

THE SPADE

THE DELIGHTS OF
OXFORDSHIRE GARDENS

ADVENTURES IN TENERIFE

VIEW FROM THE CITY

CHARITY UPDATE: MORE
NEWS ABOUT OUR
CHARITABLE GIVING



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



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THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF GARDENERS



Welcome to the Winter Spade. Written contributions, ideas for articles and help in gathering material and preparing it for publication are always very welcome.

Many of the items in this issue are available at greater length on the Members' side of the Company website.

The public or first page of the website also features a steady stream of news stories about the Company, events in the City and other items of interest in the horticulture and gardening worlds. Click on the News button. Next to it are the links to our Twitter and Instagram accounts. Please send photographs for posting there to Assistant Barbara Segall.

www.instagram.com/gardenliveryco

THE MASTER

John Gilbert

RENTER WARDEN

Cindy Peck

SPADE EDITOR

John Gilbert

UPPER WARDEN

Nicholas Woolf

SPADEBEARER

Alderman Robert Howard

CHARITY EDITOR

Garry Coward-Williams

THE CLERK

Major Jeremy Herrtage

01730 815325 | clerk@gardenerscompany.org.uk

The Gardeners' Company, Ingrams, Ingram's Green, West Sussex, GU29 0LJ

A MESSAGE FROM THE MASTER

Dear fellow Gardeners, I suddenly find myself well past the half way mark in my year of office. Thanks to the lingering Covid effect and a series of strikes, the past seven months have had their trials and tribulations. Key events in our calendar such as Harvest Festival, Autumn Court Dinner, the Red Cross Fair and the Carol service have had to be cancelled, something I very much regret.

But we had some great successes in the Autumn and February kicked off with a fascinating tour of the College of Arms, closely followed by a very well attended Mansion House Banquet.

And we have some splendid highlights to come: Spring Court Dinner and visits to Hampton Court Palace, Chelsea Physic Garden in its 350th year and Down House, the home and laboratory of Charles Darwin. In June we finish the year off with a week based in York exploring some of the county's finest gardens.

The month of May contains of course a highly significant event – the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla. We have joined forces with the Plumbers' Company to present two substantial lead planters to his Majesty to mark the solemn occasion. His Majesty is a Liveryman of the Gardeners' Company and Her Majesty is an Honorary Member of the Plumbers' Company. The planters will be cast at the Plumbers' Company Museum Trust Heritage Workshop at the Amberley Museum in West Sussex by a small group of volunteers. Our gift has been graciously accepted and will be installed against the front wall of Sandringham House.

We are hoping to be allowed to present a bouquet to the Queen, thus continuing a tradition started in 1911 at the Coronation of Queen Mary and carried out ever since on Royal occasions. We are also having small gold coronation crowns made to be added to our court badges. You can't have too much bling.

Eight days after the Coronation on 16th May we will hold a Coronation Banquet at Guildhall to celebrate the beginning of the new Carolean reign. The event will be a fundraiser for Future Gardeners and the auctioneer will be our own David Domoney. I urge you to give this event all the support you can.

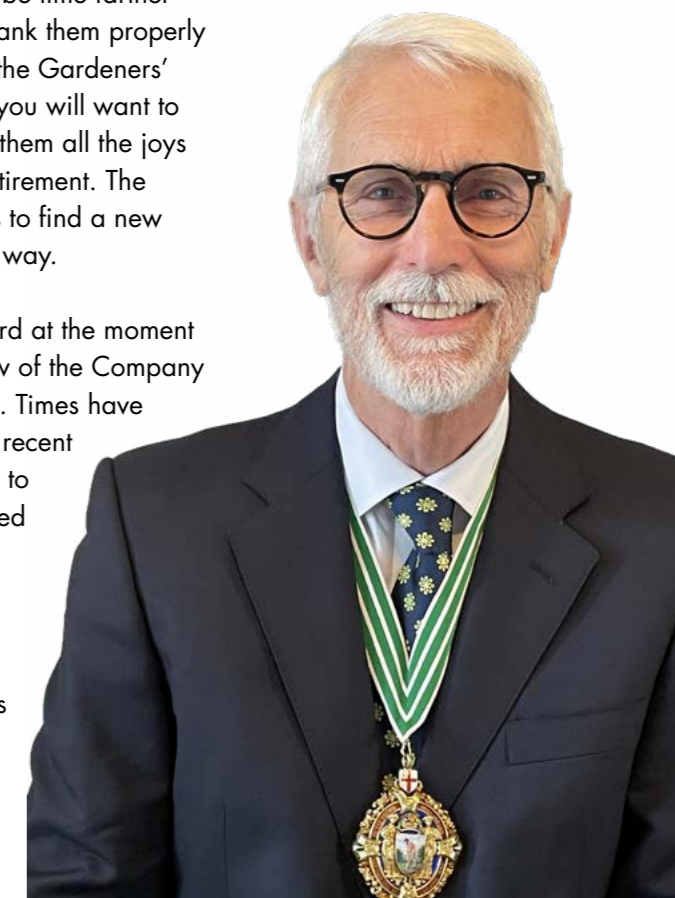
Our Gallant Clerk Jeremy and his Assistant Nicky have decided to retire - after 12 years in post in Jeremy's case. They have agreed to continue their work until the end of my year, for which I am very grateful. There will be time farther along the line to thank them properly for their service to the Gardeners' cause but I'm sure you will want to join me in wishing them all the joys of a well-earned retirement. The recruitment process to find a new Clerk is well under way.

Also moving forward at the moment is a strategic review of the Company and all its activities. Times have changed hugely in recent years and continue to change and we need to make sure the Company is well positioned in the future to not only meet the challenges ahead but also to grow and thrive.

A strong core committee led by Spadebearer Robert Howard has been established and consultation throughout the Company will be wide and thorough. It is hoped to have completed a report by the end of 2023.

