



Easter-egg hunt and bonnet competition in the garden last month. The afternoon was glorious with eggs melting in the hot sun. When the eggs were gathered the children enjoyed playing at musical-statues with Helena. We raised a small profit of £18 at this event.

*Photo by P. Thomas*

## EVENTS CALENDAR

**Saturday 30 May 2pm** Savoy Youth Theatre

**Sunday 31 May 2pm - 5pm** NGS Open-Day.

**Saturday 20 June** Coffee Morning at the Priory Church, Monmouth.

**Wednesday 19 August at 6.30pm** Nelson Evening with drinks and canapés in the Nelson Garden.

**Saturday 12 & Sunday 13 September 2pm -5pm** European Heritage Day Open Doors Weekend.

## SEASONAL SENSATIONS

In the garden at the moment : Tulips, Hellebores, Pulmonaria, Primroses, Bluebells, Kerria, Tiarella, Irises.

## FROM THE GARDENERS

The gardeners have been busy clearing up leaves and debris, cutting the lawn, trimming the hedges, weeding and mulching the borders ready for 2015. More of the ivy and brambles that have firmly established themselves under the hedges have been removed.

'Nelson' sweet peas have been planted around wigwams of bamboo canes near the pond. There are also several clusters of perennial sweet peas growing along the SW wall.

The lilies and irises in the pond have been removed with great effort due to their weight and size, split and returned to the pond. A frog was seen hiding under the adjacent paving slabs and frogs spawn seen in the pond. Up to three ducks have also been seen paddling.

Snow drops have finished flowering, however there is plenty of colour being provided by Grape Hyacinths, Helleborus, Daffodils, Tulips, White/blue bells to name a few. Perennials shrubs and roses are budding.

*Steve Glenton Volunteer Gardener*

## CONTACT FOR GARDENERS

Susan 01291 637407 or Penny 01600 715507

# THE NELSON GARDEN MONMOUTH



## NEWSLETTER NO.2 SPRING 2015

Dear Friends,

I am delighted to report that many of you have signed up as Friends of the Nelson Garden. You are supporting our work in securing the survival of this important historic garden. During the Spring we organized an Easter Egg Hunt and an Easter Bonnet Competition and it was lovely to see children enjoying games in the garden.

We now have twelve volunteers working in the garden on Fridays throughout the summer months. The garden is open Fridays 12—3pm. Our May events are: Saturday 30th May Savoy Youth Theatre 2pm & Sunday 31st May 2—5pm when the garden is open as part of the NGS : gardens open for charity. Admission is £4 No charge for children under 16 years .

Do join us!

**Helena Gerrish** *Chairman NGPT*

*The Nelson Garden Preservation Trust*

## NELSON GARDEN LEAFLET

We have to thank the Waitrose Community Matters Scheme for enabling us to have 5,000 colour leaflets printed by Clarks in Monmouth. These are being distributed to Tourist Offices, Gardens and Nurseries in the Wye Valley.



£314 cheque presented to the Chairman by Diane Lee *Photo by P. Thomas*

## ANNUAL LECTURE

The Annual Lecture at Haberdashers' Monmouth School was given by Susan Amos. The subject was the maritime artist Robert Dodd. The lecture, although poorly attended was enjoyed by the audience and generously supported, making £180 profit for the Garden.



## BOOK REVIEW

**Vegetables: A Biography**  
by Evelyne Bloch-Dano.

Described on the cover by the *Times Literary Supplement* as “Quirky...entertaining.” It is certainly that and much more. Beginning with the exploration of the word “vegetable” whose first adjectival use was in the sense of “growing as a plant”; the book goes on to give the cultural, culinary and literary life of the Cardoon, Artichoke, Cabbage, Parsnip, Carrot, Pea, Tomato, Bean, Pumpkin and Chilli Pepper: A sort of history of each vegetable. Poems, literary extracts and recipes follow and a very useful bibliography completes the work. The book, being printed on cream alkaline paper is an absolute pleasure to handle and read. This would make a very good present for a gardener friend...

University of Chicago Press.  
Paperback edition 2013. \$15.00



Information plaque about the Naval Medallions being fixed in place last month.

*Photo by S.Amos*

## NAVAL MEDALLION BIOGRAPHIES

**Edward Hawke (1705—1781)**

Admiral Hawke is remembered for his decisive victory at the Battle of Quiberon Bay on 20 November 1759. This became known as the “Year of Victories”. The British conquest of Canada in 1758 with a force which included the names John Jervis, James Wolfe, James Cook and Boscawen had forced the French to re-think their strategy. They planned to invade Britain by combining their Brest and Toulon fleets on the Atlantic coast. 30,000 troops were to be landed in the west of Scotland and then proceed down towards Essex for a direct invasion of London. Before the combined French fleet reached Scotland they were intercepted by Hawke, who left Torbay with twenty-three ships. Early on 20 November 1759 the French Admiral Conflans tried to escape into Quiberon Bay. Superior seamanship and confidence amidst the treacherous coastal waters and in a full gale gave Hawke success. France lost five thousand men whereas Hawke’s casualties were three hundred. As Callender said in ‘Sea Kings of Britain’ 1925.

**“Hawke restored to Britannia’s hand the trident that Byng had lost.”**

*Susan Amos Editor*