



## Wydale Hall and YGT welcome Syrian Refugees

Looking back to August 2019, we were delighted to enable a wonderful afternoon at The Emmaus Centre, Wydale Hall (the Diocese of York's retreat and conference centre), for a number of families now settled in Scarborough. Highlights included the walled garden with its labyrinth and butterfly-smothered buddleja before we all enjoyed a delicious buffet of Yorkshire and Syrian dishes. A full report can be found on p. 31 of the Autumn 2020 Newsletter. We look forward to planning a day out for further resettled refugees in 2021.



*(Photo credits: Wydale Hall: EI Media; other photos: Penelope Dawson Brown)*



# Letter to the Editor

*Dear Editor*

I was delighted to see in the Autumn 2020 YGT Newsletter that the future of the Aysgarth rock garden has been secured. So few 19th and early 20th century rock gardens survive in their entirety, making Aysgarth especially important.

Although Aysgarth is generally described as a Backhouse of York rock garden, it was actually designed and built by William Angus Clark, as Rosemary Anderson shows in her excellent account of the garden's history and restoration: *Aysgarth Edwardian Rock Garden: A Story of Creation and Recreation*, Rosemary Anderson, 2014.

William Clark (1858-1950) worked at the Backhouse nursery for many years, probably from the mid-1880's rising to "Alpine Manager" by the early 1900's, as successor to Richard Potter. However, he left Backhouse's around 1904 (so before Aysgarth was started) and set up his own business and, later, a nursery in Dringhouses, York. In the second edition of his *Alpine Plants* (L. Upcott Gill, 1907) Clark lists a number of gardens where work was "carried out under his planning and supervision", including Aysgarth,

Treasurer's House, York and Friar Park, Henley-on-Thames.

Two years ago, I bought at auction a copy of *Alpine Plants* that Clark had inscribed to Francis Crisp of Friar Park, "With the Author's Best Thanks and Complements", which set me off on a path of discovery about Clark and his life. He is one of the many landscape gardeners who have largely slipped from historical view, yet he was held in high regard by others. In *The Rock Garden and Its Plants* J.M. Dent, 1989, Graham Stuart Thomas recalls meeting Clark (misspelt with a terminal 'e') in around 1925, working as a rock plant specialist at a Cambridge firm and says that he "had the privilege of learning from him" (p.64).

My research on William Angus Clark continues, as does my interest in rock gardens. I am so pleased that Aysgarth and District Parish Council has committed itself to keeping Clark's work and this now rare garden form in public view.

*Yours sincerely*  
*Gillian Parker*

**Letters to the Editor are welcome; please send them either by email to [c.miskin@btinternet.com](mailto:c.miskin@btinternet.com) or by post, via the address shown below.**

## YGT Contact Details

**For general and membership queries:** email [secretary@yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk](mailto:secretary@yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk).

Or, if you are already a member, use the 'phone numbers on your membership card to give us a call.

Or you can write to us c/o The Secretary, YGT, 14 Huntington Road, York YO31 8RB

**Registered Company No 03256311 Charity No 1060697**

[www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk](http://www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk)  @YorkshireGT

## Notes from the Editor

Hopefully an end to this terrible pandemic might now be in sight and we can resume normal life during 2021. I trust all members are keeping healthy. As I write this Editorial, the sleet is banging on the windowpane and Winter seems to be well and truly with us.

Today, December 4th, is an exciting and probably slightly stressful day, for the Events Committee as they bring us our first on-line talk. It is being given by Mark Newman, an archaeological consultant at the National Trust and an expert on Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal, and will be celebrating the 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of John Aislabie's birth.

By the time you read this, it will be over and we hope it was very successful. The Events Committee has organised a series of online lectures in association with The Gardens Trust and further information was sent out to members recently and has been republished in this e-Bulletin on p. 32. Members are encouraged to sign up for them.

In this e-Bulletin, Patrick Eyres has kindly provided an introduction to Michael Charlesworth's forthcoming lecture on Reginald Farrer (Tuesday 5 January 2021) including a reprinted report on our last visit to Ingleborough Hall in 2009. We thought it would be useful as a refresher to members, as we sadly had to cancel our planned visit there in May this year.

This e-Bulletin also contains a very useful article by Gail Falkingham and Chris Webb on online resources for garden history research available despite the closure of many archives which are only slowly re-opening following lockdown.

Two events of national importance, which affect YGT and have taken place since the publication of the Newsletter in October, are the publication of the very troubling National Trust document *Towards a Ten Year Vision for Places and Experiences* and the new Government White Paper entitled *Planning for the Future*. Our comments and responses to each are on p. 28 and p.30.

We are indebted to Karen Lynch for allowing us to include another of her Folly Flaneuse's adventures, this time to Fisher's Hall.

I have been delighted to receive my first "Letter to the Editor" from Gillian Parker about the Aysgarth Rock Garden and I would welcome any letters in the future.

There are the regular updates on the work of the various committees, for which I am indebted to Val Hepworth and Sue Lindley. The Small Grants Scheme team has been busy and there is a further update on the Percy Cane garden in Sheffield and the project to digitise the Backhouse Rock Garden, which was originally built in York but now no longer exists. I would like to thank all our other contributors, including Penelope Dawson Brown and Nigel Tooze, who have kindly sent in pictures of their Autumn gardens following a plea by the Editor for such photos, and of course, Louise Amende, for her sterling work in bringing all the information together in such a pleasing way.

I would like to renew my plea to members to please send any contributions you might like to make, however long or short.

**Christine Miskin**  
*Editor*



### Edwardian Gardens

Continuing Professional Development Event  
at Lotherton Hall on Wednesday 7 July 2021

Lotherton

We are delighted that we have been able to re-arrange the event for next July, and pleased that so many people have been keen to rebook for the new date. The programme will remain the same with experts Mette Eggen, landscape architect from Norway; Dr John Grimshaw, Director of the Yorkshire Arboretum; Jane Furse, landscape architect and historic gardens specialist; and Chris Flynn, Head Gardener, Dyffryn, NT of Wales. Space is still available; please see the further details on p. 4 and 5.

Val plans to contact everyone in the New Year to confirm again and make sure this event is in diaries. We are much looking forward to being able to hold our Edwardian Gardens Day after such a long wait.

**Val Hepworth**



# Lotherton

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

## Valuing Our Historic Garden Heritage: Lotherton Hall's Edwardian Gardens

Wednesday 7 July 2021

This is a Continuing Professional Development Event

9.30 am Coffee and Registration

10.00 am Welcome and Introduction

*Adam Toole, Curator, Temple Newsam and Lotherton Hall, Leeds C.C.*

*Maria Akers, Senior Estates Manager, Temple Newsam and Lotherton Hall, Leeds C.C.*

10.10 Lotherton: a Garden in Time:

- The Wider World Context of the late 19th century
- Leading Figures in Fashion in late 19th century Garden Design

*Mette Eggen, Landscape Architect, Historic Research and author of 'The Edwardian Garden at Lotherton Hall'*

10.25 Lotherton: a Garden in time: The Late 19th century and the Impact of the Discovery and Introduction of Hardy Plants from Asia on Gardens and Gardening

*John Grimshaw, Director of the Yorkshire Arboretum*

11.10 Break for Coffee/Tea

11.25 Lotherton Gardens and Parkland:

Creation and Layout 1898- 1949

- Frederick and Gwendolen Gascoigne at Lotherton
- Gwendolen - Unique Family Context + Influences;

Garden designer and creator

*Mette Eggen*

12.10 Lotherton Gardens and Parkland:

A Unique Edwardian Garden- recent developments

*Jane Furse, Landscape Architect, Historic Park and Garden Specialist*

12.35 Questions

12.45 Lunch in the Stableyard Cafe

13.50 Challenges and Successes of historic garden restoration- an inspirational story

*Chris Flynn, Head Gardener at Dyffryn, National Trust of Wales*

14.30 Rebirth - the Economic case for Garden renovation and renewal

*Chris Flynn*

14.45 Questions

15.00 Guided Visit to Lotherton's Gardens and Parkland

16.30 Summing Up - Meet in the Stableyard Café courtyard for Afternoon tea and cake

**How to Book**  
 Please complete the separate booking form and submit it ASAP to secure your booking.  
 Places are limited.



Gwendolen Gascoigne and granddaughter in the rose garden, Lotherton.  
Photo credit: Lotherton Hall archive, Leeds City Council.

Yorkshire Gardens Trust—A Member of The Gardens Trust

Registered charity No.1060697

Company registration No.03256311

President: The Countess of Harewood



Lotherton

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

Valuing Our Historic Garden Heritage: Lotherton Hall's Edwardian Gardens

Wednesday 7 July 2021

BOOKING FORM

Cost: £40 per person

(see below for subsidised rates)

Some free places are available for garden/horticulture apprentices and students studying heritage horticulture. Please e-mail: [conservation@yorkshiregardentrust.org.uk](mailto:conservation@yorkshiregardentrust.org.uk) with your details and proof of your apprenticeship/studentship to book a free place.

Speedy booking is advised.

For booking with payment by cheque: please complete this form and either email it to [conservation@yorkshiregardentrust.org.uk](mailto:conservation@yorkshiregardentrust.org.uk), then post a cheque made out to Yorkshire Gardens Trust to us, or post both elements to: YGT Conservation, 43 Richmond Road, Skeeby, Richmond DL10 5DX. Please write your full name and telephone number on the back of the cheque.

For booking with on-line payment by BACS, please complete the form below and e-mail it to [conservation@yorkshiregardentrust.org.uk](mailto:conservation@yorkshiregardentrust.org.uk) then arrange a bank transfer of £40 to:

Yorkshire Gardens Trust

Account number: 25555237

Sort Code: 05-09-94

Reference: LHEG xxxxx (your surname)

Bookings will only be confirmed once payment has been received.

Your details: (name and occupation)

.....  
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Tel. no .....

Address.....

.....

Post code .....Email address .....

This is a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) event.

Closing date for booking 31st May 2021

**Bookings will only be confirmed once payment has been received.**

In case of queries, tel 01748 822617

Yorkshire Gardens Trust  
A Member of The Gardens Trust

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President: The Countess of Harewood

# Gertrude Jekyll: still growing gardeners 150 years on.

## WRAGS: the Work and Retrain As a Gardener Scheme

It was 120 years ago that concerned lady horticulturalists and educators formed the Women's Farm and Garden Association (WFGA). Gertrude Jekyll was a member and supported its aims. At a time when women had few choices, marriage or a life in service being the default options, the charity's aim was to help them achieve more by learning about horticulture and working on the land and in gardens.

The idea was a huge success and, arguably, helped Britain to get through two World Wars, as the WFGA played a part in establishing the Women's Land Army, one of the reasons, many say, that we had enough to eat at home while the nation's resources were poured into the war effort twice in succession.

Today, The WFGA (now known as the Working for Gardeners Association) still has a unique place in the world of horticulture, running courses, talks and visits for its members and arranging practical horticultural training for everyone through its WRAGS programme, the

### **Work and Retrain As a Gardener Scheme.**

WRAGS matches reliable, enthusiastic trainees with garden owners and staff who need dependable help and are willing to pass on their knowledge over a fixed term training contract for two days a week over a 12-month period.

### **How the WRAGS programme delivers reliable help**

It works like this: a trainee is placed in a local garden and works alongside a knowledgeable garden owner or head gardener, on a range of different tasks. Garden owners enjoy passing on their skills and knowledge. In return, they find WRAGS trainees to be highly motivated people, keen to learn and excellent workers.

The trainee is paid the National Living Wage by the garden owner, which is £8.72 per hour for 2020. Garden owners do not have to pay National Insurance due to the hours worked.