Whatever lies ahead, I'm confident that horticulture and gardening will be part of the solution. Vita Sackville-West of Sissinghurst fame put it very well: "The most noteworthy thing about gardeners is that they are always optimistic, always enterprising, and never satisfied. They always look forward to doing something better than they have ever done before".

John Gilbert



DATES FOR
YOUR DIARY

New dates will be added during the year. The Trowel and other circulars from the Clerk will provide further details. The Master may vary eligibility to events. Liverymen and partners will take precedence where numbers are limited.

DATE	EVENT AND DRESS	VENUE AND INFORMATION	ELIGIBILITY
Tue 7th March 2023	COMPANY CATCH-UP Zoom	The Master will bring us up to date with Company activities, members’ contributions and feedback.	The Company & Partners
Tue 14th March 2023	GARDENERS’ QUESTION TIME Zoom	Chaired by TV gardener and Assistant David Domoney. A hand-picked panel of garden experts from the Company will answer your questions.	The Company, Partners & Guests
Tue 28th March 2023	SPRING COURT DINNER Black tie	Student prizes, held over from Autumn Court 2022, will be presented. Principal guest Alan Down newly installed President of the Horticultural Trades Association. Ironmongers’ Hall off Shaftesbury Place, Aldersgate St, Barbican, London EC2Y 8AA.	The Company, Partners & Guests
Friday 31st March 2023	HAMPTON COURT PALACE & GARDENS Comfortable attire	A day trip to the magnificent palace and spring gardens. Graham Dillamore, Head of Gardens, will give us an in-depth tour. Hampton Court Way, Molesey, East Molesey KT8 9AU.	The Company, Partners & Guests
Mon 17th April 2023	CHELSEA PHYSIC GARDEN Comfortable attire	A day visit in the year when the famous garden celebrates its 350th anniversary. A tour of the gardens will be followed by a visit to see the treasures of the Inner Library, not normally open to the public. 66 Royal Hospital Rd, London SW3 4HS.	The Company, Partners & Guests
Tue 16th May 2023	CORONATION BANQUET Black tie	A fund-raising event at Guildhall in aid of Future Gardeners. An opportunity to celebrate the accession of King Charles III and to raise money for our growing horticultural employment project. Gresham Street EC2V 7HH.	The Company, Partners & Guests
Wed 10th May 2023	TRADESCANT COURT LUNCH Lounge suit/equivalent	Our annual Court lunch to celebrate the Tradescants and their contribution to horticulture, postponed from last December. Barber Surgeons’ Hall, Monkwell Square, Wood St, Barbican, London EC2Y 5BL.	Court only
Tue 30th May 2023	FAIRCHILD LECTURE Lounge suit/equivalent	Our annual lecture in honour of Thomas Fairchild at St Giles Cripplegate, Fore Street, London EC2Y 8DA, followed by supper.	The Company, Partners & Guests
Thur 1st June 2023	COMPANY CATCH-UP Zoom	The Master will bring us up to date with Company activities, members’ contributions and feedback.	The Company & Partners
Sat 17th June 2023	DOWN HOUSE & GARDENS Comfortable attire	A day trip to Darwin’s home and laboratory for 40 years where the famous naturalist worked on his theory of evolution by natural selection. Luxted Rd, Downe, Orpington BR6 7JT.	The Company, Partners & Guests
Mon 19th – Fri 23rd June 2023	YORK & THE GARDENS OF YORKSHIRE Comfortable day attire plus lounge suit/equivalent	A four-night trip to the cathedral city and some of Yorkshire’s finest gardens, including York Gate, Scampston Hall and Breezy Knees. We will visit the medieval hall of the Company of Merchant Adventurers of the City of York and spend a day at Bishopthorpe Palace, home of the Archbishop of York. Those who wish to may attend the Eucharist.	The Company, Partners & Guests
Thurs 5th July 2023	INSTALLATION COURT DINNER Black tie	The start of the Gardeners’ year with the installation of the new Master in this splendid hall with an enclosed garden and the organ on which we will be entertained. Merchant Taylors Hall, 30 Threadneedle Street EC2R 8JB.	The Company, Partners & Guests
Thurs 13th July, 2023	DON GIOVANNI and his GARDEN Black tie preferred	An early afternoon visit to the gardens of Glyndebourne with the head gardener followed by tea before the performance of Mozart’s Don Giovanni. Bring your own picnic for the Long Supper Interval. Glyndebourne, Lewes, East Sussex BN85UU. March 31st deadline.	The Company, Partners & Guests
Tue 29th August, 2023	ULTING WICK and FURZELEA Comfortable attire	Liveryman Philippa Burrough has invited the Company for a day visit to her award winning garden Ulting Wick and the nearby Furzelea garden in Essex showcasing late summer colour in the driest part of England. Ulting, Maldon CM9 6QX.	The Company, Partners & Guests
Thurs 6th – Sat 9th September 2023	EDINBURGH AND THE BORDERS Comfortable attire; jacket and tie/equivalent for evenings.	Arrive on 5th September for a three-day visit centred around Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh and its Arboretum in the Borders as well as other specialist gardens. The Master Wax Chandler, the Master’s Consort, is bringing her Company as well.	The Company, Partners & Guests.
Thurs 14th September 2023	GARDENS SPACES AND SURPRISING PLACES Comfortable attire	City of London Guide Robert Woolf will lead us on a late morning City walk which meanders past some lesser known sites and unexpected survivors conveniently finishing for a pub lunch.	The Company, Partners & Guests

CONTRASTING STYLES IN TWO
HISTORIC OXFORDSHIRE GARDENS

The second of the Master’s autumn day trips to Oxfordshire brought us to Broughton near Banbury on 13th September last year.

The morning was spent at Broughton Castle, a fascinating Medieval/Tudor moated and fortified manor house which has remained in the same family since 1377 and is currently home to the 102-year-old 21st Lord Saye and Sele and his wife.

