

THE JOURNAL OF THE KEW GUILD

Founded in 1892

The Association of members of the Kew staff past and present

Events of 1979

Published in 1980

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**Royal Botanic Gardens
Kew**

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ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW

THE KEW GUILD COMMITTEE 1979-80

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 Honorary Editor: R. C. Ward, A.Inst. P.R.A. (Dip.)
 Honorary Member: R. Sealy, B.Sc., F.L.S.

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Retire 1980

M. Clift	Windlesham
J. S. Keesing	Kew
M. Norton	Somerset
M. Truman Fossum	U.S.A.

Retire 1981

C. Bowles	London
G. Burgess	Whitchurch
S. Henchie	Kew
J. McCracken	Aylesbury

Retire 1982

N. Hickman	Nuneaton
A. J. Mugford	G.L.C.
D. R. Owen	Malawi
L. A. Richardson	Australia

Retire 1983

M. Abrahams	Southsea
A. Armony	Israel
E. J. Cowley	Kew
K. F. R. Pearson	London

Events Officer and Emblems: G. Pattison

Students' Union Representatives: P. McKenzie and L. Thornton

Honorary Auditors: Dr. S. Owens and T. Harwood

Award Scheme Chairman: Professor K. Jones, B.Sc., Ph.D., F.I.Biol., F.L.S.

EDITORIAL

I am delighted that the effort made by your Committee and others in producing an informative and hopefully interesting Journal has stimulated even greater interest this year. I made special mention at the AGM of help from the Committee, and that given by the Curator and other Gardens staff. I also made mention that I was the person with a particularly hard line attitude to 'members only' having their names and addresses printed in the Journal — and I make no apologies for it! This matter will be discussed at the AGM. At last something to get your teeth into, so come along and make *your* voice heard this year!

The advertisement idea has produced useful income for the Award Scheme, but I feel sure members could do better. I would be interested to get 'feed-back' from advertisers on results which I will print next year.

Members should note that the cost of the Journal is now exactly the same as the annual subscription, and I acknowledge the help and generosity of our Printers in keeping costs down as low as possible; for this year at least.

Finally, I cannot end this without mentioning that we must all make strenuous efforts to enrol additional members. With rising inflation, higher and higher costs, and greater mobility, it is quite hard to keep in touch and keep others in touch, but if we all make the effort I am sure our Association will continue from strength to strength.

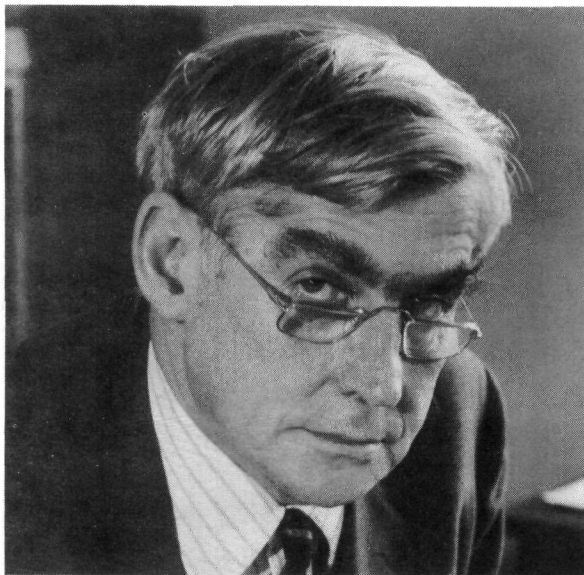
Keep in touch.

Richard C. Ward
Editor

* * *

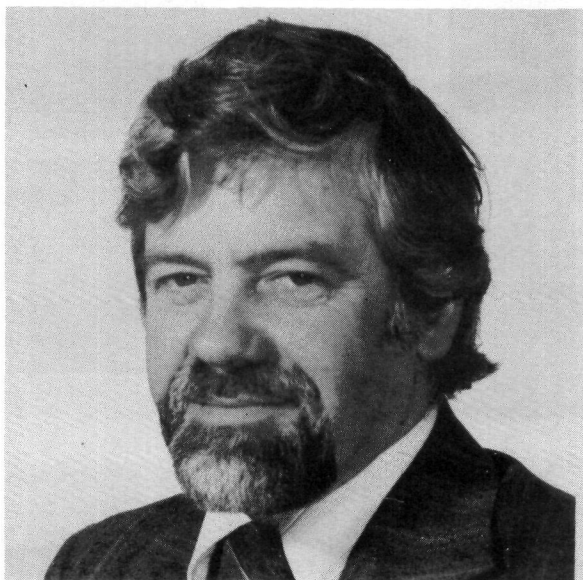
THE DIRECTOR

Professor J. P. M. Brennan, M.A., B.Sc., F.L.S., F.I.Biol.



THE CURATOR

J. B. E. Simmons, N.D.H.



S. W. RAWLINGS
President 1979/80



S. W. RAWLINGS

President 1979/80

Our President's 'green fingers' were genetically and environmentally determined, for Stanley Rawlings, born on 17th February 1912 and educated at the County Grammar School Denbigh, North Wales, began his practical training in horticulture at his father's nursery, nearby. Always an independent type, this 'chip off the old block' soon flew the nest and moved to Salford, joining the Parks Department as an improver. During this period he spent some time in commercial nurseries near Plymouth and was also at John Innes for a while.

Being an ambitious lad, Stanley arrived at Kew in 1936, when he became a Student Gardener and later Student Foreman in the Orchid Section. In 1938 he was taken onto the permanent staff as Foreman in the Decorative Department in charge of the Flower Garden.

Between 1940 and 1946 our President served his country in the army, joining the Royal Artillery and seeing active service in the Middle East with the Eighth Army in North Africa, Sicily and Italy. After the war, Stanley returned to Kew as Foreman of the Orchid Section and in 1948 was promoted to Assistant Curator in charge of the Decorative Department. Later, in 1961, he transferred to the Tropical Department, remaining there until his retirement in 1972. Living at the Gables with his wife Peggy and sons David and Philip, their home was a centre of hospitality and the Rawlings family active participants in Kew social life.

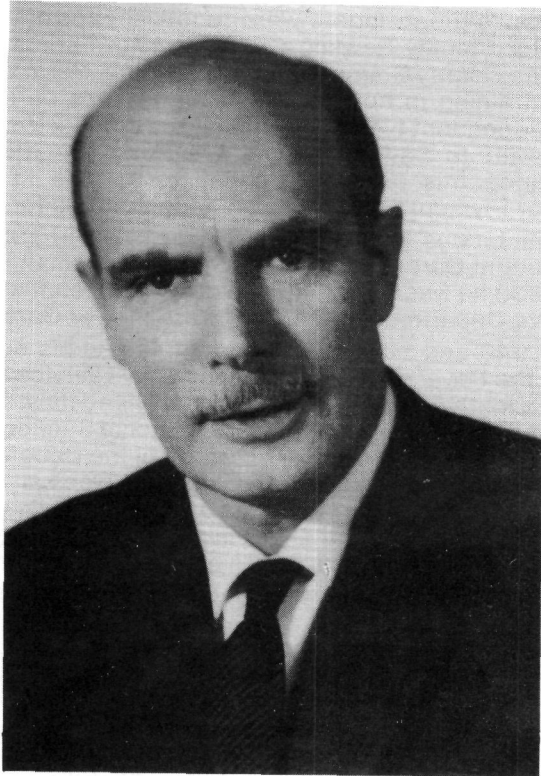
Apart from maintaining his allotment by the tennis courts with much expertise, while at Kew, Stanley's main hobby was photography, in which he attained a professional standard recognized by the Royal Photographic Society with the award of A.R.P.S. When colour film became readily available after the war, he was quick to appreciate the advantages of colour photography and its rôle in depicting plants and gardens, and travelling widely, he built up a fine collection of transparencies. Combining these with his genial gift of the gab, Stan soon acquired a reputation as a much sought after lecturer.

Now living at Bournemouth, our President continues this activity together with some consultancy work, as well as professional judging at horticultural shows. But his latest passion is fishing, and whenever possible, he and "Peg" are out at night on Hengistbury Head, casting their lines in all weathers. They have always been active supporters of the Guild and, having served on the Committee for many years, Stan was Vice-President 1972-74.

Foremost a first-class plantsman and formidable raconteur, with relish and enjoyment Stanley survived and adapted to the many changes at Kew, carrying over his enthusiasm into retirement and continuing to regale us with the amusing tales of his experiences and gossip about Kew eccentrics and eccentricities. If only he would find time to write that book!

M. Y. Stant

JOHN L. NORRIS
President Elect 1979/80



John 'Skipper' Norris was born at Montreal, Canada on the 11th July 1914.

His professional life in horticulture would probably have centred mainly on growing orchids, following a course at the Belgian State College of Horticulture at Vilvorde, where he studied and worked on the germination of orchids in culture in the laboratory. He entered Kew as a student in 1936.

However, with the outbreak of hostilities in 1939, he had to return to England and joined the Royal Navy, serving for a period of 5½ years.

After demobilisation in 1946, he joined the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and was posted to Ypres.

He stayed with the Commission until his retirement in February 1979.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE KEW GUILD

by MARTIN J. S. SANDS, Hon. Asst. Secretary

On Saturday, 8th September 1979, 41 members gathered in the Jodrell Lecture Theatre at 2.30 p.m. for the Annual General Meeting. The President, Mr. W. E. Storey, took the Chair, accompanied on the platform by the Hon. Secretary, Dr. M. Y. Stant, the Hon. Asst. Secretary, Mr. M. J. S. Sands, the Hon. Membership Secretary, Miss A. Chabert and, later, the Hon. Editor, Mr. R. C. Ward, who was unable to attend the first half of the meeting.

The President first welcomed everyone to the meeting and then all members stood in tribute to Kewites who had died since the last Annual General Meeting: E. Brown (1903), J. I. Carrick (1972), C. F. Coates (1949), Mrs. V. M. Danes (1918), R. J. English (1932), E. I. Nisbett (1925), W. H. Parmentier (1947), Sir Edward Salisbury (1965, former Director) and M. Vardy (1920). Because of recent notification of death, the following were also remembered: W. Bury (1949) who died in 1976, F. J. Cook (1921, Past President) who died in June 1978, C. A. S. Newman (1924) who died in June 1977, and F. L. Simmonds (1937) who died in 1970.

Apologies for absence were received from the following members: The Director, H. G. Butcher, F. Flippance, H. Flower, J. L. Gilbert, M. J. Griffin, Mrs. M. J. Griffin, F. N. Hepper, G. A. Hyland, Mrs. J. P. Jenkin, Prof. K. Jones, L. C. Leas, Mrs. S. T. Lees, E. W. Lindley, E. W. B. H. Milne-Redhead, E. C. Neighbour, Dr. S. J. Owens, A. P. Paterson, G. A. Pattison, K. Pearson, L. A. Pemberton, N. Prockter, R. H. Rule, J. B. S. Simmons, C. R. Stock, G. W. Stonebridge and H. Taylor.

The *Minutes* of the A.G.M. of 1978 were then adopted and there were no *matters arising*.

The Committee then reported as follows:

In the absence of the Hon. Treasurer, the Hon. Membership Secretary, Miss A. Chabert, presented the *accounts for the year ended 31st December 1978*, which had been printed in the *Journal*. They were reported to be sound with a total excess of income over expenditure of £1,280.89, helped appreciably by a donation of £488.59 from the Jubilee Promenade Concert to the Award Scheme. During 1978 a further £350.00 was transferred to the Charities Official Investment Fund from the general deposit account as well as £2,000 from the Award Scheme account, which yields a separate dividend payment. The figure for the sales of the Wakehurst booklet in 1978 was noted to be lower than usual because a second payment was not received until early in 1979. Referring to the *accounts for the half-year to 30th June 1979*, the general deposit account was indicated to be standing at £1,799.59, the current account at £107.87 and the Award Scheme account at £895.38, with over £2,000 in the separate Charities Official Fund account. Major expenses for the half-year were reported to be £1,459.80 for the *Journal* and £84.00 for Students' Prizes. Apprecia-

tion for the good work of the Treasurer was expressed and Mr. J. Hale and Dr. S. J. Owens were then thanked for auditing the accounts.

As Hon. Membership Treasurer, Miss Chabert reported that in 1978 up to 31st December, £795.08 had been received in subscriptions and arrears from 556 members, 181 of them life members. In the half-year to the 30th June 1979, the Treasurer had received £685.90 from 350 members.

In Mr. Ward's absence, it was agreed that the excellence of the current *Journal of the Kew Guild* left little that need constitute a report and congratulations were expressed later in the meeting when the Editor was available to attend. He then thanked the Committee for their help in the preparation of the Journal and indicated that copy for the next issue would be expected by 10th January 1980. He asked members to note recent rises in Journal printing costs, and larger Journals being produced due to the increasing help and interest of members.

It was reported that the *Annual Dinner* had been an excellent meal enjoyed by everyone. However, despite an attendance of 150, the largest for several years, there had been a loss of £37.00, so that tickets for the 1980 Dinner would almost certainly have to be sold at £6.00 or more.

Referring to the *sale of emblems*, the Secretary, for Mr. Pattison, indicated that only 3 ties and 2 badges had been sold since the last Annual General Meeting. More badges had been ordered at a cost of about £40.00 and scarves were reported to be still available.

At the *Students' Prize Day*, the Guild's continuing interest in the Students had been reflected in the prizes that were awarded. Mr. P. S. Green, as Vice-President representing the Guild at the ceremony, had spoken briefly, urging the Students to become members and reminding those present of the existence of the Award Scheme Fund.

The President in referring to an enjoyable year in office, then thanked the officers of the Guild as well as the retiring members of the Committee: Messrs. J. Beverley (Student representative), B. Carter, A. J. Hale, A. P. Paterson and Dr. H. Heine, and Mr. A. J. Hale as Auditor. Mr. P. S. Green and Mr. W. E. Storey also completed their terms of office as Vice-President and President respectively.

Mr. M. Clift, for the Sub-committee, reported that the Award Scheme Fund continued to increase but that only one member had applied for an award in the year. He expressed the hope that a greater interest in the Scheme would develop and that more applications would be received for consideration by the Sub-committee in either January or July. It was noted that Mr. David Attenborough had agreed to continue as Patron of the Scheme.

Election of Officers, Members of Committee and Auditor: Mr. S. W. Rawlings, being the Committee's nomination, was elected as President for the year 1979-80. On taking the Chair he addressed the meeting briefly, indicated that he would aim to devote as much time as he could

to further the interests of the Guild. On its behalf, he then expressed thanks and appreciation to Mr. Storey, the retiring President, especially for having initiated and presented the new President's insignia which had been designed and produced during his year of office. The other Officers, four new Committee Members and Auditor were elected *en bloc*, their names appearing at the beginning of this Journal.



"The photograph shows members at the Lower Nursery enjoying tea". During the A.G.M., and whilst discussing alternative venues to the 'Potting Shed', your President mentioned that one day he found a student asleep at 8.00 a.m. in a potting shed on top of a loam heap and wearing a dress suit. He said that he was pleased to see that the ex-student was present at the A.G.M.! Also, for the record, Mr. Cherry stated that he had proposed marriage to his wife in a potting shed! Further potting shed stories would be welcomed by the Editor who will, subject to censor, publish them in the next Journal — £5.00 for the best one received, but maximum 200 words. (Ed.).

The Archives of the Kew Guild and their ownership were then considered and Mr. Storey explained that usually the Curatorial staff of the day had been responsible for the correspondence and papers relating to the early decades of the Guild, which therefore would have been incorporated in the official files of the Gardens. Later material was thought to have been perhaps selectively destroyed or held in a variety of places, so that for future long-term preservation, it would be useful to agree on a policy. Accordingly, after discussion, it was proposed by Mr. Storey, seconded by Mr. Ward and agreed that the following Committee recommendation be adopted:

'to deposit Guild Archives in the custody and ownership of the Kew Library, with copyright to be retained by the Guild'.

It was then suggested by Mr. Cherry and agreed, that several older members should meet at Kew from time to time to examine the many group and portrait photographs held by the Guild, in order to recall and record as many names of Kewites as possible.

Under *Any Other Business* it was requested that a different venue for the tea should be considered; and Mr. Norris suggested that the Guild might examine the possibility of producing a small lapel badge and perhaps redesigning the tie. It was agreed that these matters should be discussed further in Committee. Before the meeting closed it was announced that Guild Christmas Cards would be available, and the thanks expressed earlier by the new President to Mr. Storey for his hard working year of office were again supported unanimously.

The meeting ended at about 3.45 p.m. and members then walked to the Lower Nursery to join relatives for tea at 4.15 p.m. (see photo on previous page).

Note — 1980 A.G.M. tea will be held in No. 1 Museum on 13th September.

REPORT ON THE 1979 ANNUAL DINNER

By Graham Pattison

The 1979 Dinner was held on Wednesday 23rd May at Imperial College Refectory, South Kensington, when 150 members and guests attended. The trend of seeing new faces appears to be continuing. This year this was swelled by 15 students. This was mainly due to Lena (Vol. 9, Number 82, pp 711) who collected money weekly from the students so giving them time to save up. My thanks to her for her help.

The toast to our President, Mr. W. Storey, was proposed by Mr. James Kennedy, Chief Officer for Greater London Council Parks. Mr. John Morgan, Kew student, proposed the toast of our guests and the reply was given by Mr. Arthur Carter, Agricultural Development Advisory Service (A.D.A.S.) Specialist Adviser on Ornamentals, who gave an amusing and interesting talk.

The toastmaster for the evening was again our Editor, Mr. Richard Ward. Our main overseas visitor this year was Mr. Logan Richardson, Australia, who finished his student course in 1931 and had not been back since — he came with his wife and two daughters.

The 1980 Dinner will be held on Wednesday 21st May, and looking to the future, the provision date for 1981 is 20th May.

REPORT ON SALES OF EMBLEMS ETC.

By Graham Pattison

Ten ties at £1.25 were sold in 1979. Also 4 Blazer badges at £4.00 and 8 scarves at £5.00.

Anyone interested to purchase items should send a cheque payable to The Kew Guild, including postage, to the above, c/o Jodrell Gate, RBG Kew.

THE KEW GUILD AWARD SCHEME

The Kew Guild Award Scheme launched in 1974 was intended to provide funds for awards to be made twice yearly to Guild members requiring assistance in the pursuit of a wide range of activities in horticulture, botany or related disciplines. These may include travel, research, education, writing, publication, or any other personal project of benefit to the individual and his chosen field.

Since its inception a substantial capital sum has accrued, the interest on which has reached the level of several hundred pounds which is now available for awards.

Applications must reach the Secretary of Kew Guild by June 1st and December 1st for awards to be made in July and January respectively.

KEW GUILD AWARD SCHEME REPORT FOR 1979

By Prof. K. Jones (Chairman) and Mr. Cliff (Secretary),
Award Scheme Sub-committee

Although no major additions to the capital sum were made during the year monies continued to be received and the amount invested is providing quite a reasonable interest for financial awards.

Only one application was received namely that of Mr. Ian Hodgson — a Kew Student — and he was provided with assistance for visits to Botanic Gardens in Germany (see page 780).

Following the A.G.M. of the Guild the Award Scheme Sub-committee organised a 'Discover-Kew Walk' followed by a buffet supper and bar in the Jodrell Common Room. Visits were made to the Herbarium, Library and the Jodrell Laboratory where the activities of each were explained in a most interesting way and with great enthusiasm by Mr. M. Sands, Mrs. D. Scott, Dr. D. Cutler and Dr. P. Brandham. We are most grateful to them for making the visits so informative and enjoyable. Our thanks are also due to those who helped in the provision and serving of refreshments. Everyone will be glad to know that a small profit was realised by this event.

KEW DIPLOMA AND PRIZES 1979 (Course 14)

Kew Diploma

This is awarded to students who have completed satisfactorily a three-year course of study at the Royal Botanic Gardens. The following students receive the Diploma this year.—

Honours

C. P. Bailes	Mrs. A. Mayo
J. W. Beverley	Mrs. U. M. Wide
Miss J. L. Counsell	

Credit

P. R. Astley	R. G. Ingall
J. M. Beaumont	C. R. Jeal
S. M. Browning	Miss A. Roberts
D. G. Campbell	P. R. Summers
Mrs. B. M. Dickinson	Mrs. A. F. Swithinbank
A. M. D. Hoog	

Pass

M. A. Adelowokan	S. Goodenough
Miss D. A. Cahill	

Bentham-Moxon Trust

The following prizes are awarded under the aegis of the Bentham-Moxon Trust:—

The Ernest Thornton-Smith Travelling Scholarship (Value: £1,250)

The prize is presented by the Thornton-Smith Young People's Trust under the auspices of the Worshipful Company of Gardeners in memory of Mr. Ernest Thornton-Smith, to enable a Kew horticultural student to travel to the Caribbean, tropical South America or Australasia for the purpose of enlarging his knowledge of the plants of these regions. It is awarded at the discretion of the Director, Royal Botanic Gardens. This year the scholarship has been awarded to:—

C. P. Bailes

G. C. Johnson Memorial Prize

This prize, which consists of a copy of the RHS Gardeners' Dictionary, together with a cheque, is presented from a fund administered by the Bentham-Moxon Trustees on behalf of 'The Grower'. It was founded in memory of Mr. G. C. Johnson, a famous old Kewite who had the interest of Kew students very much at heart. It is awarded for the best overall performance on the Kew Diploma Course and has been won in 1979 by:—

C. P. Bailes

Kingdon-Ward Prize

In memory of the late Frank Kingdon-Ward, to whom gardeners owe a great debt for the contribution his plant-collecting expeditions made to British gardens. The prize was founded by his sister, Miss Winifred Kingdon-Ward, to provide a yearly prize of £20.00 to the student attaining the highest mark for the best individual study (project or thesis). This year the prize is awarded to:—

Mrs. B. M. Dickinson

Landsman Bookshop Prize

This prize is awarded for the best work on landscape design and garden construction. It has been awarded this year to:—

S. Browning

Sir Joseph Hooker Prize*

Presented by Professor J. P. M. Brenan, Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, in memory of his famous predecessor, Sir Joseph Hooker, to the student who has done most for the Mutual Improvement Society. Won this year by:—

Mrs. A. Harrison

Donald Dring Memorial Prize

In memory of the late Dr. Donald Dring this prize is awarded to the student adjudged to have achieved the best results in the Crop Protection course. This year the prize is awarded to:—

P. Lusby

The Metcalfe Cup

This prize, presented by Dr. C. R. Metcalfe, former Keeper of the Jodrell Laboratory is awarded to the student attaining the highest examination marks in the 2nd year. The prize, consisting of a Cup and cheque, has been won this year by:—

C. Bennett

J. Osi

KEW GUILD PRIZES

The following prizes have been presented by the Kew Guild:—

Matilda Smith Memorial Prize

Awarded in memory of Matilda Smith, artist at Kew for many years, to the student adjudged best at practical work. Won this year by:—

P. Summers

Dummer Memorial Prize

As part of their training, horticultural students are required to make a collection of properly dried, named, mounted and labelled specimens of British weeds. The prize for the best collection has this year been awarded to:—

Miss J. L. Counsell

Proudlock Prize

The runner-up for the best weed collection also receives a prize, awarded this year to:—

J. Beverley

Prize for the best vegetable plot

The students are required to maintain a vegetable plot during the first year of their 3 year Course. The prize for the best plot by a student finishing this year is awarded to:—

Mrs. A. Mayo

Kew Guild Individual Study Prize

This prize is presented to the student with the second highest mark for an individual study, and this year goes to:—

S. Browning

C. P. Raffill Prize*

Awarded in memory of C. P. Raffill, a former well known Assistant Curator of the Royal Botanic Gardens, to the student giving the best paper to the Mutual Improvement Society's Lecture Competition. Won this year by:—

D. Campbell

Professor Keith Jones Cup

Presented by Professor Keith Jones, Keeper of the Jodrell Laboratory. This cup is awarded to the student giving the best paper to the Mutual Improvement Society and is held for one year. It has been awarded this year to:—

R. Ingall

MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY

The Mutual Improvement Society is an association of students and staff which meets regularly to hear papers read by its members, and organises debates, visits and other activities to further their horticultural knowledge. The Society awards the following prize:—

Mutual Improvement Society's Prize*

For the member who has taken the most active part in its discussions and debates. It has been awarded this year to:—

T. Rees

S. Tasker

LECTURER'S PRIZE**Systematic Botany**

This prize introduced in 1978 by Dr. C. Grey-Wilson and Dr. P. Cribb, Herbarium, is presented to the 2nd Year Student producing the best Systematic Botany Project. This year it has been awarded to:—

T. Casey

*The recipients of the three prizes starred are chosen by ballot among the Mutual Improvement Society's members.

