

RHODODENDRON AND CAMELLIA GROUP

Bulletin No. 4 December, 1977.

EDITORIAL

When the Group was re-formed last year, members were told that it was hoped to produce four bulletins per year, and it is much regretted that unforeseen circumstances have frustrated this undertaking: it is fifteen months since Bulletin No. 1 was issued and seven months since Bulletin No. 3. We hope to do better in the future; there is no shortage of material at present, but the Bulletin's continuance does depend to some extent on members sending contributions.

One casualty of this hiatus has been the Annual General Meeting, arranged for 1st November in London; the agenda and papers were to go out with Bulletin No. 4 at the end of September. Copies are now enclosed of the Chairman's Report, Financial Statement and Draft Constitution, which were to have been circulated for discussion at the meeting. If there is sufficient demand, the meeting can be re-convened next spring; otherwise, it will be 'taken as read', and the business deferred to the autumn of 1978. Meanwhile, queries on the chairman's report, financial statement or draft constitution should be addressed to the chairman.

Since the issue of Bulletin No. 3, the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer have both moved house, and their addresses are now:

J. Waugh Owens Esq., Hon. Sec., Jubilee Lodge, Yarpole,
near Leominster, Herefordshire.

P. Bamford Esq., Hon. Treasurer, Dormy House, Thorpeness,
Leiston, Suffolk.

Subscriptions for 1977-8 were due on 1st November, and any members in doubt where to send their subscriptions may kindly send them to Mr. Owens without delay, preferably by banker's order. Copies of 'Rhododendrons 1977, with Magnolias and Camellias' are being sent out on the assumption that members wish to renew their subscriptions; any member receiving copies who do not wish to continue to belong to the Group are asked to return them to the Hon. Secretary (unread).

It is very much regretted that the Honorary Treasurer has asked to be relieved. We are very grateful indeed to him for seeing the Group through its rebirth, and he is very kindly continuing for the time being, until a successor appears. Any member willing to volunteer for this (not very arduous) post is asked to notify the chairman as soon as possible.

For the time being, material for the Bulletin (as well as for the Annual) may kindly be sent to the chairman at Lamellen, St. Tudy, Bodmin, Cornwall, PL30 3NR. Material for the Yearbook is required not later than the end of April, please; bulletin material is welcome at any time.

SPRING TOUR 1978

A number of members are already arranging their spring holidays, and have been enquiring what plans the Group has for them. This year, a number of members who came on the Sussex tour indicated that they would have liked it to have been longer, and perhaps to have had accommodation and transport arranged for them. The Committee thought that the Group might break new ground, or more accurately tread the ground broken by the International Dendrological Society two years ago, by visiting some notable rhododendron gardens in South Wales and on the Welsh border. A scout was therefore despatched to spy out the land a month ago, and a very hospitable reception he had on his visit to twelve gardens in four days. The result is a tour of seven gardens from the Gloucestershire border, through Glamorgan to Pembrokeshire, and back to the Herefordshire border, immediately after the Rhododendron Show at the end of the first week in May. A member of the Group has offered to arrange block bookings at hotels and, if required, a coach, probably starting from and returning to Gloucester. Members are entitled to reserve two places, and do not have to participate in all four days' visits. A more detailed note is attached, and full particulars will be sent to those members who wish to participate.

CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW

A lot has happened since the issue of Bulletin No 3. I think the Sussex tour could be rated a success, in spite of the rain; it was well attended, and we saw some lovely gardens and some marvellous rhododendrons and camellias, and were very hospitably entertained to tea at South Lodge and at Borde Hill, as well as meeting each other. Very many thanks indeed to all our kind hosts. Mrs. La Croix has written up our tours for the Australian Rhododendron Society's Quarterly in the past (and what a splendid production this is), and I persuaded her to let us publish her account of this year's tour in 'Rhododendrons, 1977' as well.

Speaking of the Australian Rhododendron Society's Quarterly, members of the Group will be sorry to know that Mr. A. W. Headlam, a regular contributor to our yearbook, has given up the editorship after a number of years, but he tells me that this will leave him freer to contribute to our annual, as well as to the American Rhododendron Society's Quarterly Bulletin, which has published so many of his splendid photographs of rhododendrons.

The Rhododendron Show was below standard this year, but this was compensated for in part by a splendid lecture by Alan Hardy on the Ludlow & Sherriff rhododendrons.