The castle is often the location for period filming, most recently ‘The Crown’, and we began our guided tour in the Great Hall, used for filming parts of the BBC’s ‘Wolf Hall’. The evolution of the building over many centuries has created an intriguing amalgam of style and period.

Climbing up to the leaded roof provided the perfect view of the formal Ladies’ Garden, a walled area established in the 1890s on the site of a 16th Century kitchen garden. Gardener Chris Hopkins gave us a tour of the gardens and mixed borders. The existing planting, full and relaxed, was guided by leading American garden designer Lanning Roper in the 1970s.

After lunch we made the short journey to Broughton Grange, another private house with a garden planted in a very different and more contemporary style. Dating from the 1620s and originally part of the Broughton Castle estate, the Grange developed over time into an estate in its own right and was owned by the Morrell family for 200 years until bought by the present owners in 1992. The famous society hostess and influential patron of the arts Lady Ottoline Morrell held court here with Bertrand Russell, Lytton Strachey, D.H. Lawrence and many others.

Guided by Head Gardener Andrew Woodall and his assistant Ryan Lucraft, we explored extensive planted areas including woodland garden, stumpery, parterre, rose garden, fountain garden, water meadow and spring walk. Controversially, there is a large terraced area built with peat blocks to accommodate acid-loving plants.

The centre-piece of what is a truly magnificent garden, however, is the walled garden created by designer Tom Stuart-Smith in what was originally a six-acre field. Started in 2001 it is now remarkably mature with an imposing water feature and rill, bold and striking planting and all maintained to a very high standard.

Views down the valley and across the Victorian parkland are very impressive and are now enhanced by a developing 80-acre arboretum started in 2003.



The Ladies’ Garden, seen from the leaded roof of Broughton Castle. Photograph John Gilbert.

THE RACE TO CONTROL THE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE OF TOMORROW

US President Joe Biden's Reduction of Inflation Act contained a \$369bn package of incentives, subsidies and tax breaks for green investment. It aims to Hoover up footloose world investment in electric vehicles, batteries, green energy, electric heating and the varied products of the green revolution.

It wishes to enforce rising levels of domestic manufacture in the US. The subsidy of up to \$7,500 to buy a new electric car requires the manufacturer to secure at least 40% of the critical minerals from US sources this year, rising to 80% after 2026. Half of the battery for the vehicle needs to come from the US this year, increasing to 100% after 2028. The manufacturers will have to document the supplies to establish their right to offer the price cut and subsidy to customers.

There are other state inducements for people to acquire heat pumps, insulation, heat pump clothes dryers, electric cookers, improved home wiring and less draughty doors and windows depending on criteria for entitlement. There are also schemes for buying electric commercial vehicles and a sustainable aviation fuel credit.

The European Union has complained about these policies, fearing its companies will lose out. It is also threatening retaliation, looking to design a counterpackage.

The Germans are not keen on the idea of a new EU-level fund paid for by further EU borrowing, on top of the €800bn Recovery Fund in place. Less well-financed member states are angry with Germany for its €200bn energy policy of domestic support as they do not have the money to do something similar.

There is general agreement on extending the suspension or relaxation of state aid rules, allowing countries greater freedom to introduce tax breaks and subsidies on the road to net zero, following the similar relaxation for the Covid-19 recovery. The Recovery Fund itself, and the Just Transition Fund, are already geared to the wider task of cutting carbon dioxide emissions and promoting green technologies. The EU has set tougher targets for reductions in carbon dioxide and higher targets for renewable energy by 2030.

The President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, recently argued for the relaxation of state aid rules but also warned against going too wide and too long with the changes. She worries it could have a "fragmenting effect on the single market" given Germany's superior borrowing power and ability to spend a lot on trying to buy advantage for its industry. There is talk of a new European Sovereign fund this summer to offer more money to poorer nations, though there is no agreement on how extra cash will be raised for such an initiative.

It is likely the EU will find a bit more money, mainly from its nations, to build the subsidy pile. The US is in talks and may abate some of the rigours of its Made in the USA campaign at the margin to reduce the complaints from EU companies with US investments. The energy sector in the EU has become a tangled web of consumer subsidies, price controls, business subsidies and windfall taxes as the governments and EU seek to cushion the blow of higher prices and at the same time accelerate a big pivot away from such dependence on fossil fuels. It

appears this energy-sector model may now spread more widely into areas such as heating, battery and vehicle manufacture as the US and EU struggle to attract more of the investments and technology – and as the West seeks to displace China from so many supply chains.

It means slower growth and higher costs than allowing unalloyed global competition. Investors will be able to find some winners amongst those companies that get the government support to establish new plants in safe countries. There will be good profits made from selling subsidised products to consumers who are still needing more persuasion to buy into the electrical revolution.

The aim is to transfer not just the activities and resources from the China bloc, but also the profits and tax revenues. This will help quoted companies in advanced countries, though the extra turnover and profits are likely to be subject to somewhat higher taxation as governments seek to offset the extra costs of an interventionist policy.



PLANT TRIALS, NOTABLE TREES AND PREMIER LEAGUE PLANTING

Which? Gardening magazine has been trialling plants for nearly 40 years and at the beginning of October the Master and a group of Gardeners were given a tour of its trials site, part of the Capel Manor College campus in Enfield, and encountered a field full of colour.

Our guide was the magazine's Principal Researcher Adele Dyer who described the one, two and occasionally three-year trials which new and familiar plants are put through in order for them to be ranked as "best buys" or otherwise in the monthly magazine.

This year's unusual weather has caused some problems to the wide range of perennials and shrubs in evidence. The Hylotelephium (sedum) trial suffered in the heat and had to be abandoned; it will be resumed next year. A highly colourful bed of Dahlias in often surprising colours clamoured for our attention but had been very slow to get going.

As well as plants, recent trials have included soil improvers. A current experiment is assessing the viability of re-using old compost rather than replacing with new.

The trials are conducted with scientific rigour with plants judged against a wide range of criteria. Adele told us that the criterion "pollinator-friendly" had become increasingly important to readers and that the magazine's policy was to only assess plants which readers would be able easily to buy.

