

# Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust

# **Celebrating 25 Years**

1997-2022

The Newsletter of the Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust

Winter 2022



John Nash: Meadle in the Snow. © the artist's estate is still in copyright

#### Dear Members

Well, we have made it to the end of our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year and I hope that you enjoyed all our celebrations: the wonderful garden visits, the amazing tree walks and our fantastic lunch party at Hampden House. A big thank you to the events team for all their help with making the year such a success Our last event, the Christmas Social was held at the Bennett Room at Stowe in December. An intriguing quiz proved challenging and was based on an Advent Christmas tree with 24 parcel labels of dried tree leaves hanging on the tree. Mary Buckle came out the winner with 23 out of 24 correct answers. Well done. You should have received the new programme for 2023 in the post this week, please support us by booking for the talks and visits. Although we are keen to return to in-person talks we have booked "zoom" for the spring. We plan to offer a mixture of zoom and in person later in the year. Wishing you all a Happy New Year and the very best for 2023.

Claire de Carle (chair)

# New Initiative: Gardeners Network

The inaugural meeting of the Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust Gardeners Network was held on the 25<sup>th</sup> October in the Bennett Room at Stowe. Barry Smith, who has been the head gardener at Stowe for many years, was the host for the afternoon and between the showers, he took a number of the gardeners for a quick tour of the site.

We were very pleased that twelve gardeners attended from across the county, as far away as Stoke Poges in the south and Ashridge in the east. We provided plenty of tea, coffee and cake and have also given them complimentary membership of the Trust. The meeting was introduced by Claire de Carle, chair of Bucks GT who explained that the aim was to bring gardeners across the county together to exchange ideas, visit each other's gardens, hear talks from industry specialists and above all socialise. Some of the gardeners from larger properties, for example, those run by the National Trust, are part of a team but some of the smaller privately owned properties may only have one gardener.



Barry Smith, Stowe © CdeC

The gardeners were asked to give a brief career outline of themselves and their gardens; their histories were very diverse, however, similar difficulties and issues came up across the board. The Trust is in the process of setting up an online group for the Gardeners Network so that they can all keep in touch, and we have about 5 or 6 other gardeners who are also interested in joining.



The first meeting was deemed a success and the Trust looks forward to working with these key members of the garden community in the future. The next gathering will be at Turn End, Haddenham in March 2023. If you are interested in joining this Network please contact Claire de Carle. Claire de Carle

#### **Planning report from November Trust Meeting**

We continue to be involved in some substantial projects and proposals throughout the Autumn and into Winter. In the Wycombe Area, we've been involved in early stage discussions with Wycombe Abbey School and the planning authority to consider their long-term plans for the school. We made a site visit of much of the grounds in July and shared an 'initial response' with the school in October.

At Hedsor Park, we were consulted on proposals to convert redundant water tank structures into short term

holiday lets. The BGT submitted three separate statements during the consultation process which was rather protracted due to the lack of adequate information to demonstrate the impact on the registered park and garden (RPG). Eventually a Visual Impact Assessment was undertaken and the BGT withdrew initial objection. In the Aylesbury area, it is difficult to allocate enough time to assess the impact of substantial applications such as the proposed new Garden Town and the ongoing HS2 works. The local planning authority are very helpful but the scale of these projects will always be a challenge when we are dependent on volunteer planning advisors. Furthermore, the outline planning application to create a new category C prison at HM Prison Grendon (previously refused in March 2022) is now to go to appeal.

There have been a number of smaller applications in the Milton Keynes area, mostly relating to domestic gardens within larger RPGs but the impact on the setting and character still needs to be assessed. The South Bucks area has been the busiest this year. At Oak Lodge on the Dropmore Road, we fully supported proposals for the sensitive restoration of this historic structure and the reinstatement of its associated historic drive. At Dropmore itself, we have made two site visits to assess the impact of a proposed new mansion house within the RPG. We have offered our advice but continue to recommend that the proposed new house should be situated outside of the RPG and not within it. Finally, one of the most interesting applications concerns Wexham Park whereby we were asked to provide any information we had on this site although it is not an RPG. The site is proposed for major speculative redevelopment and the local Conservation Officer was aware that there is the potential for loss. The site is a Victorian garden with a subsequent layer of important mid-20<sup>th</sup> century development, the 20<sup>th</sup> century buildings had already been lost but there are key sculptures remaining by William Mitchell and Mitzi Cunliffe and evidence of the landscape designs by Geoffrey Jellicoe, Sylvia Crowe and possibly Bryan Westwood.

