, Chief Executive of Gardens By the Bay, Singapore, past Director Singapore Botanic Garden and his team also visited the school and enjoyed interacting with the children.

In 2011, in recognition of her contribution to art and education, Hemlata was honoured with the ‘Pride of the Gorkhas’ Award instituted by the Indian Gorkha Organisation. In 2012 she was awarded the T N Khoshoo Memorial Award by the Ashoka Trust for Research In Education and Environment, presented to her by Nobel Laureate, Dr Elinor Ostrom.

All this and much more has happened because of our association with Kew and the wonderful people we have had the pleasure and honour of meeting. May this bond continue to grow in the following years in the service of the natural world.

The British Rock by Graham Burgess

A young journeyman gardener came to Kew, trained and qualified like you did and then went to Canada where he had a vision that led to one of the biggest gardens in the world sitting bestride the border between two countries. In addition to landscape and plant skills he envisioned the concept of peace.

What he envisioned inspired two current Kewites to invest further, with no financial profit, like Henry Moore. Read and absorb the full story, which you as a Kewite will understand better than many others, at www.circleoffriendship.co.uk and send us your spiritual best wishes!

Sundials by Graham Burgess

Following on from the discoveries of how Decimus designed Kew’s Main Gates and Palm House I told our new Director that a point had been replaced in the first panel of the ten at the Main Gates, when Decimus was making a point by omitting it.

Fortunately the eleventh spike is still a bit lower so his point about watching out for number eleven, sun number, is still extant. Beyond the eleventh spike, when viewed from outside, is the Aeroid House where Decimus adjusted the number of windows to eleven.

The ancient intellectual concept of *rematio* (which means to return and one often does not learn certain things until one returns) has popped up. As a part of the filming for the Kew Guild movie, Mark Harman and I looked at the old sundial on Sundial Lawn. I thought it was important but it was not until I browsed through a 1963 Kew Guild Journal this morning (Sunday 3rd November 2013) that I discovered how very important it is.

Thomas Tompion was the greatest English clockmaker of the seventeenth century. One of his first innovations was the invention of the cylinder escapement and this gave rise to flat watches. Then the first watches with balanced springs. The marble pedestal of the Kew sundial, shaped in the form of an octagonal baluster, is highly decorated with ornate carvings and with William III’s cypher, WR, entwined and reversed. (Reversed, why?). It was placed there in 1832 by William IV and commemorates the spot where, in 1725, the Astronomer Royal Rev James Bradley made the first observation that led to his two great discoveries – the aberration of light and the mutation of the earth’s axis. It is thought that

the pedestal was designed in Sir Christopher Wren's drawing office.

So Decimus's choice of a time in 1844 when the inner planets were in near alignment to release his designs was simply tuning into earlier sensitivities.

The other Dr Hooker: William Dawson Hooker (1816-40)

by Harold Lambert

from the Journal of Medical Biography 2011; 19: 141-144.

The Hookers of Kew are famous. William Jackson Hooker (1785-1865) arrived at the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew in 1841 as its first official Director and was succeeded by his son Joseph Dalton Hooker. Together they transformed Kew into something like its present form, one of the great Botanic Gardens of the world. They were both famous botanists and collectors, Joseph also an intrepid traveller and, later, friend and confidante of Charles Darwin, President of the Royal Society and much else.

Joseph (1917-1911) was the second son of William Jackson and Maria Hooker. Their first son and first child, only 14 months older than Joseph, was William Dawson Hooker, born on 4 April 1816. As he died young, before the family moved from Glasgow to Kew, he scarcely appears in the later and well-known story of the Hooker family. But his history is worth telling, combining personal tragedy and medical conundrum.

Willie's early years

William Dawson, known at home as Willie, was born at Halesworth, Norfolk, and was four when the family moved to Glasgow after William Senior was appointed to the Regius Chair of Botany. His parents worried at Willie's poor school performance, comparing him unfavourably with the industrious Joseph.

But the supposedly wayward Willie followed his own path and entered medical school where he seems to have settled down to serious work. Both brothers graduated in medicine. In Joseph's case this was a hurried progression with the help of much family influence in bending the rules. He was soon to join Captain Ross in his expedition to the south Seas and, although joining as a naturalist, he would have to be signed on as Assistant Surgeon and for this he needed a medical degree.

Willie appears in the graduation list as Doctor of Medicine in the University of Glasgow on 25 April 1838 as 'Gulielmus D Hooker, Anglus' and soon afterwards was appointed Professor of Materia Medica at the Andersonian University, a rival Institution in teaching medical students. By now he had written an account of a natural history tour of Norway and published it, tactfully dedicated to the principal of the University. As part of his increasingly impressive professional profile he entered the Faculty (now the College) of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow. His probationary essay was 'On the Cinchonas, their History, Uses and Effects'. The account of his tour in Norway reveals little of Willie's botanical interests. His role was that of the expedition's ornithologist and another member of the expedition was the botanist. *The Essay on Cinchonas*, however, surely shows Willie to be a serious scientist. He thoroughly reviewed botanical aspects including problems of mismatch between current taxonomy of the genus (29 species then described but now there are 38 or 40) and commercial terminology that was focused on the sources of bark giving the best yield of quinine and cinchonine. He also gives the chemical analyses and extraction methods, and goes on to discuss still familiar concerns. Was the supply threatened by over-cropping? Willie thought not because cinchona could be coppiced. Another concern was adulteration with sugar, starch or other substances of the material eventually sold to patients. Finally, he describes clinical use and methods of administration.

Willie considers that ‘in all diseases which assume an intermittent type, whether they appear as gout, rheumatism, exanthemata, eruptive fever and even phthisis, the bark and its alkaloids prove serviceable’. He is also credited with precocious wisdom as the author of a book on the duties of physicians and their patients. This is, however, a misattribution noted in the Wellcome catalogue; the book was by a different Dr Hooker, an American physician.

None of these achievements seem to indicate a lack of energy or drive, but doubts about Willie’s seriousness and application seem to have persisted into his adult life, and he was well aware of them. He wrote to his grandfather, Dawson Turner, after his appointment to the Chair of Materia Medica with a mixture of pride and ambition but also self-castigating his past failings:

I am very sorry now, very sorry that I was once fool enough to despise Glasgow and the opinion of the people: the inevitable consequence of such conduct was to get myself a bad character, especially as I was so well know here; and you cannot tell how much it vexes and galls me, when I hear I am spoken slightly of. I hear that may people have said I am not fit for the situation I have obtained, I have idled too much time to be able to know anything of the subject which I am called to lecture. Some few were rather more charitable and say I am clever, but I am so habitually idle and wild that I never can do anything. And *one or two friends* act the kind part and tell me I can do what I choose, I have only to exert myself. Such remarks I hope only serve to stimulate me to take my revenge is a laudable way, namely by proving that those who judge ill of me form a wrong opinion, and I hope I may rise ere long to have a name as good and better than it was once bad.

Willie elopes in 1839 and sickens

An earthquake struck the Hooker family in April 1839. Willie was playing court to Isabella Whitehead Smith. Her family was implacably opposed to the marriage but Willie and Isabella eloped and were married on 22 April in the Secession Chapel followed after a day or two by a second ceremony in the English form of service at St Mary’s Episcopal Church. Isabella’s parents did not attend. The Hookers were more generous, and gradually came to love and admire Isabella.

But not long after the marriage Willie’s health caused anxiety. His grandmother wrote to her husband in May that he is ‘...paler and thinner than I ever remember’ and in a letter of 18 June, his father, by now Sir William, wrote ‘...but grieve to say he has a cough upon him and a weakness in the chest that makes us very uneasy about him. He has just been to consult Dr Laurie and seems alarmed about himself. His wife conducts herself with much prudence and improves considerably on acquaintance’. Worry about Willie’s health continued and with good reason. Consumption was highly prevalent and his own uncle, another Joseph Hooker, had died of it in 1815. It is possible too that the health of the youngest daughter, Willie’s sister Harriet Mary, was already causing anxiety. Certainly by 1840, after Willie’s death, she slowly began to fade with ‘weakness of the lungs’ and she died, aged 15, in June 1841.

It was decided to see what bracing air and exercise would do. On 27 July his father wrote: ‘William is generally mending, but pains still in chest and coughing blood... but improved, excellent appetite’. If Willie’s health did improve, the remission must have been short-lived because in the following month ‘William ought to go to India on account of his health – though better, disease still continues’. The problem was that although the doctors thought Willie needed a better climate for the sake of his health, he also needed to earn his living. Jamaica was a suitable place; the climate was excellent and there were plenty of opportunities for establishing a medical practice. They were fortunate too in their medical

and botanical contacts. The island botanist, Dr James MacFayden (1801-50), himself a Glasgow medical graduate, had lived in Jamaica for 13 years and had established a botanic garden there.

And so on 11 October 1839 Willie sailed for Jamaica, leaving the pregnant Isabella in Glasgow. The family disagreements had persisted. Isabella's parents wanted her to go with her husband but it was decided she should stay until Willie had established himself in practice in Jamaica. The journey was long and arduous, and it was uncertain what arrangements would have been possible for a sick doctor and his pregnant wife.

At first there was encouraging news. On 15 January 1840 William senior wrote: '...glad to hear we heard last night from William and I think on the whole accounts are satisfactory... Dr MacFayden says looks well only slight occasional cough...'. But Willie had already been dead for two weeks when this letter arrived.