We were then given a tour of the notable trees on the college's 30-acre estate by Adam Sarfas, Head of Arboriculture, Agriculture and Environmental Conservation.

The current manor house dates from the late 18th Century but the land around it has a much longer and chequered history and this is reflected in the tree population. We were shown some splendid oaks, scots pines and a huge *Liriodendron tulipifera*. This last has a strangely swollen base, caused many years ago by a colony of mice ring-barking the trunk, an attack from which, mercifully, it recovered.

We saw a *Quercus turneri*, the semi-evergreen oak, planted over 50 years ago by Prince Phillip, now a healthy, medium-sized tree and, most striking of all, a rare *Zelkova carpinifolia* (Caucasian elm) of huge dimensions.

We heard of the problems caused by pests and diseases, the challenges of reconciling good tree management practice with other demands in this space used by students and visiting members of the public and also some of Adam's ambitious plans for a sustainable future for this precious habitat.

After lunch at the college we transferred to the nearby Tottenham Hotspur training ground at Hotspur Way. This the is Premier League club's headquarters and it includes 15 grass pitches maintained to the highest conceivable standard, an organic kitchen garden, an orchard and extensive ornamental planting.

The 77-acre rural site has been beautifully and sensitively landscaped. Historic hedgerows and boundaries have been restored and many trees planted. Rainwater from the whole estate is captured in an attenuation pond which also provides a wetland environment and highly attractive water feature.

Garden manager Sam Simper and his Grounds manager colleague Nick Phillips drove us around the large site in golf buggies and, despite inclement weather, a wonderful afternoon was enjoyed by all.

Report by John Gilbert



Hon. Archivist Georgina Craufurd with chauffeur Sam Simper at the Spurs training ground. Photograph John Gilbert.

WHAT YOU CAN LEARN FROM A PROPER HERBACEOUS BORDER

Waterperry Gardens – what a treasure! Never having visited before, I jumped at the chance to join our Master’s third Oxford gardens trip in September.

With time to spare before the tour, I visited the church with Lady Georgina Crauford. Lucky me! She generously shared her knowledge of medieval stained glass. Some of the panes date back to the 14th Century and had been left alone by those pesky Victorians. I almost felt my day was complete before I had even seen an aster or a dahlia.

Fortunately for us, the BBC have not snapped up our guide Rob Jacobs. In a sandstone amphitheatre (yes, amphitheatre!) Rob took the stage and regaled us with the history of Waterperry, from the Domesday Book to the present day.

A glorious Oxfordshire country estate by the side of the river Thames, it survived the Civil War. In the 20th Century it came into the hands

of Magdalene College, then Miss Beatrix Havergal, who founded the Waterperry School of Horticulture for young ladies, before passing to the School of Philosophy and Economic Science. I felt that my ticket for today was money well spent and I was still only at the entrance to the paradise.

There was much to admire in the gardens – a pleasant and peaceful walled garden, an apple tree with approaching 50 of the garden’s 68 different varieties grafted onto it, the serene river.

As we approached a circle of yew trees, a Gardener I was walking with whispered, did her eyes deceive her, or were we gazing upon Stone Henge in yew? We suppressed our giggles, only to be informed by our guide that the yew circle was indeed a shrub Stone Henge. He felt as we did about it. Later, a Gardener told me the yews are not thriving as the soil is sandy-loam.

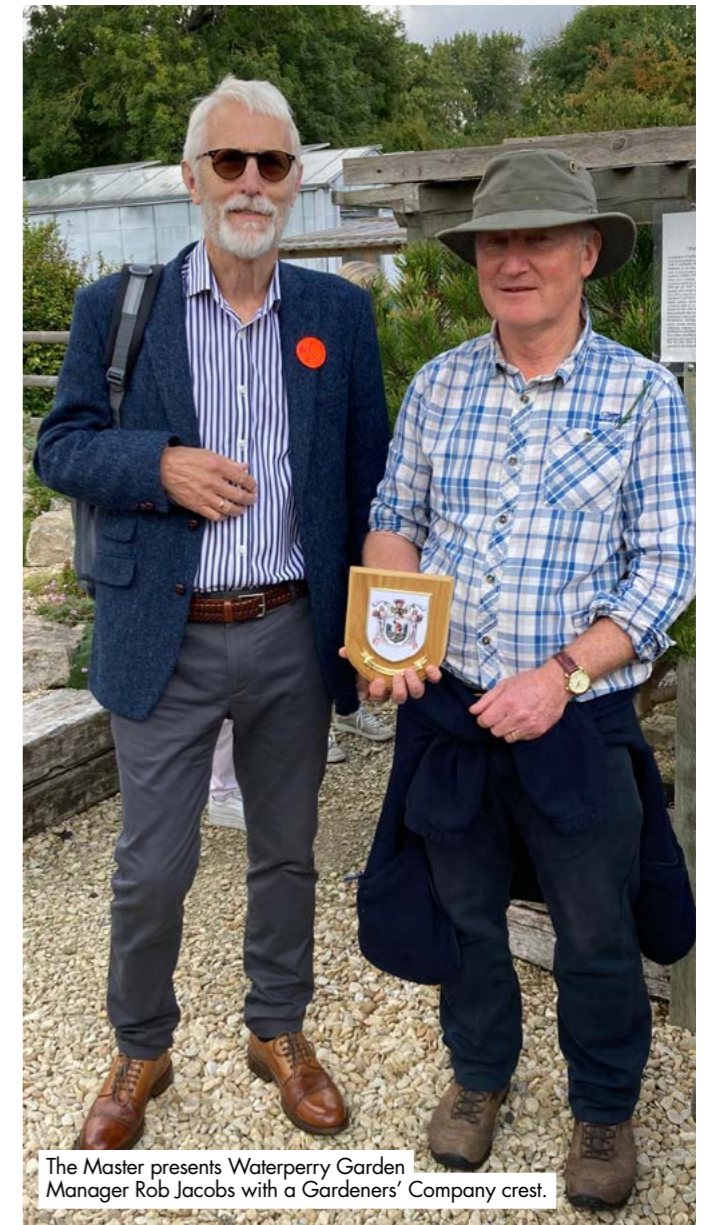
But for me, the pièce de résistance – the glorious herbaceous border, a cornucopia of pinks, golds, purples and reds. And now, thanks to Rob, I know why my own herbaceous border is so underwhelming. I have missed a trick with the planting scheme and should have modelled it on Waterperry’s three seasons of lupins, delphiniums, and Michaelmas daisies.

