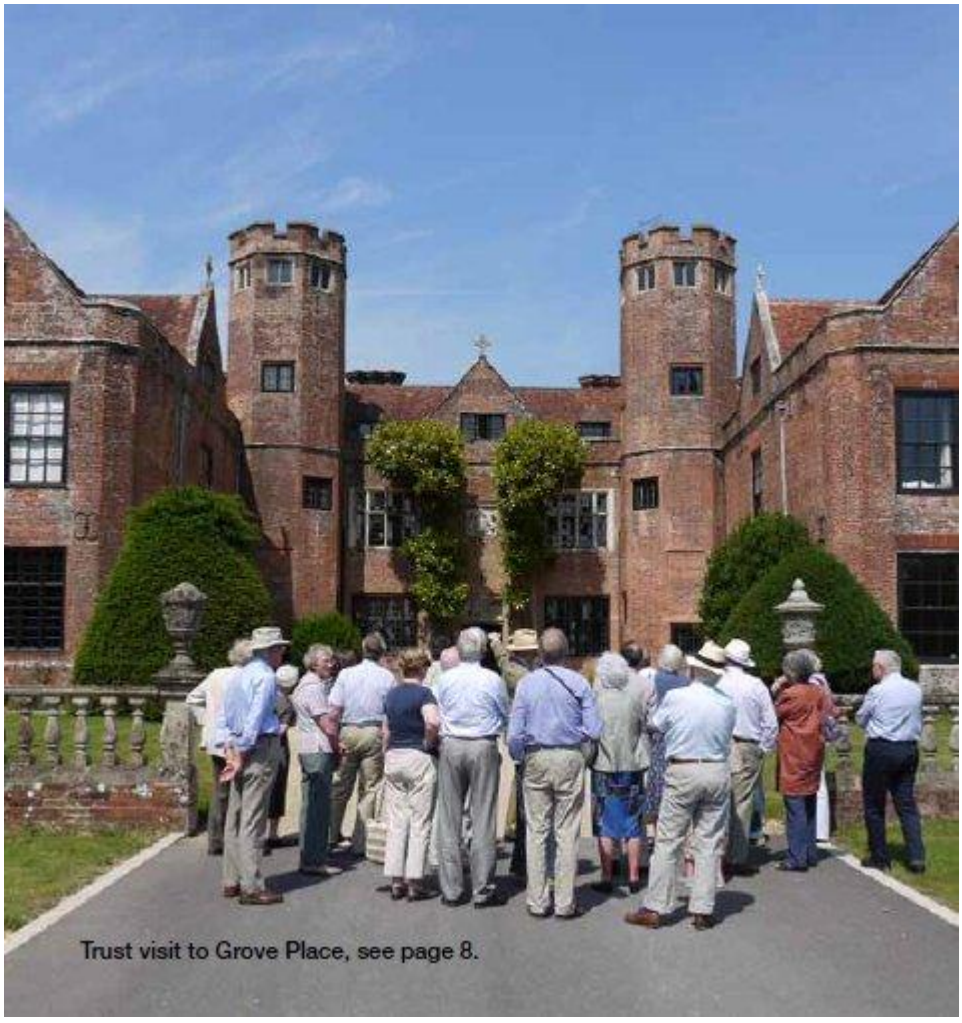
Title Picture - TrustNews September 11



Trust visit to Grove Place

Chairman's Miscellany - TrustNews Sept 11

It is always difficult to know how to start this quarterly column. Punchy, tabloid style eludes me so it has often been a slow start. This is my sixteenth Miscellany and the last. I will retire as Chairman at the Annual General Meeting on 26th September and be succeeded by Keith Leaman. This was the decision of the Trust Council in July. It is hard to remember that I succeeded the redoubtable Pat Edwards almost four years ago and a great deal of hard work has been done by Trustees and other members in that time. This continues and will never end.

The shifting sands of government thinking cause great concern. I fear the prospect of a “Build where you wish” policy, although it would certainly be dressed up to create a different picture. In the immediate future, the decision of the Secretary of State on the Barton Farm application is awaited with some trepidation and may even be known when you read this.

Our membership secretary, Judith Rich, has hit her stride with ther membership records. Over the years, they grew like Topsy but now they are in sensible order and easy to operate. If you have not yet made a Gift Aid declaration you may receive a gentle request from Judith to reconsider. Every little helps, as the ad says. We can recover over £800 each year at present and it would be even better if it could be more.