Willie in Jamaica (1839-40)

Dr MacFayden's letter, which gave Sir William and the family grounds for optimism, is dated 8 December 1839 and describes Willie's arrival one week before. So in the event Willie survived in Jamaica for only a month. MacFayden's comment about Willie's slight cough is the only reference to his physical health but there are other concerns: '...I hope we shall soon see Mrs Hooker our here. We shall do all in our power to make her comfortable. I think that on account of the doctor's health it would be well for her to come by an early opportunity. He feels the separation very much, and we all know how much any depressing causes ought to be avoided or removed where serious pulmonary disease has been threatened'.

The next letter, dated 5 January 1840, tells of Willie's illness and death. He mentions factors that he feels may have had an adverse effect on Willie's health. He had been bathing every morning, to MacFayden's strong disapproval, and after a long walk, bathed in a pool of spring water. And Willie's depression of spirits is again spoken of with concern. In the latter part of December, Willie fell ill with a high fever. 'Although it was a warm day, he felt as if he were lying on a block of ice'. The illness proved to be yellow fever, highly prevalent at the time and on the sixth day of fever Willie vomited black material. He looked at the vomit very attentively and said that this was just what he had expected. He had made a particular study of yellow fever and knew that black vomit presaged a fatal outcome. He died five days later.

Later letters showed that Willie's doctors had been concerned about another factor that might have exacerbated his illness. A few days before he sickened, he had collected seeds of *Jatropha gossypifolia*, the common physic nut, and had eaten some, which he found palatable. The doctors entreated him not to do it again. 'Dr Bancroft is of the opinion that the acrid oil which these nuts contain may have induced or aggravated the inflammatory state of the stomach which is always present in yellow fever'. This species is native to Jamaica and does have the adverse effects they describe.

Many months later a letter from Dr Edward Nathaniel Bancroft (1772-1842), Kingston, Jamaica to Sir William Hooker Kt, Regius Professor of Botany, Glasgow must surely have caused enormous distress to the family. Willie did not have tuberculosis. Bancroft was a senior doctor and also a botanist, who can be called in by MacFayden to see Willie. He had seen and written about yellow fever, had no doubt about the diagnosis and the fatal outcome. But the two doctors had done an autopsy, which Bancroft describes in detail:

We thought it right to have an examination of the body after death and found two classes

of appearances which fully accounted for the violence and fatality of the disorder. The first was a very unusual degree of congestion of the vessels of the brain with effusion between the membranes and within its cavities; and the second was the inflammatory condition of the mucous membranes of the stomach and intestines which gradually induced the formation of the black matter that was copiously voided during life and found in large quantity throughout the intestinal canal after death. We examined very carefully the state of the lungs and the heart in order to ascertain whether any disorganisation had taken place in either of these organs but we did not detect any, not even the slightest rudiment of tubercles...

We have no idea as to how Sir William received the news that his son did not have consumption. Could Bancroft and MacFayden have been wrong in their autopsy findings? The pathology of consumption was well known by this time and Bancroft's statement is explicit. Willie was ill at least until he left for Jamaica and he dies there within a month. Tuberculosis can be notoriously silent in its early staged but, if the symptoms experienced in the months before his departure has been caused by tuberculosis, his lungs would have shown obvious features, probably cavitation but certainly caseation and tubercles. But what then was the illness that led to the diagnosis of consumption? Willie was surely in an anxious state at this time of great personal and family turmoil but what are we to make of persistent cough, 'weakness of the chest' and even haemoptysis? The sole hint is that Willie did experience some sort of chest illness in his youth. Long before, when he was 15, his father had written to grandfather, Dawson Turner: 'Poor William had attack of inflammation in his side yesterday, but by timely bleeding and blistering I am happy to say almost recovered'. Perhaps an area of bronchiectasis dating from his teenage illness would not have been easily detected at such an autopsy.

That Willie died of yellow fever cannot be in dispute. Yellow fever was by then a well-known scourge of many areas including the Caribbean. Doctors like MacFayden and Bancroft were fully aware of the clinical features and the pathological findings, although mosquito transmission was not suggested until 1881 and the viral origin was not firmly established until 1930. The evil significance of bleeding into the gut was well known to doctors and to Willie himself. His comments when he saw his black vomit brings to mind Keats' famous remark 20 years before when he saw arterial blood on his pillow: 'I know the colour of that blood; it is arterial blood; – I cannot be deceived in that colour; that drop of blood is my death-warrant – I must die'.

So Willie, in Jamaica to cure the consumption which he did not have, died of yellow fever, on the study of which he had hoped to make his reputation. Two months after he died Isabella, after a difficult labour, gave birth to a daughter she called Willielma (1841-79). Willielma grew up, married and had a large family.

Acknowledgements: I am most grateful to Joan Lambert and to Christopher Mills, Head of Library, Art and Archives, and to Michele Losse and Hannah Jenkinson, Archivists at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, for much valuable help.

From the Kew Guild Journal: 100 years ago... by Richard Ward

Over the years, as Editor and Advisory Editor, I have collected or been given Kew Guild Journals and I now have every Journal since the founding of the Guild in 1893. There is also a complete set in the Kewensia room in the Herbarium Library. They make for fascinating, and useful, reading.

It is in the (December) 1912 edition that we read about William Goldring, Guild President

for 1913/14. The 1914 Journal was actually, and confusingly, printed in December 1913! The Guild Annual Report for the year ending April 1913 was also published in this Journal. Receipts totalled £61 and there were 297 Life Members.

At that time all members were sent their Journal and asked to pay their subscriptions. 750 Journals were sent out and there were 220 defaulters that year! A marble mural tablet had been placed in St. Anne's Church on Kew Green as a memorial to Sir Joseph Hooker. Lists of Kew staff 'engaged in the great European War' were printed in the Journal. Over four million people visited the Gardens. Kewite W J Bean published 'Trees and Shrubs Hardy in the British Isles'. There were many fascinating write-ups received from Kewites working in the colonies.

Why not send an article about your work and career to our Editor today?

News of Kewites in 2013

by Pamela Holt

Chris Baylis, along with his family, is still in the turf business but the demand for artificial surfaces now seems to outstrip demand for the real thing.



On 19th October, Margaret and **Haydn Bell** (right) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Advisory Editor Richard Ward acted as their best man and, together with his wife Wienna, travelled up to Hull for the Golden celebrations.

Sir Peter Crane (right) with Baroness Susan Kramer, at Peter's book signing on 1st May, *Ginkgo: The Tree That Time Forgot*.



Paul Cook, formerly Curator at Ness Botanic Gardens, took up the post of Curator at RHS Gardens Harlow Carr in September 2013.

Kew is more than a three-letter word

Brian Dodds has always liked flowers for as long as he can remember. Even at the tender age of five he had his own little plot and spent his pocket money on buying plants. So

it is not surprising that he ended up as a student at Kew.

Last summer Brian and his wife Pam flew back to England from their home in Canada, 50 years after Brian graduated from Kew's hallowed domain.

In persuading Brian to send us his news, Advisory Editor Richard Ward asked him at the Guild's reunion,



“What has Kew meant to you?”

“More than I ever dreamt it could” he replied.

It was at Kew that Brian met Gill, his Yorkshire rose, whom he married, and they emigrated to Canada, and had three children. Gill unfortunately died in 1992, as did his eldest daughter Sarah in 2008. Brian married Pam in 2005 and for the past eight years they have lived on Vancouver Island, Canada.

“Kew not only broadened my horizon, it opened up new horizons. What I learned has proven invaluable in my career as a landscape architect”. On leaving Kew, Brian qualified as a Fellow of the Institute of Park and Recreation Administration but his passion was for landscape design in which he qualified as an Associate of the Landscape Institute.

When asked why go to Canada, he replied:

“It is a land of opportunity, of beauty and untamed wilderness. One of my fondest memories is of paddling my canoe solo, a thousand kilometres across the arctic tundra. I saw the purple haze of Rhododendrons stretching for miles, herds of muskoxen and slept on a carpet of mountain avens (*Dryas integrifolia*)”. (Brian also has tales of grizzly bear encounters – too long to be told here).

Prior to retiring, Brian was a principal in one of Canada's leading landscape architectural design firms – first practising out of Toronto in partnership with David Tomlinson, also a Kewite, and then as sole principal practicing out of Calgary. Brian and David were awarded the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects highest national award for Park Planning for the design of Mono Cliffs Provincial Park, Ontario. International recognition was not long in following this award, and having graduated from Kew clinched the firm being retained to master plan a new 300-acre botanic garden for the University of the Llanos in Barinas, Venezuela.

Having a broad horticultural/botanical knowledge base has been an invaluable asset. Design in most cases is a matter of opinion but knowing how to assess if a plant will or will not grow translates directly into money well spent or wasted – especially true when dealing with indoor plantings. When choosing a firm to design the landscape and select the plants for Canada's Niagara Falls Botanic Garden's Tropical Butterfly Pavilion, being a Kew graduate did no harm at all. After all, Kew has earned its position as possibly the world's foremost botanical institution.

David Hardman: I retired as Head of Horticulture and Estate Management from Wakehurst Place on 5th July 2013, having previously held the post of Deputy Curator at Kew from October 1992 until transferring to a similar role at Wakehurst early in April 1997.