I grab the first bamboo canes to hand, rather than follow Waterperry’s example of staking with elegant, slim hazel boughs; mine is not 12 feet deep (how could it be when the lawn alongside doubles as a football pitch?) and I don’t have a bona-fide wall erected by Napoleonic prisoners of war. That’s it! That’s what I need, a wall with a history. Anyone know where I can find one?

Report by Zoe Jasko



Rob the garden story teller in full flow.



The Master presents Waterperry Garden Manager Rob Jacobs with a Gardeners' Company crest.



A proper herbaceous border.



Rob gives the history of Waterperry in the amphitheatre.

STEP UP TO HELP REDUCE THE COMPANY'S CARBON FOOTPRINT

PM Dr Heather Barrett-Mold and Assistant Dr Sid Sullivan call on members to join an important piece of work

Gardeners are nature's environmentalists, leaning into nature and working alongside her. Much of what we practise is now part and parcel of the business world's concern and many people are beginning to measure the extent of their everyday carbon footprint and to take action to reduce it. Gardeners have of course, as part of good husbandry, been undertaking such steps over very many years.

Our natural wish and individual effort to reduce our environmental impact acts as a counterbalance to the footprint that the Company creates as it goes about its important business. However, we can and should do more to reduce that footprint.

The Livery Companies within the City of London have risen to the challenge and established a Cross-Livery Climate Action Group (LCAG), currently numbering 80 Livery Companies, including our own. LCAG supports the City's Climate Action Strategy; Heather Barrett-Mold represents our Company on this initiative.

Each Livery Company is currently working towards reducing its emissions. A few are piloting the establishment of a carbon emission baseline in order to inform an action plan to both review their footprint and to take appropriate action to reduce it. This work will take the form of a continuing series of reports and actions concerning our footprint rather than a single report.

For our part, the initial work of establishing an initial base line for the Gardeners' Company has been achieved with the able assistance of the Clerk. It is both an excellent start and provides an interesting overview of our current carbon footprint. A table of the current approximate position based on pre-Covid attendance, prepared by Dr Heather Barrett-Mold, is set out below.

Car mileage
23696/year 6.61 tonnes
CO2 / year equivalent to 296
journeys of 80 miles

Train mileage
94368/year 5.33 tonnes
CO2 / year note equivalent to 1200
journeys of 80 miles

Coach mileage
3600 / year
0.48 tonnes CO2 / year

Taxi mileage
200 / year
0.05 tonnes CO2 / year

Air mileage
7000 / year
1.67 tonnes CO2 / year

Homeworking
1 FTE 0.65 tonnes CO2 / year

Overnight stays
330 / year 46.83 tonnes
CO2 / year – standard hotels
73.62 tonnes if luxury hotels used

Meals
1310 / Year 3.11 tonnes
CO2 / year

Total 64.73 tonnes CO2 / year

The next stage of this work is to refine the data and the method by which it is collected. That will result

in a proposed policy document, to be presented to Court that will set future standards and methods for assessing the Company's carbon footprint, thereby bringing us to the forefront of a carbon reduction strategy and process.

An initial report has been presented to Court and arising from their deliberations a Carbon Emissions Footprint Working Party was created, chaired by Dr Sid Sullivan working alongside Dr Heather Barrett-Mold. The primary aim of the working party will be to expand, refine and enlarge the data, periodically reporting to Court.

The Court was keen to involve the membership at large and those interested are invited to nominate themselves onto the committee by emailing the Clerk. He will prepare a list of nominees in readiness for the first meeting of the working party, provisionally set for the Spring of this year.

The working party will comprise up to eight members; corresponding members will also be welcome. Meetings will be on Zoom.

This is important work, and work that we as a Company are ideally placed to undertake. We therefore invite you to join us, either as a member or as a corresponding member. This working party will assist the Company to establish its bona fides in this important environmental matter. The project also provides the Company with an opportunity to showcase the depth and breadth of its knowledge, expertise and commitment to Gardening and thereby, the environment. We urge you to consider contributing your knowledge and expertise to enhance the work of the working party.

CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the second Charity pages supplement where you can read about some of the grants that we have recently made.

A few words on our accounts. You may have visited the Charity pages after you logged onto the Company website where you can see the Charity Accounts 2021/2022 up to June. For those of you who haven't, total income was £88,500 of which £56,600 was from your donations and its associated gift aid, with the rest of income coming from the Charity's Investment Portfolio.

The funds distributed via the 32 grants we made was £92,100. We were able to gift more than our income because in the previous year fewer grants had been made than income received.

So far in this financial year we have made 17 grants ranging from £500 to £5000.

Enough from me about our income and grants. On the following pages you will find stories about how these grants are being used.

THE COLGRAVE SEABROOK HORT TECH AWARD

The Worshipful Company of Gardeners of London Charity awarded a grant in November 2022 of £5,000 annually for the next three years. Jeff Colgrave explains what the Hort Tech Award is and how it can benefit horticulture.

"Commercial growers, across all aspects of horticulture, are facing enormous pressures from all directions, particularly labour shortages and increasingly stringent chemical-use restrictions. There is an increasing amount of work going on to address these challenges and find sustainable long-term solutions. Much of this work goes under the heading of horticultural technology, or Hort Tech for short. The Colegrave Seabrook Foundation has as its charitable aim 'the promotion of education and research in the field of horticulture' and the recently launched Hort Tech award is designed to marry those two objectives by providing a grant of £5,000 to an academic or student focused on researching

and/or developing novel solutions to some of the biggest challenges that growers currently face."

