The Bulletin

SPRING ISSUE 1992

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

THE appearance of this, first, quarterly Bulletin delights me. It is a great step toward our ability to communicate with you, our members, and to hear your views. Inevitably, at the formation of a trust such as ours a great deal of effort has to go into organisation and getting the procedures right, quite apart from a proper concentration on urgent garden work. We first lifted our eyes to our members with **The Newsletter**, which already has a firmly established character and niche in publications on landscape. **The Bulletin** will increase the frequency of communication and should make it much easier for members to participate in Trust activities. I very much hope that it will help stimulate the growth of our branches. We are already one of the biggest, if not the biggest, garden trusts in the country, but we urgently need more members in order to meet the needs of our heritage and to reveal its tremendous wealth and diversity. I believe **The Bulletin** will help us to achieve this.

William Powell Wilkins
Carreg Cennen March 1992

DYFED BRANCH LAUNCH

THE Dyfed Branch will be officially launched at the Halliwell Centre, Trinity College, Carmarthen on Saturday 9th May 1992 at 12.00 p.m. Timed to coincide with Garden Festival Wales at Ebbw Vale when matters 'garden' will be much in the minds of the local media, the Dyfed Committee look forward to welcoming members, their friends and all interested parties to a Buffet Lunch and a talk by a guest speaker. There will be a small exhibition devoted to garden sites in Dyfed such as Aberglasney.

Postponed to Oct 3rd

PLAS GLYNLLIFON

THOSE of you who neither make claim to be historians nor landscape specialists will nonetheless be familiar with the name Glynllifon. It has been made notorious by Morgan Parry's article published in **Newsletter No. 3 Feb. 1991**, and by the ensuing spirited correspondence between Mr Parry, sometime Manager of Parc Glynllifon, and Mrs Sheila Thorneycroft of Dingestow Court who has a long connection with the house and demesne. It would be a gross over-simplification to reduce the tension between our correspondents to simple formulae: futuristic Celtic idealism versus mature English/Italianate Romantic nostalgia &c. None of these serves either party, both of whom care deeply about the past and the future of an important house and landscape.

My purpose is to talk about the present and to inform you of developments at Glynllifon. The Gwynedd Branch resolved in the Spring of 1991 to set up a sub-committee to examine the architecture of the park and landscape and make proposals to the present owners of the estate, Gwynedd County Council, who have divided the government of their property between the Agricultural College and Parc Glynllifon.

We called in Tom Lloyd, author of *Lost Houses of Wales* and a member of the Policy Committee of the Trust, to report on Glynllifon. The main thrust of his commentary was that Glynllifon is a most beautiful and impressive place; that its landscaping is of great historical importance; that within Wales few such comparable places were ever created or survive; and that without difficulty Glynllifon could become a recreational, educational and tourist asset of very real value to the County of Gwynedd. The report, which includes some detailed recommendations, is now in the hands of the County Council and the Secretary of State. We await developments.

However, thanks to the co-operation of the Principal of the Agricultural College, Mr W. Idris J. Davies, and to the generosity of the Welsh Church Acts Fund, to both of whom we are deeply indebted, two of the most important and exciting of Tom Lloyd's suggestions are now in full swing: an archival survey of the landscape MSS of the Newborough family, now in the County Archives; and restoration of the Walled Gardens, some of the most splendid in Wales.

On the advice of Dr. John Savidge and under his supervision, the Gwynedd Branch has appointed Miss Penny Hume, a University of Wales post-graduate research student, to undertake the research in the Gwynedd Archives. Additionally, Penny, who is living at Glynllifon, is actively involved in the restoration of the Walled Gardens, working with Mrs Annwen Thomas and her enthusiastic band of teenagers with Special Needs. They have much to do in re- laying the vegetable and flower beds and in re-establishing the splendid Peach and Fern Houses (the former lately restored by the Agricultural College). This Spring the Gwynedd Branch will be arranging Saturday task-force days for interested members (and their friends!) who are keen to assist with the work.

Dr. Savidge rates Plas Glynllifon as one of the top five gardens in Wales and as one of the most promising for restoration. The projects started by the Gwynedd branch are inspiring to all of us who care about landscape and gardens. We look very much to your support in ensuring Glynllifon's future.

David Jeffreys
Ty'n Garreg

NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

CLWYD

CLWYD and the Trust are delighted at Jonathan Marsden's promotion within the National Trust and look forward with particular interest to seeing the gardens at Stowe and Chastleton now under his care. He will be greatly missed as the highly efficient Secretary of the Clwyd Branch and as a very active member of the Trust. We very much hope that he will continue as a member over the border.