Alan, and John Bond were responsible too for the first Rhododendron & Camellia Group exhibit, at the June show, to which a number of members of the Group contributed material, and we were very pleased indeed to be awarded the Society's Gold Medal, at our first attempt.

That same day, we had a social evening in the New Hall, preceded by a fascinating lecture by Dr. James Cullen, Assistant Keeper of the Royal Botanic Garden at Edinburgh, on the work in progress there on the revision of the classification of the genus Rhododendron. A transcript of this appears in the annual.

Since the appearance of Bulletin No.3, two famous old men of the Rhododendron and Camellia world have passed on. Euan Cox of Glendoick was the first to go, and happily leaves a worthy successor in his son, Peter, as well as a lovely garden, and some exquisite hybrid rhododendrons.

Gowrie Waterhouse died in August, full of years and honours, and the creator of some of the best of the Australian hybrid camellias. He has 96, truly the Grand Old Man of Camellias. He re-visited England in 1975, and had an audience with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother on his 94th birthday.

I feel very privileged to have known them both. Obituaries appear in 'Rhododendrons, 1977'. We had a crisis over the yearbook again, this time owing to a surfeit of splendid material, and an unusually high number of new registrations which have to be published, mainly from the U.S.A., and the Group was asked for a financial guarantee. I am happy to be able to state that the Group has now taken over the R.H.S.'s stock of back numbers of the yearbook, and these are now available to members from the Secretary at published price: 1947 1948 43p (a bargain); 1970, 1971 £1.50; 1973, 1974 95p; 1976 £1.25. Plus 25p, to cover packing and postage (in the British Isles).

I mentioned in Bulletin No.3 that that very distinguished gardener, my neighbour General Eric Harrison, was leaving Tremear. He is now happily ensconced at Swallowfield Park in Berkshire, where I called on him recently. He declined my offer of a lift to the Garden Society dinner as he was shooting pheasants next day, in spite of three recently broken ribs, but he will be back in Cornwall at the end of March, judging camellias at the Truro Show, and staying with his successor as President of the Cornwall Garden Society. I am happy to be able to report that Tremear is in good hands, and that Mrs. Hopwood and Dr. and Mrs. Haslam will shortly be taking up residence, and have assured me that this splendid garden will be kept up, and continue to be opened to the public, though not perhaps very much in 1978.

RHODODENDRON CULTIVAR NAMES

Additions to the International Rhododendron Register are published annually by the Royal Horticultural Society in the Rhododendron Yearbook (now the annual 'Rhododendrons, 197., etc', but the register has not been revised since 1958. The American Registrar therefore has now compiled a list of Rhododendron Cultivar names registered since then, with references to descriptions published in the yearbook or the American Rhododendron Society's Quarterly Bulletin. This is obtainable from the American Rhododendron Society, price 1 dollar, or a bulk order could be placed for members of the Group, on application to the Hon. Sec.

BOOK REVIEW - 'Hybrids and Hybridizers'

Harrowood Books of Newtown Square, Pennsylvania have produced a beautifully illustrated book under this title about the rhododendron hybrids which were being made between 1925 and 1950 in the Eastern United States, by Charles Owen Dexter, Joseph Gable, Guy Nearing, B. Y. Morrison and others. Dexter crossed some of the Van Nes and Waterer hybrids, obtained from Veitch of Exeter, with decorum, discolor, fortunei, griersonianum, and haematodes, on a vast scale, and was producing 10,000 seedlings annually in his woodland nursery at Sandwich, Massachusetts, which were later flooding the market. In 1950, the American Rhododendron Society sponsored a distinguished committee to survey all the Dexter hybrids in cultivation and select the best for propagation and testing, and this book deals with the results and the work of other contemporary hybridists in the Eastern United States.

THE CONSERVATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF RARE SPECIES AND CHOICE HYBRIDS

Since the Rhododendron and Camellia Group was re-organised, the chairman has received some extremely interesting communications from members of the Group on these two connected subjects, and it is only regretted that lack of time and staff has prevented some of them being acknowledged. They have not so far been published because there is a considerable overlap in what they say, and because they reflect the lines on which the committee had already been thinking.

A paragraph in Bulletin No.2 in February 1977 indicated that immediate steps were being taken, the appointment of a co-ordinator, Mr. John Sanders, who would collate members' 'wants' with offers of material, and would build up a register of the choicer and less common plants, from which he would be able to advise members where plants they wanted could be obtained. Mr. Sanders reports however that so far he has received disappointingly few offers or requests.