"The Worshipful Company of Gardeners has generously agreed to sponsor this award, recognising that support for the development of new ideas and concepts that will hopefully ultimately translate into commercial products will benefit the grower, and the consumer, by helping the U.K. develop greater self-sufficiency and reliability in the supply of homegrown flowers and vegetables."

"The Hort Tech award will support the movement towards the adoption of new technologies that will make the horticultural industry more resilient and will in turn also help attract a new generation of youngsters who will be attracted by the 'cross-pollination' of growing plants and utilising advanced technologies such as robots for harvesting and packaging."



**David Aitchison-Tait,
Chairman**

John Gilbert, Master, said: "The Worshipful Company of Gardeners of London Charity Trustees are delighted to support this award to further the use of technology within the horticultural industry."

Students, academics or other eligible individuals who are interested in applying for this scholarship should visit the Hort Tech Award Colgrave Seabrook Foundation website where they can find more details.



Chairman David Aitchison-Tait (left) with the Master, John Gilbert (centre) and Jeff Colgrave.

MEMORY GARDEN FOR DEMENTIA SUFFERERS

Dementia Support received a grant of £2,770 from the Worshipful Company of Gardeners of London Charity to create a memory garden

Sage House in Chichester is a unique dementia hub — the first of its kind in the UK, providing a full range of dementia services under one roof. In the corner of the plot was a disused patch of land that is in the process of being cleared so that a garden can take its place. The garden will be maintained by attendees at the charity's Day Breaks and activity sessions-helping to keep them active. The garden area will also offer mental wellbeing benefits, providing a calming environment for customers to enjoy the many benefits of fresh air, nature, and the process of growing plants. The garden will be safely away from the road and include raised beds, to help avoid the need to bend. The charity's customer feedback group, Friends of Sage House, will be involved in choosing the plants for the garden.

There will also be a planting of Forget-Me-Nots, widely recognised as a symbol of dementia.

Stimulating their senses

Gardening helps people with dementia to socialise by bringing them together and establishing a connection through a shared endeavour. The physical element helps with cardiovascular health, as well as strength and balance. It will help stimulate the senses and prompt memories, helping to improve wellbeing. Plants, gardening, and the natural world can be a trigger for fond memories, and we will use the garden to encourage reminiscence of colours, plants, and smells from people's memories.

Carers benefit too

Carers will benefit from the garden as a quiet, safe space for reflection outdoors, as well as somewhere to remember loved ones who they have lost to dementia. It will become an outdoor focal point for people

with dementia and carers. Emma Radley, Chief Operations Officer said: "This garden will provide an exciting new opportunity for us to engage our customers in meaningful activities. We recognise the many benefits that gardening brings and want to support our customers to enjoy gardening in a safe way. Alongside our full range of services, this is another way for us to provide excellent care for people with dementia and for them to connect with the natural world."

Volunteers give their time

The work to transform the garden space is being carried out by volunteers, and the maintenance will be performed by people living with dementia. Work to create the garden began in June with students from Seaford College volunteering their time to help clear the area. More volunteers are lined up over the coming weeks to help continue the process of transforming the garden.

been able to do much. I'm not a fan of being outdoors in cold weather, but I think that if I can do this it's a great sense of achievement as I wouldn't normally push myself to go out.

Not being an outsider and I have something to aim for

I often feel like I'm an outsider and that people are not kind to people who are different. But here I feel like I don't have to hide who I am. I'm really looking forward to doing more structured learning with the City and Guilds course, and getting a qualification at the end is something to aim for."



SCHOOLS OUTREACH VIDEO

A project to inspire future generations

The Worshipful Company of Gardeners believes passionately that horticulture has the power to change the world. That is why we chose to work with young people to understand their views of the industry and produce a video - funded by a generous grant from the Worshipful Company of Gardeners of London Charity - to encourage the next generation of horticulturists. As Jonathan Matheson, Head of Schools Outreach explained: "Career consultants and school pupils will be unaware that Horticulture encompasses over 70 different careers which, together, have the power to offset climate change."

Understanding horticultural opportunities

When asked for their views on horticulture, most young people are unsure what it is, although some associate it with gardening or plants. The first task was to explain more, share the breadth and depth of opportunities in the industry and actively engage young people in considering new careers. We also

thought it important to outline the context in which we are working: climate change, environmental uncertainty and disappearing habitats all of which threaten the stability of our planet.

Hands-on experience

The Worshipful Company of Gardeners collaborated with Archbishop Tenison's school in Croydon and the local charity, Good Food Matters (GFM), to provide young people with hands-on experience of horticulture and the opportunity to create a video that would encourage their peers to get involved in the world of horticulture. Visiting GFM provided young people with the opportunity to enjoy horticulture themselves by learning more about the food cycle, planting and picking produce and the world of pollinators.

Showcasing career diversity

In addition, our filmmakers, led by Andrew Cleminson, looked at previously created Livery Company content and combined it with newly shot footage. This enabled us to showcase a wide range of horticulture-based careers including

the planting and maintenance of sports fields, plant pathology, marketing and social media. We also included input from some of the personalities of horticulture including: Sue Kent (Physiotherapist and TV presenter); Charles Shi (Botanical Horticulturist, Kew Gardens); and Hattie Moore (Sculptor and Horticultural Student). Their experience shows that there are several pathways into our industry. As Margie Holland Prior, Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Gardeners and Chairman of the Education Committee puts it: "Horticulture has so many career streams that it's almost overwhelming to choose. The Environment and its good health is essential for the world and our wellbeing."

