

CAMBRIDGESHIRE GARDENS TRUST

NEWSLETTER No. 33 NOVEMBER 2012

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

This must surely be the saddest newsletter that we have had to produce. I am sure that you have all now learned of John Drake's death in September. We will all miss him enormously; his advice and friendship coupled with his dry wit and gentlemanly demeanour will mean that he is sorely missed by everyone.

John's funeral at Fen Ditton church was very widely attended and his relatives and friends made very fitting tributes to him during the service. This newsletter contains tributes from Lord Fairhaven and a letter from Charles Malyon which I think aptly express how much John contributed to the Trust and to the community. We would like to make a collection of thoughts, photographs and comments about John from the membership to publish in our next newsletter and perhaps in a small book. Please send your contributions to the address on the back of the newsletter or give them to a member of the committee at the AGM. We will have a remembrance book at the AGM for you to write in.

We also learned with sorrow of the death of a much loved and sorely missed member of the Essex Gardens Trust, Martin Wakelin. Our thoughts go to his family and members of our neighbouring Trust in what is a sad time for everyone.

We have been lucky with the weather on this year's visits and have barely got wet anywhere. We went to Titchmarsh House in April, Bulwick Hall in May, Marks Hall in June, Holme Hale Hall and Hilborough House in July, Kirtling Towers in August and Sawston Hall in September. There was a good turn out from our members on all the visits and there are articles about some of them in this newsletter. We would like to thank warmly all those who have extended their hospitality to our Trust and invited us into their gardens.

We very nearly lost one member on our visit to Hilborough House when she got locked into a private estate with no obvious way out! But luckily the gardener from Hilborough Hall phoned the gardener of the locked estate and she was released after about an hour. All I can say is 'Thank heavens for gardeners!'

For the first time this year we have planned a Christmas Lecture. It is to be held on Friday 14th December in the Rushmore Room of St Catharine's College, Cambridge. Doors open at 9:30am for a 10:00am start. The speaker will be Paula Henderson, and mince pies, Prosecco and orange juice will be served afterwards. We hope that you will all join us to celebrate the end of the year. Tickets are available from Alan Brown as usual.

The tree project has had a rather slow start, but we would like

to thank everyone who has returned tree forms. If you have filled in a form but not yet returned it, we would still like to receive it. We have held our inaugural meeting and started to sketch out how the book might look and what information will be included. We continue to seek volunteers to help with this interesting and historic project; everyone warmly welcome.

The War Memorials Trust has produced a landscape guidance booklet which is available free on their website at www.warmemorials.org/uploads/publications/359.pdf. The year 2014 will be the centenary of the First World War so the Trust is hoping that memorial landscapes all over the country will be maintained and, where necessary, restored. Do you know of a memorial landscape in Cambridgeshire that could do with a little 'tender love & care'? This online free guidance helps you to get started and guides you in what to look out for. Please let us know if you decide to start up a project in your area.

Our education programme is progressing and gaining momentum. This newsletter contains a letter from the apprentice gardener to whom we have provided a grant, thanking us for our contribution. We also sponsored a 'Grow a Rainbow' class at the Abbots Ripton show in the summer. A more detailed update on the education programme is in a later article.

We hope that on the 10th November 2012 you will enjoy our AGM, in Fen Drayton Village Hall, with a slight twist to it. There will be lunch as usual and our speaker will be Steffie Shields on 'The Artist in the Garden'. However, we have also recruited an artist in residence, Janet Edwards, to paint during the course of the afternoon, and at the end of the session we will auction the picture to raise funds for the Trust. If you have any ideas for events or outings please let us know and we will try to arrange them.

The Council of Management is looking for new members to bring fresh ideas to the Trust. If you would like to be nominated for a position on the Council, please send your details to Alan Brown at the address on the back of this newsletter. If you would like more information on what is involved in these roles then please telephone myself (01223 842348), or any Council member listed on the front of the newsletter, and we will be happy to inform, advise and discuss. We need your support so that the Trust can go forward with confidence from the wonderful launch that John has given us.

Finally, if you have any ideas for the newsletter or you would like to submit an article, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Julia Weaver, Chair.

LOUIS JOHN DRAKE, MBE, 1943–2012.

TRIBUTES FROM THE CGT PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT

Many members will already be aware of the untimely death of John Drake, the founder of the Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust and, until recently, its chairman. Below we reproduce the tribute paid to John by the CGT President, The Lord Fairhaven, at the Service of Thanksgiving for John at St Mary The Virgin, Fen Ditton on Thursday 20th September 2012.

“I would like to read to you the tribute I wrote concerning John which was sent to The Cabinet Office. I know there are several of you in the congregation this afternoon who wrote in similar vein to, I am happy to say, successfully obtain an honour for John. The only sadness is that he was denied the pleasure and fulfilment of going to Buckingham Palace to receive his MBE.

‘I write in my capacity as President of The Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust, to nominate Louis John Drake for a United Kingdom Honour. I have known John for some fourteen years since The Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust was established. County Garden Trusts were the brain child of Mrs Maldwin Drummond and were set up to record and preserve the history of important gardens within each county. The fact that the Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust has been such a success is largely due to John, as Chairman, who has shown tremendous energy and enthusiasm for the task, not to mention the endless hours he has devoted to the Trust. Without doubt his greatest achievement has been the restoration of the walled garden at Ramsey Abbey. This has been a ten year battle and many lesser mortals would have given up the unequal struggle. I quote from a recent newsletter to give some idea of what was entailed; ‘carrying out research, surveying, meetings with head teachers and various members of Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire and District Councils, obtaining a 25 year lease for a peppercorn rent to restore the garden and badgering the Councils regarding access and repairs to the walls, turning up on Saturday mornings with a team of volunteers clearing the debris in the garden, producing two detailed reports of the project, holding social evenings to raise funds for insurance, providing plants for sale. Applying successfully for funds from the Local Heritage Initiative Fund, obtaining architectural drawings, successfully obtaining plants to demonstrate the horticultural achievements in Cambridge – the list could go on for another page! A mammoth task with a successful outcome. The restored garden was officially opened in May 2010 and visitors are made very welcome.

Members of The Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust also can enjoy visiting other gardens not only within the county but also further afield. Some six or seven visits are arranged each year for members to enjoy. In addition to all this, John has written a very full history book *Wood and Ingram, A Huntingdon Nursery 1742-1950* running to some 260 pages. He has also produced a Gazetteer of the Gardens of Cambridgeshire. This has all been achieved whilst having full time employment.

In my opinion John Drake fulfils all the criteria to be considered for an Honour.”

The Lord Fairhaven

The Council of Management, Patrons and members of the Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust were very sad to hear of the death of John Drake on 3rd September 2012, aged 69 years. A few months earlier it had been planned to write of their appreciation at the news of John’s award of the MBE in the Queen’s birthday honours list for his voluntary services to horticulture. Now, in our Newsletter, we offer our appreciation with a sense of sadness but also with gratitude. A spokesman for us said, ‘As a founder member of the Trust and then as Chairman for many years, John’s contribution has been immeasurable. He will be sadly missed but fondly remembered by everyone associated with the gardens of Cambridgeshire and beyond. John was an immensely knowledgeable friend and mentor to so many of us.’

