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Welcome to the March 2024 Bulletin

FOLAR NEWS

The **FOLAR Committee** is delighted to announce that we have talented new recruits. Four are academic staff in landscape departments at Edinburgh, Newcastle and Sheffield Universities, and one is a practitioner working for Aecom.

But please don't think you have missed your chance to join us! Get in touch if you would like to be a part of our committee. In particular, we need the next Hon Secretary, a membership officer, someone to help with website, events, etc etc Email: info@folar.uk We'd love to hear from you.

New Talk Recordings

Catch up here for FOLAR's most recent recorded talks, now available on the FOLAR website:

Celebration of Brian Clouston life and works <https://www.folar.uk/celebration-of-brian-clouston>

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Friends of the Landscape Archive at Reading

HOME ABOUT LIBRARY & ARCHIVE SUPPORT US BLOG EVENTS PAST TALKS RECORDINGS OF TALKS SEARCH

A celebration of Brian Clouston's Career in Landscape Architecture

Landscape architect Brian Clouston OBE, past president of the Landscape Institute, established a landscape practice in the 1960s that became multi-disciplinary and operated internationally. By the 1990s it was one of the leading practices in the UK and employed more people than any other in Europe. FOLAR wanted to learn more about Brian Clouston, what he did, how he attracted so many young talented staff and what type of projects they worked on. FOLAR also wanted to know what they went on to do on leaving BCP. So we invited lots of former staff to tell their stories at an event in September 2023, with Brian Clouston as the star. Brian continues to think about the role and contribution that landscape architects can make to society and to world affairs and in an interview, and he chose this opportunity to discuss his current big vision for Africa.

We recorded this event and two interviews with Brian Clouston, as a contribution to the oral history of the profession of landscape architecture.

Section One: Introduction: Early days and the formation of the practice; Reclamation; Garden Festivals; Work in the Middle East, Work in Asia and Australia; Urban renewal and Rural Infrastructure; Business Parks

Section Two: Legacy Practices and practice, discussion

Section Three: Brian Clouston's future vision

These sessions were chaired by Annie Coombs FLI who was Managing Director of BCP Asia and Tim Gale PPLI who was a Director of BCP.

A celebration of Brian Clouston's career in Landscape Architecture

1. Celebration of Brian Clouston's career in Landscape Architecture

9. A celebration of Brian Clouston's career in Landscape Architecture
9. Legacy - Practices and practice - discussion As a Californian, Michael Smiley highlighted the importance of community in landscape architecture... 26:28

7. A celebration of Brian Clouston's career in Landscape Architecture
7. Urban Renewal and Rural Infrastructure Barry Scholefield set up Brian Clouston and Partners (BCP) Glasgow office in 1972 and was soon involved L... 13:57

6. A celebration of Brian Clouston's career in Landscape Architecture
6. Work in Asia and Australia Annie Coombs reflects on working in Hong Kong as part of BCP where the office felt like a family. The Junk Bay (Tsung Kwan... 28:01

5. A Celebration of Brian Clouston's career in Landscape Architecture
5. Work in the Middle East Gordon Bell, a young landscape graduate, began working for BCP in 1972 with John Kelsey as partner in charge; colleagues in... 18:17

4. Celebration of Brian Clouston's career in Landscape Architecture
4. Garden Festivals Garden festivals build on technical skills and expertise acquired through Brian Clouston Partnership's (BCP) reclamation work. But... 11:43

3. Celebration of Brian Clouston's career in Landscape Architecture
3. Reclamation Reclaiming spoiled and contaminated land was the foundation of the early practice and Mark Loxton presents three examples from... 7:17

2. Celebration of landscape architect Brian Clouston's career in landscap... 9:47

1. Celebration of Brian Clouston's career in Landscape Architecture
1. Introduction Welcome and introduction to FOLAR by Annabel Downs, and why archives are so important especially for future generations; Brian... 19:49

Interview with Brian Clouston, and conversation with Tom Robinson about...

www.folar.uk/celebration-of-brian-clouston



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Castles in the air. <https://www.folar.uk/landscapes-of-public-housing>

Castles in the Air? Landscapes and Gardens of Public Housing

Share

Castles in the Air?

