



# Staffordshire Gardens & Parks Trust

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## News LETTER

### Staffordshire - the creative county

**Staffordshire is rightly known for its historic gardens, some, like Alton Towers, Biddulph Grange, Shugborough Park and Trentham Gardens, famous beyond regional and national boundaries. But equally deserving of recognition are a number of lesser-known gardens still in process of development which continue to provide the county with a reminder of the creative imagination, energy and dedication of owners whose work may not be so well known as that of such historic luminaries as the Earl of Lichfield and the Duke of Sutherland, but whose achievements deserve to be more widely known and appreciated.**

For the past fifty years and more, William Podmore has been creating and developing at Consall Hall a landscape garden of stunning vistas on a site once disfigured by banks of pit spoil left behind after many years of mining. Covering seventy acres, and including six lakes, four miles of paths and a number of follies and essentially English in appearance, it is still a work in progress, and William Podmore, though now ninety, is still actively involved in the management and development of this remarkable garden.

This year, members have visited two gardens where a similar vision is evident. In each case, members were privileged to be taken round by the owners, who were generous in giving their time to explain the history of the garden and plans for its future development.

Wootton Hall, the home of the Hon. and Mrs. Johnny Greenall, is, though modern, itself of great interest. The present Hall, built to the design of Digby Harris, who has been described as "one of the most accomplished country house architects of his generation", replaced an earlier eighteenth-century house which had been rebuilt in the 1850s.

The Hall is one of between fifteen and twenty whose owners have so far taken advantage of "Gummer's Law", a planning law passed in 1997 and named after John Selwyn Gummer, then Minister for the Environment, which was intended to allow houses of ground-breaking design to be built in isolated places. Of this measure, Gummer later wrote "The country house is one of the great glories of England, and I was determined it should continue", though the number

built by no means matched the number demolished before and after World War II.

To one side of the house are the more formal gardens, to the other Rousseau's Cave, where the French philosopher, by local accounts of the time a difficult and ungrateful guest, wrote part of his most celebrated work, "Les Confessions" (The stone façade and doorway are now at Consall Hall).

Work on reclaiming the gardens in the valley below the house, which had been colonised by dense bush and sycamore, began in 1997 and at an early stage uncovered the base of a concrete fountain. A waterfall at the head of a stream running through the valley has been restored and the pool at the bottom dredged.



Rousseau's Cave



Wootton Hall

continued overleaf

The sides of the valley have been planted with a variety of spring bulbs, limes and rhododendron. Planting was hit by the devastating frosts of last winter, their most notable victim being a rare Wollemi Pine – the ‘Dinosaur Tree’ -, hopes for whose recovery have not, however, been entirely abandoned.

Immediately below the house is a more contemporary garden designed by Angela Collins, noted for her naturalistic planting of grasses, whose work can also be seen at Cottesbrooke Hall.

The visit by members of the SGPT was, by one day, the first ever hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Greenall, a mere prelude to the expected visit next day of two hundred members of the Ashbourne Horse Society!

The gardens at Packington Hayes Farm, visited by SGPT members in June, are the creation of Richard Barnes. Extending to eight acres and expanded over a number of years, they include what is probably the latest folly built in this country, a miniature sham castle, inspired by a tower seen at Hampton Court (and now, following a disagreement with the planning authorities, protected from any threat of demolition by the presence of bats), from the roof of which a panoramic view of the gardens can be enjoyed.

While there are more traditional elements to be admired – an Italian garden centred on a lily pond ornamented with a lead Eros, flanked by a tapestry hedge and with an outdoor dining-room at its head; a collection of beautiful trees, many rare and unusual, brought from different parts of the world,

they also display a strong element of playfulness.

As he or she walks around the gardens, the visitor encounters a number of surprises - here, two deer are lurking in a corner; there, a face peers out of a heap of leaves under a tree. Elsewhere, the visitor will find an Easter Island head, a large hand encircled by shrubs, a dinosaur egg, a small terrier digging for rabbits beneath a sundial, walk through a moon gate or stop in front of the remnant of an ancient oak brought in from the neighbouring woodland to form a sculptural centre piece.

All are, of course, artefacts, the product of Richard Barnes’s imagination and, in some cases, of his craftsmanship. One monument in particular catches the eye; the Pagan Sundial stands in the middle of a large lawn, twin monoliths set slightly apart so that, at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, a shaft of sunlight shines between them just as it does through the open doorway in the Armed Forces Memorial at the National Arboretum.