I then had a busy year of travel with Jan Collins in March, joining the Kew Guild Spanish tour of Andalucia. It was a great tour and an opportunity to enjoy the company of others including Sandra Leche, a student colleague from 1974-1977 Diploma course. Following the tour we drove across to our apartment in La Manga near Cartagena in Spain.

Retirement enabled further time in Spain in July and then through October and November we toured Kuala Lumpur, Australia and Penang, meeting two Past Presidents. We enjoyed wonderful hospitality at the Manly home of Jim and Val Mitchell who showed us the delights of Sydney and surrounding areas including an auction of an exclusive property in Sydney.

In Penang we were welcomed at the home of Stewart and Pat Henchie, with a full programme of visits around the island including Penang Botanic garden, utilising Stewart's chauffeur driven car.

David Hardman with Jan Collins, left, and Pat Henchie, right



Allan Hart

‘I thought that retirement meant a life of rest and relaxation. However, Joan and I have been busier than ever over the past year. Joan is still very active as Secretary of our local amenity group, the Mortlake with East Sheen Society, and we enjoy playing badminton and taking long walks in Kew Gardens and Richmond Park – keeps us fit!

Work is still in progress with designs for a seaside garden in Worthing – a very challenging

environment. I was delighted to be invited by a young Australian landscape designer to advise on the structure and planting of the Australian Garden at the Chelsea Flower Show which won both a Gold Medal and the Best Garden in Show for Landscape Contractors, Flemings, their last exhibit after ten years of taking part in the show.

A highlight of the year was the superb trip to Spain in March, organised by Bill Bessler. A combination of culture, architecture, gardens, bijou hotels and local restaurants gave us a very enjoyable week. Thanks Bill! A 'Kew Guild Dinner' was held at the Malaga hotel where Tony Overland and I presented Pam Holt with her George Brown Memorial Award. On our return to snow-covered fields at Gatwick we hosted Jill Cowley who was unable to travel back to Malvern so late on a Sunday – she had an easier train journey home the following day.

A very sad occasion was attending Nigel Hepper's funeral in June. I had known him for over fifty years – ours was the first student group that Nigel had lectured at Kew – a traumatic experience for him! Gren Lucas gave the eulogy with lots of insight and humour, recounting a botanical expedition in Africa, where their new form of transport – a hovercraft – destroyed most of the riverside vegetation which was due to be collected and identified!

Joan and I were invited to view the landscape of Bledlow Manor, home of Lord Carrington, where our friend Robert Adams, a landscape architect, has been working for more than 40 years – superbly designed and maintained gardens.

In June we opened our garden, along with several others, to raise funds for a local charity.

We had over 550 visitors during the Saturday and Sunday afternoons. On the Sunday, our son Richard and family returned from Perth, Western Australia after almost four years.

They stayed with us for over three months while they sorted out their lives – rented a house in Haslemere, got the children (Mia, 6, and Dylan, 5) into school, and most importantly, in a very competitive market, Richard (an architect) was appointed as Project Manager for a major redevelopment opposite Victoria Station, which should keep him busy for some time!

We visited Bob Adams at his new flat in a modern sheltered accommodation complex in New Malden, where he was enjoying being cared for and having a good social life.

I am still active with the Awards Scheme and with the Commemorative Plaque for the School of Horticulture – Kew's Contribution to World Horticulture, working with the Interpretation Team. From an idea by Past President, Jim Mitchell, it has been a long process – we were hoping to present the design and costings for approval at the last AGM, but sadly this was not completed in time. We will keep trying.'

—

Stewart Henchie: A year so far in Penang, Malaysia

Having retired in September 2010 from RBG Kew after 40 years service, three as a Diploma student, little did I know that I would return to work again to the tropics, far away from the temperate climate of the UK.

How did it happen? Good friends of ours in Richmond invited us to visit their holiday home with them in Penang on the island in March/April 2012. Just to slightly confuse you:

Penang is one of fourteen states of Malaysia comprising an island and part of the peninsular mainland in the north west of the peninsula and it has a long history, but that is another story.

We had a great holiday and while on the island we naturally visited the Botanic Garden. One thing led to another and I ended being asked if I would help. 'Help' eventually became a contract to act as a consultant for a year from the beginning of December 2012 for the State of Penang.

The garden is situated in the hills of the island on an amazing site surrounded by Dipterocarp forest, which has not been felled for timber extraction. It has a large waterfall and a stream, which can become a river when it rains, flowing right through the middle of it. Before the site, now comprising 600 acres, was developed in the 1880s it was a granite quarry. The first Superintendent of the Gardens and Forestry for the State of Penang was Charles Curtis, a former professional plant collector for Veitch the famous nursery. His application was vetted and authorised by the Director of Kew at that time. Curtis laid out the garden as it is today and many of the landscape elements and plantings of his time still exist, although most visitors to the gardens will not be aware when they visit!

When Curtis retired due to ill health in 1902 he was replaced by officers (managers in today's language) who were trained at RBG Kew; this continued right up to and just after World War II and up to the independence of Malaysia in 1957.

During this time Singapore BG and Penang BG (also known as the Waterfall Gardens) were managed together as one and when staff went on leave on both sites interchange of management responsibilities occurred.

Today the gardens have been extended and the areas of land it is responsible for are more clearly defined; it is owned and financed by the State of Penang. Today, the garden is called a botanic garden but does not function as one fully. About 3,000 people per day and many more on weekends and special functions visit it. The local inhabitants visit virtually every day to exercise in many different ways from about 5.30 to 9.30am when the garden is 'cooler' (28C) and less humid! It gets hotter and more humid as midday approaches.



My task amongst many is to train the general workers (they don't call them gardeners) on the ground practically. This training is in all the basic horticultural tasks that will be familiar to Kew staff working in a botanic garden. This simple statement sounds easy until I realised that they had either no tools or totally inappropriate tools for the job. So one of my earlier tasks was to source and purchase new tools. Training in the skills of usage of tools and basic pruning has been

'fun'. This is probably the best word to describe working with staff who chop plants to the ground or cut and leave plants with so many 'coat hangers' you would never need a wardrobe!

Most of the staff have received little or no training in basic horticulture, never mind botanical horticulture and all that it involves. In my job as consultant I'm not the manager of the staff but most of the things I point out that need to be done are carried out eventually. The main task is getting the garden back on track to being a botanic garden and to get their nurseries and plant records system up to date, machinery requirements, and deployment and management of staff and their contractors.

There are many other very basic jobs necessary to get the general appearance of the place up to an appropriate standard. The public and staff toilet facilities are being rebuilt, it is now happening. To get all this to happen and to help in translation I'm being aided daily by Akbar Mustapha, Director of Recreation from the local Penang Council (MPPP). His tree unit staff have also pruned all the very large trees near the roads/pathways in the gardens under my direction with a very large bamboo cane 'pointer' so they too don't leave 'coat hangers' and prune in the right place!

I have been asked to extend my contract for another year, which I have agreed to as there is much to be done here, much more than I can do on my own.

Pat and I have really enjoyed our 'geriatric gap year' as we call it, especially the welcome we have received from local people and staff at the garden. Penang is a great mixture of races and the interplay between them; Malay, Chinese, Indian and of course Europeans, bring a wealth of different culture, religion and food.

We have taken the opportunity to visit Nigel Taylor, Director at Singapore Botanic Garden and Daniela Zappi based at Gardens by the Bay. Both are amazing places to walk around and become totally engrossed in tropical plants. While staying with them for a weekend in July, we walked up Bukit Timah Summit, the highest hill on the island of Singapore. It was a trial walk for the anticipated Kew Guild trip to Singapore and Penang which unfortunately will not occur now. As you can see we survived!

Martin and Anne Abrahams beside one of the oldest rubber trees in Taiping, Malaysia



Daniela Zappi and Nigel Taylor, August 2013



In October Martin Abrahams, now at Exeter Parks and Open Spaces Department, and his wife Anne visited us, followed by David Hardman and Jan Collins, all enjoying the sights, sounds, food and of course the Botanic Garden in Penang.

So if any of you wish to visit us while we are here for this year (2014) please get in contact as Pat is now a fulltime housewife – as she isn't allowed to work so for the first time in about 35 years she is MY dependent wife!

—

During the 2013 Guild 'Presidential Tour' of Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park, **Angus Heron**, left, (previously Kew South Arboretum Propagator under George Brown) hosted Jim (centre) and Val Mitchell for two nights. They are pictured with David Coleman, right.

—



Colin Hindmarch has been working on policy issues. It seems to get things done, and the challenge of identifying issues, provoking debate among local communities and seeking workable solutions to complex problems is very rewarding. He particularly likes this work because he gets involved with interesting people, makes fascinating field trips and gets the occasional chance to reform policy.

He has had a long-standing involvement in the work of the European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism (EFNCP), which he chaired for a number of years. Among other things, this network promotes the use of traditional, locally adapted farming systems as base-line models for maintaining Europe's ecological resilience. Notably, it been largely responsible for getting the concept of High Nature Value farmland into Europe's policy 'toolbox'. More recently, he has been involved in two regionally-based European initiatives (Net-Biome and NetBiome-CSA) that coordinate biodiversity management throughout Europe's tropical and sub-tropical outermost regions (ORs) and overseas countries and territories (OCTs). These various initiatives have given him innumerable opportunities to work with people around the world and make field trips.