Apart from a small WFGA membership subscription, there is no charge to the garden owner. Trainees pay a one-off fee to the charity



WFGA regional managers with their gold medal winning display at Harrogate Autumn Flower Show 2019. (Photo credit: WFGA)

to administer and monitor their training, which is well thought of by the gardening fraternity, with WRAGS alumni working as head gardeners at National Trust properties, in historic gardens, garden design and as self-employed private gardeners.

There are about 100 training gardens in the UK, most in Southern England where the charity was first established, but more are needed in other regions, especially the Northern counties.

If you are interested in learning more and becoming one of our training gardens, please contact Rebecca Moore-Yelland, the local area manager ([bex.wfga@gmail.com](mailto:bex.wfga@gmail.com) 07799690463) and she will be very pleased to talk to you about the programme and its benefits.

**Quotes from satisfied garden owners:**

“We are now working with our third WRAGS trainee and have found it an excellent scheme. Our training input has been matched by a high level of commitment from each of the trainees, whose hard work has enabled us to maintain the garden to a higher standard than we could have attained without them. The whole experience of helping to raise the trainees’ level of knowledge and expertise has been most rewarding and has

added a new dimension to our gardening enjoyment!”

*Lise and Chris White, Hook House Pottery, Gloucestershire*

“The WRAG Scheme works very well at Belmont House. Trainees fit in with a small team of three, bringing enthusiasm, commitment and dedication to learning. It is a pleasure to work with people who really want to change to a career in horticulture. Seeing trainees flourish, and develop into confident, knowledgeable gardeners is very rewarding. Past trainees have gone on to work with the National Trust, join the team at Belmont and win silver medals at Hampton Court Palace Flower Show.”

*Graeme Watts, Head Gardener, Belmont House, Kent*

“The WRAGS scheme is one which I strongly support. It encourages one of the greatest gifts in gardening, that of sharing skills, knowledge and experience with others.” *Christine Walkden*

**Rebecca Moore-Yelland**

**Regional Manager for WFGA in North Yorkshire, North Derbyshire & the North West**

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## YGT Schools News

Despite the ravages of the coronavirus on life as we know it, the Schools Group has been marching ‘onwards and upwards’!

We have thought carefully about how we can support our members, as our usual offers are not necessarily suitable this year. So, in September, as a welcome back to school, we sent all our members an elaborate bee hotel; then in October, we sent out carefully selected broad bean seeds which can be grown outdoors, or indoors where they can be easily observed by the children despite the Covid restrictions. In the new year, we will be offering more Grounds Development Awards than usual as we feel that they are particularly relevant this year.

Perhaps our best news, though, is that we will soon be welcoming Christine Wood on to the Committee. Christine is an ex-primary school head with useful knowledge and experience. She has already improved our offering by writing booklets for use in the classroom which we sent out with our bee hotels and broad bean seeds. Welcome, Christine!

FYI: Broad beans: *Aquadulce Claudia*. A robust, reliable variety, specially selected for Autumn sowing - ideally, October or November. The early sowing means that they will be ready for the children to harvest before, rather than during, the long Summer holidays.



Bee Hotel Ustica from CJ Wildlife  
[www.birdfood.co.uk/bee-hotel-ustica](http://www.birdfood.co.uk/bee-hotel-ustica)

**Sue Lindley**

**On behalf of the YGT Schools Group**

# Garden research in archives: what we can do while Covid 19 is still with us

Archives face many problems in opening (even when they are allowed to) during the pandemic; at best they limit the number of people who can visit, limit the number of items that can be seen and require advance notice of what researchers wish to see. They are also busy responding to requests for images of records as many researchers have switched their research strategies away from visiting in person and acquiring images of records instead.

That switch is highly dependent on access to catalogues, which has improved exponentially during lockdown. Most archives throughout the UK have devoted much of their working from home time to improving and uploading finding aids that were previously only available in hard copy format, but online archive catalogues can be “interesting” to navigate. This article outlines how to get the best out of archive catalogues in our county based on two different platforms.

## Some general guidance

It is important to recognise that no archive catalogue is ever complete; new material is constantly being added, both for archives that have been held for many years and for archives that are newly acquired. There are a few search tips which will help you to find what you are looking for amongst the thousands of entries in catalogues, especially if you use the advanced search options. These tips apply to most search platforms:

Placing an asterisk \* at the end of a word will find variations in spelling:  
garden\*, for example, will find the words garden, gardens and gardening. Used at the end of a name: Brown\* will also find Brown's.

Using speech marks will search for a particular phrase rather than the separate words: “Fred Smith” will narrow the search to instances of Fred Smith, and not every Fred or Smith in the catalogue. “Fred\* Smith” will find instances of both Fred and Frederick Smith.

It is not always easy to know which archive might hold the information you are looking for. The Discovery catalogue at The National Archives ([discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/](http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/)) brings together top-level entries from archives all over the UK.

The Archives Hub catalogue ([archiveshub.jisc.ac.uk/](http://archiveshub.jisc.ac.uk/)) does the same, in more

detail, for university and other specialist archives. These are great places to start.

If you are really ambitious, then the Archives Portal Europe ([www.archivesportaleuropefoundation.eu/index.php](http://www.archivesportaleuropefoundation.eu/index.php)) can take you well beyond the UK into archives of gardens that influenced, or were influenced by, UK practice.

Anyone who has ever done any Yorkshire research has come up against the problem of alterations to local authority boundaries. A good tool to help determine this aspect of a site's history is one originally designed for genealogists: [Genuki's Yorkshire webpage](#), which lists parishes by Riding.

## CalmView

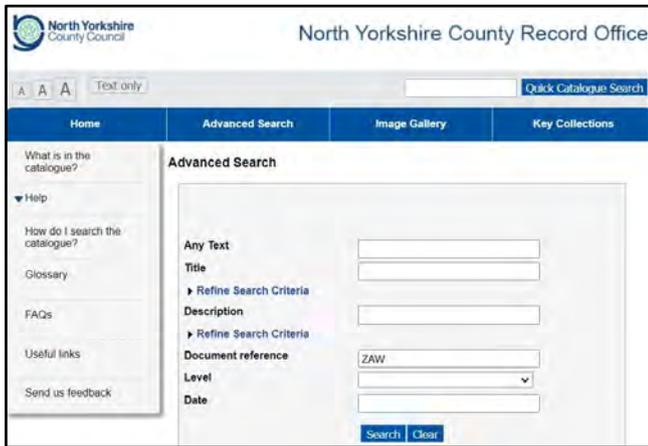
Most UK archive services use CalmView for their online catalogues, including [North Yorkshire](#), [West Yorkshire](#), [East Riding](#), and [Sheffield](#) Archives.

If you know the archive's reference code, type this in the 'Document Reference' field of the database. To search for words or phrases within this archive, type these in the 'Any Text' field as well.

For example, a basic search for Clifton Castle in the North Yorkshire County Record Office (NYCRO) catalogue brings up the Clifton Castle archive (reference ZAW) and an overview of its contents. Click on the blue highlighted text ZAW in the grey field at the top labelled 'Document reference' (see image below right) and you will be taken to a full list of the record of the series in the archive.



NYCRO online catalogue home page.‘



NYCRO online catalogue 'Advanced Search' web page.



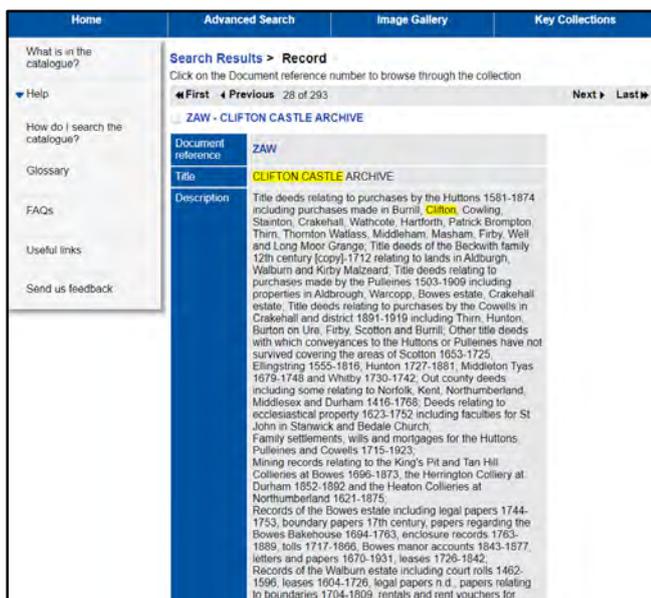
NYCRO online catalogue expanded search results for Clifton Castle showing the 21 series headings

To expand each of these series to see entries for sub-series and individual items, click on the + (plus) symbol in the small box beside each line. Once open, this changes to a - (minus) symbol that you can click to close the expanded entry. Hover over a particular item and the cursor will change to a hand symbol; you can click to view the individual record and find the specific item reference, in this example ZAW 21/5/1 for the archive/series/sub-series/item (which also bears the document reference ZAW 239).

We can see that the map is available on microfilm no.1754, frame 0509: MIC 1754/0409. (See image above right.)



Details of item ZAW 21/5/1 expanded further.



NYCRO online catalogue search results for Clifton Castle archive (reference ZAW)



NYCRO online catalogue Clifton Castle archive listing for series 21: Maps and Plans, expanded to show sub-series 1010 and sub-series 5 expanded to show 2 items.

## Social media and blog sites

In addition to catalogues, many archive services have a social media presence on which they highlight aspects of their holdings. NYCRO, for example, is on Instagram [[@north\\_yorkshire\\_archive](#)] and Twitter

[@nyccarchives], as well as having a [blog site](#). YGT readers might be interested in a series of [blogs about aspects of garden history](#) that I have written for NYCRO. So far, these cover [Sources for Researching Garden History at NYCRO](#), [Victorian Gardens](#) and [Walled Gardens and Glasshouses](#), with more to follow on orchards and fruit trees, seed catalogues and invoices.

### **AtoM**

AtoM ([www.accesstomemory.org/en/](http://www.accesstomemory.org/en/)) is a platform devised by the International Council on Archives, which continues to develop through its international community of users, aided by Artefactual Systems, based in British Columbia. It is a powerful tool that can be tweaked to suit the needs of each archive repository. It tends to be favoured by archives that have access to large IT departments, as in universities.

The Borthwick catalogue ([//borthcat.york.ac.uk/](http://borthcat.york.ac.uk/)) is based on AtoM. Most people using search facilities go straight for the search box, but once there is a lot of information in a catalogue the search results can become overwhelming, or dependent upon an algorithm to show you what the programme thinks you want to know, not what you actually want to know. It is worth taking time to explore all the features of a catalogue to maximise your chances of finding what you are looking for (and, more importantly, to reveal information that you do not know you ought to be looking for). Borthcat lays out many options for searching creatively and for saving your searches automatically and you can download whole catalogues. You can browse as well as search, and access information through names, place names and subjects, and define searches by date, among other terms. Borthcat has a huge amount of information to help researchers get the best out of this powerful system. On the title bar the ? icon reveals a suite of help pages; and if these are not enough staff, as at any archive, will give you further guidance. AtoM as a platform is crawled and indexed by standard search engines, including Google, so you will find entries for AtoM-based catalogues through Google. This is not as good as searching individual catalogues, since Google's ranking system to show you your results may not prioritise archive entries for you (depending on your search history and how many other people internationally have looked for your search term).

A simple search in Borthcat on the name "James Russell", for example, brings up the Russell

Archive catalogue. At the top centre of the screen is an archive tree, showing how the archive is arranged. You can click or scroll down to browse the contents, or you can search using the search box on the left of the screen that just searches this catalogue. On the right you can download the whole catalogue to your computer, or follow the many links that take you to related catalogues and information elsewhere in Borthcat. Clicking on the subject link "Horticulture", for example, takes you to a page with 10 further links to follow. Below the archive tree in the centre of the page is information about the archive, including its provenance, contents, size, conditions of use, the standards used to create the catalogue and so on.

