

NEWSPRINT

What's new in the world of garden design *Compiled by Zia Allaway*



LEFT An illustration of the planned 'The Woodstock' playground garden

Chatsworth awarded £80,000 grant

A HERITAGE LOTTERY Fund grant has been awarded to Chatsworth House Trust to convert a listed former Game Larder into a learning resource about the historic landscape in Derbyshire. The octagonal building in the park will contain images and information covering the past 500 years, with audio storytelling explaining the landscape, flora and fauna.

The project is part of a nationwide celebration of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown's 300th anniversary, and will highlight the impact Brown and his successor, Joseph Paxton, had on the landscape at Chatsworth. These influences included the diversion of the river Derwent and the development of the famous 105-acre garden, with its rockery and plants from around the world.

Details have also been announced for the inaugural RHS Chatsworth Flower Show, which takes place in the grounds this June. SGD Members creating show gardens include Lee Bestall MSGD, Jo Thompson MSGD, Butter Wakefield and Neil Sutcliffe (find out more in the May issue of *GDJ*). The Show runs from 7-11 June 2017. www.rhs.org.uk; www.chatsworth.org



RETHINKING PLAY AT REFORD

THE INTERNATIONAL Garden Festival has announced the designs selected for the 18th edition, presented at the Jardins de Métis/ Reford Gardens in eastern Québec, Canada.

The organisers of this world-famous contemporary design festival invited designers to create "Playsages" that would inspire children to see outdoor play as just as interesting, if not more fun, than on-screen entertainment. The six winning projects, selected from 162 proposals by designers from 30 countries, responded to the invitation to re-think play and overcome the challenges of 'nature-deficit disorder'.

The winning design, 'L'Escale', by Collectif Escargo (www.collectifescargo.com) from Montréal, will include wagons filled with plants that visiting children can wheel through the site.

A French team, Atelier Yok-Yok (www.atelieryokok.com), will present 'The Woodstock', a shady playground that allows children to become giants perched at the top of the wooden causeway (above).

'La Chrysalide', by Canadian landscape architects Gabriel Lacombe and Virginie Roy-Mazoyer, is an invitation to take a break

between childhood and adulthood to climb into a tree, make a nest and lay there to dream; while 'Paysage euphonique' by MANI (www.manimtl.wordpress.com), presents visitors with a set of giant play facilities, creating a tension in our rapport with the landscape and forcing us to see and hear nature differently.

'Soundcloud', by Canadian landscape architect Johanna Ballhaus, and Swiss architect Helen Wyss, will present metal rods with bells fixed to the ends that create the illusion of mist and clouds. The sixth garden is 'HAIKU' by Spanish architects Francisco A. Garcia Pérez and Alessandra Vignotto, which features a lonely swing in the forest, a flooded path and a motionless stone.

If you are unable to visit the festival, you can read about past events in *Experimenting Landscapes: Testing the Limits of the Garden* by Emily Waugh, published by Birkhäuser, which includes essays by Tim Richardson and landscape architect Marc Hallé, together with reflections from festival designers.

The Reford Gardens and International Garden Festival will be open every day from 3 June to 1 October 2017. www.refordgardens.com

The new sculptural garden at the SLG in Peckham

Photo: 6a architects

ARTIST'S SCULPTURAL GARDEN FOR PECKHAM GALLERY

MEXICAN ARTIST Gabriel Orozco has worked with UK-based 6a architects and horticulturists at Kew to create a sculptural garden for the South London Gallery (SLG) in Peckham. Despite never designing a garden before, Orozco embraced the challenge of transforming a largely inaccessible paved area into a unique sculptural work.

The gallery was previously renovated and extended by 6a architects in 2010, and the new back

garden is intended to give visitors space to sit, eat and play.

Arranged across a number of levels, the garden is paved in Yorkstone bricks, many salvaged from what used to be the gallery's rear façade. They draw circles around the space, demarcating pockets for different activities.

