



# YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

## e-Bulletin

Issue 1

November 2019

### Val Hepworth receives the British Empire Medal

Val was presented with her BEM at Camp Hill, home of Mrs Johanna Ropner, Lord Lieutenant of North Yorkshire, during a ceremony on Tuesday 15 October. Val's husband Ian and Alex, one of their daughters, attended in support of Val on her special day and they were joined by a few fellow YGT members. A more formal picture will appear in the next Newsletter.



L-r: Ian Hepworth, Madalyn Hughes, Gail Falkingham, Vicky Price, Val Hepworth BEM, Karen Lynch, Alex Evans née Hepworth, Louise Amende, Sue Lindley. *Photograph: Richard Jemison*

### Notes from the Editor

In order to improve our communications with you all, the Council of Management has agreed that we should institute a short e-Bulletin update. This will be circulated electronically to as many of you as possible (and in paper copy to those who are not on email).

The idea is that the e-Bulletin contains ephemeral and current material and that the Newsletter will continue to be the "journal of record" containing reports of visits and more important information.

The e-Bulletin will normally appear in between the Spring and Autumn Newsletters; please turn to the back page for an overview of content deadlines and publication dates for the next year.

This first e-bulletin is being produced in late November 2019, as there is lots of material of recent and current interest to report to you, so we thought it should appear as soon as possible.

For example, we hope that you find details of recent and upcoming Gardens Trust conferences to be interesting and useful.

In future e-Bulletins we plan to provide explanations for some of the many acronyms which seem to abound in the parks and gardens world and can be very confusing to newcomers like myself. **We would also welcome suggestions from you as to what you would like to see in the e-Bulletin, plus any contributions you would wish to make.**

The next Newsletter will now be published in March 2020 and will be a bumper issue covering many of last year's events, as the copy date for the Autumn 2019 Newsletter was early in the Summer and precluded their inclusion. The revised copy dates will mean that from next year we will be able to cover more of the current year's events in the Autumn Newsletter.

We hope these changes will prove to be a benefit to you all; please do contact me if you have any queries or comments to make on the new arrangements.

***Christine Miskin***

Newsletter and e-Bulletin Editor  
Christine.miskin@btinternet.com

[www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk](http://www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk)

## YGT Events Programme 2020

### Dates for your Diaries

#### **February**

Thursday 27 February: Snowdrop visit to Kiplin Hall

#### **April**

Saturday 4 April: AGM Bramham Park / Talk by David Jacques. Landscape visit

Saturday 18 April: Boynton Hall, near Bridlington. Landscape visit

#### **May**

Wednesday 6 May: Cusworth, Doncaster. Landscape visit

Tuesday 19 May: YGT/YPS Lecture York. Michael Charlesworth on Reginald Farrer

Thursday 21 May: Visit to Clapham near Ingleton. Home of Reginald Farrer

#### **June**

Thursday 4 June: Norton Conyers, Ripon. Summer Picnic and guided tour of historic garden

Thursday 18 June: Sion Hill, near Thirsk. Summer Evening Party

Tuesday 23 June: Durham Gardens with Northumbria Gardens Trust

#### **July**

Tuesday 7 July: Nursery and garden visit to Stillingfleet Nursery. Between York and Selby

Thursday 23 July: Visit to York Museum Gardens with Peter Hogarth and Ewan Anderson

#### **September**

Tuesday 15 September: All day visit to Waterton, near Wakefield, with picnics. Landscape visit

#### **October**

Wednesday 14 October: Yorkshire Arboretum? (This visit is still being arranged)

Refugee Day – Burton Agnes – August? (This day is still being arranged)

Full details and booking forms will be sent out early in 2020.

### YGT 25th Anniversary 2021

It has been agreed that a 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lunch at a nice venue with a keynote speaker will be arranged by the Events Committee. Further details will follow in later e-Bulletins and the Newsletter.

#### Yorkshire Gardens Trust Continuing Professional Development Event:

#### ***Valuing Our Historic Garden Heritage: Lotherton Hall's Edwardian Gardens***

**Wednesday 17 June 2020 at Lotherton Hall, Aberford near Leeds**

YGT is working with Leeds City Council and Adam Toole, Assistant Curator of Decorative Art at Lotherton Hall, Leeds C.C, and Maria Akers, Senior Estates Manager, Lotherton and Temple Newsham, Leeds C.C.

