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WELSH HISTORIC GARDENS TRUST

## AGM 2018 INFORMATION



**Friday 15th June 6.30pm: Drinks and Garden Tour of Bryngwyn Hall,  
Llanfyllin, SY22 5LJ kindly hosted by Auriol, Marchioness of Linlithgow.**

Lady Linlithgow has written of Bryngwyn as follows: "Bryngwyn Hall has been owned by my family for over 200 years and is a very important part of Welsh heritage, designed by Robert Mylne (1731-1811) in the then fashionable neo-classical design and it is the last surviving example of his work in Wales. Bryngwyn Hall and gardens are Grade II\*.

The gardens cover nine acres, surrounded by sixty acres of oak studded parkland designed by William Emes (1730 – 1803) in the late 18th century. The original garden was enlarged in the early twentieth century, taking in a portion of parkland extending the garden down to the lakes. The house and garden fell into dereliction from the 1930s until the restoration programme started in 1989.

Wonderful mature trees and shrubs remain from earlier planting, including rhododendrons brought back from Bhutan, Sikkim and Northern India by my grandfather, Major General Arthur Sandbach. New yew hedges give the garden structure. Large borders and extensive new planting give an all year appeal with a variety of scents, colours and academic interest. Our new Poison Garden, unique in Wales, is proving a very popular attraction".

Directions: Bryngwyn is 2 1/2 miles S of Llanfyllin on the A490 on the left just before the village of Bwlch-y-Ciban (sign at the drive entrance)

# AGM Programme 2018



**Saturday 16th June 10am: AGM and lunch at Bodfach Hall, Llanfyllin SY22 5HS.**

10.00 Coffee served.

**10.30 AGM** chaired by our President Elisabeth Whittle who will also speak about her five years as President and her thoughts for the future of WHGT.

**Speaker: Stephen Lacey our next President of WHGT** who will talk about his career as a garden writer, designer and broadcaster.

There will also be brief comments by WHGT members on books they have recently published, including Bettina Harden on 'The Most Glorious Prospect - 250 years of Garden Visiting in Wales' and Philip Nanney Williams on 'Nannau - A Rich Tapestry of Welsh History'. They will be signing copies of their books afterwards for members to buy.

**12.30** Lunch followed by tours led by Simon & Maggie Baynes of the gardens at Bodfach and the ancient trees in the parkland which have recently been documented by the Woodland Trust as of special interest in Wales. Jill Butler, the Woodland Trust's Conservation Advisor on ancient trees, will also join us on the tours.

Directions: Bodfach Hall is half a mile NW of Llanfyllin. On A490 drive west through Llanfyllin. Just outside town turn right into parkland at lodge, over small bridge, take left fork. Park near white gates to gardens.

**Saturday 16th June 4.00 pm: Bryn y Llidiart, Llanrhaeadr, SY10 0BP**

Visit to the gardens kindly hosted by Dr John and Mrs Christine Scott.



You are in for a big surprise - an audacious garden at over 1000ft, surrounding a south facing stone longhouse with a contemporary extension of oak, slate and glass. The landscape is reflected in the garden with gigantic erratic glacial boulders, windswept hawthorn hedges, shale paths and local slate. The mostly perennial planting merges into the 7 acres of managed wildflower meadow where the mown paths meander to many seats to enjoy the panoramic views.

The planting around the house is colourful and lush, set off by a croquet lawn with a lavender bank sloping down through a small white moon daisy meadow. Under an arch, a path winds down through newly planted Welsh fruit to a *sitouterie*, a stone seating circle. A huge water tank outside the living rooms reflects the changing sky. A bog garden collects water from the hillside, which tumbles over rocky shelves down through a meadow to a wildlife pond overlooked by an oak *sitinerie* built into the hillside as a shelter from which to view the swallows dipping and diving. From there a path meanders up through a copse of native trees planted as a windbreak. Don't miss the secret 'twitter' garden with dense planting and ornamental birds overhead.

There is an extensive biodiverse roof garden over the outbuildings and a recently established vegetable garden. This is the dramatic work of a plantaholic and a keen groundsman helped by a willing family.

Teas will be provided.

Directions: Bryn y Llidiart is two miles W of Llanrhaeadr ym Mochant. On the road between Llanrhaeadr village and Penybontfawr.

**Sunday 17th June – You are free to visit beautiful gardens in Montgomeryshire which include those described below.**

**Powis Castle**, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 8RF owned by the National Trust.  
Garden open 10 am – 6 pm. Castle open 11 am – 5 pm

**Gardens open with Powys NGS** ([www.ngs.org.uk](http://www.ngs.org.uk))

**Hyssington Gardens**, Hyssington, Montgomery, Montgomeryshire, SY15 6AT  
1–5.30 pm

Three very different gardens in and around Hyssington:

**Gorsty House** is an on-going renovation of a neglected garden with over 2 acres planted to attract wildlife, including an acre of wildflower meadow, abundant cottage garden planting, new orchard and pond. Beautiful views to Long Mynd.

**The Old Barn** is a peaceful ½ acre hideaway with colourful mixed borders, ever-greens and mature trees, including a handkerchief tree. There is a wildlife pond, vegetable and soft fruit areas, against a woodland backdrop.

**Llanerch Lodge** is a smallholding in the lee of Roundton Hill, which offers a productive vegetable plot with raised beds, a lovely cottage garden, wildflower meadow, pond, cutting garden and newly planted nuttury and fruit trees, as well as sheep and poultry.

Directions: A488 from Bishop's Castle, approx 3½m, turn L (signed Hyssington), then follow yellow NGS signs. Also signed A489 E from Churchstoke. Park at Village Hall for Gorsty House and Old Barn, parking for Llanerch Lodge next to house. Admission: adults £5, children free.

**Observatory**, Bwlch-y-Ffridd, Newtown, Montgomeryshire, SY16 3JB. 2-5 pm  
Located in the hills at 1100 feet but very sheltered on all sides, Observatory offers superb views of the Severn Valley and beyond. Developed with the aim of encouraging wildlife, the garden is home to a large number of birds, bees, butterflies and other pollinating insects. Wildlife pond, meadow, pretty cottage garden with colourful borders of perennials, shrubs and roses. Fruit garden, polytunnel, beehives and pet hens.

Directions: Approximately 2m NW of Bwlch-y-ffridd nr Newtown. From Newtown through Aberhafesp, from Caersws leave village with Red Lion on L, from Tregynon/Adfa head towards Bwlch-y-Ffridd and follow yellow arrows. Admission: adults £3, children free.

**Gregynog Hall & Garden**, Tregynon, Newtown, Powys, SY16 3PW 11-4 pm  
Grade I listed garden set within 750 acres of Gregynog Estate which was designated a National Nature Reserve in 2013. Fountains, the lily lake and water garden. A mass display of rhododendrons and yew hedge create a spectacular backdrop to the sunken lawns. Azaleas and unusual trees.

Courtyard cafe serving morning coffee, light lunches and Welsh afternoon teas.

Directions: 5m N of Newtown. From main A483, take turning for Berriew. In Berriew follow sign for Bettws then for Tregynon (£2.50 car parking charge applies).  
Admission: adults £3, children free.