



Eyecatcher

The Association of Gardens Trusts
*The national charity representing 36 County Gardens Trusts (CGTs)
 in the care and conservation of the historic designed landscape*
 Newsletter No. 25, Winter/Spring 2012

Please forward this e-newsletter to your members via email, and perhaps link it to your own CGT website. Where necessary, download copies for members not yet online, or include a précis in your own newsletters.

Historic Landscape Project in SE Region including FREE training Workshops proving inspirational for conservation and site survey

Connect with other CGT volunteers!

For those not aware of recent changes to our Historic Landscape Project webpage, I thought I would take the new year as an opportunity to highlight our new development in helping CGT members across the region to raise issues, download materials, share thoughts and ideas: **the CGT Web Forum**. The Web Forum gives us a way to share information in a less directly public way than on the main website pages so we can post materials etc for specific CGT use, rather than for global use! You can post topics on the site yourself and ask others how they approach particular issues, respond to others' queries with the benefit of your experience, download materials from courses or meetings you have attended – and give feedback on what more you would like the Historic Landscape Project to offer your CGT. Visit us via:

<http://www.gardenstrusts.org.uk/12-proj-historiclandscape.html>

We set this Forum up towards the end of 2011 - a 'work in progress' – you are very welcome to visit the site and have a look, but do **register to see the full content**. You need only choose a user name for yourself and a password in order to sign up. Your e-mail address is held secure through the site. I am putting many materials on it from the last 18 months and trying to make it as user friendly as possible. Wishing you all a very Happy New Year!

Verena McCaig,
 Historic Landscape Project Officer - SE Region



Juniper Hall near Dorking, Surrey

HLP Free Workshops: **Understanding Conservation Management Plans**

22 February 2012 10am - 4pm, Kidbrooke Park (Michael Hall School), Forest Row, **East Sussex**

14 March 2012 10am - 4pm, Denham Park/Langley Park, Wexham, **South Bucks**

Responding to Planning Applications Affecting Historic Designed Landscapes

21 March 2012 10am - 4.15pm – lunch provided, Hercules House, Hercules Road, **Waterloo, London SE1 7DU**

Book by Email: gardenstrusts@agt.org.uk





Hampton Court Head Gardener **Terry Gough** and **Gilly Drummond**, AGT President, (seen here by Hampton Court's Vinehouse) were present recently when **English Heritage** unveiled a Blue Plaque in honour of Landscape Architect and Royal Gardener **Lancelot 'Capability' Brown (1716-1783)** at Wilderness House, in Hampton Court Palace grounds, his home from 1764 until his death



Wotton, Bucks

©Steffie Shields 2009

Start *Brownian Thinking* for 2016!

2016 will see widespread celebrations of the birth of world-renowned landscape architect 'Capability' Brown. His Tercentenary presents a marvellous opportunity for us all to engage more people countrywide in the legacy of Brown's designs, by learning to read the landscape and enjoy his 'grammar' in their local historic parks. The first meeting of interested parties was held on 22nd November at the Garden Museum. Steffie Shields represented AGT, others included representatives of English Heritage, National Trust, Historic Houses Association, the Garden History Society, Garden Museum, Landscape Design Trust, Landscape Institute, ICOMOS, Tate Britain, Financial Times, Visit England and Visit Britain.

Would your County Gardens Trust like to start thinking about your local CGT 'capabilities', whether, and how, you would like to participate in 2016?

AGT will of course keep you informed about exciting developments. However, we would in this first instance welcome your thoughts and bold creative ideas as soon as possible. These might include early discussions with the owners of accessible Brown landscapes in your county, the possibility of talks, study days, trails 'walking the ground', garden party events, sponsored tree-planting and perhaps working on an exhibition with your local museum or gallery.

See www.parksandgardens.ac.uk for a list of Brown sites.

The next Brown Tercentenary meeting is on 10th February. **So it would be extremely helpful in preparing plans of action, if you could please send your initial suggestions - by 1st February - to Steffie Shields, AGT Vice-Chairman, E:shieldssb@aol.com**

Schools Education *Grounds for Celebration*

Introducing the new AGT Schools Education Advisor, teacher Emma Schofield

After waving her gardening wand at Mablethorpe Primary School, in Lincolnshire, an extraordinarily generous and enthusiastic teacher, Emma Daniel embarked on a new challenge at Boston West Primary. Here too she inspired a band of “eco-warriors” and started a school garden club, and then built on her successes by beginning to advise other schools on environmental education county-wide. Yes, she is now married to Mike Schofield, the Headmaster! Their extraordinary partnership, with untiring effort in challenging times, has helped the school to raise thousands of pounds in sponsorship to develop innovative, motivating school grounds, enough to employ a professional landscape designer, to commission wood sculptures from Nigel Sardeson, and to win a national award along the way, having recently received their 5th Eco Schools green flag. Boston West Primary continues to be a beacon of inspiration for all who visit.