Landscapes and Gardens of Public Housing

3. The evolution of the Council Estate: ideals and realities

Speaker: **John Boughton**
Recorded: 30 May 2023

Watch on YouTube

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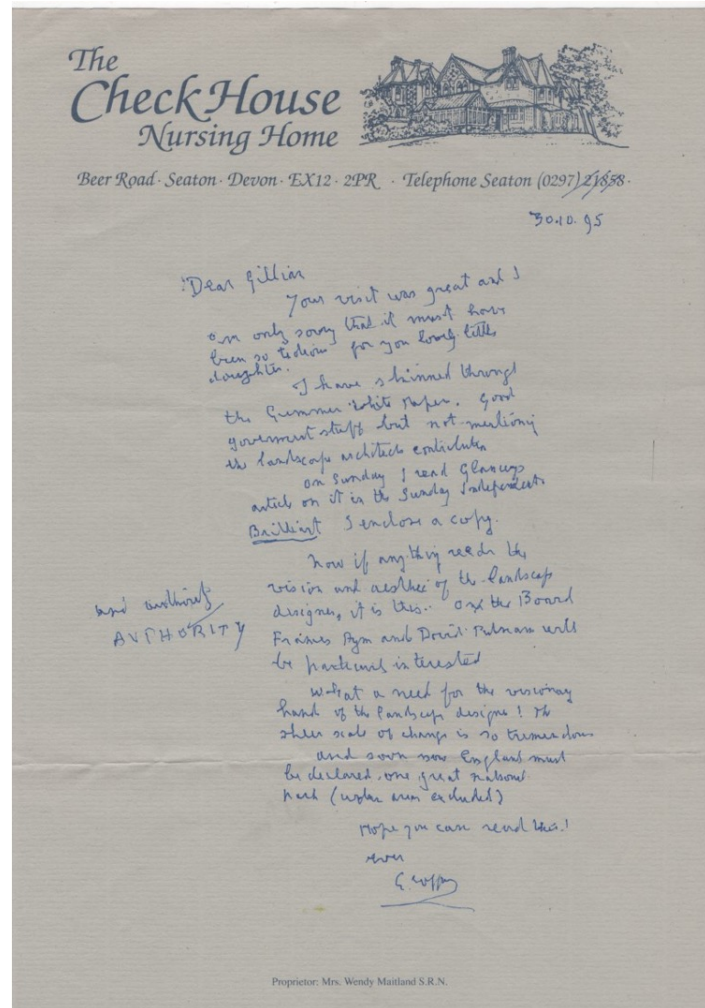
THE GARDENS TRUST

New Blog Postings

We have received papers associated with Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe's **Landscape Foundation** from **Gillian Darley**, so we invited Gillian to write a short piece about her work with the Foundation.

Read her blog here

<https://www.folar.uk/blog/the-landscape-foundation-sir-geoffrey-jellicoes-initiative-a-view-from-the-directors-chair>





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Forthcoming events

‘Water in Modern Designed Landscapes (1950-2020s)’ Saturday 9 March 2024, 10.00-16.30; Birkbeck Garden History Group study day

Speakers: Hal Moggridge; Dr Alan Powers, Dr Katie Campbell, Jason Debney, chaired by Dominic Cole

Venue: 45 White Lion Street, London N1 9PW

Tickets and more info: <https://bghgstudyday-water.eventbrite.co.uk>

NB Booking closes at 23.00 on Wednesday, 6 March 2024



The Walled Garden, Riverhill Himalayan Gardens, Kent

Photo: Barbara Deason

‘Rewilding: Pathway to Paradise or Fashionable Fad?’

Thurs 21 March, 10.30 -15.00, **Hampshire Gardens Trust** Study Day

Speakers: landscape architect **Kim Wilkie**, ecologist **Jonathan Cox**, and writer and cofounder of the Oxford Real Farming Conference, **Graham Harvey**

Venue: St Peter’s Church, Ropley, SO24 0DS





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Reading Visit – ‘MERL and Forbury Gardens’

Francesca Murray and Bettina Kirkham

Thursday 21st March 10.00-16.00 **The Gardens Trust**

Members of the Gardens Trust, Landscape Institute and FOLAR can spend a morning visiting the fascinating archives of The Museum of English Rural Life (MERL) with an afternoon tour around Forbury Gardens to view this historic public park. The MERL archives are a veritable chocolate box of delights and surprises. You will be astonished at the treasures and insights contained within this fascinating building.

Tickets and more info: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/reading-and-forbury-gardens-tickets-793295126077?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

[visit-merl-](https://www.visit-merl.org)



Community Landscapes - Top Down or Bottom Up?

Last online talk in this series. **Wed 10 April 18:00-19:30, Venue:** online

FOLAR and The Gardens Trust

Connecting people, spaces and places – a can of worms or a life-time commitment? Speaker: Ian Baggott

The talk will explore the changing role of urban green space professionals with respect to community engagement and how government policy has influenced this. Ian will explore what connection and engagement mean, what forms they might take, what levels there might be and why does it happen. Who leads, who facilitates and supports, who does and doesn't get involved. **Tickets and more info:** <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/community-landscapes-connecting-people-places-and-spaces-tickets-753369708077>



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Ian Baggott





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FOLAR's 11th AGM

Thurs 23 May 2024, 18:00-19:00 – save the date, more info to follow

New Books

Teaching Landscape History (2024) ed Jan Woudstra, David Jacques and Robert Holden, published by Routledge

This is the book of the Sheffield University conference on **Future History: Teaching History in Landscape Schools**, organised by the University of Sheffield's Dept of Landscape Architecture and FOLAR in Sept 2022.

Landscape history is changing in content and style to address modern issues, but what history should landscape architects be taught today? How can we engage students in the pioneering history of their own profession? How can researchers and designers be persuaded of the relevance of history teaching to theory and practice? Many more questions are posed and many more ideas shared in this volume on how teaching history can again resume its valuable role for garden and landscape students and others in related disciplines.