The Study Day at **Erddig** on Saturday 21st March was a great success. Mrs Mavis Batey gave a fascinating talk on Archival Research; Barbara Juniper described the co-operation between S. Staffordshire County Council and the newly-formed County Garden Trust, and Caroline Kernan revealed her discoveries in Clwyd during her work for the CADW Register of Historic Parks and Landscapes.

Saturday 31st May

Afternoon at **Rhûal** by kind permission of Major Basil Heaton. Switzer is known to have worked on this garden. The Chairman of the Trust has agreed to talk to members with particular reference to the walled garden.

Saturday 27th June

Expedition to **Brynkinalt** (Lord Trevor), **Whitehurst**, the divorced 17th century gardens of Chirk Castle, and possibly to **Llangedwyn** (Wynnstay Estates).

DYFED

Saturday 9th May **12.00 p.m.**
Dyfed Branch Official Launch
Halliwell Centre, Carmarthen.

Tuesday 28th April **7.30 p.m.**

Newport Boat Club
Talk on the work of the WHGT.
Susan Lloyd-Fern

Ceredigion Collectors Club
Aberaeron Memorial Hall
Talk on the work of the WHGT.
Tom Lloyd

Saturday 16th May
Branch Outing to Garden Festival Wales, Ebbw Vale.
Reservations: 0267 211 307.

GWENT

Thursday 23rd April **7.00 p.m.**
Penpergym Lodge, Abergavenny.
Lecture on the excavation and restoration of the Renaissance Gardens at Tredegar House by David Freeman, Curator of Tredegar House. There will be a Buffet Supper.

Wednesday 3rd June
Tredegar House, Tredegar.
A visit to the gardens accompanied by David Freeman.

Lunch will be available in the Restaurant afterwards. In the afternoon it is hoped to arrange a visit to Llantarnam Abbey accompanied by Elizabeth Whittle. The nuns of the Abbey are currently facing a battle to prevent to building of a road through the Abbey park.

GWYNEDD

ON Saturday 21st March, there was a visit to the Gwynedd County Archives at Caernarfon. Members were introduced to the working of the Archive by Gareth Haulfryn Williams, Deputy County Archivist, with particular reference to the Garden Archive being established by the Gwynedd Branch. Recent acquisitions of material relating to Wern, Porthmadog, and Glynllifon, were on display.

Forthcoming Events:

Sunday 26th April **2.00 p.m.**
Broom Hall, Pwllheli.
Garden Tour.

Saturday 9th May **2.00 p.m.**
Nanhoron, Pwllheli.
Garden Tour.

Sunday 7th June **2.00 p.m.**
Plas Tan-y-Bwlch, Maentwrog.
Talk and conducted tour of the gardens.

Monday 22nd June **12.30 p.m.**
Lecture & Luncheon in association with The Criccieth Festival at the Portmeirion Hotel.
Speaker : **Lord Aberconway**.

For full details of the year's programme please contact **Bettina Harden Tel: 075 883 610**.

WEST GLAMORGAN

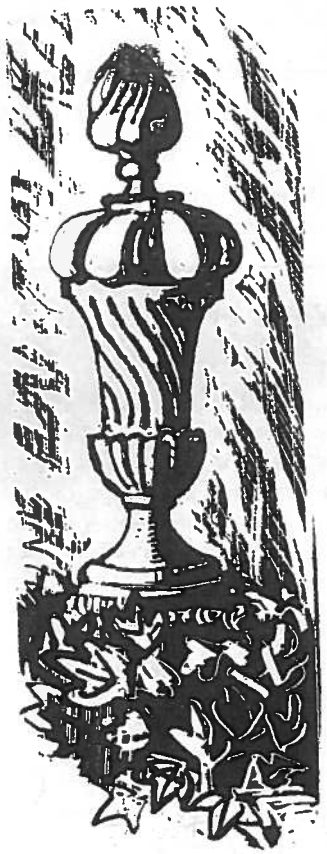
THE branch is pleased to announce that **HM Lord Lieutenant of West Glamorgan, Sir Michael Llewellyn**, has agreed to become their President.

Sunday 10th May **11.00 p.m.**
Guided visit to Craig y Nos Country Park. There will also be an opportunity to see the Craig y Nos Hotel with the sumptuous Adelina Patti Theatre. **Charge 50p – £1.00 Families**.