We made a site visit and also invited Annabel Downs from FOLAR to come along – Annabel has subsequently been tremendously helpful researching information from the FOLAR collection at the Museum of Rural Life in Reading. I also had a wonderful day undertaking further research at the RIBA Library in London and was able to look through contemporary periodicals and other materials so that we could identify the landscape features that have survived. With short notice, we were able to provide a strong objection to the outline planning application and requested that the applicant conducts a thorough historic research assessment to establish exactly what remains of the historic landscape. Jo Mirzoeff

#### New Patron for the Trust



#### © Carington Estate

The Trust is delighted to inform the members that Rupert, Lord Carrington has kindly accepted the invitation to become a patron of the Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust. In his letter of acceptance, he congratulated the Trust on reaching the "25th anniversary milestone" and looks forward "to giving whatever support I can".

Lord Carrington is already a life member as his late father, Peter, Lord Carrington was, who joined when the trust was created in 1997. The family also kindly permitted members of the Research and Recording team in 2017 to research and prepare a site dossier of The Manor House, Bledlow and its extensive gardens, including the Lyde.

Since the accession of Charles III in September, Lord Carrington has taken on the role of Lord Great Chamberlain of England and has been a key figure in the historical events marking the accession and at the State Funeral of Queen Elizabeth II. It was therefore a wonderful surprise to receive a very positive response to our letter. We look forward to meeting our new patron in 2023 but realise that it will be a very busy year for him!

www.bucksgardenstrust.org.uk/unforgettablegardens/bl edlow-manor/

As many of you know former diplomat David Gladstone of Wotton has been our sole patron for many years and will continue in this honorary role.

https://heritageportal.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/Monume nt/MBC20452

https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/england/wottonunder wood-aylesbury-

valebuckinghamshire#.Y7mOqRXP1PY

# 25th Anniversary Events: Garden Visit: to Eythrope, Waddesdon

### Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September

A visit to Eythrope on September 14<sup>th</sup> 2022 provided the opportunity to mark both the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Bucks Gardens Trust and the centenary since the death of Alice De Rothschild.

Miss Alice was born in Frankfurt in 1847, the youngest child of Anselm and Charlotte von Rothschild and moved to England to support her brother, Ferdinand De Rothschild after his wife, Evelina, died in childbirth in 1866. In 1875, Ferdinand bought the Waddesdon estate and, shortly afterwards, Alice acquired the adjacent Eythrope estate comprising of 1400 acres alongside the River Thame. In 1876, Miss Alice commissioned George

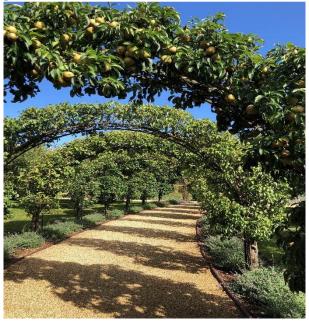
Devey to build a small house without bedrooms which she intended to use it as a 'day retreat' as her doctors had advised her not to sleep near to the river due to her rheumatic fever.

Following Ferdinand's death, Miss Alice took over the running of Waddesdon as well as spending her winters at Villa Victoria near Grasse in the South of France where Queen Victoria was a regular visitor. After Miss Alice died in 1922, the estate remained in Rothschild ownership but much of Miss Alice's Garden was lost until 1988 when the present Lord Rothschild inherited the estate.