Well received at job fairs

Our work in making this video has shown us that young people can develop a deep interest in our industry and become ambassadors to encourage others to join us. Our video has been well received at job fairs and will continue to be used by us as we work with schools across the UK. To watch our video visit: <https://youtu.be/Yd92DUxbfnM>

GROWING OUT UPDATE

In 2022 The Worshipful Company of Gardeners of London Charity granted Thrive's Growing Out Pathway project £30,000 over three years in £10,000 tranches. Here is their update

From October to December 2022:

- 21 clients attended a Pathway programme
- 3 clients were enrolled on the Level 1 City and Guilds Practical Horticulture Skills
- Clients attended 101 garden sessions

A client's experience

"Coming here has been better than I expected. It was scary at first, meeting new people and trying

something new, but I feel really comfortable here. I can be me and don't have to apologise for being me. I feel very safe and welcomed. It has really helped me because I was at a very low point when I first came.

Having a structure and being disciplined

It has benefited me knowing what I am doing each week and it has been an anchor for the rest of the week. It forces me to be more disciplined as I struggle with structuring my time and organising myself. I find I can focus more on tasks and get absorbed by what I'm doing, and it helps to get rid of bad thoughts in my mind. It's given me something to aim for as I have been chronically ill and not



Nothing is more pleasing than your first home-grown harvest



Visiting the farm gave children the chance to learn more about the food cycle



Children quickly engage in gardening activity even when they have little experience

HORATIO'S GARDEN

Created to help the recovery of people with serious spinal injuries

"I'm so glad I didn't give up and Horatio's Garden helped me so much. The healing power of nature is so important."

These were 36-year-old Charlotte's words as she wheeled her way out of The London Spinal Cord Injury Centre (LSCIC) at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital (RNOH) in Stanmore, the home of Horatio's Garden London & South East. When she arrived, she was paralysed from the waist down. Now, she's walking once again. For Charlotte, a combination of excellent clinical care and the natural tonic offered by Horatio's Garden gave her the hope and energy she needed to remain positive throughout her rehabilitation.

Regional spinal injury centres

Horatio's Garden is a nationwide charity creating and nurturing beautiful, restorative, fully accessible gardens to support the wellbeing of everyone affected by spinal injury. This includes patients, their loved ones and NHS staff spending time in the 11 regional NHS spinal injury centres across the country. All of Horatio's Garden's work is



Charlotte with Head Gardener Ashley Edwards, learning horticultural therapy

evidence-based. 91% of patients say that Horatio's Garden has positively affected their wellbeing, whilst 86% of patients say that Horatio's Garden has positively affected their mental health. Additionally, 88% of patients say that Horatio's Garden has helped their rehabilitation, with 90% finding both the charity's craft sessions and live music performances helpful. As Charlotte says, "It's just amazing what nature can do. It's very inspiring and I think it can make all of us try and make us able to push through difficulties."

Six gardens throughout the UK

To date, there are six Horatio's Gardens open throughout the UK, with a seventh in Northern Ireland due to be built and opened this year. All are designed by leading landscape designers, including James Alexander-Sinclair, Tom Stuart-Smith, Sarah Price and Andy Sturgeon. The charity relies entirely on public donations to both build and maintain every garden. "We really appreciate the generous contribution The Worshipful Company of Gardeners made towards Horatio's Garden London & South East. Your support has helped us to create this beautiful project, one which supports thousands of



A patient enjoying being able to engage with gardening in Horatio's in Glasgow

people affected by spinal injury every year" says Bethan Cummings, Director of Fundraising at Horatio's Garden.

Horatio's Garden at Chelsea 2023

For the first time ever, Horatio's Garden will create a show garden on Main Avenue at RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2023 too! Designed by Charlotte Harris and Hugo Bugg of Harris Bugg Studio and generously funded by Project Giving Back, Horatio's Garden at RHS Chelsea will form the heart of the charity's eighth garden in Sheffield, due to be built in 2024.

Founder's thoughts

"As understanding of gardens and their importance in health and wellbeing increases, our impact studies have again affirmed our purpose. We remain determined to deliver evidence-based projects to improve the lives of everyone affected by life-changing spinal injuries" says Dr Olivia Chapple, Founder & Chair of Trustees of Horatio's Garden.

To find out more and support Horatio's Garden, visit www.horatiogarden.org.uk



Patient with a volunteer at Horatio's Garden at Stoke Mandeville



COP 15 AND THE LATEST TARGETS TO PROTECT BIODIVERSITY

PM Dr Heather Barrett-Mold explains the different COP conferences, focusing specifically on COP15 and its strategies to halt bio-diversity loss. Chaired by China and hosted by Montreal, it was held last December

COP is short for the Conference of the Parties. In 2022 there were three: biodiversity (COP15), climate change (COP27) and world wildlife (COP19). The numbers refer to how many times the parties have met. Biodiversity and climate change are closely linked but COP15 will focus on strategies to halt biodiversity loss, whereas COP27 is focusing on limiting global warming to below two degrees and mitigation of climate change.

Biodiversity range and quantity is essential to reaching net zero and will contribute solutions to the challenges of a changing climate such as food security and drought. There were over 190 governments represented as well as delegates from business, academia and a host of community groups. The objective for COP15 was to bring together countries to agree on targets to ensure the survival of species and prevent the decline of ecosystems across the world. Targets, agreed at COP10 in Aichi, Japan, have not been met.

In mid-December 2022 the delegates of countries agreed to adopt a new deal to protect biodiversity globally: The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The new framework contains 23 targets to restore and protect biodiversity. The targets are not SMART* and so need a level of specificity to be put in place by governments to provide a better and more evidence-based outcome than previously. Funding will be required to ensure

enforcement and monitoring.

The framework includes a target for the conservation of at least 30% of the earth's land and water by 2030 – already known by its abbreviation of 30 x 30. There is a recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples and their role in delivering the 30 x 30 target.

"Failure to do so within this timeframe could result in continued and irrecoverable declines in biodiversity, ecosystem functions and the array of associated societal benefits. Area-based conservation, inclusive of protected areas (PAs) and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs), will be an essential tool towards this effort." (19/12/22 India Stephenson, British Ecological Society response to the new Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework).