STUDENTS UNION PRIZES

The following prizes have been presented by the Students Union:—
Plant Identification Tests 1978-1979

Awarded to the student attaining the highest average. This year awarded to:—

C. Bailes

Photographic Society

The Students Union present this prize for the best photographic effort by a Kew horticultural student. It has been awarded this year to:—

D. Campbell

Students Union Life Membership

Each year up to three awards are made for Honorary Life Membership to the Students Union as a token of respect and gratitude for services rendered. This year awarded to:—

P. Astley

C. Jeal

S. Goodenough

P. Summers

STUDENTS' PROJECT FOR 1979 — COURSE 14

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| M. Adelowokan | The use of machinery in landscape work. |
| P. Astley | The effectiveness of on-the-job instruction, following a training course at the West London Training Consortium. |
| C. Bailes | The storage and exchange of information regarding the cultural requirements of plants grown in botanic |

- gardens; with special reference to plants of conservation importance.
- J. Beaumont Vandalism and litter problems on Bishops Grove Housing Estate.
- J. Beverley Work specifications for developing a wooded habitat, which will be maintained by volunteers for the first five years.
- S. Browning "Craftsmanship and courtesy, the basis of the small business": setting up one's own business without financial backing.
- D. Cahill (Miss) The implications of possible changes to use the facilities and services offered by Chelsea Physic Garden.
- D. Campbell A survey of educational programmes for botanic gardens.
- J. Counsell (Miss) A preliminary plan for the establishment of a plant collection, representative of those economically useful to man.
- B. Dickinson (Mrs.) An investigation into the establishment of a nature trail at Wisley.
- S. Goodenough Weed control in an herbaceous nursery, at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.
- A. Hoog Ravenscourt Park. A tree survey and long-term planting programme.
- R. Ingall Training and job prospects in Arboriculture.
- C. Jeal The training of park's manual staff in the London Borough of Sutton, with recommendations.
- A. Mayo (Mrs.) An assessment and evaluation of Venture Play on estates in the Borough of Hounslow.
- A. Roberts (Miss) A feasibility study for the establishment and initial running of a garden centre.
- P. Summers A survey of Plane trees in Hyde Park.
- A. Swithinbank The ecological management of Epsom Common, with special reference to species survival over the next five years.
- U. Wide (Mrs.) A feasibility study of the development of a private garden, towards economic viability.

The guest of honour, J. D. Boles Esq., Director-General of the National Trust, presented the prizes. In his address he made mention of the close relationship between Kew and the National Trust. He reminded us that the National Trust owned Wakehurst Place and Kew is its tenant. He mentioned the special difficulty in the Trust looking after their gardens, as opposed to art, buildings and other property. They employ 270 gardeners and are trying to develop a career structure/lectures and contact with the public. They badly need trained staff (his



STUDENTS LEAVING (SEPTEMBER 1979)

Left to right (Front Row): J. Boles, Professor Brenan (Director, L. Pemberton. (2nd Row): Mrs. B. Dickinson, Miss A. Roberts, Mrs. A. Swithinbank, Miss J. Counsel, A. Hoog, Mrs. U. White, C. Bailes. (3rd Row): R. Ingall, J. Beaumont, D. Cahill, Mrs. A. Mayo, S. Goodenough. (Back Row): P. Astley, J. Beverley, P. Summers, S. Browning, C. Jeal, M. Adelowokan.



Left: P. Summers receiving the Kew Guild Matilda Smith Memorial Prize on Prize-giving Day.

commercial!). He noted that the National Trust used Kew for obtaining 'true' plant material. Established in 1895, the Trust tends to 'stop the clock' in its gardens as it believes that the original designs, plants and designs should be kept for posterity.

P. Green, the Deputy Director at Kew, in reply, thanked Mr. Boles and confirmed the close ties between the two bodies. He congratulated the

students, and, as Vice-President of the Guild, urged all students to join the Association, as it would be useful for future contacts. He also mentioned the Award Scheme and invited donations.

Note: 1980 Prizegiving will be on 12th September. In 1981 it will be 11th September (Editor).

THE KEW STUDENTS UNION

By Tony Kirkham, President 1979/80

After a poor turn out at the Annual General meeting in August 1979, the new Executive Committee was elected as follows:

President:	Tony Kirkham
General Secretary:	Laura Smith
Treasurer:	Pete Thurman
Social Secretary:	Clive Parker
Past President:	John Morgan
1st Year Representative:	Dick Borg
2nd Year Representative:	Chris Close
3rd Year Representative:	Pete Jackson

Other Posts:

Photographic Secretary:	Phil Lusby
Athletics Secretary:	Steve Ashworth
Cricket Secretary:	Dave Wallace
Football Secretary:	Tony Milan
Printing Secretaries:	Tony Kirkham and Leslie Thornton
Domestic Secretary:	John Palmer
Kew Guild Representative:	Les Thornton (2nd Year) Pete McKenzie (3rd Year)
Kew Club Representative:	John Jelleyman
Trading Secretary:	Suzan Thomas

A certain degree of apathy was shown at the beginning of the new academic year and the first General Meeting was abandoned due to poor student attendance. However, after much thought and advertising by the Executive Committee, the second meeting was a success with a quorum of 48 students out of 60. Not bad!

The Union lost two very keen and helpful members at Christmas. They are Geoffrey Stebbings and Miss Anne Cranham, two sixth form entrants who have gone off to obtain work experience with Wandsworth Borough Council for 12 months. Geoff helped to get the Photographic Club off the ground after a very long break. We wish them well in their job and look forward to seeing them in the future when they return to continue the Kew Diploma.

Prior to Christmas, the Union subsidised three second year students who compiled a newspaper called 'Dog on the Green'. This was a great

success and all copies were sold out within two days. Another paper is in the pipeline for Easter.

The sweat shirt and 'T' shirt stocks have been replenished after rapid sales during the warm summer. A new design of 'V' neck, loop knit, cotton sweat shirt has been purchased with a new 3-inch breast motif on the left hand side. Sales for these are very good and anyone who wishes to purchase sweat shirts or 'T' shirts should contact the Trading Secretary or myself.

After plenty of training and practice last season, the Students Union football team have finally entered a 5-a-side football league in the Sports Council. I think everyone would like to wish them every success in this after an upsetting knockout at Sports Day in Chiswick last year.

With the limited amount of funds available in the Union account, the Treasurer has done very well to keep us in good favour with Barclays and the Social Secretary has been very busy keeping us all entertained, and intends to in the future. But remember, we can only do so much and for functions to happen we need your support and attendance.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Fête Committee for a very entertaining and successful Fête in August 1979. May there be many more.

SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

By Clive Parker

On returning from my summer holidays I found, to my surprise, that I had been elected Social Secretary. In the ensuing panic I managed to get some idea of the job from my lanky counterpart, Ian Hodgson, whose help proved invaluable in the organising of social functions.

My first event took place in November — a Disco in the Jodrell Drawing Office. I was amazed at the turnout. If any more people had turned up we would have had to contact the Guinness Book of Records.

The Christmas Party was a Fancy Dress, with a motley crew of South Sea Islanders, Emperors, Binmen and Witches etc. 'The Hulk' won and surprised us with his impersonation of Bob Harrison — everyone was green with envy! His wife was suffering from a chest complaint!

Carol singing started off sounding like a weathered old tomcat chewing on rusty nails, but even nightingales would have blushed at the end result! Thanks to everyone who turned out, and I felt sorry for the people at the Herbarium Party, who were conned and fleeced like rats in a trap.

Possible Future Events

- Wellie Hurling
- Cow Pat Throwing
- Talent Competition — North Arboretum

SPORTING ACTIVITIES AT KEW IN 1979

By David G. Wallace

It is unfortunate that sports facilities at Kew are so limited, but the annual events took place as normal, however with a few changes last year.

Our cross country team travelled up to Pershore College in Worcestershire in early May and proceeded to come a creditable second place in the annual *Round Bredon Race*. A week later they were back at Kew for *The Towpath Race* between Kew and Richmond, where they faced stiff opposition from 5 other colleges plus the Kew Guild team. Each of the six athletes on each side ran a leg of about three miles, following the course of the Thames along the towpath. Askham Bryan College, from York, won the event, with Kew finishing just ahead of the Kew Guild team in fourth and fifth places respectively.

In the meanwhile a five-a-side soccer competition was held in the Herbarium Paddock with Pershore College running out the winners.

In September the *Clog and Apron Race* was run for the first time while the Gardens were open to the public. This event attracted a lot of interest from the press, and was won in a very fast time of 51 seconds by J. Buckland, a first year student from C. Bennett from the third year. The race was a big success and the format will probably continue in 1980. A week later S. Ashworth won the *Round the Gardens Race* for the third year students.

The main interest on *the cricketing front* last year centred upon whether the students could reverse their 1978 defeat by the staff. The answer was a decisive yes. Two internal matches were played last summer on the Green with the students winning on both occasions, firstly by four wickets, and in a devastating display in September, by 10 wickets, bowling out the staff for 44. Admittedly the staff fielded a weakened side and were further depleted when their opening batsman was taken to hospital after being felled by the third ball. I did, however, attempt to even things up by clouting our first slip on the back of the head with a wayward return ball. I am in the process of arranging matches for 1980, so if any reader can supply me with some suitable opposition (up to Middlesex 2nd II standard!) I shall be very grateful.

In conclusion I am hoping that 1980 will be a successful year for Kew on the sporting front, and I shall be happy to provide any student or staff member at Kew with an application form to join *The Civil Service Sports Council*. For a mere 6p per week a member can enjoy the sporting and leisure facilities within the Ministry and that includes bar prices.

THE KEW RELAY RACE (TOWPATH RACE)

The Kew Guild Team

Edited from details provided by D. Coleman (1967)

'Jock' Coleman, who comes down from the wilds of Scotland to

represent the Guild in the race, wrote in to give details of the Guild members' performances.

'Dave Morgan, running first, was rather off form on the day compared to past results. Geoff Spate, father of two and now 37 years of age, ran an exceptionally good time, as did Andy Keevil, the Welshman, who probably ran his fastest lap ever in the race. Ben Pemberthy, 'the Cornish Wonder!' turned in another outstanding time. Paul Potter, the youngest team member having left Kew only two years ago ran the last lap in 15 minutes.'

'Jock' sends his regard to all ex-Kewites and hopes to meet up with old colleagues either at the Annual Dinner or the Race. Any ex-Kewites interested to stretch their legs for the Guild team should contact 'Jock' immediately by writing, or telephone Airdrie 54656.



The photograph shows the Guild Team, left to right (rear) D. Coleman, C. Isles, B. Pemberthy. (Front): A. Keevil, P. Potter, G. Spate (with son Timothy).

THE KEW MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY 1979/80

By Stephen Bristow (Chairman)

This season the Society is again providing an excellent series of lectures covering diverse aspects of horticulture and botany, as well as some rather less obviously related subjects.

At the start of the season the annual party was held, and the new students had an opportunity to meet some of the staff and other students.

The lectures up until Christmas included Brian Mathew, Dr. Max Walters, Alfred Evans, Chris Brickwell and Dr. Chris Grey-Wilson, and

drew good attendances from staff and students, although it would be encouraging to see more students taking the opportunity to hear these very worthwhile lectures.

At the time of writing the second half of the season is about to begin, starting with Christopher Lloyd, and including Dr. W. T. Stearn (a long-time supporter of the Society), Dr. Peter Brandham and Preben Jakobsen.

This season the lecturers include six ex-Kew students (from 1945 onwards!) and six students on the course at the moment — not a bad score! The Inter-Department and Inter-College Quizzes will again be held, and promise to be as successful as they have been in previous years.

The Society only thrives because of the hard work, enthusiasm, and support given by its members, so please help it to continue to flourish by becoming a member and attending as many meetings as possible. As Roy Lancaster said, "It's the best pounds worth of horticultural education in the country!"

Membership and programme enquiries to the Secretary, K.M.I.S., Jodrell Gate, R.B.G., Kew, Surrey.

LIVING COLLECTIONS DIVISION REPORT 1979

By R. I. Beyer (Deputy Curator)

From time to time Kewites who feel a tinge of nostalgia may decide to remove old copies of the Journal from the bookshelf, blow the dust away and sink into the nearest armchair to read of the happenings of the past. I trust this diary of events at Kew which currently takes the form of a short report is informative, perhaps amusing but never negative or depressing to those who read it in years to come. With this point in mind I am faced with writing a diary for 1979 and it is difficult to see how to avoid giving at least some impression of gloom and despondency. Factors outside local control unfortunately played a major part in either delaying projected work or causing the abandonment of what at one time was thought to be an essential activity. By the end of the year many would agree that the decade finished on a low note after an exciting period of change and advancement.

A cold winter, which is always expected but rarely materialises, did unfortunately arrive in January and periods of snow which carpeted the gardens for several weeks delayed the completion of work outside though efforts were made before the onset of bad weather — particularly before Christmas — to complete as much as possible. Kew was perhaps fortunate that it escaped the worst effects of the cold weather and very little damage was caused to the borderline tender plants growing

outside. Whilst on this theme of making the best use of open weather in November and December, it is perhaps worth mentioning that leaf-raking which a few years ago seemed to be an autumnal ritual in the Arboretum has been re-thought. Tidiness in the spring and summer is an essential part of Kew's image but with the onset of autumn the changing tints of yellow, orange, and red in themselves offer a new dimension to the landscape. To observe the antics of gardeners poised with wooden rakes ready to attack the first falling leaf in early October is a luxury that can no longer be afforded. Better to leave the carpet of colour until either the wind has hidden a proportion of the leaves in deep shrub borders where they can decompose, or to allow the worms and other organisms to do their natural task in the rough grass areas. By January a high proportion of litter will have disappeared, particularly if areas of rough grass are allowed to remain unmown during the late summer to provide anchorage and a trap for leaves blown across the more closely mown areas. By adopting this policy, leaf-raking is now a relatively painless exercise; organic material is left where it is needed and other more essential work undertaken. Fortunately for Kew the London Royal Parks have not realised or are unable to adopt this strategy and in consequence for the last four or five years we have been accepting free of charge all the leaves from Hyde Park, which a contractor is paid to remove during the spring. Unlike the EEC butter mountain we manage to consume the lot before being inundated by the next season's deliveries.

Returning to the winter weather, we were again plagued by heating oil shortages caused by industrial action of delivery drivers, but during recent years we have become accustomed to coping with such problems and have well-developed contingency plans to safeguard against real disaster. In future years this problem will cease to be a topic for the Report as at long last work started in the New Year on the installation of a gas main to feed all boiler houses (see photo). Besides having gas as a primary fuel source, the existing oil storage tanks have been retained and in most cases boilers fitted with dual gas/oil burners, conversion being accomplished by the operation of a switch. The laying of pipework was carried out with the minimum disturbance and gas firing was possible in early October in time to overcome teething problems before the onset of the really cold weather.

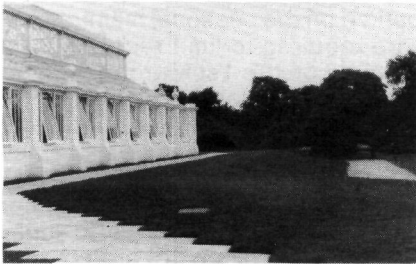
Winter finally gave way to spring, being perhaps the most challenging of all, and no sooner had we embarked on the seasonal maintenance when we were informed that we were required to limit recruitment of garden staff to the total number employed on the 1st March 1979, but even worse was to come. After the General Election the newly elected Government imposed a complete embargo on recruitment until each Ministry had accepted a cut in their total number employed and a new staff ceiling had been agreed. The gardening staff complement at Kew is naturally subject to a high turnover, particularly in the late summer, when many of the young people we employ tend to leave to either undertake full-time training elsewhere or move on to further their

careers. By early September the gardens were extremely short of staff with little immediate prospect of correcting the deficit even if allowed to recruit at once. Consequently a critical review of work commitments was made to ensure that the plant collections did not suffer in any way. At the time of writing some easement has been made allowing recruitment to just below the March complement figure but inevitably the effect of this shortage will not be fully apparent until the spring of 1980 when any drop in maintenance standards will become obvious. Coupled with this problem was a feeling of general unrest brought about by protracted pay negotiations for various groups of staff. Both curatorial and supervisory staff joined their scientific and technical colleagues when a one day industrial action was recommended by their Staff Association, and later in the year the industrial gardening staff took similar action to emphasise their dissatisfaction on the same point. Though in essence very little time was actually lost and the plant collections were not affected a general feeling of frustration seemed to creep into peoples' attitudes. It is to the credit of all staff at Kew that, now these problems are in the distant past, they have figuratively speaking picked up the pieces and made the best of a difficult working situation and one has the hope that in no way will Kew's image suffer as a consequence.



Left: Laying gas main near King William's Temple.

Below:
TEMPERATE HOUSE 1979
Renovated North Wing and newly established surrounds.



To be more constructive, however, work has continued on the refurbishment of the Temperate House and by the end of the year 80 percent of the project had been completed and the target completion date of August 1980 seems well within the realms of possibility. The reshaped terrace and bankings on the east side of the north block were sown down with grass seed and by the end of the growing season the finest piece of weed-free turf in the gardens was evident (see photo). A start has also been made on the internal landscaping and the replanting of the south wing is now complete. To see plants which had for the past three years languished in pots, now planted in their new homes gives encouragement to press on with the formidable task still ahead. Though building work will be completed in 1980 it will take, with reduced staff, at least two years to complete all landscaping and replanting.

Progress on the new Alpine House has been delayed due to a variety of complications including staff shortages, but hopefully the landscape work will be completed before next spring and the remaining building items completed.

For those old Kewites who spent winters rebuilding the Rock Garden, particularly during the 1950s and 1960s, the building of the new internal rock landscape in this structure is not difficult to visualise but the Alpine Section has increased its collections to a point that they have a wealth of choice wild-source plants to clothe it. Perhaps the next time you come down to the Kew Guild tea you will make a conscious effort to see the new innovation in all its glory.

The main problem faced by the author of a diary of events and progress is that factors which are significant can be overlooked and so some of the minor changes in either the landscape or in accommodation which would strike the eye of the old Kewite when he returns to his *alma mater* may not be mentioned in the Journal. Amongst the minor alterations has been the completion of an all weather path around the margin of the lake, for so long a muddy track in wet weather, and the strengthening of the banking.

In the T-Range the policy of internally landscaping the public show-houses has continued albeit at a slow pace. With the provision of extra glasshouse space in the Lower Nursery the orchid propagation and reserve collections have been moved from the T-Range thus allowing the old orchid display houses to be improved. The removal of internal partitions, benches and low dividing walls has created one large area which will be landscaped and planted with collections it has not been possible to display previously due to lack of space. At the time of writing a great deal of work remains to be done but completion should be achieved by the spring. Some of the other old propagation houses are currently filled with plants which cannot be accommodated in the Temperate Section but will be required for the Temperate House when it is completed.

Developments at Wakehurst continue with the work on the Forest Park taking top priority so that the area can be made available to the

public in the near future. Footpaths have now been formed, ditches either drained or bridged and most of the fencing completed. The area is to be known as Loder Valley in honour of Gerald Loder who was responsible for creating the garden earlier in the century. The Slips area which has been redesigned is nearing completion and the new rock and water features mentioned in last year's report have added much to the formal landscape. A viewing point above the waterfall has been completed by the addition of a natural sandstone balustrade designed by Wakehurst staff. Perhaps slightly depressing has been the drop in visitors which was no doubt compounded by the increased cost of petrol, poor weather and a rise in admission charges. Kew, not to be outdone, has raised its admission from 1p to 10p and the popular press publicised the fact that this represented a 900 percent increase. Hardly profiteering!

One of the main events of the year at Kew was the unveiling on the 10th May of a monument dedicated to Kyoshi Takahama, an eminent Japanese poet. During 1936 he visited the gardens and was so impressed with the serenity and beauty he experienced that he composed a haiku which is the shortest poetic art form. A haiku consists of 17 syllables in three consecutive groups of five-seven-five and is the basis of traditional songs and poetry. Translated the poem reads "Even sparrows freed from all fear of man, England in spring". The poem is inscribed on the monument which is in the form of a 1½ ton piece of granite, sited to the south of the Japanese Gateway. The stone was donated by the Haiku Society of Japan and over 100 members travelled specially from Japan for the ceremony — which turned out to be both colourful and unique. Perhaps the highlight was the ceremonial breaking of casks containing saki by a Japanese religious dignitary, the significance of which was not fully understood by the European guests, but the ensuing tasting was enthusiastically enjoyed by all. Unfortunately the weather was traditionally British and pouring rain eventually curtailed the imbibing of several members of staff who were beginning to look distinctly relaxed.

Following the success of the Silver Jubilee Promenade Concert in 1977, the Director decided that the event should be repeated on the 5th July. Though such events inevitably involve much planning and preparation, the publicity and local goodwill they attract is of considerable benefit to Kew.

Each year familiar faces leave Kew and it is sad to report that ill-health forced Arthur Goatley (lorry driver) to retire after 35 years service. We have just heard that he passed away in his sleep on the 29th December and I feel sure that all Kewites who knew his will remember his cheerfulness, interest in all that was happening at Kew and his exceptional ability to find his way to a destination without recourse to map reading. Perhaps Arthur's greatest attribute was his loyalty which only wavered when he was confronted by the impossible; at which point the verbal explosion could be heard by all in the immediate vicinity. Bob Hughes (Gardens Supervisor, Services) decided

it was time to move on and he has taken charge of a private estate in central London. David Owen (Gardens Supervisor, Arboretum) was made an offer he could not refuse in Malawi where he is responsible for government residences and other important gardens. New appointments include the following Gardens Supervisors: Ann Mayo (Arboretum), Bill Jennison (Planning Unit) and John Shepherd (Alpine and Herbaceous). Many others have come and gone and I apologise to those who I have forgotten or feel should have been mentioned, but space is limited.

Staff of the Living Collections Division continue to find ways and means for travelling abroad and it is to their credit that not all their visits are officially sponsored. Of those who did manage to do it officially Brian Halliwell visited Japan, Charlie Erskine toured some of the arboreta in Northern Europe and George Cobham collected plant material in Turkey, although his trip had to be restricted because of permit problems. Of others who had to use other sponsorship the Curator visited Venezuela, Tony Schilling spent some time in Nepal (yet again) and John Warrington visited Guyana.

For those Kewites either involved directly in maintaining plant collections or interested in the role their Institutes can play in the conservation of the world's flora, I highly recommend the purchase of the proceedings of the 1978 Conservation Conference held at Kew, which has recently been published, entitled "Survival or Extinction". It contains much important information and up-to-date thinking and at £7.50 (US \$17) is extremely good value (£5.00 to Guild members). Orders and further information can be obtained from the Conservation Conference Director, c/o The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. (Also see further information elsewhere in the Journal — Editor). As part of the follow up to the Conference a new body has been formed under the wing of the IUCN Threatened Plants Committee to co-ordinate conservation activities of botanic gardens by collecting and circulating information in the form of a newsletter and other publications. From this, hopefully, will grow a network of both institutions and individuals each contributing to the common aim of saving from extinction those plants which man is constantly threatening and destroying. If you are part of an organisation and you think should be involved I would be pleased to pass on further information. The suspicious will no doubt question my motives at taking this opportunity for free publicity but I categorically deny any interest in monetary gain though I am Treasurer of the TPC Conservation Committee. You can but draw your own conclusions.