The garden is open on Saturday and Sunday, and at other times by appointment.

www.southlondongallery.org

New park for London

THE MAYOR OF LONDON, Sadiq Khan, has announced £220m funding for boroughs to deliver transport, town centre and public space improvements to benefit the lives of Londoners. Plans also include the development of Alfred Place Park – central London's first new public park in over a century.

The funding will support projects in each of the 33 boroughs across the capital, with the aim of reducing dangers on the roads, transforming local areas, encouraging cycling and walking, and improving air quality. Transport for London (TfL) will invest £148m in Local Implementation Plans that support the Mayor's Transport Strategy, and a further £70m in other schemes, including walking and cycling programmes. These will be key to delivering the Mayor's Healthy Streets vision of a city that is more pleasant to live and move around in. dsdha.co.uk; tfl.gov.uk

A CGI of the proposed Alfred Place Park in Camden



State of the World's Plants

JOIN SCIENTISTS and policymakers on 25-26 May 2017 at RBG Kew to learn about the state of the world's plant diversity and abundance at the second international State of the World's Plants Symposium. The Symposium takes place just after the publication of an annual report, which assesses current knowledge on plant diversity, the global threats these plants face, as well as the policies in place and their effectiveness in dealing with threats. The two-day symposium offers a platform to discuss the issues raised in the report and to engage the scientific community, policymakers and public alike. kew.org/state-worlds-plants-symposium-2017



The Avenue of Baobabs, Madagascar

Photo: Gavin Evans, licensed under CC-by-SA 3.0

LGCD TOP STUDENT TO DESIGN DULWICH GARDEN

THE WINNER of the London College of Garden Design's Top Student 2016 prize, recent graduate Rachel Reynolds, has been commissioned by Dulwich College to design a Memorial Garden to complement the school's new landmark building, The Laboratory, a science and arts venue.

Rachel said: "The building is clad with terracotta tiling designed by Peter Randall-Page, which depicts a Lindenmayer system, replicating the algorithmic beauty of the natural order, and there's a sculpture by Conrad Shawcross

inside The Laboratory called Exploded Paradigm (Inverted). My garden picks up on these scientific themes, and continues the College's exploration of the relationship between science and art.

"The garden references Voronoi tessellations, which are the forms that naturally occurring structures, such as honeycombs, often follow."

The Memorial Garden is Phase One in the redevelopment of the site. Phase Two, which includes restoration of the Milner Garden, will be completed in 2018. dulwich.org.uk; reynolds-design.co.uk



The design includes seats made from honeycomb structures

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tree conference

This year's International Urban Trees Research conference at Birmingham University, entitled 'Trees, People and the Built Environment', will include a cast of internationally acclaimed speakers, including landscape planning expert Dr Matilda van den Bosch from the University of British Columbia; Professor Miles Tight, professor of transport, energy and environment at the University of Birmingham; and Maarten Buijs, senior project manager at Dutch urban design and landscape architecture practice West 8. The conference runs from 5-6 April 2017; to book, visit www.charteredforesters.org

GROW London

The Contemporary Garden Fair, GROW London, has been acquired by Clarion Events Ltd from The Affordable Art Fair Ltd. The fair was previously held at Hampstead Heath but this year for the first time it will be at Olympia, London, and form part of the new House & Garden Festival, which takes place from 21-24 June 2017. growlondon.com

Ethical standards

The Landscape Institute is the first landscape organisation to join The International Ethics Standards Coalition, which comprises 100 members and seeks to create a harmonised set of agreed ethical standards for construction, infrastructure, land, property and related professions throughout the world. www.ies-coalition.org

Tree protection

Forest nurseries are being invited to sign up to the new UK Sourced and Grown Assurance Scheme (UKSG), launched by the Woodland Trust. The initiative aims to protect the provenance of native trees and will guarantee that trees in their stock marked with the UKSG badge are raised from seeds sourced from the UK and grown in the UK for their entire lifespan. Run in conjunction with Grown in Britain, the scheme aims to reduce the risk of importing pests and diseases. www.woodlandtrust.org.uk

WHAT'S ON

1 APRIL TO 31 MAY RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL, LOGAN BOTANICAL GARDEN

Enjoy Scotland's most exotic garden and see the rare collection of rhododendrons. rbge.org.uk