This one-day conference is aimed at those working in and caring for our historic gardens and we will be giving free and reduced price places for students and apprentices.

Speakers will include: Dr John Grimshaw, Director Yorkshire Arboretum; Mette Eggen, landscape architect and author of *The Edwardian Garden at Lotherton Hall*; Jane Furse, landscape architect and recent researcher at Lotherton Hall, and Chris Flynn, Head Gardener at NT's Thomas Mawson garden at Dyffryn, Cardiff.

The full details and costings aren't completely finalised yet and we are hoping to attract professionals in the field to whom first priority is being given including YGT members who fall into this category, but the organising committee feel sure there will be places available for other YGT members.

Further details will appear in the Spring Newsletter.

***Val Hepworth***



## YGT Volunteers help with National Trust Events

This year we funded two events at National Trust sites in North Yorkshire, arranged by David Morgan who is the NT York area general manager and was a trustee. Our aim was that the events should engage children in doing some gardening – and having fun doing it. The first event was called “Apprentice Gardener” and took place at Beningbrough Hall on four Mondays in August. With our donation, the Head Gardener had bought child-sized garden tools: wheelbarrows, forks and rakes and the children were encouraged to help with proper gardening tasks using the equipment.

The second event took place during the autumn half term at Nunnington Hall. Nick Fraser, the Head Gardener, had bought 12,000 crocus corms with our donation and over the week, families and our volunteers helped to plant all the crocuses in the grass along the bank of the Rye.

Both events were great successes and enjoyed by everyone who helped – even in the rain. Many thanks to all the YGT volunteers who came to help.

Next year I hope that we might be able to fund additional similar events for children, not necessarily at National Trust gardens but perhaps at other venues and parks. If you belong to the Friends group at a local park or know of a suitable venue, please could you get in touch with Vicky Price:

[dvickyprice@waitrose.com](mailto:dvickyprice@waitrose.com)

A fuller article about the Volunteer Days will appear in the Spring 2020 Newsletter.



## Social Media Workshop London, 3 October 2019

On Thursday 3 October 2019, I attended a social media workshop organised by The Gardens Trust. The event was held at The Gallery, 70 Cowcross Street, London, and was attended by 20 or so members of a range of County Gardens Trusts from around the country. Part of the *Sharing Repton, Historic Landscapes for All* project, this free workshop was aimed at introducing participants to the various social media platforms available and providing CGTs with greater confidence and skills to use social media to reach large numbers of people.

Via a mix of presentations and exercises, led by Susannah Charlton, the GT’s Communications Advisor, we were given an overview of the three main channels: Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, key features, practical tips and their different audiences. We learnt that regular posting is important, and that you can follow others on the same platform to be notified of their posts, and similarly you can be followed. If followers ‘like’ and share posts, from an initial audience of 40 followers, within 12 hours, a post can have been shared and seen by 750 people! What a fantastic means of free advertising.

We explored a range of questions: why use social media, what do we want to achieve, and which audiences so we want to reach? For a younger audience social media is key. We discussed the advantages of a range of media, e-newsletters, websites and social media channels,

and how all of these can be integrated to maximise reach and impact.

We considered which of the three social media channels are best to use for various purposes, what is involved and keys to success. Instagram, for example, is great for sharing photographs, whilst Twitter is limited to a 280-character message. Facebook is good for both images and messages, for setting up groups and sharing news of events. Over all platforms, use of the hashtag character (#) is a discovery tool allowing others to find your tweets and posts based on particular topics, e.g.

#historiclandscapes. You can click on a hashtag and see all posts that follow it, even from people that you don’t follow.

We were given a range of extremely useful handouts, including a jargon buster of the various terms used and links to helpful resources. It was an extremely useful and inspiring day from which I learnt a great deal, and I have shared the various handouts with the YGT Council of Management to cascade the information amongst us.

YGT has a Twitter account: [@YorkshireGT](https://twitter.com/YorkshireGT) ([twitter.com/YorkshireGT](https://twitter.com/YorkshireGT)), and you can follow the GT via Twitter at: [@thegardenstrust](https://twitter.com/thegardenstrust), and Facebook: The Gardens Trust.