Our visit focused on the 4-acre walled kitchen garden known as Eythrope Yard designed for Miss Alice by



local architect William Taylor. The site still incorporated staff housing which is still used and originally had three huge glasshouses for flowering plants and five smaller ones for propagation. Whilst these glasshouses have been replaced, the 1950s lean-to vinery by William Wood & co. was recently restored. In 1991, Lord Rothschild engaged garden designer Lady Mary Keen to return the kitchen garden to its former glory that Miss Alice had introduced and the produce is used in Waddesdon's restaurants and hotel.



Anna Ellerton, our excellent guide, explained that there are currently 7 full-time gardeners on site, 5 working on the walled garden and 2 in the wider parkland. Our stroll around the walled garden started off with the pear and apple tunnel surrounded by lawns planted with quince trees including many varieties which would have been known to Miss Alice.



The nearby Auricula theatre featured a magnificent display of pelargoniums at the time of our visit but, later in the season, will be full of pumpkins and squashes (but they were still in the ground and spilling over the path during our visit!) The 'no-dig' method of vegetable growing is used throughout the garden. Towards the north sheltered corner of the garden is the herb garden and many of the more tender plants. From there, the central path bisects the garden from the pergola to the stone pond. Its double herbaceous borders are planted seasonally so there is always a stunning display including some particularly fine examples of aeoniums. The recently reglazed lean-to vinery forms a backdrop to the five sunken greenhouses where much of



the propagation of young plants takes place. It is interesting to note that the tomato frame is based on Eric Ravilious's painting from 1935 'The Greenhouse;



Cyclamen and Tomatoes '

The principles for the cultivation of dessert cherries continues from Miss Alice's time as the cherry trees are planted in clay pots with feeding collars which are replaced when the potted trees are brought into the



unheated cherry house in February to be hand pollinated in March. To the south is the apple orchard and just before we left the walled garden, the clipped box hedging made a wonderfully amusing display albeit a little under the weather from blight. Colourful displays of annuals in pots all around the courtyard make a delightful setting for the gardeners' houses and our hearty lunch back at Waddesdon made an excellent end to this special day. *Photographs: Jo Mirzoeff* 

**Roving Reporter: Jo Mirzoeff** 

# Celebratory Lunch, Hampden House, Great Hampden: Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October



Around seventy members and guests attended the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lunch on Thursday 13th October and Hampden House was the perfect setting for this special occasion. The sun came out and in the afternoon there was the opportunity to explore the garden.

On arrival, drinks were served in the beautifully restored and galleried Great Hall and Brian Dix, a founding member, took the helm as Master of Ceremonies. Claire de Carle welcomed members and guests and this was followed by a few words from one of the founding members, Candy Godber and rather more than a few words from Charles Boot who covered so much ground that by the time it was Dr Sarah Rutherford's turn most things had been said! However, she brought along copies of the first twenty newsletters (The Bucks Gardener) which many members were not familiar with. She also asked all the founding members to put their hands up and there were at least eight present.



Tim Oliver, the present owner, at the request of the members, gave a brief history of Hampden House and outlined the extensive restoration programme that he and his wife Suzie had masterminded. Not only did they restore the house, a feat in itself with many challenges but they also

sourced furniture, wall coverings, furnishings and art work to enhance the interior. Extensive work was also carried out on the exterior of the house, its outbuildings and grounds. Today the house remains in private ownership and the Oliver's are only the second owners in a 1000 years of history. Some members were also lucky enough to have a tour of the house courtesy of Tim. Following the anniversary toast, lunch was served in the very elegant dining room overlooking the terrace and lawn.





After lunch, coffee and a special anniversary cake were served in the Brick Parlour and on the terrace overlooking the extensive lawns.



In the afternoon members took advantage of the glorious weather to walk the Glade to the ha-ha and admire the long views beyond the garden and over the park to the far side of the Misbourne valley.







*Ref: Photographs by Wallace Wormley, Claire de Carle, & Dianne Long* 







It was then back to the impressive rendered east garden front of 3 storeys and the parapet with stone coping topped by a pair of splendid heraldic griffins (1757) who oversee the gardens, park and valley. The curved brick walls of bonded flint which flank the terrace incorporate 5 blind arches were designed by Edward Shepherd (1745) who was also responsible for Shepherds Market London.