With some sadness, I must tell you that Robin Merton has decided to retire from the Trust Council. He has served as a Trustee for many years and was Chairman between 1997 and 2001 and a Vice-Chairman thereafter. Robin's clarity of thought, brevity and ever-willing support will be a great loss.

I conclude with my warmest thanks to the Trustees, members who serve in the various groups and in other capacities and to Vicky Feldwick for her support and calm.

Iain Patton

Planning Appraisal Group - TrustNews Sept 11

The past few months have been fairly quiet as far as major developments are concerned, although there has been the usual steady flow of house extensions (front, side, rear and on the roof), conservatories, and altered shop fronts and signs.

An exception to this trend is currently being considered at the **New Queen's Head, Stanmore Lane**, where Bargate Homes are representing two developers for adjoining schemes on this large site. These would both entail the demolition of the pub, which we felt was a matter of concern because its existence was a contributing factor to the Inspector agreeing to allow the appeal to demolish the Stanmore Hotel at the top of the hill. The first scheme is for a **convenience store and child care nursery**, both of which had come top of the list of preferences when the developers carried out consultations with the local residents, who now seem to be protesting strongly against them. We were worried about the amount of additional traffic these developments would generate in the narrow road, on which there are many parked cars. We felt the scale and design of the store would be too large for the character of the area and would be intrusive in the street scene, and that the site allocated to the nursery was too restricted, especially for the outside area provided for the children in the Transition and Kindergarten rooms, and we objected to these two schemes. However, we felt the second scheme, for a **residential development of seven 3-bedroom and seven 2-bedroom dwellings**, would be acceptable, and that the design of the houses, although not architecturally exciting, would fit in satisfactorily with the style of the original houses in the estate.

Objections have been raised by the City to all the previous proposals for broadband cabinets, but similar applications continue, the latest being in **Eastgate Street** near the junction at King Alfred's statue (which was withdrawn before it could be viewed) and in **The Square**, outside Dinghams. We objected to this, feeling that the insensitive siting of the parking ticket machine should not be made worse by putting

this bulky (5ft high, 4ft wide) cabinet close by, and wondering whether it could perhaps join the ugly huggermugger of assorted signs, cabinets and telephone box that already exists at the end of The Square in Market Street. It would be good if the various different authorities could get together before that end of the street has its facelift and rationalise the positions of their various installations so that this important focal point could be made less unsightly.

Decisions have been made on two longstanding applications: the residential development at **Park House, Park Road**, has been refused, and the amended proposal for a mixed development of ground floor office space and ten (instead of the previous eleven) flats at **Staple Chambers, Staple Gardens** has been granted.

The outcome of the **Barton Farm** appeal is still awaited, and consequently the date of the Public Inquiry against the refusal of the development at **Pitt Manor** still remains to be decided.

Two recent appeals against refusals by WCC have been dismissed by the Inspectors: at **22/23 Kingsgate Road**, where a closeboarded fence was installed without permission, and at **5-11 Kynegils Road**, where it was proposed that four dwellings should be built on land at the rear.

A single storey building to provide much needed facilities for an education centre is proposed behind **9 The Close**. Although not visible to the general public, its construction will affect the setting of an important Listed Building, so it is very welcome that its neat design and well chosen materials should fit in satisfactorily with its sensitive surroundings.

There seems to have been a hiccup in the Planning Department's procedures, because there have recently been a number of applications that failed to appear in their weekly lists and in some cases even in the local press, which meant that we - and everyone else - were unable to make any comment on them. We understand that new procedures should prevent this happening in the future, and it is also very much welcomed that the Hampshire Chronicle now gives the case numbers in its "In the Pipeline" column.