The GT’s social media training materials are available on their website at: [thegardenstrust.org/conservation/hlp-hub/training-materials/social-media-training](https://thegardenstrust.org/conservation/hlp-hub/training-materials/social-media-training)

**Gail Falkingham**

## YGT Student Bursary Scheme

YGT's Student Bursary Scheme is now up and running. Details have been sent to colleges throughout Yorkshire that offer professional horticultural courses and to universities that offer landscape/garden history studies in their landscape architecture, planning, archaeology and/or history departments. There has been some response although this may have been affected by the current dispute between teaching staff and the HE institutions. So far, the response to the scheme is very positive and welcoming.

Awards at this stage are being limited to £500 maximum. From the information we have gathered it is likely that support will be sought, in the main, for the extra expenses needed to pursue a work placement or to explore an area of research. The award system will be reviewed annually as, at this stage, we do not know how often we will receive applications or the average amount requested.

The Student Bursary Fund currently stands at £3,000 and will be added to each year from specific events such as the Summer Evening Party.

We have asked the Chartered Institute of Horticulture to include our details on their webpage dedicated to grants and bursaries for aspiring gardeners, designers and historians. Historic Houses, by coincidence, contacted us recently to enquire about any student bursary scheme we were running; they will be sharing details of the Scheme with their members. We also hope that the Gardens Trust will soon collate information about all the bursaries offered by various CGTs.

Full details of the scheme and a sample application form will be included in the *Spring 2020* Newsletter and information is now available on the website.

If you know of other ways that we might promote the Scheme and broadcast its existence, then please let us know.

**Pat Gore**

Information can be sent to either:

[patriciagore@btinternet.com](mailto:patriciagore@btinternet.com)

[madalynhughes@aol.co.uk](mailto:madalynhughes@aol.co.uk)

## YGT Rebranding Project

This project has its beginnings in the YGT Business Plan 2018-2022, which set us the task of increasing our membership from c.390 in 2019 to 500 in 2022.

In order to do this, we need to publicise our existence, as we currently enjoy a low profile with the general public. Additionally, we need to attract a younger audience as our current membership consists largely of retired people, our visits take place during working hours and we only occasionally hold evening events.

Attempts to attract children and young people are being made by our very active Schools Group. This year we also held the successful volunteer days at National Trust properties which involved us working with children and we plan to expand them in 2020.

We believe that we need to better define our target market and increase our profile considerably in order to increase our membership. We think that we need to update all our methods of communication, including the website, our membership leaflet and all other leaflets, and utilise other resources, specifically social media. (See page 3 for Gail Falkingham's report on the Gardens Trust social media day which she attended recently.)

Our first task has been to draw up a design brief to

send to potential organisations who could help us as we do not possess sufficient specific skills to do this ourselves. We have been very fortunate in that we have been put in touch with Lotte Inch, who is responsible for the annual Bloom! festival in York, and who has excellent experience and knowledge of people working within the gardens and parks field. We have had an initial, extremely helpful meeting with her, where she discussed our requirements and showed us several examples of very professional brochures and leaflets for organisations in the same sphere as us.

She then gave us a list of people who she thought might be able to help. We have now finalised our design brief and are in the process of contacting three organisations, with a view to employing one of them as the project manager for us.

We hope to have appointed the successful company by the time of the January Council meeting and will make a progress report to the membership at the AGM in April 2020.

If anyone would be interested in helping us do contact:

Vicky Price [dvickyprice@waitrose.com](mailto:dvickyprice@waitrose.com)

Christine Miskin [c.miskin@btinternet.com](mailto:c.miskin@btinternet.com)

**Christine Miskin**

**Vicky Price**

## Conservation Committee

### Centre Vale Park Bandstand, Todmorden

Having been contacted in October by members of the community in Todmorden and the Friends of Centre Vale Park who were very concerned about the condition and future of their Art Deco bandstand, which figures prominently in the layout of the Park, the GT and YGT wrote to Calderdale Council. We urged the Council not to demolish this unique structure but to continue to work with the community to save it and use it for the well-being of residents and visitors. We are very pleased that on behalf of the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, Historic England is currently considering whether the bandstand has special architectural or historic interest. We wrote to Historic England on 22 November in full support of the consultation report and very much hope that the bandstand will be added to the National Heritage List for England. The adjacent photographs show the Bandstand in its heyday (above) and as it looks now (below). A great deal of money will be required to restore it but let us hope that is forthcoming