It was wonderful to be able to socialise again and a big thank you to all who attended especially those who travelled from Devon and Wales.

https://bucksgardenstrust.org.uk/wpcontent/uploads/202 0/10/Hampden-Ho-BGT-RRdossier-30-Sept-20.pdf

Roving Reporters: Claire de Carle & Gwen Miles

# Tree Walk: Priestfield Arboreteum, Little Kingshill



#### Michael Hunt

For our final silver jubilee outing we were very lucky to hit on some of the only sunny hours of the day, bounded by torrential rain, thunder and lightning. The arboretum takes its name from Thomas Priest, an amateur tree enthusiast who lived in Harewood, in Hare Lane, and planted 70 varieties of conifer alone, and up to 400 trees in his former apple orchard and kitchen garden.

As our guide Michael Hunt told us, this is an exceptional arboretum, botanically very important and tucked away in 5 acres of Buckinghamshire. It also provides a habitat for many birds. We were able to indulge in Shinrin-Yoku, Forest Bathing. Along the way



we saw County Champion Trees, discussed the impact of drought, the importance of plant hunters, autumn colour and the way to build up knowledge. This last involves looking closely over every season and immersing yourself in detail, learning the botanical names, and having a passionate enthusiasm. We understood that this level of knowledge and understanding is not lightly won.



Katsura; cercidiphyllum japonicum

We also sniffed and rubbed the leaves of Umbellularia *californica* (the Headache Tree), tasted the pepper fruits of Zanthoxyluym simulans (Szechuan Pepper), and were awed by the age of the Wollemi Pine (not a pine) and the Ginkgo, which both evolved more than 250 million years ago. Among the specimens that were displaying wonderful colour were Amelanchier lamarckii, (June Berry), Parrotia persica (Persian Ironwood), Pseudolarix amabilis (Golden Larch), Acer palmatum (Smooth Japanese Maple), Nyssa sylvatica (Tupulo), Liquidambar styraciflua (American Sweet Gum) and Fagus sylvatica (common Beech). The low autumn sun lit them up beautifully. Michael Hunt described how he has loved trees in every season since he was a boy, and has immersed himself in them and also in birding. We were lucky to have a guide who could share this knowledge and enthusiasm with us and answer our questions. We were also accompanied by the current curator of the arboretum, Tim Pye, who works with the Friends of Priestfield to maintain the site.

Photographs Liza Wormell

**Roving Reporter: Liza Wormell** 

Wollemi Pine

# **Oriental Spruce (Picea Orientalis)**

Range: Greater and Lesser Caucasus Mountains Northern Turkey. Native to the eastern region of the Black Sea and ranges across to the Caspian Sea. Can be found in Northern Iran. The tree was introduced in Britain in 1839.



This species is occasionally selected as a Christmas Tree among the many varieties available these days, which does make an attractive festive tree, but I must say regarding the individual in the photograph I do not fancy trying to fit an angel at the top or fitting decorative lighting as it is 28 + metres tall!! Last measured in 2000. This tree is in the grounds of Waddesdon Manor and is a county Champion and in the Tree Register of Britain.



Bark of picea orientalis

Photographs Michael Hunt Michael Hunt Postcard from Zwinger Palace, Dresden 🖉



Dear Bucks GT Members, The baroque Zwinger palace was destroyed by the 1945 bombing. Illustrations from the past show variously pools with fountains, parterres and orange trees. Archaeologists are now going down several feet, presumably to go back to the original 18th century design. Liza Wormell



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# **Garden History Journals**

(the academic publication of the Gardens Trust) I have recently been given a large number of back copies of the Garden History Journal dating back over the last 20-30 years, some of which I already have.