Having reached the end of this account for 1979 I find the sense of depression that I started with has lifted somewhat and perhaps it was not such a bad year after all. I trust I have reflected that LCD is still very active and very much alive. Why not come home and see what is going on?

THE CLOG AND APRON RACE: THURSDAY 27th SEPTEMBER 1979

Details of the Press Release sent out by Kew, prepared by J. B. Simmons (Curator) and Mike Arnold-Gilliat (Admin.)

“For the first time ever, the annual Clog and Apron Race will be staged whilst the Gardens are open so that those members of the public who wish can witness this special occasion. The Race is to be held on Thursday, 27th September and will start at approximately 5.00 p.m. and the activities should be finished by 5.45 p.m. Only a limited area of the Gardens will be affected and any disturbance to other visitors will be kept to a minimum. Public entry to the event will be by normal admission charge through the public gates.

The event recaptures some of the ancient apprenticeship traditions and colour of former days. The Race competitors, all dressed in horticultural aprons and heavy clogs, pound the full length of Broad Walk, a wide, 375 yard long avenue (running between the Palm House Pond and the Orangery) that was constructed in the 1840s to a design by W. A. Nesfield, the famous Victorian Landscape Gardener. Lady students are given a 50-yard start.”



Clog and Apron Race 1979. Students preparing for the event.

History

Kew students and other young staff at Kew compete each year in various sporting events, most of which are conventional, but the Clog and Apron Race falls into a very special category.

In decades past, all the first year horticultural students and also the gardeners who worked under glass were issued with a pair of wooden soled leather clogs and a navy blue gardening apron which, with a budding knife tucked into the large apron pocket, were worn with pride as symbols of office. Clogs were, and still are, better than leather boots for keeping feet dry on the wet greenhouse floors. Even today, some clogs are still issued, though rubber boots are generally preferred.

Records and reports of previous races are patchy, and while the event was thought to have started in the 1920s, adequate records have only been kept since the 1940s. Records show that this lighthearted occasion was normally completed with simple but welcome hospitality by senior management. In recent times, the Students Union has provided medals for the first three to finish, complemented by some bottled beverage. Often, as the event is held in the season of mists, the roar of clogs on tarmac can be heard by spectators on the finishing line long before the competitors can be seen. The weight of the clogs soon takes its toll of straining muscles, but the strongest can keep a good pace to the finish — in a shade less than 60 seconds!

The 25th September, 5.00 p.m. is the date in 1980 for the next race.

KEW FETE 1980

By Laura Smith

This year the Kew Fête was a great success. As it was the "Year of the Child" the charities supported were:—

The Save the Children Fund, The National Society for Autistic Children, and Capital Radio's "Help a London Child".

The Committee this year were as follows:—

Chairman:	Laura Smith
Vice-Chairman:	John Jelleyman
Secretary:	Suzan Thomas
Assistant Secretary:	Anne Cranham
Treasurer:	Iain Crisp
Jumble Officers:	Linda Phillips
	Marie-Therese Trolliet
Propagation Officers:	Geoff Stebbings
	Tony Milan
	Les Thornton
	Tony Kirkham
Props Officers:	Chris Close
	Pete Thurman
	Phil Lusby

The usual hitches occurred. Gumley was rather like a warehouse for War on Want and the back garden was jam packed with plants.

To raise funds for the event a darts marathon was held in the Lower Nursery. The students would like to thank Mr. Beyer and Mr. Warrington for permitting them to use the area, also Sergeant Ball for allowing those concerned to stay in the Gardens overnight. The marathon was 50 hours in length with the four darts players playing games on a three hourly basis at a time. A big thankyou to the people who scored, provided food and generally kept the team going. Due to a lot of generous sponsors the phenomenal sum of £1,200.00 was raised.

Somebody up there must have liked us on the big day (11th August) as the sun shone. This certainly kept the barmen serving continually. At the last minute M.A.F.F. arrived with their P.A. system, so ensuring that the opening ceremony went smoothly. We were very lucky this year as Esther Rantzen consented to "cut the ribbon", after which, she and family were shown around the Gardens and Herbarium. Our thanks to the Director for coming to the opening ceremony (sorry for mixing the times up!)

After many gruelling jumble collecting expeditions there turned out to be a plethora of jumble. Despite competition from the Scouts and other such organisations we still managed to collect some choice nic-nacs, including an electric typewriter, rowing machine, television etc.

There were various games. Hardy perennials such as the stocks, tombola and coconut shies were all present. The stocks, although not a great money spinner, provided a great attraction to many of the Kew students. Bob Hughes had his annual wash along with many other unfortunates. 'Beat the Goalie' also proved popular. I hear that the latent talents of the goal keeper improved to such a degree that he has given up the Kew course. He is currently undergoing trials for England (sorry Phil!).

The tea tent provided a light relief for those who did not wish to imbibe at such an early stage in the day. Behind the scenes there was much butter spreading and a great deal of water carrying. This stall entailed a great deal of hard work, which was rewarded by adequate financial returns. Candy floss and ice cream also sold well due to the fair weather and assistance.

The Territorial Volunteer Army Reserve provided a central attraction. Their gory wounds were very realistic. In fact, the Red Cross were fooled by a fake casualty who went to their little outpost. Music and announcements were manned all afternoon by D.J. Clive. At the end he acquired a hammer and took on the rôle of auctioneer.

Once all of the money had been collected from the stalls the Treasurer and Co. adjourned to the 'Constables Parlour' to count the money. Meanwhile back on the Green a happy band of workers broke the back of the dismantling and cleaning up. By 12.00 p.m. Sunday the Green was back to normal. Is this a record? So after months of work it was all over in a matter of hours. The Students Union managed to send £300.00 to each of the charities.

At this point I would like to thank everyone who was concerned in this affair. I have made a point of naming but a few people to reduce my chances of offending anyone.

In 1980 the Fête will be on 9th August on Kew Green.

STUDENT EXCHANGE TO HEIDELBERG & MUNICH BOTANIC GARDENS

By I. Hodgson

In July of this year I embarked upon a visit to the gardens of Munich and Heidelberg, situated in the heart of southern Germany. The purpose of my trip was to study the extensive collections of the respective gardens, my particular interest being of the extent of the succulent flora of Madagascar.

This branch of succulents pose particular problems with regard to cultivation and these techniques I also noted.

The trip was partly funded by a grant of £50.00 which was awarded by the Kew Guild. This grant system is a newly introduced scheme which allows monetary awards to be given to people who are embarking on a trip of a botanical/horticultural nature.

THE HISTORY OF STUDENT GARDENERS AT KEW

By W. A. Lord (Student 1978)

Introduction

A study of the changes in the student course at Kew provides a fascinating insight into both the changing attitudes towards gardeners (or, as we now prefer to be called, horticulturists) and the developing trends in education in a subject which, like so many others, has become increasingly technical over the last 100 years.

The story of student gardeners at Kew may be considered as starting with the first act of the Kew administration to improve the knowledge of its young gardeners — the opening of the first Gardens Library by the Director, Sir William Hooker in 1841. At this time, Kew's gardeners were still regarded as belonging among the lower echelons of the serving classes. However, the growing recognition of the 'improving' force of education (which gave the gardener more interest in his job and hence improved both his 'character' and the quality of his work) gave gardeners the opportunity to prove to their educators that they were much more intelligent, capable and useful than their patronising Victorian employers had ever dreamed.

Although the Hookers took the first steps to educate young Kew gardeners and introduced the student lectures here, they do not appear to have considered the products of that embryonic course in horticulture among the main assets of Kew; botany reigned supreme.

By the 1890's, the Kew administration had realised that Kewites were becoming increasingly important in running plantations, experimental horticultural stations and botanic gardens throughout the Empire. There was even a grudging recognition from the then Director, Sir William Thistelton-Dyer, that these young men were comparable to university graduates, the mature, responsible, well-educated product of their 'Alma Mater', Kew; furthermore, their political significance in the running of horticultural concerns throughout the Empire brought the student course recognition as one of Kew's greatest assets.

The attitude of Kew's administration to the students appeared to change once again when Thistelton-Dyer was replaced by Lt. Col. David Prain; the former's attitude to young gardeners seems to have been one of patting himself on the back for having created a series of silk purses out of sow's ears. Prain appears to have been more genuinely sympathetic towards the students and far less patronising, although his handling of 'The Revolt' of 1907 (q.v.) made him perhaps unjustly unpopular among the students.

With the foundation of the Imperial Institute in the late 19th Century (which also provided men for the more responsible and lucrative colonial horticultural posts, chosen, so Kew students claimed, by virtue of their social background rather than horticultural prowess) and the gradual dwindling of horticultural enterprise throughout the Empire, the years 1895-1939 showed a gradual movement away from the production of gardeners for colonial posts, and British amenity horticulture became increasingly important.

These changes in the social status of gardeners were accompanied by equally sweeping changes in the nature of the course itself. To the few lectures on botany, physics and chemistry, given by Daniel Oliver (Curator of Museums) in the early years of the course, ever more subjects were added, particularly from 1907-1914. Up to this time, Kew continued to be a botanical garden teaching botanical horticulture. Since the end of the First World War, the course has moved away from colonial horticulture; the end of the 1939-45 war marked the beginnings of even more drastic changes, not only in the number of subjects taught, but also in their nature, amenity horticulture and management becoming increasingly important.

Kew is now a strictly botanical garden teaching mainly amenity horticulture. A conflict is apparent; those who just wish to learn amenity horticulture will not find that art fully demonstrated there. So, how does the Kew course justify its claim of excellence? Students here receive a sound basic training for almost any horticultural post; they are in a unique position to amass knowledge of plants; they have the use of a comprehensive Gardens and Herbarium Libraries, and get extensive training in management. Any further information or expertise they need to learn for their chosen careers is at their fingertips. The students must teach themselves. They usually do.

The start of teaching at Kew

The history of the education of Kew's student gardeners starts with the opening of the Gardens Library by Sir William Hooker in 1841; this was endowed in 1846 with a yearly grant of money for books from the Earl of Carlisle. No further mention of educational activities is found in the archives until 1850, when the then Curator, John Smith, instituted annual prizes of two copies of Sir William Hooker's '*British Flora*' for the two best dried plant collections by trainee gardeners — the forerunner of our modern 'weed' collection.

The publication in 1858 of Samuel Smiles' '*Self-Help*' was undoubtedly a turning point in the attitude of the nation to education; it popularised mutual improvement, education and libraries; it showed the working man that with the necessary application, he could improve his prospects in life in a way which had not previously been possible; it pointed out to the 'ruling classes' how much of the country's success in the Industrial Revolution and subsequent wealth had been due to men from humble backgrounds who had taken every opportunity to educate themselves and apply their learning.

Smiles was a man of extraordinary energy and campaigned for many causes, his efforts being particularly important and successful in the fight for suffrage, public libraries and national education. "*Self-Help*", translated into all the major languages of the world, was probably next to Marx's '*Das Kapital*', the most influential book published during Victorian times. He is known to have been well acquainted with Sir Joseph Hooker, Director of Kew, by 1876, and although earlier connections with Kew are tenuous, it seems probable that the Kew Mutual Improvement Society was the result of his influence, if not the student lecture course itself; there was no class of men he championed more than industrious students from humble backgrounds, as typified by the young Kew gardeners.

The first Student Lectures

The year 1859 marks the real beginning of the student course at Kew with the introduction by Joseph Hooker of evening lectures for students given by Daniel Oliver, Curator of Museums at Kew, and occasionally by Hooker himself. About 100 lectures were given during the two year course on economic, systematic, structural and geographic botany, physics and chemistry. The nature of the course changed little during the next 40 years.

Wages for student gardeners were very low (in 1865 they were raised from 12 to 14 shillings per week), and barely covered the cost of lodgings.

The introduction of national education for the English (so ardently championed by Smiles) following Forster's Education Act of 1870 had a marked effect on the Kew course. Prior to 1870, the majority of successful students on the course had been Scottish, Scotland having had national education since 1696. The 1870 Act brought comparable

education for the first time to the English working classes and the proportion of English students at Kew rose accordingly. John Smith, for many years Curator at Kew, says of the student gardeners:

“In Scotland as well as many gardens in England, regular systems of apprenticeship are served, generally of not less than three years, on the expiration of which the young gardener seeks instruction in other gardens. Some make application for admission to the Royal Gardens, Kew. Of these there are two classes, some only wishing to be employed for a short time, in order to obtain a certificate stating that they have served in the Royal Gardens. This class is most numerous, and in general have no taste for the study of plants; some however turn out to be good cultivators. The other class is however very different; many of them possess a natural taste for the study of plants, being acquainted with the botanical names before coming to Kew, and in time some of them become foremen, collectors, curators or superintendents of public gardens, either home or colonial. During the last 50 years these situations have been held chiefly by Scotsmen, as shown by an article in the *Gardeners' Chronicle* of August 31st, 1872, in which the names of 59 are recorded”.

(History of the Royal Gardens, Kew, written 1876-80 — unpublished)

Foundation of the Kew Mutual Improvement Society

The year 1871 was a momentous one for Kew students; in this year Sir Joseph Hooker founded the Mutual, still the most prestigious and vigorous of Kew's student societies. Inspired by Smiles' writings on mutual improvement, the society met (as it still does) on Monday evenings from September to April to hear lectures by its student members (and occasionally by staff) on primarily horticultural subjects. All students were encouraged to give lectures and prizes were awarded to the best speakers. Students' attendance at the Mutual was taken into consideration in their course assessment. They were also encouraged to write essays (the forerunners of the present projects) for which prizes were also awarded.

The *New York Times* (22nd September, 1895) says of the Mutual:

“This is perhaps the best feature of Kew as it is indeed of all educational institutions. The mutual improvement the men experience together by constant interchange of ideas, and the emulation to which they are insensibly led is sure to be of value in later life”.

Although in recent years there have been more speakers from outside Kew at the Mutual, most of them authorities of international importance on primarily horticultural topics, Kew students are still encouraged to give lectures, this experience being of great use to the majority of students after leaving Kew.

In 1885, the written testimonial received by Kew students on completion of their course was replaced by the Kew Certificate, a printed certificate headed by the Royal Coat-of-Arms.

Birth of the Kew Guild

By the late 1880's, a considerable body of Kewites had attained responsible positions in horticulture throughout the Empire — in fact, as the *New York Times* (22nd September 1895) stated, "Almost every British colony has a Kew man at the head of its experimental horticulture". As Sir William Thistelton-Dyer, then the Director pointed out in 1889, there was a great feeling of esprit de corps among these 'alumni' of the Kew course; this led in 1893 to the foundation of the Kew Guild as an offshoot of the Mutual Improvement Society. The Guild publishes an annual journal containing news of Kew societies and events throughout the year, letters from Kewites and the names and addresses of members throughout the world. There are also two annual reunions, at the A.G.M. and the annual dinner. Membership is open to all who have worked at Kew.

The first volume of the journal shows the standing of the Kew course in the 1890's:

"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".

"Kew 'graduates' are everywhere: as directors, curators, superintendents, head gardeners; as botanists, professors, Fellows of the Royal Society, the Linnean and other great scientific societies: wherever botanic or scientific horticulture is encouraged, there Kewites are sure to be found. Looking at the facts, this is scarcely to be wondered at. Kew has employed a large staff of gardeners for at least 100 years. These have been selected young men whose previous training and progress gave promise of their developing into first class gardeners. Their term at Kew has been limited to about two years for reasons which will be obvious. A well stocked library of books on botany, horticulture and kindred sciences; courses of lectures upon subjects useful to horticulturists; daily employment in the care and cultivation of the collection of plants in the gardens — these advantages could not fail to have a powerful influence in the training of young men who enjoyed them".

Admission of Women to the course

In 1896 women were allowed on the course for the first time; this drastic change of policy had the one condition — that the women wore the same uniform as the men i.e. blue serge suits, grey flannel shirts with turned down collars and ties.

Nature of the course in the 1890's

This was the first really well documented decade of the course's existence, and it is possible for the first time to get a good idea of what the course entailed.

Applicants for the two year course had to be British, unmarried, 20-25 years old, and should have had at least five years practical experience in horticulture, of which part had to have been under glass.

The students' day consisted of:

6.00 — 8.00 a.m.	Work
8.00 — 8.45 a.m.	Morning Break
8.45 — 9.30 a.m.	Botanising (two mornings per week)
8.45 — 9.30 a.m.	} Work
or 9.30 — 12.00 noon	
12.00 — 1.00 p.m.	Lunch Break
1.00 — 6.00 p.m.	Work
6.00 — 7.00 p.m.	Tea Break
7.00 — 8.00 p.m.	Lectures (most evenings)
7.00 — 10.00 p.m.	Library (optional, but attendance marked as part of course)

Towards the end of the decade, workers were allowed some Saturday afternoons off from 1.00 p.m. Winter hours were from dawn to dusk. Wages were 21 shillings per week.

Students were required to attend the following one hour lectures:

Economic Botany	34
Geographic Botany	10
Structural Botany	10
Systematic Botany	25
Physics and Chemistry	35

Optional lectures on British Botany were provided, and also weekly field days, visits to Royal Horticultural Society shows and four or five special excursions per year.

Marking of the course was primarily on the quality of lecture notes taken, although attendance at the library and Mutual Improvement Society, and occasional and final examinations were also taken into account.

The students were allowed to change departments two or three times during their stay at Kew.

The following quotations by the Director, Sir William Thistelton-Dyer, show the attitude of Kew's administration to its student course:

"... Kew is a higher grade technical school. About 50 young gardeners are employed who are permitted to stay on an average about two years. They are not taught the rudiments of their profession but are carried to an advanced stage in it. Besides the use of a small library, they have evening lectures on the theoretical parts of their profession. A large number of our young men are drafted on the completion of their course to official employment in India and the colonies".

Royal Gardens, Kew, Duties of Staff, p. 8 (1894).

"The general result of Kew training is not merely to impart to the men a considerable body of technical instruction, but also to infuse into them an element of seriousness and purpose, and to quicken their general intelligence.

An even more important result is to obtain a body of men from which the numerous minor Government posts in India and the colonies can be filled. At the present time, there are some 80 Kew men who are curators or superintendents of Botanic Gardens in different parts of the Empire. Unhappily no less than five of their predecessors have succumbed to the climate of the West Coast of Africa".

Report of Departmental Committee on Botanical Work (1900)
(N.B. Thistelton-Dyer's typically patronising tone in the above quotation).

The *New York Times* of 22nd September 1895 also gives some fascinating insights into Kew life; of afternoon work, it says:

"The gates are opened at 1.00 p.m., and the men, in common with the visitors, generally put an extra polish on themselves, and do but very little in the afternoon other than the light routine of ventilating and shading, tying, surfacing, insect-hunting and such-like. Men are requested not to talk to visitors but simply and civilly to answer questions. Visitors are sometimes difficult to be put off, however, and show considerable determination to draw the men out".

It appears that botanising was controlled by the issue of tickets:

"Tickets are issued monthly by the Curator for study in any other department of the garden than that in which the man is engaged and which he may select. These tickets are addressed to the Curator of the Museums, the foreman of the palms, or the arboretum or other department".

Unlike Thistelton-Dyer, who sees the usefulness of producing gardeners for the good of the Empire (rather than its people), the *New York Times* has a possibly more humanitarian attitude:

"It is doubtful if 500 men can be taken anywhere in the world who, having started with as little of the advantages of birth and education, can show such a general average of usefulness as the 500 living Kew gardeners".

The Revolt

1905 marked the initiation of the most critical event in the history of the Kew course — the Revolt. In this year, for the first time, the application form for new entrants to the course failed to state that students were to be employed for two years only. This oversight on the part of the Curator meant that when these students had completed their course in 1907, many of them expected to be able to continue working at Kew. This would have meant that many of the posts, in which future students could have gained valuable experience for jobs in the colonies, would be blocked by permanent staff. Kew would either have to create many more permanent positions or drastically reduce its student intake to cope with this. Neither of these alternatives being

financially or politically acceptable, the then Director, Lt. Col. David Prain, decreed that a mistake had been made in the 1905 application form and that entrants for that year must consider their employment at Kew as ending in 1907. The students considered this tantamount to unfair dismissal and claimed they had never anticipated having to leave on the completion of the two years. The situation was made worse by a statement in the House of Commons from the Secretary to the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, Sir Edward Strachey, who attempted to dismiss the students' case, stating that "the men at Kew are not properly gardeners but only apprentices".

The Secretary's tactless remarks not only infuriated the students and the Kew Guild but gained the students a considerable amount of public support when their total inaccuracy was revealed. The Guild published a statement condemning the Secretary's comment and pointing out that Kew students, having had at least five years practical experience before entering Kew, were extremely skilled, first class gardeners. The students responded by staging what amounted to a work-to-rule, refusing to attend any more lectures in their own time and demanding equal treatment and pay to other Kew gardeners. A letter was sent to the President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, Lord Carrington, stating "that we as gardeners and not as students decline to attend any lectures given by officials or others in the Royal Botanic Gardens in lieu of wages. We desire a legitimate wage and shorter hours, leaving us free to attend lectures where we wish".

The Director, who in spite of his generally sympathetic attitude to students, whom he regarded as exceptionally hard-working, intelligent and underpaid, found himself blamed for the students' plight and was generally unpopular. As a sop to the students, he agreed to consider the students demand of lectures from 5.00-6.00 p.m. (implemented in 1908) but could not agree to students receiving labourers rates of pay. He managed to find employment for all the dismissed students bar one — William Purdom, then employed as sub-foreman and propagator for the arboretum, who was granted a one year extension of service to allow him time to find another job.

When the time approached for Purdom to leave and he was reminded of his impending dismissal, he once again revived the controversy of the Revolt, appealing to Parliament, the President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the Press stating that he was being unfairly dismissed and that if he, a skilled (albeit arrogant!) propagator were dismissed, he would be replaced by an incompetent novice. Once again, the Director found himself in an unpopular position, with even the House of Commons demanding reasons for what they considered the grossly unfair treatment of Purdom.

The situation was saved by a joint offer from Sir Harry Veitch of the Royal Exotic Nursery, Chelsea, and Professor Sargent of the Arnold Arboretum, Harvard, for Purdom to become a plant hunter for them and to go to China (where he would be well out of the way of the Kew

administration!). From here Purdom introduced many first class garden plants including *Viburnum farreri*. He later joined forces with Reginald Farrer, and together they continued collecting in China until Farrer returned to London towards the end of the First World War to a job in the Foreign Office.

And so the Revolt came to a close; its effects, however, are still with us. For the first time, Kew students had gained concessions through militant action. They had found that the administration was occasionally willing to give in to their demands when they found it reasonable, or expedient to do so. (It is doubtful if any previous administration would have been so co-operative). The Revolt also had its detrimental effects: the militancy of Kew students became notorious and many employers in this country and the Empire became reluctant to take on men who had acquired a taste for rebellion; the Imperial Institute came to supply men for an increasing number of the more lucrative colonial horticultural posts, and Kew students objected to the jobs they had expected to fill being taken by men with minimal, if any, horticultural qualifications chosen because of their social background. The Revolt therefore marked the beginning of a move away from colonial horticulture, and from this time onward an increasing proportion of Kewites found jobs in amenity horticulture nearer home. The course accordingly changed from its strong botanical and tropical bias and became more suited to a wider range of possible careers. Many changes in the course were the result of student requests — unthinkable in mid-Victorian times.

In spite of these shifts of attitude, in 1914 the Director, Lt. Col. David Prain, still insisted on botanical horticulture being the primary aim of the course — not amenity horticulture:

“If it is to be well served by horticulture, a Botanic Garden must of necessity employ only gardeners who, though naturally glad of further experience as well as of scientific instruction, already are masters of their craft. A Botanic Garden is not and cannot without detriment to the public interest be allowed to become a place where the practice of horticulture is taught”.

In 1914, in response to student petitions stating that fatigue after a 6.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. summer day prevented concentration on lectures, the lectures became restricted to the winter months. This had the additional advantage of saving valuable summer working hours.