Ecologists have to make field trips; it is a requirement of the job: sequestered continental paradises and exquisite island ecosystems in far-flung places must be assessed, despite the difficulties involved. In terms of policy development, field trips are essential because they reveal how local communities interact with their environment, deal with global challenges and respond to international regulations. They also help to confront academic generalisations and make it difficult to ignore the need for change, which usually prompts the need for policy reform.

Reforming policy is a challenging process where personal achievement is usually more feeling than a fact. Undeterred by this, he presses on and sometimes registers a claim by opening up his ideas for public debate in papers such as: *Growth and sustainability: integrating ecosystem services into economics* (Hindmarch et al, 2006), *Biodiversity on the far-flung outposts of Europe* (Hindmarch, 2007) and *Reforming Common Agricultural Policy* (Hindmarch and Angeli, 2011). These efforts may or may not inform the evolving

policy debate, but they have probably helped to keep him involved in the discussions.

For example, his paper, *Biodiversity on far flung outposts of Europe*, paved the way for his involvement in Net-Biome. First as a member of its Executive Board and leader of one of its work packages, and later as a member of its Advisory Board. In this capacity, he represented the project on a sister initiative called Pace-Net, where he co-authored a draft policy brief on agriculture and forestry in the Pacific region. When the Net-Biome contract ended in 2011, its governing consortium appointed him to the advisory Board of a follow-up project called NetBiome-CSA, from which position he has been able to work with a number of parliamentarians on ways of getting the UK involved in the project.

So, using the opportunities that present themselves, along with those he creates himself, it looks like he will continue his policy work, focusing on the sustainable management of renewable resources. Since many traditional, locally-adapted land management systems are inherently sustainable and have strong cultural resonances, he will argue that they make a sound basis for policies that can deliver a resilient, adaptable, bio-diverse environment capable of sustaining happy, healthy human populations. An engaging challenge for a mid-career ecologist like Colin; perhaps something of a concern for unbridled mega-agribusiness.

—

Dave Howarth writes: ‘I thought my future was a career in local authority with a nice pension at the end. The dream ended with privatisation.’

Not one to sit back Dave started up his own business, discovering an aptitude and passion for IT. This has taken him to every continent except the Arctic and South America, where he found the Kew experience enabled him to converse knowledgeably with delegates about the rich natural flora. He is now in his third career: Soft Skills Training.

—

Louis Philibert

‘It was interesting to re-read my notes sent for the 1992 Journal. Having now spent 28 years running our business, Philibert Horticultural Consultants, we have taken the bold step to have more ‘me’ time by reducing our work-load. Tree Reports along with Arboricultural advice and soft Landscape Design have been our mainstay all that time. Of course the recent recession has had an impact as our main clients are house builders. We have been fortunate to find another consultant to take over the Tree Report and Arboricultural advice side of the business, which includes site visits when the weather is less than kind – usually too cold, too wet or even too hot!

The soft Landscape Design remains, which is mainly for new developments of anything from a single house up to 1000+ dwellings, including infrastructure planting.

That extra ‘me’ time is now spent in the workshop wood carving, walking and even some time in the garden.

Visits to the South of France are now semi-regular to spend time with our daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren, Henry and George.

It was good to meet up with a few of my fellow ‘students’ at the Grand Reunion picnic in the Director’s garden, at the AGM in September, the result of which is for me to supply

these notes.

There have been 40 years worth of changes at Kew and in Landscape Design since I completed the course in 1974, some for the better and some worse but we won't delve into that here!

In May 2014 I will be achieving an ambition of mine to see plants (hopefully some Rhododendrons) growing in the wild on a trip organised by the RHS, led by Roy Lancaster and Jim Gardiner.'

—

Julia and **Clive Popham** wrote to Advisory Editor Richard Ward in December, saying how they had enjoyed their 'winter' trip to the UK (in late May for five weeks). They stayed with the Wards on their arrival and were able to drive to Cheshire the next day to join in with the Guild regional weekend organised by Jan and Tony Overland. During the following month they became 'gardened out', enjoying lovely weather visiting relatives, National Trust gardens and Kew before returning home to Australia on 10th July, to their orchids. And problems on their land with kangaroos and deer...

—

After graduating from Kew in 1974, **Keith Smith** spent a year at the Grotto living in a rather damp prefab type building near the Thames but he recalls that the fishing was good. He and his mates adopted a duck named Chloe and played cupid by introducing her to Gimmer from a local farm resulting in little Gimmers-duckling offspring. (Gimmer apparently was a poor swimmer, nearly drowning in the Thames whereby he was dried with a hairdryer – and I thought they were studying Parks Administration!). Later Keith took up the position of Technical Assistant in Wandsworth, by now having completed the final part of the Parks Administration Diploma with all its hours of landscape drawing projects.

"In Wandsworth many opportunities presented themselves from Training Officer and Parks Supervisor to Parks Police. It was during my time at Wandsworth after the 1987 Storm that I was sent to Italy with our Arboricultural Officer to visit nurseries and purchase trees. The Italians are scary drivers!"

Whilst at Kew, Keith took over from Alan Titchmarsh and ran the drama group, making an 8mm film of amusing antics in the gardens where George Brown was persuaded to take part. With basic equipment in poor light conditions due to working after the gardens were closed and the public had left, Bob Hughes filmed the action. Many students took part including Dave Mattheaman, Pamela Holt and Harvey Groffman among others.

A separate sound track was added. Little did he realise that many years later, Martin his computer literate son would improve the film quality and add the sound track to create a DVD to treasure memories of his studentship.

In 1975 Keith married Raie who worked in Dr Swain's section at Kew and produced two wonderful sons. In 1990 the family moved to Brighton to be near the sea and work for Hove Borough Council and then Brighton. Taking early retirement in 2003 to look after his mother, Keith has taken quite an interest in tortoises and deep sea fishing. He sends his regards to all of his Kew colleagues, several of whom have become life-long friends.

—

Peter Styles worked for many years in Local Authority planning offices before setting up his own landscape design business. He remains active in encouraging and mentoring students in the industry.

Mary Thorp writes:

I came to Kew in 1991. I had no qualifications in gardening. At my interview I said “I love plants and gardens. I’m very fit and don’t mind what I do, give me a job!” They did. I was taken at my word, and found myself in the Herbaceous Department where in the first autumn I double-dug and mulched the order beds. Then for the three coldest months of the year I pruned the rose pergola, with the first summer spent working with Graham Madill renovating the Grass Garden. (He was largely responsible for the one-day strike for better pay early in the 1990s). Two years later when Graham moved to the Duke’s Garden, I was put in charge of the Grass garden renovation and eventually after completing a three-year City and Guilds day release course, I became team leader of the Herbaceous Section. The Grass garden took nearly ten years to complete during which time every grass was dug out, verified and replanted once all the couch grass had been removed. The grass crops were relocated around ‘The Sower’ and Miscanthus beds were planted in the centre of the garden. It was thanks to the Grass garden that Mike Sinnott, then Head of Dept., put me forward as a ‘Grass Expert’ for the RHS Floral committee, with which I have been involved ever since.

I left Kew in 2004 following the death of my husband to give time for family matters and then took up private gardening. Once you’ve worked at Kew its hard to leave so I’m often in and out for a good old gossip to my old line manager Chas Shine, and once a week you’ll find me in the Woodland garden as a volunteer. I am on my local Barnes and Sheen allotment committee, site representative and newsletter editor plus working on my two allotments I have had for the last twenty five years, with a few unusual grasses among the vegetables!

Hundreds of students and interns must have passed through the Herbaceous section while I was there – some I have kept contact with and so many I have not. I often wonder what they are up to: those meticulous Japanese boys and girls and the fiercely efficient Germans...

Thanks to my involvement with the RHS Trials Committee and judging RHS shows, I got to know Fergus Garrett, Head Gardener at Great Dixter, where many students went after receiving their diplomas and it is through him that I have stayed in touch with some wonderful friends. Andy Darragh, another good friend and contact with the past, took over from me as team leader in Herbaceous. He has since moved on to be Head Gardener at the National Trust Fenton House property in north London which is well worth a visit. Apart from gardening at Kew, I sometimes spend a day working in the vegetable garden at Great Dixter with Aaron Bertelsen. Aaron returned to Great Dixter to care for Christopher Lloyd until he died and his original job there as housekeeper looking after the students, a job he continues today. He also lectures and raises money for the Jerusalem Botanic Gardens where he often works and which has strong associations with Great Dixter.

Tom Coward became Assistant Head Gardener at Great Dixter after various jobs including Head Gardener to Sir Paul McCartney. He is now Head Gardener at Gravetyre Manor taking on the exceptional job of restoring William Robinson’s gardens (as those who attended his KMIS lecture recently will know). He lives on site with partner and baby

daughter. Tom writes in ‘Country Life’ every month.

Matt Reese, another Great Dixter recruit, was last seen at ‘Fern’, the palatial mansion of Lady Rothermere where as Head Gardener he was recreating opulent herbaceous white borders. Matt has since moved to a large private garden where he is developing a recent design of Tom Stewart-Smith.