If anyone is interested in taking these off my hands. Please get in touch. <u>claire@decarle.plus.com</u> **Out of County: Old Mother Shipden** 



The Oldest Paying Tourist Attraction in England. I grew up with stories of England's equivalent of Nostradamus, Old Mother Shipton, and a very old copy of her prophecies, so when I discovered we were going to Knaresbourough I wanted to visit Old Mother Shipton's Cave. I expected a cave and had read about the Petrifying or Dropping Well, first recorded in 1538 by Henry VIII's antiquary John Leland, but I wasn't expecting a beautiful walk through one of the rare remains of the Royal Forest of Knaresbourough and a magnificent Grade Il Listed Beech Avenue. Mother Shipton was born around 1488; the cave where she was reputedly born and lived for the first two years of her life has been operating as a paying tourist attraction since 1630 when the area surrounding it was given to Sir Charles Slingsby.

The entrance is by the High Bridge at Knaresborough on the south bank of the River Nidd and the visitor then follows the pathways created by Sir Charles' grandson Sir Henry Slingsby just over a century later c 1739. The first part of 'The Long Walk' gives the visitor views of the river gorge and Castle ruins which were mentioned by Daniel Defoe in the early C18. In 1807 Dr Adam Hunter described the pathway as a 'beautiful and romantic walk'. Today you can also admire the



Viaduct built in 1847 and the Castle Mill and Weir dating from 1791.

On the way to the Petrifying Well various modern 'entertainments' have been created to provide refreshments and picture opportunities. These include a playground and picnic area. There are also sculptures of hares and one of a group of boars in recognition of the fact that the last wild boar in England was slain in the park. Where the path crosses stream taking the mineral waters from the spring to the Petrifying Well there is a sculpture group depicting Toad of Toad Hall with his caravan and friends and on the opposite side of the path you can see the rock formation above the Well.



Three flights of steps lead down to the Well. The steps are apparently in the same position as those shown on engravings done in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. The Well is formed by the stream mentioned previously, which runs across the rocks above the Well then drips over a grooved rock formation bulging out from the cliff edge, creating small stalactites along its lower edge. The water contains a strong solution of minerals and a variety of objects have been hung in the flow of the water to petrify. The process takes from three or four months to several years according to the size of the object.

Behind the well is a small pool which is said to be a wishing well and north of the Well is the cave in which Mother Shipton is reputed to have been born and where a sculpture representing her stands. The Walk continues from the Well southwards alongside the river and is planted with one of the largest collections of beech trees in England, they are also the oldest and tallest. This is Sir Henry Slingsby's Beech Avenue which continues to the Museum and which previously led to another entrance by the Mother Shipton Inn and the Low Bridge.

It is their protected habitat within the river gorge that enables the trees to grow so straight and tall; all of the trees have preservation orders on them and their details are held by the Forestry Commission as a source of breeding seeds. The Beech Avenue is listed Grade II by English Heritage, one of very few walks in the country to earn the designation. Unfortunately, some of the trees are now having to be felled due to disease but a very beautiful figure of an angel has been carved out of one of the stumps.



**Gill Grocott** 

## **Out of County: Shibden Hall**

In the footsteps of Gentleman Jack.

Some of you may have watched the recent programmes on television about Anne Lister (aka Gentleman Jack) much of which was filmed at Shibden Hall where she lived. I visited recently and found the gardens almost as interesting as the hall. The hall is open to the public, and the "West Yorkshire Folk Museum" occupies the adjoining barn and farm buildings The Shibden estate was in the hands of the Lister family, wealthy millowners and cloth merchants, for more than 300 years (c. 1615–1926). Anne Lister (1791–1840) took over the management of the Shibden



Hall estate in 1826. She actually inherited it after the death of her father, Jeremy, and Aunt Anne in 1836, when she commissioned York architect John Harper and landscape gardener Mr Gray, who also worked at Clumber Park, to make extensive improvements to the house and grounds.

When Anne took over the estate was largely agricultural, with a modest garden on the south-east side of the Hall. About 1836 a large stone terrace was constructed to the south and east of the Hall. At the south-east corner of the terrace there is a tower containing a staircase which leads down to the park below. A tunnel was constructed running from this bastion to provide unseen access from the kitchens to the grounds. Several large urns stand on the terrace walls to the south and east. These are made of millstone grit, as is the rather strange Lister Lion at the south west corner of the house. A further terrace was built above to the west. This terrace is itself terraced into three low levels, laid largely to lawn with a central, rectangular stone pool, and surrounded to the north, west, and south by a stone wall. There are also herbaceous flowerbeds which, at the time of my visit, were filled with acanthus, rudbeckia and shrubby salvias. A bastion is set into the south-west corner, overlooking the pleasure ground and cascade to the south. Grass banks which have recently been replanted with a variety of historic fruit trees run along the western side.