#### **Stop press:**

*Yorkshire Post*, Saturday 23 November 2019: “More time has been given to campaigners fighting to save a Calderdale Park’s bandstand from demolition. Calderdale councillors discussed the campaign to save the bandstand in Todmorden’s Centre Vale Park. A deadline of the end of the year for a decision has now been extended to next Spring”

A full report of the Planning and Conservation Committee’s recent work will appear in the Spring Newsletter 2020.

### YGT Refugee Day 2019

A very successful day was held on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August at Wydale Hall, Brompton-by-Sawdon, Scarborough; it was organised by Penelope Dawson Brown and Ray Blyth and members of several Syrian families attended. A further day is already being planned for 2020 and a full report on the 2019 event will appear in the Spring 2020 Newsletter.



The bandstand under construction in 1914.  
*Photo credit: Todmorden Civic Society.*



The Bandstand in its heyday  
*Photo credit: Wikimedia Commons: Tim Green, Bradford*



The Bandstand in its current state.  
*Photo credit: Calderdale.gov.uk*

# What, When and Who?

## Report on Research & Recording Training Day

### 2 November 2019

That title could suggest a multitude of scenarios but, in this instance, it was a training day for YGT's Research and Recording volunteers on the use and analysis of documents in compiling reports on historic parks and gardens.

On 2 November I made my way from Northallerton Station to North Yorkshire's well-appointed County Records Office. Here the hospitable archivists had set aside a meeting room for us, with a further working area for a selection of material on our Busby Hall case study. Research is often a solitary occupation, so an opportunity to meet others was particularly welcome. There was an encouraging attendance of about 18 people, some new to research and others with more experience.

As the editor for the Busby Hall project, I was delighted to connect faces to names on reports, and to recognise writers from garden visits. Round-table introductions allowed the mention of some special individual interests: trees and their identification, nineteenth century and middle-class gardens, and follies.

The three Ws were then addressed: the essential anatomy of a designed landscape by organiser Louise Wickham, Val Hepworth on characteristics which may (with caution) be diagnostic of a period, hints on investigating owners, gardeners and nurserymen by Mary Radcliffe, and pointers to some useful online sources by Karen Lynch. The handily located British Library at Boston Spa was also mentioned as a resource.

After a snatched lunch break, we tackled Busby Hall attempting, under Louise's guidance, a synthesis of the grounds' history from the surviving documents. This is the challenging part as there are inevitably gaps and inconsistencies between the available maps, plans, notebooks,

letters and accounts; it can be frustrating, but it also reflects that element of human involvement, including changing ideas, schemes not implemented, or contemporary issues too obvious to write down. Here the researcher needs to guard against pursuing diversions and blind alleys, whilst identifying what is significant and distinguishing the wood from the trees!

By the end of the day a lot of ground had been covered, yet this is only one of the two Rs. As Val wrote in her notes "it is always very important to walk a site, 'read' the landscape and garden, and relate it to documentary and map evidence". The processes are complementary: oddities on the ground leading back to documentary explanations, and written sources suggesting features and planting to look for, especially where layering over time reflects changing methods and fashion.

I'd like to introduce a third R: the culminating report. For convenience in handling the material, and for the ease of potential readers, we use a consistent format. There is also the store of human resources: our own YGT experts on plants, nurseries, built features, similarities and connections within the bigger picture, and the integration of visual evidence. Our reports are a collaborative product and, whilst future readers may have different questions and agendas, they will surely be grateful for the twenty-first century perspective we provide on Yorkshire's historic parks and gardens.

And now there's something for you to do. Look at the reports on the YGT website: would you like to take part? We've been moving approximately east to west across the map and right now there's plenty of scope in South Yorkshire. I hope to meet you at a future R and R event!

*Helen Caffrey*

## Lotherton Hall - Yorkshire Day 2019

Lotherton Hall was the setting for Yorkshire Day (1<sup>st</sup> August) celebrations, with many stalls and events attracting a large crowd. Yorkshire Gardens Trust were allocated a good spot on the main path, but it appears we were only given it after a donkey charity pulled out!