Educated at the Perse School, Cambridge and then at Fitzwilliam College, University of Cambridge, John graduated in Architecture and Fine Arts. At graduate level he went on to study garden conservation at the Architectural Association in London. Initially he worked in the Architect’s Department for Bow Council, then for Lambeth Council, where he was involved in the Coin Street Development. But John’s heart was really in the countryside, the landscape and plants.

John’s interest in plants led to his joining the Tradescant Trust from which he progressed to becoming a judge for the Royal Horticultural Society at Chelsea Flower Show and an assessor of gardens for the National Gardens Scheme in Cambridgeshire. John was a man of national importance in horticulture, and it is not surprising that his interests in rare plants, and in plants growing naturally, led him to purchase a house in Barhal, Anatolia. Here he developed friendships with the local people sharing their knowledge of their locality and offering advice when asked. Involvement in the local community was very important to John. Residing in the family home, Hardwicke House, John developed a fine garden, housing the National Collection of ‘aquilegia vulgaris’, which was recognised by the National Council for the Conservation of Plants and Gardens. Here in Fen Ditton he sang in the choir of St Mary the Virgin, gave advice on repairs to the church and on the village’s open gardens scheme, and supported its local history society. The inhabitants of Fen Ditton will miss him.

John’s commitment to his local church extended beyond the parish to other churches in Cambridgeshire. He was involved in the Quinquennial Inspection of local churches offering advice at Shelford and Dry Drayton on changes to the benefit of the local congregation, which required protracted negotiations with the Diocesan authorities. Equally he was generous with his time for other villages: in our 2001 Newsletter John wrote ‘Please contact us if your gardening club needs a speaker for a meeting and we will come.’ And he did. There were few narrow lanes or straight Fenland roads with which he was not familiar, often travelling in ill-lit autumn and winter evenings, and never a complaint.

It is, perhaps, as a Founder member of Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust and its Chairman for 15 years that John made his most lasting contribution to the county and its

countryside, which he loved. From its inception John had a clear intention: 'To conserve, enhance and recreate the historic landscape, parks and gardens that exist or may have existed in the county for the education and enjoyment of the public,' and, 'To raise public awareness and understanding of their value as part of our local and national heritage.' I recall an early meeting in the Huntingdon Record Office which set the highest standards and rigour for research. The group was confronted with terriers, estate maps, diaries and ledgers and invited to extend their appreciation of what was required of them. With John's drive and inspiration, the CGT produced Gardens of Cambridgeshire – a Gazetteer within four years of its foundation. While researching the gardens of the Parish of St Giles in Cambridge, a parish where the Fellows of Cambridge Colleges built their family houses from 1880 onwards, John described, 'looking at early aerial photographs of the city, which are just as informative as the OS maps. It is amazing how many garden buildings survive and how large plots are later subdivided and sold for new dwellings.' Despite serious illness, John was able to bring a revised second edition of our Gazetteer to the press this year. To join John in research meant trips not just to the Huntingdon and Cambridge Record Offices, but also to the Map Room of the University Library, the libraries of the Botanic Garden and of NIAB, to the Wren and Parker Libraries of Trinity and Corpus Christi Colleges and to the Cambridgeshire Collection in the City Library. In the latter, one would search for references to nurseries, bills of sale of properties and even the obituaries of gardeners and nurserymen. In 2003 John advised a small research team investigating the parks and gardens on both banks of the river Ouse from Huntingdon to St Ives and with pride he recorded, 'Helping set up a NADFAS Garden Recording Group is a first in the history of the Garden Trusts.' John's personal research came to final fruition with the publication of *The History of Wood and Ingram*. A Huntingdonshire Nursery in 2008 to national acclaim. It had begun with the discovery of the ledgers of the nursery followed by a visit, 'To trace what still remained of the nursery,' and a newspaper request producing interviews with former employees.

The opening of Ramsey Abbey Walled Kitchen Garden on 18 May 2010, after 15 years of exhausting work, was a major achievement of the CGT which owed so much to John's skilful negotiations, efforts in fund-raising and in creating a management plan for its future maintenance. In 2001 he wrote, 'We have decided to keep to an original aim to restore the garden to a period of 1850-1900. The garden will be an educational resource for all the residents of

Cambridgeshire.' Today the Garden has its own Charitable Trust. John described the undertakings which this had involved, 'Carrying out research, surveying, meetings with head teachers and various members of Cambs., Hunts. and District Councils, obtaining a 25-year lease for a peppercorn rent to restore the garden, and badgering the Councils regarding access and repairs to walls, turning up on Saturday mornings with a team of volunteers clearing the debris, holding social evenings to raise funds to pay for insurances, applying successfully for funds from the Local Heritage Initiative Fund, obtaining architectural drawings, successfully obtaining plants to demonstrate the horticultural achievements in Cambridgeshire, establishing relations with Young Offenders (to work in the garden).' The new Trust intends to plant aquilegias, a fitting memorial to his achievement.



John Drake with friends in the high pastures of the Kaçkar Mountains of Anatolia, near to the village of Barhal where he owned a cottage.

Led by John, the Trust has followed a wider remit. In the 2001 Newsletter he asked for, 'Any comment or advance news of a park or a garden under threat,' offering assistance in dealing with the planning application. The Trust has helped to list cemeteries, has responded to requests for research involving Holmewood Hall near Peterborough, and Leckhampton House in Cambridge, and has held very successful annual study days on horticultural matters. John wrote in 2009, 'For some years we

have been trying to establish a better role in education,' and the present Committee continues this work. At the last AGM, in 2011, John outlined a plan to record the major trees in the County saying, 'We will need every member to check with their parish, town or city council to find what are considered the best trees that grow locally.' Currently the CGT is trying to fulfil his wish.

No tribute to John would be complete without recognition of the pleasure and friendship afforded by some 100 visits over the years: visits for many of those years organised and arranged by John himself. A core of members attend with great enjoyment. John realised that, 'Friendships have been formed after several years of garden visiting with the Trust – such meetings in convivial surroundings are an added pleasure.'

We remember John with friendship and affection. A gentleman, a horticulturist, a countryman, a lover of the landscape and local communities of Cambridgeshire, ever generous with his time and stimulating with his ideas. The image of John, walking the lanes and fields of Fen Ditton with his black labrador, will long remain with us.

Charles Malyon, on behalf of CGT Council of Management

A FLOWERING FIRST AT CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY BOTANIC GARDEN – *EMMENOPTERYS HENRYI*.

One of the rather enigmatic trees you might find in UK plant collections is *Emmenopterys henryi*. Introduced to cultivation by the great plant hunter Ernest ‘Chinese’ Wilson, he described it as, ‘One of the most strikingly beautiful trees of the Chinese forests.’ Yet for many, including myself, this was a statement I simply could not appreciate as it has rarely flowered in this country. *Emmenopterys henryi* was introduced into UK gardens in 1907 yet it would take 80 years before this tree first flowered in 1987 at Wakehurst Place in Sussex, the satellite garden of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Apparently it bore two inflorescences right at the top of the tree and Wakehurst Place was to wait another 23 years until it flowered again in 2010. It has also flowered close by at Borde Hill in 2010, and again this year, but interestingly this

was a different tree. To the best of our knowledge this makes the Cambridge tree just the fifth to flower in the UK, with other reports in northern Europe restricted to Kalmthout Arboretum in Belgium (2009) and an apparent flowering at Glasnevin in Ireland.

