



RHS Bridgewater Garden Plans

The new "Garden in the NW" will be built in the grounds of Worsley New Hall between Worsley and Boothstown, close to the Worsley interchange on the M60.

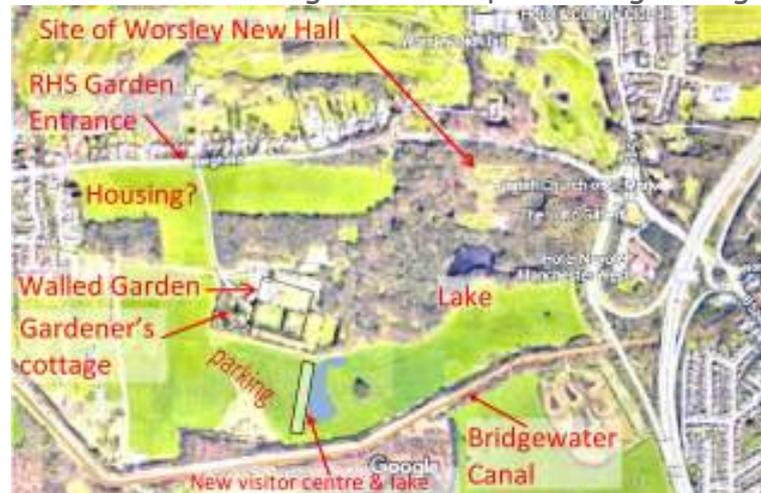
The first Earl of Bridgewater inherited the Worsley estate from his great uncle and godfather the "Canal" Duke of Bridgewater and brought his wife and family to live at Worsley in 1837. He commissioned the magnificent gothic New Hall including a gardener's cottage, adjacent to a huge kitchen garden. Formal terraced gardens with fountains, descended from the house to the



Architect Edward Blore's Worsley New Hall

lake. Four generations later, death duties forced the sale of house and grounds. Requisitioning during WW2 left it badly damaged, leading to demolition in 1946. The terraced gardens and walled garden are now overgrown and the fountains dismantled.

The 156 acre RHS Garden will be a little larger than RHS Harlow Carr and actual work will start when planning permission is obtained, hopefully in March. The project seems to have strong local support though with some reservations about peak time hold-ups along the busy two-lane Leigh Road. Proposed traffic signals at the entrance may cause traffic to back up to the motorway. Peel Holdings' wish to construct 300 houses using this junction may aggravate traffic problems too. Getting there by boat (or water taxi) on the canal is a nice idea that may be accommodated.



Overgrown terrace and ruined fountain

Development is planned in 4 stages. **Phase 1**, planned to open in summer 2019 will restore the very large (11 acre) walled garden; the Lake (which has become shallow) and Middlewood between the two. This phase also includes an initial plant centre, community allotments, a therapeutic garden and a temporary café + shop. **Phase 2** is to open in 2020 and includes a new visitor centre with café, shop, plant centre and adjacent to it, a new lake and arrivals garden. **Phase 3** completes by 2023 with a lakeside café, arboretum, learning centre and gardening advice service. After 2023, **Phase 4** creates an "architecturally stunning" glasshouse on the site of the Hall plus renovation of the terraces down to the lake.

Phil Broughton



The Lake in July 2016

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Another Curious Visit to make

Janet Faulkner takes us to her next local beauty spot.

This time I have travelled further afield to a Hall with lovely grounds. The Hall is one of England's finest examples of a medieval manor house and a stunning English Tudor and country house in Derbyshire. It lies alongside the River Wye just south of Bakewell. The home to



the Manners Family; the Hall dates mostly from the 14th and 15th centuries. Originally owned by the descendants of William the Conqueror's illegitimate son, Peverel, it was passed through marriage to the Manners family, later to become Dukes of Rutland, in whose possession it has remained. It's interesting to note that the Hall has never been bought or sold. The Hall remained closed and empty for a period of 200 years until brought to life by the 9th Duke of Rutland in the 1920's when the Duke realised its importance and began restoration after moving there in 1912.