Jane Furse arrived with gazebos and everything necessary to set up our stall and was ably assisted by Susan Kellerman, Val Hepworth and later, Malcolm Barnett. There was little for me to do when I finally arrived, although I was able to justify my existence when it came to dismantling the stall, again under Jane's very competent instructions. She also provided giant campanulas which proved to be a star attraction.

The purpose of the stall was twofold: to make people aware of the importance of Lotherton as an Edwardian garden, and to raise the profile of the YGT. The first purpose was assisted by Adam Toole, the curator of Lotherton Hall, who has been involved with Jane's research and is working with us to have a study session about the garden next June. He provided photos which Jane made up into a display. The estate officer, Tom Harrison also provided useful information.

Lotherton Hall is now owned by City of Leeds Museums, but has a history in private ownership. An old house existed nearby, but the only relic is a lovely 12<sup>th</sup> century Norman chapel. The present house originated as an 18<sup>th</sup> century villa but little is known about it until it was bought in 1825 by Richard Gascoigne of neighbouring Parlington. His daughter passed the estate on to her nephew, Colonel Frederick Gascoigne and his wife, Laura

Gwendoline, who extended the house to the east, with further extensions south and west in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Laura was largely responsible for the layout of the garden, although the terrace with balustrade and piers was by William Golding and the famous gardener, Ellen Willmott, is known to have been a visitor and may have advised.

A gravelled area with a central bed and fountain leads to a path running east to a summerhouse (once the old entrance porch to the house) and parallel paths also have herbaceous borders and yews, but Japanese urns have unfortunately disappeared. A shrubbery to the south-east shows on the 1893 OS map and it leads into the Dell rock garden designed by Laura, which still exists, as does the brick paving, which was once a tennis court, but now has a planting bed in the middle. On the east of the house is the William and Mary garden with paving, rectangular pond and clipped yews. The old walled garden now houses a bird garden.

The photo exhibition in our marquee was of interest to several local people with memories of the estate who were pleased to chat to the YGT members, and they were informed of next year's study event. Others showed interest in the work of the YGT, including giving grants to suitable schemes, and particularly our work with schools, so overall it was a worthwhile day. It also enabled some of us to take the opportunity to come face to face with alpacas, admire the dog training routines, and watch amazed at the industry of the candy floss maker who attracted a lot more people than we did!

*Win Derbyshire*



Conference and AGM  
6-8 September 2019  
**The Queen's College, Oxford**



## Conferences Round-up

### Annual Conference and AGM 2020

In 2020 the GT conference will be held in the Yorkshire Dales - centring on Wensleydale and the picturesque Georgian town of Richmond. We are delighted to have the local knowledge and assistance of YGT, and Val Hepworth in particular, in both our planning and in guiding us over the weekend.

The Conference programme will run from Friday 4<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2020 with the AGM and New Research symposium held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>. We will be based at the Holiday Inn just off the A1 (M)/A66 at Scotch Corner (DL10 6NR and [www.hidarlington.co.uk](http://www.hidarlington.co.uk))

All our visits will be to privately-owned and run historic estates, the majority of which are nationally-important listed buildings and/or registered landscapes; we will have an introduction to some of these from the owners and access to many areas not normally open to the public.

The provisional visits programme is as follows:

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup>:** an afternoon in Richmond.

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>:** a morning visit to Aske Hall's designed landscape, surveyed by Capability Brown in 1769 with its William Kent temple. The New Research Symposium and AGM will be held in the hotel in the afternoon.

**Our conference reception and dinner** will be held at The Station, Richmond. ([www.thestation.co.uk](http://www.thestation.co.uk)).

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>:** A morning visit to Constable Burton house and grounds. After lunch in the Great Hall of C14 Bolton Castle we will have a guided walk around nearby Bolton Hall's gardens.

Booking via Eventbrite (with a postal option) is planned to open on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2020** when the full programme will be available.

For any queries please contact Virginia Hinze at [vchinze99@gmail.com](mailto:vchinze99@gmail.com) or 01273 844819

*Virginia Hinze*

I attended this conference for the first time in 2019 and, as expected, had a fantastic weekend with a number of visits to excellent historic landscapes amidst pleasant sunshine, some very good lecture hall sessions and plenty of opportunity to share stories with other like-minded CGT members; a friendly bunch of other YGT members, numbering half a dozen or so, also attended.