Hannah Gardener, who I remember as a wonderfully theatrical person, has rather appropriately become Head Gardener at Garsington Manor, home of the famous musical and opera festival, where as far as I know she still works and lives with her young daughter. The last time I visited was to say goodbye to James Stevenson who was on his way back to America after finishing work in the Oxford Botanic Gardens, where he had been replanting the herbaceous beds into the new Systemic Orders. Alys Fowler, well known from the BBC’s ‘Gardeners World’ – her striking red hair and high cheek bones had already attracted the attention of the television cameras when BBC4 came to film at Kew in the 1990’s (the series was never screened). She married an American photographer and apart from television appearances, has written articles and books, the latest being ‘Letters to a Beekeeper’. She is planning to plant a meadow in Bristol where she lives.

Andrea Brunsendorf did a Masters in Conservation after leaving Kew and eventually landed the job of Head Gardener at Inner Temple. She has won prizes for the soft informal planting at this haven by the Thames. Another lovely lady who was with me in my last year at Kew then worked in the Decorative section was Lucy Hart. She is now Head Gardener at Fulham Palace, restoring the once famous 17th Century grounds and walled gardens. Andy Darragh organises a wonderful apple weekend every autumn – a great day out for the kids, big ones and the little ones! Here I often bump into Bob McMeekin who has his own private gardening business in London. He was also involved with conservation projects in The Turks and Caicos Islands and recently won an award for the Church Garden in Inner Temple (and I often meet him at Gravetyre when I’m working there with Tom).

Simon Hewett is another regular at the Apple Weekend, though I often see him in London and at RHS flower shows. He has worked for Lady Lennox-Boyd, amongst others, and now has his own gardening company which includes a member of the rock band ‘Pink Floyd’! Another old friend of Andy’s and Tom’s is Rowan Blake. He recently came for a chat when I was working in the Woodland Garden to invite me to Darwin’s Down House where he is Head Gardener and lives on site with his family; Down House and gardens have recently won an award from English Heritage.

Closer to home in Barnes where I live, I often meet Phil Kennedy, one of the youngest Kew Diploma students, who was so ill in his second year that he nearly didn’t finish the course but struggled through and now has his own gardening business and is a familiar sight around Barnes and Sheen with the brightest painted gardening van I have ever seen! The splendidly named Faulkland Van Little, another young student, works for the Barnes-based Mark Bayon garden and landscaping firm, though with a name like that and a somewhat eccentric personality I have always felt he will end up on the telly one day!

This is just a tiny snapshot of how the Kew Diploma has led past students into wonderfully interesting and rewarding careers in horticulture. Looking at the many other course photos in The School of Horticulture I often wonder what you are all up to. One of the nicest things about garden visits is when a familiar face pops up from behind a shrub and I’ve tracked down another ex-student! *Great news, thank you Mary. We note that many of those mentioned are not Kew Guild members! Ed.*

Advisory Editor **Richard Ward**, together with his daughter Sparkle, drove 6,000 miles across the USA during July and August 2013. Starting in San Francisco they visited the Napa Valley, Yosemite National Park, and Grand Canyon then down through Flagstaff to the Mexican border, through Texas to New Orleans. Atlanta Botanical Gardens were a highlight. They stayed three enjoyable days with Winnifred and Bob Hebb (Past Guild President) in Richmond, Virginia and were given a brief but wonderful guided tour of Longwood Gardens the following day by Patrick Nutt. These ex-Kewites send their greetings to all their old Kew friends!



Patrick with Sparkle beside the Victoria pool



Richard, left, with Winnifred and Bob

M. John Whitehead (Log)

‘Now in my 70th year, I planned adventurous botanical expeditions throughout the year, while Bren stayed safely in North Wales while. A simple retirement philosophy is to keep on going while the good gets going and the body achieves what the mind believes. For a healthy and active senior, the year worked out well.

I planned a tough year where many of the botanically interesting places had risk factors of extreme conditions or precarious situations, and dangerous places that challenge surviving travelling abroad. A guide to successful travel when there are many flights and no booked hotels is travelling light, with one locally blending sports bag, and cash with passport always kept in zipped trouser pockets. Care with clean food and drink. Avoiding crime with less travelling at night and even if you get lost, always look as if you know where you are going!

The year begins in early spring with a month in India and only two days with a dodgy tum. First problem, after finally landing near the Brahmaputra River at Guwahati, was having no local money and no bank at the airport, was then being saved by a kindly Indian airport official who gave me cash to catch the bus into the city centre. Care was required avoiding malaria and snakes in the tropical jungles of Meghalaya. Luckily it was not the monsoon period when visiting the wettest place on earth at Cherrapungi, with fascinating tree bridges and Khasi Pines in the Khasi Hills also near problem border zones, next to Bangladesh. I battled with heavy and very noisy traffic, crowded trains and buses late in the day, when there was only just time to catch a lovely sunset and reflections of a big drumstick tree in a tranquil lake at the famous Victoria Memorial in Kolkata. Extreme hot weather conditions slowed down the pace for hunting Baobab trees on Pamban Island between India and Sri Lanka. Local transport problems were time consuming in the search

for interesting big trees in central India, where very little English is spoken apart from in the modern hotels, although amazing temples were easier to find when visiting Madurai, Bangalore and Hyderabad. Luckily I survived an attack of Macaque monkeys on a banyan tree island in the Narmada River, north of Mumbai. Baobab hunting by motorbike in Allahabad during Kumbh Mela (the world's largest religious gathering of 100 million visiting people, which is held every 12 years).

I was intrigued to find the spot near the Bodhi Tree at Bodhgaya where Lord Buddha sat and stared at the Tree of Enlightenment for a week without his eyes blinking. The Express train to Delhi is a misnomer. It was slow and was half a day late and the next day I was surprised to find the Botanical Garden at the station of the same name. It was disappointing to discover that no photography was allowed in the Wood Museum in the famous Forestry College at Dehra Dun. Travelling up a scary winding road by local bus, it was a relief to climb up to an enjoyable cooler climate in the cedar forest, with great views from Mussoorie, known as the Queen of the Indian Hill Stations. Surrounded by spectacular views including the Thaljiwas Glacier when trekking knee deep in snow, it was exhausting but worth the effort to find a classic location of snow barked Himalayan birch trees near Sonamarg, north west of Srinagar in Kashmir. The next day, I visited the fabulous colourful Tulip Garden whilst staying in a houseboat on Dal Lake where unfortunately a European girl was murdered by her boyfriend the previous week. I visited West Bengal where impressive iconic green hills of tea plantations were seen near Darjeeling and there was only a brief chance to catch an early morning glimpse through distant clouds, of Kanchenjunga, the world's third highest mountain. Control officialdom took time to obtain a visa which nearly caused a problem visiting Sikkim. Finally, I left India to join an expensive tour of Bhutan which was well worthwhile as solo tourism is not usually allowed and luckily I travelled with an interesting, adventurous group of people, at a time when magnolias and rhododendrons were in bloom.

Late spring, a senior bus pass from home at Pontllfyni and a £30 National Express Bus return ticket took me on a long 24-hour journey from Bangor to Amsterdam – it was great seasonal timing to catch the tulip bulb fields and Kuekenhof Gardens in full bloom. Then, a long time wish was

John Whitehead at the Minaret of Jam in west central Afghanistan



at last granted – to visit the historic Leiden Botanical Garden.

Mid summer, I was relieved that I had selected a fairly safe time for a risky visit to Afghanistan before military peacekeeping forces withdraw in 2014. The covert journey was helped by travelling in the hottest month, with less detection by using local transport, having low profile police protection in some areas and everyone wearing traditional Afghan clothing. The strategy proved successful for a small intrepid daring group of foreign travellers, journeying from the east in the Hindu Kush, through the central mountains, passing poppy fields in the Taliban villages and along the Silk Road westwards to the city of Herat.

Later I returned home via the hottest country in the world, experiencing the amazing heat and plant survival in the desert of Kuwait.

Late autumn: when to go is always a problem with forward planning! The research paid off with great seasonal timing for visiting Armenia when the autumn colouring forests were at their best. Within view of snow bound Mt Ararat were orchards of amazing Apricot trees with glowing golden leaves that resemble the poplar. Travelling to the west is the small mountainous country of Nagorno Karabakh, not yet globally recognised and potentially dangerous. Therefore it is not recommended to visit by the Foreign Office, which causes problems with entry visas and validation of personal travel insurance. It was well worth arranging an arboreal visit to see the giant plane tree at Skhtorashen.



John measuring the plane tree in Nagorno Karabakh

Early winter, with one month in the Pacific: A lifelong wish came true at the end of November 2013, by travelling to the world's most remote inhabited British Overseas Territory of Pitcairn Island. I got there eventually, by flying via Hawaii, Tahiti and the Gambier Island then sailing for two days on a Government supply ship, the Claymore. The small rocky island is only two miles long and one mile wide and landing at Bounty Bay is notoriously dangerous. I stayed with Jay and Carol Christian-Warren who had

studied at Kew in 1997. The local population of 50 people are proud of their history as descendents of the mutineers from the famous maritime story of the ship, the Bounty. The botanical mission of the Bounty failed. They had intended to collect Breadfruit trees from Tahiti and deliver the botanical cargo to the Caribbean as a new food plant to feed the slaves working in the new cotton and sugarcane industry. [Read more about this on the Kew Guild website].