The viewing panels' routine is undergoing an unwelcome change, brought about by the need for the City to save money, which as taxpayers we support. To save the time spent by staff printing planning applications, we now have to look at the majority of them 'on line', which can be a mixed blessing, although mercifully we can ask for printed copies of applications for large or complicated schemes. Now we can no longer look at printed copies of the plans, comparing the different elevations and floor plans as we wish, but have to huddle around two screens. These have been provided in response to our concern that we would be unable to see how the proposed scheme would affect existing conditions if it was impossible to make a direct comparison, and we very much appreciate the provision of this second screen. It does however mean that we must be much more disciplined in the way we look at the documents (perhaps not altogether a bad thing!) and seeing plans on line has the advantage that the information provided includes the comments made by planning officers and local residents, which aren't available in the printed documents. The downside is that on a computer screen it is more difficult to read the notes on

drawings (which means extra time spent on enlarging them), and that drawings aren't always clear, depending upon their original quality and the competence of the scanning procedure. Some of the drawings are presented upside down, which is tiresome and time-consuming because there is no rotation option on the toolbar and therefore involves a drop-down menu that rotates the picture in what seems the most lengthy way round. Another problem is that errors are sometimes made in giving the details for online applications, with plans and documents from other applications being provided or inaccurate descriptions of the drawings being given.

While appreciating that everyone must move with the times, one does wonder whether the drive to move everything onto the electronic system will in fact end up with the most efficient results.

Shione Carden

Planning Winchester's Future - what happens next? - TrustNews Sept 11

I doubt if there has ever been a more confusing time to try to explain what is going on in strategic planning, both nationally and locally. Hardly a week passes without some new pronouncement which might affect how Winchester is to develop in the future. As I write we await the Government's decision on the appeal by Cala Homes on their proposals for the development of Barton Farm.

Last month the Government published their draft National Planning Policy Framework, which in the words of Griff Rhys Jones, President of Civic Voice,"seeks to slash, burn and rampage through current planning laws." One of its more startling requirements is that a Council's plans must in future include an additional allowance of at least 20% in their housing numbers "to ensure choice and competition in the market for land".

Against this ever-changing background the Trust's Policy Group has put forward a considered response to the City Council's consultation exercise "Plans for Places after Blueprint". We were fortunate to have Harvey Cole's advice, particularly on housing and shopping issues and were therefore able to question some of the Council's population and retail projections based on evidence. The Council will be considering all the public responses before it publishes its Core Strategy towards the end of this year.

Our full response will be available on the Trust's website.

The Trust also took part in the "Blue Sky Thinking Event" organised with WinACC on Saturday 6th August. We had supported three prominent local architects in presenting a vision for a more sustainable city. They put forward a fascinating strategy for how, in their view, 2000 new homes as well as employment and cultural spaces might be integrated into the historic city. Their vision identified three locations in walking distance of the city centre, where new development could improve the city's historic setting and most importantly where people would want to live, work and play.

This was a precursor to the review of the Town Forum's "Vision for Winchester". The Trust has been invited to take part in the review and we will be attending a meeting with the Forum's panel shortly on the "History, heritage and setting" theme in the Council's document. We have also reminded the City of our own "Future of Winchester – a Strategic Vision" which we produced 10 years ago. The Town Forum aims to launch its revised document at a public event in October.

We have also been looking at ways to take forward the report on "Winchester City and its Setting" which the Trust, together with other conservation bodies, sponsored back in 1998. This work was carried out when an earlier City Council plan was in preparation. We are looking at ways of updating and refreshing this report as we are keen to make sure that in the current planning review its valuable assessment of the landscape and townscape of the City is maintained as vital evidence for future policies.

It remains a challenging time for the Trust as we try to contribute in a positive way to the future planning of the City.

Patrick Davies, Chair of Policy Group

Finding the Heart of the City - TrustNews September 11

How does the Trust broaden its appeal to more Wintonians? This was the challenge we decided to take on to mark the first national Civic Day which was held on 25 June this year.

Our activities centred on The Heart of the City Awards - an open competition, aimed at engaging the general public of Winchester in issues the Trust holds dear, and attracting hundreds of entries from around the city.

A partnership with the Hampshire Chronicle ensured we received maximum and prominent coverage in the city's favourite newspaper at no cost to the Trust.

The idea was simple – ask the public to nominate their favourite Winchester buildings in a range of categories and then vote again on the shortlist to find which of these buildings make up the Heart of the City – a true reflection of public opinion.

Some winners were obvious. Was Winchester Cathedral ever NOT going to win the Amazing Ancients category? Nevertheless it was run close by the Hospital of St Cross. The popular Discovery Centre was shortlisted in Design Delights and won in Creative Contemporaries. The redeveloped Peninsula Barracks estate was voted the favourite Design Delight, and the much-loved and unique bookshop P&G Wells in College Street was a decisive winner of the Hidden Histories category.