A distinct lack of records in the Kewensia files makes it difficult to trace the development of the course during the inter-war years. One of the few documents in existence from this period is a report of the Whitley Committee recommending a graded certificate, more emphasis on practical rather than examinations (felt to be too much a test of exam technique and written skill).

In 1938 we once again find in the Kewensia files the students requesting more changes to the existing lecture course. Although many of their suggestions were adopted in 1945, the war intervened

before all but one of their proposals had been tried; this was the introduction for the first time on an experimental basis of plant identification tests, which surprisingly had never been tried in the past, although botanising had always been the right of all staff.

For most of the 19th Century, three half-hourly botanising periods were allowed per week, but this was later changed to two three-quarter hour periods (only one period during the busy summer months) to allow gardeners to reach more distant parts of the gardens. Three-quarters of an hour was found to be still not long enough to go to the opposite end of the gardens, botanise and return to work, and so the present system of one hour per student per week was introduced after the last war. 'Idents' were soon acknowledged as a successful innovation and became an official part of the student course in 1939. Lectures given in 1938 were as follows:

1st Year	Chemistry and Physics	26
	General Botany	28
	Nomenclature	12
	Elementary Systematic Botany	6
	Elementary Plant Pathology (insects)	4
	Physiology and Ecology	20
		<hr/>
		96 hours
2nd Year	Plant Pathology (fungi)	25
	Arboriculture	20
	Advanced Plant Pathology (insects)	16
	Advanced Systematic Botany	28
	Soils and Manures	13
	Landscape	8
	Meteorology	2
	General and Economic Botany	10
		<hr/>
		122 hours

Thus the course, although still consisting of evening lectures, had doubled in content since 1898.

Outbreak of War

In 1939, assessment by examinations was introduced on its present footing. The outbreak of war marked the beginning of a temporary but quite drastic reduction in facilities offered to Kew students. With so many young men joining the forces, Kew was left with a much depleted complement of students. In 1940 botanising was suspended, and the students were sent to Richmond College for the majority of their lectures which Kew could not afford to provide for so few pupils. By 1944 the course had deteriorated to such an extent that the remaining students presented a petition to the Director, Sir Edward Salisbury, complaining that Kew offered no botanising, no lectures, no visits to

Royal Horticultural Society shows and no advantage in getting experience over gardening staff. The students said they considered passes in Royal Horticultural Society and Institute of Parks Administration examinations more useful than the Kew certificate, which "if issued, has lost most of its value". The Kew administration replied by saying that under existing circumstances, Kew could not afford to provide the facilities they requested for so few students — and as for the R.H.S. Shows, they were no longer worth visiting anyway.

Course re-formed after end of War

With the end of the war, the Kew administration were faced with the problem of what to do with the student course; they opted against trying to make the course into a B.Sc. in horticulture but chose to re-form the course on the lines that had been laid down but not implemented in 1939. It was intended that Kew students should be able to take the final examination of the National Diploma in Horticulture (N.D.H.) within about one year of finishing the Kew course. The N.D.H. has often been an additional objective for Kew students, its syllabus requiring more knowledge of fruit and vegetables and commercial horticulture than the Kew course, and placing emphasis on practical ability. The Kew course on the other hand offers more scope in plant knowledge, landscape, surveying, management and botany. Even before the N.D.H. was introduced, the Director, Lt. Col. David Prain, in 1912 delayed amending the Kew course until details of the N.D.H. syllabus were released, so that the areas of overlap of the two courses could be taught to a comparable standard to help Kew students taking the N.D.H. From that day to this Kew has encouraged its students to take the N.D.H.

The lectures for 1945 show an increase in number over those for 1938, although the comparative importance of several subjects has been changed:

1st Year	Physiology and Ecology	23	
	Systematic Botany	10	
	Soils and Manure	15	
	Mycological and Physiological Plant Pathology	25	
	Meteorology	2	
		<hr/>	75
2nd Year	Principles of culture of flowers, fruit and trees	40	
	Entomological Plant Pathology	20	
		<hr/>	60

PLUS	Park Administration	20	Taught to both
	Chemical Weed Control	2	years
	Landscape	10	In
	Genetics and Plant Breeding	10	alter-
	Economic Botany	10	nate
			years

A total of 187 hours in all.

The course appears to have changed little from this time until the introduction of the Kew Diploma in 1963, although surveying (which had occasionally been taught in the past) made a comeback to the course.

TUESDAY EVENING LECTURES AT KEW

By F. Nigel Hepper

For many years the Herbarium has organised a series of lectures at 5.00 p.m. on Tuesdays during the winter months. They are mostly given by members of the staff from the various divisions and take the form of illustrated travelogues, with a strong botanical bias. Although not botanical seminars, one can learn a lot about the vegetation and plant geography of many parts of the world. Occasionally guest-lecturers or visitors to Kew are invited to speak, sometimes at short notice. We therefore have an opportunity to see and hear what our colleagues have been up to during the various expeditions that go out from Kew each year, and to take advantage of interesting visitors. The lectures are not widely advertised as we would have seating problems in the Lecture Theatre if they became too popular; however any Kewite within reach would be welcome to attend any of them, details of which are available from the secretary to the Keeper of the Herbarium.

For the record and to give an indication of the scope of lectures the following details cover the programme for the two series 1978-79, 1979-80:

- 3 Oct. 1978 P. S. Green (Deputy Director) 'A botanist in China, 1978'.
- 17 Oct. 1978 F. N. Hepper (Herbarium) 'The extraordinary Galapagos Islands'.
- 7 Nov. 1978 R. I. Beyer (Deputy Curator) 'Vera Cruz: a neglected paradise'.
- 14 Nov. 1978 J. H. Willis (Melbourne) 'Botanical journey through Tasmania'.
- 28 Nov. 1978 J. Dransfield (Herbarium) 'Hunting for Corybas (Orchidaceae)'.
- 16 Jan. 1979 C. Jeffrey (Herbarium) 'A visit to Venezuela'.
- 30 Jan. 1979 J. L. S. Keesing (Living Collections) 'Conkering the Pindus'.

- 13 Feb. 1979 J. P. M. Brenan (Director) 'From coast to desert in Kenya'.
- 27 Feb. 1979 R. J. Henderson (Australian Liaison Botanist) 'Queensland, Australia: land of sunshine and diversity'.
- 20 Mar. 1979 D. F. Cutler (Jodrell) and S. A. Renvoize (Herbarium) 'Plant collecting in northern Argentina'.
- 10 Apr. 1979 N. de Meneses (Brazil) 'Some aspects of the mountain flora of Brazil'.
- 24 Apr. 1979 C. Stirton (South African Liaison Botanist) 'Petaloid monocots of Southern Africa'.
- 2 Oct. 1979 K. F. Kenneally (Perth) 'The vegetation and flora of the Kimberley region of Western Australia'.
- 16 Oct. 1979 D. Philcox (Herbarium) 'Taxonomy and tourism in Trinidad and Tobago'.
- 23 Oct. 1979 W. Rauh (Heidelberg) 'The unique and diminishing flora of Madagascar'.
- 27 Nov. 1979 C. Grey-Wilson (Herbarium) 'Searching for *Impatiens*: a journey through East Africa and Sri Lanka'.
- 11 Dec. 1979 F. N. Hepper (Herbarium) 'Mt. Kulal, Kenya'.
- 15 Jan. 1980 F. Davies (Herbarium) 'A North American daisy chain!'
- 29 Jan. 1980 B. Halliwell (Living Collections) 'Japanese plants and gardens'.
- 12 Feb. 1980 R. Kiesling (Argentina) 'The flora, especially the cacti, of Argentina'.
- 26 Feb. 1980 A. Sugden (Oxford) 'A tree-top walkway in Panama'.
- 18 Mar. 1980 Film show 'A capital garden — Edinburgh Botanic Garden'.
- 1 Apr. 1980 T. Schilling (Wakehurst Place) 'The 4 faces of Annapurna'.

AN ENGLISH PROMENADE CONCERT AT KEW

By J. B. E. Simmons (Curator)

Following the success in Jubilee Year of the first open air concert to be held at Kew there were, not unreasonably, many requests for the event to be repeated, and early in 1979 the Director proposed that another concert be arranged. The organisation of such an event is not without its problems and I was thus fortunate to have both the support of an excellent Organising Committee and good weather on the night.

Inevitably as arrangements progressed and publicity commenced the low volume of advance ticket sales caused concern. The continuing wet weather certainly depressed sales but that, seemingly, is the way of outdoor events. Everyone waits to see what the weather is going to be like — and not least of all the organisers, who are by that time financially committed. In the event the weather changed just in time and as the

horizoned sunlight lingered, to warm that evening of 5th July, when nearly 4,000 people entered the Gardens to enjoy an evening of music at Kew.

The Orangery which was opened for the occasion, displayed its summer's exhibition on Kew's Historic Greenhouses, a theme in keeping with the Concert's celebration of the 'Year of the English Garden'. Outside its grand façade, as promenaders spread through the Gardens in the hour before the main concert commenced, the sound and sight of Morris dancing by the Hammersmith Morris Dancers drew an enthusiastic crowd. The Dancers led the way to the Children's English Country Dancing, a display by our local Darell Primary School children which was greatly enjoyed and loudly applauded as their Headmaster, Brian Thompson, led off the excited children to their own special tea party in the Lower Nursery.

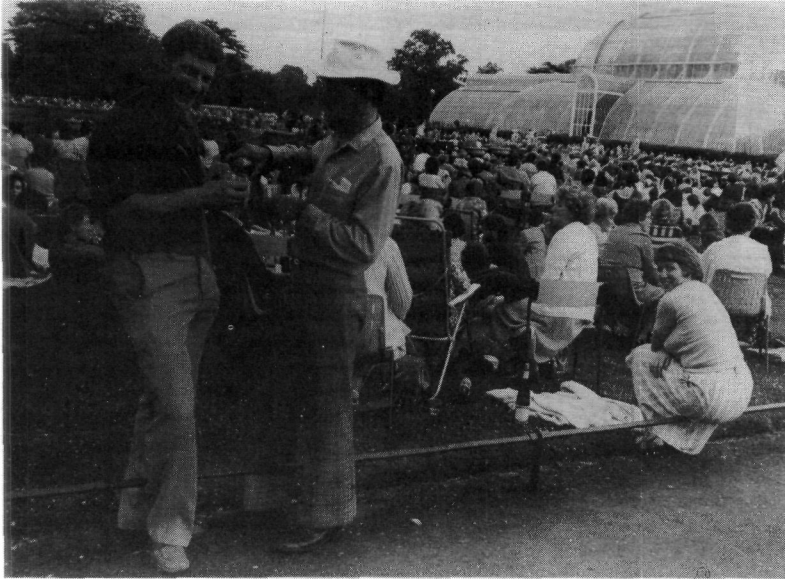
In the 'T' Range, which was also open to promenaders, other enthusiasts waited for the spectacle of the night flowering Giant Amazon Waterlily (*Victoria amazonica*) — and like an artist of the night it held its petals tight until the appointed hour.

The opening fanfare by Band and Trumpeters of the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall, Whitton, under their Director of Music, Lt. Col. G. E. Evans RHG/D, signalled the start of the main musical event. With the Band arrayed in front of the Palm House, the music carried across the still waters of the pond to the assembled multitude around its banks and lawns. As the evening sun gave way to dusk so the illuminations formed a magical scene. Through the previous days the staff of our local PSA Depot had skillfully arranged the lighting so that it picked out the Band and key features such as the Queen's Beasts. The Palm House, open and illuminated from within, gave a majestic frame to the scene that enthralled the spellbound audience.

On this special occasion we were also honoured by the presence of our new Minister of Agriculture, the Right Honourable Mr. Peter Walker M.P., and Mrs. Peter Walker; the Minister of State for Agriculture in the Lords, the Earl Ferrers and Countess Ferrers; the Spokesman on Conservation in the Lords, Lord Craigton and Lady Craigton; the Commandant of the Royal Military School of Music, Colonel Windsor Clive and his sister, and the Right Honourable Mr. Toby Jessel M.P.

The evening was climaxed by a grand firework display. Expertly aligned and prepared, rockets bursting in cascades of colour and light above the Palm House created an unforgettable scene.

The article published in August's 'R.B.G. Newsletter' (from which part of this note has been adapted) mentions many of the staff of Kew who were involved with the organisation and operation of this event. The success of their contribution is perhaps self-evident and endorsed by the fact that the evening showed a positive balance of funds that can be used both to support any future event and make some significant donation to charities associated with the work of gardens. Nevertheless, once again I am happy to record my thanks to all who contributed to the concert's success.



The photograph shows Assistant Curator John Warrington taking a drink with 'Obits' compiler and Committee member Graham Burgess, during the concert.

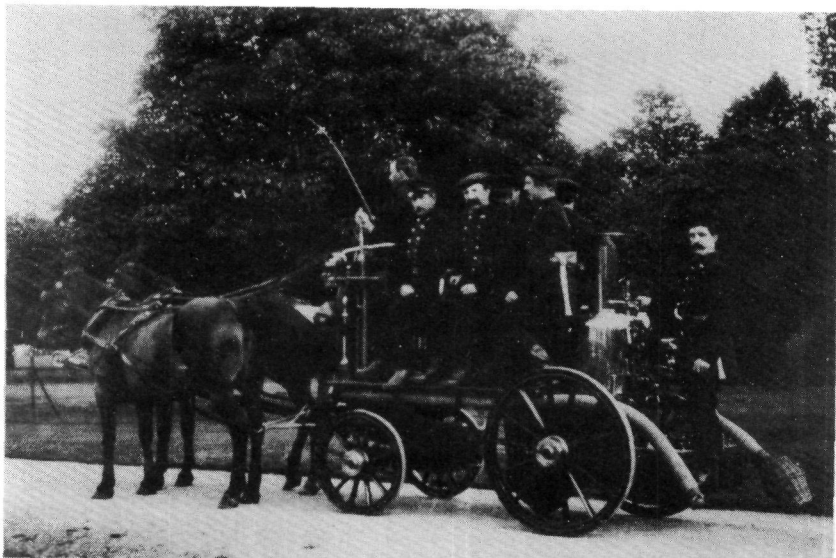
LIFE AT WAKEHURST PLACE ABOUT 80 YEARS AGO

A letter from Myrtle L. Reid dated 16th April 1979 was sent to Kew and the information it contained was so interesting that readers of this Journal might also enjoy reading about a long past aspect of Wakehurst Place. Mrs. Reid later sent prints of two photos taken early this century.

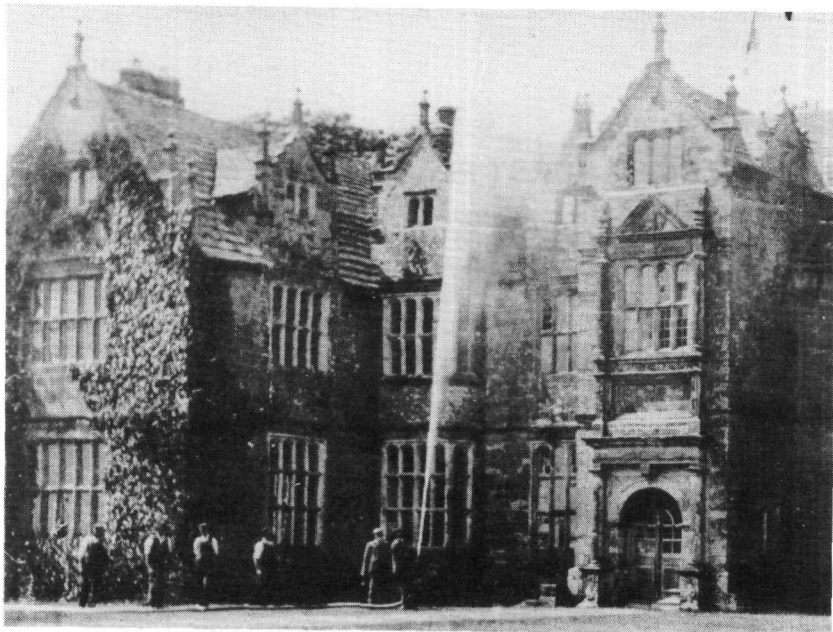
"My husband and I were privileged to visit Wakehurst Place in September, 1978. At that time I saw a photo of the gardeners 1900, in the display room which attracted my attention.

Since returning home my father and I have studied a snapshot of that photo and he believes that the little boy is him and that the man standing third from the left is his father Wm. Dennis who was the bailiff. We have studied the walking stick which is still in our possession and it appears to be identical. (This photograph not made available. But go and see it at Wakehurst Place! — Editor).

My father was born in 1896 and thought his parents moved to Wakehurst about 1900. One positive fact we have is a copy of their sale bill 23 April, 1913, Wakehurst, Home Farm House. They sailed to Canada, 8 May 1913 on the Corinthian.



From left to right: Mr. Simmons holds the reins, Wm. Dennis wearing the captain's hat, Mr. Coates, the head gardener and with the controls Mr. Jim Miller, the blacksmith.



The force of the water. Wm. Dennis, the fire brigade captain is shown at the head of the hose.

In the picture of the fire engine (see opposite), the team of horses belonged to Mr. Simmons, he holds the reins and lived in Ardingly village, the first man seated is my grandfather, Wm. Dennis (1865-1939) wearing the captain's hat, next is Mr. Coates, the head gardener, standing on the back with the controls is Mr. Jim Miller, the blacksmith, another member of the brigade was Mr. Sayers. The hoses were thrown into the water supply of the Mansion Pond, the suction basket prevented debris from entering the hoses. The engine was stored in part of the coach house and in event of an emergency would have been moved by man power. The kindling was always kept laid in readiness for a match to start the fire which produced steam to create pressure.

In the second photo, the steam created enough pressure to force the water higher than the Mansion. Grandfather Dennis was the fire brigade captain and is shown at the head of the hose.

Father has been studying the two booklets, *Wakehurst Place, Yesterday, and tomorrow** and *Wakehurst Place, a guide to the gardens*, and gets the impression that there are unwritten gaps in the history. Would some of his recollections fill in a period of history?

During the period 1900-1913, my grandfather Wm. Dennis lived in the foreman's residence, Home Farm House, Wakehurst with his wife, May and children Clarence and Blanche. He was foreman over the whole estate. There were Jersey cattle, the milk was taken into the dairy, set out in large pans, skimmed by hand (before separators), and he churned butter two times a week, which was used by the occupants of the mansion. Staff members were given skim milk and the remainder went to the Berkshire pigs. Two permanent employees were foresters who cleaned the woods and provided chopped wood. A big engine produced electricity used to saw lumber and firewood. A carter drove the horses for field work, an undercater worked with him. A cowman, Geo. Leary looked after the Jersey herd and hogs, a stockman, Wally Holman had charge of the beef herd, Will Sayers was the odd job man, Jim Miller was the blacksmith, the electrician operated the generator which produced lights for the Mansion. There was a room full of batteries, and he would run a steam engine twice a week to recharge these storage batteries. Coal oil was used to light the staff houses and a telephone was in operation only to the Mansion. There was a shepherd who had an assistant at shearing time; a poultry lad; Mrs. Smith and another lady for the laundry, which was above the stables, and ironing tasks, and seven or eight people under the gardener, Mr. Coates. Jack Mitchell was the game keeper, the underkeeper was Ben Moore. They raised pheasants, protected them during the summer then released them into the woods. There were organised pheasant hunts in the autumn, once a week when approximately 20 hunters would come. Boys and men called beaters, were organised to scare the birds and hares out of the underbrush. There were four cottages, used by the carter, electrician, odd job man and cowman and the bailiff's house. (Thanks to Nigel Hepper for bringing this to our notice — Ed.)

*Published by Kew Guild

OUR FAR-FLUNG CORRESPONDENTS NEW AND OLD AT KEW

By Eugene Kinkead

Condensed by the author for the Kew Guild Journal, from his article in the September 3rd 1979 issue of *The New Yorker*. Reprinted by permission; © 1979 The New Yorker Magazine Inc.

In 1772, the embryonic Royal Botanic Gardens, now commonly known as Kew Gardens, sent out their first plant collector, Francis Masson, who journeyed to South Africa and sent off dozens of plants for Kew's small collection, subsequently increasing its number of species to nearly 500. Many were succulents, but there were others, one, a Kaffir bread tree, used as food by the natives, still stands, tall and spindly, in the Palm House, the garden's oldest floral inhabitant. Now Kew has acquired millions of plants, and is the largest, most respected, and most influential botanical institution known. Its 300 acres of beautifully kept public grounds with open beds or greenhouses have 80,000 different species, varieties, cultivars, and hybrids of living plants, the display ranging from hundred-foot trees to a pond weed with microscopic blossoms. But Kew boasts scholarship, too, of which most visitors see no trace. Its herbarium, with five million dried plants is the world's largest. Its library and archives contain, all told, a quarter of a million volumes and reprints, more than 150,000 graphics — flower paintings, engravings, and photographs — and more than a quarter of a million letters and manuscripts, from the 18th Century on. Also more than 100 scientists and technicians engage in research projects — economic, scientific, and occasionally arcane. Once an American botanist remarked to me wistfully, "Something's always buzzing at Kew."

In London recently, I telephoned Grenville Lucas — a Kew principal scientific officer and acquaintance — and asked what was new at the place. "Come on out. We'll show you," he said.

It was spring when I paid my visit; the grounds were ablaze with blossoms. Lucas, in the herbarium, greeted me cordially and introduced me to Hugh Syngé, a young London University-trained horticulturist. The previous December, after five years labour, Syngé, with Lucas, had produced the first broad-scale Plant Red Data Book surveying all higher vegetation, and giving a selection of the world's endangered higher plants. The Threatened Plants Committee of the Survival Service Commission was the publisher, acting for the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, of I.U.C.N., with headquarters in Morges, Switzerland. The title page thanks the botanists, worldwide, who assisted.

The Threatened Plants Committee, based at Kew, is funded by the World Wildlife Fund. Its annual appeal to its numerous branches raises money, part of which goes to the Threatened Plants Committee, or T.P.C. This is an arm of the Survival Service Commission, chaired by Sir

Peter Scott, the well-known conservationist, and one of six commissions of the I.U.C.N. It is concerned with protection of endangered species of animals and plants. The others concentrate on ecology; education; environmental planning; environmental policy, law and administration; and national parks.

The late Sir Julian Huxley, when first Director-General of the United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation, worried about the widening activities of man harming the planet's biota. In 1948, with kindred spirits, he convened a conference, in Fontainebleau, France, and I.U.C.N. was formed, to foster the maintenance and diversity of the biosphere by rational management of earth's resources. Funds come from the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Wildlife Fund, and I.U.C.N. membership dues, to which 448 highly assorted entities contribute.

The new Plant Red Data Book is the sixth published. Four others now in print, some 10 years old, were concerned with the animal species (mammals, birds, amphibians and reptiles, and fishes) classified as endangered, vulnerable, or rare, the three categories that I.U.C.N. seeks to remove from risk. The same applies to plants. However, fewer than 1,000 animal species are believed to be on shaky ground, while similar plants number in the thousands. In 1968, Dr. Ronald Melville, at Kew then but now retired, realising the magnitude of the botanist's task, began work on the pregnable angiosperms, or flowering plants, the most recently evolved examples. In 1970-71, his Red Data Book Five, now out of print, appeared.

The sixth Red Data Book expands Melville's work, adding to the flowering plants the conifers, ferns, and cycads, thus taking in all the so-called higher plants, those thus far identified numbering some quarter of a million.

The new Red Data Book, 540 pages long, lists 250 species that, globally, are believed at risk. This is merely 1 per cent of the estimated 25,000 species thought to be so.

Syngé said this first step would be followed by new Plant Red Data Books every two or three years. To compose the new entry, Syngé and others read about threatened plants in the Kew Library, and appeals were sent out, around the world, to botanists and field workers. Because a species name is in Latin, and English is a basic language in botany, there was no linguistic problem. Almost without exception, those asked did their job, even though it often meant neglecting or postponing their own professional efforts.