The entrance courtyard still looks perfectly medieval, with gargoyles and crenulated walls. To the right hand side of the courtyard lies the Hall chapel, which looks much as it did in



medieval times. The kitchen complex is one of the most fascinating parts of the Hall. The Duke converted former stables into a modern kitchen for family use and constructed a 47 yard underground tunnel for their meals to be delivered up to the dining hall. There is a magnificent Banqueting Hall and an oak panelled Long Gallery, 110ft in length and 17ft wide. Steps at the end of the Long Gallery lead out

into the gardens and down to the River Wye.

The gardens are laid out in several terraces which follow the contours of the house. These have great views



to the surrounding countryside and include a revived Tudor rose garden. The lower sections need a little 'agility'. →

Over the years the Hall has provided a popular location for film and television productions such as the feature films "Elizabeth", "Jane Eyre", and "The Other Boleyn Girl". Television productions "The Prince and the Pauper" and "Moll Flanders" were made there..

So where am I now? (see page 4)

AGM: Bequest to EHS Discussed

In November the AGM was held at the Barlow. One main item for discussion was the considerable legacy left to the Society by Geoffrey Nuttall. Phil outlined the points for consideration which were mainly about ensuring appropriate use now and into the future, of Geoffrey's generous gift (and of funds invested). EHS becoming a charity was being considered by the Committee as a possible means of achieving this.

Valid points and concerns were made from the floor about Charity Status and it was decided that the Committee should look further into it and report back to an Extraordinary General Meeting.

Relatively short term projects for which money could be used were floated, such as Edgworth in Bloom and identifying areas to plant with trees and shrubs.

As usual the AGM was well attended with about 80 people present. Phil Broughton, the Chairman, thanked members for their support this year and outlined the activities and events of 2016. Photos were shown to highlight these. Membership is now around 250. All the arranged visits were well supported and the holiday to the Gardens of Suffolk and Essex was very successful.

The election of Officers took place. Keith Shatwell became Chairman and Phil Broughton Treasurer. Liz Waller was a welcome addition to the Committee.

Pat Whalley outlined the new programme of events for 2017, which looks very interesting and varied.

2017 (Local-ish!) Flower Shows

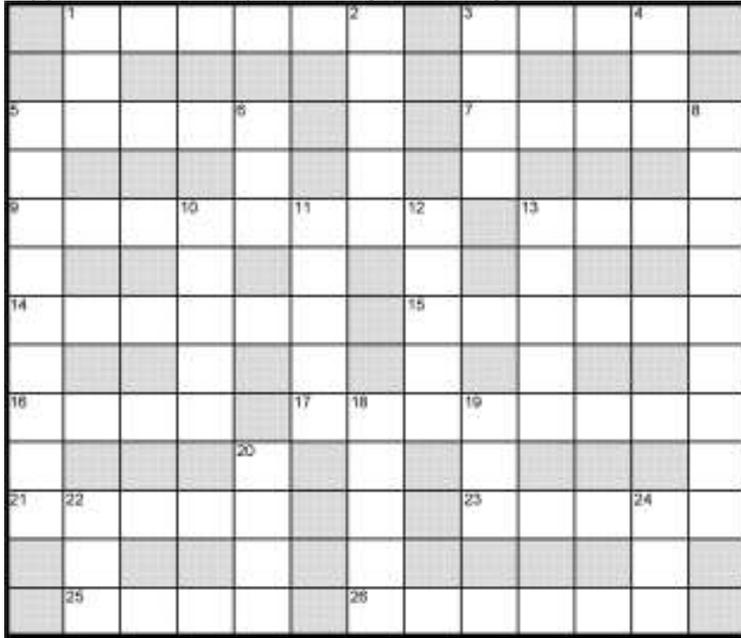
Tottington Spring Show	April 1	Saturday
Harrogate Spring Show	April 20-23	Thurs - Sun
RHS Malvern Spring Festival	May 11-14	Thurs - Sun
RHS Chatsworth (New)	June 7-11	Wed - Sun
RHS Harlow Carr	June 23-25	Fri - Sun
RHS Tatton Park Show	July 19-23	Wed - Sun
Shrewsbury Flower Show	August 11-12	Fri & Sat
EHS Edgworth Show	August 19	Saturday
Southport Flower Show	August 17-20	Thurs - Sun

Not an EHS member?