The buildings - the Sham Castle, the outside dining-room, the office (a replica of the threepenny-bit house at Catton Park) - are all built using reclaimed materials, and other archaeological treasures can be found elsewhere in the gardens - a pinnacle from a church in Liverpool, a window from a church in Derby, but, most notable, a pair of stone pillars from the Old Dockyard at Plymouth between which Drake himself might well have passed - all rescued following demolition.

Packington Hayes - The Pagan Sundial



The gardens are an arboriculturist’s heaven! Amongst the many species to be found in the arboretum, there are Colorado Spruce, Cottonwood, Monterey Pine, Turkish Hazel, Golden Dawn Redwood, a Persian Iron Tree, Chilean Pine (better known as the Monkey Puzzle Tree), fastigate yews, and ten types of silver birch.

A collection of eucalyptus trees commemorates the presence at Fradley of Australian airmen during World War Two, some of whom were befriended by the Barnes family, though, sadly, the trees were amongst those blasted this year by a severe frost in early May.

Water is another feature to delight the senses; there are a number of pools, some with koi carp, a waterfall and a large lake complete with temple.

Beyond the gardens is a wild-flower meadow extending to four-and-a-half acres, sown with sixty different species and untouched by herbicides.

All three gardens mentioned above are products of a creative imagination, tempered in each case by an individual personality, and driven by energy and a dedication of which Staffordshire should be proud, and all three owners deserve the fullest credit for their remarkable achievements.

WBS

*It should be noted that only the first of these gardens is open to the general public.*



Packington Hayes - Sham Castle

# A Shilling A Head

**The National Gardens Scheme was founded in 1927, when 609 private gardens “of quality and interest” opened to the public at an entrance fee of “a shilling a head”, a fee that was to remain unchanged until the 1970s. More than £8000 was raised for The Queen’s Nursing Institute.**

Four years later, over a thousand gardens opened, and, in the same year, the first handbook, which became known as “The Yellow Book” because of the bright colour chosen for its covers, was published by “Country Life”.

In 1948, the NGS joined the National Trust in restoring and preserving important gardens, and The National Trust reciprocated by opening some of its own gardens for the Scheme, as it continues to do to this day.

In 1988, The National Garden Scheme Charitable Trust was set up, with Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother as its first Patron. Its present Patron is HRH The Prince of Wales, himself an enthusiastic gardener.

In keeping with its original purpose of funding nursing (even now, when that responsibility has passed to the NHS), the Scheme’s principal beneficiaries are Macmillan Cancer Support; Marie Curie Cancer Care; Help the Hospices; Crossroads Care, which provides support for carers and the people for whom they care; and The Queen’s Nursing Institute; though they also include, appropriately enough, The Gardeners’ Royal Benevolent Fund.

More than £2.5m. is given to these charities every year and the Scheme is the largest single contributor to both Macmillan Cancer Support and Marie Curie Cancer Care (£550,00 to each in 2011).

The first garden to open in Staffordshire was Shugborough (1927), at that time the home of the 4th Earl of Lichfield. This was joined the next year by fifteen more: Betley Court; Bishton Court; Chartley Castle; Doveley’s (now part of a garden centre); Eccleshall Castle; Hales Hall, Loggerheads; Hoar Cross (now a health spa); Ingestre Hall (now owned by Sandwell Council and run as an arts centre; Maer Hall (where Charles Darwin proposed to Emma Wedgwood); Maple Hayes, Lichfield (now

a school for dyslexic children); Oakley Hall, near Market Drayton; Patshull Hall (now a wedding venue and conference centre); Swynnerton Park; Thorpe Hall, Tamworth; and Wychnor Hall (now a country club).

Over the next eleven years, their example was followed by Swinfen Hall (now a hotel); Vale Head, Wightwick; Viewlands, Wightwick (later known as Elmsdale Hall and now divided into apartments); Alton Towers (now the internationally-famous pleasure park); Chartley Hall; Himley Hall (now owned by Dudley MBC and run as a conference centre); Sandon Hall; Little Wyrley Hall; The Mount, Compton (now a hotel and a popular venue for weddings); The Woodhouse, Tettenhall; The Wombourne Wodehouse; Heath House, Tean; and Little Onn Hall (one of whose owners, Mrs. Julia Cavendish, survived the sinking of “Titanic”!).