Emmenopterys henryi is native to central China where it is best known from, and first found in, Hubei Province; close to the area of the Three Gorges Dam. It was discovered by the Irish plant hunter, Augustine Henry, in central China in 1887 and named in his honour. Henry was by no means the first to explore China but he is set apart by the scale of his collections whilst working for the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs Service during the last two decades of the 18th century. Of the 6000 distinct species he collected, over 1700 proved new to science. For those interested in garden history, he is equally well known for the seven-volume, *Trees of Great Britain and Ireland*, co-authored with Henry John Elwes, still one of the most authoritative and accurate guide to trees ever produced.

The generic name, *Emmenopterys*, means persistent wings, a reference to the white bracts that help highlight the

inflorescences which bear many white scented flowers up to 2 cm across. Collectively they are certainly striking in flower. It belongs to the coffee family, the Rubiaceae, an unusual woody member of the family to be found growing in temperate parts of the world. The Rubiaceae is a large family which is most diverse in warmer climates, where woody members are common, including coffee itself. In the UK you

are only likely to come across the family as the herbaceous bedstraws (*Galium* spp) including the scourge of many gardens, *Galium aparine*, commonly known as cleavers or goose grass.

The Cambridge tree can be found on the southern edge of the Humphrey Gilbert-Carter area, peeking up above the Forsythia collection with the leaning trunks of an old Judas tree, *Cercis siliquastrum*, below.

The only aspect to distinguish it from the surrounding trees are the previously distinctive bronzed-coloured new growth when it flushes in spring. I have looked each year just to check for flowers so it was a complete surprise to notice emerging buds in early August, brought into full flower by the warm weather in early September.

So the key question is why this year? It does seem to require a specific combination of cold freezing winters and hot dry summers to induce flowering, so it appears even more strange that it has flowered following a cold and wet summer. A possible explanation lies with the prolonged drought and high temperatures we experienced in the spring and early summer of 2011, combined with the recent cold winters. If this is correct, this year’s cool, wet spring and summer means the flowering won’t be repeated next year and so who knows how long we may have to wait for our tree to flower again.



Emmenopterys Henryi flowering in the Botanic Garden

Photo courtesy Tim Upson

Dr Tim Upson

Curator & Acting Director, Cambridge U. Botanic Garden

NEWS FROM

THE BORDERS



GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENT

THE GARDEN
HISTORY SOCIETY

New GHS project to harness Conservation Management Plans for historic designed landscapes

Conservation Management Plans (CMPs) have become de rigueur as a tool for ensuring informed and considered ongoing management strategies for historic designed landscapes. As it is widely accepted to be best practice to include a substantial section on a site's history and development and surviving state, CMPs form an invaluable and sizeable body of information on the UK's historic designed landscapes.

The Garden History Society is developing a project to harness this knowledge, with sponsorship from English Heritage. In the first instance we aim to produce a readily-available reference list of CMPs and related research concerning historic landscapes in the UK, including where to access them.

We would be delighted to hear from anyone with details of specific CMPs – site owners and managers, landscape architects, historians, local authorities, organisations and amenity groups.

Please send as many of the following details as possible, to cmp@gardenhistorysociety.org:

- Site name and location (including county)
- EH Register grade, if applicable
- Author/Consultants
- Date
- Title
- Purpose (e.g. Heritage Lottery Fund, Environmental Stewardship, English Heritage, Task Force Trees, planning application etc)
- Status e.g. draft, final

- Where to find a reference copy (preferably a public record office or library) and/or a web link

Additionally,

- If you are not the author/owner of the CMP, please try to obtain permission first and let us know whether this has been done.
- Please alert us if there may be copyright issues.
- Would you be interested in submitting the CMPs to the Hestercombe archive (see below)?

Examples of CMP details already received can be found at <http://www.gardenhistorysociety.org/conservation/conservation-management-plan-project/>

The list will be available online in March 2013 via the Parks & Gardens UK website, www.parksandgardens.ac.uk. We are looking at ways to keep it updated in future.

The GHS is also working closely on this project with the Hestercombe Gardens Trust, which is creating a CMP archive as a key resource for researchers and landscape consultants to be available through its Centre for Landscape Studies.

Queries about the project, and submission of details for CMPs relating to historic parks and gardens, can be directed to cmp@gardenhistorysociety.org, or you can call 07596 656 574.

Further details and project updates will be available at <http://www.gardenhistorysociety.org/conservation/conservation-management-plan-project/>.

The Garden History Society

REQUEST FOR E-MAIL ADDRESSES

From time to time, the Council of Management receives requests from related organisations to carry announcements, such as the one above. The Council would like to circulate time-critical information of interest to members in electronic form by an e-mail instead of in the biannual newsletter. If you have an e-mail address and you

are willing to receive occasional information and news updates, please be so kind as to send an e-mail to the Newsletter Editor, Phil Christie, at his e-mail address: phil.christie@ntlworld.com. Please include your name as well as your e-mail address.

Phil Christie, CGT Newsletter Editor

A NEW GARDEN FOR SCHLUMBERGER CAMBRIDGE RESEARCH. 14 MAY 2012

The Schlumberger building in Cambridge, situated on the western outskirts of the city, was built in 1985. It was designed by Michael Hopkins, architects, and has become one of the iconic, landmark buildings of Cambridge – this is no mean feat in a city brim-full of historic buildings and award-winning modern architecture.

At the Schlumberger research centre in Cambridge more than 100 scientists and technicians are engaged in fundamental research into measurements and processes to find, and then safely extract, hydrocarbons trapped within the earth's rocks. New technologies are needed, both to locate and produce oil and gas reserves which are increasingly difficult to access, and also to dispose of unwanted carbon dioxide in geological storage sites. Research focuses on drilling, chemistry, fluid mechanics, and seismics through a combination of theory, experiment, and computational simulation. Hopkins' original design had to satisfy the functional requirements for the large-scale experimental equipment as well as provide a stimulating intellectual environment for the scientists. A roof of Teflon-coated glass fibre (Figure 1), suspended from a cat's cradle of steel cables and masts, covers the main areas for the drilling-rig test station, workshops and the social space known as the 'winter garden'. Two rows of glass-walled offices run parallel to each other and border these central spaces. The overall effect is of a giant beetle – the three sections of the marquee-like roof forming the segments of its body, and the suspending poles and wires being its various legs and antennae. When lit up from inside at night, the glowing carapace suggests an alien life-form. Hopkins' tent is a remarkable building.

Phase 2 of the building, also designed by Hopkins, was completed in 1992. It is a two-storey, jettied, flat-roofed



Figure 1. The south side of Hopkins' canopied Phase 1 at Schlumberger Cambridge Research, viewed at night from the jettied crossing of the Phase 2 building. The 50 m paved broadwalk has grass on left and right extending to the illuminated wings of the Phase 1 building. The grassed space between the two structures, partly enclosed, will become the new garden.

construction, completely separate from the 1985 structure and forms the new entrance with reception atrium. While there are canopied features in Phase 2, together with similar glass-walled offices, to link the structures stylistically, there is no roof covering the 50 yard broadwalk between the two buildings – so umbrellas are on hand at both doorways, a cost-effective, environmentally-friendly solution.