### **Some other online resources**

There is a multitude of other online sources which are useful for researching aspects of garden and landscape history including:

[The National Archives 'Discovery' catalogue](#): records held by The National Archives and over 2,500 other archives.

[Archives Hub](#): search archive descriptions at over 350 institutions across the UK, including most universities.

[National Library of Scotland maps website](#): historic Ordnance Survey maps and aerial photographs for the UK.

[British History Online for the Victoria County History](#): for Yorkshire, only City of York, the North and parts of the East Ridings.

[National Heritage List for England](#): National register of designated sites including Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments and Registered Parks and Gardens (produced by Historic England).

[Parks & Gardens website](#) searchable database of people and places.

[Heritage Gateway](#): searchable datasets from over 60 resources offering local and national information on archaeological sites and historic building as well as historic images. Includes Historic Environment Record data.

[Archsearch Catalogue on the Archaeology Data Service](#) (ADS) website: integrated online catalogue indexing over 1.3 million records, including ADS collections and UK historic environment inventories.

[English Short Title Catalogue](#), British Library: lists early books, serials and newspapers printed before 1801.

[The Internet Archive](#): free access to thousands of digitised historic books and journals.

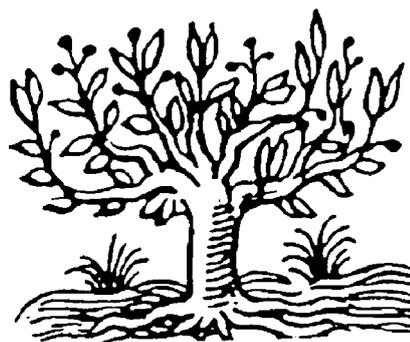
[Art UK](#): search the Art UK website to discover and view over 250,000 artworks from the UK's national collection.

It is also worth searching library catalogues, as well as general searches using popular search engines as you just never know what you might find! Happy researching!

***Gail Falkingham, Trustee***

***Chris Webb, Chair and Trustee***

***Images: NYCRO***



## YGT Small Grants Scheme

### 1. Helmsley Walled Garden - Orchid House Update

As mentioned in the Autumn 2020 Newsletter, almost 20 years ago YGT gave £500 to support a major fundraising campaign to rescue Helmsley Walled Garden, formerly the kitchen garden for Duncombe Park Estate. The restoration was the vision of one woman, Alison Ticehurst, who sadly did not live to see her project come to fruition, dying in the garden she loved in 1999. Helmsley Walled Garden is now a registered charity with four paid staff and an invaluable team of over fifty dedicated volunteers. Intended to be a relaxing haven for the local community and day visitors, a particular focus continues to be to nurture, through horticulture, adults with mental health and wellbeing issues. YGT's Small Grant was given specifically towards the restoration of the Orchid House. From the photos here we hope that readers will glean a sense both of the huge task embraced to bring the Orchid House back into use and the wonderful way in which now, almost 20 years later, it sits beautifully in the revived landscape.

***Tricia Harris***

***Assistant Garden Manager and Marketing and Communications Manager, Helmsley Walled Garden***



*(Photo credits: Helmsley Walled Garden)*

## 2. Backhouse Rock Garden Project 2020

In the early 1970s, York City Council bulldozed West Bank House and its associated rock garden, the demolition of which deprived York of a significant feature in the history of gardening in the UK. Peter Goodchild, assisted by archaeologist colleague Alexis Pantos, has pulled together evidence from numerous sources to establish a record of the physical form of the rock garden. Their study *Backhouse Rock Garden Project 2020, recording the former Backhouse rock garden at West Bank, York* has now been published and is accessible at:

[//shared-assets.adobe.com/link/f6465a81-d7a0-4d2f-7f80-a746f53f198c](https://shared-assets.adobe.com/link/f6465a81-d7a0-4d2f-7f80-a746f53f198c)

### Summary

The Backhouse family moved to Holgate, York in 1853, taking with them their established plant nursery business. At the new site a house was built, West Bank, together with an outstanding rock garden providing an exceptional showcase for many Alpine plants. This rock garden was recognised at the time as being of national significance. William Robinson wrote...

“Four hundred tons of ‘crag’ rise in the most varied and rugged forms to 20 or 25 feet in height, surrounding and hemming in a placid sheet of water, and presenting every sort of nook, aspect, fissure, soil, shade, or shelter, that one could wish for the numerous and in many ways not easily to be pleased gems that flourish on the rockwork, from the water-overhanging slab under which the Killarney Fern looks at home, to the exposed ledge where Alpine Forget-me-Not thrives as if on its native Ben Lawers.”

By the 1920s the site was owned by the Hamilton family. Upon the death of Sir James Hamilton in 1935 the garden was bequeathed to York City Council to become a public park. Subsequently the house and Rock Garden were bulldozed in the early 1970s.

Sir James’s granddaughter, Daphne Hamilton, is believed to have been the last living person to have known the garden intimately. She made a sketch plan of the Rock Garden and annotated some old photographs to record her memories of it. Later, around 2015, she and Peter Goodchild worked together to create a clay model to indicate in 3-dimensions its general shape. Sadly, Daphne has now died.

In this current exercise Peter Goodchild and Alexis Pantos have aimed to make a permanent,

digital record of the clay model that also incorporates selected additional information to provide a basis for understanding this historically significant rock garden and a good starting point for future research.

### Creating the digital model

Alexis Pantos has led technically the photogrammetry and subsequent digital engineering, from virtual smoothing of the cracks in the crumbling clay, to adjusting the model to co-ordinate it with OS data.

### Additional information

Additional information has been integrated from historical OS sources, archived photographs of the garden, some aerial images and from personal anecdotes. In some cases this information has necessitated adjustment of the digital image, in others it is simply noted on plans or in the text of the report.

### Further research

It should be noted that this study and the resultant digital model have not addressed planting. It is recognised that much of the “theatre” and reputation of the rock garden was in response to its planting and the report concludes with a discussion regarding opportunities for further investigation.

Peter Goodchild will be writing a fuller article about the project in a forthcoming issue of the Newsletter.

The research team is extremely grateful to **YGT’s Small Grants Scheme** for awarding a grant of £350 towards the expenses of this project.

**Roger Lambert**



A digitally reconstructed plan by Alexis Pantos of the house, pools and associated rock garden at ‘West Bank’, York, as they were c.1930-45 (Image credit: Alexis Pantos)

### 3. Percy Cane Garden, Sheffield – Update

Following the news reported in the Summer 2020 e-Bulletin that YGT has given a grant of £1,000 to support the restoration of the Percy Cane Garden in Sheffield, Jill Sinclair, who is the garden historian for the project, has supplied the following update on ongoing work there.

A long-abandoned rock garden at Broomhill Community Library, originally laid out around 90 years ago, has just been planted with around 400 new shrubs, flowers and bulbs, as the climax of an 18-month long project to reclaim the garden for the community.

Members of the Broomhill Community Library group, which took over the running of the facility from the Council in 2014 following cuts to the libraries' budget, have been working for 18 months to clear the mass of self-sown trees, laurel, bramble and ivy that had engulfed the rock garden. Kathy Harbord, who is the trustee with responsibility for the garden, said "When we took over the library, the piece of land along the driveway was just a jungle. We had no idea that behind all that undergrowth was a historically significant garden waiting to be reclaimed and enjoyed."

In Yorkshire, Cane also designed a community park in Worsbrough, Barnsley, and worked at two adjacent estates in the North York Moors: Nawton Tower, for Lord Feversham, and Stoneley Woods, for Sir Charles Richmond Brown.

The Sheffield garden designed by Cane was still in good shape after 25 years, when the City Council took over the building to create a branch library in 1957. Library visitors remember the

water feature at the centre of the rock garden, which at one point had a wishing well where young children would throw their pennies.

All parts of the community have been involved in the restoration project, from retired neighbours and local families, to members of the Sheffield Conservation Volunteers and students from the landscape architecture department at nearby Sheffield University. At the start of the planting days, second year student Nea Weston said "I'm really excited to be involved in the restoration of the garden, particularly to see the hundreds of plants due to go in! With the planting the funding has allowed, the community library and garden will be such a great space, and it feels quite special to be a part of it."

The project has not been without its challenges. The volunteers were at first delighted when the library was one of only a handful of sites in Sheffield to receive a grant from the Pocket Parks Plus initiative run by the Ministry for Community, Housing and Local Government. But the original plans, to create a courtyard in the rear garden, had to be abandoned when the major boundary wall collapsed. This made the site unsafe shortly before work was due to start. A new scheme was then rapidly devised, to reclaim the long steeply sloping area alongside the library driveway instead.

Kathy Harbord said "It's not been an easy project. The need completely to change our plans part-way through, when we could no longer work in the rear garden, was a real headache. Then, when we were within a few weeks of completing the new scheme, lockdown again meant everything had to be put on hold."

But now, with the site cleared of years of weed growth and the rocks all reset into their original positions, the volunteers have been busy planting up the garden. It was splendid to have financial support from Yorkshire Gardens Trust as we chose our plants. Sadly, we did not have any information about how Cane originally planted this area. So, working with our landscape architects and the local wildlife trust, we have selected plants that he typically used in this kind of design, supplemented by some specifically chosen to attract lots of wildlife. We want this to be a beautiful place for people to enjoy. Working in socially distanced teams of six, to keep within local Covid regulations, the volunteers completed the planting just before the second national lockdown kicked in.



*Replanting the rock garden.  
Photo credit: Jill Sinclair*

There is still lots to do. The library volunteers have been talking to the Heritage Lottery Fund and other grant-making bodies about finding the money to restore the rear garden, where the collapsed wall has just been rebuilt. The garden work is part of a bigger project to transform the library into a 'community hub' for Broomhill and its neighbouring wards, with the unused basement and attic offering the opportunity for an integrated cafe, exhibition space, rentable rooms and play area for children.

The Neighbourhood forum BBEST - Broomhill,

Broomfield, Endcliffe, Summerfield and Tapton - is also supporting the work, as a blueprint for the type of community development that local people want.

Visitors will be able to see the new rock garden over the winter as they collect and return their library books. All being well, the library volunteers hope to organise a launch event in the Spring to officially introduce the new garden to the community.

*Jill Sinclair*

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## Recently Published Books

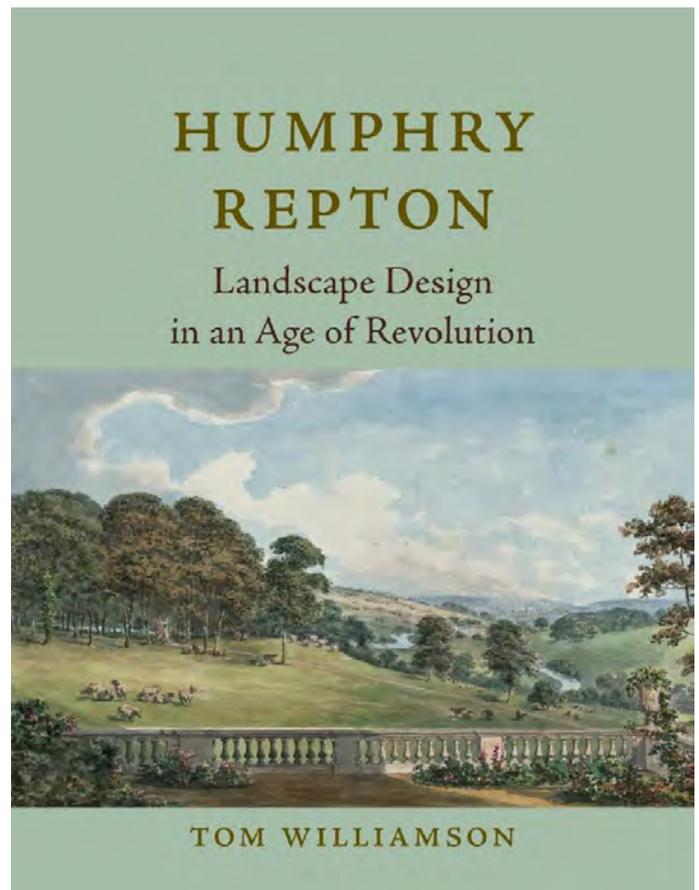
***Humphry Repton: Landscape Design in an Age of Revolution* by Tom Williamson,**

Reaktion Books, 2020. 352pp; hardback..£35 ISBN 9781789142990.