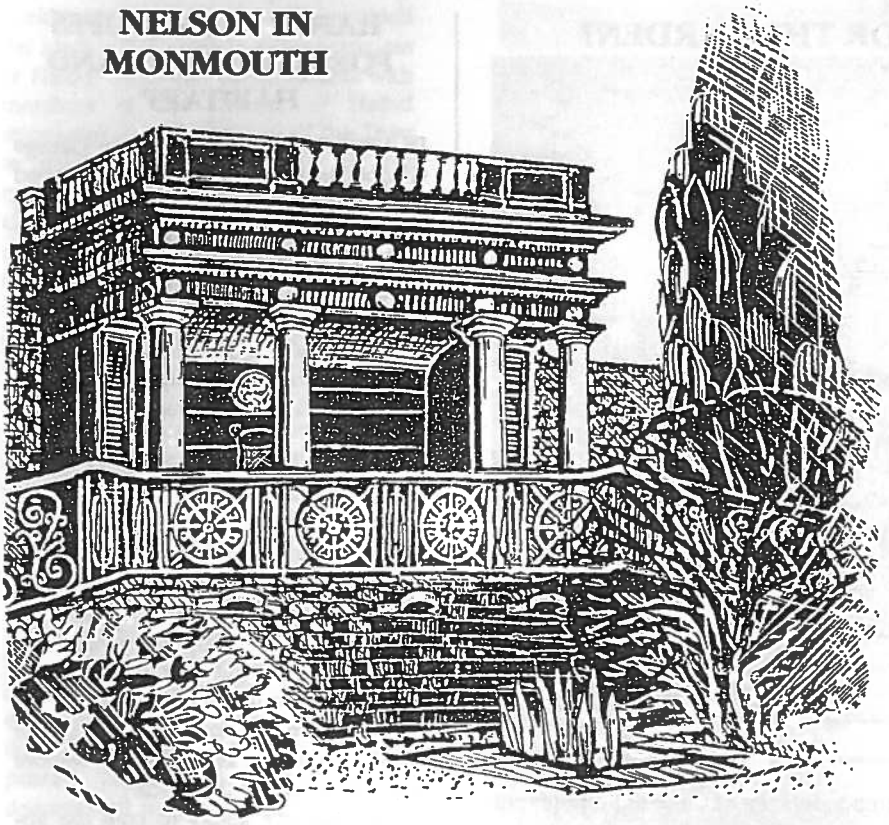
Thursday 11th June **7.30 p.m.**
Margam Park, Port Talbot.
Illustrated talk on the history of Margam Park by John Adams.
Charge 50p.

Sunday 14th June **11.00 a.m.**
Margam Park, Port Talbot.
Guided tour or Margam Park with John Adams. **Approx. charge £1.00. Children welcome**.

Please contact the Branch Secretary for further details:
Chris Adams, 11 Avon Street, Y Cymer Afan, Port Talbot, W. Glam. Tel: 0639 850 763.



NELSON IN MONMOUTH

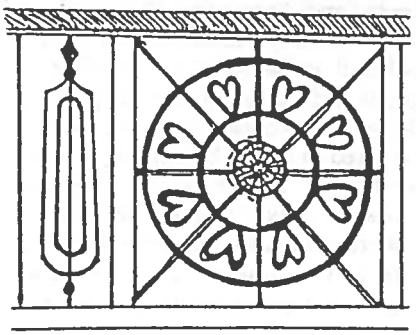


A recent drawing by Bronwen Williams- Ellis of Nelson's Summer House in Monmouth. Inside the pavilion you can see the plaque marking 'Lord Nelson's Seat'.

GO through Lloyd's Bank in Monmouth today and you will discover a remarkable late-Georgian pavilion or summer house associated with Nelson. It was in this pavilion that Colonel Lindsay, Town Clerk of Monmouth, entertained Nelson and Sir William and Lady Hamilton to coffee following a Civic Dinner on August 19th 1802. It had been a lavish occasion with all the worthies of Monmouth present, and Lady Hamilton sang "Rule Britannia" after dinner.

The garden in which the summer house stands was lovingly looked after for many years and the pavilion itself was last restored in the 1970s. Today, however they are both threatened, not only by weeds and neglect, but also by the prospect of the rear part of the garden being separated from the whole and donated to Monmouth Borough Council. They, and Lloyd's Bank, the freeholders, are vague as to the ultimate fate of the land in question.

The Nelson Society (who recently cleared the pavilion of weeds and undergrowth) have suggested that they would like to co-operate with the Trust and other interested parties, such as the Monmouth Town Heritage Trust, to preserve the garden and restore its as an example of a late-eighteenth century town garden. Anyone who is interested, not only in the fate of the site, but also in working to restore the garden, should contact **Elizabeth Whittle, Meadow House, Monmouth Road, Usk NP5 1RR. Tel: 029 132 394.**



A detail of the wrought iron railings.

We are keen to discover more town gardens throughout Wales. Do, please, pass on any information either to **The Bulletin** *or the Trust Executive.*

EDITOR'S NOTES

IN this first issue of **The Bulletin** there are bound to be omissions and oversights, but not, I hope, too many errors. The crucial thing is that you, the members of the Trust, feel that it is helpful, full of information and, most important of all, that it is *your* **Bulletin**. I want to encourage you to write in with comments, criticisms and ideas. If there are things in this issue which you dislike or disagree with – tell me!