7-9 APRIL RHS FLOWER SHOW, CARDIFF

The best of springtime at Bute Park. www.rhs.org.uk/shows-events

13 APRIL LECTURE: DESIGNS ON THE LANDSCAPE, ABERDEEN

Garden archaeologist Marilyn Brown introduces historic gardens and designed landscapes in Scotland. www.abdn.ac.uk/botanic-garden

20-23 APRIL HARROGATE SPRING FLOWER SHOW, YORKSHIRE

Featuring show gardens and leading Northern plant nurseries. www.flowershow.org.uk

20 APRIL LECTURE: UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL BOTANIC GARDEN

Featuring Panayoti Kelaidis of the Denver Botanic Gardens, Colorado. www.bristol.ac.uk/botanic-garden/events

21 APRIL TO 2 NOV INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL, CHAUMONT, FRANCE

The annual festival promises new and exciting designs for its 2017 edition. www.domaine-chaumont.fr

21-23 APRIL SPRING GARDEN SHOW, SUSSEX

The annual garden show at Firle Place Park & Gardens. firl.com

21 APRIL TO 21 OCT RADICEPURA FESTIVAL, SICILY

The new garden festival curated by Sarah Eberle MSGD. www.radicepurafestival.com

29 APRIL SPRING PLANT FAIR, LONDON

The annual fair at the Garden Museum. gardenmuseum.org.uk

29-30 APRIL SPRING PLANT FAIR, RHS GARDEN HARLOW CARR

Specialist nurseries and the RHS Advisory Team. www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/harlow-carr

Photo: Carole Drake



VISIT THREE PRIVATE GARDENS IN JUNE

ON FRIDAY 16 June, Garden Days Out is offering the opportunity to visit three exceptional gardens in the West Country. The first stop is the magnificent water garden at Shute House in Donhead St Mary. Designed by Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe, it is famous for its musical rill and is said to be Jellicoe's favourite design. The next garden is Forest Lodge, a three-acre garden with lovely views towards

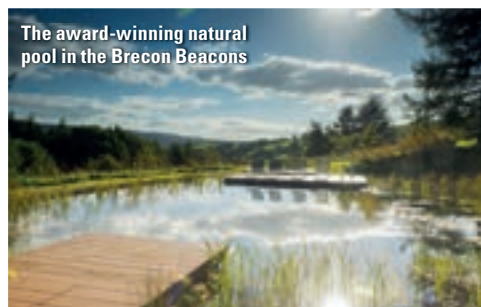
Blackmore Vale. Part formal with a pleached hornbeam allée and sloping rill, part informal with a lake garden and towering gunnera, it also features curving terraces inspired by Hestercombe. The final destination is Stavordale Priory, the home of theatrical producer Sir Cameron Mackintosh and photographer Michael Le Poer Trench. To book, email mail@adeverteuil.co.uk or j.wookey@btinternet.com

Natural pool in Wales scoops award

THE 'FOREST POOL' has won a BIOTOP International Natural Pool Award for the best Natural Pool Design, beating off entries from around Europe. The pool was designed and built by Poolscape Ltd and created for two artists, who have a home in Brecon Beacons National Park. The clients wanted a natural spring water swimming pool, set in a disused quarry, which would blend seamlessly with the surrounding countryside.

The pool is chemical free, and naturally cleansed using plants and BIOTOP's filtration system. The stone used was collected from the old quarry and the larch for the timber deck was sourced locally. www.poolscape.co.uk

Photo: Ian Thwaites



The award-winning natural pool in the Brecon Beacons

Exhibition of a modernist

PARKS WITH terraced fountains and chunky concrete formations are among the subjects on show at the National Building Museum in Washington DC by the influential 20th-century American landscape architect Lawrence Halprin. Credited with helping to reinvigorate US cities, the exhibition presents more than 50 new photographs of Halprin's most exciting projects, including a stone-lined corridor for Yosemite Falls in California and the Brutalist-style Freeway Park in Seattle. Open until 16 April. www.nbm.org

Photo: Jeremy Bittermann



Image: Third Nature



The Climate Tile allows water to run into an underground water handling system

TILE SET TO EASE URBAN FLOODING

A NEW TYPE of modular tile that promises to help reduce flooding in cities hit by increased rainfall due to climate change has been developed by Danish architecture studio Tredje Natur.