The organisation of the weekend was excellent, thanks to Virginia Hintze and Alison Moller; and the AGM, chaired by Jim Bartos, was effective and inclusive. Highlights for me included:

**The Oxford Botanic Garden**, and particularly seeing the colourful Merton Borders, designed in collaboration with James Hitchmough using plants selected for their ability to withstand drought conditions.

**Guided walks around St John's College and Christ Church Gardens**, which followed a fascinating lecture by Toby Parker, encouraging us to consider the social and economic history of 18th century gardeners.

**The 9th New Research Symposium** chaired by YGT's Patrick Eyres, which gave us the opportunity to hear diverse research papers from four researchers, all at early stages of their careers.

**Nuneham Courtenay** and particularly the vestiges of William Mason's pioneering flower garden and the now deconsecrated Palladian Greek Revival style, All Saints' Church.

**Shotover** with its wonderful 18th century landscape, including William Kent's Octagon Tower and the Gothic Temple, attributed to Townsend, both recently restored.

Finally, many congratulations to the co-winners of the **6th Gilly Drummond Volunteer of the Year Award**, Juliet Wilmot from Wiltshire and Judith Christie from Cambridgeshire. Judith and her husband Phil are also YGT members and we hope to see more of them at our events once they have settled in Yorkshire.

**NB** –2020's conference will be held in Yorkshire from 4-6 September (see the adjacent column for further details) and, with the benefit of introductions provided by Val Hepworth, will include visits to very special properties in our area.

*Maddy Hughes*



## The Gardens' Trust's Theme for 2020-2022, and a membership update

During 2020-22 the Gardens Trust will be working to a broader theme of *Unforgettable Gardens*. This title is intentionally open to interpretation; its message is that the historic parks and gardens we have all come to love are under threat of being lost but that groups such as the GT and CGTs are working to avoid this and other people can help too.

We are excited by the potential to highlight research, the importance of recording sites, conservation work, threats to historic parks and gardens, and the vital role of volunteers. *Unforgettable Gardens* can range from those lost but still remembered, those simply too brilliant to ever be forgotten, and those under threat that must not be forgotten. The hope is to convert some of those who currently simply enjoy visiting gardens to becoming new volunteers, supporters and members.

We hope very much that you will consider also using *Unforgettable Gardens* as a theme in 2020-22. It fits conveniently with existing activities, so hopefully shouldn't necessarily require a huge extra effort, simply canny branding. I am delighted that we are already working closely with the RHS Lindley Library to collaborate on *Unforgettable Gardens*, and will also be writing to other organisations, suggesting that they might like to join in too.

More details will follow in due course, probably including a logo, but I wanted to give you the headlines sooner rather than later, as I know you will already be planning for next year.

We hope to apply to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for a complementary project to help ensure that *Unforgettable Gardens* can reach new audiences and volunteers, most probably in particular through research and recording-based training.



The William Kent Temple at Aske Hall which features in next year's TGT conference (see p. 8)

Photo credit: [www.parksandgardens.org](http://www.parksandgardens.org)

**Do please let me know as soon as possible** if you would like to be involved in this project by emailing me at:

[lindengroves@thegardenstrust.org](mailto:lindengroves@thegardenstrust.org)

TGT Membership

Our work is highly regarded and we are fortunate to have been successful in achieving grants from Historic England to help with our conservation and volunteer support, and from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to share historic parks and gardens with communities as diverse as refugee groups and primary school children. However, for all our punching above our weight, we cannot survive without the financial support of our membership, nor could we receive the grants we receive without significant non-grant income.

Historic England grants require that we have a high percentage of other income. Individual membership income, which is our largest source of other non-grant income, is accordingly essential if we are to continue to obtain these grants and to support our core activities, including our working with and supporting County Gardens Trusts. Hence, a large and healthy individual Gardens Trust membership is essential to the survival of the Gardens Trust into the future. Survival of the Gardens Trust ensures our important national role in conservation, research, education and campaigning as well as our mutually beneficial relationship with County Gardens Trusts, involving all these activities and especially joint efforts regarding conservation and planning, training and networking.