A member of YGT has recently read this book and offers the following comments:

“Tom Williamson has long been interested in the work of Humphry Repton, and this new book is an excellent general introduction to his work, although it should always be consulted alongside Stephen Daniels’s *Humphry Repton: Landscape Gardening and the Geography of Georgian England* published in 1999. Williamson sensibly delayed publication until after the 2018 commemoration of the bicentenary of Repton’s death, and he acknowledges the many regional publications featuring new research produced by the county gardens trusts, including YGT’s own *On the Spot: the Yorkshire Red Books of Humphry Repton* by Dr Patrick Eyres and Karen Lynch.

Williamson is a Professor of History at the University of East Anglia, a region where Repton lived and worked, and there is a slight bias towards landscapes in that part of the world, but that is a minor criticism and Yorkshire makes a number of appearances. This new volume is well-illustrated, and Williamson is both erudite and easy to read, a rather wonderful combination”.



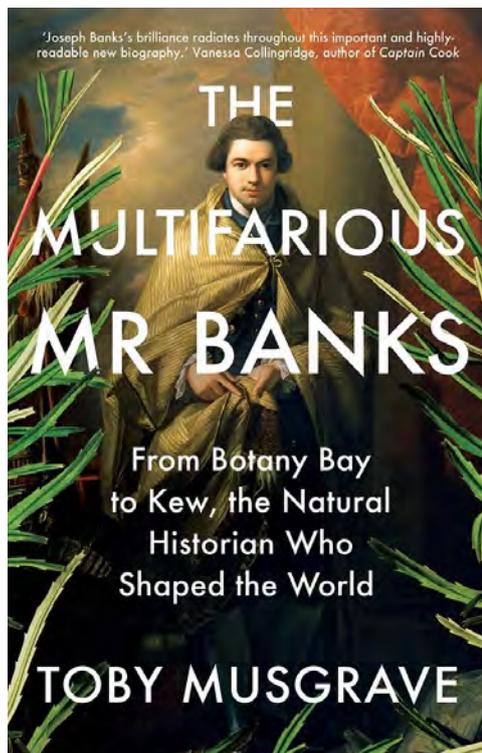
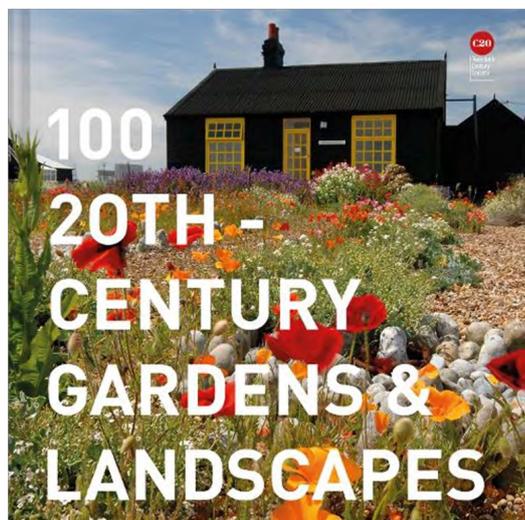
## ***100 20<sup>th</sup> Century Gardens and Landscapes***

**by The Twentieth Century Society**

Batsford, 2020. 256pp. Hardback

ISBN: 9781849945295. £25.

“This book highlights the evolution of gardens and landscapes throughout the past century, tracing how these distinctive creations complemented buildings of their period. Entries in this book are grouped in chronological periods, documenting changing styles and techniques in a visual timeline”.



### ***The Multifarious Mr Banks: from Botany Bay to Kew, the Natural Historian who Shaped the World***

**by Toby Musgrave**

Yale University Press, 2020. 386pp £25.

ISBN 9780300223835.

“As official botanist on James Cook's first circumnavigation, the longest-serving president of the Royal Society, advisor to King George III, the "father of Australia," and the man who established Kew as the world's leading botanical garden, Sir Joseph Banks was integral to the English Enlightenment. Yet he has not received the recognition that his multifarious achievements deserve.”

This book has been reviewed in *Garden History*, Vol.48 (1) 2020, at page 113 by John Edmondson.

### ***Landscapes of Eloquence? Finding rhetoric in the English landscape garden***

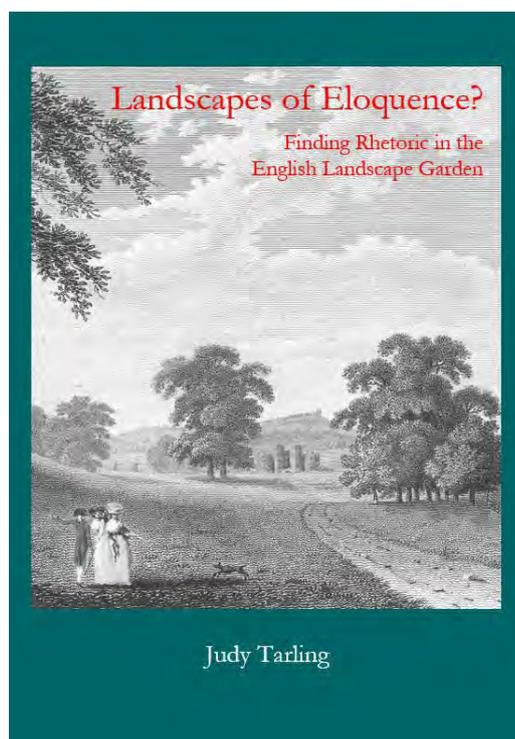
**by Judy Tarling**

Available from [www.judytarling.com](http://www.judytarling.com); £30 plus p & p.

Hardback 223 pages; illustrated in colour throughout.

“Well-known for her books on the historical performance of music, Judy Tarling now applies her knowledge of classical rhetoric to a ground-breaking study of the creation and reception of the landscape garden in 18th century England.

Using the principles of rhetoric which were shared by the artist, poet and musician in the eighteenth century to engage with their audiences, she compares the methods by which the landscape garden designers controlled the movements, emotions and imaginations of garden visitors with those used by a successful orator. Texts by contemporary garden designers and tourists reveal that the effects of deception, surprise, mystery, horror and delight were all carefully calculated to entertain the garden visitor and persuade them of the good taste, learning and occasionally, the political views of the garden creator.”



Detail from Esher Place  
*The Copper Plate Magazine* (1792)

# YGT Members' Autumn Lockdown Gardens

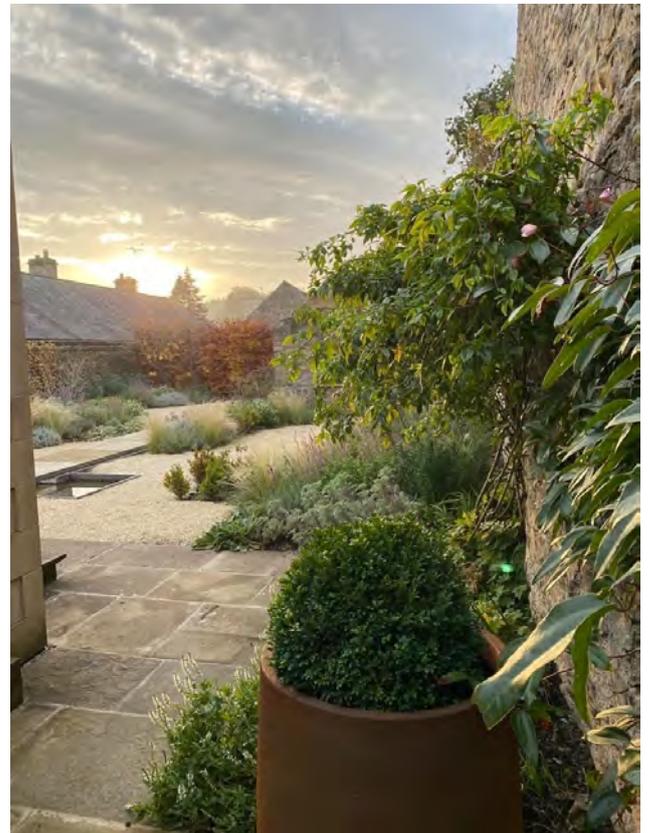
Nigel Tooze and Penelope Dawson-Brown



(Photo credit: Nigel Tooze)



(Photo credit: Nigel Tooze)



(Photo credit: Alistair Baldwin)

Views of the back garden of a Richmondshire town house; they show the area nearest the house, known as the Idyll, looking west with Culloden Tower in the distance. Designed by Alistair Baldwin, the garden is soon to feature in *Gardens Illustrated*. The planting scheme had been established for less than a year when these photos were taken; the owners have enjoyed discovering new delights as the seasons unfold.



Images from a country garden nestling on the western edge of the North Yorkshire Moors National Park

**Clockwise from top left:**

A huge hot poker variety which is at its zenith in early November; this was a gift from Mike Heagney's garden Tudor Croft in Guisborough.

Brewer's weeping spruce is especially beautiful in the winter.

Dahlia 'Black Jack' is a giant amongst Dahlias, flowering prolifically late in the season.

Helleborus x purpurascens flowers from mid-November for several months.

Rosa Bonica in December Bloom

*(Photo credits: Penelope Dawson-Brown)*

# Reginald Farrer Lecture —YGT Online Event

Zoom lecture by Professor Michael Charlesworth

5 January 2021

## Introduction by Patrick Eyres

During May 2020, this lecture and the subsequent visit to Clapham were intended to mark the centenary of Farrer's death. Like so much else, they were postponed by the pandemic. YGT had invited Michael Charlesworth to deliver the biennial lecture in the grand Tempest Anderson Hall at the Yorkshire Museum. His remarkable book, *The Modern Culture of Reginald Farrer: Landscape, Literature and Buddhism*, had been published in 2018.

Back in 2009, the Yorkshire-born Texan art historian was wondering whether to research Reginald Farrer, and so I booked him a place on the study day at Ingleborough Hall. In the book's introduction, he acknowledges that the occasion, organised by "the stalwart personalities of Yorkshire Gardens Trust", was a catalyst that spurred him on.

He also recounts the chiding received from his uncle in Malton for the off-the-cuff remark that he was to attend a day about "some bloke called Reginald Farrer". His uncle "nearly had apoplexy. 'Some bloke!?' he exclaimed, 'Some bloke!?' he repeated. 'Only the father of the Alpine Garden Society!!! Only the greatest rock gardener we've ever had in this country!!!!' And he stumped off to his library to retrieve a book to show me. He was, of course, a member of the Alpine Garden Society".

At Ingleborough Hall, as soon as I'd finished congratulating Helen and Moira on the day's success, I found myself deputed to write the report and, before I could marshal my objections, the organising pair had vanished.