My return journey was via the Austral Island of Rurutu and a mountain hike to see native Tree ferns. Island hopping in the Pacific on small planes was like bus routes, where a trip to sample atoll vegetation and idyllic multi-blue waters of Rangiroa was a paradise experience in the Tuamotu Archipelago. In the Society islands a long bicycle ride was fun and I measured the giant banyan tree on the historic archaeological Marae sites on the Island of Huahine. A long mountain trek was exhausting when searching for the rare endemic sacred White Ghost Hand Flower on the Island of Riatea. Hoping that funds would last and now able to use credit cards, my final island hopping adventure was a week spent visiting volcanoes and meeting friends and directors of Tropical Botanical Gardens in Kauai, Oahu, Maui and Hawaii. The star alpine plant found high up in the volcano crater was the Silversword and the habitat of the interesting rare bird, the upland Ne Ne Goose.'

Obituaries

Emile Bird
1916-2014

Emile was a student at Kew from 1937 to 1939 and a long time member of the Guild. Whilst at Kew he was very active in The Mutual Improvement Society and in October 1938 gave a lecture on Melons for Exhibition.

He was a member of the Cricket Club, which that year won 14 of the 18 matches they played in. Emile was also on the football team.

His main occupation until his retirement was Chief Parks Supervisor for Welwyn Garden City Council formerly the Dev. Corporation for the New Towns Commission.

'A town designed for healthy living and industry of a size that makes possible a full measure of social life but not larger, surrounded by a rural belt; the whole of the land being in public ownership, or held in trust for the community'.

His son Roy said "He held his love of plants, shrubs and trees right up to his sudden death. Kew always held a special place in his heart and he would always reminisce about his days as a student. So in short I can say he had a fulfilled career and retirement vocation using his knowledge/expertise gained at Kew".



Alexander George Dixon
1935-2012

Alexander entered Kew from Croydon Parks in March 1958, and after gaining his Kew qualifications returned to Croydon Parks as a Propagator.

His life was devoted to Council Parks Departments and in 1967 he worked in Crayford Kent.

He met his wife Gael in 1982 as they shared a special interest – Rhodesian Ridgeback dogs. This breed requires positive, reward-based training, good socialisation and consistency; it is often not the best choice for inexperienced dog owners. Ridgebacks are strong-willed, intelligent, and many seem to have a penchant for mischief, though loving. They are protective of their owners and families.

He took early retirement from a role as Acting Parks Manager, again at Croydon, in 1992. One of his hobbies was photography and another which he shared with Gael was horse riding.

After contracting lung cancer in 2009 treatment, he fought it off but in 2011 it appeared in his brain. He rode as often as he could and once when Gael asked “what will you do if you have a seizure?” he said, “the horse will wait for me”.

He passed away aged 77 years, on 15th January 2013.

Gael still rides and has many happy memories.

Hazel Hyde
1932-2013

‘Hazel was born on 5th November 1932 in Church Road, Richmond. She was christened Hazel after her mother’s maiden name.

The family eventually moved to a flat in Sandycombe Road where Hazel was brought up and educated in the local schools. After school she worked in a hairdressers shop and then a ladies dress shop.

She met her husband George when she was fifteen and he had just completed National Service in the Navy. They enjoyed dancing and skating in their courting days and in 1953 they married.

After a few years of living in lodgings they moved into their own home in Sandycombe Road, not far from Hazel’s parents.

Hazel eventually joined the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food as a Clerical Officer at Kew Gardens, on 1st April 1966, working in the Office Services section supplying guidebooks to the gates and organising stationery supplies for the Gardens. She initially worked in the Admin Office and later in the Studies Section, where she remained until her retirement. In 1980, Hazel transferred to the School of Horticulture as Administrative Officer where she worked for Leo Pemberton, first Principal of the School, followed by Graham Bass and Ian Leese. Affectionately known to the students of Courses 15-30 as ‘Auntie Hazel’, she was the friendly face in the School from the minute you turned up for the interview to sorting out numerous problems along the way of most

Diploma Students; including accommodation, contacts for private work and finding permanent jobs. Hazel's main day job was supporting the Principal in the running of the administration side of the course, including the lecture programme, recruitment and graduation.

She particularly enjoyed the latter job as it brought her closer to the students welfare, i.e. helping them to find accommodation and so on. She quickly became loved and respected and always had time to listen to their tales of woe, especially if they had not done too well in their exams and wanted to cry on her shoulder.

Her personality shone through with this job and she was very much at home dealing with members of the public and distinguished guests. Hazel was honoured in 1992 as a winner of the Kew Medal for exceptional service and by the Alpine and Herbaceous Department, now Hardy Display, who named a fine compact form of orange flowered pomegranate *Punica granatum* after her.

Hazel retired at 60 and she and George spent their time between Richmond and Felpham where they had their holiday home, and she was very happy gardening and sitting on the beach close by. But George became ill and died just before Christmas in 1999. Hazel remained strong and carried on with the attitude that 'what will be, will be', but she really missed him.

Soon after her husband's passing, Hazel started to have health problems. As years went by her health worsened and she became hospitalised for long periods, bravely undergoing unpleasant operations. The continued illness robbed her of her personality.

Eventually, with pain and despair that her body could no longer cope with, Hazel passed away early on Monday morning of 30th September 2013.

Hazel, you will always be remembered for the happiness you brought to everybody you met.

God Bless You.

Rest in Peace.'

From a tribute read by Len Phillips at Hazel's funeral.

Graham Ernest Mellor
1928-2013

Graham was born on 16th January 1928 and passed away on 16th January 2013, aged 85.

Graham entered Kew as a student on the 2nd October 1950 from The Royal Horticultural Society's garden at Wisley. It was a very vibrant time at Kew as many parts of the infrastructure were improved. In Sept 1952, he left to join Uxbridge Parks Department as Nursery Foreman under Hector Willis, a Kewite who left Kew in 1938.

In 1954 he was appointed Deputy Superintendent of Parks, and Kewite E Baverstock took his place.

It was a vibrant organisation from square one being so close to London and has been awarded Green Flag Awards. It was one of the first parks departments to invest in children's

playgrounds and currently has over one hundred.

He was always interested in the Kew Guild and made a significant contribution to support The Kew Guild Awards Scheme.

He was a beloved dad to Giles and Guy and father-in-law to Denise, and a great granddad.

Mark Reeder

1957-2010

Mark Reeder passed away tragically on 1st June 2010, aged 53 years. He was a beloved son of Ann and Clive, brother to John and Nick, brother-in-law to Rachel and Sharon, and uncle to Daniel, Faye, Millie and Ben. He will be sadly missed by his family and friends.

Mark, while still in his third year as a student at Kew, attained the highest marks of any candidate in the intermediate examination for the Masters Diploma in Horticulture (previously NDH) and he also received the Chittenden Award. Mark was a contemporary of Martin Staniforth. He won an Honours in his diploma award and a prize for the best vegetable plot.

He completed a management project whilst a student, a review of the education and information services for visitors and members at the Royal Horticultural Society's Garden, Wisley.

He then moved to America. Mark enriched his knowledge and management skills as director of the Governors Palace Gardens in Annapolic, USA – one of the most historic gardens in America.

In 1991, Mark returned to Britain after being away for four years, and started his own business in the Midlands at Kenilworth. There he won an award after he helped his neighbours recreate their communal ground in Lower Ladyes Hill from an overgrown wilderness into an eclectic mix of gardens.

He leaves a legacy of beautiful gardens tuned cleverly into the nature of his clients. The funeral was held at St John's Church, Kenilworth on 17th June.

Eric Saxon

Eric passed away in February 2014 – a full obituary will be prepared for next year's Journal.

F. Nigel Hepper

1929-2013

Frank Nigel Hepper, a botanist, was born in Leeds on 13th March 1929. He was the principal scientific officer and assistant keeper of the herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Nigel married Helen Morrish in 1959 and they had three sons. He died in Kingston on 16th May 2013.

Nigel Hepper: Kew botanist whose meticulous work gave warning of climate change

by Ghilleen Prance

Nigel Hepper was a botanist and specialist in the African flora. He was principal scientific

officer and assistant keeper of the herbarium at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Hepper liked to be known as Nigel – and seldom used his first name, Frank. He was educated at Leeds Grammar School and King's College Newcastle (then part of Durham University), where he received an honours degree in botany.



Hepper (right) in Nigeria in 1958, on one of his many botanical expeditions to Africa.

I first met Hepper in 1962 when I was a postgraduate student making weekly visits to the Kew herbarium to study African plants. He was extremely helpful and gave much time to me, a young student – but this was typical of the way that Hepper conducted himself throughout his career. When, much later, I worked at Kew, I observed that Hepper still went to all the student activities and often entertained students in his family home, especially lonely ones from overseas. He was a gentle, friendly and hospitable man. He was also a Renaissance man, since he had many academic interests other than botany – especially Egyptology, Bible plants and history.

He began work at Kew in 1950 and continued there until his retirement in 1990, a period interrupted only by two years of national service with the RAF (1950-52). He carried out extensive botanical fieldwork and took part in botanical expeditions in West Africa to British Cameroon and later, on board a hovercraft, from Senegal to Lake Chad. He also joined Kew expeditions to Kenya, Tanzania and Malawi and travelled to Yemen and Sri Lanka.