Of these, only one is open under the Scheme in 2011 – The Wombourne Wodehouse, which first opened in 1936, – though the total number of gardens open in Staffordshire this year is sixty-seven, out of a total of more than 3,700 throughout England and Wales attracting a quarter of a million people each year.

The County Organisers are Susan and John Weston, whose own garden at Eccleshall, which has featured in BBC Open Gardens, “Staffordshire Life” and “The Express and Star”, is open on Sunday, August 28th, and Monday, August 29th, between 1. 30 p.m. and 5. 30 p.m.

Susan and John are always looking for new gardens to take part in the Scheme. Size is not the most important criterion; what interests visitors is the design of a garden and the range of plants on show.

If you would like to open your garden under the Scheme, you should contact them by ringing **01785 850448** or contact them by email on **johnweston123@btinternet.com**



# ANOTHER ACTIVE YEAR

This year's Annual General Meeting was held at The Wombourne Wodehouse, near Wolverhampton, and printed below is the full text of the Chairman's Report presented by the Trust's Chairman, Alan Taylor:

**I am delighted to see you all here this evening and would echo our President's thanks to our generous hosts, John and Caroline Phillips, who have made it possible to hold this AGM in such special surroundings.**

This is my fifth year as Chairman and so my fifth annual report to you on behalf of Council. I normally conclude my presentation with a request for new volunteers to join Council or assist the working of the Trust in other ways. This year I am doing it first and gently hinting that if anyone else thinks they would like to have a shot at chairing the Trust after five years in post I will not in the least be offended: please step forward and have a go. Like a good headmaster I would say please stay behind at the end and speak to me or one of the other members of Council.

I must however start by offering our collective congratulations to our President on his elevation to the Peerage as the Lord Cormack. This is a most well deserved honour for many many years of invaluable public service. Although the news has been in the public domain for many months now this is the first opportunity we as a Trust have had to voice our congratulations to you in person. I would take this moment too, Lord Cormack, to thank you, as always, for your very active support and encouragement throughout the year and for chairing the proceedings tonight.

On the business front I am pleased to report that the Trust has enjoyed another active year in 2010 - 11. Our Treasurer's report to this meeting indicates that our finances remain sound and that our membership numbers are steady and even slightly increasing.

The highpoint of the year has undoubtedly been the launch of the Trust's website, giving our interests in Staffordshire's past a very 21st century presence. The website has been brilliantly and professionally put together for us by Richard and Jackie Moseley, volunteers from among our

membership, to whom we owe a great debt of gratitude. The site contains information about the Trust and how to join; our current and future activities; an excerpt from our inventory of sites listing 181 gardens and parks in the historic county for which we hold the most information; links to other relevant sites, and so much more. Like all good websites it is a work in progress so any member with news, views or information they think might usefully be posted there are invited to contact Richard or Jackie. For those of you who have not visited the website yet I do encourage you to as soon as you get home tonight - I will give out the address at the end of my report.

On the planning side the Trust has continued to be consulted on a number of draft local development framework documents by local authorities. We have had little to say on them, as most have had little or no heritage impact: we wait to see how the new government's proposed changes to the planning system and its localism agenda will affect our area of work. The biggest area of work we have been involved in has been commenting on a growing number of applications for wind farms. As a Trust we have objected to a proposal for erection of two turbines at Whittington just down the A449 from here which as well as lying directly below Kinver Edge would fall right in the historic sightlines between the grade II\* registered parks at Enville and Hagley. We will be appearing at the public inquiry into this scheme at the beginning of August. More recently we have objected to a proposal to erect five turbines at Brineton near Church Eaton which would be very visible from the Knoll within Weston Park. This scheme too has been refused planning permission and we wait to learn if the developers will appeal against that decision.

Our Archivist reports that the overall total of sites remains recorded on our inventory unchanged at 441. We have already been providing the UK Gardens and Parks Database ([www.parksandgardens.ac.uk](http://www.parksandgardens.ac.uk)) with information on sites in the county; a further 105 reports were submitted during the year, some being new reports, others were revisions of reports which

were not selected for inclusion from the original list submitted five years ago. We need to have words with the national database, as their definition of 'Staffordshire' seems to vary somewhat! Our own inventory continues to be useful for both primary and secondary sources of information and recent requests have included Brewwood Hall, Shugborough kitchen garden and 'watch-towers within landscaped parks'.