There are several long-term aims for **The Bulletin** – most importantly that it includes bilingual content as soon as possible. During this year I would like to gather together and publish lists of (a) good nurserymen in Wales, and (b) Welsh companies dealing in items for use in a period garden, e.g. urns and pots, ironwork, architectural salvage &c. I would be very grateful if you could send me recommendations for these lists.

I did worry that **The Bulletin** might be something of a misnomer, but on consulting the OED, now feel better about it:

Bulletin 1. *A short note or memorandum*: there will be lots of both, providing information for members.

2. *A short report of public news, especially a report from the seat of war...for publication at home*: we will provide reports on the 'war' against gardens and landscapes waged by some developers and planners so that you can help us to influence opinion and win the day.

3. *An official statement as to the health of an invalid*: some neglected historic gardens are in urgent need of first aid and longer restorative treatment. We must ensure that our statements about them will encourage you to help in providing the cure.

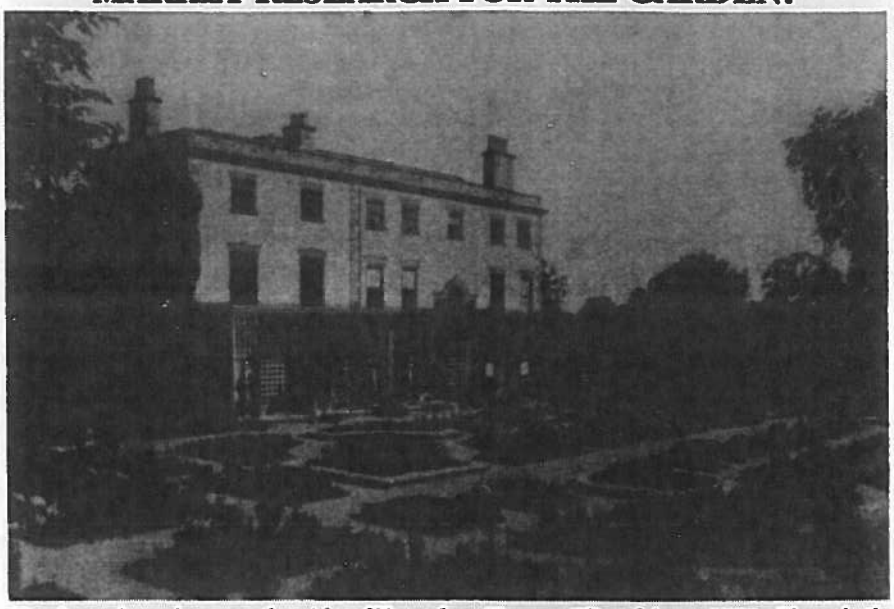
I look forward to hearing from you with letters – for publication, of course – book reviews, news and views from the branches.

Bettina Harden.

The copy deadline for the Summer Issue is **7th June**. Copy should be addressed to:

The Bulletin, Nanhoron, Pwllheli, Gwynedd LL53 8DL.

MARKET RESEARCH FOR THE GARDEN?



The formal gardens on the side of **Trevalyn House, Flintshire** c.1890. *Though the house remains as a hospital the gardens are now gone. This record of them was found in an old photograph album discovered in a bookshop.*

HAVE you ever considered what proportion of written documents from the past survive and are available for study in record offices and libraries? The answer, of course, is very few. Only think of all the country houses and old estates that used to flourish in your county and then add up how few are represented by an archive. Then cross off all those collections represented only by piles of boring old leases and the convoluted outworkings of outrageously complicated settlements, lacking all the miscellaneous bits like maps, old letters, bills and accounts, and you will easily appreciate that all you want to know about Welsh historic gardens is not going to be found in those resources.

Of course there are alternatives. Early local newspapers, for example, carry valuable advertisements for seedsmen and gardeners listing their stocks of bulbs and shrubs and general business, while property advertisements often give good accounts of hothouses and garden layouts. The National Library's unrivalled watercolour collection has many views of country houses, splendidly surrounded by their gardens, while early Ordnance Survey maps show long-lost avenues and drained lakes.

There is however another source and this is the ever-changing showcase of goods offered by the antique trade. Every month throughout the country about a thousand watercolours change hands at auction or via dealers. The preponderance of these are topographical views. Unique, but not necessarily expensive, views of country houses and their grounds – some long-vanished – turn up quite often, along with a multitude of other visual images from the past – photograph albums, privately published prints and ladies' sketchbooks. For Edwardian gardens, head for your local old postcard fair, where, in an unsorted shoe box marked **Wales**, you can find views of houses and gardens amid the hundreds of Tenby and Caernarfon Castle. Almost every country house c.1910 had a postcard made for the use of house guests and for sale in the village shop. Better still, contact a dealer who is prepared to do the hunting for you and send you selections on approval. Likewise, make friends with picture dealers and auction houses in Wales and especially in London. You can usually beg a photograph for the purposes of genuine research and, if you cannot afford to buy the real thing, advise the National Library who might well buy it and bring it back to Wales.
Good Hunting!