The T.P.C. hopes to expand its staff in the months to come. Syngé said that the eventual aim is to provide required facts on imperilled botany to all in a position to use them. A stimulus to general plant conservation should result with, as a positive minimum, the preservation of critically endangered plants as far as this is humanly possible.

Syngé added that the T.P.C. is already encouraging the formation of lists by geographical regions, and will continue to do so. A register of

European threatened plants was published two years ago. It is hoped that ultimately the areas in every geographical region where critically endangered plants occur will have similar lists. The T.P.C. at Kew is heartened by the number of countries of geographical regions that are preparing, or have prepared, lists. The T.P.C., which is interested in endangered plants only on a worldwide scale, will prepare its future Red Data Books with the considerable help of the national and regional lists that are expected to be forthcoming.

Next, I saw A. G. Bailey, a mycologist, who handles Kew's intermediate plant quarantine. He told me that normally there are two kinds of quarantine, the first being post-entry in which, for example, an import is held in isolation for a time to insure its freedom from disease.

Bailey illustrated the other type by using cocoa, the base of all chocolate concoctions. The tree, whose dried, pulverised seeds are the edible product, originally grew in northern South America and furnished the ancient Aztecs a favourite drink. Viable outdoors only in the tropics, plants were grown under glass at Kew before 1785 and distributed later within the Empire, notably to West Africa, now an important producer. To aid West African stock, for example, material from South America comes to Kew, is sterilised, grafted onto West African seedlings, and eventually forwarded, perhaps to produce better-flavoured seeds or greater yield. Cocoa is a leading tropical cash crop. Kew is happy to try to increase it, Bailey said, and to improve its own quarantine techniques.

Kew's Tree Root Survey, my next project, planned later to publish a booklet with information on the safe planting of house trees. 1972, the survey's start, first saw coverage of tree-root house damage by British insurance companies which, since 1977, were funders of the survey. Kew accepts botanical work of general interest when paid for by those receiving the data. Ian Richardson, a taxonomist, the survey chief, told me that, in the search for moisture, roots can dry out earth, thus dropping house foundations and cracking walls. To determine the offending root, samples are sent, sliced and identified. Willows, poplars, and elms especially, but even oaks can be evildoers. The damage can come from a tree in the next yard wherat the insurer of that house pays the claim. The coming publication, through advice, seeks to halt needless destruction of yard trees. With its publication, Kew considers its survey work done, and the project will be carried on privately by Richardson at his home.

I next made my way to Aiton House, commemorating William Aiton, a Scot, who became Kew's first head gardener, his appointment in 1760 marking the formal beginning of the Royal Botanic Gardens. Inside, looking for the Micropropagation Unit, I met Harry Townsend, an Assistant Curator, who told me the Unit's purpose was production of rare, difficult-to-propagate plants, whose conservation is important. He introduced me to Dr. Nicholas Henson, a botanist involved with breeding ferns — ancient plants whose complicated reproduction

involves both spores and sex cells, the process usually taking at least two years.

Henson said that fern species preservation is important, throwing valuable light on plant taxonomy. He was employing his own propagation technique in which he bred directly from the spores by sterilising the unopened container and planting it on agar jelly, fortified with certain substances. The propagates are rare, or even endangered, species which, once sprouted, are passed to the head of Kew's fern section, who organises their distribution to botanical gardens around the world.

Material and inquiries associated with antiquity often end up on the desk of Nigel Hepper, a taxonomist whose interest in the past extends to the successful making of papyrus — the substance that essentially began Egypt's long historical record.

On his desk, Hepper showed me a box containing carbonised lentils, centuries old, and other plant remains from excavations, still in process, by a team from London University that is digging at an animal necropolis in Egypt. "From this material — largely lentils — taken from a jar recovered at the dig, I have been extracting and identifying weed seeds. Thus, in time the expedition can learn what weeds grew in the lentil fields of the Pharaohs' kingdom thousands of years ago," Hepper told me.

Besides these activities Kew sponsors other projects, dispatching annual expeditions to botanically interesting scenes. New species of plants collected go to the herbarium or for research. A recent acquisition, a carnivorous rain-forest plant, has been successfully cultivated at Kew — a botanical first, and an achievement that permits previously impossible research on the plant. Like virtually everything else at Kew, the specimen is available for study by scholars.

Before leaving, I asked my friend Lucas to cite a few other accommodations that Kew offers the botanical world, and he said, "Some that come to mind are acting as a storage depot for the world's flora, and therefore as a centre for taxonomic, anatomical, cytological, biochemical, ecological — including conservational — and 'whole plant' research; the provision of an identification programme, giving plant names to bona-fide researchers, if the identification falls within our own goals; also, being a repository of paintings, archives, and general plant data, and therefore a centre for historical researchers in the botanical field, over and above normal library facilities. Next, there is the *Index Londinensis*, which gives the sources of botanical illustrations published up to 1970 — a register that has now been terminated. We also hold, in botanical banks, seeds of endangered species for possible future propagation. We publish the *Index Kewensis*, listing the names of all plants, along with the place of their publication, since Linnaeus started his major system of nomenclature, in 1753. And, finally, there is the *Kew Record of Taxonomic Literature*. To expound on this last for a bit: during the past five years, it has offered a complete index of taxonomic

botanical literature. Its entries are classified both by plant group and by country, and report the author, title, and publication of an article. This means that even if a botanist is working at a remote research station in the Australian outback, for example, but is reachable by post, he can keep up with developments in his field through the Record Service, and when he finds an entry of interest he can write the author for a reprint.

"Of course, doubtless I am slighting badly aspects of the place that I've omitted in this offhand summary."

In truth, things keep buzzing at Kew.

(Thanks to the Director for bringing the original, longer, article to our attention — Ed.)

ASPECTS OF HORTICULTURE IN MALAWI

By D. R. Owen

The tourist description of Malawi, formerly Nyassaland, as "The Warm Heart of Africa", is not without justification. The happy smiling faces at the country's small international airport and the warm but pleasant atmosphere, are welcome after the damp and cold of an overlong English winter. I returned to Malawi in April 1979 as Horticulturist to the Government, after a period as a Supervisor in the Arboretum Section of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. My new responsibility, the maintenance and development (with a staff of 200), of the gardens and grounds of important government buildings and state residences. Unfortunately, as these properties are subject to national security regulations, I must restrict my writing to the plants cultivated and the native flora of this varied and interesting country.

My previous contract here was spent in the relatively dry and flat central region, but my new post involves considerable travelling throughout the country, so varied in habitat and flora. Malawi is a small country, south of the Equator. To the north it borders on Tanzania, to the east and south Mozambique and to the west, Zambia. Geographically, Malawi is dominated by its lake, a superb stretch of water some 700 Km long and 20 to 50 Km wide, an extension of Africa's Great Rift Valley. The country itself only occupies an area of 900 Km by 80 to 160 Km. Lake Malawi is the third largest lake in Africa and lies some 470 metres above sea level. To the west of the lake, the country's plateaux rise to between 900 and 1,200 metres, the highest peak in the country being Mt. Mulanje, at something over 3,000 metres.

The climate is obviously greatly influenced by the lake and the country's altitude. At lower levels in the hot season, temperatures can exceed 37°C (100°F) in the shade, while at altitudes above 1,200 metres, frosts occasionally occur at cooler times of the year. The annual average rainfall is approximately 1,000 mm and falls generally between November and March. Humidity, varying with the season and the locality, is between 40 and 100%. This variation in climate, from tropical

lakeshore to almost alpine conditions on plateaux and peaks, therefore provides a varied indigenous flora and ample scope for a variety of cultivated exotic plants.

The introduction and cultivation of exotic plants must have begun in the 17th and 18th centuries when Malawi, then divided into several kingdoms, was visited by Arab slavers, and European, mainly Portuguese, traders, both travelling inland from the Indian Ocean. Imported plants at that time would mainly be food crops and Banana, Mango, Maize and Cassava, now widely cultivated and semi-naturalised, probably arrived during this period. During the energetic spread of Christianity in Africa throughout the 19th century, missions were established in various parts of the country. Many were later abandoned but still more remain, (some of the early missionaries quickly abandoned their vocation and became traders when the commercial possibilities were appreciated!) These old mission stations are often found to contain interesting and exotic plants, from the East Indies and the American continent. Trading companies later formed, often included a gardener among their number to develop the horticultural possibilities of the country. Obviously, the main task of these early horticulturists was to concentrate on commercial crops, Tea, Coffee, Groundnuts and Tobacco now forming the basis of the country's economy. However, they were often keen ornamental gardeners and imported and domesticated many ornamental plants.

Among the ornamentals now widespread throughout the country are trees such as **Cassia**, **Albizia**, **Jacaranda**, **Acacia**, **Eucalyptus**, **Bauminia**, **Delonix** and **Spathodea**. Shrubs include **Codiaeum**, **Nerium oleander**, **Hibiscus**, **Euphorbia pulcherrima**, **Plumbago**, **Lagerstroemia**, **Brunfelsia**, and **Gardenia**. One notable garden at 1,000 metres, formerly used by the Governor of the old colonial administration, contains such temperate plants as **Azalea** and **Rhododendron**, **Buddleia**, **Magnolia**, **Philadelphus** and **Wisteria** and a single, rather confused specimen of **Forsythia spectabilis**, producing flowers and leaves together and throughout the year. My own garden, formerly a mission house, contains a single English Oak, hardly thriving but still alive, having probably been planted in about 1915.

More recently, many species of **Aloe** have been introduced from Rhodesia and South Africa, although several species are indigenous. Several Australasian species have also recently been imported including **Hakea laurina**, (**Proteaceae**), **Arthropodium cirrhatum** (**Liliaceae**), **Pseudopanax lessonii** (**Araliaceae**), **Pomaderris elliptica** (**Rhamnaceae**) and several species of **Acacia** and **Senecio**, with varying degrees of success. As can be seen from this short but varied list of species, given the range of climatic conditions, ornamental gardening can be a delight for the avid 'experimenter', the possibilities seeming almost boundless.

To turn to the indigenous flora, this variety of habitat also provides ample scope for the botanist. Most of the country has been well-

covered, by both professional and amateur botanists but certain areas, such as the valley of the Shire River, up which David Livingstone travelled in the mid-1800's, may still contain a few surprises. However, to my mind the most attractive and interesting flora is that of the country's plateaux and highlands. Although, mainly due to their altitude, these areas are never completely dry, spring, beginning in November with the arrival of the heavier rainfall, brings an abundance of spring flowers. Bright yellow **Hypoxis obtusa** (**Hypoxidaceae**) sparkle in the shorter grass and recently burned areas. Red **Gladiolus melleri** precede the rains but continue to flower into the summer. On the rocky slopes of Mt. Mulanje **Scilla natalensis** is an unforgettable sight, with its metre-long spikes of lilac flowers. The plateau meadows are gay with golden buttercup (**Ranunculus raeae**), clumps of the charming white-bracted **Androcymbium melanthiodes** (**Liliaceae**), purple **Kaempferia aethiopica** (**Zingerberaceae**) and in sheltered hollows, white flowered **Cycnium adonense** (**Scrophulariaceae**), reminiscent of a larger primrose when seen from a distance.

As spring turns to summer, **Crocosmea**, **Tritonia**, crimson and yellow **Gladiolus** and **Kniphofia** and in the northern plateaux, white **Delphinium leroyi** and mauve **D. dasycaulon** abound. From April onwards, **Aloe mawii**, **A. buchananii** and **A. mzimbana** brighten the rock outcrops. Many fine Orchids can also be found during the spring and summer, terrestrial species such as **Eulophia**, of which some 14 species grow wild in Malawi. The most striking being the widespread spring-flowering **Eulophia zeyheri**, its large spike of lemon-yellow flowers being found in grassland and under **Brachystegia** over most of the country. Several species of **Disa**, **Satyrium** and **Habenaria** can be found and of the epiphytic and saprophytic species, **Bulbophyllum oxypterum**, **Schwarzopffia lastii** and **Polystachia johnstonii** are relatively common.

My plant-hunting expeditions so far have been mainly confined to these beautiful and rewarding highland regions, not the least reason being the refreshing atmosphere at the higher altitudes, after a working week spent in the hotter lowland plains. In the months to come, I hope to explore and hopefully carry out some judicious collecting, along the northern lakeshore and in the Shire Valley in the south and look forward to finding more interesting and possibly even new plants in these areas.

PLANTS OF CUSTOM AND TRADITION

By E. W. Macdonald ('Mac')

Man has always been dependant for existence on plant life. Because of this he has, from most primitive times felt it necessary to ensure the health and fruitfulness of his crops. This was done by various magical means, based on an animistic outlook on nature, i.e. the attribution of a soul to natural objects and other phenomena. Later, the idea of

sacrifice developed, originally perhaps because he realised that he must save a little of the seed for the succeeding season, instead of consuming it all. He also noticed that his crops benefited from the fertilisation of the soil occasioned by the blood and bones of animals and of his enemies killed in battle. Hence arose the idea of sacrificing a member of the tribe in order to achieve this result. From this idea arose the legends of Horus, Tammus, Adonis, Krishna, Mithra et alia, embodying the story of a new-born child born in a cave at the winter solstice, who had to be concealed by his mother from an enemy and who grew in wisdom and strength, and taught a new moral code, and who was eventually slain (i.e. sacrificed), and finally was resurrected. That these births occurred at the winter solstice indicated solar worship. The priests of the old religions greeted the new-born sun with the chant "Glory be to thee, O Sun, Divine Child".

Thus sowing the seed symbolised death (burial) and the new growth subsequently emerging was symbolic of resurrection.

In the Cairo Museum there is a man-sized trough filled with soil. The form is that of the god Osiris. In ancient times seed was sown in the soil, and the germination of the seed symbolised his resurrection as a vegetation god. This god, when he reigned on earth, introduced wheat, barley and the vine, and taught the Egyptians the art of cultivation.

Many of the methods of securing a good crop were of the order of sympathetic magic. In certain countries young people would couple in the furrows in the hope of improving fertility. Our harvest festivals are but the remnant of ancient corn-god rituals, and to this day 'Corn-dollies' are fashioned from the last sheaf to be harvested.

Rice, another staple crop, was used in divination, as certain eastern people believed it to be inhabited by a soul. It was (until superseded by confetti) thrown over a newly-married couple to ensure a fruitful union.

The grape-vine, sacred to Osiris, Dionysus or Bacchus, gave the common folk their Bacchanalian orgies, but the wine — and the corn were used in the Egyptian and Eleusinian Mysteries, a prototype of the Eucharist.

Foliage in general, because of its decorative character, was used from early times, as wreaths, garlands and festoons. The custom of hanging holly wreaths on our doors at Christmas derives from a Roman custom. Evergreens were regarded as symbols of immortality and were used in magic rites to ensure the return of vegetation in the spring. This is probably the reason Yew trees are frequently found growing in churchyards. Christmas decorations were solemnly burnt on Twelfth Night to bring good fortune to the household.

Other plants also featured in certain customs. The potato was assisted in its growth by the Peruvian Indians, who selected potato-like stones which they placed in the furrows when planting the tubers. The natives of the Banks Island use a similar method by placing lumps of coral at the roots of their bread-fruit plants.

Leeks were used in Druidic rites which derived from the worship of Adonis, and spinach is — or was — eaten by the Armenians on Christmas Eve because they say that the Virgin Mary ate spinach on the eve of the birth of Jesus.

Girls who sought a husband would, on the feast of St. Thomas, peel an onion, wrap it in a handkerchief and place it under a pillow. They would then recite:

“Let my true love come tonight that I may seek him face to face,
And in my arms his form embrace”.

The Yule log, of Scandinavian origin, but perhaps deriving from an Isiac source, was burnt at the turn (‘Yull = wheel = turn) of the year to ensure prosperity.

The lotus lily symbolised the Egyptian god Horus in his aspect as Saviour-god. The Bodhisattva held a lotus in his hand when he announced to Maha-Maya the coming of the Saviour Gautama Buddha. There we see the prototypes of the Archangel Gabriel represented in art as holding lilies at the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary.

The mistletoe, worshipped by the Druids according to Pliny, was venerated as a gift from heaven, since it grew not from the ground but from above, on a sacred oak. The priest cut it with a golden sickle (iron was forbidden) and acolytes caught it in a white cloth as it fell. It was called ‘All-heal’ because of its therapeutic qualities. The Church prohibited its presence in the churches because of its pagan associations, but at York Minster a piece was laid on the high altar on Christmas Eve, when a universal pardon was proclaimed at the birth of the ‘Eternal Child’. The comparatively modern custom of kissing under the mistletoe seems peculiar to Britain.

The Christmas Tree originated in the winter solstice festivals. In Egypt it was the palm, and in Rome it was the fir. It was introduced from Europe into Britain by the Prince Consort.

The Church experienced difficulty in weaning the people from the Saturnalia and Mithraic festivals held on or near the 25th December, so Pope Liberius in 353 A.D. instituted the first Christmas on this day, the *Natalis soli invicti*.

All of which would seem to demonstrate that whenever a religion runs contrary to custom, the latter usually prevails. One can speculate that when some new religion arises in the future, our descendants will no doubt still wish to celebrate the Christian — which will then be of course ‘pagan’-festival as of yore!

“Nihil sub sole novum.”

(*Eccles. 1, 9*)

NEWS OF KEWITES AT HOME AND ABROAD IN 1979

Compiled by MARTIN J. S. SANDS

Sarah Arthur (1979) left Kew at the end of November after several years working in the Herbarium as an Assistant Scientific Officer.

Stephen Ashworth, a sixth-form entrant to the Kew Diploma course, was awarded, in November 1979, the English Speaking Union Travelling Scholarship, which is run in conjunction with the Garden Clubs of America. He hopes to study for an M.Sc. degree at Wisconsin State University. This is the second time a Kew student has gained the award, the previous Kew holder being John Hacker (1975) (q.v.), and Stephen was selected from a field of 10 Horticultural B.Sc. graduates.

During the photographing and reframing of the pictures in the Marianne North Gallery, a notice on the reverse of No. 576 referred to Mr. **George Badderley**. Mr. Badderley took charge of the gallery in April 1880, at the time when the collection of the India Museum was transferred to Kew. He and his wife lived in the adjoining house and he assisted Miss North in displaying the pictures. There is an account of his life in the Kew Bulletin, 8, 315 (1919).

Chris Bailes (Gardener Supervisor, Tropical Section, Kew) was awarded the Thornton Smith Travelling Scholarship and in 1979 he visited New Zealand to look at its Alpine Flora. During his visit he met Kewites in Auckland and New Plymouth and climbed the slopes of Mt. Egmont. He also visited several gardens, including the Pukeiti Rhododendron Reserve.

At the beginning of February, 1979, **Mr. Bailey**, a Principal Scientific Officer, transferred from the Plant Pathology Laboratory, Harpenden, to take up duties as Quarantine Officer and a member of the Mycology Section in the Herbarium.

With regret we record the departure from the staff on 18th July 1979 of Mrs. **V. Baker**, when she retired after 20 years, with one break in service, working as a moulder in the Herbarium.

Bob Balch, who is a life member of the Guild and left Kew in 1939, works in the South Island of New Zealand.

Congratulations to **Sergeant Ball** who was awarded the British Empire Medal in the 1979 Birthday Honours List. The Director was present at a ceremony in County Hall on Tuesday 20th November and read the citation before the Medal was presented by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Greater London, the Rt. Hon., the Baroness Phillips, J.P.

Peter Benton (1947), in letters received from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, in October and November 1979, wrote that he had been invited by H.R.H. Prince Talal bin Mansour for three months, to undertake several projects. It was intended that he should landscape a three acre Palace garden, a five acre Beach garden, three acres of Nursery and several other areas. This assignment followed nine months spent as a landscape manager in Oman in 1977 where he carried out experiments on wind breaks suitable in that climate. He is writing a book which will be in

Arabic, on horticulture in the Middle East and plans to visit Corfu in Greece shortly to advise on landscaping. In his letters, Peter Benton recalls that he used to write until 3.00 a.m. when preparing his book on the Propagation of Alpines when he returned to Kew from Germany in 1946 and was living at 63 Gloucester Road, Kew.

J. W. Beverley left Kew in 1979 after serving as student's representative on the Guild Committee, and is now working as Head Gardener at Addington Manor in Buckinghamshire where he has begun to reclaim many neglected areas of the estate.

Chris Bowles (1976) returned to live in London in 1979 after a period spent in charge of the Botanic Garden at Maracaibo, Venezuela. He was elected to the Guild Committee in September.

Congratulations to the Director, **Professor J. P. M. Brennan**, on the award in 1979 of one of the Willdenow Medals by the Berlin Botanic Garden in celebration of their Tercentenary year.

Peter Bridgeman (1964) has now established his arboricultural consultancy practice and travelling tree work training service, and has recently had a second book published 'Trees for Town and Country'.

Dick Brummitt (Herbarium) left on 8th February, 1979, to spend a month working in the herbarium in Zomba, Malawi, under the sponsorship of the ODM.

B. L. Burt (1951) from the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, spent most of July, 1979, in the Herbarium and Library at Kew, working on a variety of plants including *Helichrysum*.

Stuart Butler (1977) wrote in 1979 sending greetings from the Rural Development Academy at Bogra in Bangladesh. He reported visiting the Indian Museum in Calcutta where a display on Kew includes a picture of George Nicholson tending orchids in the 'T' Range.

Stuart Cave (1978) left his post in Jersey where he worked after leaving Kew, to take up a post in November 1979, working with the Local Authorities in Bath.

In a letter received in March 1979, **Ernest Chantler** (1939) indicated that for 27 years he was Parks Superintendent at Fleetwood in Lancashire and then in 1974 became Area Supervisor for the Wyre Borough District Council, before retiring in December 1978. In May he planned to travel to Boston, U.S.A., with his wife to visit their son, Peter, in research at Branden's University.

Dr. **Derek Clayton** (Herbarium) left on 30th April, 1979, for four weeks in Australia to attend the Symposium on Genetic Resources of Forage Plants held in Townsville, Queensland. He also visited herbaria in Brisbane, Canberra and Sydney.

George Cobham, Garden Supervisor, Temperate Section visited Turkey in 1979 and undertook plant collecting there.

Trevor Cole (1960) visited Kew for a few days in July 1979. He and his wife (née Briggs) who also left Kew in 1960, still live in Ottawa and

Trevor is now a Garden consultant, and his work includes landscape design.

George Coombes, a life member of the Guild, who left Kew in 1915 and who until recently was living in Caanoga Park, California, is now back in England.

Dr. **Tom Cope**, who has worked on grasses for several years in the herbarium, was promoted to Higher Scientific Officer with effect from 1st January 1979.

Dick Cowley took up a post as a lecturer in the Department of Botanical Sciences at Wolverhampton Polytechnic starting on 1st September 1979, and is teaching Biochemistry to B.Sc., H.N.D. and B.Ed. students.

From January 1st to March 1st 1979, Dr. **Phillip Cribb** (Herbarium) led an expedition to Tanzania and was accompanied by Chris Grey-Wilson (q.v.). Later in March he spent a week in Zurich attending the Fifth European Orchid Conference, where he presented a paper on Orchid Research at Kew, and then on 23rd April he left for Harvard where he worked for three weeks completing a record of all Orchid types held in the Oakes Ames Herbarium. He returned to the United States in November to attend an Orchid Conference at the New York Botanic Gardens.

Congratulations to Mr. **C. Cunningham** on his promotion to H.S.O. with effect from 1st January 1979. Subsequently he was transferred to a post in environmental monitoring with the Freshwater Biological Association at Lake Windemere in Cumbria.

Dr. **David Cutler** (Jodrell Laboratory) returned at the beginning of 1979 from a successful expedition to Argentina, where he made very useful collections of bulbs from a wide range of sites for research on the anatomy of Monocotyledons. In April he was involved in organising an international Symposium on Monocotyledons of Horticultural importance, under the joint aegis of the Linnean Society and the Royal Horticultural Society, at which several members of the Kew staff presented papers.