A well-attended awards ceremony was held at Abbey House on 25 June to mark Civic Day itself, with representatives from nearly all the shortlisted buildings in attendance. The awards were announced by the Mayor Cllr Barry Lipscomb, who is also a member of the Trust council.

The winners all received framed certificates signed by Civic Voice president Griff Rhys Jones. Prizes in the draw open to all who contributed votes included dinner and a night's stay at the Old Vine and a meal at La Place, kindly donated by the proprietors.

Trust secretary Vicky Feldwick, who organised the competition, says: "Around 350 people voted which is great for a new competition. We did wonder if the Cathedral was going to win, because the Hospital of St Cross was running neck and neck with it, but the Cathedral put on a spurt right at the end."

She adds: "We're hoping that this will make architects look at what they're designing and that they'll come up with something that people really like."

It is hoped that we may be able to run the competition again in a few years' time. Vicky also notes there has been a noticeable increase in enquiries and new members to the Trust since the competition began.

The results in full

Amazing Ancients
Winner:
Winchester Cathedral.
Shortlisted: The Great Hall;
The Hospital of St Cross;
St John's Church; The Westgate

Creative Contemporaries
Winner:
Discovery Centre.
Shortlisted: Canister House, Jewry Street;
Hampshire Record Office;
Lanterns Centre, Bereweeke Road;
Trinity Centre, Durngate.

Design Delights
Winner:
Peninsula Barracks.
Shortlisted: Theatre Royal; Discovery Centre;
Pagoda House, St James' Lane;
Theatre Royal; Winchester School of Art.

Hidden Histories
Winner:
P&G Wells Bookshop.
Shortlisted: Chesil Theatre; God Begot House (ASK restaurant);
St James' Cemetery, Romsey Road;
St John's House, The Broadway.


Winners being photographed with the Mayor

Sharon Watson, Trust Publicity Officer.

Place to Place - TrustNews Sept 11

On July 4, 25 members and friends of the Trust drove down to see New Place, Shedfield (north of Fareham). This house, designed by Lutyens, was built in 1906 for a Mrs Franklyn, mainly to accommodate fittings from an early 17th century house in Bristol, which was built by John Langton, Lord Mayor of Bristol, to show off his wealth. The house was demolished in 1906. These fittings include ceilings, fireplaces and an interesting wooden staircase, richly embossed with fruit, foliage and heraldic beasts.

It is said that Lutyens, initially excited by the prospect of the new commission, was a bit disappointed when told that the purpose of the building was to house these old fittings from the Bristol house. Nevertheless he designed an interesting building.

New Place is built in Jacobean style entirely of red brick: windows, brick mullions, window sills and doorways. There are groups of three tall diagonally-set chimneys which rise from the inner facades of each wing. To me the large simple planes of red brick are very attractive, especially when the sun is shining as it was that day.

The garden, although designed by Gertrude Jekyll, has been rather neglected. Originally a private house, New Place is now a hotel and conference centre.

Fern Mason of the hotel looked after us very well - even clearing some of the rooms specially for our visit. Before leaving New Place, she provided an excellent lunch for us in The Bristol Room, which contains some of the best fittings from the stateroom of the Bristol House.

We were very lucky to have James Airy, an architect of the Lutyens Trust, to guide us round the house and garden.

From there we drove on (about half an hour) to Grove Place, Nursling (not far from Romsey). This is a stunning early Elizabethan Manor House which has been well restored by the 'Life Care Residences Group' as the headquarters of a retirement village. The house provides offices, library, restaurant and resident staff to service the flats and cottages in the grounds. Before the present occupants, tenants of the house have included a prep school and a lunatic asylum.

James Airy was joined by two enthusiastic residents (Peter Otway and John Jones) to show us round the house and garden, and gave a presentation of its history.

There was some discussion over tea at Grove Place, and it was generally agreed that Lutyens must have been aware of, if not influenced by, Grove Place when designing New Place down the road. Before leaving Grove Place, Chairman Iain Patton asked for ideas for similar trips in the future. Organisers would be welcome too.

It was indeed a lovely day and provided an opportunity for Trust members to have time to talk together informally over lunch or tea, or when climbing up a somewhat scary narrow wooden spiral staircase to get a fabulous view of Southampton docks from the top of one of Grove Place towers!