The small group working on recreating the Monks Walk garden in Lichfield has had a successful year as the site is now acknowledged by the Lichfield Tourist Board and included on the City Garden Tours! Summer 2010 produced bounty ... from potatoes, runner beans to exotic fruits - Quince and Medlars and the volunteers made 'cheese', jellies and jams and had an enjoyable tasting session to compare the results. The group has held weekend Working Parties as usual and the Burton Conservation Volunteers continue with their valuable help when a thorough 'tidy up' is needed and to help with the heavier jobs in the garden. The project for 2011-12 is to work on the 'Physic garden' section of the herbaceous border for which a £500.00 grant from Grassroots Grants was obtained towards the purchase of edging bricks and plants.

A very successful 'Poetry Evening' was held in June 2010 with strawberries and sparkling wine and the Lichfield poets read their work while visitors were able to relax and read poetry placed around the garden space. This was so successful it has been decided to extend the idea into an 'Open Garden Event' on Sunday 17th July 2011 from 1.30pm - 5pm and this will include stalls and live music in the garden - so please join us. (I am asked to note that regular working party sessions are held on Wednesday evenings - please come and join in anytime between 5-7pm. Bring your own tools and outdoor wear. ). More about the site can be found on our website.

On the Activities side we followed up last year's very successful AGM at Sandon Hall, with a visit to The National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas, where members were given some insights into its future development. In September we had a



Joe Hawkins presents the President with a cheque for £1731.05, the proceeds of his epic sponsored walk. Jim Earle, The Trust's Treasurer, waits expectantly in the background! The money will be spent on re-planting the area around The Shepherd's Monument at Shugborough.

guided tour of the outer reaches of Shugborough Park by Joe Hawkins, the Head Gardener and a member of the Trust's Council of Management. Later that month, Joe embarked on an epic 300-miles sponsored walk from Byer's Green, in County Durham, birthplace of the architect and polymath Thomas Wright back to Shugborough, to raise money for new planting around the Shepherd's Monument, originally designed by Wright. We had a most entertaining account of that journey as part of our Autumn programme. In November, members took part in a day-long visit to the Sughall Walled Garden organised by The Garden History Society and hosted by Dr. David and Mrs. Karen Jacques.

So far this year, there have been two visits, both of which have attracted groups of thirty or more members. The first of these was to Wootton Hall, the home of the Hon. and Mrs. Johnny Greenall, the second to Packington Hayes Farm, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Barnes. Both were first visits by the Trust and, in the case of Wootton Hall, the first ever received by Mr. and Mrs. Greenall, but, in the event, a mere

prelude to a visit by a party of 200 expected the next day! The Group Chairman would like to express his appreciation of the advice given to him by Dianne Barre in the choice of these visits.

Two issues of the Newsletter have been published during the year giving a full account of the Trust's activities (for the benefit of those members who could not take part in these events!) and including other articles of related interest, to whose contributors the Editor offers his grateful thanks.

Although this report is supposed to be a retrospective over the past year I cannot resist the opportunity to advertise two forthcoming events in July: a guided walk through Biddulph Grange Country Park led by myself and a week of talks and a special tour of the gardens for our members commemorating the bicentenary of the birth of James Bateman, creator of the world-famous gardens at Biddulph Grange.

It is always my pleasure at the AGM to thank many people for their commitment and hard work in

supporting the Trust and its activities over the past year.

As always our thanks extend to our Company Secretary, Hayden Baugh-Jones, and his team at South Staffordshire District Council for all their quiet work behind the scenes running the day-to-day administration of the Trust; to the District Council for allowing them the time to do this and for continuing to host our company address. To our Treasurer for his work in masterminding our finances and ensuring we remain solvent and prudent in our expenditure. My special thanks are due to all my colleagues on the Trust's Council for their continued input and support; and also to yourselves our members without whose interest and encouragement we would not be able to continue. And finally as every year I cannot let the moment pass without a very special thanks offered to Bryan Sullivan, who tirelessly organises our Council meetings, takes our minutes, produces the newsletter and organises our varied and always interesting programme of events.