When Schlumberger first came to Cambridge it enjoyed glorious, distinctive isolation at High Cross. It was close to the M11 motorway, opened only 5 years earlier, but was many fields away from the city; today the West Cambridge Science and Development Park is lapping at Schlumberger's boundaries and barely one field remains between them. High Cross is a very exposed site and the surrounding native trees and hedges do little to soften the wind which can be piercing in winter and was certainly keen for our visit. It is also plagued with rabbits, their population density probably increasing at High Cross as new science laboratories are built on their old fields. It is in this perhaps unpromising setting that Schlumberger have commissioned a new garden.

In spring the company generously invited the HDFAS Garden Study Group to view the garden's progress. We came on a cold, wet, windy day in May and received a very warm welcome; we felt enormously privileged to be shown around the building and have its work explained. It was a place full of quiet earnestness of purpose, and we admired machinery, whose scale and scope of use we could barely grasp. We were impressed by the quality of the working environment that Hopkins had provided in his design – from the aesthetics of colour by stipulating specific (and astonishingly expensive) red or black chairs, to the regular form of personal offices with carefully detailed fittings and, in particular, the attractive space of the winter garden which enjoyed height and natural light from the fabric roof. Fittingly for a research centre, new architectural technology and materials had been combined to produce a stimulating, yet personal, environment.

Before we ventured outside to brave the weather, we heard about the evolution of the landscaping which culminated in the new garden. After Phase 2 of the building was erected, a fairly simple planting had been undertaken between the two parts (Figure 2). This had largely comprised grassed areas with banks of lavender around the edges of the buildings, and tall hedges of leylandii to the east and west (Figure 3) to enclose the central space separating the two phases of the building. There were pebble edges to the central path and some tall, narrow containers with box balls by the doorways. The minimalist landscaping had been in place from the opening of the Phase 2 building in 1992 until 2011 when the incoming lab director, Dr Simon Bittleston, had decided it was time to redevelop the space between the two buildings in a design which was intended to combine the sense of a court or quad, in the Oxbridge tradition, with something that was both outward-looking and less formal than a cloister through the use of imaginative, informal



Figure 2. The grassed area beside the broadwalk, edged in lavender and flint pebbles, prior to redevelopment

planting schemes. In 2011 Roger Harvey of Harvey's Garden Plants of Bury St Edmunds was commissioned to design and plant a new garden for the central area between the two buildings, and also for the car park entrance at the front. The brief was given to Harveys, as an alternative to Hopkins, because Dr Bittleston had seen Roger's work before and felt that a plantsman, rather than a 'landscape designer' was required and that a local person was essential because of Cambridge's arid climate (notwithstanding the deluge of summer 2012). The garden had to sit well with the existing buildings and yet soften them.

Roger Harvey himself joined us for lunch in the Schlumberger winter garden cafeteria and briefed us on his ideas for the project prior to leading us around the new garden. Roger felt a good approach was to avoid reflecting the minimalist style of the building and to adopt a more relaxed, informal 'flowing' design in the modern 'prairie' style of planting. Roger advocated grasses and tall perennials with a succession of flowering times. Small trees would give height and dappled shade, but he avoided any with fruits that could cause the roof to be stained with bird droppings (a wise choice given the cost of engaging steeplejacks to clean the canopy). In consultation with Simon, Roger outlined a design where he retained the central path and then created an axis at 90° with a water sculpture on one side and an armillary sphere on the other. The leylandii hedges were retained but gateways were cut in their middle (Figure 3) so as to afford views to the countryside beyond, avoiding the cloistered effect. The rest of the old garden was dug up, an irrigation system installed, hard landscaping put down, the soil improved and then planting begun in November 2011 (Figure 4). Despite the lateness of the season, the mild, damp autumn allowed for much work to be done and the plants to get a good growing start but, after Christmas, a severe winter spell was followed by a long, cold, dry spring which culminated in a hot dry spell at the end of March. To make



Figure 3. West view of leylandii hedge with rough grass and lavender edging, prior to redevelopment. A first cut has been made in the hedge.

matters worse, hordes of hungry rabbits had invaded and, despite fencing reinforcements, they were still on the attack.

The HDFAS group is extremely hardy; we were as undeterred by these initial hiccups in the formation of the new garden as by the Siberian gale whipping around us.



Figure 4. The area of Figure 3 destined to become the west transept of the garden. The soil has been improved, the gravelled pathways laid and planting is under way by Harveys.

Gardening in Cambridgeshire demands perseverance and we were confident that Roger Harvey and Schlumberger would succeed – after all, 5 months was no time at all in the development of a garden. We saw great success in the design and planting of the entrance and car park areas where raised beds had been created with wooden sleepers and a mixture of shrubs and perennials planted. The rabbits had also swept in here, but their assault on the raised beds had been smartly curtailed by rigid wire fencing around the tops of the beds; these structures looked very effective and gave a surprising bonus of extra definition to the design (Figure 5).

Roger Harvey clearly knows his plants – a gold medal

winner at Chelsea in 2006-9 and 2012 (following our visit), amongst many other honours – and we admired his variety and combinations of plants and shrubs in the Schlumberger



Figure 5. Roger Harvey and NADFAS group members inspect the planting in the front car park now protected by wire from marauding rabbits.

scheme. We seriously envied many of them for our own gardens. It will be interesting to see them in a second or third season when they fill their spaces in the Schlumberger garden. They will undoubtedly make a lovely garden – but, and here we maintain a serious caveat, we retain an open mind as to whether it will be the right garden for the centre.

As we returned home, we discussed what we might or might not have done had we been given the design brief. Firstly, we noted, Schlumberger already has a ‘garden’ that accommodates the dining room, library and seating areas for informal meetings and relaxation; this, the winter garden – or to be more precise, the indoor year-round garden – has a gentle ambience with generous space, diffuse natural light and intimate acoustics amongst tree-height plantings of palms and creepers, etc. It functions successfully as both a communal and an informal area (Figure 6). Does Schlumberger need another garden and if so what functions should it serve? While admittedly our ideas were forged in the unnaturally cold, wet and windy mid-May day of our visit, we agreed that the space between the two buildings would be enhanced by a garden but, on the day, we wondered if a garden in this space might largely be used for looking at



Figure 6. Planted winter garden under the canopy of the Phase 1 building provides ambience for both library and cafeteria.

rather than being in – staff will travel the pathway between the buildings, but might spend little time sitting in the garden other than during lunch breaks on the relatively few balmy days that the weather affords High Cross. Thus there may be a dichotomy between the garden’s role as a place for the enjoyment of plants, and a landscape that exists to define space, link the two buildings and complement their architecture; essentially in Cambridge terms, the function of a court (Figure 7).



Figure 7. The new garden a few weeks prior to the NADFAS visit. Planting is complete and spring flowering is under way with daffodils and cherry blossom. The broadwalk lines are broken by two pairs of gravel beds planted with thymes. The east-west transepts feature limestone chipping walkways, seating and focal points.

The latter role might have resulted in a more geometric design reflecting the structure of the buildings and the austere lines of Hopkins’ creations; a design based on the premise of purely visual appreciation. Such a scheme might have had glass panels instead of the leylandii hedges to enclose and shelter the court while maintaining views beyond. Whilst retaining the rest of the main structure and layout – the central path, transecting paths, the seating and the two sculptures – the area might have been delineated with clean lines of yew hedges, lawn and just one variety of small tree, perhaps birch or amelanchier as planted. Such an arrangement would have had parallels with the elegant garden in front of the Judge Institute in Trumpington Street, Cambridge; there the garden space has a strong structure that ties in with the important architecture.

