



AGM 2017 INFORMATION



**Friday June 9, 7.00 pm Cheese and Wine evening at Gwydir Castle
kindly hosted by Judy Corbett and Peter Welford.**

Gwydir is a Grade I listed house set within a Grade I registered 10-acre garden dating back to the 1590s. The garden has some ancient cedars planted in 1625 to commemorate the wedding of King Charles I to Queen Henrietta Maria. The "Giant Yew", is estimated to be between 600 and 1000 years old, pre-dating the castle itself. The Renaissance arches, probably date from the 1590s. The Old Dutch garden contains ancient yew topiary and an octagonal fountain. An Elizabethan causeway called the Chinese Walk runs across the fields to the River Conwy, where the remains of the Gwydir Quay can be seen.

Peter Welford and Judy Corbett bought Gwydir Castle in 1994 and have bravely undertaken the restoration of both the house and garden.

The garden is very old and romantic, and a good start for the AGM.

Gwydir is currently at serious risk from flooding and a bund is needed to protect the site. It is proposed that this evening will be a fundraising event in support of the protection of this special landscape. A raffle will be held.

AGM Programme 2017

Saturday June 10, 10.30 am WHGT AGM 2017 Bodnant Food Centre
Furnace Farm, Tal-y-Cafn, Conwy LL28 5RP

10.00 Coffee served.

10. 30 AGM:

11.00 Speaker: Gareth J.L.Williams MA Curator & Head of Learning to the Weston Park Foundation.

Eighteenth Century British Gardening Influences in America – and American Influences in Eighteenth Century British Gardening.

Many of the most prized plants that formed a key part of Capability Brown's and other eighteenth century landscape gardeners' pleasure grounds were of American origin, bringing a tangible link with America to the most quintessentially English of settings.

Brown's finished parks at Stowe, Blenheim and Wotton provided sights that were admired by John Adams and Thomas Jefferson on their 1786 tour of Britain and the influence of the British landscape style that Brown and his followers championed was such that many American properties sought to emulate British parks and this legacy might be seen in the work of Frederick Law Olmsted (1822-1903), the father of American landscape architecture.

12 noon lunch

2.00 pm Garden visits

NT Bodnant Garden.

We will enter Grade I Bodnant garden from Furnace Farm via Furnace Woods, a new area of Bodnant opening in Spring 2017. Head gardener, John Rippin, may organise 2 groups - a normal tour takes 2 hours, but a shorter route can also be arranged. Bodnant is a valley garden and involves some gradients.

This is a stunning time of year at Bodnant and visitors can explore Furnace Woods and meadow opened to the public for the first time in spring 2017.

Bryn Eisteddfod, Glan Conwy, LL28 5LF, kindly hosted by Dr. Michael Senior.

This Grade II* registered site offers members a visit to a nearby interesting garden without gradients.

Bryn Eisteddfod is a garden representing a number of distinct phases in the fashion of garden design: The Parterre, a formal 'Dutch' garden laid out with geometric patterns of box hedges in a walled garden with a well and an ancient mulberry and medlar; The eighteenth century landscape is the open sweep of lawn extending towards the Conwy Valley in front of the house. The ha-ha was probably constructed in the 1760's when the mansion house replaced an older farmhouse; The Victorian kitchen garden was developed c.1840 in what was once an old orchard area and is complete with a large vinery and south facing peach and nectarine house; The arboretum was developed c.1925 for a rhododendron and azalea shrubbery and a collection of twenty different varieties of conifers on the east side of the house.

The Clwyd branch will arrange an afternoon tea at Bryn Eisteddfod.

Teas will be provided, donations welcome.

Sunday June 11 Bodysgallen Hall, The Royal Welsh Way, Llandudno LL30 1RS **11.00pm** Morning coffee and biscuits and tour of the gardens.

The original garden design dates from 1678 and is credited to Robert Wynn, son of Hugh Wynn, the original Wynn owner. The centrepiece sundial bears the date 1678. Robert laid the principal garden out in Dutch fashion, a sunken, high walled garden that became popular throughout Great Britain in the early 17th century. Today this parterre is a herb garden. The garden has been restored over the past 30 years and there are many other beautiful areas including a kitchen garden and the rose garden should be glorious.

25 places for this event.