Alan Taylor

## The Trust has a new website....

As reported by the Chairman at the Annual General Meeting, the Trust's new website **[www.staffordshiregardensandparks.org](http://www.staffordshiregardensandparks.org)** has been successfully launched.

It can be found in all the major search engines, and, already, we have received several requests for information from the general public, all of which have been successfully answered electronically by SGPT members.

One such request is ongoing concerning the greenhouse structure at Shugborough and has led to visits and introductions.

The website has also expanded to include archive material as well as more general information.

The immediate objective of the website is to continue to integrate into the online Garden History and Designed Landscape community.

# At the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting, *John Phillips* gave members a talk on the history of the house and gardens.

**One remarkable feature of The Wombourne Wodehouse is that it has never been sold since it was originally purchased by a Mr. Cook in 1146; since then, it has either been inherited by a direct descendant or acquired through marriage, though, in one instance, ownership was gifted by Sir Samuel Hellier, who died unmarried and without an heir, to a friend, The Rev. Thomas Shaw, the then Vicar of St. John's, Wolverhampton, who added the name "Hellier" to his own.**

Known for centuries as "The Woodhouse", it has been known as "The Wodehouse" since the mid nineteenth century, though the pronunciation remained the same.

Notable amongst its owners was the afore-mentioned Sir Samuel Hellier (1737 - 1784), who created a landscape garden ornamented with buildings and monuments in the style which was popular in the mid eighteenth century.

These included a hermitage and a temple dedicated to the memory of Handel, but were not well constructed and, sadly, none has survived to the present day.

Proud of his garden, Sir Samuel encouraged visits from people of consequence, but was dismayed by the damage caused by the uninvited visits of the 'rag,tag' from Wolverhampton, who poached his fish and damaged his trees.

In the past, John himself had experienced similar vandalism; on one occasion, three separate fires were started over one Easter weekend alone, while, on another, six young oak trees were cut down to build a den. Thankfully, these days, boys are more likely to be sitting in front of a computer than rampaging through woodland damaging trees and disturbing the wildlife!

Sir Samuel was, like his father, passionate about music and collected musical instruments. The second oldest collection in the country, those instruments that were not later sold are now kept at Edinburgh University.

The musical tradition was continued when ownership passed to Colonel Thomas Shaw-Hellier, commandant at Kneller Hall, home of The Royal Military School of Music at Twickenham. During his time, many of its present external features were

added by the architect Charles Robert Ashbee, a leader in the Arts and Crafts Movement, having been earlier archaicised by George Frederick Bodley, a former pupil of Sir Giles Gilbert Scott and a chief exponent of 14th century English Gothic.

In the late 1600s, the garden was quite simple, but has expanded over the years and has been extended as far as the A436 by the addition of a drive, causeway and lodge.

The kitchen garden was added towards the end of the eighteenth century. Surrounded by a twelve-foot-high wall, it still has its Victorian greenhouses in which grapes, nectarines and tomatoes are grown. Every bed is surrounded by low box hedging amounting to a total length of half a mile.

But the glory of the kitchen garden is undoubtedly the collection of irises which John has built up. Collected from as far as The United States and France, it now includes 180 different kinds of bearded irises.

The Wombourne Wodehouse is at the heart of an estate of 1000 acres whose isolated situation is protected by the determination of South Staffordshire Council to keep Wombourne separate from Wolverhampton, but it brings with it great responsibility, which the present owner accepts with an awareness of the importance of The Wombourne Wodehouse to the heritage of South Staffordshire.



The Wombourne Wodehouse - The Walled Garden



# The Chillington Aquatic Fete of 1836

## -two accounts

**Mr. Gifford, following the custom adopted by him for some years, gave on Friday in the race week his usual splendid Aquatic Fete at Chillington.** The weather favoured the company and the routine of enjoyment provided by the liberal host was on the same bountiful and judicious scale as previously described except in addition to the excellent Quadrille Band of Mr. Blythe of Stafford the fine band of the 7th Dragoon Guards was in attendance and played on the lawn and on the pool. The company assembled about two o'clock and the pool soon became absolutely alive with the number of vessels gliding about in every direction, the whole fleet both of sailing and rowing boats being put into

immediate requisition. About five o'clock the discharge of a cannon announced the serving up of a sumptuous collation in the rustic Ball Room and the Marquees before the Temple... As the night gradually closed the guests drew to the ballroom illuminated for dancing and kept up the festivities till another day peeped in upon them. A display of fireworks ordered by Mr. Gifford for the occasion was by some unaccountable negligence on the part of the artist very imperfectly shown but some large rockets and coloured lights fired from a raft in the centre of the pool had a very grand effect.