Instead, the Schlumberger garden has eschewed pure architecture in favour of hedonism, based on the premise that people will use the space in the manner of a college garden, for stimulation of the visual and olfactory senses and thereby the communication of ideas. Our concerns have been allayed because, despite the slow start to a poor summer the new garden at Schlumberger has grown and blossomed. Even though this is its first season, colour and texture have seamlessly blended from month to month, fulfilling Roger’s design of sequential flowerings, providing a delight to the eye and a pause for enjoyment. The broadwalk gravels have almost disappeared beneath the cover of varieties of thyme, helping to break up the runway effect of the broadwalk, and the garden is indeed bringing the two buildings closer together (Figure 8). Most of the garden is sheltered, with the area between the wings of the



Figure 8. The garden in mid-September. Growth and colour fill the spaces and cover the planted gravels, helping to link the buildings and delineate the walkways. Compare with Figures 2, 3 & 7.

canopied building protected on three sides, south-facing and a veritable sun-trap which people enjoy on any day when there is a hint of sunshine. It also transpires that the garden we saw is but the first step on a journey to complement the internal winter garden within a room, by external rooms within a garden. Especially in the transept areas, the quality seating will afford space and seclusion to stimulate informal meetings and discussions, much as a collegiate Fellows' garden would do. Even the Information Technology group seeks to escape the confines of the air-conditioned computer room to hold group meetings in an external seminar area to be located beyond the present gap in the leylandii, perhaps with its own private garden. Little by little, the garden will progress each year both to provide more distant focal points along the east-west transept and to develop arboreal landscaping along the boundaries of the property.



Figure 9. Double rows of raised planters, separated by gravel in the front car park

As it takes shape we wonder how the researchers will evaluate it. Theories and analysis of garden design aside, it is Schlumberger's garden - and if they like it, use and enjoy it, then Roger Harvey will have executed a triumphal implementation of the vision entrusted in him by the lab management. Again, the Garden Group thank Simon and his team for being such excellent and generous hosts and venture to hope for a second visit in a year's time to see the outcome.

FEATURES AND PLANTING

The whole site has open fencing, shrubs and fresh hedging around the grassed perimeter, adjoining a field to the east and native hedging on the north, west and southern boundaries. The building entrance is via a car-park surrounded by a mature beech hedge of approximately 8 feet high. Two double rows of large wooden planters, separated by gravel paths (Figure 9), divide the parking area into three double-bay areas, giving the perception of a garden made for cars and bicycles.

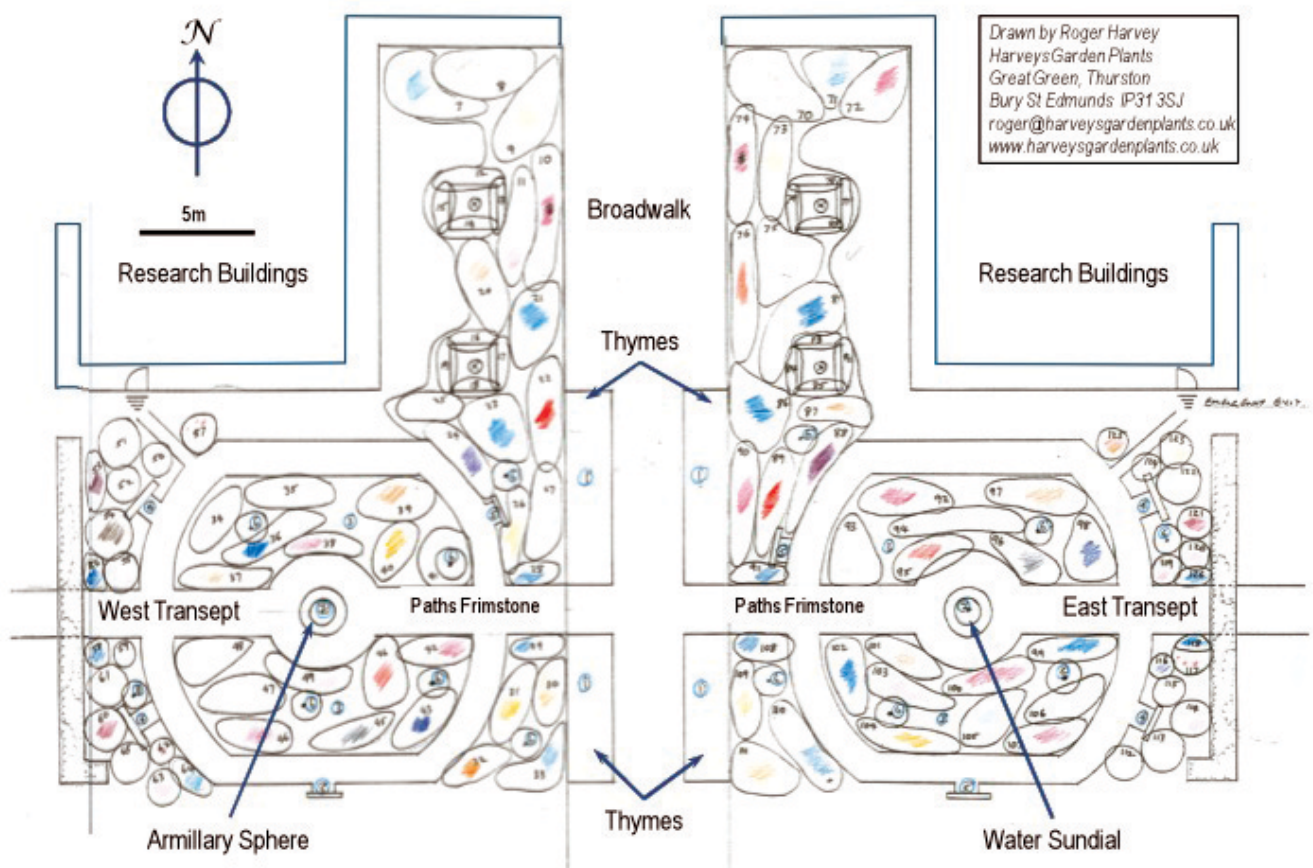


Figure 10. Sketch map of the courtyard garden, as drawn by Roger Harvey.

Re-constituted, light-grey stone squares have been used for all the main paths and steps. Large flint pebble stones and paths form edges close to all the buildings. From the car park, broad paving leads into the glass-fronted reception area from which paving again leads out into the large courtyard garden, with a wide broadwalk linking the two main buildings (see Figure 10 for sketch map of courtyard garden).



Figure 11. Armillary sphere in the west transept



Figure 12. Water feature sundial in the east transept



Figure 13. Looking west along the transept with the jettied Phase 2 building on the left. Curved benches offer discussion opportunities with visual appeal from sculptures and planting. The western arch frames the armillary sphere.

Four gravel borders, planted with thymes, have replaced parts of the north-south broadwalk (Figure 8). In between these borders, paths laid with limestone chippings lead into wide circles forming transepts to east and west, and flow out towards archways set into tall leylandii hedges, giving glimpses of open grass beyond. In the middle of the circular paths to each side are individual sculptural sundials mounted on plinths of natural stone and stainless steel.

Membranes and an irrigation system have been laid under all the gravel paths and flower borders which have been created with new topsoil. Small sections of the original lavender hedge surrounds remain.