Anne's improvements also included a park and the construction of a lake, which later became a boating lake, and a substantial walled kitchen garden. This walled garden no longer exists. Following Anne's death in 1840 Dr John Lister inherited the estate. In 1855 he employed William Berry of Halifax to lay out flowerbeds and a fountain on the south terrace to a 'Paisley Shawl' design by Joshua



Major and Son. This was grassed over in the mid C20th and is now a lawn with heart shaped flowerbeds at each corner, however, due to the dry weather this summer the outlines of the original design could be clearly seen.

The park and gardens became a public park in 1926 and were listed Grade II in 2000. Restoration work was done between 2007 and 2008.

Unfortunately, the day of my visit was a rather damp one and I failed to explore the wider parkland, but I would love to go back and see more of it at another time, however, I thoroughly enjoyed my visit to the hall, museum and gardens.

Photographs Shibden and Shipden by Gill Grocott Gill Grocott

# Volunteer as a Gardens Trust Community Champion for Buckinghamshire



Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust has been offered the opportunity for a member volunteer to join the GT Community Champions and help

share our passion for historic parks, gardens and other designed

landscapes, and our purpose to protect them, within the local community.

We're looking for volunteers to deliver a one off 'Garden History Lucky Dip' activity. The aim of this activity is to share garden history stories with new audiences and help us to promote the importance and wonder of these historic spaces with more members of the public.



The photograph shows Frankie Taylor ready to share the Lucky Dip activity. More details found at: <u>Garden History Lucky Dip Entry Level</u> <u>Lucky Dip 'Curiosity' Level</u> By delivering this activity to a local community group and becoming a Gardens Trust Community Champion, you will be helping to share the GT mission and increase awareness and support of vulnerable historic designed landscapes across Britain.

# Who are we looking for

We're looking for someone who:

- Can deliver at least one Garden History Lucky
- Dip activity session to at least 15 people before
- August 2023
- Is available for an activity training session to be delivered in early 2023
- Would like the opportunity to learn more about garden history
- Wants to help protect and promote historic parks and gardens in the UK

No prior experience in heritage or knowledge of garden history is required!

## What we can offer

- In return what we can offer is:
- Relevant training needed to deliver the session
- A resource pack containing all the materials needed for the Garden History Lucky Dip activity (which you're free to keep and reuse!)
- Support from our Audience Development and
- Engagement Officer and the wider Gardens Trust team
- An opportunity to be involved in future events with the Gardens Trust
- A year's free membership of the Gardens Trust (including discounted tickets for events, membership magazine and our respected journal Garden History)

### How to Apply

If you're interested in being a GT Community Champion, Frankie Taylor would love to hear from you. Please complete and return the <u>Community Champions</u> <u>Application Form</u> by the **30<sup>th</sup> January 2023.** 

This opportunity is part of the Engaging with Our Future Project made possible with support from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

They are looking for volunteers to help deliver a small, one-off outreach activity (delivered at a time and place that suits you) in exchange for a free activity training session, a free resource pack (with everything you need, that you're free to keep and reuse) as well as a year's free membership of the Gardens Trust.