*Staffordshire Advertiser: 27th August 1836*

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**19 August Friday: An Aquatic Fete where all the neighbourhood were assembled.** We dined at 5 in a large wooden room, erected in front of the Grecian Temple at the Pool. About 100 sat down. After some rowing about the Pool, the ladies danced in the said room. At 10 o'clock we ought to have had some fireworks but the artificer had got drunk and did not know where they were. After some loud conversation with him on the part of the gentlemen, during which it was evident that he could not be trusted to let them off if found, they arrived in a cart from the hall and were soon fixed in the best manner we could, to several posts erected to receive them. A boat also with a platform on it was moored out in the pool at a distance from the Temple at about 150 yards, from which the rockets were exhibited also white, blue and red lights. Scarcely had the rockets been let off when the whole platform was seen in

one tremendous blaze, all the rockets having caught fire and all the lights being ignited at the same moment. Four men and a boy who were engaged on the platform plunged into the lake screaming "Boats, Fire". All the surrounding woods were exhibited as clearly as in perfect daylight. Nevertheless we could nowhere discern the men. The boats however in about 3 minutes picked up 2, much exhausted. One man though with heavy clothes swam ashore. The boy who could not swim was found hanging on the side of the boat. consenting to have his fingers burnt, rather than run the risk of drowning. Our consternation and anxiety being over, we proceeded to let off the remaining fireworks ourselves but with the worst possible success. Dancing was then resumed and we returned home at about 2 o'clock.

*Lord Hatherton's Diary, 1836*

*Provided by Dianne Barre and Sue Gregory, who comments:*

*"This is what can happen when two garden historians compare notes on the same event!"*

# Date for your diary...

## Plant Hunters' Fairs in Staffordshire

**Saturday, August 28th, and Sunday, August 29th (August Bank Holiday):**

Dorothy Clive Garden, 10.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Special event price: £3.00 fair & garden

(The Dorothy Clive Garden is on the A51 midway between Stone and Nantwich)

**Sunday, September 18th: Sugnall Wall Garden, 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.**

Apple-tasting and drop-in garden problems clinic.

Tea room using produce from the garden.

Special inclusive event price: £1.00

(The Sugnall Walled Garden is on the B5026 Eccleshall to Loggerheads road)

The President has proposed a day in London as part of the Trust's 2012 programme, visiting the Chelsea Physic Garden and the Museum of Garden History and finishing with tea at the House of Lords. This would undoubtedly be the highlight of the year, and the Council of Management is actively engaged in arranging the visit.

## Photographic Competition

**Here is your opportunity to help us promote the beauty of historic Staffordshire gardens and parks. We are looking for images of historic Staffordshire gardens and parks to put onto our new display panels which will be used to promote the Trust in libraries and at shows, events and displays throughout the region.**

There will be two categories - under 16 and over 16, and we want to see images that show different aspects of Staffordshire's gardens and parks which give us a glimpse of these hidden gems. Gardens can be those open to the public or gardens that only you have access to, as long as they are historic in context.

Photos should be recent, that is, less than two years old, and should fall within the "old" boundaries of Staffordshire.

Photos can be submitted as prints or digital images. Enhanced or digitally altered images may be submitted but should be in keeping with the elegance of the theme.

Closing date for entries is 1st December 2011, and the winners will be announced in early January 2012. Judging will be carried out by a sub group of the Council of Management. All Trust members will be eligible except for members of the Council.

We are looking for a good number of images for our panels, so there are lots of opportunity to be a winner. We should also like to use the photos as a Gallery Page on our new website, and it is a condition of entry that your permission will be given for this purpose or for promotional uses by the Trust only.

**Email entries to [f.colella@virgin.net](mailto:f.colella@virgin.net) or post to "Woodcote", Nelson Crescent, Cotes Heath, Eccleshall, Staffs. ST21 6ST. Tel. 01782 791506.**