Sculptures

There are two sculptured features, both sundials but of differing character, one in each of the transept areas off the main walkway, and made by David Harber (Figures 11 & 12). The eastern sundial is in the form of a dynamic water feature. A large stainless steel cylinder, filled with black pebbles supports a stainless steel chalice containing an inscribed inner hemisphere with a vertical gnomon in its centre. Water, swirling around the perimeter of the hemispheres, overflows into the cylinder. In the centre of the western transept the armillary sundial combines sculptural art with precision engineering and takes the form of a cut out stainless steel globe supported by a waisted stone plinth, with an arrow forming the dial. Compass points of various cities of the world are marked on the globe.

Seating

Each side area of the walkway provides seating for relaxation and discussion, with curved oak benches made by Gaze Burvill, placed so that staff might enjoy the colours and scents of the area planting.

Arches

The two transepts are bordered by tall leylandii hedges which have central arched openings to take the eye to the views beyond. These openings are defined by stainless steel metal arches (Figure 13) which are perforated to reflect the work done at Schlumberger.

Planting design and plants.

The space between the buildings formerly comprised a green area edged with lavender and flint pebbles. The buildings are relatively austere so the aim was to create a relaxed environment with generous areas of hard landscaping and seating to create a welcome and colourful place for the staff to rest in their free time or to meet and discuss in an informal but stimulating ambience. Fluid planting contrasts with the building and helps soften the austerity.

Two different styles are evident within the reconstructed area between the buildings; these are the north-south walkway, that links the two buildings, and the two transepts. The latter are covered with limestone chippings between the plantings and display two substantial sculpture features (Figures 11–13).

Since the planting began in Autumn 2011, there have been challenges with the weather and wildlife. This has affected the growth of plants, slowing the expected progress but the planting is establishing well and providing continuous colour and interest throughout the year (Figure 8).



Figure 14. The car park entrance bed, planted for colour from early spring onwards, behind the anti-rabbit barricade.

The transepts

Planting here consists of specimen trees under-planted with shrubs which are grouped usually in fives or sevens. These were chosen to be highly scented near the seating areas and are in turn surrounded by herbaceous and grass groupings, usually in drifts of between nine to seventeen plants.

The trees were chosen to be reasonably small and slow-growing, providing dappled shade and flowerings at different times. It was important that their fruits were not too attractive to birds with the resulting potential to cause staining to the adjacent translucent roofing structures. Amongst the tree selection are *Amelanchier* 'Robin Hill'; *Malus* 'Red Sentinel' and *Prunus* 'Amanogawa'.

The shrubs chosen include: *Abelia grandiflora*; *Caryopteris* 'Heavenly Blue'; *Cornus* 'Mid Winter Fire'; *Lonicera fragrantissima*; *Nandina domestica*; *Osmanthus burkwoodii*; *Perovskia* 'Blue Spire'; *Philadelphus* 'Belle Etoile'; *Syringa* Josee; several varieties of *Viburnum*; and many others.

Perennials include: *Aster x frikartii* 'Mönch', *Asters* *amellus* 'King George' and *lateriflorus horizontalis*; *Cephalaria gigantea*; *Eryngium*; *Euphorbia*; *Hellebore*; *Penstemon*; *Phlomis*; *Rudbeckia*; *Valeriana officinalis*.



Figure 15. Boundary planting with trees and hedging.

The broadwalk

Running between the buildings, the broadwalk is softened for half of its length by thyme beds that are planted with a mix of creeping varieties and covered with fine gravel (Figure 8). These provide a succession of colour to edge the walkway and break up the large expanse of paving whilst allowing for occasional footfall without damage.

There are wide beds between the main walkway and a grassy area nearer the buildings. These beds are planted in a more relaxed fashion following the modern trend of 'prairie planting' and whilst they are not mirror plantings, they reflect the same style on both sides. The beds in this area are not topped with gravel or chippings; it is intended that the plants will spread to cover the surface and thereby reduce weeding maintenance.

There is a mix of herbaceous perennials, grasses and bulbs – all are chosen for a long season of colour. Daffodils, tulips, alliums and agapanthus are already planted and snowdrops will be added for next year.

Perennials

These are planted to give a more varied effect than in the side beds and are frequently interspersed with grasses and bulbs. The colours chosen are muted with soft shades rather than hot colours such as orange, although yellow is included in spring with the daffodils.

Grasses

Stipa gigantea and *Calamagrostis x acutiflora* 'Overdam' provide height and movement above the otherwise fairly uniform plantings since they will eventually reach six feet high.

In front of the building

A series of raised beds is interspersed through the car park to form barriers and edges to parking areas. Each bed contains a tree though the position within each planter varies to avoid a regimented overall effect. The beds also contain low-growing shrubs – *Cornus* 'midwinter fire' was very effective – plus perennials to give interest all year round. The smaller perennials are generally planted in groups of nine to eleven though the largest plants, such as *Agapanthus*, tended towards smaller groupings of about seven. The beds on either side of the car park entrance have similarly been planted for colour from early spring onwards (Figure 14). Perennials planted include *Agapanthus*; *Artemisia*; *Dicentra*; *Eryngium*; *Hellebore*; *Heuchera*; *Geranium*; *Penstemon*; *Sedum*; *Trifolium*.

Surrounding areas

These are being developed with more plantings of native trees and shrubs for wildlife and to help accommodate the buildings within the landscape. The eastern boundary is laid to new hedge with semi-circular islands of trees, under-planted for ground cover (Figure 15).

Acknowledgements

We thank Dr Simon Bittleston, Managing Director, for kindly arranging our visit and for permission to publish this account. We also thank Roger Harvey of Harvey's Garden Plants, Great Green, Thurston, Bury St Edmunds IP31 3SJ for his time in guiding the group around the new garden. Harvey's Garden Plants can be found at www.harveysgardenplants.co.uk

Bridget Flanagan, Veronica Angus, Linda Burwood,
Judith Christie, Pam Dearlove, Sue Fawcett, Valerie Gentry,
Val Harrison, Vivien Hoar, Pat Spencer & Valerie Temple.
Huntingdon DFAS Gardens Group.

RAMSEY ABBEY WALLED KITCHEN GARDEN UPDATE

The Ramsey Walled Garden continues to progress. This is our third year of Sunday afternoon openings which have proved popular, with some people visiting most weeks to buy their fruit and vegetables. Last year we had a total of 1850 visits and this year we have had 1150 visitors by the end of September. In the 2011 financial year we raised enough money from the sale of produce to cover our running costs. This means that the proceeds from other fund raising activities can be used for additional features. We continued to have the support of the Probation Service through Community Payback who attended about once a month over the year. They do much of the heavy work and we are most grateful for their contribution.



Figure 1. New summerhouse at Ramsey Abbey walled garden.

Since our last newsletter item we have constructed two 10m long cold frames using reclaimed Warboys white bricks. These have been very helpful as it now means that plants can be hardened off in the garden rather than cluttering up volunteers' own greenhouses. We purchased a beautiful summer house with a 50% grant from the Fen Adventurers fund (Fig. 1). This summerhouse has been a great improvement for volunteers 'on duty' on a wet Sunday afternoon – previously there was no shelter at all.

The garden is now almost all in cultivation. Productivity is high, reflecting the many years that the ground lay fallow. Our current practice is to restore fertility using organic material from our three large compost heaps, enriched by horse manure donated by two local horse owners. We had good crops of soft fruit, currants in particular, and the new

fruit trees are beginning to crop (Fig. 2). This year, growing conditions have been rather trying with early drought and then a great deal of rain. We have felt that we have been 'fire-fighting' to keep on top of the weeds. Potatoes and tomatoes both suffered from blight but other crops such as root crops and beans, after a slow start, have been prolific.