The view was expressed that some of the owners of rare plants might be reluctant to supply propagating material to inexperienced propagators, and to meet this difficulty offers have been received from a well-known specialist nursery, and from a national garden, to propagate material of plants not in commerce, for members of the Group.

A further step is now being taken, the compilation of a register of 'award plants', and of plants whose collector's numbers are known with certainty, with a view to forming reservoirs for the conservation of rare and choice plants, and providing material for propagation to specific organisations to distribute. In due course, members of the Group, and others in the United Kingdom, will be asked to say what plants of this character are in their possession, and whether they would be willing to make propagating material available.

The following is a selection of extracts of members' views:

(a) Mr. G. A. Judson writes: "All growers of species rhododendrons should be invited to give a list of species which they grow, and from which they would be prepared, on mutually agreed terms, to supply material for propagation, e.g. cuttings, layers, selfed seed or small complete plants. This would include members of the Rhododendron Group, owners of large estates, Botanic and Royal Gardens and nurserymen; all data to be card-indexed under names of species. Then, any amateur or nurseryman wanting plants or propagating material of a particular species could apply to the Hon. Sec. and, on payment of a small fee to cover postage and other expenses, would be given particulars of sources from which he could obtain propagating material."

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(b) Mr. A. G. Kenneth, after describing some rare and outstanding rhododendrons in his possession, urges that really good forms of plants of this nature should be propagated by specialist nurserymen, and that we should not be so irresponsible as to risk losing what the plant hunters got at the cost of such exertion and at times personal danger. Perhaps the retention of the best forms could be a valid objective of national botanic gardens. At least, it seems worth considering the possibility.

(c) Mr. R. Dudley-Cooke (Organiser, Wessex Branch) after pointing out that a considerable number of outstanding rhododendrons are not available in commerce, goes on to say that "one is naturally hesitant to ask owners of the larger gardens.... for plants or propagating material.... It should be possible for the co-ordinator to write to all major owners and ask for their co-operation in making available a list of plants that they would be prepared to supply to members of the Group.... There must be a considerable number of persons who wish to put together a collection of species and hybrids and, whilst purchasing considerable numbers through the trade.... are daunted by the fact that a great number of the best rhododendrons are not in any event available."

Mr. Dudley-Cooke has also drafted a Code of Practice for the exchange of propagating material between owners and nurserymen as a basis for discussion, which might also be applicable for other groups of plants.

(d) Mr. Dan E. Mayors offers the following resolutions:

- I. Be it resolved that the Rhododendron and Camellia Group shall nominate one or more commercial nurseries and/or private gardens to obtain cuttings and/or seed of rhododendrons and camellias not presently available in the trade for propagation and sale to members of the Rhododendron and Camellia Group, and that such nurseries and/or private gardens shall be officially designated to act in this manner.
- II. That the Rhododendron and Camellia Group shall make a formal approach to the National Trust with a view to obtaining from the National Trust permission for those nurseries designated for the purpose to obtain propagating material from rhododendrons and camellias of unusual horticultural value and botanical interest growing in the gardens belonging to and administered by the National Trust.

SYMPOSIUM - SIX FAVOURITE RHODODENDRONS

In Bulletin No.1, members were invited to respond to the following inquiry:

"You are moving to a garden with ideal growing conditions for rhododendrons, but you only have room for six plants - species or hybrids. Which six would you choose, and why?"

Twelve contributions were received, and three of these have been published in the Annual, with a summary. Four more are published now, and it is hoped to include the remainder in the next bulletin.

(A) Mr. F. S. Butt, Northwood, Middlesex

My choice is as follows:

1. Hybrid. Rhododendron Loderi 'King George'
This magnificent shrub provides attractive flowers both in bud (pink) and when fully open (white), which also gives a delightful fragrance. I find this hybrid flowers very freely and never fails to arouse admiration from everyone who sees it. I consider that it would be difficult to find an equal as a showpiece, particularly at the far end of a garden.

2. Species. Rhododendron soulo

The form of this species is so delicate and beautiful, even out of flower, that it deserves a location in any garden. The saucer-shaped rose pink flowers are given very freely every year. My wife cuts flowers from her every spring and the form is not spoilt, mainly because of the fairly loose habit of this shrub.