You'll be made welcome at our meetings. Just come to one or look for details on the website.

Gardening Crossword

Have a go at solving this crossword. The clues are cryptic and mostly with a gardening theme.



Clues across

- 1 A non-U well-liked tree? (6)
 3 In the beginning was a flowering shrub (4)
 5 A vulpine dummy herb (5)
 7 Fruity sounding weight (5)
 9 An aromatic rat groan (8)
 13 Insect leaf might become? (4)
 14 This may climb from the `syrup` to the lug! (6)
 15 In the eyes of and painted by Vincent (6)
 16 Can be sweet or flakes (4)
 17 A wee pest a confused garden favourite (5,3)
 21 Trim and lop this fruit (5)
 23 Rent low from Digging? (5)
 25 Flavoured money maker (4)
 26 Pungent root Sir had (6)

Clues down

- 1 Veg sounds to be in front of queue (3)
 2 A musical or informative `turn on` (5)
 3 Skips to the brewery? (4)
 4 Can this tree feel more inside? (3)
 5 Weedy dairy vessel? (9)
 6 A meadow in a leafy spot (3)
 8 Stem chatter among the legumes? (9)
 10 A worn out tree (5)
 11 Edible green sounding measures (5)
 12 What 2 produces if too loud in garden? (5)
 13 Fire starter uncovered in soil (5)
 18 I left waiter in garden butt (5)
 19 Tidal feature in web by the sea (3)
 20 Does this vegetable have rhythm? (4)
 22 An odd sounding spirit? (3)
 24 Burnt remains of a tree (3)

Answer on Page 4

Political Gardening?

In 2017 should we all be growing Trump-et shaped flowers? - preferably yellow crowned
 Should we also cultivate Brexitiana europea, in red white and blue?

Winter & Spring Tips by Sue Brohi

- Use new compost for raising seeds and potting on seedlings. Put old stuff on the garden as a mulch.
- Check/service power tools to ensure their safety.
- A large hump of soil and leaves in the borders may be a hedgehog nest - take care not to disturb.
- Tools - clean and prepare for the coming season. See BBC gardening guides on the internet `How to clean garden tools`.

The general rules are -

- ✓ Clean off soil with stiff brush and water. Dry and oil blades.
- ✓ Oil wooden handles annually.
- ✓ Keep tools indoors and off the ground so they are away from damp.
- ✓ Sharpen all blades so they are more efficient to use using a file or oilstone. Repeat regularly through the season
- ✓ Clean sap off the blades of secateurs immediately.
- ✓ Clean tools used on diseased material very thoroughly and immediately.



Local Plant Hunters' Fairs

- Specialist Plants (see planthuntersfairs.co.uk)

Sunday 26 March Ness Botanical Gardens, Wirral
 10am-4pm Fair £1

Sunday 2 April Bramall Hall, Bramhall, Stockport
 11am-4pm Fair £2

Saturday 8 April Hoghton Tower, near Preston 10am-4pm
 Fair £1

Saturday 29 April Norton Priory, Runcorn 10am-4pm
 Fair free

Sunday 7 May Adlington Hall, Macclesfield 10am-4pm
 Fair & gardens £3

Sunday 21 May Cholmondeley Castle, Malpas 10am-5pm
 Fair & gardens £3.50

Sat 1/Sun 2 July Henbury Hall, Macclesfield 10am-5pm
 Fair & gardens £2.50

Sunday 9 July Abbeywood Gardens, Delamere 10am-5pm
 Fair & gardens £3

Sunday 3 September Ness Botanical Gardens, Wirral
 10am-4pm Fair £1

Sunday 17 September Henbury Hall, Macclesfield
 10am-5pm Fair & gardens £2.50

Sunday 24 September Abbeywood Gardens, Delamere
 10am-5pm Fair & gardens £3

Please note - many of these venues have other attractions which are payable separately