Tom Lloyd

1992 AGM
GREGYNOG, 30 MAY
12 noon
Lecture: Sir Roy Strong

'HAFOD – NEW HOPES FOR ITS HISTORY AND HABITATS'

IN 1796, William Blake's patron George Cumberland found that Hafod defied description by mere language. The title of his 'An Attempt to Describe Hafod' betrays a failing faith in words. Towards the end of his piece Cumberland wrote:

"After what has already been said of the walks about HAFOD, in which I shall undoubtedly be suspected of high-colouring...it may be imagined that the tale is told; or, at any rate, that what follows will be but amplification; so far am I however from subscribing to such an opinion, that on re-perusing my former descriptions, I find them feeble, frigid, and far inferior to the subject; and, for what is to come, I have to regret, that not only my poor talents, but language itself, will sink under it; for how are words to imprint things, when, where nature has done much, even the art of painting, in able hands, is seldom found adequate to the office?"

Cumberland's ability to coin the appropriate phrase would have been put even more severely to the test in 1992. Hafod today is no less remarkable than in his day, despite the loss of the house and the absence of the guiding hand that had made the estate so extraordinary – the hand of Thomas Johnes. And yet, last September, I was privileged to be charged by the Trust with exacting task of preparing a strategic plan for this extraordinary gem of Welsh landscape. Hafod is now a complex fabric which enfolds the history of a designed landscape with the habitats of rare species of bird and plant. What is more, the former estate cottages are now the homes of people who have chosen to live at Hafod because of its singular peace and beauty.

Any attempt to describe Hafod today would be faced by almost certain failure. The demesne has lost its integrity, it no longer functions as a traditional rural estate. Nevertheless, a sensitive balance between human and ecological interests has established itself. This balance is managed with sensitivity by the present owners, the Forestry Commission. It would be wrong to conclude that Hafod is necessarily the poorer for the changes which it has undergone. It retains a mysterious and captivating power.

The involvement of the Trust at Hafod may be traced to the Lampeter Conference 'Welsh Gardens under Threat' held in April 1990. Caroline

Kerkham's scholarly research provided the ideal introduction to the uniqueness of Hafod. Visits and conversations with members of the Friends of Hafod stimulated certain members of the Trust to enquire about the future for this masterpiece of Picturesque landscape. Generous donations and grant aid have resulted in the preparation of the Conservation Strategic Plan for Hafod.

Submitted to the Forestry Commission in December 1991, the essential message of the Conservation Strategic Plan is that Hafod is of major importance in the history of designed landscapes and as an example of the Picturesque aesthetic. It is recognised that the estate is also a place in which people live and which is visited by others for leisure and recreation.

The first objective of our field work was to determine the extent to which the structure of the designed landscape had decayed since the end of the eighteenth century. The built artefacts in the grounds have largely disappeared. These have been very well documented by Caroline Kerkham and Stephen Briggs, both Committee members of the Trust.

Hitherto, the original walks have received less attention than these artefacts. The Forestry Commission have provided improved footpaths to Mariamne's Garden and to Mrs Johnes', but in the main these do not follow the original pathways followed by Cumberland and other early tourists. The flower gardens are of special interest as the first elements within the landscape where restoration has commenced. They are also of interest in the context of design history for their rather secret locations, off the main circuit walks. Formerly, they were the homes of novel species, particularly from America.

We concluded that without the walks, Hafod could not once again provide the range of Picturesque beauty for which it had been so famous. Excitement and adrenalin were part of the original experience, and a reflection of the taste for the Sublime. Cavern Cascade is still thrilling, but the walks also led to ledges, chainbridges, torrents and surprise views, where excitement contrasted with beauty.

My own view is that the greatest landscape work at Hafod was in the laying out of the walks. It is indeed unusual to find a designed landscape that is undeniably great but which does not have its greatness underpinned by architecture. But Hafod is special precisely because Thomas Johnes was so faithful to the Picturesque rule that art should be concealed wherever it was necessary to employ it. In the words of Cumberland:

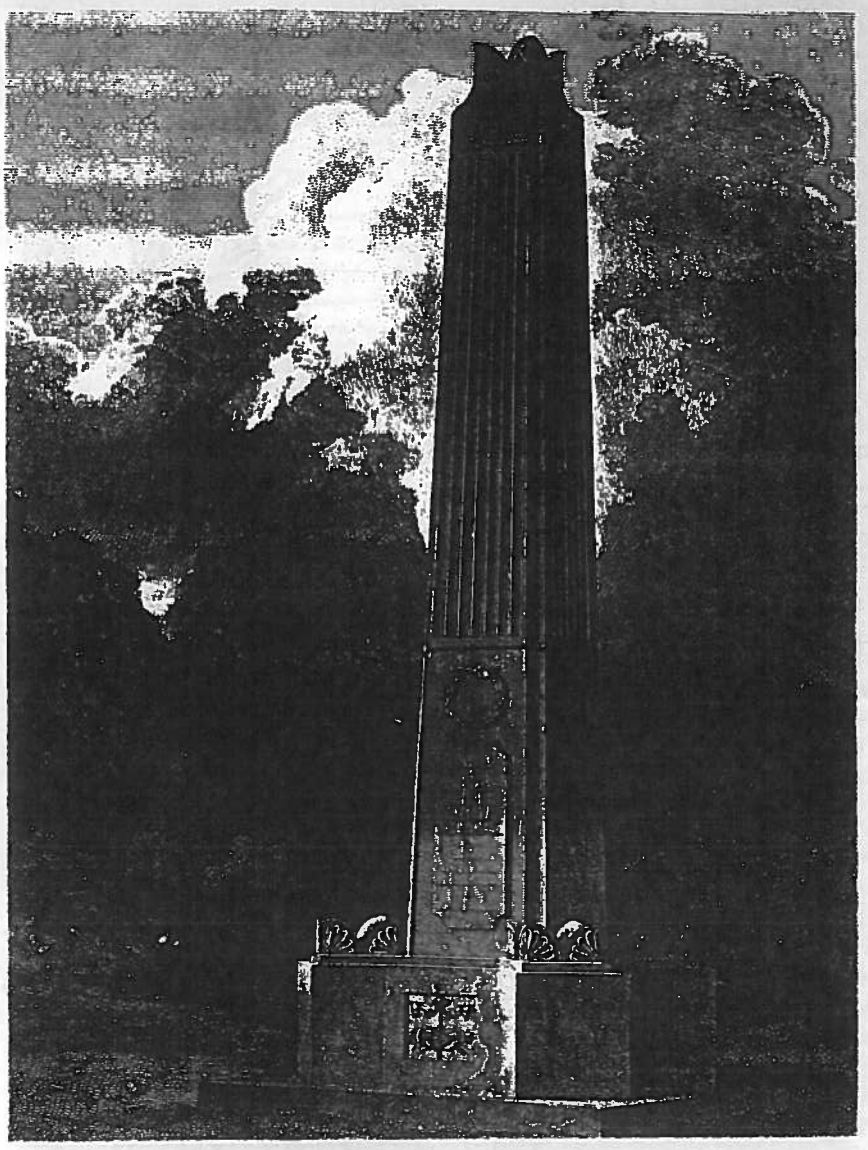
> '...all that is here done, has been to remove obstructions, reduce the materials, and conceal the art; and we are nowhere presented with attempts to force these untamed-streams, or indeed to invent any thing, where nature, the great mistress, has left all art behind.'

Our Conservation Strategic Plan is true to this tradition. The 'natural wildness' of Hafod must never be overshadowed. But the creation of these qualities was the work of a sensitive genius and its survival will depend upon conservation and restoration. But, just as Johnes 'concealed the art', so we must take pains to conceal the restoration process and protect the valued environment which now exists for its people and biology.

We should remind ourselves just how special Hafod is. Cumberland was in no doubt for he had toured:

> '...the Alps, the Apennines, the Sabine Hills, the Tyrollese; along the shores of the Adriatic, over the glaciers of Switzerland and up the Rhine; where, though in search of beauty, I never, I feel, saw anything so fine, never so many pictures concentrated in one spot...'

He had wandered through Wales and



A print of the Monumental Column to the Memory of the Duke of Bedford in the grounds at Hafod. This description accompanied it:

"This Monumental Column is designed for a most beautiful and romantic Situation, formed by a projecting Rock, near the Summit of an abrupt Hill of Rocks and Trees intermingled, and from the Altitude of the situation forms a picturesque and striking object."

The size of the column, the only conspicuous landmark at Hafod, is smaller than the onlooker would suppose – its careful siting makes it seem a massive obelisk – another example of the subtle artistry involved in the creation of Hafod.