The tile, which has been in development since 2014, is now being tested on the streets of Copenhagen. It allows water to pass through and run down into an integrated underground

water handling system, which can then be connected to planted spaces and playground equipment for reuse in the city. The Climate Tile has been designed by Tredje Natur in collaboration with the Danish companies IBF and ACO. It is hoped that it can be introduced to the market in late 2018. For more information, contact je@tredjenatur.dk

The 600-acre Grange Park in Hampshire is home to the new Grange Festival

Photo: Christopher Ison



Grange restored by Wilkie

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT Kim Wilkie has undertaken a major new project for the 600-acre Grange Park in Hampshire, which contains The Grange, a Grade I listed neo-classical country house. It is also home to the UK's newest country house opera festival.

Wilkie will work closely with the Baring family, who own the estate, and The Grange Festival team to restore the original Arcadian vision of the park.

Shrubs and trees are being removed to open up the original vistas. Arable land surrounding the mansion will also be returned to pasture.

The former parterre garden will be removed and a new lawn will provide private picnic pavilions overlooking the lake and valley. The landscaping will be completed in time for the inaugural season of The Grange Festival on 7 June 2017. www.thegrangefestival.co.uk

WHAT ARE YOU WORKING ON? NIGEL DUNNETT

As a professor of planting design, urban horticulture and vegetation technology at the University of Sheffield, Nigel Dunnett's portfolio includes planting at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, the roof garden at the Barbican and three Main Avenue Chelsea show gardens. This year, he's creating a feature at the show as part of the RHS Greening Grey Britain campaign. It will showcase solutions to the challenges of climate change and urban development.

HOW DID YOU COME UP WITH THE CONCEPT FOR THE RHS DESIGN FEATURE?

I'm the RHS 'Greening Grey Britain' Ambassador, and the overall aim of the garden is to highlight the benefits that plants, soils and vegetation give us,



such as mitigating flooding and reducing pollution, as well as increasing wellbeing. I was keen to do something that had never been seen at RHS Chelsea before, and wanted to include places that don't usually feature there, which I could also fill with take-home ideas for the public. This led to the idea of referencing social housing and small planted spaces, such as balconies and community gardens. My final design includes a high-rise apartment block and shows how even in this seemingly inhospitable environment, plants and gardens can make a huge difference to people's lives.

WHO ARE YOU HOPING TO REACH?

I will be showcasing realistic, simple and sustainable ideas that are directly relevant to home gardeners, community groups and, crucially, to garden designers and commercial developers. In particular, we want to reach new audiences and change perceptions of what gardens are all about. We'll be creating a nature-based installation by the acclaimed Sheffield street artist Faunagraphic.

WHAT IDEAS WILL VISITORS BE ABLE TO TAKE HOME WITH THEM?

The garden will include a range of water-sensitive design ideas, such as rain gardens and wetland



Photo: Marianne Majerus

areas to deal with flash flooding. Container planting will also be a main feature. The garden will be filled with the 'low-input, high impact' planting I have been researching and evolving at the University of Sheffield. These drought-tolerant, highly colourful plantings will be used in the balcony displays and throughout the garden, showing visitors that many beautiful schemes are easy to care for and do not require lots of water or chemicals to sustain them. I am also using everyday materials, such as low-carbon and recycled concrete, from which I will be creating new-look crazy paving.

WHAT OTHER PROJECTS ARE YOU WORKING ON?

My time is divided between university research and teaching work, and a range of writing projects, as well as design projects that apply all these ideas, including a new sequence of gardens around the lake originally designed by Capability Brown at the Trentham.

www.rhs.org.uk; www.nigeldunnett.com



T 01302 752 504
E sales@s3i.co.uk
W www.s3i.co.uk