Recently Mrs Annetta Turner, President, Lincolnshire Gardens Trust and Emma Schofield attended the opening of a new Cairn Garden in memory of a former headmaster at Kirby on Bain Church of England Primary School, a scheme assisted by Emma whose passion for gardening is clearly being passed on to the children. Raised funds included a Lincolnshire Gardens Trust Small Grants Award to help garden projects such as this enhancing school grounds. See www.lincolnshiregardentrust.org.uk for more information and application form.

Anyone seeking assistance on garden and landscape education matters should not hesitate to contact: Mrs Emma Schofield, AGT Schools Education Advisor, 15 West End, Walcott, Lincolnshire LN4 3ST 01526 861231 emma.schofield3@btinternet.com

Bug Hotel!
Kirky on Bain C of E Primary School, Lincs.



Cairn Garden, Kirky on Bain C of E Primary School, Lincs.

Date for Diary ! SW Education Conference

Tuesday 20 March 2012 hosted by Hampshire Gardens Trust, at Jermyns House, Ampfield, Romsey with a visit across the garden to the Hilliers Education Centre where the Centre's leader will give a talk on their educational work, a tour of the gardens included. Further details contact Sue Stuart E: admin@hgt.org.uk.

Forthcoming Events

Thursday 15 March 2012

Cowcross St, London

11.00 am AGT/GHS Conservation Workshop

to update CGT conservation groups on developments in working with the GHS in conservation and planning. Jonathan Lovie, the Principle Conservation Officer for the GHS and Linden Groves, the Case Officer will both be attending. Lunch

2.00 pm AGT Spring Business Meeting

The AGT has taken the opportunity to hold this workshop on the same day as the Business Meeting, to give CGTs the chance to combine roles when attending should they so wish. We are delighted that the GHS will be with us at the workshop to provide detailed information. Both meetings are open to as many members who would like to attend either or both events - it is an opportunity for CGTs to learn more about both conservation issues as they will occur from April 2012, possible developments with Government planning changes, and to hear AGT reports at the Business Meeting with plenty of time for discussion.

Please send in your **CGT news, events and short articles/ items of interest** to keep the AGT website vibrant, informative and current throughout 2012!
Email: gardenstrusts@agt.org.uk



Have you read AGT Trustee
Liz Ware's Blog yet?

Go online to
<http://associationofgardenstrusts.blogspot.com/>

STOP PRESS:

The **AGT Yearbook 2012** is due for publication on March 1st (in association with Hall-McCartney, Editor Liz Robinson E: gardens@gasholder.co.uk) to help raise the profile of grassroots garden heritage country-wide. Our thanks to those who have contributed articles and photographs. Please distribute this new yearbook 2012 amongst your members/as widely as possible, to promote and explain the work of county gardens trusts.

Research and Recording Study Day

The Association of Gardens Trusts,
Yorkshire Gardens Trust and The National Trust in association with The Garden History Society

*Historic Vistas, Current Perspectives,
Future Prospects*

Thursday 3 May 2012 9.45am to 4.30pm

Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal Water Gardens,

North Yorkshire, is a World Heritage Site. It is a landscape that many will be familiar with, but 'improvement' was not, and is not, a process with a finite end point. The importance of the gardens and park means that work of all kinds is on-going: research, archaeological excavations, restoration, conservation, management, interpretation. However well you think you know Studley, you will almost certainly discover something new during this study day. Morning talks will take place in the Aislabie Conference Suite in the Visitor Centre; after lunch, there will be guided tours of the water gardens.

Programme includes **Mark Newman**, Archaeological Consultant, Yorkshire & the North-East, NT: Digging in a garden: public archaeology, visitors and conservation at the Quebec; **Michael Ridsdale**, Head of Landscape at Studley, NT, will consider the practical implications of research, investigations and excavations (including the Quebec site) for management of the landscape; **Dr Patrick Eyres**, director of the New Arcadian Press and editor-publisher of New Arcadian Journal, will reflect on the Quebec Monument and Neptune statue at Studley Royal and will consider the Georgian fashion for military and naval memorials as realised in Yorkshire gardens.

Fountains Abbey & Studley Royal Water Gardens, Ripon Nr Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG4 3DY

Access: Please note that the walk down into the gardens from the Visitor Centre and back up at the end of the day is quite strenuous. A minibus can be taken back up to the Visitor Centre; mobility scooters are available, but must be booked well in advance with Studley Royal: 01765 608888.

Cost: £39, including tea/coffee, sandwich lunch and guided tour of the water gardens.



Another important date for your diary:

AGT AGM & Annual Weekend Conference,

Polite Society, will be

hosted in Bath by Avon Gardens Trust,
7-9 September 2012 Book early!