

## EVENTS CALENDAR

Wednesday 21 October Trafalgar Day 7pm

Another chance to see 'That Hamilton Woman' starring Vivien Leigh & Laurence Olivier at High Glanau Manor £3.



Saturday 20 February 2016 10am—12noon

Coffee morning and craft session making decorative plant stakes. The Priory Church, Monmouth. Details to follow in the Winter Newsletter. Instruction and materials will be provided. Participants will be able to make a plant support for the Nelson Garden and one to take home. Cost: £7 per person.

SEASONAL SENSATIONS Berries, Rosehips, Rosy Apples, Michaelmas Daisies, Yellow Daisies, Medlars, Emma Hamilton Roses, Pelargonium, Fig, Pears, Trees in autumn colour.

### FROM THE GARDENERS

The gardeners have been busy this past few weeks with the big garden tidy-up. Lots of pruning and tying, weeding and clearing. We have invested in a very useful little incinerator which is helping to dispose of the plant material unsuitable for shedding or composting. A lovely autumnal smell has pervaded the garden on Friday mornings with the help of Andrew Pirie's duty at the incinerator!

Susan Amos *Volunteer Gardener & Editor*



### CONTACT FOR GARDENERS

Susan 01291 637407 or Penny 01600 715507

## THE NELSON GARDEN MONMOUTH



### NEWSLETTER NO.4 AUTUMN 2015

Dear Friends,

I am delighted to invite so many new Friends of the Nelson Garden to our AGM at Monmouth Rowing Club on Monday November 23rd at 2.30 p.m. It is wonderful to now have so many supporters helping to maintain our garden. The Agenda for the meeting will be sent as a separate document.

2015 has been a very successful year with many excellent events and with all the gardening help the garden is blooming in every way.

For those Friends who missed the showing of 'That Hamilton Woman' do join us at High Glanau next Wednesday 7 p.m. in front of the fire with a glass of wine.

With all good wishes, **Helena Gerrish** *Chairman*

*The Nelson Garden Preservation Trust*

## AGM

### Election of Committee Members

Three members of the Nelson Garden Preservation Trust Committee will be standing down as required by our Constitution. Penny Thomas and Barbara Atkins are willing to stand for re-election.

### We therefore invite nominations

Please contact the NGPT Secretary Helen Bosanquet as soon as possible.

[helenbosanquet@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:helenbosanquet@yahoo.co.uk)

The AGM will be held at 2.30pm on Monday 23rd November

### DIRECTIONS

Monmouth Rowing Club, Old Dixton Road, NP25 3DP

**From South:** Follow A40 traffic lights by Monmouth School. Turn left and right at T-Junction after 100 yards. At roundabout take the second exit signed 'Leisure Centre'. After 150 yards turn right by Driving Test Centre and drive under tunnel to the Club on your left.

**From Wye Valley/Forest of Dean:** At traffic lights on the Wye Bridge go straight ahead. Follow as above.

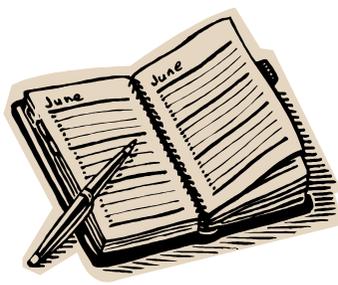
**From North:** Turn right at roundabout on A40 for Town Centre. Turn left at traffic lights and left at roundabout signed 'Leisure Centre'. Follow as above.

**Sat Nav:** Set for St James' Square, Monmouth or NP25 3DP. At roundabout follow for Leisure Centre as above.

Following the AGM  
**Dr Nicola Bradbear**  
An Illustrated Talk  
Bees for Development

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**Refreshments**



## BOOK REVIEW

**THE GARDEN BOOK** Tim Richardson  
*Consultant Editor.* Phaidon Pr. 2003 pbk edn.

A handy pocket sized guide to 500 of the world's most influential gardens arranged by Designer and showing their most influential work. The guide also references other similar designers at the bottom of each entry. Every bit of information neatly shown on one page. Great design & brevity.

## European Open Doors Weekend

Monmouth did well with a total of 2152 visits to the sites. This was 18% down on last year, but within the normal variation over the years. The visitor numbers were: Baptist Church 42; Great Castle House 147; Kymin 333; Masonic Hall 185; Methodist Church 80; Gatehouse 341; Museum 146; **Nelson Garden 144**; Priory 122; Savoy 146; Shire Hall 187; St Mary's Catholic Church 49; St Mary's Priory Church 130; Drybridge House 8 (Sat only) Boy's School Chapel 92.

Nelson Garden had the advantage of some wonderful musical entertainment by the U3A Recorder Group.

With thanks to Monmouth Civic Society.

## NELSON AND HENRY V

October 2015 marks both the 600<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Agincourt on 25<sup>th</sup> October and the 210<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar on 21<sup>st</sup> October.

It is no coincidence that the town of Monmouth is remembering their local heroes with *Agincourt600*: travelling exhibitions, concerts, talks and on Trafalgar day a showing of the new RSC film production of *Henry V* at the Blake Theatre and *That Hamilton Woman* at High Glanau Manor.

Henry V was born at Monmouth Castle on 9<sup>th</sup> August 1387, Harry of Monmouth, as he became known died on 31<sup>st</sup> August 1422. Another British hero gently teased with the name Harry (when at home with his intimate circle) was Lord Nelson. This Harry seems to have been particularly inspired by Henry of Monmouth and the character given to him by William Shakespeare. Nelson often quoted lines from Henry V in his letters as well as referring to his brothers in arms as his "Band of Brothers".

When Nelson visited Monmouth and took tea in the Town Clerk's garden on August 19<sup>th</sup> 1802 I wonder if he was aware of the 380<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the death of Henry. Was he aware he was taking tea in an ancient meadow which had been archery butts in earlier centuries? Did he perhaps imagine some of the famous Gwent longbow men practicing there before Agincourt? Did he know that 500 bowmen from Brecon, Monmouth and Abergavenny helped to win the day at Agincourt? Nelson and his party were certainly shown the historic sites of the town including the Shire Hall, where a statue of Henry V with his golden crown perches above Agincourt Square.

Henry V was buried in Westminster Abbey and within the abbey is a lesser known area called the Jerusalem Chamber. It is not open to the public but used for ecclesiastical purposes. In this chamber stand two busts, one of Henry IV and the other of Henry V. Amazingly the bust of Henry V was purchased from the sale of Nelson's possessions at Merton after his death at the Battle of Trafalgar. So Nelson obviously had a particular interest in Monmouth and his connection is much stronger than just having taken a cup of coffee in the Town Clerk's garden!

S.Amos *Editor*