We urgently need your help so please consider joining and supporting us, at [thegardenstrust.org/support-us/](http://thegardenstrust.org/support-us/) We are delighted to report that there is now a special discounted rate of £25 for County Gardens Trust members joining the Gardens Trust (reduced from £35 single and £43 joint).

We look forward to welcoming you soon!  
And follow us on Twitter [@thegardenstrust](https://twitter.com/thegardenstrust)

**Linden Groves**  
**Strategic Development Officer,**  
**The Gardens Trust**

## Wentworth Castle Gardens

**Wentworth Castle** is a Grade 1 listed country house, the former seat of the Earls of Strafford, at Stainborough, near Barnsley. It is home to the Northern College for Residential and Community Education.

An older house existed on the estate, then called Stainborough, when it was purchased by Thomas Wentworth, Baron Raby (later Earl of Strafford), in 1708. The name was changed in 1731 and the original name survives as Stainborough Castle, a sham ruin constructed as a garden folly on the estate.

The estate was in the care of the Wentworth Castle Heritage Trust from 2001 to June 2019 and was open to the public year-round seven days a week. Despite massive restoration, the castle gardens were closed to the public in 2017 amidst a funding crisis. In September 2018 it was announced that the National Trust planned to enter into a new partnership with Northern College and Barnsley MBC to reopen the gardens and parkland to the public. They were duly re-opened on 8 June 2019.

At its October meeting the Council of Management recorded its grateful thanks to **Jane Furse** who has been our representative on the Trust throughout the time of trouble at the Garden.



Photos from above, clockwise:  
The Victorian flower garden; Stainborough Castle;  
Wentworth Castle east front.  
*All photographs: Roger Lambert*



## Current and Forthcoming Exhibitions

### Florilegium Society at Sheffield Botanical Gardens

The Florilegium Society at Sheffield Botanical Gardens is presently exhibiting prints from their archive of work at Cusworth Hall, Doncaster. The exhibition began in October and will continue until January 16, 2020.

On Wednesday 27 November, members Eleni Mcloughlin, Sheila Stancill, and Rosalind Timperley will conduct an informal workshop at the Hall, featuring botanical art executed in graphite and coloured pencils worked with seeds and seed heads.

Cusworth Hall  
Cusworth Lane  
Doncaster DN5 7TU

[www.cusworthhall.co.uk/contact-us/](http://www.cusworthhall.co.uk/contact-us/)

YGT will be leading a visit to Cusworth on Wednesday 6 May 2020



### RHS Garden Harlow Carr *Glow Winter Illuminations*

Enjoy an illuminated trail to see the trees, lake, Winter Walk, Streamside, Doric columns and Alpine House all aglow.

21 November – 28 December, Thursdays to Saturdays (excl. Boxing Day);  
last entry 7pm.

[www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/harlow-carr](http://www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/harlow-carr)

Crag Lane, Harrogate HG3 1QB

### Exhibition at The Garden Museum

#### ***Play, Protest and Pelicans: A People's History of London's Royal Parks***

They started life as royal hunting grounds: Henry VIII created Hyde Park and St James's Park; Charles I filled Richmond Park with deer in 1625. But over the centuries, the Royal Parks became open to all, providing 5,000 acres of green space for the people of London, making it one of the greenest capital cities in the world.

The parks have seen wartime training, protests across the political spectrum, and debauched pleasure gardens. From Speakers' Corner to the Serpentine Lido, the Royal Parks have provided a gathering place and sanctuary for the city's ever-changing population.

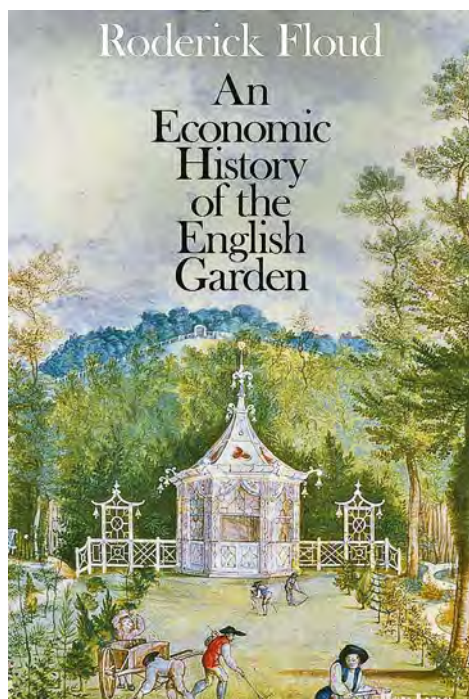
Looking at Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens, Richmond Park, Bushy Park, St James's Park, Green Park, Regent's Park, and Greenwich Park, *London's Royal Parks* will draw upon paintings, drawings, photographs and memorabilia from the Hearsam Collection, Royal Collection Trust, Royal Museums Greenwich and the Museum of London to illustrate the surprising histories of London's Royal Parks.