Welcome to Miss **C. G. Davey**, who was appointed on 5th February 1979, to work as an Assistant Scientific Officer to Dr. Launert on the Flora Zambesiaca, "outstationed" at the British Museum (Natural History).

In August 1979, Dr. **Frances Davies** (Herbarium) returned from a two month study tour of the United States and later accompanied Mr. Cliff Townsend (q.v.) on a visit to Vienna to study herbarium material in connection with work on the "Flora of Iraq".

On 13th March 1979, Dr. **John Dransfield** left for Bangkok to work for F.A.O. on the preparation of a South East Asian regional development plan for rattan silviculture. During the eight weeks he was away from Kew, he visited Thailand, Luzon and Palawan in the Philippines, Indonesia and Sabah. Later, in May, he transferred from his post as

Senior Research Fellow, to join the permanent staff of the Herbarium, and in June spent the week 2nd to 9th in Singapore at the invitation of the International Development Research Center (Canada) to chair a Symposium on rattan research and development. On 14th August he began a three month secondment via the Columbo Plan (O.D.A.) working on rattans in Sabah (E. Malaysia), stationed with the Forest Development Authority. On this occasion he was accompanied by his wife, Dr. Soejatmi Dransfield, who collected bamboos as fieldwork for the preparation of a forester's guide to Bamboo identification in Sabah.

As a memorial to Dr. **Donald Dring**, formerly on the staff of the Herbarium, who sadly died suddenly in 1978, a fund was opened in 1979 enabling a prize to be given each year to the Kew diploma student who does best in the Crop Protection Course, which Dr. Dring taught for many years. The fund is administered by the Bentham Moxon Trust. By the middle of the year the total had reached about £300 and the prize was awarded for the first time at the Students' Prizegiving in 1979.

John Edwards (1948), living in New Zealand, wrote in 1979 that he had worked for the local Hospital Board in New Plymouth for the last 26 years. He has a family of three girls and a boy.

On 21st March 1979, **Peter Edwards** (Herbarium) left for five weeks in Guyana on a privately sponsored expedition to the highlands region bordering the Kako River where he was to make collections for Kew.

John Ewart, who is a life member of the Guild, wrote in December 1979. (See New Zealand Supplement after these notes — Ed.)

In May (14th to 18th) 1979, Dr. **Keith Ferguson** (Herbarium) spent a week in Paris at the invitation of Madame Cerceau-Larrival (Laboratoire de Palynologie, Paris Museum) for the first meeting in connection with a collaborative R.C.P. research project funded by the French scientific research council (C.N.R.S.) to consider the relationship between sporophyte and gametophyte and the role of the tapetum in pollen development. From 17th to 22nd September he visited East Berlin at the invitation of the Humbolt University as part of a scientific exchange financed by the British Council and gave two lectures at Bereich Botanik und Arboretum. Later, in October (15th to 19th), he again visited Paris to attend and read a short paper at the Association des Palynologues de Langue Française symposium "Palynologie et Climats".

On 31st May 1979, Miss **Ann Fitton** resigned from her duties as an Assistant Scientific Officer in the herbarium where she had worked since 1st March 1976.

In September 1979, **Hugh Flower**, who left Kew in 1976, began studies at St. John's Seminary, Womersley, leading to Ordination after six years. His home is in Southwick, Brighton.

Congratulations to **Truman Fossum** (1936) of Washington D.C., on being awarded the Florist's Transworld Delivery Golden Rose Award in August 1979, in recognition of more than 40 years service to the floral industry. Previous recipients have been Canadian Prime Minister, Pierre Trudeau, United States First Lady, Betty Ford, and Senator

Hubert Humphrey. Born in Minot, North Dakota, Truman Fossum is now an economic consultant, being President of Marketing Facts for Floriculture in Washington D.C. He has been a teacher, historian, author and innovator in the Floral Industry and apart from training at Kew, he studied at the New York Botanical Garden and Ohio State, Maryland and Purdue Universities. He also served the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

George Fuller (1953) who lives in New Plymouth in New Zealand, is Curator of the Pukekwa Park. (See New Zealand Supplement after these notes — Ed.)

Congratulations to **Rowena Gale** (Jodrell) on her promotion to Higher Scientific Officer on 1st January 1979.

Ian Galloway (1952) who is Director of Parks and Reserves in Wellington, New Zealand, wrote in December 1979. (See New Zealand Supplement at the end of these notes — Ed.)

Mr. **Peter Green** (Deputy Director and Keeper of the Herbarium) who completed his term of office in 1979 as Vice President of the Guild, represented Kew in September at the Berlin Botanic Gardens, when it celebrated its Tercentenary. On behalf of the Director and staff of Kew he presented a congratulatory address.

News of Dr. **Peter Greenway** (1925) was received in July 1979. He was a life member and President of the Guild from 1971 to 1972 and was "founder" and for sometime in charge of the E. African Herbarium in Nairobi where he still lived. He continued to be well looked after and passed the days looking out into his garden where he was visited regularly and from where, every week, Rajobu would drive him out into the Game Park. Sadly, just before going to press, it was learnt that Dr. Greenway died peacefully on 16th February 1980 at the age of 83.

Soon after returning from Sri Lanka at the end of 1978, Dr. **Chris Grey-Wilson** (Herbarium) left on the 1st January 1979 with Dr. Phillip Cribb (q.v.) to collect in remote and botanically little-known areas of Tanzania. During their three month expedition they retraced much of the areas visited by Dr. Schlieben most of whose collections had been destroyed in Berlin during the war. In a letter from Chris in early February, he wrote of the rich forest they had explored in the Mahenge District, of the hospitality of the Catholic mission and of the "rain almost every day so far".

Congratulations to **Jeff Grimes** (Herbarium) and his wife Hannah on the birth of a second son, Christopher, on 17th March 1979.

John Hacker (1975) who gained an M.Sc. degree at Rutgers University, New Jersey, now works as a demonstrator at the School of Biological Sciences in Bath.

Tony Hall, a Garden Supervisor in the Herbaceous Section, returned in July 1979 from a plant-collecting expedition to North America where he travelled over 5,000 miles in several States and collected in 100°F in Colorado Canyon as well as at 15,000 ft. in the Rocky Mountains.

Brian Halliwell (Assistant Curator, Alpine & Herbaceous Section) visited Japan in 1979. During his study tour of the country he obtained quite a considerable amount of plant material.

Colin Hart (1966), who is a Horticultural journalist and broadcaster and lives in Derby, has now completed over 20 years varied horticultural experience in Great Britain, Holland, Iceland and Australia. Apart from Kew, he studied at the Herts. College of Agriculture and as well as six years of college lecturing he has been the Garden Products Advisor for Pan Britannica Industries and was a Senior Floriculturalist in the West Australian Department of Agriculture. Currently his work includes running evening classes for Rolls Royce, and the University of Nottingham, writing advisory letters for Amateur Gardening, and articles for 'Flora' and 'The Greenhouse' and preparing a 56,000 word 'Teach Yourself Greenhouse gardening book.

Mr. Rod Henderson, Australian Botanical Liaison Officer in the Kew Herbarium, visited herbaria in Paris, Geneva, Zurich, Vienna, Uppsala, Copenhagen, Berlin and Goethingen from 18th May to 22nd June and returned to Brisbane, Australia via the Far East in November 1979.

Bob Hughes, who came to Kew on 28th September 1970, became a Garden Supervisor successively in the Herbaceous, Arboretum and Services sections and served for a time as the Guild Treasurer. On the 27th July 1979, he left to manage the Garden Properties of the Grosvenor House Estates, London.

Professor **Keith Jones** (Keeper of the Jodrell Laboratory and a past President of the Guild) visited Poland in the Spring of 1979 to deliver a lecture at the University of Krakow, and attended the Easter E.G.G. meeting in Bristol.

Mrs. **Lees** (née **Burrell**) (1922), who is a life member of the Guild and lives in Burwash, Sussex, wrote in 1979 referring to strike action at Kew. She recalled the occasion when the girl students nearly went on strike in the very hot summer of 1921 because Mr. Watson, the Curator told the girls' "Deputy" that they must stay away from work from 2.00 to 5.00 o'clock (the hottest time of the day), return at 5.00 to do the watering of the Flower Garden Department and remain until 8.00. Mrs. Lees continued: "there were only six of us and we did not approve because it meant losing leisure time, swimming, etc., and also none of the men had been asked. The labourers backed us up and held a Union Meeting in a room behind a pub in Brentford. The foreman saw the Curator and he changed his mind and the strike was called off. However, the Curator got his own back as he told the Ministry that the girls were keeping men out of their jobs and we were told to go. Luckily for me I had only done two years as an "improver" as I was under 21, so I saw the Director who told me I could stay on. Mr. Watson retired soon after and Mr. Bean became Curator and I was sent up to the Arboretum Department where I spent very happy months working with Coates and Bass . . . and with Hubbard and Knight in the Temperate Pits".

Gwilym Lewis (Herbarium) was promoted to Scientific Officer with effect from 1st January 1979.

John Lewis (1941), who is a life member of the Guild, wrote in 1979, mentioning several Kewites living in New Zealand (see New Zealand Supplement after these notes — Ed.).

In a letter received in July 1979, Mrs. Hilda Logsdail wrote about her husband, **Arthur Logsdail** ("Loggie") who left Kew in 1907 and died in July 1963. (see obit., Kew Guild Journal, 1964, 8, 462). With her letter she sent a programme of the official opening of the A. J. Logsdail Centre at the College of Agricultural Technology in Kemptville, Ontario on Saturday, June 2nd 1979, when Mrs. Logsdail cut the ribbon. The Centre is a complex designed for the instruction and research of Horticulture and includes two greenhouses, laboratory accommodation for 30 students and three hotbeds measuring 60' x 4'. "Loggie" laid out the original campus over 50 years ago working under the difficulties of a stony field and limited funds. He retired in 1952.

David Low (1961) and his wife Sylvia, who was formerly an assistant Scientific Officer in the Herbarium Fern Section, are still living in Napier, New Zealand.

With regret we record the resignation in September 1979 of Mrs. **Joanne Lowe** after six years in the Herbarium as the Kew artist. However, we offer our best wishes as she continues her work as a freelance artist in her home region of Cumbria.

On 9th March 1979, the Deputy Keeper of the Herbarium, Mr. **Gren Lucas** began a period of a few weeks in Costa Rica where he joined a D.O.E. delegation to work on the International Convention on Trade in Endangered Species. Later, on 11th November, he left for San Diego, California where he attended "A Captive breeding conference" covering both plants and animals.

Ron (1966) and Jean **Lycett** live in Cambridge, New Zealand, where Richard Ward (q.v.) met them in September 1979, when he toured New Zealand.

Ian McDowell (1960) is Deputy Director of the Parks and Recreation Department of New Plymouth City Council in New Zealand, where, he notes, a very wide range of plants can be grown including Proteas and orchids. In a letter from him in 1979 he provided news of several Kewites living and working in New Zealand (see New Zealand Supplement after these notes — Ed.).

J. A. McPherson, who left Kew in 1924 and worked for many years with the Christchurch Parks Department in New Zealand, is now living in Auckland.

Wessel Marais (Herbarium) visited the Paris Herbarium during 1979 in connection with his work on the 'Flore des Mascareignes'.

Congratulations to **Judy Marques** (née **Brace**) on the birth of a son, Edward Patrick on 12th February 1979. From Brazil, Judy sent best wishes to all her friends at Kew.

At the beginning of 1979, Mr. **Richard Moore** (Jodrell Laboratory) left Kew to take up a research post with the Fund for Replacement of Animals in Medical Experiments.

In a letter received in August 1979, it was learnt that **Alfred Mould**, who left Kew in 1933, is now living in Cowley, Oxfordshire.

E. C. Neighbour (1957) is the Chief Recreation Officer in the Recreation Department of the Thameside Metropolitan Borough, Lancashire.

Mrs. **Molly Norman**, who left Kew on transfer in 1977 after 10 years at Kew, returned last year to take up another Executive Officer position in the Administrations Division.

Miss **Sarah Oldfield**, who previously worked with the Nature Conservancy Council, took up her post as Scientific Officer in the Conservation Unit on 16th July 1979.

David Owen, who first left Kew in 1970, returned to Malawi on 31st March 1979, after a period since 1977 serving as a Garden Supervisor in the Arboretum North. In March he took up a post as horticulturalist for the Malawi Government, to be responsible for development and maintenance of the grounds of Government buildings and official residences. His work involves a considerable amount of travel around the country by light aircraft and landrovers and he lives within the grounds of one of the new Palaces, in a house formerly occupied by missionaries. The house is situated on a hillside at about 4,500 ft. in 300 acres of Palace grounds associated with another 500 acres of modified bush. Last year he was involved in preparations for the visit of the Queen and Prince Philip in July.

Andrew Paterson (1973), is now working in the Agricultural Division of Tate & Lyle Technical Services and is living in Bromley, Kent.

Kenwyn Pearson (1975) wrote in January 1979 to report that everything was going well where he was working at the Cadojan Estates.

From 20th September 1979, Dr. **David Pegler** (Herbarium) spent 10 days in Denmark, where he attended the Danish Mycological Society Foray at Tirstoup, Jutland, and worked at the Institute for Sporeplanter, Copenhagen University.

Leo Pemberton (Supervisor of Studies) left on 27th April 1979, with a number of second and third year students for a tour of several German Horticultural establishments.

David Philcox left on 11th March 1979, for Antigua and other West Indian islands to discuss Caribbean conservation on behalf of I.U.C.N. He then travelled on to Trinidad on 18th March for a 10 week visit to undertake field studies and make collections of Monocots for the last part of the Trinidad Flora.

Barry Phillips (1971) in the course of his work as a horticulturalist in Bermuda, has replanted with native species areas invaded by introductions, and instigated an 'endemic tree seedling' competition, in which all schools on the island participated. He has established a major conservation propagation programme concentrating totally on native and endemic trees and shrubs such as *Trema lamarckii* and *Xanthoxylum flavum*. In April 1979, he joined David Philcox (q.v.) on a collecting trip to

Trinidad and Tobago, where he collected 120 species, mainly of Orchids, ferns and Bromeliads for Bermuda Botanic Gardens. He visited Kew during almost a month's stay in England, returning just in time to begin on 26th September, a two year course in Horticulture for Young Bermudans. His wife Christine, continues with her botanical illustration work and has had her first poster on Ferns of Upland and Hillides reproduced for educational and scientific purposes.

Andrew Pierce (1960), formerly working in Bermuda, is now Director of Denver, Colorado Botanic Gardens where he is developing 200 acres as an Arboretum. During 1979 he led a tour in New Zealand.

John Plummer (1978), an ex-student who also worked in the Micro-propagation Unit in Aiton House, spent three months in Brazil using his 1978 Ernest Thornton Smith Travelling Scholarship Award. He travelled via New York, Miami, Equador and Peru and was to spend time reporting on the Rio de Janeiro Botanic Garden, which has the largest Arboretum in Latin America. Later he was to visit National Parks and the Ogen Mts. at Teresopolis to collect *Anthuriums* and *Salvias* for Kew.

At the end of June 1979, **Alan Radcliffe-Smith** (Herbarium) visited Munich herbarium to work on *Euphorbiaceae* specimens from Bahia.

In 1979, **Tom Reynolds** (Jodrell Laboratory) was elected Hon. Treasurer of the Phytochemical Society at its Annual General Meeting held in conjunction with the International Symposium on Indole Alkaloids at the School of Pharmacy.

Ian Richardson (1979), who transferred from the herbarium to the Jodrell Laboratory in 1977, completed two years working on the Tree Root Survey, and is now an independent Botanical Consultant, specialising mainly in tree root damage to buildings.

L. A. L. Richardson (1931), a member of the Guild Committee, travelled from his home in Western Australia to attend the Guild Dinner in 1979 and on route spent three days in Singapore before flying on to Britain in Concorde.

On 23rd February 1979, **Phillip Rutherford**, left his post as Garden Supervisor in the Decorative Unit at Kew to work for Banbury Local Authority and to start his own Herbaceous Nursery. In April he was married to Yvonne Elkington (Administrative Division).

Bert Sayer (1924), a life member of the Guild, who lives in Northampton, was reported to be in good health in a letter from T. M. Coventry, in which he recalls their days of training together in the Temperate House in 1922.

Tony Schilling (Deputy Curator, Wakehurst Place) was interviewed on L.B.C. Radio on 17th March 1979, and described his trips to the base of the Himalaya. In September he returned from a lecture tour to the United States where he travelled via Boston to Connecticut and the White Mountains National Forest in New Hampshire and made an interesting tour of several arboreta. Once again he visited Nepal in

1979 using his leave to guide a commercial tour and returned from his latest excursion to Annapurna on 26th November with a quantity of seeds.

Dr. Sharma, who was for three years Indian Regional Botanist at Kew, returned to India in March 1979, to take charge of the B.S.I. Western Circle at Poona, being promoted to Deputy Director. His place at Kew has been taken by Dr. R. Sundara Raghaven.

In September 1979, **John Simmons**, the Curator, attended the Tercentenary Celebrations and Symposium on Botanic Gardens at Berlin Botanic Garden, and gave a paper on "The development of acceptable information and education systems within Botanic Gardens".

Graeme Smith (1968) lives in Taranaki, New Zealand and is Curator of the Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust Reserve.

Congratulations to **Brian Spooner** (Herbarium) on his promotion to Higher Scientific Officer with effect from 1st January 1979.

Brian Stannard, who was awarded the Kew Diploma in 1973 and has subsequently worked in the Herbarium, was promoted to Scientific Officer on 1st January 1979.

Congratulations to **Charles Stirton**, who was been South African Liaison Botanist in the Herbarium since May 1978, on being married to Miss Jana Zantovska on 8th December 1979.

Hubert Taylor, who left Kew in 1933 and is a life member of the Guild, has left Surbiton and is now living in Portsmouth.

J. O. Taylor (1947), who is a lecturer at Lincoln College, Christchurch, New Zealand, visited Kew in November and gave a lecture to the Mutual Improvement Society and a paper at the Diploma Course Autumn Seminar.

Peter Taylor (Herbarium) left on 12th November 1979 for six weeks field work in Australia on the insectivorous genera, *Utricularia* and *Poly-pompholyx*.

Since leaving Kew, **Terry Taylor** (1969) has studied for and passed the Landscape Institute exam, working variously at the G.L.C. Surrey County Architects Department and with Brian Clouston and Partners (Landscape Architects and Planners). He is currently employed by Inverclyde District Council in Scotland, as a Principal Landscape Architect, working predominantly on Land Renewal Projects with the Scottish Development Agency. He is Editor of the Landscape Institutes Scottish Chapter Newsletter.

On September 29th 1979, **Cliff Townsend** with Dr. Frances Davies (q.v.) (both Herbarium), began a visit to Vienna in connection with their work on the "Flora of Iraq", to study material collected in Iraq by Professor K. H. Rechinger and Dr. Handel-Mazzetti.

Solomon Tubosun (1978) wrote in 1979 that he had recently been upgraded and that work was going well for him the Physical Planning Unit of the University of Ilorin in Nigeria.

Sadly we note that **Maurice Vardy**, who left Kew in 1920, died at the age of 86 on 1st November 1978.

John Vaughan (Administration Division) retired on 5th November 1979, after many years service in the Division as an Executive Officer. For several years prior to his retirement he was in charge of the Finance section.

John Walkings, an Assistant Gardener in the Temperate Section, was interviewed on Radio One's "Newsbeat" on 30th March 1979, and talked about interesting insectivorous plants.

In September 1979, our Editor, **Richard Ward** (1963) toured New Zealand and subsequently wrote to Kewites living there, eight of them members of the Guild (see New Zealand Supplement after these notes — Ed.).

Jim Watson (1923), who writes to L. A. L. Richardson occasionally, is nearly 80 now. He was at one time working at Armstrong College Botanic Gardens and until recent years, had attended every Chelsea Show since 1919.

In July 1979, **Graham Watts** (1971) settled into a new home with his wife and three children in Exning, near Newmarket, following his appointment as City Parks Officer for Cambridge City Council.

In November 1979, **Alistair Weir** (1968) was appointed Landscape Officer for the Cunningham District Council in southern Scotland.

From 19th to 26th August 1979, Dr. **Gerald Wickens** (Herbarium) visited Berlin to study living and herbarium collections of *Crassulaceae*.

Mrs. **Ursula Wide**, a former Kew diploma student, visited the Kew Library from time to time in 1979, to continue her study of Garden History.

Alan Wilton, who left Kew in 1972, is now living in Stirling, S. Australia.

Richard Wiseman (1975) is now living in Coventry, having transferred from Enfield to become District Superintendent with Coventry City Council in January 1979.

Keith R. Woolliams who left Kew in 1963 and is in charge of the Waimea Arboretum in Hawaii, visited the Kew herbarium for a week from June 8th 1979, in connection with his work on the plants of Hawaii and their conservation.

With regret we record the departure at the end of July 1979, of **Ron Zabeau**, who for many years served as photographer in the herbarium. Our best wishes go with him, however, on his transfer on promotion to Principal Photographer at the Central Veterinary Laboratories, Weybridge where he has now been working since August.

'NEW ZEALAND SUPPLEMENT'

Prepared by Richard Ward — Editor

In September 1979 I found myself touring New Zealand, with a rucksack on my back, and whilst there made a point of looking up ex-

Kewites. Of the 18 living in New Zealand eight are members of the Kew Guild.

During the journey it was by chance that in September I arrived in Hamilton during the A.G.M. of the New Zealand Institute of Park and Recreation Administration. Having surreptitiously disposed of my rucksack I was invited to attend a reception at which the photograph below as taken, showing ex-Kewites present.



Left to Right: Ian Galloway (1952), Ron Lycett (1966), Ian McDowell (Front (1960), John Taylor (1947), Editor Richard Ward (1963), and Phil Jew (1955), extreme right.

I was kindly hosted by Jean and Ron Lycett (1966) in Cambridge that evening, and only lack of time and personal commitments prevented me from accepting many other kind invitations from those ex-Kewites I had met.

Upon my return home I decided to encourage non-members of the Kew Guild to join, so that they might not miss out, and potential ex-Kew visitors might not miss out, on the 'Fellowship' that others enjoy. Therefore, with Ron Lycett's help, we mailed all 18 known ex-Kewites living in New Zealand. The result produced two renewed subscriptions and the following correspondence to mid January 1980. I thank these members for their interest.

John H. Edwards writes: "New Zealand — God's own country, or paradise lost — a bit of both maybe. 1980. The 1980's bring a challenge to the people of New Zealand. By the world's standards its prosperity and its energy resources are high but it is very concious that time and monetary resources are running out, so the next decade throws out a

challenge and it is interesting to see how this will be. The pioneers of not so long ago knuckled to and made their living from the land. Today less than 45,000 people are directly employed on the land, yet their produce provides most of the country's income. Sixty million sheep graze its pastures most of which are unsuitable for other production. Aircraft apply the bulk of the million tons of fertilizer used annually to a soil which is generally deficient in phosphate, potash and some minor trace elements on the young soils of volcanic origin."

John Edwards continues by mentioning details of New Zealand's natural resources such as timber, gas and others. He continues: "I have spent the last 26 years in New Plymouth working for the local Hospital Board. Our climate here is maritime except where the wind blows from Mt. Egmont 12 miles away. We have four children, three girls and a son, the youngest."

John finishes by mentioning that he had recently re-contacted Bob Balch who works in the South Island and was at Kew in 1940, and Fraser MacCartney from the U.S.A. who he had met in Biarritz in 1945. Joe Short was also in the same group he recalls.

John Ewart (1937) wrote in December, mentioning that he was sorry to miss meeting your Editor during a whistle-stop visit to Tauranga. He mentioned that his two contacts at Kew with whom he keeps regularly in touch are Professor R. E. Holtum and Humphrey Burkill. He says that he attended Kew from February 1934 until October 1937 during which time he spent one year as an exchange student at the Berlin Botanic. On leaving Kew he was appointed to the Botanic Gardens Department, Straits Settlements, and posted to Singapore. In June '38 he moved to Penang to take charge of the Botanic Gardens when Flippance transferred to Hong Kong. Later the Colonial Office transferred him to the Gold Coast (Ghana) in 1942. In 1945 he returned to Singapore where he was Curator of the Botanic, and Agricultural Officer for 12 years.