3. Hybrid. Lady Chamberlain

I would choose this particular hybrid because of its superb drooping trusses of orange yellow pendant-shaped flowers. Although I find that it does not flower quite so frequently as one would like, when it does flower the results are so attractive that one forgives its periodical lapses. Lady Chamberlain needs to be set, if possible, on rising ground - preferably on a western location to enable one to look up to the flower trusses in front of evening sunlight - the effect of such light on the flowers is dramatic.

4. Species - Rhododendron yakusimanum

No garden, large or small, should be without this unusual species. It is normally modest in size in most cases and yet provides a profusion of flowers all over during flowering time. The buds are delicately coloured pink, developing into graceful bell-shaped white flowers. The underside of the leaves are covered with the smooth fawn coloured indumentum.

5. Species - Rhododendron wardii

As a contrast in colour to those mentioned before, this species offers a distinct lemon yellow bell shaped flower which acts as a distinct foil to the rich green leaves of the shrub. This rhododendron can achieve a fairly large stature and is therefore a useful background shrub. The flowers are produced freely most years and although it flowers early in April, it seems to survive frosts very well.

6. Hybrid - Lady Malcolm Stewart

My wife was given a young specimen of this hybrid (Tally Ho x Purple Splendour) from the late Mr. Adams Acton who raised it - I believe over 30 years ago. The colour of the flowers are rich crimson and the trusses are normally 5 to 6 inches across. Again, this hybrid is a very reliable flowerer every year. This shrub flowers late in our garden, at the end of June.

The selection of the above rhododendrons covers a flowering period from early April (wardii and soulo), through May (Loderi), early June (Lady Chamberlain and yakusimanum) to late June with the last of the six (Lady Malcolm Stewart).

I would add that all these rhododendrons are hardy and, in addition, none of them have suffered at all following the severe drought conditions of last summer (1976). However up to the time of water restrictions, water was freely provided.

(B) Mr. R. Dudley-Cooke. Farnham, Surrey (Organiser, Wessex Branch)

The terms of reference are such that personal preference is sought rather than a balanced selection based upon the need to represent an even selection of colour range, leaf shape, shape of bush and length of flowering period.

There appears in addition to be no climatic restriction, thus enabling the inclusion of the more tender varieties. Having made these assumptions, I immediately proceeded to write out a list of those rhododendrons which were an absolute necessity for inclusion. The total numbered thirty two. After further consideration and with no certainty in my mind I finally reached a short list of twelve and I reluctantly discarded the following - 'Cornish Cross', mainly because in my final list of six I had other rhododendrons flowering at this time - 'Treliwick Salmon' - a very beautiful and large coral pink and white, but it is not in commerce and I have been unable to persuade the gardener

at Trellissick to take an air layer for me.

R.hyperythrum - 'Polar Bear' and 'Beauty of Trencough' - again because other rhododendrons were in flower at the same time and finally 'Royal Flush, Caerhays Pink'.

The final list of six was therefore:

R.pseudochrysanthum

This is a delightful small plant with a very interesting leaf shape clothing the plant to the ground covered in season with two tone pink and white bells. The general habit and the delicacy of the flowers make this a must.

R.'Tyermannii'
(formosum x nuttallii)

There is a magnificent specimen of this hybrid at Glendurgan in Cornwall, growing in the open and making a perfectly domed bush, which I would estimate to be approximately eight feet high, clothed to the ground. The flowers are a perfect white trumpet with pinkish coppery markings and with a magnificent scent. Both the flower shape and the scent are reminiscent of *Lilium regale*. This rhododendron wins on all counts as to shape, flowers and scent.

R.'Bow Bells'
(Corona x williamsianum)

I have a particular fascination for *R.williamsianum* and its many hybrids, mainly for the flower shape and the shape of the oval leaf which it appears to pass on to most of its progeny. I was tempted to choose the species itself but finally opted for 'Bow Bells' in slight preference to 'April Glow' ('Wilgens Ruby' x *williamsianum*).

R.Loderi 'Venus'
(fortunei x griffithianum)

Mainly for the sheer size of the bloom and the very delicate shade of pink, the shape of the bell and again the general outline of the shrub. This hybrid is scented but is not in the same class as 'Tyermannii'.