**20 November 2019 – 20 February 2020**

[www.gardenmuseum.co.uk](http://www.gardenmuseum.co.uk)

**5, Lambeth Palace Road  
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## Recent and Forthcoming Books



***An Economic History of the English Garden***  
**by Roderick Floud.**  
**London, Allen Lane, 2019. £25.00**

“At least since the Seventeenth century, people have been unable to stop making, improving and dreaming of gardens. Yet in all the thousands of books about them, this is the first to address seriously the question of how much gardens and gardening have cost, and to work out the place of gardens in the economic, as well as the horticultural, life of the nation.

Beginning with the Restoration of Charles II in 1660, Roderick Floud describes the role of the monarchy and central and local government in creating gardens, as well as that of the builders of the great gardens of Stuart, Georgian and Victorian England. He considers the designers of these gardens as both artists and businessmen - often earning enormous sums by modern standards, matched by the nurserymen and plant collectors who supplied their plants. He uncovers the lives and rewards of working gardeners, the domestic gardens that came with the growth of suburbs and the impact of gardening on technical developments from man-made lakes to central heating.

The book shows the extraordinary commitment of money as well as time that the English have made to gardens and gardening over three and a half centuries. It reveals the connections of our gardens to transport during the Industrial Revolution, the new industries of steam, glass and iron, and the built environment that is now all around us. It is a fresh perspective on the history of England and will open the eyes of gardeners - and garden visitors - to

an unexpected dimension of what they do.”

This book has received good reviews in *The Times* and *Guardian* since its publication in November 2020.

***Landscape Appreciation:  
Theories since the Cultural Turn***  
**by David Jacques.**

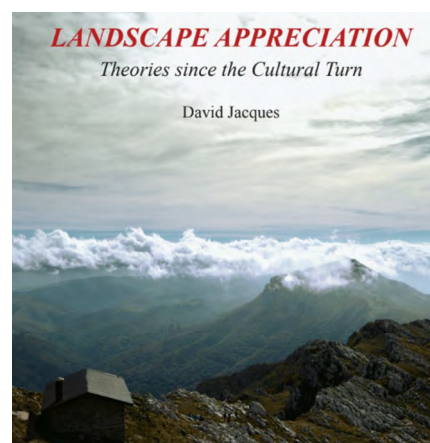
**Chichester, Packard Publishing, 2019. £49.95**

“Explanations for what makes one landscape scene preferred over another - formalistic, cultural and ecological – continue to be generated by landscape architects and land managers, philosophers, and psychologists.

This is needed for planning in the countryside and the protection of natural scenery, yet agreement still eludes us. This book does not favour any particular theory; instead it critiques the many theories seen over the last half- century; it informs readers of the main lines of argument so they can make up their own minds.”

To be published in early December 2019.

David Jacques is the keynote speaker at the YGT AGM at Bramham Park in April 2020.



***The Walled Kitchen Gardens of Oxfordshire.***  
**Researched and compiled by Oxfordshire Gardens Trust. Published by the Trust, 2014.**

This free booklet has recently been drawn to our attention. It is a fascinating fully illustrated summary of a research project carried out by 25 volunteers from the OGT, with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund. They identified 89 kitchen gardens. The booklet contains details of lots of interesting features, plus a potted history of kitchen gardens and how they are currently used.

Forthcoming Editions		
Publication	Copy date	Publication date
Spring Newsletter	31.1.20	21.3.20
Summer e-Bulletin	14.7.20	21.7.20
Autumn Newsletter	31.7.20	21.9.20
Winter e-Bulletin	15.12.20	21.12.20

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