Ian D. Galloway (1952), writing in December says: "I am Director of Parks and Recreation in Wellington City, a Department which controls



approximately 2,000 hectares of recreational land including a 26 hectare Botanic Garden. Also controlled are a Zoological Garden, four Swimming Pools, Cemeteries, and approximately 40 kilometres of beaches and foreshore.

I am also Honorary Secretary of the N.Z. Institute of Park & Recreation Administration Inc.

In the past we have been able to gather together some Kew

folk in New Zealand at the time of the Annual Conference of the

Institute, but look forward to more regular gatherings, hopefully involving all our New Zealand membership.

John Lewis (1941) replied to the 'New Zealand ex-Kewites' letter, saying that he sees D. Low of Napier often, also L. Lannie who is an old



friend but "who does not seem interested in keeping up his membership". He mentioned that he recently visited New Plymouth and took the opportunity to contact J. H. Edwards (see above), George Fuller, who is Curator of Pukekura Park, and Ian McDowell (see below). Also G. Smith at the Pukeiti Rhododendron Reserve. He also mentioned J. A. McPherson. Your Editor spoke to his son in Auckland who said that Mr. MacPherson, previously with Christchurch Parks Department for many years, is now retired, but unfortunately permanently in a nursing home in Auckland.

John, in sending a donation to the Award Scheme, noted that F. P. Knight (1929) was an old friend and colleague who had changed address.

C. Ian McDowell (1960), wrote an extremely interesting and newsy letter:

"Since you visited us here in New Zealand we have had three other Kewites through New Plymouth. The first was Charles Puddle (1946) who was hosted by Alan Jellyman, the Director. Then Andrew Pierce (1960) who is now Director of the Denver, Colorado Botanic Gardens and who was leading a tour party around the country. It was great to see him again — easy to recognise and not unduly changed since at Kew. George Fuller (1953) the Curator here at Pukekura Park, New Plymouth, and I went up to the Westown Hotel in the evening and showed slides to the party, mine from the top of Mt. Egmont down through the distinctive plant zones and George's of native and exotic orchids and other plants of interest. We enjoyed a few beers with Andrew afterwards and learnt of his work and promising development programme, including 700 acres to become an Arboretum. He and his wife and two boys seem pretty settled in the States having been in Bermuda earlier. . . . Then last week my wife and I hosted Chris Bailes currently Garden Supervisor, Tropical Section at Kew, who was awarded the Thornton-Smith Travelling Scholarship and decided to travel as far as he could and study the unique N.Z. alpine flora. He was also hosted for a couple of weeks in Auckland by Phil Jew (1955). In New Plymouth Alan Jellyman mapped out a programme for him, and I helped co-ordinate his trips. He visited



the large Nurseries of Duncan and Davies, and the home and garden of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Matthews, called 'Tupare'. It was at its finest, a lovely sunny day, with countless Rhodos and Azaleas in bloom, backed by a wide range of conifers and deciduous trees which set off the Tudor style house. Having gone up the slopes of Mt. Egmont, he now knows that he has to buy more woolly protective clothing, and is expected to get his flash climbing boots wet when wading through streams and rivers.

All visitors here are told we can grow as wide a range of plants as anywhere in the world, and we prove it by showing them the beautiful *Proteas* from South Africa, and we have great cultivars of *Leucospermum cordifolium* here; and can grow *Disa* orchids like mustard and cress, including the yellow form — excuse the

bragging! We passed Chris on to Graeme Smith (1968), Curator of Pukeiti, on another perfect spring day with blue skies and sunshine.

The Parks and Recreation Department here in New Plymouth, of which I am Deputy Director, has a reputation which is hard to live up to, but we endeavour to improve the horticultural features that growing numbers of tourists come to seek out and admire.

J. G. Short (1940) kindly met your Editor at Wellington Airport at 15 minutes notice. It was a whistle-stop meeting but his effort was much appreciated.

SURVIVAL OR EXTINCTION

Published by the Bentham-Moxon Trust, R.B.G., Kew.

By R. C. Ward

Proceedings of the International Conference on the Practical Rôle of Botanic Gardens in the conservation of rare and threatened plants, held at Kew September 1978 — as reported in this Journal last year pages 673-678. This publication, 15½ cms x 23½ cms and containing 150 pages, is edited by Hugh Synge and Harry Townsend. It costs £7.50 (£5.00 for Guild members) including surface rate postage (U.S.

\$17.00) and is available from the Conservation Conference Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. It contains main headings of The Problem, Background, Contents, Education, Practical Conservation, Action and Information and is 'essential for all concerned with Botanic Gardens'.

BEAT THIS!

Not having touched a drop of booze all day, your Editor came across Granville and Philip Thurley at the 1978 A.G.M. tea; and couldn't believe his eyes! But even his camera saw double, so it must be true! Can anyone else provide information leading to the publication of a photograph in a future Journal of twins who have worked at Kew as students together?



GRANVILLE AND PHILIP TURLEY. Twins who attended Kew and left in 1949. Photo at 1979 A.G.M.

Granville provided the information that they left Kew 30 years ago, and recalls that our current President was his first departmental Foreman in the orchid section — where discipline was taken for granted, having just left the Army. He also recalls working with Past President 'Ted' Storey and doing weekend duty in No. 10.

After leaving Kew, the twins, interested in propagation and growing, worked in local Park Departments at Ealing and Kingston. Granville took a post at Norwood Hall Institute of Horticulture under Frances Perry 20 years ago, took a part-time teachers course at Chiswick Polytechnic and used the resulting Certificate to tutor at evening classes for the past 16 years. His job as Gardens Manager at Norwood Hall — a mini-Kew — covers all aspects of Horticulture.

Philip currently works managing Vicarage Farm Nurseries at Osterley, which gives plenty of scope to exercise his skill at propagating and growing.

THOUGHTS ON CHANGING LEISURE PATTERNS

By Graham Burgess

One thing that strikes me as I write the Obituaries is that the sort of enthusiasm needed to do good work has not changed, but as you will all see there has been some change in the origin of much of the finance.

The large colonial gardens are not what they were, the career paths in these areas are very few, and trodden by only a few Kewites now. The old training grounds, the large private gardens are gone, except where the National Trust employs its worthy skeleton crews.

The baton has been taken over in part by large companies and we have what I call Company Leisure. The most comprehensive system is that owned by my last employers but I know of at least one other Kewite who is in the business. That garden is owned by the National Westminster Bank so finance we hope will not be a problem with them for some time to come. They have, incidentally, a marvellous collection of variegated plants.

The interesting thing is that the people who are providing leisure of this sort developed it because at sometime a man at the top was mad keen on gardening. We have never really tried to exploit this market by selling our unique sort of product to those who do not know what they are missing. The micro chip will give more people more time for leisure and it is a challenge to us to satisfy folk in ways slightly less Orwellian than computerised TV games. If anyone knows of any interesting Company Leisure Schemes I will be pleased to hear of them.

A NEEDED AMENITY — CAN YOU HELP?

By L. A. Pemberton (Supervisor of Studies, R.B.G., Kew)

DO YOU REMEMBER when you were a student and were worried and puzzled about such matters as Tender documents, specifications, Bills of Quantity, contractual documents . . . Well today's students find such matters equally puzzling. However, I am trying to remedy the situation by building up a collection of up-to-date examples. To do this I need the help of our past students, who now are familiar with and indeed are regularly producing such documents. If anybody has such documents available to send me for the students' use then I would be very grateful and I am sure your efforts would be most worthwhile.

When I was at the R.B.G. Edinburgh last year I noticed that they already had such a collection and I hope we shall have ours very soon—

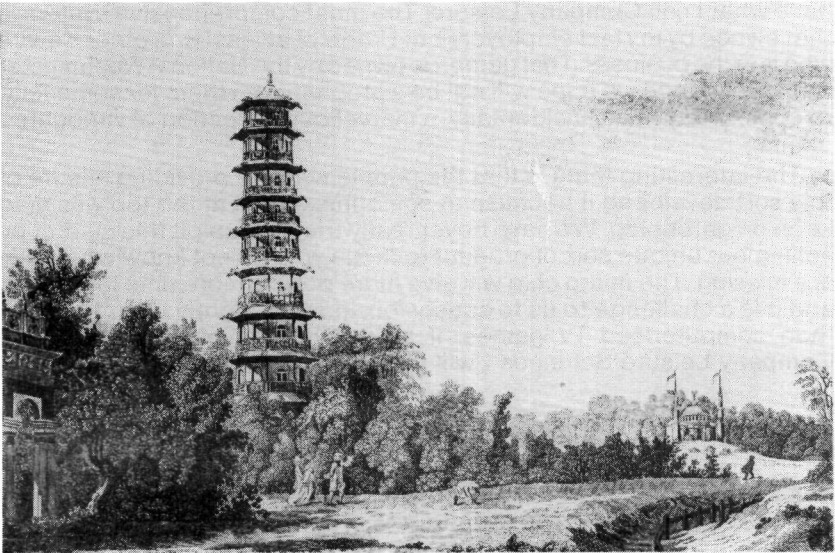
I already have a few but many more are needed. Any suggestions/ideas from Guild members would be much appreciated.

GUILD CHRISTMAS CARDS

Following an idea of the Editor, and agreement by the Committee, your Secretary put in a lot of hard work and produced 5,000 cards ready to sell in early winter 1979. Financially the idea has already paid off. Remaining cards are on sale at The Orangery at 8p with envelope, or 7p if purchased at the Guild Dinner or A.G.M. (No postal applications).

Members may note that the cards are suitably inscribed with a description, seasonal greetings, and attributed to the Kew Guild on the reverse. They measure 4" x 5¾".

Buy yours now, they're a bargain!



The Alhambra, Pagoda and Mosque, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. 18th Century.

COPY DEADLINE

Members are reminded that written information/news/address changes/renewed membership etc. cannot be included in the Journal unless received by the Secretary/Editor by 31st December prior to Journal publication (i.e. 31.12.80 for Events of '80 Journal).

GUILD COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Your Committee met four times in 1979. Many and varied subjects were discussed with vigour. Amongst them were:

Newsletter (Kewmunication) development; Award Scheme applications; President's Jewel of Office; Guild Christmas cards; publicity leaflet; Guild archival material; use of the term Kewite; subscriptions; students' membership; Annual Dinner format; Guild allocation for students' prizes; Journal indexing.

COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT

Martin J. S. Sands, Hon. Assistant Secretary



Martin Sands first assisted with the Secretarial work of the Guild in 1967 and has continued to do so ever since, formally becoming Hon. Assistant Secretary in 1968. Born in Sheffield, he was educated at Lady Manners Grammar School, Bakewell in Derbyshire from where he came straight to Kew in 1957. During his first years as a member of the herbarium staff, he obtained an external Honours degree in Botany, attending Brunel College of Advanced Technology and later King's College, London. He is now a Senior Scientific Officer in the herbarium and has a special interest in the genus **Begonia**, especially the South East Asian species. During eight months in 1969 and 1970 he collected plants in Indonesia and Papua New Guinea and later, in 1975, he returned to Papua New Guinea to lead a Kew expedition, followed

by a period of field work in the Philippines. In 1974 he began recording notes about Kewites in a card index, which he continues to update and which provides the basis for the journal feature, '*News of Kewites at Home and Abroad*'.

KEW GUILD JOURNAL BACK NUMBERS

Year	No.	Year	No.	Year	No.	Year	No.
1894	— 4	1921	— 6	1948	— 9	1966	— 89
1896	— 4	1922	— 4	1949	— 7	1967	— 120
1897	— 1	1923	— 4	1950	— 7	1968	— 70
1904	— 4	1926	— 5	1951	— 9	1969	— 90
1905	— 5	1927	— 8	1954	— 8	1970	— 82
1906	— 3	1929	— 14	1955	— 10	1971	— 85
1908	— 4	1931	— 5	1956	— 9	1972	— 151
1913	— 4	1933	— 11	1957	— 9	1973	— 132
1914	— 6	1939-40	— 7	1958	— 9	1974	— 173
1915	— 3	1941	— 7	1959	— 12	1975	— 8
1916	— 6	1942	— 8	1960	— 21	1977	— 165
1917	— 7	1943	— 6	1961	— 20	1978	— 167
1918	— 6	1944	— 10	1963	— 27		
1919	— 6	1945	— 8	1964	— 5		
1920	— 7	1946-7	— 4	1965	— 21		

The above is a list of back numbers of the Guild Journals which are being sold to members at 10p per copy to clear stocks.

Any member wishing to purchase copies (to complete their sets) should either enclose an additional 18p per copy for (U.K.) postage or make arrangements to collect them from the Gardens. Copies may be reserved by contacting The Treasurer, Ron Rule and may also be collected at the A.G.M.

1978 ERRATA. Did you spot the mistakes in last year's Journal? Note that it was Vol. 10 (not 9), and Number 83 (not 82), and sorry about the 'Contents' Page numbering! — Editor.

BOOK REVIEW

By W. E. Storey

IN FOR A PENNY — A Prospect of Kew Gardens. Wilfred Blunt.
Hamish Hamilton £7.95

A fascinating book eminently, even compulsively, readable and splendidly illustrated; a book which anyone interested in plant lore will surely wish to have on his bookshelf. Wilfred Blunt has confined himself to the historical development of Kew Gardens over more than two centuries from private Royal domains to world famous scientific, botanic and horticultural institution. What could easily be a dry and dusty topic in less skillful hands is transformed by the author's lucid style and light touch into a series of brilliant thumb-nail sketches, warts and all, of the gallery of Royals, statesmen, famous botanists, humble gardeners and others who played leading rôles in the development saga. All spring vividly to life as the story unfolds.

Whether describing personalities or the excitement of major plant introductions such as the giant water-lily, rubber or quinine, the author

has drawn liberally from contemporary account, comment and illustration, much of it obscure and long out of print, and this adds valuable perspective to his narrative. He does not shrink from criticism where he thinks it merited, nor does he hesitate to poke gentle fun at some of the absurdities to which all great institutions are prone from time to time. His criticism, however, is never less than kind and constructive, which is a good deal more than can be said of some of the acid comments reproduced from earlier centuries.

Amidst so much excellence and meticulous research it is perhaps churlish to mention an unfortunate mis-print on p. 138 which turns a middle aged and mountainous Princess Mary Adelaide in 1879 into a buxom 14 year old, a stage which she had passed some 30 years previously. The book is generously cross-referenced and supported by many interesting and helpful footnotes. As one who owes a happy career to Kew training, I can well appreciate how much interesting material is perforce omitted or merely touched on. Even so, not one line of the book's 212 pages is in any way superfluous.

OBITUARIES

BILL JACKSON



Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Stoke-on-Trent. Not a Guild member but an old Kew student, very well known and liked by all who came in contact with him in both Staffordshire and Cheshire where as a member of the Radio Stoke quiz team his blunt, humorous replies made him very popular.

He was a wonderful man to work with, no time for any frills, straight to the point and on with the job and he was not satisfied until the job was really well done.

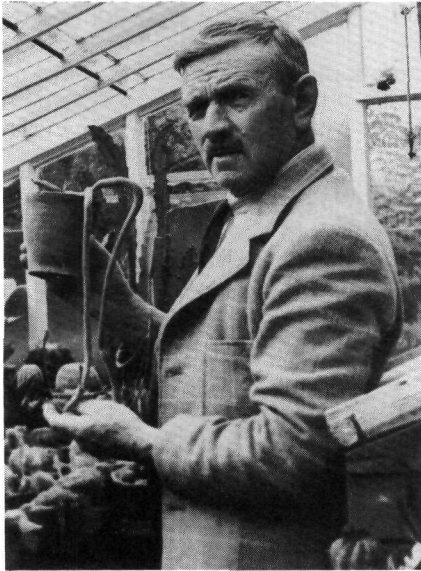
Roy K. Mowforth

ERNEST BROWN

Ernest died on 16th May, 1979 at the age of 99 years and 5 months. He was a Vice-President of the Kew Guild in 1963/65 and an account of his career, with an excellent photograph was published in the Kew

Guild Journal of 1963, (Vol. VIII, No. LXVIII, pages 266-67, photo opp. page 263).

This obituary notice was written by his son George, at one time Editor of this Journal. There were three other children, Eleanor, Marjorie and Edward. The intent is to supplement the earlier account and at the same time to give some idea of the life experienced by Kew men in those far off days.



Brown's early training was practical and thorough, first at Warlies Park, near Epping Forest — the home of the Buxton family, famous for its connection with the anti-slave movement. The move to the nearby Copped Hall followed — the home of J. Wythes Esq. and it gave Ernest his first experience of expenditure and lay-out on a vast scale. Alas, the mansion which was one of the first to have electricity installed, was burnt down through faulty wiring — it stands to this day as a burnt-out shell. There followed a period at Nostell Priory, near Wakefield, Yorkshire, now under the National Trust but then the

home of Rt. Hon. Lord St. Oswald. It was a vast garden with fruit as one of the specialities and this started Brown off on a life-long interest. The large kitchen gardens with walls which could be cavity-heated from furnaces installed at intervals stand to this day to remind one of earlier times when T. L. Allison, Esq., swept through the R.H.S. shows with his fruit exhibits.

Ernest entered Kew in 1901 where he first served in the Economic House, then taking up the Eastern Wing of the T-range but later he was transferred to the Tropical Pits. Ernest loved to talk of Kew and life in those days when Sir William Thistelton-Dyer was Director. His rule was a strict one — he recalled how one student was dismissed for coming to work in a bowler after ignoring an earlier warning. Only the Foremen and above wore these — they were a status symbol. However, it was a fair one. There was an occasion when Dallimore closed the Melon Yard gate one and a half minutes before time and this resulted in Ernest and another student being shut out. They complained to William Watson, the Curator, who immediately had the three in his office. Asking Dallimore to show his watch he found that it was one and a half minutes fast. After this Watson had a gate clock installed. Another incident concerned time while Ernest was at Kew — a student in the Palm House

turned the hose on a visitor who refused to leave at closing time — Sir William gave just the warning — “Don’t let it happen again”. William Watson was a great plantsman but was very jealous of his collections at Kew. When the great Mr. Veitch visited the houses, Watson would go through picking out the rarest plants, which the accompanying student took to hide beneath the staging. This avoided any mention of these on the list of requests which Veitch sent to the Director. Another of the many accounts Ernest related again concerned W. W., who undoubtedly made a great impression on the students and everybody else at Kew. Watson had given the order that a batch of **Begonia** ‘Gloire de Lorraine’ were to be sent to the Show House and that in future only botanical plants were to be grown in the Tropical Pits. Later he found another promising batch of this **Begonia** hybrid in the same house and in his anger he swept them from the staging onto the path.

All too soon these happy days at Kew came to an end for in most cases when the period for studentship was finished the person concerned left to make way for a new student coming in. Most of the Kew students were trained for the colonies and Sir William kept in close touch with the Colonial Office as it was then termed. He visited this establishment frequently and returned with the details of any posts which needed to be filled. In December, 1903, Ernest Brown (and also the late Archibald Brooks — 1903), were called to the office where they found the Director and the Curator waiting with the details of two posts to be filled, one in Africa and the other in the West Indies. Brown chose Africa, Brooks the latter. Without more ado, Ernest was appointed as Assistant in the Scientific and Forestry Department of Uganda and was soon on the high seas bound for Equatorial Africa. One of the first tasks which he undertook was the creation of the Botanic Gardens at Entebbe, on the shores of Lake Victoria. It was an immense undertaking, and on this project, which involved clearance of the jungle in the first place, he worked with another Kewite, Morley T. Dawe, (collector of **Pycnostachys dawei** in Uganda).

Ernest got on very well with the natives especially after he had shown them how to sharpen saws. These tools had been available to them for many years but they had not known how to sharpen and set them. For this kindness a local chief had a whole area cleared for him. However, it was as important to be able to laugh at frustrations as it is now — for example, dozens of butchers hooks were sent from England in response to his request for grass hooks. Again there was the high-ranking official who requested the planting of an avenue of the Royal Palm by the roadside into Kampala — it would have been several miles in length. The write-up when he was Vice-President gives some indication of the plants he collected and during this period Ernest mounted several major expeditions which involved official surveys. These took him round the shores of Lake Victoria and out to the lower slopes of Mt. Kenya on the east side and Mt. Ruwenzori to the west. Alas, his expeditions were not equipped or dressed for the higher regions and his shivering column returned to the steamy jungles. However, the

impressions which he gained of the wonderful flora of these two mountains brought about a return to England in 1910 where he tried, without success, to raise sufficient interest in a properly equipped expedition to these parts.

Perhaps this was fortunate, for not even Ernest, with his determination and robust health could go on for year after year under such primitive jungle conditions. He returned to Uganda to a more settled life in commercial rubber, coffee and cocoa production. He built his own house with the aid of native labour and settled down to married life with his wife Ruth — their first child was born with the nearest doctor 300 miles away. During the next few years he pioneered the production and processing of these crops in Africa and was the co-author of the book, '*Planting in Uganda*'.

However, his earlier life in the jungle had taken its toll and with repeated attacks of malaria his health failed. To cap it all, he went down with the dreaded Blackwater Fever, usually a killer, even in these days. A servant noticed him stirring after he had been given up as dead — he was astonished and remarked — "you were dead yesterday, we have dug your grave". Brown's health could obviously take no more and he returned to England in 1920 and to fruit growing in Kent. Later he retired to Cranleigh, near Guildford, Surrey where he built up a garden and a wonderful collection of Cacti and succulents. As a reminder of his African days, the genus **Euphorbia** was well presented. For a number of years he wrote a weekly article for the '*Gardeners Chronicle*' titled '*Notes from a Surrey Garden*'.

This is not, as indicated in the opening paragraphs, an obituary note in the true sense — rather it is a record of the experiences of the last of a long line of Kew men who were sent out by Sir William Thistelton-Dyer to take up, often freshly created, posts in distant parts of the Empire, when communications were slow and difficult and when little was known of the health hazards. They were very much on their own and they had to fend for themselves. Many were never to return and a glance through the obituaries in the early Journals will show this. Ernest of course, did and a few months before his death he remarked — "to my life I have had a big bonus".

When home from Uganda in 1910 he joined a party visiting Mr. L. R. Russels' Nursery at Richmond. After identifying two of the plants which were unknown seedlings Ernest remarked on a certain plant that it formed a big tree in the forest of Uganda. This was too much for Russell who wheeled round and demanded — "who the bl— hell are you?". Then the truth was out, E. Brown had collected the seed. Ernest was a modest man and he would not have otherwise told him.

G. E. Brown

MAURICE VARDY

Mr. Maurice Vardy died on November 1st 1978 aged 86 years. He

was a student at Kew during the First World War and that same war drew him away to fight in France and Palestine. Like many others at Kew he joined the Queens Westminster Rifles. On demobilisation he returned to Kew and stayed until 1920.

His father had a government post in Grenada and during 1920 Maurice Vardy and his wife joined him. Later he took up a post in Sierra Leone where he was in charge of the Fruit Experimental Station at Newton near Freetown.

His wife became very ill so they were forced to return to the United Kingdom in 1932/3. He set up a market garden which he ran until he retired at the age of 70. His wife died in 1971. Maurice Vardy was an enthusiastic Kewite and often spoke to his son of his days at Kew.

To Mr. P. A. Vardy we offer our kindest wishes.

GEORGE PRING

(See also 1974 Journal)



Most Kewites carry out very important work behind the scenes and gain local or national recognition. A few, however, through special efforts perpetuate their name. The late George Pring was one of these men. During his long career at the Morris Arboretum, a very outward looking establishment, George Pring focussed his energies on Water Lilies. He produced a number of varieties which are used widely in sub-tropical water landscaping schemes.

John Elsley, now Curator of Hardy Plants at the Missouri Botanic Garden, proudly informs us of a special tribute to George

H. Pring. A special part of the Japanese Garden on the west side of the lake is being dedicated to George and his wife Isabelle. The photograph shows George with the Water Lily '*Mrs. George H. Pring*'.

