

INSTITUTE NEWS



An historic day

The Institute of Horticulture made horticultural history for professional horticulturists when it became Chartered on 21 July 2014 as The Chartered Institute of Horticulture (CIH).

The formal celebrations began on 1 September 2014 when The Marchioness of Salisbury, Patron of The Chartered Institute of Horticulture, hosted a garden party at Hatfield House to celebrate the grant of the Royal Charter, by Her Majesty the Queen. The garden party was a 'thank you' for Institute members, stakeholders, influential friends and sector partners for their support during the application for Chartership and a celebration of this landmark moment in the history of both the Institute and professional horticulture.

Lady Salisbury and the Trustees of the Institute were delighted to be joined by around 200 CIH members and colleagues from all sectors of horticulture who gathered for speeches and afternoon tea in the stunning locations of the Marble Hall and Armoury at Hatfield House.

Guests included representatives from Defra, the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS), The Horticultural Trades Association (HTA), Horticultural Development Company (HDC), Royal Botanic Garden Kew, The Royal Parks, Perennial, Plant Heritage, East Malling Research, Historic Royal Palaces, Natural England, Sainsbury's

Supermarkets Ltd, Commonwealth War Graves Commission, Horticulture Innovation Partnership, Woodland Trust, universities and colleges from across the UK and Ireland and many more. Also represented were the informal groups YoungHorts and OldHorts.

The first ever six Chartered Horticulturists were announced at the garden party. They are: Leigh Morris



C Hort FCIHort (then President); Andrew Gill C Hort FCIHort (then President-Elect); Heather Barrett-Mold C Hort FCIHort (a Past-President and Education Sector Representative); Dennis Clarke C Hort FCIHort (then Honorary Secretary), Owen Doyle C Hort FCIHort (Chair Membership Action Group); and John Whetman C Hort FCIHort (Honorary Treasurer). Lady Salisbury presented certificates to Chartered Horticulturists Andrew Gill, Heather Barrett-Mold, and Dennis Clarke, all of whom were in attendance at the garden party.

To gain a Royal Charter for the Institute has been an aspiration since the Institute's inception in 1984. Not only is the granting of the Royal Charter excellent news for the Institute it is excellent for horticulture and horticulturists too. This level of seniority and recognition will enhance the status of horticulture as a profession that demands high level skills and continuing professional development. Chartership will also strengthen the influence, and therefore the voice of the Institute, and will add gravitas to its claim for greater recognition from government and policy-makers regarding its role in the development of professionalism in horticulture.

Above: Members of the Chartered Institute of Horticulture and guests gathered in the Marble Hall, Hatfield House for the garden party to celebrate the grant of a Royal Charter to the Institute.

Left: The Marchioness of Salisbury, Patron of the Chartered Institute of Horticulture hosted the garden party and unveiled the Charter.

Right: Lady Salisbury (second left) with three of the Institute's first six Chartered Horticulturists: Andrew Gill, now President; Heather Barrett-Mold, a Past-President and Education Sector Representative, and Dennis Clarke, then Honorary Secretary.



At the same time, Chartership will support the Institute's ambassadors in their role of promoting advocacy in horticulture. The designation of Chartered Horticulturist (C Hort) to individuals in the Institute will, following the rigorous selection process, have wider benefits for all concerned with the practice of horticulture through its transparent and published standards that will demonstrate our commitment to the highest level of professionalism.

At the Garden Party, Andrew Gill C Hort FCIHort, President-Elect said "This is indeed a momentous day for the Institute and a great way to celebrate the Institute's 30th birthday. The Institute's aim is to further professionalise horticulture. Members are now members of an Institute which holds the recognition and benefits of Chartered status. Whilst that itself lends gravitas, kudos and prestige to their position, the Institute now has the ability to award individual Chartered status. For those members who choose to apply for and become individually Chartered their Chartership can support them in their professional lives, for example increasing their attractiveness to potential employers and enhance

their status with existing employers.

There is a long way to go on our journey to raise the professional status of horticulture and a lot more hard work to be done. But today is a day of celebration and in the words of Sir Winston Churchill, we may allow ourselves a brief period of rejoicing."

After the event The Marchioness of Salisbury said: It was a great honour to have been asked to unveil the Royal Charter at the Garden Party on Monday 1 September. At least 200 guests made the effort to come and celebrate, many very distinguished, and all interesting and busy people. They came from every corner of the British Isles so we should all feel confident of the future of the Chartered Institute of Horticulture. Our last guest, Lord Taylor of Holbeach FCIHort, the new Chief Whip in the House of Lords, whilst delayed on route to the celebrations, made a tremendous effort and was greeted by many friends and colleagues. An enjoyable end to a lovely afternoon. Congratulations to all those who helped organise the party".

Members will be kept updated regarding the timelines, arrangements and fees for applying for individual Chartership.

Welcome to the Garden Party

The Marchioness of Salisbury welcomed Chartered Institute of Horticulture members and guests to the celebration to mark the granting of the Royal Charter, held at Hatfield House in early September.

"Ladies and gentlemen, what an excellent reason for a party. Today we celebrate the Royal Charter awarded to the Institute and it is a huge pleasure for my husband and myself to welcome you to Hatfield.