Where am I? (from page 2)

Haddon Hall

Bakewell, Derbyshire

The Hall and gardens are open daily from May to September. They open around Easter but recommend contacting them or to check opening times on the web site

Adult £14.50, Concession £14 Children £8.00

Family (2 adults, 3 children) £37.00

Car Parking £3.00 per car

For more on Haddon Hall opening times, dates, events and more visitor information for the year 2017 see

www.haddonhall.co.uk

Crossword Puzzle Answers

20 Beet	22 Rum	24 Ark
12 Niece	13 Flint	18 Water
6 Tea	8 Banastalk	10 Rowan
2 Radio	3 Hope	4 Elm
25 Mint	26 Radish	DOWN
15 Niece	16 Corn	17 Sweet Pea
7 Plum	9 Tarragon	13 Tea
ACROSS	1 Poplar	3 Herb
		5 Beet
		14 Caraway
		21 Prune
		1 Pea
		5 Buttercup
		11 Gage
		19 Ell

Some Nearby NGS Gardens Open in 2017

- Weeping Ash Garden, (Bents), Warrington Road, Glazebury, WA3 5NS Sundays 12 19 26 Feb, 5 Mar, 7 May, 10 Sept (12noon - 4pm) £3
- Dale House Gardens, Goosnargh, Preston, PR3 2BE Sat 15 April, Sun 16 April, Sat 24 June, Sun 25 June (10am-4pm) £3.50,
- The Ridges, Limbrick, Chorley PR6 9EB Mondays 1 May, 28 August (11am-5pm) £4.50
- Didsbury Village Gardens, Moor Cottage, Grange Lane, Manchester M20 6RW. 7 gardens Sundays(12noon-5pm) 7 May, 11 June £5/£6 all 7
- Heaton Gardens, 6 Cannock Drive, Heaton Moor, Stockport SK4 3JB 3 gardens New 2017 Sunday 21 May (12noon-5pm) £5 all 3
- 11 Westminster Road, Eccles, M30 9HF and 35 Ellesmere Road, Eccles Sat 17 June (12.30-5pm) £4 both
- 12 The Croft, Euxton, Chorley PR7 6LH NEW 2017 Sunday 28 May (11am-5pm) Admission £3
- 40 Acreswood Avenue, Hindley Green Wigan, WN2 4NJ Sun 25 June (11am-4pm) Adults £3.50
- Wigan & Leigh Hospice, Kildare St, Hindley, WN2 3HZ Sunday 10 Sept (10am-4pm) £3

For details see "NGS Gardens Open for Charity" website

Member Discounts Continue

Suttons seeds (50% seeds/15% other)

Arthur Lane Nursery & Mahers-garden supplies.(10%)

Famous Plants People - 2

In the second of our mini-series, Martin Cox writes about the inspiring figure behind Great Dixter.

Christopher Lloyd (1921-2006) is famous for his influence on garden design and style, notably at



his beautiful old house, Great Dixter, near Rye in East Sussex. Christo, as he was known to friends, was the youngest of six children.

His parents Nathaniel and Daisy, originally from Manchester, bought Great Dixter in 1910 from the proceeds of his father's printing firm. The house was extended by Edwin Lutyens.

Christo as a child was inspired to become a gardener by a visit to Gertrude Jekyll. In 1946 he took a BSc in Horticulture at Wye College.



Great Dixter from the Topiary Garden

The mixed border, one of Christo's main planting styles, was influenced by Robert 'Bobbie' James (1873-1960). He refined James' ideas, giving borders a bulkier, more structured and impressive result. His style was based mainly on contrasts rather than harmonies, with special attention to foliage and shape. This style is nowadays the norm.



Great Dixter's Long Border on the EHS 4-Day Holiday in 2013

Christo's scientific knowledge and love of plants gave him confidence to write with authority as a horticulturalist.

Dixter is known as a garden of ideas and its style continues, led by Fergus Garrett who joined Christo there as head gardener in 1993.

EHS on the Web

has galleries of pictures, up-coming events & lots more.