ERNEST BAKER

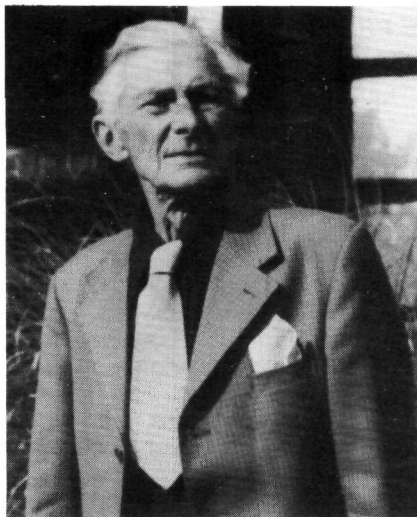
Ernest Baker passed away peacefully on November 20th 1979 at the age of 87 years. He was born in 1892 and from the age of 16 trained in all aspects of Nursery and Garden work. Like so many of the early Kewites he had his training interrupted by the Great War. He was badly

wounded in the foot and later served in Ireland. His time at Kew 1919 to 1920 influenced him greatly and from the gardens he went to Garston Manor as Estate Manager. In 1929 he became Superintendent of Open Spaces in Hackney, London, where he remained until his retirement in 1958.

Botany was a consuming interest for Ernest and he was a Fellow of both the Royal Geographical Society and the Institute of Park Administration.

To his wife Vera and his daughter and granddaughters we offer our deepest sympathy.

REGINALD FRANCIS WILLIAMS



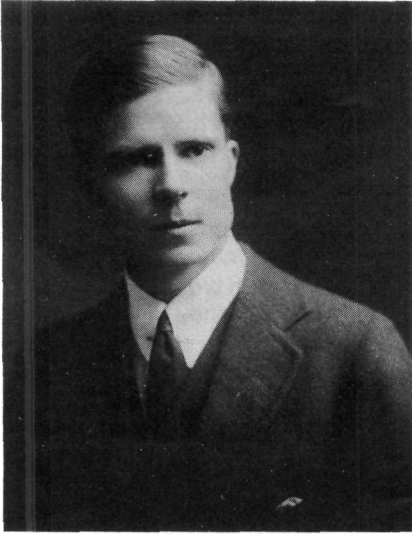
We unhappily report the recent death of Reginald Francis Williams. He joined the Ministry of Agriculture from the Royal Navy where, in the First World War, he was a paymaster Lieutenant. His Kew experience began in 1924 and though he was on the administrative side he attended lectures and gained a sound knowledge in botanical matters. He transferred from a Senior Administrative Post at Kew to the Air Ministry where he worked until he retired 22 years ago. His interest in gardening never waned nor did his enthusiasm for the Kew Guild. The photograph shows Reginald in his Hertfordshire garden in 1978.

For many years he put his administrative skills to valuable use as Secretary of the local Horticultural Society. His wife Peggie passed away three years before Mr. Williams.

To his only sister, other relations and friends we offer our kindest thoughts.

E. L. NISBETT

E. L. Nisbett was born in 1899 and died in 1977 at the age of 78 after a full and active life. He left Kew in 1925 after winning an essay competition which helped him win the post of Agriculture Officer in Sierra Leone.



The photograph shows Ennes in these early days. In 1945, the year after their marriage, his wife Joyce joined him and accompanied him on many of his tours.

Ennes was as interested in the people as in the rice crops which were his speciality and he saw the task of helping the African to make best use of his land as a sort of missionary work.

He retired in 1954 and as Treasurer of the Parish Council and active member of the local Conservative Branch in Amersham, continued with responsible work.

To his wife Joyce we offer our sincerest condolences.

ELSE JENSEN



Else was born at Sandholt Manor in Denmark on the island of Fyn on June 22nd 1905. She was of farming stock, her father was Farm Manager at the Manor. She travelled to England in 1926 to complete her training and to improve her English. It was in England that she met her husband Sven. During the war she came to Kew, drawn by her love of flowers. A friendship grew between Else and Mary Canning who later opened a flower shop. Together they put on many flower displays at exhibitions.

Else and her husband returned to Denmark in 1969 after 43 years in Britain. The photograph shows Else with her daughter. Else passed away on September 5th 1978 after a heart attack. She died amongst her friends at the Faaborg Bridge Club.

To her husband and daughter we offer our kindest thoughts.

WILLIAM C. PARMENTIER



On July 2nd 1979 William C. Parmentier's wife returned to the greenhouse where earlier she had left her husband happily watering his plants. Sadly she found that William had passed on whilst caring for his charges and in his hands he still gripped the garden syringe.

He started work as an apprentice in an Alderney Market Garden growing fruit, vegetables and flowers. He then went on to the famous Caledonia Nursery under Mr. Lloyd de Putron where he grew general nursery stock. When war broke out he was evacuated to England where Mr. Campbell, the Curator at Kew, agreed to employ him. The photograph shows William at work in the Temperate House pits.

He returned to Alderney with his wife and started a nursery and garden maintenance business. Arthritis tried to take its toll but after two successful hip operations he was able to go back to full time work in the nursery.

Mrs. Parmentier says she heard a lot about Kew from her husband and she was probably hearing some of the stories for a second time as her father worked at Kew a generation before. His first job was building stooks during haymaking in the gardens.

To Mrs. J. Parmentier we offer our sincere condolences.

OBITUARIES

We have not received replies to letters enquiring about the following deceased Kewites:

R. J. English
C. A. S. Newman

Full Obituaries of the following recently deceased Kewites will be inserted in next year's Journal as available:

Mr. W. G. Fry (1926)
Mrs. O. Davis (1922)
O. I. Carrick (1971)

We offer our condolences to their relatives and friends.

ADVERTISEMENTS

In last year's Journal, page 713, I reported that your Committee had decided to invite paid up members of the Guild to subject advertisements for future publication, and also to invite advertisers to donate to the Award Scheme.

First results have been encouraging, time spent by your Editor minimal, and goodwill and financial returns generous! So the idea will continue next year at least. All you have to do is send similar 'ads' to me, together with your donation, and I wish you luck with the publicity and goodwill obtained. (Let's hear about them!)

PETER BRIDGEMAN & ASSOCIATES

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Telephone: Whitchurch 2596

= £10.00 donated to the Award Scheme Fund.

KEEN ON PUBLICITY? Get your nursery, company, products or ideas featured in the gardening and trade press! **COLIN HART**, (Kew 1963-66), freelance journalist and broadcaster can help you with all press and publicity work. 19 RADCLIFFE AVENUE, CHADDSDEN, DERBY, DE2 6NN. (Tel: 0332 672909).

= A donation made to the Award Scheme.

LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

T. R. B. Storr, N.D.H., Dip. Hort. Kew (Hons.)

Landscape — Construction — Layout — Planting & Maintenance
11 Sheen Park Richmond Surrey TW9 1UN. Tel: 01-948 2460

= £10.00 donated to the Award Scheme Fund.

RICHARD WARD LANDSCAPING

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In between editing the Journal! Let me quote you for *all* contract landscape layouts and maintenance in the south west of London — Factories, Flats, Private, Local Authorities. General Consultancy, Representation etc.

= £10 donated to the Award Scheme Fund.

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR

1978		1979
£		£ £
	DEBIT	
	To:	
	Key Guild Journal:	
1,033.80	Printing 1978 Journal inc. blocks	1,459.80
42.00	Prizes awarded by Guild	84.00
41.20	Hon. Officers Expenses	52.82
15.00	Benevolent Payments and Wreaths	15.00
210.48	General Printing Postage Stationery etc.	282.72
—	Guild Emblems	44.87
17.95	Less purchase value of stock	29.92 14.95
	Award Scheme: Printing, Prizes, Discover	
170.14	Kew Expenses	74.12
—	Insurance	10.00
—	Guild Dinner Deficit	14.72
—	Christmas Cards at Cost	128.84
	Less purchase value of stock	109.28 19.56
4.40	Guild Tea Deficit	—
1,534.97		2,027.69
1,280.89	Excess of Income over Expenditure	1,009.43
2,815.86		3,037.12

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR

1978		1979
£		£ £
	LIABILITIES	
	Capital Fund:	
9,221.46	As per attached statement of Assets	10,238.97
	Current Liabilities:	
	Life Subscriptions:	
	52 @ £1.00 Half Rate	26.00
	58 @ £2.00 Half Rate	58.00
	68 @ £3.15 Half Rate	107.10
	5 @ £5.25	26.25
	12 No Record	—
225.43		217.35
9,446.89		10,456.32

THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1979

1978		1979	
£		£	£
	CREDIT		
	By:		
	Annual Subscriptions & Arrears	767.58	
	Donations	88.60	
	Award Scheme Donations	218.08	
1,787.26			1,074.26
	Dividends:		
	From Charities Official Investment Fund ...		
	General Fund	459.50	
	Award Scheme	172.05	
339.87			631.55
	Interest from Barclays Bank:		
	General Deposit Account	196.43	
	Award Scheme Deposit Account	90.28	
189.95			286.71
	Annual Dinner:		
	Receipts from Sale of Tickets less cost of		
	Dinner Gratuities	—	
5.80			
	Wakehurst Booklet:		
	Receipt from Sale of Booklets		841.60
239.60			
	Award Scheme Discover Kew:		
	Receipts from Sale of Tickets & Wine		
	Less cost of Food & Drink		24.55
158.29			
42.98	Sale of Emblems		71.80
52.11	Sale of Journals		47.55
—	Sale of Christmas Cards		57.00
	Kew Guild A.G.M.:		
	Receipts from Sale of Tickets		
	Less Cost of Gratuities		2.10
<u>2,815.86</u>			<u>3,037.12</u>
	Balance at 1st January 1979	9,221.46	
	Reduction on Life Subscription Liabilities	8.08	
	Add Excess Income over Expenditure	1,009.43	
		<u>10,238.97</u>	

ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1979

1978		1979	
£		£	£
	ASSETS		
	Invested Assets:		
	Charities Official Investment Fund		
	Shares at Cost: General Fund	4,000.00	
	Award Scheme Fund	2,000.00	
6,000.00			6,000.00
	Current Assets:		
	Journal Value of Stock	545.40	
	Guild Emblems Purchase Value	101.74	
	Wakehurst Booklet Purchase Value	480.60	
	Christmas Cards Purchase Value	109.28	
1,831.76			1,237.02
	Cash at Barclays Bank:		
	On General Deposit Account	1,970.64	
	On Award Scheme Deposit Account	1,062.39	
	In Current Account	186.27	
557.43			3,219.30
108.55			
<u>9,446.89</u>			<u>10,456.32</u>

Audited and found correct

Signed — T. A. Harwood
S. J. Owens

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW

SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

(31st December 1979)

This list will be printed in the Journal every second year — alternating with the Rules of the Kew Guild.

Designations and qualifications have been omitted after all names owing to the administrative difficulties in updating them.

Director: Professor J. P. M. Brenan

Deputy Director: P. S. Green

ADMINISTRATION

Secretary/Establishment Officer: S. Brookes

Higher Executive Officers: M. A. Arnold-Gilliat, Miss J. A. Collins.

Senior Personal Secretary: Miss M. P. Roberts

Personal Secretary: Miss E. M. Garner

Executive Officers:

Personnel Section: Miss M. A. Sargent

Finance: Mrs. F. Fysh

Common Services: Mrs. M. Norman

Public Relations: Miss K. Cope

HERBARIUM

Keeper (Deputy Chief Scientific Officer): P. S. Green

Deputy Keeper (Senior Principal Scientific Officer): G. Ll. Lucas

Note: The family sequence follows that of Bentham and Hooker's '*Genera Plantarum*' (1862-1883) with modifications.

Section A (Ranunculaceas — Leguminosae)

Assistant Keeper:

L. L. Forman

Research Botanist:

Dr. B. Verdcourt

Principal Scientific Officers:

Dr. R. M. Polhill

B. F. Mathew

Senior Scientific Officers:

M. J. S. Sands

Dr. C. Grey-Wilson

Scientific Officers:

Mrs. D. M. Polhill (P/T)

B. L. Stannard

G. P. Lewis

Assistant Scientific Officers:

Mrs. S. Dickerson

Miss S. Andrews

Section B (Rosaceae — Salvadoraceae)

Assistant Keeper:

C. C. Townsend

Research Botanist:

C. Jeffrey

Principal Scientific Officers:

Dr. R. M. Harley

Dr. G. E. Wickens

Senior Scientific Officer:

Dr. F. G. Davies

Higher Scientific Officer:

Mrs. D. M. Bridson

Scientific Officer:

Miss P. Halliday

Assistant Scientific Officers:

Miss C. M. Wilmot-Dear

Miss M. Bywater

Section C (Apocynaceae — Ceratophyllaceae)

Assistant Keeper: F. N. Hepper
 Research Botanist: R. D. Meikle
 Principal Scientific Officers: Dr. R. K. Brummitt
 D. Philcox
 A. Radcliffe-Smith
 Senior Scientific Officers: D. V. Field
 Mrs. S. Holmes (P/T)
 Higher Scientific Officer: Miss J. Bowden
 Scientific Officer: Mrs. G. L. R. Bromley (+ Kew Record)
 Assistant Scientific Officers: Mrs. G. S. Bidgood
 Miss J. A. Panter
 Miss S. Jellis

Section D (Hydrocharitaceae — Stangeriaceae, including Ferns, Orchids, Grasses and Gymnosperms)

Assistant Keeper: Dr. W. D. Clayton
 Principal Scientific Officers: Dr. F. M. Jarrett (Pteridophyta)
 P. G. Taylor (Orchids)
 W. Marais
 D. R. Hunt
 Miss S. S. Hooper
 Senior Scientific Officers: Dr. P. J. Cribb
 Dr. J. Dransfield
 Higher Scientific Officers: S. A. Renvoize
 Dr. T. A. Cope
 Scientific Officers: J. L. Gilbert (P/T)
 J. W. Grimes
 S. J. Mayo
 Mrs. E. J. Cowley
 J. J. Wood
 Assistant Scientific Officers: P. J. Edwards
 Miss R. A. Cross
 Miss J. M. Stephens

Mycology

Assistant Keeper: Dr. D. A. Reid
 Principal Scientific Officers: A. G. Bailey (Quarantine)
 Dr. D. N. Pegler
 Higher Scientific Officer: B. M. Spooner

Index Kewensis

Higher Scientific Officers: Mrs. J. L. M. Pinner
 Miss T. A. Bence

Palynology Unit

Principal Scientific Officer: Dr. I. K. Feguson
 Scientific Officer: Mrs. M. M. Poole

Plant Conservation Unit

Senior Principal Scientific Officer: G. L. Lucas
 Scientific Officer: Miss S. Oldfield

General Services Unit

Higher Scientific Officer: Miss I. Blewett
 Assistant Scientific Officer: Miss R. A. Davies

Gardens Taxonomist

Scientific Officer: N. P. Taylor

Kew Bulletin

Senior Scientific Officer: M. J. E. Coode
 Scientific Officer: Mrs. V. Chidzey

Liaison Officers:

Dr. A. A. Munir (Australia)
 C. Stirton (South Africa)
 Dr. Raghavan (India)

Bentham Moxon Trust

Secretary: Mrs. J. M. Brookes
 Botanist: H. K. Airy-Shaw
 Botanical Magazine: Miss C. King
 Threatened Plants Committee: A. M. H. Syngé
 Plant Quarantine: Mrs. S. Marsh

Flora of Iraq:

E. R. Guest

LIBRARY

Chief Librarian and Archivist: Miss S. Fitzgerald
 Deputy Librarian: Mrs. D. C. Scott

MUSEUMS DIVISION

Principal Scientific Officer: Miss R. C. R. Angel
 Higher Scientific Officers/Guide Lecturers: Miss L. M. Ponsonby, Mrs. J. A. Stubbs
 Information Officer/Exhibition Officer: P. Reid

JODRELL LABORATORY

Keeper. (Senior Principal Scientific Officer) Professor K. Jones

Cytogenetics Section

Senior Principal Scientific Officer: Professor K. Jones
 Principal Scientific Officer: Dr. P. E. Brandham
 Senior Scientific Officer: Dr. S. Owens
 Higher Scientific Officer: Miss C. A. Brighton
 Scientific Officers: Miss M. A. T. Johnston, Miss A. Y. Kenton

Anatomy Section

Principal Scientific Officers: Dr. D. F. Cutler, Dr. M. Y. Stant
 Senior Scientific Officer: Miss M. Gregory
 Assistant Officers: Mrs. R. M. O. Gale, Dr. P. Rudall
 Assistant Scientific Officer: P. Gasson

Biochemistry Section

Principal Scientific Officers: Dr. T. Reynolds
 Senior Scientific Officer; Dr. L. Fellows
 Assistant Scientific Officers: A. Skinner, Miss J. Dring

Workshop

Scientific Officer: Vacant

Photography

Principal Photographer: T. A. Harwood
 Senior Photographer: M. Svanderlik

Plant Physiology Section (Wakehurst Place)

Senior Principal Scientific Officer: Dr. P. A. Thompson
 Senior Scientific Officer: D. J. C. Fox
 Higher Scientific Officers: Dr. J. Dickie, R. D. Smith
 Scientific Officers: J. S. Prior, R. D. Sanderson
 Assistant Scientific Officers: Mrs. P. Newman, Miss S. M. McGrath, R. Probert

LIVING COLLECTIONS DIVISION

Curator: J. B. Simmons
 Deputy Curator: R. I. Beyer
 Clerical Assistant: Mrs. C. Hall

Planning Unit

Garden Supervisor: W. Jennison

Herbaceous Section

Assistant Curator: B. Halliwell
 Garden Supervisors: A. G. Cook (Order Beds and Rock Garden), A. Hall (Tender Alpine Plants and Herbaceous Plantings), J. Shepard (Decorative Display Unit)

Arboretum Section

Assistant Curator: C. M. Erskine
 Garden Supervisors: J. H. Mateer (Southern Unit), Mrs. A. Mayo (Northern Unit), P. G. S. Smallcombe (Western Unit)

Temperate Section

Assistant Curator: H. J. Fliegner
 Garden Supervisors: G. H. Cobham (Tender and Hardy Woody Plant Nursery), R. H. Rule (Temperate House), Mrs. R. Henderson (Palm House)

Tropical Section

Assistant Curator: J. F. Warrington
 Garden Supervisors: G. E. Nicholson (Tropical Propagation Unit), G. A. Pattison (Orchids and T-Range), C. Bailes (Tropical Plant Propagation and Display), J. R. Woodhams (Ferneries)

Services Section

Assistant Curator: S. J. Henchie
 Garden Supervisors: R. W. Howard (Tree Maintenance Unit)
 P & G Supervisors: J. Dixon (Transport), B. Oakes (Machinery Workshop)

Technical Section

Assistant Curator: D. W. H. Townsend
 Higher Scientific Officer: J. S. Keesing (Plant Reception and Despatch; Technical and Conservation Liaison; Science Support Unit)
 Garden Supervisor: Miss A. M. Chabert (Technical Propagation Unit)
 Scientific Officer: Mrs. P. Ives (Plant Records Unit)
 P & G Supervisor: Mrs. N. Bishop (Plant Records Unit)

Staff and Student Training

Supervisor of Studies: L. A. Pemberton

Garden Supervisor: A. J. Hale

Wakehurst Place

Deputy Curator: A. D. Schilling

Garden Supervisors: F. G. Greenough, D. Mason, J. Lonsdale

Higher Executive Officer: L. C. Bryenton

ADDRESS LIST OF OLD KEWITES—GUILD MEMBERS**(February 1979)**

updated by Anne Chabert, Membership Treasurer

N.B.—Designations/Abbreviations are not shown, neither are Horticultural qualifications. However the editor will be pleased to show these when individuals request it in writing.

(The names of Past Presidents are preceded by a dagger, Life members by an asterisk. The year of leaving Kew is indicated. Members currently working at Kew are asterisked on the Staff List, published biennially. By agreement with the Department of Education and Science holders of the Kew Diploma may place Dip.Hort.(Kew) after their names: this is not indicated in the following list.)

- 1973 Abrahams, M. R., Top Flat, 21 Craneswater Avenue, Southsea, Hants.
PO4 0PA.
- 1959 Adams, R., 63 Franks Avenue, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 5DD.
- 1938 *Addison, G. H., Lot 5, Owen Road, Darlington, W. Australia, 6070.
- 1957 Addison, P., 6 Walney Road, West Derby, Liverpool, L12 5EW.
- 1949 Ainslie, E., 32 Bakewell Road, Hazel Grove, Stockport, Cheshire.
- 1939 *Airey, J. E., Westmoor Gardens, Mansel Lacy, Hereford.
- 1945 *Albert, Mrs. H. (Miss H. J. Stent), 65 Summet Street, Oyster Bay, Long
N.Y., U.S.A.
- 1962 Aldous, J., Roebuck, Dolly End, Witney, Oxon.
- 1961 Allen, J., Velmead, Winsford Park, Beaworthy, Devon.
- 1945 *Ambrose, Miss R. M. (See Mrs. J. Souster).
- 1926 *Anderson, A. W., C., 324 Church Street, Timara, New Zealand.
- 1965 Anderson, G. H., B.E.M., 29 Glenwood, Harmans Water, Bracknell, Berks.
- 1947 *Armstrong, C. E., Kesteven Farm Inst., Caythorpe Court, Nr. Grantham,
Lincs.
- 1970 Armstrong, G. D., Botanic Garden of Smith College, Northampton, Mass.,
01060, U.S.A.
- 1931 *Arnold, T. A., Box 90, Bedfordview, Transvaal, S.A.
- 1944 *Ashby, Mrs. D. (F. A. Sharps), 145 High Street, Harston, Cambridge.
- 1956 Ast, R., Huobhalde 12, 6330 Cham/Switzerland.
- 1954 Attenburrow, D. T., c/o Fisons, Levington Research Inst., Ipswich, Suffolk.
- 1950 Attwood, C. A., Atlast, East Lane End, Fairmoor, Morpeth, Northumberland.
- 1910 *Aubrey, A. E., 83 Newbridge Street, Wolverhampton, Staffs.
- 1939 *Aves, J. J., P.O. Box 1454, Parks Dept., Pretoria, S.A.
- 1972 Axton, Miss M. R., 41 Wilmot Way, Banstead, Surrey.
- 1939 *Balch, R. W., East Taieri, R.D.2, Mosgeil, Otago, New Zealand.
- 1971 Bamkole, C. B., Parks & Gardens Unit, Univ. of Ife, Ile-Ife, Nigeria.
- 1962 Baren, M. E., 4 Branwell Drive, Haworth, W. Yorks.
- 1958 Barker, L. P., 29 Somerville Square, Mosspsit, Stafford, ST17 9JK.
- 1968 Barker, Mrs. D. (nee Miss P. Tietze), 41 Caxton Rd., Otley, W. Yorks,
LS21 3LL.
- 1966 Barnes, A. L., "Brandon," 35 Walton Avenue, Twyford, Adderbury, Banbury,
Oxon.
- 1960 Barnes, H. P., P.O. Box 42, Wigmore, Pennyhill Lane, West Bromwich.
- 1927 *Bassett, W. E., M.B.E., 6 Ravenswood Road, Croydon, CRO 4BL.
- 1962 Bauman, R. C., M.Sc., Box 3924, Wilmington, Delaware, U.S.A., 19807.
- 1954 Baverstock, E., 1 The Cottage, Sidcup Place, Sidcup, Kent.
- 1956 Bayliss, C., 236 Rochester Road, Gravesend, Kent.
- 1978 Beardmore, S., 48 Ladybrook Road, Bramhall Park, Bramhall, Cheshire.
- 1953 Bee, R. A., Dir. of Parks, Parks Dept., Cumberland House, Crown Square,
Manchester, M60 3BB.
- 1942 *Bell, Miss C. O. (See Mrs. C. O. Martin).
- 1963 Bell, H., 5 Grays Road, Mynydd Isa, Mold, N. Wales.

NOTES