Many thanks to Anthony Proudman for organising such a good day so efficiently.

Gill Collymore.

Saving Historic Buildings - by direct action - TrustNews Sept 11



We are proud of having done it ourselves perhaps 2 or 3 times since 1957, but the Romsey & District Buildings Preservation Trust of which this year's Trust AGM speaker, Professor Peter Shoolingin-Jordan, is the chairman, has the enviable record of saving some 40 historic buildings since it was founded (about one per year!) and, in the process, altered the culture of the town.

Back in the 1960s and early 1970s, the building fabric of Romsey was systematically being destroyed by disorderly attempts at "modernisation" due, in part, to the noncoherent policies of the local council and unsympathetic developers driven only by profit. In the mid-1970s several prominent Romsonians founded the Romsey & District Society as an antidote and, from a sub-committee of the original Society, the Buildings Preservation Trust was born.


55-63 Chervile Street , Romsey before being saved

At our AGM on 26th September Peter will present for us the exciting story of how they achieved their reputation as one of the country's leading preservation trusts. He will illustrate his talk with pictures of the buildings before and after renovation, and describe some of the battles and rewards experienced by his Trust in the process.

Maybe, apart from being entertained, we shall learn from what he has to tell us.

Michael Carden

Summer Walks Programme 2011 - TrustNews Sept 11

The summer walks will have more or less finished by the time this edition is received so it is timely to review the programme and give impressions and ask for comments from those who have attended.

It has been very pleasing to have a good number attending all the walks. By having a maximum number we have generally been able to avoid an excessive number making it difficult to hear the guide or control the group. We have usually been able

to accommodate those who have attended without booking but on a couple of occasions we have had to turn away one or two who had not booked.

The blend of old subjects and new in the programme seems to have worked well. The well known buildings and places remain popular and we felt the new subjects or new angles on familiar parts of Winchester were also appreciated. One new topic, Winchester's trees, attracted some members who had not attended before so this was particularly encouraging. We hope to include this subject again in 2012.

We are always open to new subjects and particularly new guides with new subjects, so we welcome ideas and suggestions from our members. Some members have particular knowledge and expertise themselves on relevant topics, so please discuss with us whether we could include them in the programme in the future. And if you have any other comments, do get in touch.

John Beveridge

Recycling and Energy Recovery - TrustNews Sept 11

Visits have been arranged for Trust members to the Material Recovery Facility at Alton on Tuesday 11th October and to the Energy Recovery Facility at Marchwood on Tuesday 25th October. Both these facilities are run by Veolia on behalf of Hampshire County Council. Each visit will start at 10.00am and finish at 12.00noon. Refreshments will be available on arrival. The charge for the visit will be £9.00 (inclusive of VAT @ 20%). A maximum of 12 persons can be accepted on each visit.

Visitors to the Alton Facility must wear sensible shoes, preferably walking boots; hard hats and high-visibility jackets will be provided by the company. If you are fitted with a pacemaker or a defibrillator you must declare it before the visit. The plant employs strong magnetic fields which may cause your device to malfunction. No special clothing is required for the visit to the Marchwood facility.

If you would like to be included on either of these visits, please contact Robin Merton by telephone 01962 853690 as soon as possible and no later than 14th September 2011.

Cluttering up our streets? - TrustNews Sept 11



Typical Street sign clutter

The City of Winchester Trust are trying to find examples of where our streets are being cluttered with signs, directions, street furniture, lighting and other potentially unnecessary or out of date things. These are often put up by local councils but also can be put up by contractors, businesses and organisations.

Our streets are being filled up with instructions and information which are making them cluttered, full and untidy. They often spoil the view and impact on the street scene in our historic city.

To highlight this issue, the City of Winchester Trust are running a “Rapid Fire” photo competition to find the best (or worst) examples of such street clutter. This is to support the Civic Voice’s, the national umbrella organisation for Civic Societies, national Street Clutter campaign. The competition is open to anyone and should be taken within the Winchester city area. Photos should be sent to secretary@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk in electronic form or posted to The Heritage Centre, 32 Upper Brook Street, Winchester, SO23 8DG in hard copy form. Please include your name, address, telephone number and email.

All photos submitted may be used by the City of Winchester Trust as part of their campaign and by entering the competition you agree for the photograph to be used for this purpose both in print and on the internet.