§ ~

## Reginald Farrer at Ingleborough Hall, Clapham, North Yorkshire.

### Study Day, 19th August 2009

This event clearly demonstrated the advantages of a study day that disseminated the work of one of YGT's research projects. As a result of their explorations in the Dales, Helen Lazenby and Moira Fulton organised a stimulating day which additionally benefited from a fulsome information pack, benign weather and the scrumptious homemade cakes and biscuits of the caterers at Ingleborough Hall.

Through his plant collecting and prolific writing, Reginald Farrer (1880-1920) became renowned as 'the Patron Saint of Alpine Gardening'. He had dedicated his life to plant study, travelling in Japan, Korea and Ceylon (Sri Lanka) between 1902 and 1907; later, 1914-1920, he famously explored remote, mountainous areas of China, Tibet and Upper Burma returning with many new species of rhododendrons, shrubs and alpinists.

Tragically, Farrer died at the premature age of forty from diphtheria contracted during his expedition to Upper Burma.



Ingleborough Hall.

The study day not only presented us with an overview of his extraordinary career, but also revealed the extent of his surviving imprint in the garden of his childhood home, Ingleborough Hall, and in the limestone dale above where he planted a Chinese Garden in between plant collecting expeditions. It also became apparent that this Yorkshire landscape is also a memorial to the achievements of Reginald Farrer.

Moira Fulton introduced the day with an outline of the Farrer family's presence in Clapham, as well as a carefully elucidated survey of Farrer's bibliography which was illustrated by the numerous books she had brought with her from various libraries: some authored by him, others written about him. The Farrers were settled in Clapham by 1716, but their focus gradually shifted to London where the family's legal firm, Farrer & Co., had evolved by 1770; the firm prospered and continues to this day.

From 1780 the Farrers began to acquire the land in the village of Clapham and on the surrounding fells that now comprises the Ingleborough Estate. Between 1807 and 1833 the pre-existing house was enlarged into Ingleborough Hall, which became the centre of the London-based Farrers' shooting estate. The lake was also floated by construction of the monumental dam above the village and the grounds transformed into a sublime landscape garden whose concluding



The Grotto overlooking Clapdale

feature was the epic Grotto, situated to command views of the imposing limestone cliffs that bound the far side of Clapdale.

The organisers pulled off a coup by inviting Annie Farrer to speak. It was her career as a freelance botanical illustrator that stimulated her interest in the 'black sheep of the family'. Farrer, after all, had pursued his adventurous love of plants rather than settle to the life of a metropolitan solicitor, much to the chagrin of his father. Annie Farrer brought her relative's character to life by reading extracts from his writings, particularly from the plant collecting expeditions. She pointed out that he had collected as a horticulturalist, preferring to hunt for garden plants suited to the English climate, rather than as a botanist whose priority would have been to catalogue the plants of a region.

Comparing then and now, she also pointed out that the botanical survey has become the favoured approach to cataloguing the plants of the world before many are rendered extinct. Annie emphasised that Farrer had travelled in regions noted for brigands and revolutionaries and regretted that the Upper Burma of his final expedition is now impenetrable due to the minefields laid in the region's struggle against the Burmese military dictatorship. She also cast a professional eye over his ability as a botanical artist, noting his skill at the problematic task of on-the-spot recording through drawing and watercolour painting, and illustrated her talk with examples of his paintings, as well as photographs of Farrer in the Himalayas.

Both talks set the scene for our guided tours, which again indicated the diligent preparation of the organisers; for example, the day was very well timed because the Head Gardener, John Eaton, was retiring at the end of the week. John took us round the Victorian gardens, icehouse and the derelict stables, as well as the three tunnels constructed when the Hall had been completed in 1841. These ensured that the family was not disturbed by the delivery of provisions to the service end of the building. Other high points were the Peckham Rye garden fountain that Farrer had fulminated against as 'bestly', and the memorial garden created by his grieving mother, Bessie, in 1928. The centrepiece is an inscribed column topped by a winged figure (now absent). Moira Fulton had surmised that this statue was a type of 'Winged Victory' so readily available at the time due to the profusion of memorials erected in the wake of the First World War.



The Farrar memorial in the style of a wayside shrine, set above the Rock Garden that he had designed aged 14.

The inscription reads:

In Loving Memory of Reginald John Farrer

Born Feb 17, 1880 Died Oct 17, 1920

In Up[per] Burma

Author, Traveller, Botanist and Flower Painter  
Eldest Son of James Anson and Elizabeth Farrer  
Of Ingleboro

He Loved God's Works & Blessed The World -  
By Many Glorious Flowers Named After Him

Nearby stands another memorial, this one resembling a wayside shrine. Beginning 'In Loving Memory Of ...' it elaborates on Farrer's resting place, 'Died at Nyitadi ... Buried at Kaunglanghpi', and concludes with the text of the plaque that Bessie had arranged in 1932 to be placed on his Burmese grave: '... He died for love and duty in search of rare plants'. This memorial is situated above the substantial vestiges of the rock garden he had designed at the age of fourteen in 1894 and which had been constructed by estate workmen.

Although born in London, Farrer had grown up at Ingleborough Hall where he was educated. He was spared the trauma of boarding at public school due to a speech defect consequent upon his hair lip and cleft palate. At Ingleborough he not only learnt to speak fluently but also

embarked on his lifelong fascination with plants. The condition of the wooden memorial belies its age. It is probably a replica of the original erected by Bessie before her death in 1937. Nevertheless, it was in situ before the land was bought by the current owners.

It was courtesy of Irina Bowes that we were able to access her property to see the rock garden, which she has excavated and now cherishes as an icon of Farrer's achievements. Through her dedication, the rock garden and memorial survive to encapsulate the beginning and end of Farrer's career.

It is salutary to note that Ingleborough Hall is one of the many country houses saved after the Second World War through purchase by a local authority. It continues to serve as an outward bound centre for schools and is run by Education Bradford. It was also in 1947 that the estate sold off part of the gardens as building land. While the walled garden is now the public car park of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, we are fortunate that the Bowes were subsequently inspired to buy their property because of the presence of Farrer's rock garden. However scant evidence survives of the Craven Nursery that he had established in the village as a mail order business and which had also achieved success at the Chelsea Flower Show.

The landscape garden in Clapdale was retained by the estate and it was there that we were led by Helen and Moira after lunch. The rockwork that dams the lake is monumental and transforms the functional structure into a mountain cascade. The walk beside the lake is redolent of Farrer mythology; notably, and perhaps apocryphally, that he had rowed across the lake to pepper the crevices of the limestone cliff with seeds fired from his shotgun. It seems that his father would only tolerate his exotic gardening in remote parts of the estate.

Thus it is that his Chinese Garden was planted in the deep, rocky defile above the lake gouged out by the fast flowing Clapham Beck. Nonetheless this garden is equally a tribute to Farrer's canny eye; situated astride the Craven Fault, his bamboo and rhododendron plants benefited from the acidic soil. However it is likely that the garden would have been overwhelmed by wanton overgrowth had it not been for the heroic labours of Charles Graham during the 1970s and 1980s. Fortunately Graham was prepared to abseil into the gorge to clear the overgrowth and to replant the seedlings he had rescued and

nurtured at home in Skipton. His tribute is that the estate's recent removal of the problematic *rhododendron ponticum* has confirmed that Farrer's Chinese Garden remains intact. Despite the persistence of overgrowth, we were able to gaze into the gorge to 'eye spy' his plantings. The path leads up the dale to the Grotto, which is as monumental as the dam and has benefited from recent consolidation. Alas though, the prospects across Clapdale to Thwaite Scars that the Grotto was built to enjoy have vanished behind leafy curtains, as also have those of the cliffs across the lake lower down the dale. All these views would benefit from re-opening in the spirit of the vision of the Farrers, who created this sublime landscape garden in the early nineteenth century. Even though the path continues to Ingleborough Cave, and onwards through Trow Gill up across the spectacular limestone terrain that rises to the 723 metre summit of Ingleborough, one of the majestic

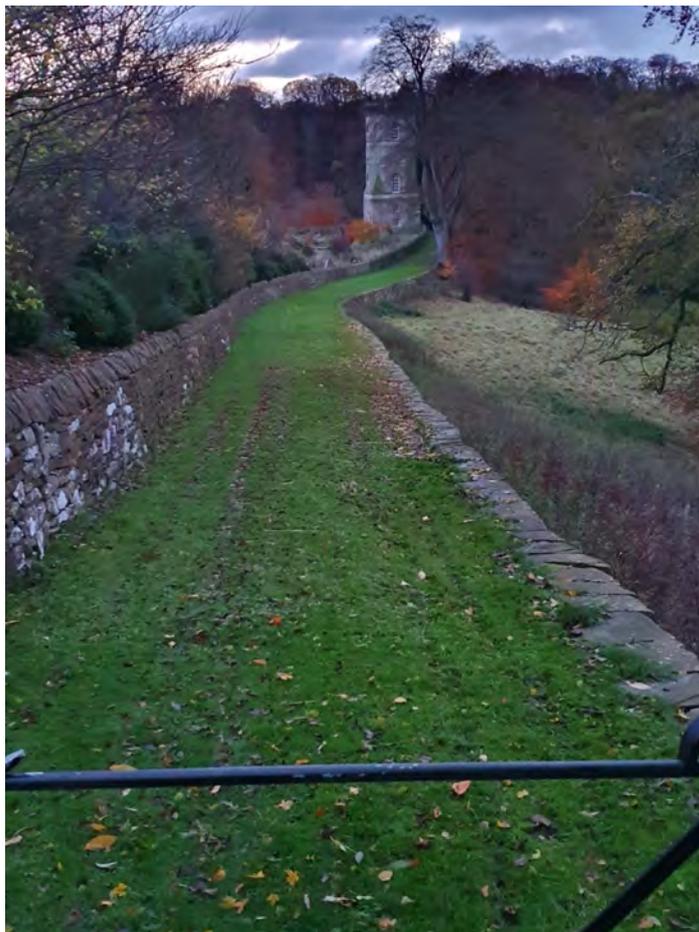
Three Peaks of the Yorkshire Pennines, we peaked at the Grotto and were lured back to the Hall by the prospect of tea and more of those homemade cakes and biscuits.

It is abundantly clear that this Farrer exposition has created a model for future study days based on YGT research projects. As for Farrer's Yorkshire landscape, one cannot fail to conclude that its sustainability is questionable. It appears that the vacant post of head gardener at Ingleborough Hall is not to be filled, and the future of Farrer's Chinese garden depends on whether the Ingleborough Estate has the resolve to maintain it. Nevertheless, although Farrer's Craven Nursery is long gone, his youthful rock garden and wooden memorial are safe for the time being in the care of Irina Bowes.

***Patrick Eyres***

***New Arcadian Press***

***Photo credits: Patrick Eyres***



An Autumn view along the Green Walk, Temple Grounds, Richmond to Culloden Tower.

Read more about Temple Grounds here: [//bit.ly/38dJ2Hp](https://bit.ly/38dJ2Hp)

Discover more about Culloden Tower at the Folly Flâneuse' blog entry, here:

[Culloden Tower, Richmond, North Yorkshire – The Folly Flâneuse \(thefollyflaneuse.com\)](https://thefollyflaneuse.com) and see also p. 22.

*(Photo credit: Val Hepworth)*

## Fisher's Hall, Hackfall

near Masham, North Yorkshire



Fisher's Hall, Hackfall.  
(Photo credit: Gail Falkingham)

Studley Royal, near Ripon, stays comfortably in the upper reaches of the list of most-visited National Trust properties, helped by the fact that the landscape garden features that epitome of eye-catchers, Fountains Abbey. But only a few miles away from Studley's shops and scones is Hackfall, a tranquil vale which is sublime, romantic and wild - and totally devoid of facilities. Both were created in the 18th century by the Aislable family of Studley.