In the UK protected areas make up 27% of land, and Marine Protected Areas cover 38% of UK seas, however both are subject to a range of pressures and failure to manage them effectively. The report of the British Ecological Society Protected Areas and Nature Recovery determines that effective protection could be as low as 5%.

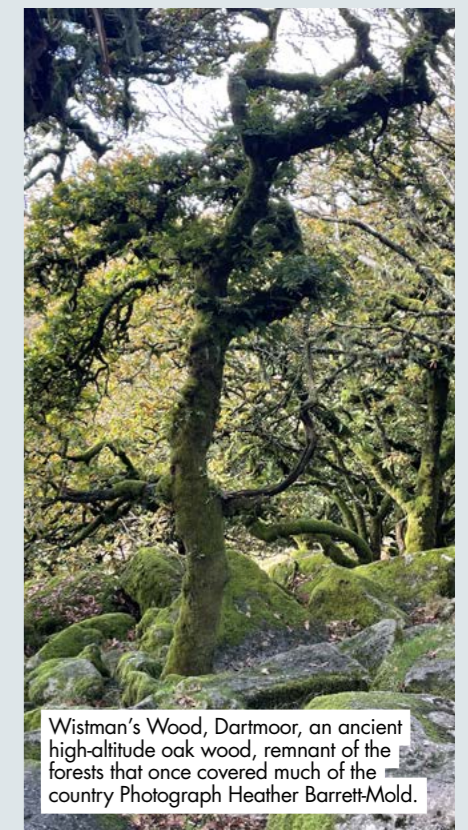
The new framework stresses the need to create well-connected systems of protected areas incorporating other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs). The land surrounding protected areas must be well-managed if they are to be effective; likewise, good environmental policies are needed. Agricultural policies will be critical in halting biodiversity loss, and the target to reform \$500 billion of environmentally-damaging

subsidies, such as those supporting unsustainable agriculture, is helpful.

"Many scientists agree that biodiversity is at a tipping point, and decisions made now at COP15 may be our last chance to conserve the natural world and our existence as we know it." (11/22 What is COP 15 RBGKew Explained: What is COP15 and why is it important? | Kew)

*Specific. Measurable. Achievable. Realistic. Timely.

This blog appears on the Livery Climate Action Group's website. The group was formed in 2021 to assist City of London Livery Companies and Guilds to manage their impact on climate change and the environment by reducing carbon emissions and making responsible use of resources. The Gardeners' Company was one of 13 founder members: there are now 60 Livery Companies involved.



Wistman's Wood, Dartmoor, an ancient high-altitude oak wood, remnant of the forests that once covered much of the country Photograph Heather Barrett-Mold.

AGATHA CHRISTIE, ALEXANDER VON HUMBOLDT AND MARIANNE NORTH...

Liveryman Katarina Heldring-Morris reports on a recent visit to two very special gardens in Tenerife

The Sitio Litre Garden in Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife, makes the most of its famous associations, though they may be shorter than implied. It emphasises orchids, but this is more tourist bait than the real joy. But, it is a garden. Not botanical – a croquet lawn (not manicured) instead of neat plant labels.

Many of the plants one sees in the UK in conservatories, on windowsill; here they are planted in the ground, growing, thriving, blooming, some massive. It is an exotic garden for working, traveling, ex-pats to enjoy, such as Agatha Christie (who wrote 'The Mysterious Mr Quin' there in 1930. More significant are the famous German botanist Alexander von Humboldt and Marianne North, who in 1875 produced 27 paintings around Tenerife and the garden. Several paintings loaned from her marvellous gallery at RBG Kew are dotted around the garden where they were painted, with explanations of the subjects.

The collection mixes together eclectic, eccentric, exotic, and more common: Bougainvillea (many and various), Bismarkia, *Strelitzia augusta* and *S. reginae*, Dragon trees, Norfolk Island pine, numerous cacti, cluttered around and climbing over each other, multi-storey up to great height. It is an unusual, rare example of a long-developed garden in which to relax and enjoy... so do so, but mind the house cat, and the iguana.

A few blocks away, is the Tenerife Acclimatisation Botanical Garden. This is much bigger and a real botanical garden. Whether it is

better, or they are not comparable, is down to one's preferences. It has plant labels, is carefully organised, and has some information boards, a good map, and similarly some very big, old, plants.

Initiated in 1788 to acclimatise tropical species before moving them to Spain, though many plants flourished here, there were few suitable for the Iberian peninsula. It is now very much a research and scientific institution, and has serious collections emphasising varieties of palms such as Bromeliaceae, Araceae and Moraceae. However there are many plants and trees, fascinating in size, age, rarity, remoteness of origin and beauty.

Potentially commercial plants abound – bananas, coffee (*Coffea arabica*), plus a number of attractions such as various Strelitziaceae, but also others of varying potential, from a large number of ferns, to great trees, gingko, epiphytes, many

others. Again, some of these are in English conservatories, but not in the ground, outdoors, massive.

There is a quite astonishing Lord Howe's Ficus ("a gigantic tree with a large central trunk surrounded by large adventitious roots") planted in the 1870 by the Swiss gardener and botanist Herman Wildpret, Cacti, Aloes, Musaceae, Heliconiaceae (including *H. collinsiana*), *Araucaria bidwillii*, *Pandanus utilis*, and a range of Agave. One standout is *Coussapoa dealbata*, a mass of intertwining trunks, one of the most spectacular specimens.

This is apparently rated one of the most important of botanical gardens globally. More formal, less cosy than Sitio Litre, covering 20,000m² though easy to get around, it has some disorder and aesthetic arrangement, plants left to do as they like, a certain clutter, plenty of height and shade. It is a most pleasant amble around for specialist and non-specialist alike.



Strelitzia, Agatha Christie and Marianne North, famous visitors to Puerto de la Cruz.