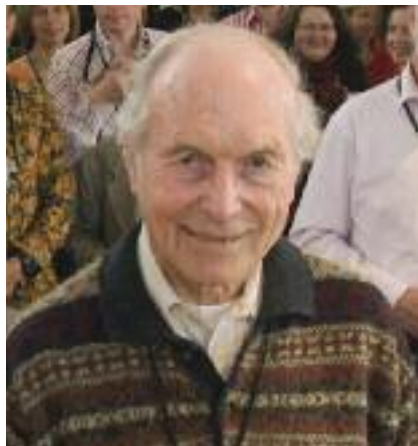
From his experiences in Yemen he wrote *Plants of the Yemen* (1976). He also authored many scientific papers and several books about his work on African botany, and worked on the second edition of the landmark *Flora of West Tropical Africa*, later becoming the editor who saw it through to completion in 1972. He described and named 73 new species of plants from Africa – and has had six other species named by other botanists to honour him, for example, as recently as 2010, *Cercestis hepperi*.

He also compiled, in 1971, a useful book on all the plant collectors who worked in West Africa. In 1986 Hepper initiated the Rain Forest Genetic Resources Project based at Limbe (formerly Victoria) Botanical Garden in Cameroon.

From a very young age growing up in Leeds, he began to note the first flowering of all the garden life around him. When he moved to Kew, he continued this study of plant phenology. These long-term observations showed a considerable change in the times of first flowering – and proved to be an important demonstration of the effects of climate change on plants. When he first showed me these records, Hepper, a humble man, was reluctant to publish them and stated that this was just a hobby. I was able to convince him that these were an important record of biological changes and fortunately, 20 years of these observations were published in 1973 in his paper *Commencement of Flowering: Phenological Records at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew*. Hepper continued making these

meticulous observations in his garden almost to the day he died.

Emanating from his strong Christian faith were his scholarly publications about Bible plants: *Bible Plants at Kew* (1980), *Baker Encyclopedia of Bible Plants* (1993) and *Planting a Bible Garden* (1998). He was also co-author of *Lands of the Bible* (1995). He put his knowledge into practice by helping to establish a biblical garden at St George's Cathedral, Jerusalem. When Kew received plants from the tomb of Tutankhamun, it was Hepper, already interested in Egyptology, who studied them, and the result was his book *Pharaoh's Flowers: the Botanical Treasures of Tutankhamun* (1990).



His interest in history was broad ranging – from his family, to Kew, to the history of African botany. He edited and contributed to the book *Royal Botanic Gardens Kew: Gardens for Science and Pleasure* (1982); three editions of *Wakehurst Place: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*; and, together with Ray Desmond, *A Century of Kew Plantsmen: A Celebration of the Kew Guild* (1993).

He co-authored a book about Luigi Balugani's drawings of African plants (1991) which were based on the collections of James Bruce of Kinnaird on his travels to discover the source of the Nile. With the Swedish botanist Ib Friis he wrote *Plants of Pehr Forsskal's Flora Aegyptiaco-Arabica* (2000). Additionally he researched *Cedrus libani* – see 2002 *Kew Guild Journal*.

Hepper's father kept a diary of his experiences in the Great War which Hepper edited and recently published. *Captain Hepper's Great War Diary, 1916-1919: A Battalion of the West Yorkshire Regiment on the Somme During the Great War* (2011) gives an interesting insight into life in the trenches. His most recent book, *Life on a Lake District Smallholding* (2012), recounts his own experience of the Second World War, when his family evacuated to the Lake District and formed a market garden with livestock to aid the war effort. Nigel Hepper was a humble man, but he was proud of his publications and of his family. At the celebration of his 80th birthday at Kew he produced an impressive display of all his publications up to that date, and I am glad that he produced at least two more books since that event.

Hepper was elected a Fellow of the Linnean Society of London and a Fellow of the Society of Biology. He was the 1991-1992 President of the Kew Guild and received the Kew Medal in 1989.

From Tam Dalyell:

Nigel Hepper was my oldest friend. Seventy-four years ago, and I was a little boy of 7 in corduroy trousers, and he a senior 10-year-old at Harecroft Hall Preparatory School (defunct in 2011) at Gosforth, near Sellafield in Cumbria.

Many of the 40 boys were scientifically minded – their dads worked at Drigg/Calder Hall and were labelled the 'Atomics'. We all had two square yards of allotment in the kitchen garden. Most were messy. Hepper's were immaculate. He taught the rest of us to grow radishes and other vegetables – and when it came to flowers, he would insist on Latin

names. When I asked to grow marigolds, he replied “*Calendula*, to you”. This would have been a matter of teasing and ribaldry at most schools. Not at Harecroft. This was the ‘seed’, if that is the contextually suitable word, that blossomed into one of the most meticulous of botanical recordists.

From 1963 over lunch in the House of Commons, he warned me about the effects of climate change. In 1984, in the light of his African experience, he expressed greater alarm. And, at the last reunion of Harecroft Old Boys in the 1990s – Hepper kept us in contact with each other – he forecast what is now received wisdom on climate change.

Nigel’s wife Helen writes:

Two thoughts, the first being how much he loved Kew – the interesting people, the scholarship, the fun and the constant interest and beauty of the gardens. He and Mary Grierson, who he frequently visited during her later days, always agreed on their great good fortune in having worked in such a wonderful place.

Then there was the pleasure he took in his own garden. You will remember what a long cold winter we had last year and how it did not really warm up until May. It so happened that Nigel was allowed out from hospital a day or two before his operation and his time at home exactly coincided with the beginning of the summer warmth. So he was able to potter around on a lovely warm sunny day and enjoy the garden to the full, not knowing that this would be the last time. That was a real bonus and a lovely memory to take back with him to the hospital.

Robert Millard

1929-2013

Born on 18th November 1929, Bob had a very rich life starting with very caring and quality links with his parents.

He was a twin but his twin sister passed away at three months of age, and his mother died when he was nine years of age. He was evacuated due to the war but family kept in touch, showering him with positive love and celebration of Mother Nature.

He won a scholarship which allowed him to attend grammar school at Poole in Dorset and he was interviewed for a place on the Kew course when he was 14 years of age.

In a letter from the Assistant Director Dr. Bor on 11th September 1954, Robert was advised four years later that he had been successful in getting a two-year studentship and was told to attend at the curator’s office at 8.30am on 4th October.

His certificate on leaving Kew signed by the Curator (William Campbell) and the Director Sir E J Salisbury revealed his competence: “He served in the Tropical and Herbaceous Departments and his immediate superiors spoke very highly of his capabilities and of the orderly manner in which he carried out his work”.

They also said “He attended the various courses of lectures and obtained a distinction in Elementary Botany and passed in Soils and Manures, Systematic Botany and Ecology, Mycology, Plant Breeding and Genetics, Entomology and Landscape Design and Construction. He attended external lectures at the Richmond Technical Institute and was awarded certificates in the Life of Plants and Land Surveying. He also passed the General Certificate in Surveying. His attendance at scientific institutions including research stations was above the average”.

A keen participant at Mutual Improvement Society meetings included lectures on 'Atmospheric Pollution in relation to Horticulture' and 'Stabilisation of Soils'.

They also said "His record is a pleasing one and by his progress and adaptability, combined with pleasant personality, he has ensured at all times maximum benefit from his training. He should make excellent progress in the future in that particular sphere of horticulture which he decides to adopt".

Well, they were totally correct in their judgements.

There is not enough space, as is so often the case with Kew Guild Obituaries, to reveal the full story. Key in his case is something that is quite ancient.

Way back in time no one could get a job with profound responsibility unless they could speak in verse. This referred to an ability to have totally under control what one finally delivered in speech. This year's Journal could have been filled with his poems and we include one that will appeal to all Kew Guild readers.

His wide-ranging life's work included horticulture in many applications including Strategic Planning Parks and Amenity Facilities; Commercial Horticulture and Education. He was Head of Horticulture at Aylesbury College for many years and liaised nationally in respect of schools, further education, careers, training boards and employers. He was Berkshire's representative on the West Midlands Regional Advisory Council.

He passed away on 30th July 2013. At his funeral the sense of sad loss was overwhelmed by the joy so many expressed at having contact with him and this is one of the wonderful things that arise from facilitating the obituaries for The Kew Guild.

His wife Rita referred to him as her partner and friend for 55 years.

We send our condolences and add to the celebration of his life to all the family.

Comfort
by Robert Millard

Partings are not for ever, no matter what men say
For thought will link the parted, to help along life's way
We, sorrows are always meeting and time alone will heal
An aching heart now beating – and love will stamp the seal.

Some time, into the future, we'll leave this stress and strain
One bright and happy morning in God we'll meet again
For love will always conquer this grief or pain of ours
And each day bring us nearer to happy, lovely hours.



So dry the tears of sorrow and look around once more
 That you may greet the morrow, calm, serene and sure
 See around you gladness – the joys there to behold
 Banish thoughts of sadness, to slip away untold.
 Look up, that you may notice a soothing of your mind
 Where in unspoken message, great happiness you'll find.

I pen these words of comfort, deep love to you I send
 Knowing that words unspoken will help you to the end.

Walter Joseph Slade
 1916-2013

Born on 2nd August 1916, Walter began his training at Trent Park in Middlesex and entered Kew as a student on 26th June 1939. His training was interrupted by the outbreak of World War Two and he left Kew in 1941 to join the Royal Air Force. On demob he returned to Kew.