Hackfall was created in woodland on the bank of the River Ure and was dotted with follies, each with vistas - to the river, to Masham church spire, or to the other ornamental buildings. There was no house at Hackfall, as it was a pleasure ground that could easily be reached by carriage from Studley, and as one contemporary postulated: 'It is experimentally known that a long residence, even in the most romantic scenes, is apt to cloy: so the owner wisely has prevented all risk of satiety, by adapting his edifices to a visit only of a few hours.'

Today you have to visit the Village Hall in nearby Grewelthorpe for (excellent) refreshments, but in the 18th century Hackfall's pavilions and alcoves provided shelter where light meals could be taken. If something grander were required, two of the follies had detached kitchens in which meals could be prepared. The remains of that by Mowbray Point, high above the valley, can still be seen.

The second kitchen, now lost, serviced Fisher's Hall - one of The Folly Flâneuse's favourite

buildings. The 'rotund room in which the family often dine' was thatched in 1749 and completed in 1750 - a stone above the entrance bears that date and the initials of William Aislable. It was lined with 'that sort of stone which is commonly called petrified moss and roots which they dig near it', and thatched with ling (heather). Guests sat at a horseshoe shaped table inside the octagon, from which there were 'the finest and most picturesque views', through the pointed gothic windows and door.

Hackfall soon became very popular and the earliest tourists (only the rich and influential were able to take tours at this date) could gain admission by calling at a cottage where the gardener, a Mr Hardcastle, would show them around. One visitor was moved to write some lines, and in this extract imagines the rustic summerhouse as a hermit's retreat:

Fast by this stream, and in the thickest shade,  
A straw-roofed cot appears with ivy bound,  
The walls with cells and vary'd moss overlaid,  
And rough-hewn altars mark'd the hallow'd ground.

Here haply dwells some hoary-headed seer,  
Far from the guilty clouds' tumultuous din,  
Here lost in soft musings wears the silent year,  
Estrang'd alike to passion and to sin.



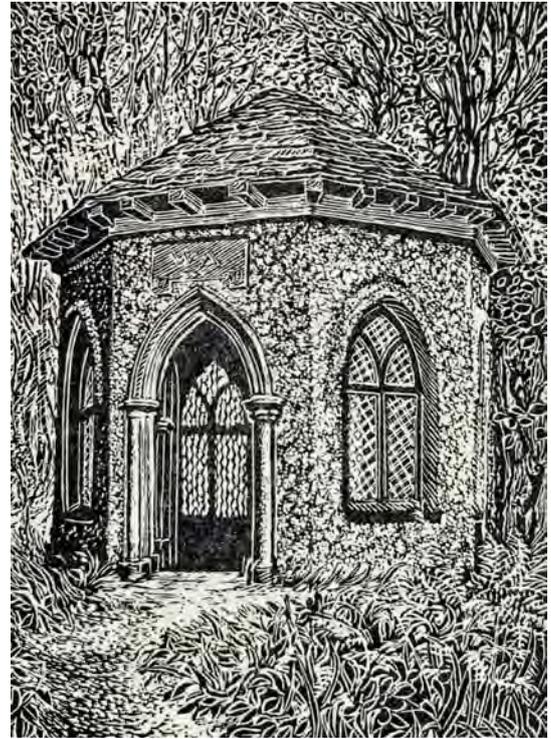
Fisher's Hall by Ed Kluz, 2017.  
This work featured in Ed's solo show  
'Sheer Folly: Fanciful Buildings of Britain'  
at The Yorkshire Sculpture Park 2017-18.  
(Courtesy of the artist and YSP.)

The reality was that you were far more likely to bump into elegant travellers having 'PicNic parties' - in 1786 one visitor was delighted to bump into William Wilberforce drinking tea.

The inns in the closet towns of Harrogate and Ripon arranged transport by carriage to Hackfall, and stabling was provided both inside and outside of the grounds. However, it's not clear how many visitors took their lead from The Hon. Miss Cust who arrived by donkey in 1840.

The woodland garden remained a favourite destination throughout the 19th century. By this date visitors taking tea at the Mowbray Point 'refreshment house' had another attraction to enjoy, Hackfall being 'celebrated for its cream cheese'. With the advent of the motor engine further visitors arrived by car and Groups by charabanc.

Descendants of the Aislabies sold the pleasure ground in the 1930s. Hackfall was forgotten, and fell into disrepair as the 20th century progressed: the buildings became ruined, paths became overgrown and the trees were felled. In the 1980s the Hackfall Trust was formed, and it worked with the Woodland Trust and the local community and councils to halt further damage. Grants from various bodies, especially the Heritage Lottery Fund, allowed the partial restoration of Hackfall during the 1990s and the first decade of the current century. Fisher's Hall and the other abandoned structures were consolidated to ensure their survival, whilst Mowbray Point, the banqueting house



Fisher's Hall, wood engraving by Ann Tout, 1990. The image is based on a 19th century view when the thatched roof had been replaced with tiles.

(Image courtesy of a private collection.)

overlooking the woods and river, was beautifully restored by the Landmark Trust as a holiday let, now called The Ruin.

### ***Karen Lynch***

Visit [www.thefollyflaneuse.com](http://www.thefollyflaneuse.com) where this article first appeared, to find further stories about follies and landscape buildings.



Hon. Elizabeth Cust sketch dated 1840. From 'An Album of Views in the Lake District and Yorkshire', The Wordsworth Trust 2003.44.18, gift of the W.W. Spooner Charitable Trust 2003.

©The Wordsworth Trust, Grasmere.

(Photograph courtesy of a private collection.)

# Conservation and Planning Committee

In August I wrote at length in the Autumn 2020 Newsletter about planning matters so you will be relieved to read that this is a brief note.

We remain busy responding to planning applications in Yorkshire and working with our good friends at the Gardens Trust, Margie and Alison, who are both the part-time conservation officers. Between 4 February and 22 October, we have responded to eighty- eight planning applications or re-consultations. We look at the documents for all the planning applications: some are quite complex, some are not well documented which takes more time to work out what is being planned. Fortunately, there are a number that are very straightforward and may even only require a “no comment”.

Additionally Chairman Chris, with some help from me, wrote a response to the *Planning for the Future* White Paper (see p. 30) and I sent comments to the Gardens Trust for their response to the *England Tree Strategy* – what I call the right tree in the right place!

Chris has also written on our behalf to the National Trust explaining our concerns about what we understand may be their future direction; see p. 28.

## Updates on earlier consultations:

**Wentworth Castle** – we have had a further revised application for Pine Lodge – to replace an existing bungalow. We did not consider that the revised application had engaged with the historic landscape or managed to mitigate the harm that the proposal’s more substantial presence would cause to this unique South Yorkshire complex of historic assets. Historic England responded with similar concerns and objections.

**Moreby Hall, Stillingfleet** - there have been amended plans for conversion and extension of the former garage to which we again objected. We were pleased to note that in the approval for the Hall determined in October, a Conservation Management Plan has been requested. We suggested this in our advice and we have offered Selby DC Conservation Officer assistance with reviewing it if useful.

**Bretton Hall Mansion** – we visited the site with the developers (Rushbond) and the Conservation Officer from Wakefield Council in November. At last we were able to see the core of the site in its wider setting. It was a very useful meeting but

we do have concerns about how Rushbond and the Yorkshire Sculpture Park (YSP) will work together in future and hope that artistic interests will be given equal weight to commercial ones by all parties. There needs to be liaison with YSP and a holistic approach to the entire estate is vital to everyone’s success. It was good to find that much of our concern and advice is shared with the Conservation Officer and we have sent Wakefield’s officers a written report.



Bretton Hall in its wider setting.  
(Photo credit: Val Hepworth)

**Harewood House** – a winter tent structure for the courtyard at the Stables and a flue at The Hovels were easy applications to consider. We have just responded to a second re-consultation for Forge House and again found that the further information and amendments did not resolve our concerns and would be harmful.

We are very pleased that a new Conservation Management Plan is being drawn up for Harewood House Park and Gardens by Haworth Tompkins. This will cover the whole of the registered area, so combining the interests of the Harewood House Trust and the Harewood Estate. Along with other organisations we were invited to attend a Zoom meeting in October when Beatie Blakemore of the consultants gave a presentation of the draft report. The ideas for the long-term conservation and management of this special place were inspiring and particularly with the strategy of the Harewood House Trust and Estate working closely together to conserve and sustain the whole area whilst finding new and exciting ways of presentation to the public. Peter Goodchild, Anne Tupholme and I attended the meeting. We have reported our comments on the draft to the consultants and await feedback.

**We have received many new applications, including:**

**Thornes Park, Wakefield** – This is a park that I have never visited but Geoff Hughes had a day there recently and has written some notes together with some photos on p. 30 of this e-Bulletin. We have had two applications: the retrospective siting of a metal storage container for the storage of bikes and PPE in connection with a tandem club for visually impaired adults, and proposals to rebuild Thornes Park Stadium. The metal storage container is near the rose garden and the documents submitted were poor. We gave advice on the colour of the container and planting that could improve the look of the area. The ageing Stadium was fire damaged earlier this year and we again gave advice and also made suggestions as to how the park's existing infrastructure could be consolidated into less space, thus freeing up more of the green areas. We also mentioned our Small Grants Scheme.

**Kenwood Hall Hotel, Sheffield** – Two planning applications: the demolition of the Banqueting Suite etc and erection of a block of seven apartments and the demolition of outbuildings and erection of four dwellings. We have strongly objected to both these, which in their present form, will harm Kenwood Hall, the Nether Edge Conservation Area and the Kenwood Character Area. We have had very knowledgeable help

from Dr Jan Woudstra at the University of Sheffield. This has been particularly pertinent as I have been unable to visit Sheffield for nine months but stayed at Kenwood Hall about five years ago. It is Sheffield's largest surviving private example, as opposed to a public park, of the work of the nationally acclaimed designer Robert Marnock (1800-89). He was commissioned by George Wostenholm, a successful cutlery manufacturer, to design the garden at Kenwood and also the layout of the surrounding residential development carried out by Wostenholm, who started buying land in the area of Cherry Tree Hill in 1834, though he did not build Kenwood until 1844, by which stage Marnock was already involved.

Some of the following applications we will cover in more detail in the Spring 2021 Newsletter:

Variation of Conditions for Nostell Priory and Ridding Park's Holiday Parks; retrospective application for car parking at Gilling East (part of Registered Gilling Castle); York Flood Alleviation Scheme at Museum Gardens; Nun Appleton Hall; Esplanade Hotel, Scarborough; Park House Cottage, Wortley Park; Snape Castle Barn and alterations to existing prayer hall, Scholemoor Cemetery, Bradford.

*Val Hepworth*

*Trustee and Chairman of Conservation and Planning Committee*

## Conservation: Snippets

### Proposed Changes at Lotherton Hall

Like many organisations, Leeds City Council faces a precarious financial situation and has proposed some significant cuts to both staffing levels and opening times at Lotherton Hall. Specifically, the proposals include the closure of the Hall on weekdays outside of school holidays, with a projected saving in staff costs of £67k. However, that sum equates to 5.2 full time staff and would have a dramatic impact on Lotherton's important role as a museum and its rich cultural and educational contribution.

To comment on the proposals, please visit

[//surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/cs-lotherton](https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/cs-lotherton)

**before 4 January 2020**

Listed status granted to 33 more Yorkshire buildings and monuments. YGT is delighted to learn that a Scarborough seaside shelter has been included with 32 other newly added Yorkshire sites on Historic England's list for 2020, receiving Grade II status. Designed for the Cliff Bridge Company by architect Frank Alfred Tugwell (who also designed Harrogate Grand Opera House, now Theatre), the shelter was built at some point between 1897 and 1909 and has been listed for its architectural and historic interest and group value, given its context within the Grade II listed Valley Gardens and South Cliff Gardens. The shelter joins York Gate Garden, Adel, as featured on p. 35 of YGT's Autumn 2020 Newsletter shortly after receiving its Grade II status.