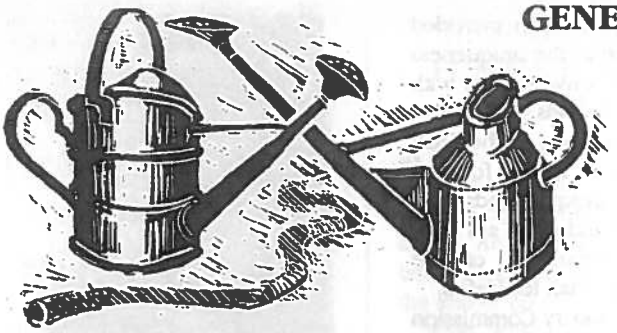
the border counties too, noting:

'Piersfield has grounds of great magnificence, and wonderfully picturesque beauty. Downton Castle has a delicious woody vale, most tastefully managed; Llangollen is brilliant; the banks of the Conway savagely grand; Barmouth romantically rural; the great Pistill Rhayder is horribly wild; Rhyader Wennol, gay, and gloriously irregular...But, at HAFOD and its neighbourhood, I find the effects of all in one circle...'

This rich diversity of Hafod must be preserved and that is why the Conservation Strategic Plan has emphasised the importance of an integrated approach. It is our recommendation that the interests of the people of Hafod and the Upper Ystwyth Valley and the natural history of the area should continue to be protected. We recognise the importance of ensuring that any restoration programme should be compatible with the objectives of the Forestry Commission. What is new is that we have highlighted the importance of the cultural history of Hafod, and suggested an approach to conservation which provides a context in which all interests may be accommodated. In practical terms, we recommend the reinstatement of the bridges – seven are required in all – and the re-opening of about 10km of walks, with restoration of original surfacing and opening of original views where necessary. A simple solution for a great landscape.

Andrew Sclater

GENERAL NOTES



IMAGERY GROUP

AT a very successful meeting in Newtown on 22nd November it was decided that an informal group of amateur and professional photographers should be set up within the Trust. In addition to building up a systematic portfolio of sites it is also proposed to organise a national photography competition. Everybody who has already expressed interest will be kept in touch automatically but anyone else who would like to be involved should make themselves known to the Trust Office. We want to emphasise that members who are keen to learn more about the subject of garden and landscape photography are just as welcome as experts.

Don't forget to renew your subscription – it's what keeps us going!

DISPLAY STANDS

THE Trust urgently needs a set of display stands for use at meetings and exhibitions. They should be easily transportable. If anyone knows a set that is in good condition and available at a reasonable price – or could be donated – please get in touch with the Trust Office.

FUND RAISING

MEMBERS are asked to be aware of the continuing need for funds to support the expanding work of the Trust. The Trust Office holds a licence under the Lotteries and Amusements Act 1976 which enables the Trust and its branches to run small lotteries on behalf of the Trust. The licence is applicable to all branches and Secretaries have the necessary details of this very cost-effective way of raising funds and publicising the work of the Trust.

GARDEN FESTIVAL WALES

IT was announced in **Newsletter No. 5** that sponsorship was forthcoming to enable the Trust and the Samaritans to collaborate in preparing a garden which owed its inspiration to Sir Thomas Hanmer. Unfortunately the commercial sponsor withdrew his offer of support and the hoped-for presence at Ebbw Vale is now most unlikely.

RESEARCHING A GARDEN'S HISTORY

ANYONE who is daunted by the task of attempting to trace the history and origins of a site, and that is most of us, will welcome the publication of David Lambert's pamphlet *Researching a Garden's History* by the Landscape Design Trust. Every branch should have at least one copy and many individual members may well want their own. Copies are available at £5.20 (post free) from:
The Landscape Design Trust, 5a West Street, Reigate, Surrey RH2 9BL.

PLANT PROTECTION

IN the garden at Nanhoron we are lucky enough to have several large 19th century clay pots with a basket weave design. To accompany them there are very elegant pot stands whose precise use always puzzled me. They have a raised gully running round them, the purpose of which was unclear. Some research has revealed all. The 19th century saw great technical advances in the manufacture of clay pots and our saucers are 'annular water savers' – the gully was filled with water to provide a moat as defence against marauding worms or slugs! The illustration below is of a sophisticated version – *Warne's Plant Protector*. Now we know what to do with them, I am looking forward to putting them to good use.

Any member who has strange pots or tools, which they wish to discover the use of, do please write to **The Bulletin** *if possible including a drawing. We will do our best to come up with some interesting answers.*

MEMBERS OUTSIDE WALES

MEMBERS who live outside Wales may feel that they cannot participate in the work of the Trust. To a large extent this is true but it is becoming increasingly evident that material relating to Welsh gardens, parks and landscapes is held in archives outside Wales. Is anyone prepared to accept voluntary commissions to carry out research on behalf of the Trust? *Please* let us know.

Members who live away but spend their holidays in Wales might like to contact their local branch. They are assured of a warm welcome and the opportunity of joining outings and helping with any project work may be in progress.

Members living within reach of London may like to note that there will be an open lecture on the work of the Trust at the Museum of Garden History, Lambeth on Wednesday 3rd June. Further details will follow.