R.'Vanessa Pastel',
(Soulbut x griceronianum)

This is a colour break from the preceding, being a biscuit salmon pink, and was chosen for colour and for the overall effect of the shrub when in flower, when every bloom appears to have a difference in colour from its neighbour. 'Naomi Astarte' was the other choice in this particular category, but I chose the Vanessa Pastel for its June flowering.

R.'Leonore'
(auriculatum x kyawii)

Lastly a very late flowering rhododendron to extend the season. I am very addicted to the late flowering sorts, as the season cannot be too long and seeing a rhododendron such as this in flower in July gives, in addition to its great beauty with loose trusses of pink flowers, a feeling of having cheated the seasons.

On reading the list through, I can almost hear the cry "what no reds, yellows or blues!" My only answer is that in my original thirty two there were, but my natural preference is for pinks and white and combinations of those colours, which precluded a more objective approach when choosing only six rhododendrons. I am also conscious of having failed to include such magnificent species as *R.macabeanum* or *sino-grande*, and for not having provided a really early flowerer, which is such a welcome sight at that time of year.

(c) Mr. G. A. Judson, Exmouth

This question presents agonising decisions for any gardener to be faced with, comparable with those faced by the music-loving castaway in the Radio Programme "Desert Island Discs". With great reluctance, I have decided to rule out all the majestic giants, such as arboreum, sinogrande, macabeanum, and even the superb, scented 'Loderis' - in my opinion, the finest hybrids ever raised - and likewise the charming miniatures like trichostomum, scintillans, lepidotum, etc., and confine my attentions to medium sized rhododendrons, suitable for the average modest sized garden of today. Also, I have included only plants reasonably easily obtainable from specialist rhododendron growers, and sternly rejected the temptation to include one or two hybrids of my own raising, such as R.'Olive Judson', one of my favourites, even though they may be starting to become available in the trade. Having laid down these self-imposed limitations, here then are my chosen six plants.

1. Rhododendron 'Olive'. (*noupinense x dauricum*)

I must have one really early rhododendron to start the season, and here we have an excellent plant, surprisingly little known, which may be described as an improved R.'Præcox', with larger, paler and more salver-shaped blooms, lilac, rose, blooming successively from January to March when the weather is open.

2. Rhododendron 'Elizabeth', F.C.C. (*forrestii v. repens x griersonianum*)

Too well known to need description, its masses of clear bright red blooms give a fine display in the second half of April, on a bush usually of modest size - a plant that must be well watered in dry weather.

3. Rhododendron davidsonianum, F.C.C.

A bush of upright habit with a profusion of dainty deep pink flowers with crimson markings in the throat, in mid-April to early May, which gives a good show year after year without fail.

4. Rhododendron cinnabarinum, v. *roylei* 'Magnificum'

A shrub somewhat similar in habit to R.davidsonianum; its aromatic glaucous foliage is attractive at any season, but when it is in full bloom in late May or June, with its graceful pendent waxy bells of deep plum-crimson, bearing a whitish bloom like that on a ripe plum, it is a plant that always attracts admiring attention. The blooms are perhaps even more striking when lit up from behind by the sun, like glowing embers.

5. Rhododendron bureavii

A shrub to be grown for its striking foliage, dark green above, with a foxy red, suede-like indumentum beneath. It is also a fine sight when the year's young growth appears, with silky golden hairs. The blooms, white flushed pink, with brown speckles in the throat, are also quite attractive, though it tends to be rather shy flowering, particularly when young.

6. Rhododendron 'Princess Alice' (*ciliatum x edgeworthii*)

I love the tender scented rhododendrons of the Maddenii and Edgeworthii series, particularly ciliicalyx, one of the most beautiful of all rhododendrons, but alas very tender. R.'Princess Alice' is much hardier, and though lacking the exquisite beauty of R.ciliicalyx, is very attractive, with its hairy dark green foliage and its delicate pinky white, spicily scented blooms in April-May.

(D) Mr. Richard Murgott, East Norwich, N.Y.

First, I would take yakushimanum, Exbury form. Its hardiness, growth characteristics, beauty in leaf, flower and new growth all combine to make it the most spectacular plant we can grow on the East Coast of the USA. The Exbury form is chosen, perhaps out of ignorance of all the other clones being grown, because I feel it is the best example of the true species, being superior, I believe, to the FCC form which produces remarkably different seedlings when selfed. The Exbury clone's selfed seedlings are all very similar to each other and to the mother plant.