Further details can be found at [33 Yorkshire Sites Listed in 2020 | Historic England](#)

# Thornes Park, Wakefield

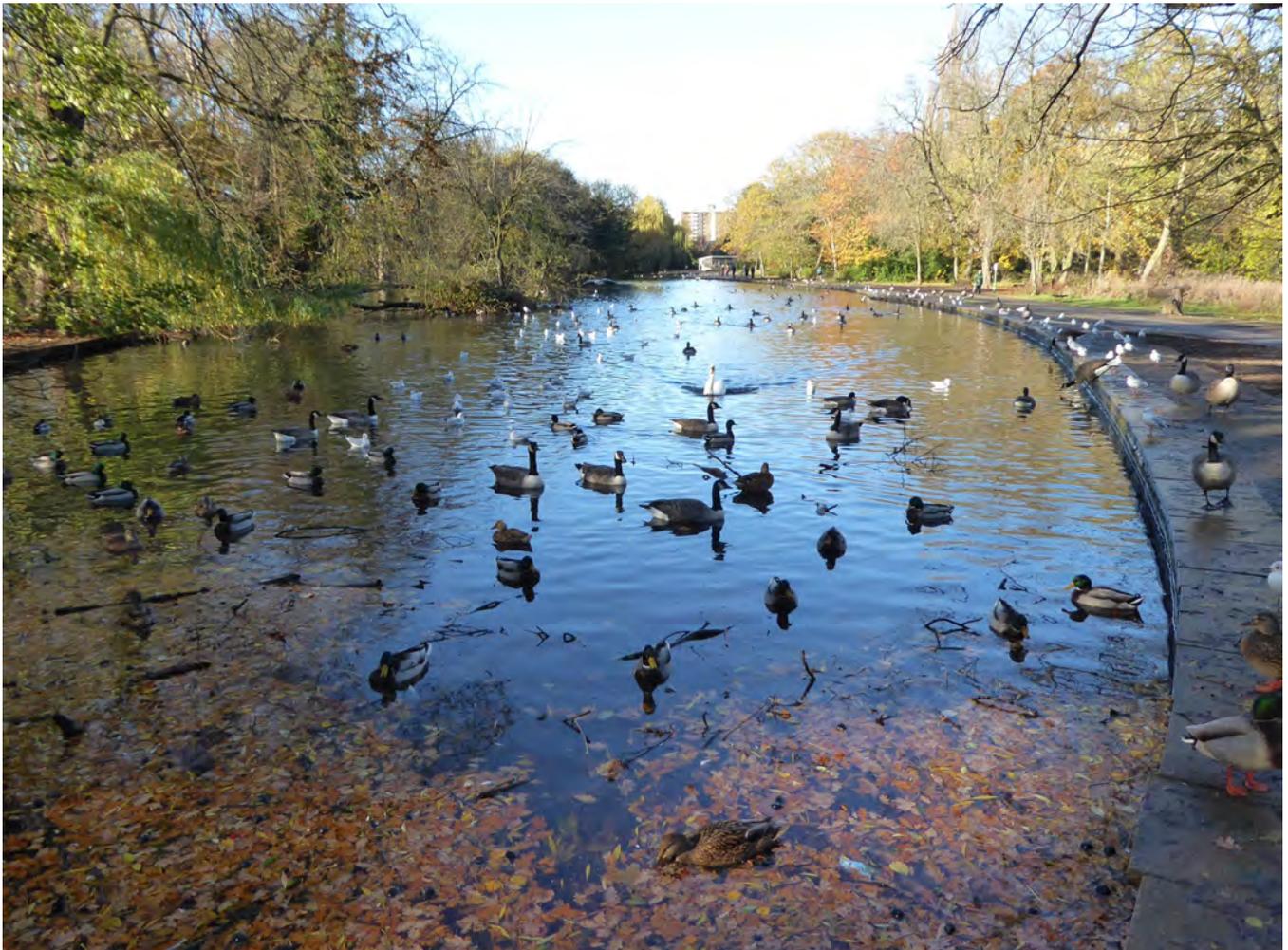
We all like our local public park. Some owe their origin to a Victorian benefactor, others to a forward-looking council many years ago. Most are now maintained by a public authority and many also have a “Friends” group actively involved in providing for the park’s future.

Thornes Park, a Grade 2 park, is Wakefield’s main traditional public park. It is approximately 60 hectares in extent and lies less than a mile from Wakefield City Centre. It is owned by Wakefield Council and has a very active Friends group plus a park management plan. Large numbers of people visit the park, which may well receive more visitors in a week in winter than many famous country estates receive in a year. However, its past is more complex than usual and a simple Planning reference to the Gardens Trust has led to an investigation which reveals many uncertainties for the park’s future.

What visitors now see as Thornes Park in fact originated as three separate adjoining landscapes: Thornes Park itself, Clarence Park and Holmfield

Park. The current park includes a motte and bailey topped mound 30 metres high, a late 18th century John Carr estate (house gone), a 19th century estate (house now a smart pub hemmed in by trees) and a late 19th century public park laid out by Backhouse. Features still in good condition include a large walled garden with cottage, greenhouses, c.40 named rose beds and herbaceous borders, a 100+ mature chestnut tree walk, lodge, planted borders and a lake with waterfowl. There are also regular public park features including tearoom, play area, rock mounds, skate park, bowling green, tennis courts, aviary, miniature railway, fountain and a superb bandstand plus various monuments, some still in situ and some being historic items from elsewhere in the city displayed here for a century or more.

However, a visit reveals challenges within the listed landscape. These include council depot facilities down one side ranging from a plant nursery to a skip store; numerous abandoned college buildings across a central ridge; and a



The Lake, Thornes Park on 4 November 2020



Play facilities near the empty sports hall and one of four car parks

large sports track building with nearby sports tracks and pitches, most not currently in use. Indeed, the Planning reference referred to earlier was a public survey regarding possible reinstatement of Council sports buildings and facilities in the park, some of which were closed after a suspected arson attack early in 2020.

Some parts of the park, around the lake, near the children's play facilities and close to the pub, are heavily used with parking overflowing the respective individual car parks. Other areas of the park are much less visited with a large, but little used, car park on open hillside near the empty college buildings. A few of the former college buildings appear to have been bought from Wakefield Council by a prominent local businessman to house a related charity foundation but it has yet to move in. The Council is itself intending to redevelop some of the sports facilities; indeed, the survey referred to the Gardens Trust for comment, looks to be the first step in an intended new build of a sports hall and facilities, funding permitting, to reflect future sports requirements, rather than simply reinstating the sports facilities of the last century.

Although the park has a management plan, does it help? The most recent (2015-2020) plan has led to a number of successes, including construction of a single all-weather walking track inside the park boundary to link the main park facilities. However, the plan has now expired and the big issues described above are largely beyond the scope of a plan which was based around restoring, maintaining and, if possible, improving traditional park facilities used by the public.

What next? We do not know. The college formerly on this site managed to move elsewhere

and abandon its premises.

- Will the Council resist the temptation to build new sports facilities on green space alongside the ones in the park they replace?
- Who will fund improved parking at the popular visitor points, or the removal of the scars of the former college car parking?
- Should there be cycling routes through the park to take cyclists to and from the city centre away from nearby busy roads?
- If the college buildings get new uses, what requests might follow for new facilities, not least new road access through the park?
- Will anyone pay to clear the trees and mud across the large motte and bailey mound in the centre of the park and reinstate the wide views across the city that once brought wealthy folk to create a great landscape here?

Thornes Park has a complex past and it looks likely to have a complex future too.

*Geoff Hughes*

*Member of Conservation Committee*

*Photo credits: Geoff Hughes*



Trees within Clarence Park area

# The National Trust's Reset

Members will be interested to hear that we have further information from Hilary McGrady, Director-General of the National Trust, about her plans for NT in response to the Covid pandemic. In a letter responding to Peter Hughes, Chair of The Gardens Trust, she writes to reassure us about NT's intentions for the preservation and conservation of gardens in NT's care, and access to them. Extracts from her letter are presented below. This is the second time TGT has written to NT, this second letter focussing on the rumours circulating about NT's decision not to reopen Rievaulx Terrace and Temples (and The Kymin in Wales), both important sites.

One member who has written to the Experience & Visitor Programming Manager for Nunnington Hall, Ormesby Hall and Rievaulx Terrace about Rievaulx has also received a reply. The relevant part of that reply appears after the more substantial quotation from Hilary McGrady's letter, below. Members will observe from comparing the two that NT is managing its communications very tightly from the centre.

YGT understands that NT is facing extraordinary difficulties in caring for the designed landscapes and gardens entrusted to it across England and Wales. We recognise that a proper response to the pandemic for any organisation could be a determination to maximise income and make the best use of resources. Equally, we recognise that the sites NT cares for are inherently fragile, easily damaged by neglect or over-development. In Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal we have a Grade I designed landscape and World Heritage site that rightly attracts many visitors, for which NT plans to develop further visitor facilities at Studley Royal.



Rievaulx Terrace, looking towards the Ionic Temple.  
(Photo credit: Matthew Thompson)

In Rievaulx Terrace and Temples we have a Grade I designed landscape, which NT “hopes [to reopen] in 2021”.

YGT has the expertise, knowledge and enthusiasm to support NT to make careful, considered and appropriate decisions for these and other designed landscapes and gardens in Yorkshire. We are natural friends and allies. We look forward to hearing from NT about how it intends to respond positively and actively to Hilary McGrady's statement that NT welcomes our “interest and invitation to work together more closely in our shared purpose”.

YGT is keen to hear our members' views, and any information members have about the plans for Rievaulx and Studley Royal.

## **Extracts from the letter to Peter Hughes written by Hilary McGrady, November 2020:**

*“Firstly I'd like to stress that in setting out our spending cuts and redundancy plans, we have committed to maintaining conservation standards by capping spending cuts for houses, gardens, collections and countryside. We're proud to provide world class conservation to the nations' cultural and natural heritage – including, of course, our gardens – and we are determined to keep providing it as per our statutory duty.*

There was misleading media coverage earlier this year which suggested the Trust planned to turn its back on its houses and gardens. While we are working hard to try to reverse some of the terrible declines we are seeing in wildlife and nature, our commitment to the country house, gardens, arts and heritage remains steadfast.

Now to address the two specific gardens you raise in your letter. We are working hard to reopen Rievaulx Terrace to the public. We are currently reviewing how we manage the garden to ensure it works for staff, visitors and volunteers while ensuring the security and safety of the wonderful conservation assets. We are looking forward to welcoming people back to enjoy the site as soon as possible, which we hope will be in 2021.

However, while the property may not be open, our gardening teams will be carrying out ongoing care and maintenance work to ensure this special landscape is preserved. We remain committed to caring for Rievaulx Terrace as we have always done.

Secondly, we understand and appreciate that The Kymin and its nine acres of pleasure grounds is of considerable importance, particularly to the National Trust in Wales and the communities it serves.

While the Round House, like many of our smaller sites, will need to remain closed for the foreseeable future due to Covid-19 restrictions, we are committed to keeping the pleasure grounds open, including the Naval Temple, and maintaining conservation standards there.

We have considered all of the feedback and suggestions received about The Kymin and we are discussing all aspects of site management with the custodian and Monmouthshire team to find a model that is sustainable and won't leave the site vulnerable. The Kymin will continue to be in National Trust care and will continue to be protected for everyone, forever.

I hope this has provided, at least in part, some reassurance and clarity for yourself and your members. We of course welcome your interest and invitation to work together more closely in our shared purpose.