Not being a very happy public speaker, I shall be quite short. But I would like to pay a tribute to those who worked so hard to make today possible. The Royal Charter was a little more than a dream when Heather Barrett-Mold came to Hatfield with Steve Dowbiggin and invited me to become Patron. Until then I had not grasped the huge significance of a Royal Charter, and the enormous work and patience that was needed for this dream to become a reality. We must acknowledge and thank Angela Evans and Heather Barrett-Mold for their vision and faith in the Institute of Horticulture receiving a Royal Charter, Dennis Clarke, Honorary Secretary, and Christine Bentley, who has been the driving force behind today's arrangements and worked tirelessly on the whole project.

No longer the IoH! We are proud to be known by our new acronym the CIH.

The horticultural industry is a world encompassing a vast range of talents. Behind the window box, patio or back garden nurtured with pleasure and pride and the great gardens open to visitors, a huge industry exists providing hundreds of thousands of jobs. These are not just the gardeners working on the 'coal face', but also the nurseries and the retail businesses, the growers, the research scientists, the botanists, florists, the gardening correspondents, and up and down the country the amateur gardener will grow and show, compete and present. Of special interest to me, as a governor of Capel Manor College, are the horticultural and arboricultural colleges and their dedicated tutors and their students who will be proud that their chosen vocation has been recognised by this Royal Charter.

All of you here who have done so much to enhance the horticultural industry have played your part in gaining this Royal Charter.

Congratulations and thank you."



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CELEBRATING THE CHARTER AT HATFIELD HOUSE



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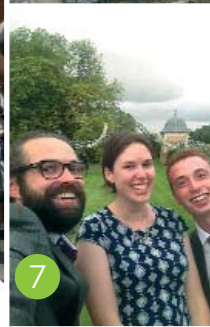
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Celebrating the Charter at Hatfield House

1. Left to right: Dennis Clarke, Andrew Gill, Heather Barrett-Mold, Andrew Dobson (CIH Legal Advisor), Major Hunt (Windsor Herald, Royal College of Arms), Tim Noad (Scrivener, Royal College of Arms).

2. Left to right: John Bennett, former Honorary Secretary and Margaret Bennett.

3. Capel Manor College team. Left to right: Lee Sanders (Head of Garden Design), Sarah Seery (Head of Horticulture), Steve Dowbiggin (Principal), Simon O'Hear (Director of HR), Julie Phipps (Senior Gardener), Nick Evans (Director of Estates), Malcolm Goodwin (Vice-Principal, Curriculum and Quality).

4. Left to right: Susan Nicholas (Chair, North West and North Wales Branch and YHoY Action Group).

5. David Richardson (Director of Horticulture, Commonwealth War Graves Commission).

6. Afternoon tea in The Armoury. (Photo: John Guest, The English Apple Man)



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7. Rocky Coles (Well Planted), Katie Benallick and Douglas Mackay (S&A Produce and Secretary, West Midlands and South Wales Branch). (Photo: Rocky Coles ACIHor)

8. On a garden tour. Includes Dr Theresa Huxley (CIH Commercial Sector Rep), Dr Louise Sutherland (Red Tractor Scheme), Sarah Calcutt (Chair, National Fruit Show), David Burton (Natural England), David Urry (Society of Biology), Caroline Elliott-Kingston (University of Dublin), Philippa Boddy (Horticulture student, Capel Manor College), Claire Woods (Senior Lecturer in Horticulture, College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise, Greenmount), Chris Bird (Lecturer in Horticulture, Sparsholt College). (Photo: John Guest, The English Apple Man)

9. Relaxing in the grounds

10. Gareth Manning (Vice President, Branches).

11. Eastern Branch Committee members. Left to right: Ian Roofe (Secretary), Martyn Davey (Chair) Kristopher Harper (Vice-Chair).

12. Admiring the Charter.

13. Left to right: Ann and Aubrey Kirkham (Percy Thrower Trust/Shropshire Horticultural Society).

14. Left to right: Former Institute Administrators Angela Clarke and Angela Evans.

15. Left to right: Richard Wanless (Twigs Gardens), Gerald Abrahams (GA Landscapes), Sophie Leguil (Plant Heritage) Andrew Gill, Rocky Coles (Well Planted).

16. The East Garden, Hatfield. (Photo: Ian Roofe MCIHor)

17. Left to right: Martin Emmett (Technical Director, Warbertons Nursery and Skills Ambassador, HDC), Raoul Curtis-Machin (Chair, Grow Careers and Head of Horticulture, The Horticultural Trades Association), Professor Mark Tatchell (Horticulture Innovation Partnership).

18. The Royal Parks team. Left to right: Dennis Clarke, Linda Lennon (Chief Executive) and Parks Managers Simon Richards and Nick Biddle.

19. Left to right: Nigel Smith (International Society of Arboriculture United Kingdom & Ireland Chapter), Adrian Stockdale (Senior Lecturer Horticulture, Moulton College).

20. Andrew Gill and David Domoney.

21. Craig Bailey (Lecturer in Horticulture, Reaseheath College). (Photo: Craig Bailey MCIHor)



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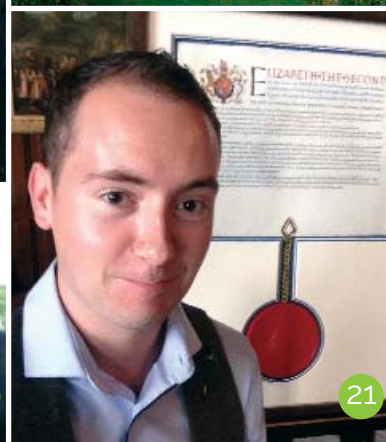
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