COURSES ON HISTORIC PARKS, GARDENS AND LANDSCAPES

THE University of York continues to run a full programme of courses on conservation, any of which will be of interest to members. For further details please ring **0904 433987**

DIPLOMA COURSE IN LANDSCAPE AND GARDEN CONSERVATION

THE Architectural Association School of Architecture runs a two-year diploma course which is primarily directed towards professionals, although applications from other people who are seriously interested in landscape and garden conservation, and who are prepared to attend lectures in London on Fridays throughout the academic year, will be very welcome. Branches have copies of the draft prospectus, otherwise please telephone **Mr Fawcett** on **071 636 0974.**

CPRW COURSES

THE Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales (CPRW) offers one-day course to members, a number of which are of great interest to the Trust. As an associate member of CPRW the Trust has booked one vacancy on each of the following courses:

13th June

Volunteering (attracting and retaining new members, active involvement, theory into practice, etc.) at **Betws-y-Coed.**

7th November

How to take on the Developers and Win. (The working of the planning system, researching and presenting a case) at **Brecon.**

These vacancies are available on a first-come, first-served basis through the Trust Office. CPRW members can make their own bookings direct through Welshpool.

APOLOGY

WE would like to apologise to all members who received mail from us incorrectly stamped and so had to pay a surcharge. This was an unfortunate slip-up and will not occur again.

TRAINING COURSES

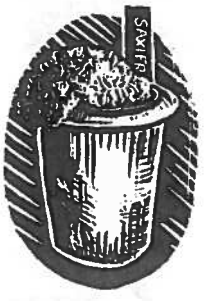
THE first of two residential courses for 1992 on Archival Research and Site Survey will be held 4-6 September, based at Plas Tan-y-Bwlch, Maentwrog. There will be further details in the next **Bulletin**, but please make initial reservations by ringing the Trust Office: 0239 810 432

OBJECTIVES

SO as to concentrate on the most important issues, and as a means by which progress can be measured, the Trust Committees have set objectives for one year ahead, as well as for the next five years. These objectives will be set out for you to study in the next issue of **The Bulletin**. We hope that if you have comments or suggestions on these objectives you will get in touch with a member of your Branch Committee, or drop a line to the Trust Office.

LEGACIES AND GIFTS

IF you are supporting the Trust during your lifetime, please consider a legacy when you draw up or revise your Will. The effects of Capital Transfer Tax can often be reduced by making a gift to the Trust because the gift itself is not subject to the tax and, by making it, you have reduced the size of your taxable estate. Please ask the Trust Office for details.



LETTERS

Dear Members,

The 1980's was a time for "plastic" purchasing – a plethora of synthetic cards adorned the pockets of many a wallet or purse. But what do we do now to fill the empty space when our cards, relegated to marker strips for seed trays, leave unsightly stretch marks which speak volumes about the owner's credit unworthiness?

I think I can solve the problem – membership cards. While busily replenishing the gaps with a diversity of simulations which in many cases, I rarely if ever use, I was dismayed to realise that the one organisation with which I am greatly involved was not represented. Why?

I am sure this simple addition to WHGT membership would be most welcome and who knows maybe a few "perks" could be added to the package, discounts at garden centres, exhibitions etc. ?

Do any other branches feel this would be welcome? Dyfed branch considered it but decided that it would be inappropriate to adopt a card system on its own. Let me know your views via your Branch Representatives and if the majority are in favour then perhaps we can persuade the "powers that be" to adopt this system.

Yours sincerely,
Susan Lloyd-Fern
Chairwoman, Dyfed Branch.

STOP PRESS

The proposed tour of gardens and parks in Wales, to be led by Clay Jones, has had to be postponed.

POWYS BRANCH LAUNCH

The Official launch of the Powys Branch is planned for the weekend of 16th May. Details will be circulated as soon as possible.

DAY TRIP TO DAVID AUSTIN ROSES

Powys have organised a special Day Trip to see David Austin Roses on **Saturday 20th June.** Members from other branches are very welcome to join the party at a cost of £5.00 per head. The coach will depart from Builth Wells at 9.30 a.m., calling at Newtown and Welshpool en route.

Reservations Call Anne Carter on 0982.570.279.

ADVERTISEMENTS :

Members Wants:
Classified advertisements @ 50p a line:

Advice sought on materials and methods of re-coping walls. Reply Box 0001 c/o **The Bulletin, Nanhoron, Pwllheli, Gwynedd.**

The following are examples of the sort of Classified advertisement you might find helpful:

Urgently required, old bricks to repair a path. Telephone Sara Dane on 0123.456.789.

I am looking for a complete set of **Landscape** published 1987-89. Any offers? Telephone: C. Brown 010.203.040.

Advertisements such as these help us to pay for **The Bulletin** *and may help you too.*