He had many happy memories of Kew spent in the bothy with colleagues. Foremen like Stan Rawlings bossed Walter and friends like Fred Larkbey, Ted Storey, Cyril Michelmore and Arthur Woodward. He recounted the ability of Amazon Lily leaves to support a person. We wonder who participated in that botanical experiment...

In April 1948 he left to begin a lifelong commitment at Napsbury Hospital, St Albans, where he worked until he retired. On July 10th 1948 he married Miss Doris Rogers at the Parish Church Chiswick.

On 28th September 1950, daughter Jill was born and on 13th December 1954, son Keith. He was responsible for landscaping and maintaining the extensive grounds which included sports fields, vegetable gardens and fruit orchards supplied the hospital kitchens. The wards and entrance halls were decorated with pot plants and cut flowers all year round so his range of responsibilities was wide. He was well-respected by his workforce.

Upon closure, some of the hospital buildings were converted into flats and homes were built in the grounds, so Napsbury Park, as it is now known, is Walter's legacy as residents can enjoy the parkland and the tree-lined driveways he created.

In 1948, he made a five shillings donation to The Kew Guild Permanent Security Fund.

Walter sadly passed away on 26th June 2013.

Our condolences go to his daughter and son, who have provided information for this Obituary, and Doris who is living independently in Colney, London, aged 93.

Dr. R K (Dick) Brummitt
 1937-2013

compiled by Sylvia Phillips

Dick, as he was universally known, had been a familiar figure in the herbarium for the last 50 years. After his official retirement in 1997 from his then position as a Grade 7 scientist, he continued to work in the Herbarium almost every day until forced to cut back by his slowly deteriorating health. He last came only two weeks before his death on 18th September, a mark of his complete dedication to Kew and to botany.

Dick was born in Liverpool in 1937 and spent his early life in that city. He did his Ph.D on *Calystegia* (Convolvulaceae) at Liverpool University, and retained a lifelong interest in the genus. He also remained a passionate follower of Liverpool football club.

He joined the African Section of the Kew herbarium in 1963 as a temporary Scientific Officer in the Ministry of Overseas Development, joining the permanent staff in 1968. Initially he worked on *Leguminosae* for one of the major Kew Floras, *Flora Zambesiaca* covering southern tropical Africa. He developed a particular relationship with the National Herbarium in Malawi, and was a driving force behind the first conference of AETFAT (an organisation for botanists working on African plants) to be actually held in Africa, in Malawi in 1991. Previous conferences had been held in western developed nations, but are now regularly held in Africa.



©Andrew McRobb, RBG Kew

Dick was an avid field worker, collecting over 22,000 plant numbers. He named his own collections as far as possible, always taking a plant press when travelling. He developed an outstanding knowledge of plant classification, the results of which are recorded in his two best selling reference books *Vascular Plant Families & Genera* and *Authors of Plant Names* (the latter with C E Powell). He had strong ideas on some aspects of modern molecular-based classifications, and was not afraid to express those views, often in the face of opposition. His arguments were always well considered and clearly expressed.

However, Dick's greatest contribution to botany for which he was best known was his expertise in the rules of botanical nomenclature. He joined the Committee for Spermatophyta in 1969 (later the Nomenclature Committee for Vascular Plants), becoming Secretary in 1975 and serving for over 30 years. He was a leading contributor to the nomenclatural sessions of successive International Botanical Congresses, helping to develop the Nomenclatural Code. At Kew he was infinitely patient in untangling the complexities of the Code for colleagues, and also made time for a large international correspondence on nomenclatural matters.

In his early days at Kew he was well known as a competitive sportsman. He was probably the best player in the Kew Tennis Club, which flourished on the ground where the Banks Building now stands. He was also an excellent squash player and a memorable member of the Herbarium team in Herbarium-Jodrell football matches.

Dick married Hilary in 1968, whom he had met through their joint interest in Scottish dancing. Their marriage was sadly cut short when Hilary died at the age of only 43. They had two sons and a daughter, and their younger son Neil followed his father into botany and is now working at the Natural History Museum in London. Dick was a kind and hospitable man, entertaining visitors to Kew from around the world in his home. His quiet presence and scholarly conversation are very much missed in the herbarium tearoom. It is

fitting that a new species of *Calystegia* was described this year (2013) as *C. brummittii*.

An Appreciation
by Alex George



Dick in the field in Australia, with Past Guild President Alex George ©Roberta Cowan

Dick joined The Guild in 1979 and remained a member until 2007, well after his retirement, one of relatively few Herbarium staff to join.

Dick had a strong association with Australian botanists and botany. Having started at Kew in 1963 he became acquainted with all the Australian Botanical Liaison Officers from that time – which means 45 of the 52 who held the position until the scheme ended in 2009.

In addition, he met many other Australian botanists (and often their families) during their visits to Kew and during his own visits to this

country. He often had guests to stay, sometimes for several weeks, and protested if they tried to contribute to ‘running expenses’. His first trip to Australia was for the XIII International Botanical Congress in Sydney in 1981, his last to run a course in botanical nomenclature in Brisbane in 2005. Over the years a number of people were able to repay the hospitality that he had shown them at Kew and at his home.

In his desire to know as much of the world’s flora as possible, Dick was almost a compulsive collector. He joined me in south-western Australia for several weeks in September 2004 and filled a number of large presses – as they filled and the task of changing papers grew, he would say ‘I’m not going to collect today’, but at our first stop he would see yet another endemic plant, his fingers would twitch and the resolve disappeared.

Interestingly, he had a forebear, Robert Brummitt (1851–1927), who migrated to South Australia around 1875 and settled in Burra as a medical practitioner. Robert collected plant specimens in the 1890s, and his descendants still live in South Australia.

The botanical world is in great debt to Dick for his wide input to systematics, and nomenclature in particular. It may appear that Australia was favoured in his efforts to retain *Acacia* with an Australian type but in fact, as in all his work, he was looking for the most practical outcome allowable under the Botanical Code. He never allowed personal preference to outweigh that philosophy.

Countless people will miss being able to seek his advice, advice always given regardless of his other work.

The Kew Guild Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2013

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2013	Total 2012
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Incoming resources from generated funds						
Voluntary income:						
Donations and legacies	2	1,003			1,003	1,000
Membership subscriptions		6,983			6,983	6,562
Investment income and deposit interest	3	13,687	6,870		20,557	20,592
Incoming resources from charitable activities						
<i>Advancement of horticultural and botanical knowledge</i>						
Events and other membership activities:						
Annual Dinner		3,624	-		3,624	4,158
AGM Soiree		-	-		-	444
Seminar		137	-		137	-
Other events and income		-			-	-
<i>Encouragement of horticultural and botanical education</i>						
Awards and prizes:						
Donations and legacies	4	-	-		-	-
Total incoming resources		25,434	6,870	-	32,304	32,756
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Charitable activities						
<i>Advancement of horticultural and botanical knowledge</i>						
Events and membership activities:						
Website project		5,887	-		5,887	12,087
Journal of The Kew Guild		5,913	-		5,913	6,300
Annual Dinner		4,488	-		4,488	5,520
AGM Soiree		-	-		-	180
Seminar & Filming		1,766	-		1,766	-
Newsletter		688	-		688	-
50 th Commemorative Booklet Research		1,200	-		1,200	-
Presidents' name bars		-			-	-
Presidents' medals		-			-	-
Other events and membership activities		-			-	-
<i>Encouragement of horticultural and botanical education</i>						
Award making: Awards	5	431	8,041		8,472	6,364
Prizes	5	605	25		630	630
Student fellowship		400	-		400	-
Kew Guild Medal		-	-		-	-
Governance costs		7,371	-		7,371	3,739
Total resources expended	6	28,749	8,066	-	36,815	34,820
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains and losses		(3,315)	(1,196)	-	(4,511)	(2,064)
Other recognised gains and losses:						
Unrealised movements on investment assets	8	36,322	7,348	11,287	54,957	39,280
Net movement in funds for the year		33,007	6,152	11,287	50,446	37,216
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward as restated	12	377,126	68,983	94,869	540,978	503,762
Total funds carried forward	12	410,133	75,135	106,156	591,424	540,978

The Kew Guild Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2013

		2013		2012	
	Note	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Investments	8		516,900		461,943
Current assets					
Stock of Kew Guild medals			2,513		2,513
Debtors	9		3,439		7,139
Cash at bank and in hand	10		70,387		70,948
			76,339		80,600
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
	11		(1,815)		(1,565)
Net current assets			74,524		79,035
Net assets			591,424		540,978
Funds and reserves as restated					
Unrestricted general fund	12		64,629		73,444
Unrestricted designated funds	12		345,504		303,682
Restricted funds	12		75,135		68,983
Endowment funds	12		106,156		94,869
Total funds			591,424		540,978

The financial statements will be approved by The Committee on 10 April 2014 following the completion of the independent examination. These summarised accounts may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the Guild's financial affairs. For further information the full Annual Report and Financial Statements, including the Auditor's Report, should be consulted. Copies of these can be obtained from Jennifer Alsop, Honorary Treasurer, The Kew Guild, Hathaway House, 1 Southend, Garsington, Oxford, OX44 9DD.