*Frankie Taylor*: Audience Development and Engagement Officer 07719 399 882 *Engaging with Our Future* NLHF funded project at The

Gardens Trust <u>frankie.taylor@thegardenstrust.org</u>

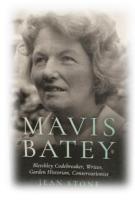
# News:

Bucks GT Spring Events: On line zoom talks £5. www.ticketsource.co.uk/buckinghamshiregardens-trust Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2.30-4.00 "The Restoration of Church Gardens, Harefield – Kay McHugh Saturday 11 February 2.30-4.00 "Broadwater Park – Karen Fitzsimon Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2.30-4.00 "Arts & Crafts Architecture in Amersham" - Alison Bailey Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2.30-4.00 "Recreating Apollo & the Nine Muses at Stowe" – Gillian Mason

#### The Gardens Trust

AS a county member of the Bucks Gardens Trust you are affiliated with the Gardens Trust and can book on to any of their lectures and courses. <u>http://thegardenstrust.org/events-archive/page/2/</u>. There are a large range of on line lectures starting now and some are free.

#### **Special Offer:**



'Mavis Batey: Bletchley Codebreaker, Writer, Garden Historian, Conservationist'. At the declaration of World War II in September 1939 Mavis Batey, then studying German Romanticism, abandoned her studies to do her duty for her country. At Bletchley Park, Britain's best keep secret, she became one of the first British codebreakers, a pioneer, breaking codes vital to bringing peace. Jean

Stone's unique biography of Mavis takes the reader through the war to the arrival of peace when she became an important figure in conservation. She was appointed President of the Garden History Society (now The Gardens Trust) which, under her watch, became a campaigning force for the protection of landscapes, parks and gardens of historic interest. She lobbied Parliament fighting threats of encroachment and misuse of land. Acts of Parliament were passed, English Heritage was established, grants were introduced and Historic gardens became officially recognised as essential components of European culture. The present Historic England 'Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England' came into being. In her later years Mavis enjoyed a more relaxed life with time to write books. She was involved with the creation of an American Garden Trail at Bletchley Park and enjoyed working on the Thames Landscape Strategy, culminating in a Heritage Lottery Grant appeal to restore this world-famous landscape. In 1985 Mavis Batey was awarded the MBE for Services to the preservation of Historic Gardens and, in 1989, The RHS Veitch Memorial Medal. Born in 1921 she died in 2013.

**Author**: Jean Stone, MA, Grad.dip.Cons (AA), FRSA, is author of a number of garden related books. She lives in Henley-on-Thames and is pleased to offer signed copies of the book.

**Special Offer:** for Bucks Gardens Trust members and friends @ £18.99,to include postage and packing.

Please contact: <u>enquiries@bucksgardentrust.org.uk</u> or 01296 715491 to place an order

#### Welcome to new Social Media Officer

Deborah Kidd (Debs) has taken up the challenge of Social Media Officer for the Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust. She will be looking after the Twitter, Facebook and Instagram accounts. Do keep in touch, join, follow, comment. <u>socialmedia@bucksgardenstrust.org.uk</u> or <u>enquiries@bucksgardenstrust.org.uk</u>

#### **Desk Calendars**

A number of members have asked if we have desk calendars for sale this year. We do not have a Bucks GT version but can offer a "Dogs of Clerkenwell" calendar which is basically the same but with dogs!. If you would like to order please contact Gwen Miles at <u>newsletter@bucksgardenstrust.org.uk</u> or <u>enquiries@bucksgardenstrust.org.uk</u>. They are £5.00 each and include postage. Payment by BAC's or cheque.



#### Copy Dates for 2023:

Spring Edition Sunday 26th February Summer Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May Autumn Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August Winter Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November Email to <u>newsletter@bucksgardenstrust.org.uk</u>

#### **Bucks GT Contacts**

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#### Contents

contents	
Letter from the Chair – Claire de Carle	1
New Initiative Gardeners Network	1-2
Planning Report for November Trust Meeting	2
New Patron for the Trust, Lord Carrington	3
Garden Visit to Eythrope, Waddesdon – Jo Mirzoeff	3-4
25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lunch. Hampden House	5-6
Tree of the Month: Oriental Spruce – Michael Hunt	7
Tree Walk: Priestfield Arboreteum –Liza Wormell	7
Postcard from Zwinger Pallace, Dresden – Liza Wormell	8
Out of County: Old Mother Shipden-Gill Grocott	9-10
Out of County: Shibden Hall – Gill Grocott	10-11
Volunteer as a Gardens Trust Community Champion	11-12
News	12

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