*Best regards*

*Hilary*

**Extract from the letter from the Experience and Visitor Programming Manager for Rievaulx Terrace and Temples:**

*“Rievaulx Terrace is one of the country's finest landscape gardens and we are working hard to reopen it to the public. We are currently reviewing how we manage the gardens to ensure it works for staff, visitors and volunteers while ensuring the security and safety of the wonderful conservation assets. We are looking forward to welcoming people back to enjoy the site as soon as possible, which we hope will be in 2021. We will update the website as soon as we have more information”.*

**Meanwhile, in early December YGT received from Hilary McGrady a reply to its letter of 28 October regarding NT's ten year plan.**

*Dear Christopher,*

Thank you for taking the time to write to me recently to share your concerns. I apologise for the delay in responding.

Firstly, it's important for me to stress that the 10 year document to which you refer was an internal discussion document to look at possible ways forward as we emerge from the Coronavirus crisis. It is not a strategy. We

remain steadfastly committed to, and passionate about, the country house, gardens and landscapes, and arts and heritage.

Our gardens are undoubtedly of vast significance and a much-cherished part of the heritage in our care. A core part of our purpose is to care for them and make them accessible to all. We are committed to excellence in the preservation of our portfolio of world-class gardens, as evidenced by some of our recently completed or in-progress garden conservation projects:

- recreating the lost nine Muses statues at Stowe, after many years of historical and archaeological research;
- restoring the unique 'Capability' Brown curved walled garden at Berrington Hall;
- reviving the arboretum at Dyffryn, as part of a five-year project;
- repairs to the Grade 2 listed walls of Gibside's historic walled garden.

We are also committed to retaining horticultural expertise and, in our recent spending review, we capped cuts to conservation roles, including roles in gardens, meaning that the loss of gardens staff is lower than elsewhere in the organisation. We are retaining nine regional Garden Consultants and some gardens are gaining a dedicated Head Gardener where there was previously a general landscape manager. We are also creating an additional National Senior Consultant in Gardens and Parks role and will be resuming the search for a Head of Gardens next year.

In all cases, we will use our horticultural skills and knowledge to make thoughtful decisions that are in keeping with the spirit and significance of each property. We're proud to provide world class conservation to the nations' cultural and natural heritage – including, of course, our gardens – and we are determined to keep providing it.

These are without doubt extremely challenging times but I'm confident that our plans will ensure we can keep caring for remarkable gardens long into the future.

Thank you again for writing

*Best regards*

*Hilary*

**Chris Webb**

**YGT Chairman and Trustee**

# YGT's response to the National *Planning for the Future* White Paper

## Consultation on proposals for reform of the planning system in England

We are grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the important topic of planning reform. In making our response we wish to endorse the response by our sister charity, The Gardens Trust, to emphasise and amplify the points in The Gardens Trust's response, and to make some additional points that are important in our experience with planning in Yorkshire.

1. The white paper does not appear to acknowledge that without properly resourced planning departments effective and sustainable planning is not possible, so that any reform will be tinkering at the edges of a national problem. In our county there are 126 registered parks and gardens, one of which, Studley Royal, has World Heritage site status. Planning departments in Yorkshire require expertise in the particular challenges of working with these landscapes, but planning authorities throughout Yorkshire are understaffed, and lack appropriate expertise to deal with sensitive and complicated matters in relation to designed landscapes, parks and gardens. Thus, many planning authorities in Yorkshire either do not have a conservation officer, or have just one officer working part-time.

2. The current system of registration for designed landscapes, parks and gardens does little more than recognise their importance; unlike the system for listed buildings, there is no statutory protection for these landscapes. We can see nothing in the white paper to address this anomalous and deplorable position.

3. Wellbeing, climate change, biodiversity and sustainability are critical considerations for our nation in the short and long term. Unless our designed landscapes, parks and gardens, and access to them, are protected, the effectiveness of designed landscapes, parks and gardens will diminish and decay. They are relatively inexpensive to maintain and improve, but easy to damage. The white paper should place more emphasis on these aspects of planning, and acknowledge that expert planning resources, locally based, are required to realise the potential of these landscapes.

4. The proposition to assign land to the three groupings is seriously flawed. The beauty of the UK landscape and its towns is ineluctably

connected to variety and difference. The mosaic of gardens, buildings, streets and parks that has developed over centuries is an immensely precious asset that brings joy to our lives and visitors to our shores; in our county, York is a world-famous example of how successful and attractive such a mosaic is – but we do not wish it to be fossilised. Its preservation and enhancement depend on local knowledge and engagement developed and sustained over time; the present proposals to create groups or area designations will prevent the mosaic from growing and changing sensitively and appropriately, carrying a high risk of creating areas that are doomed to be preserved as museums rather than living, breathing, growing places that people care for and wish to live in and visit. There is a closely related danger that ill-considered developments, even small ones, will gradually erode on a cumulative basis the precious qualities of our parks, gardens and green spaces.

5. We understand that the white paper provides for Protected Areas (including established designations such as green belt, AONB, conservation areas) to remain subject to existing policy considerations. But these occupy a small part of the country, while many historic parks and gardens do not lie in Protected Areas. It is important that fast-tracking is not applied to designed landscapes, parks and gardens wherever they might be in the proposed areas; and that individual assessments of applications affecting designed landscapes, parks and gardens are maintained and improved.

6. The question of boundaries between these proposed areas is not properly explored. Boundaries for designed landscapes, parks and gardens are critical to their appreciation and value; it must be recognised that the wider setting and broad visual envelope of such landscapes are important factors in their design, which contribute immeasurably to the many ways in which they are enjoyed now, and in the future. Area designations must allow the consideration of hard and soft boundaries, where parks might blend into agricultural landscapes, or urban or semi-urban settlements. The success of boundaries depends on individual assessments, and cannot possibly be achieved within the

proposed timescale for designating the three areas. Moreover, if the white paper is to be successful in improving the planning system, it needs to recognise the importance of, and provide for, change over time. It must also acknowledge that new knowledge and new appreciation of landscapes are acts of continuous creation, as in the very recent additions to the Listings of twenty significant Post-War Landscapes in England.

7. The proposal to allow designated experts to judge their own work is dangerous. Handing over decisions without scrutiny to experts who might not understand local significance (or, indeed, national significance) will lead to poor design and inappropriate intervention. Moreover, it threatens to undermine and ignore the considerable amateur expertise in the population at large (built up over long periods with much effort and expense), and not least in public benefit charities such as our own. Co-creation, pre-application co-operation and neighbourly discussion have good records in creating designs that are owned and appreciated by the public. It is wrongheaded to consider this process as delay; it is rather a process that increases the likelihood of getting designs right, and therefore sustainable into the future. It is important that the new system adopts a plurality of ways (including physical signs) to alert people to applications for planning permission.

8. Yorkshire's National Parks require special consideration and support in planning matters relating to designed landscapes, parks and gardens. Yorkshire Gardens Trust has assisted our National Parks through our research and recording programme (run, led and financed at no cost to the public purse), which has enhanced their understanding of the historic parks and gardens within their boundaries. We also advise on planning matters that affect historic parks and gardens in these National Parks. We are concerned that the white paper pays insufficient regard to the particular problems of these special areas. In particular, we fear that National Parks could lose control over where properties are built, and that this will have a damaging affect on the character of the Parks themselves, and on historic parks and gardens and their settings.

9. Beauty is an elusive and evanescent characteristic to deploy as a planning tool. It carries with it a high risk of privileging sight over the other senses (it is folly to ignore scent, touch and hearing in connection with gardens), and over other characteristics (including, among others, association with historical events or

figures, intellectual rigour, and significance in demonstrating new ways of approaching, appreciating and designing landscapes). Beauty is also highly subjective and changes over time, even so short a time as a generation, let alone over centuries.

10. Detail – whether it be a planting scheme in a single bed or the material chosen for a path or a structure – is critical to the big picture. Mosaics of landscape and townscape are constructed of individual tesserae, all of which need to be understood and approached with care; that cannot be achieved in a lasting way in a single 30-month period.

11. We do not wish to oppose reform of the planning system root and branch; there are improvements that can be made, and we understand and support the drive to build homes. But wholesale reform over so short a period is doomed to failure if it does not carry with it the need to enhance local engagement in the development and growth of local areas. We urge, therefore, a more considered approach, which is less driven by theory and more by data, by practical appreciation of what there is to be gained, and what there is to be lost.

12. We are pleased to note that the white paper acknowledges that street trees are to be an important feature of future planning, as exemplified by the success and importance of the community-led campaign in Sheffield to prevent the City Council from removing healthy trees from its streets. We also note that the creation of new parks and green spaces will be important to health, wellbeing and the public realm in developments in town and city centres, and that, as with trees, future planning processes should be clear on this point.

13. We support the proposal that each planning authority will have a chief officer for design and place-making. In that connection, we support the proposal that design codes should 'be prepared locally and ... be based on genuine community involvement rather than meaningless consultation'.

#### Contact information

Chris Webb, Chair, Yorkshire Gardens Trust  
pureycust@gmail.com

# YGT Events Programme 2021

The Events Committee aims to send out the Events Programme in the New Year as usual, with a booking form. We hope that our events will be able to go ahead. The first event of the year is as follows:

## February 2021

### Thursday 11 February: Snowdrop visit to Wentworth Woodhouse

This visit will include a guided tour of the snowdrops. If we are able to have a soup and sandwich lunch, tickets will cost £22.00, or £17.00 to National Trust members. If we cannot gather indoors as a group for lunch, tickets will cost £12.00 or £8.00 for National Trust members.

Please can you let Maddy Hughes [madalynhughes@aol.co.uk](mailto:madalynhughes@aol.co.uk) know if you are interested in joining this event, although tickets will only be sent out after the Events Programme booking form has been returned to Maddy, who holds credit for many members for tickets booked for 2020 events which were cancelled. If you would like to know how much credit she holds for you, please can you contact her.

### Lectures – a reminder

Please do not forget to book for our series of Zoom talks to be given in conjunction with the Gardens Trust during January 2021. Full details, including a link to the booking site are below.

Please note that in purchasing a ticket for the events detailed below, you do not need to watch it live. Within 24 hours after the event you will be sent a link to the recording which can be accessed at any time during the following week.

### Tuesday evening online lectures in January 2021

**Man, Myth and Mountains: Reginald Farrer (1880-1920).** Reginald Farrer was an alpine plant collector, gardener and garden writer, who single-handedly changed the way the anglophone world writes about garden plants. He was also a travel-writer, rock gardener, novelist, poet and amateur water-colour painter, and became a Buddhist in 1908.

5th Jan at 7pm: *The Power of Farrer* - John Page

12th Jan at 7pm: *The Rescue of an Edwardian Rock Garden* - Mike Myers

19th Jan at 7pm: *Farrer in the Alps and the Far East* - John Page

26th Jan at 7pm: *Plants, Books and Journeys:*

*the world of Reginald Farrer, "well-known" Buddhist* – Michael Charlesworth

**These lectures can be booked as a package (£16.00) or on an individual basis (£5.00)  
by following the link below:**

[//www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/man-myth-and-mountains-reginald-farrer-and-his-world-tickets-128236658297](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/man-myth-and-mountains-reginald-farrer-and-his-world-tickets-128236658297)

*Vicky Price*

*On behalf of the YGT Events Team*

## Forthcoming YGT Publications

Publication	Copy deadline	Publication date
Spring Newsletter	31 January 2021	21 March 2021
Summer e-Bulletin	1 July 2021	21 July 2021
Autumn Newsletter	14 August 2021	21 September 2021

Please send items for inclusion to Christine Miskin: [c.miskin@btinternet.com](mailto:c.miskin@btinternet.com)