The competition will be judged by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Trust and the winning photograph will be published in the next Trust newsletter. The winner will also win an overnight stay, with breakfast which has been generously donated by The Old Vine, The Square, Winchester.

The closing date is 9am on Wednesday 21st September. Good Luck and happy snapping!

New Members - TrustNews Sept 11

A warm welcome to the following new members:-
Mr R Bibby
Mrs C Colman
Mr D Drake
Ms S Gangai
Mr & Mrs C Grant Wilson
Mr & Mrs P J Hesketh-Roberts
Mrs D Jones
Ms F Mather
Mr & Mrs A S Thomson
Dr G Winyard.

Useful websites: - TrustNews Sept 11

http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/ provides details of Listed Buildings throughout the country. The inspiration behind this website came from the realisation that there isn't a simple, UK-wide database of listed buildings that's accessible via the Internet. It is an unofficial site but appears to be pretty accurate, if a little awkward to use.

Organisation - TrustNews Sept 11

President	His Honour Christopher Clarke QC
Vice President	Lord Ashburton KG KCVO DL
Vice President	Donald Insall CBE FSA RWA FRIBA FRTPI SP dipl (Hons)

Trustees 2011	
Chairman	Iain Patton
Vice Chairman/Policy Group	Michael Carden MBE AAdip RIBA
Vice Chairman	Robin Merton
	John Beveridge
Chair Planning Appraisal Group	Shione Carden BA
Chair Policy Group	Patrick Davies
	Keith Leaman
	Cllr Barry Lipscomb
	Nick McPherson BArch RIBA MA

Newsletter	David Marklew BSc CEng MICE
	Judith Martin MSc
	Antony Proudman MA CEng FBCS
Hon Treasurer	Peter Radcliffe FCA
	Peter Rees MA
	Capt. Antony Skinner RN
	John Stanning BA

TrustNews Editor	David Marklew/Matthew Huntley
TrustNews Printer	ADH Printing, Kingsworthy
Websiter	Barrie Brinkman
PR & Publicity	Sharon Watson

King James Bible Quatercentennial Exhibition - TrustNews Sept 11

Winchester College
King James Bible Quartercentennial Exhibition
4 pm – Tuesday 20 September.
Meet at 3.50pm College Street Entrance

To celebrate the involvement of John Harmar and other Wykhamists in the preparation of the Authorised Version of the Bible and in the field of biblical scholarship the College is displaying bibles and other related material from the Fellows' library.

The Trust has organised a private viewing for members and friends on 20 September. To manage numbers please book at the Heritage Centre by telephone (W:851664) or e-mail (secretary@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk) by Monday morning 19 September. Entrance is free but donations to the Trust and the Friends of Winchester College are invited.

Too much paper? Computer Literate? - TrustNews Sept 11

Did you know you can get TrustNews by e-mail?

.....or look at it on our website

Why not – cut down on paper consumption? get our news first? reduce the costs of the Trust.

Every year the Trust sends out over 2,500 newsletters, that's nearly 7500 sheets of paper and over £500 in postage stamps.

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Just send an email with the heading "Paperless TrustNews" to secretary@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk and we'll do the rest!

Wanted! - TrustNews Sept 11

Can you help with any of these activities?
Occasional visits to places of interest
Planning Advisory Group Assistant
Publicity, Membership Coordinator
Occasional displays at the Heritage Centre
Landscape / Arboricultural advice
Arranging lectures / educational projects
Fundraising

For further information, please contact :
Dr Vicky Feldwick — Secretary
32 Middle Brook Street, Winchester
SO23 8DG Tel. 01962 851664
secretary@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk

'Clearly Obscure' - Talk by Tracey Sheppard FGE - TrustNews Sept 11



Winchester Discovery Centre,
Wednesday, 5th October 2011 at 7.30pm
Tickets - £8.50 to include a glass of wine and nibbles afterwards.
Available from the Discovery Centre.

Tracey Sheppard is a glass engraver of international standing, whose work may be seen in the Epiphany Chapel of Winchester Cathedral, Romsey Abbey and many local churches. She is working at present on a replacement for the glass panel in Hyde Abbey Garden which was destroyed last year. The Trust has supported that work.

The occasion is supported jointly by Friends of Hyde Abbey and by Hampshire Gardens Trust.