In 2011, a scarecrow competition, sponsored by the Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust, was held between local primary schools. Some wonderful entries were received with winning scarecrows from Spinning Infants in Ramsey and Earith Primary School. The scarecrows graced the garden throughout the summer.

This year we have started planting herbaceous borders and cut flower beds. We have had a magnificent display of dahlias, donated by a local dahlia expert. We have recently



Figure 2. Fruit on the young apple trees.

been given a collection of hardy geraniums, donated by a local gardener, who sadly was unable to maintain his collection. It was a great comfort to him that the Walled Garden was there to be able to adopt and conserve his collection.

Finally, it was a great shock and sadness to all involved in the Ramsey Walled Garden to hear of John Drake's death. As we all know, the garden was very important to John and the trustees and volunteers will do all we can to keep the garden flourishing and progressing over the years as our tribute to his memory.

Jane Sills.

VISIT TO SAWSTON HALL AND GARDENS

Thirty members of the Trust visited the Hall on a fine afternoon in September 2012.

The history of Sawston manor goes back to the 14th century when it was purchased by Sir Edmund de la Pole and it remained in the hands of his descendants until 1982. The estate was inherited in 1502 by Lady Neville who married William Huddleston. Since that time it stayed in the Huddleston family until the 1980's. The original manor house was burnt down by Protestant enemies of Mary Tudor in 1553, after Mary had sheltered in the house. The Huddlestons were staunch Catholics and knew the risks. Mary left the manor disguised as a market woman. Her enemies, angered at not finding her, set light to the manor. Mary's response was, "I will build the Huddlestons a better Hall". The present Hall, which was re-built between 1557-1584, is proof she redeemed her promise. Surplus stone ordered to mend the walls of Cambridge Castle was authorised by Mary to re-build Sawston Hall, and Emmanuel College and Magdalene College besides.

When death duties forced the family to sell the Hall in 1982, it became used as a language school until 2002, since when it has remained empty. The present owner bought the Hall two years ago, and has worked very hard to restore it, turning it back into a private house. The house is Grade I listed, with mullioned windows and fascinating Elizabethan chimneys. Restoration work is being carried out on the gardens which are already beginning to take shape with Richard Ayres providing advice and guidance.

The grounds extend to some 60 acres and include a number of naturally fed springs, woodland walks, a half moat and a number of smaller landscaped gardens. On our visit there were two very splendid herbaceous borders of perennials and dahlias. The large dahlia bed I thought

reminiscent of Anglesey Abbey. In the region of 200 trees have been planted, and the wet spring this year has encouraged their growth.

Between the house and moat there are hedged enclosures and, beyond, an extensive woodland area. There is a series of ponds, possibly contemporary with the house, which are supplied with water from several wells and underground springs that are also being renovated.

Some areas were rather muddy, so we kept to the woodland paths, avoiding areas where restoration work was under way. Part of the grounds have been designated a site of Special Scientific Interest because of the presence of Cambridge Milk Parsley, a rare plant in the UK.

We did not visit the interior of the house as there was ongoing repair work. Furthermore the owner was not yet resident, but plans to be in the near future.

The Manor house was originally set in grounds and woodlands. In the late 16th century, elaborate gardens were laid out around the Hall. Evidence of their design was inferred from parched marks on the lawns seen in an aerial photograph. These suggested geometric planted compartments separated by straight paths on a grand scale, with a raised terrace walk aligned to the north front of the Hall. The grounds were re-designed in the 19th century but today there is a more simplified layout with formal lawns, a picturesque moat, yew hedges, specimen trees and woodlands.

It was exciting to be able to see the Hall entering a new stage, and the keen interest being taken in researching and replanting the gardens, enhancing the structure and the layout established in previous centuries.

JMK & MW

BOOK REVIEW:

WOOD & INGRAM A HUNTINGDONSHIRE NURSERY 1742-1950 BY JOHN DRAKE

PUBLISHED BY CAMBRIDGESHIRE GARDENS TRUST

This book sets out to give a comprehensive account of the history and impact of a remarkable nursery in Huntingdonshire. Wood & Ingram was exceptional in having a surviving set of archival material, including ledgers, diaries and letters which John Drake has used to great advantage. The book gives a unique insight into the burgeoning world of horticulture during this period, the people who were its customers and the plants which they purchased. There is much to satisfy the local historian, plantsman, garden and landscape researcher and the ordinary gardener like myself; all will marvel at the hidden treasures to be found within these pages.

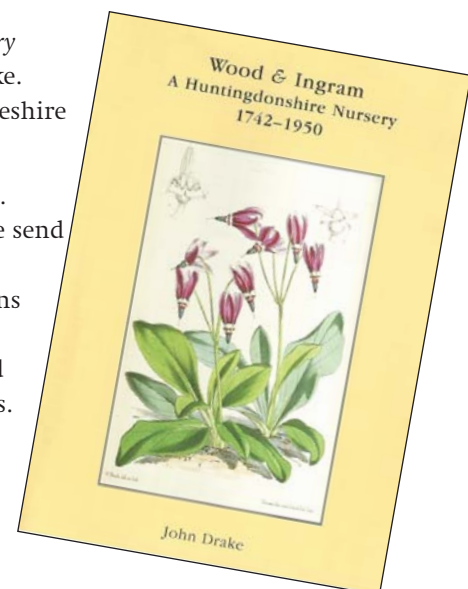
The book is a fitting tribute to John Drake and his painstaking work for horticultural and garden history. He will be sadly missed but will continue to have a presence through this book.

Pam Sneath.

Wood & Ingram:

*A Huntingdonshire Nursery
1742-1950. By John Drake.
260pp. Illus. Cambridgeshire
Gardens Trust.*

ISBN 978-0-9538542-1-9.
£14.00 incl. p&p. Please send
cheques payable to
Cambridgeshire Gardens
Trust to Foxhollow,
239 High Street, Offord
Cluny, St. Neots, Cambs.
PE19 5RT.



THE CGT EDUCATION PROGRAMME

October 2012

In September 2010 CGT started its five year education programme, so how are we doing after two years? First of all, here is a summary of the five programmes.

1. CGT Little Seedlings

Formed for Primary School children aged 4–12 years; this programme is a cash grant for education-related activities in horticulture or arboriculture and will be administered via Schools.

2. CGT Bright Futures

Formed for Middle School children aged 12–16 in three parts.

- i. Sponsorship of an agricultural class at the County Show at Wimpole Hall run by Young Farmers.
- ii. Sponsorship of a botanical event at the Cambridge University Science Week.
- iii. A Scarecrow Competition held each year in open gardens.

3. CGT Research Grant

Formed for Further Education students over 18 studying Garden History related subjects in Cambridgeshire; it is a cash grant to support a research project on a subject of CGT's choosing.

4. CGT Garden Apprentice

This is open to a person of any age group currently on a garden-related apprenticeship scheme in Cambridgeshire, offering free membership to Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust for five years and providing access to a network of people and information to support them in their careers.

5. CGT Day Lectures

A series of one-day lectures designed for over 18's; these aim to raise funds to support the other four education programmes.