Second, I would choose 'Gi Gi'. This is a Doxter hybrid which has everything. Plant habit is super, leaves attractive and the flowers, borne abundantly, turn the mounded plant into a red masterpiece. Hardiness is top-notch just in case our new fantasy garden doesn't quite have perfect weather.

Thirdly, 'Wheatley'. Created here in Long Island by Howard Phipps, it is the best pink we have. Fully hardy with a high perfect truss of pink, alive with a white throat, this cultivar never disappoints. It is somewhat open growing and will tend to become a large plant, so I'd plant it in the rear of the bed.

Fourth would be 'Seedling of Painted Star'. This unnamed seedling is one of the best Hardgrove hybrids. A large, full, rounded truss of medium yellow with a perfect collar of bright green leaves makes this one of my favorites.

Now I'm going to have to bring along at least one of my own seedlings. I'd choose TT45. This is a picotee rhododendron. The flower is white with a bright pink edge on the corolla. Somewhat slow growing, it has pretty good plant habit.

Lastly, 'Scintillation'. One of Mr. Dexter's best creations. A very lively pink on an impeccable plant. If 'Wheatley' isn't our best pink, then 'Scintillation' certainly is. It received its name because of the scintillating color of its flowers.

I expect that by now most of my British readers are scratching their heads wondering where I got these names from, as I expect that none of them are known in Great Britain. Well, I would highly recommend them to you, no matter how mild your climate, or for that matter how tough. (On the strength of this, Mr. Murcott very kindly sent the chairman cuttings of 'Gi Gi', 'Scintillation' and 'Wheatley', which rooted under mist with bottom heat, and were potted up after six months. That they cannot exactly be described as flourishing now only reflects the chairman's lack of skill as a propagator)

RHODODENDRON AND CAMELLIA GROUP
SPRING TOUR 1978 - SOUTH WALES

Arrangements have now been made for members of the Group to visit gardens in South Wales and on the English border in the first week of May, immediately after the Rhododendron Show in 1978. Leaving London at teatime on the first day of the show, which will be on Wednesday, 3rd May, it should be possible to be at the Severn Bridge on the M4 in a couple of hours. The first garden to be visited is a few miles on the English side of the border in Gloucestershire; there follow five gardens in Monmouthshire, Glamorganshire and Pembrokeshire, and the last garden on Sunday, 7th May, is just back in England, in Herefordshire. Three nights will be spent in Wales.

Thursday 4th May	(1)	Assemble at Lydney Park, Lydney (Chepstow 9; Gloucester 19) Lunch at Lydney Park.	10 am	by kind invitation of Viscount Bled- isloe.
	(2)	The Yew Tree, Lydarn, nr. Monmouth (about 18 miles) Block booking for night at the Post House, Cardiff (36 miles)	2.30 pm	by kind invitation of Lt. Com. Anthony Collett.
Friday 5th May	(3)	Visit Parc Cefn-On, Lisvane (3m.) Lunch at the Post House.	9.30 am	By kind invitation of the City of Cardiff.
	(4)	Visit Penllyn Castle, Cowbridge (15m) Madeira with Mr. and Mrs. Cory Block booking for night at Haver- fordwest (81m. £48/£40).	2.30 pm	By kind invitation of Christopher Cory Esq.
Saturday 6th May	(5)	Visit Picton Castle (7m.) Lunch at Bush Inn, Llandissilio (5m.)	10.00 am	By kind invitation of Major the Hon. R.H. Philips and Lady Marion Philips
	(6)	Visit Blackaldern, Narberth (5m.) Tea at Blackaldern. Spend night probably at Llandridnod Wells or Builth Wells (70m.)	2.30 pm	By kind invitation of Mrs. de Quincey
Sunday 7th May	(7)	Visit Hergest Croft, Kington (21m) Lunch at Hergest Croft Disperse 4 pm.	10.00 am	By kind invitation of R.A. Banks Esq. and W.L. Banks Esq.

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Will members of the Group kindly let the Secretary know, not later than 15th February, whether they intend to take part, for the whole or part of the tour, and whether they prefer to make their own arrangements for accommodation and for transport, or would like to take advantage of block bookings at hotels, and a coach probably leaving Gloucester about 9 am on Thursday, 4th May, and returning there about 5.30 pm on Sunday, 7th? Also whether they would like a lecture/discussion to be arranged one evening, probably at the Post House at Cardiff?

(Proforma overleaf)