For the 'Little Seedlings' this year we sponsored the 'grow a rainbow' class at the Abbots Ripton Hall garden show at the end of June. The winner of the class was the 1st Brington Scouts. The photo shows what a delightful entry it was and, very appropriately, a row of wellies!



For our 'Bright Futures' we were planning to sponsor a class at the County Show at Wimpole Hall but unfortunately the event was rained off. However, we are holding our Scarecrow competition in Wimpole Hall walled garden and prizes will be presented by Lord Fairhaven at 2:30pm on Friday 26th October. We hope you will go along and take a peek.

We are still seeking a Further Education student studying garden history in Cambridgeshire for the 'Research Grant', so please do let us know if you know of someone who might qualify.

On a garden visit last year we went to Robinson College and made contacts that have led to our providing a grant to a garden apprentice at Robinson College for the next two years. We hope that James Drummond will join us for outings and that you will welcome and share your vast knowledge of gardens, horticulture and garden history with him. He has sent a delightful letter of thanks and an account of how he has spent the grant.

'Hi, my name is James Drummond. I am seventeen years old. I have been working at Robinson College, Cambridge, for ten months as a gardening apprentice. I joined the College straight from school on a two-year contract in association with the College of West Anglia, Milton, on their Work-Based Learning Course. After CGT had a tour of the College gardens last year, and I heard about the apprenticeship scheme the College runs, the CGT was kind enough to offer sponsorship for the next two years.

I thought you might be interested to know how I have spent some of the money already. At the end of July I attended two one-day courses run by Cambridge Area Training in the use of hedge trimmers and strimmers. I found these courses very informative; they covered everything from maintenance of the machines, to health & safety, how to use them properly and, very importantly, how to clean them afterwards so that they are ready for the next person to use. The instructor even made sure we tidied the garden up properly after we had finished the practical side of the course. Both these courses were held at Robinson College which was nice for me.

I also intend to spend some of the money on the RHS Gardening Encyclopaedias. One of my work colleagues has these two books and they are excellent books. I am sure that I will be able to use them for many years to come, and they will also be a reminder to me of the very kind gesture of sponsorship from the CGT.'

*James Drummond,
31st July 2012.*

For next year's study day we have booked the same venue and caterers as before, since our study days have been so well received on previous occasions. The date for your diary next year is 23rd March 2013. The subject will be Botanical Collections and the visits throughout the year will

complement this topic. We have been lucky enough to secure a speaker from the Jodrell Laboratory, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, so we very much hope you will be able to join us.

We are now starting to organise grants for next year so if you have contacts with any of our outreach areas like schools or gardens that could benefit from the education

programme please contact Julia Weaver on 01223 842348 or julia.weaver@lizlake.com.

We are of course always ready to welcome volunteers. If you would like to help, please contact Julia Weaver as above. We look forward to hearing from you!

Julia Weaver

Activities to date

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Theme	20th Century Gardens in East Anglia	Cambridgeshire Trees	Botanical Collections	Memorial Gardens	
1. Little Seedlings	17 June: Fen Drayton Primary School Sunflower project	30 June/1 July: Abbots Ripton Hall Garden Show 'Grow a rainbow'	Northborough Primary School Garden		
2. Bright Futures	8 May: Scarecrow Competition Ramsey Walled Garden 5 June: Cambridge County Show 'Identify the Vegetable'	10 June: Cambridge County Show – <i>cancelled</i>	26 October for two weeks: Scarecrow Competition Wimpole Hall Walled Garden		
3. Research Grant					
4. Garden Apprentice		Robinson College apprentice	Robinson College apprentice		
5. Study Day Lectures	12 March: 20th Century Gardens in East Anglia	17 March: Arcadia in Arden: what future for our trees?	23 March: Botanical Collections		

Finances to date and future commitments

Programme	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
1. Little Seedlings	-£50	-£250	-£300		
2. Bright Futures	-£375	-£50	-£150		
3. Research Grant	0				
4. Garden Apprentice	0	-£300	-£300		
5. Day Lectures	+£100	+£250			
Total	-£325	-£350			

CAMBRIDGESHIRE GARDENS TRUST

2012–2013 Programme of Visits & Events

Our theme for 2013 is Botanical & Arboricultural Collections

2012

NOV	10	Sat	2:00pm	Annual General Meeting at Fen Drayton village hall. Speaker Steffie Shields on The Artist in the Garden. Lunch available from 12:30pm. No charge for members.
DEC	14	Fri	9:30 for 10:00am	Christmas Lecture in Rushmore Room, St Catharine's College, Cambridge. Speaker Paula Henderson on Gardens in Tudor and Early Stuart England. Entry £10 for all, to include a glass of Prosecco & mince pies afterwards.

2013

MARCH	23	Sat	10:15 for 10:30am	Study Day at Hemingford Abbots village hall. Speakers include Dr Peter Gasson from RBG, Kew. Members £22:50; guests £27:50 to include coffee and light lunch.
	27	Weds	2:00pm	Cow Hollow Wood, Waterbeach, Cambs. This Woodland Trust wet woodland was established in 2000.
			3:00pm	Alan Shipp Nurseries, Waterbeach. National collection of hyacinths. Tour & tea included. Members £3; guests £4, to cover both venues.
APRIL	18	Thurs	11:00am 2:00pm	Ramsey Abbey Walled Kitchen Garden & Rural Museum. Elton Hall, nr. Oundle. Tour includes Hall, garden & tea. Members £9; guests £11.
MAY	15	Weds	2:00pm	Clermont House Garden, Little Cressingham, Norfolk. Guided tour (2hrs), tea & cakes. Members £6; guests £8.
JUNE	8	Sat	1:00pm 3:30pm	Ramsey Abbey Walled Kitchen Garden: 'Poems & Peace'. An event sponsored by the National Association of Garden Trusts. In memory of the late John Drake MBE. All welcome – no charge.
	13	Thurs	2:00pm	Docwra's Manor garden, Shepreth, nr. Royston, Herts. Informal guided tour. Teas available. Members £5; guests £7.
JULY	25	Thurs	11:00am	Waterperry Gardens, near Wheatley, Oxon. Includes national collection of Saxifrages. Members £9; guests £11.
AUGUST	14	Weds	2:00pm	Abbots Ripton Hall. Guided tour of gardens & arboretum by Gavin Smith, Lord de Ramsey's Head Gardener. Members £5; guests £6.
SEPT	4	Weds	2:00pm	Pampisford Hall. Tour of gardens & arboretum. Tea & cakes included. Members £5; guests £6.
OCT	3	Thurs	2:00pm	Wimpole Hall (NT). National collection of walnut trees (and others). Guided tour with Philip Whaites, Head Gardener. Members £5; guests £6.
	26	Sat	2:00pm	Annual General Meeting at Fen Drayton village hall. Speakers to be agreed. Lunch available from 12:30pm. No charge for members.

Tickets for 2013 events will be available from January 2013 from:

Alan Brown, Foxhollow, 239 High Street, Offord Cluny, St. Neots PE19 5RT.
Tel.: 01480 811947. E-mail: fox.239@btinternet.com

To avoid disappointment (some venues limit numbers), please book at least 2 weeks before the visit.
Should you need to cancel a booking, please advise Alan as early as possible.

Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust
Foxhollow, 239 High Street, Offord Cluny, St Neots, Cambs. PE19 5RT. Tel: 01480 811947
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