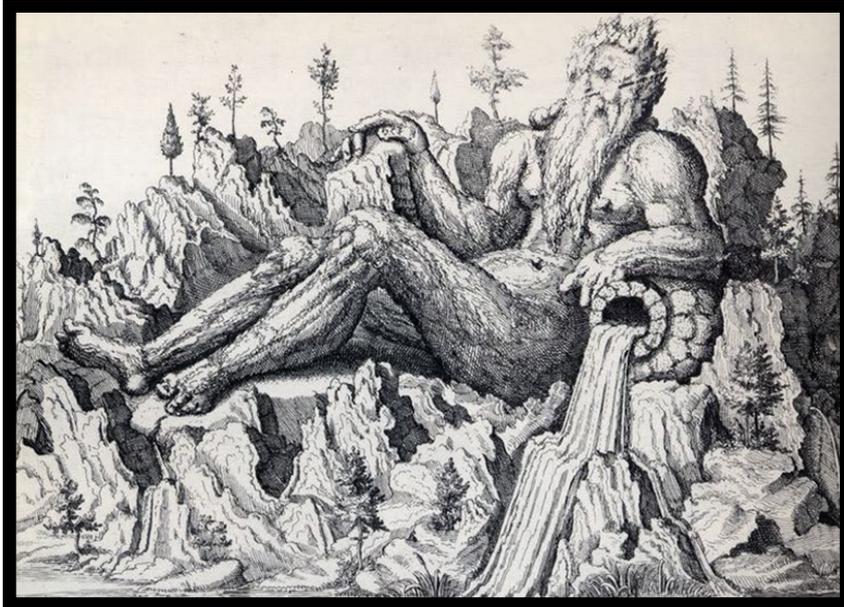


Norfolk Gardens Trust

~ **The Annual Tate Talk** ~ **Saturday 9th March 2019 at 2pm**
at **Bawdeswell Village Hall, Reepham Road, Bawdeswell, NR20 4RU**



A Window on the Past :

The Restoration of Elizabethan and Jacobean Gardens

An illustrated talk by Richard
Wheeler, National Specialist
in Garden History for The
National Trust

This image is of the giant River God designed by Salomon de Caus to stand on an artificial island in the middle of the River Thames at Richmond as an adjunct to the Royal Palace of Richmond for the new Prince of Wales, the 16 year old Henry Stuart, eldest son of King James 1st of England and 6th of Scotland. To the intense grief of both nations though, Henry died of typhoid two years later at the age of 18, and all work on the Palace ceased.

But the die was cast. The idea of the Renaissance Prince set the tone for gardening in England for the next hundred years. Salomon de Caus left England to work for Henry's sister Elizabeth in Heidelberg designing perhaps the greatest Renaissance garden in Europe, the Hortus Palatinus whilst his brother Isaac de Caus began a new garden for the Earl of Pembroke at Wilton. These gardens were seminal in their influence and their ideas were widely copied and developed throughout the country.

The lecture will follow the development of these gardens, which ranged from princely palaces like Ham House to the great ducal houses like Chatsworth, and to minor country manors like Chastleton, their destruction by the 18th century landscape gardeners, their revival by the Victorians, and their restoration in the 21st century.

Booking: £7 for NGT Members, £8 for Guests, to include refreshments. Please apply in advance with your name, email address and telephone number and a cheque payable to the NGT to:

Karen Moore, Point House, Back Street, Litcham Norfolk PE32 2PA
Tel: 01328 700313 email: moore.karen@icloud.com

Tickets will not be issued but all applications will be acknowledged by email and your name checked against our list on arrival. If you are not on email and would like an acknowledgement please include a sae with your application.

TO BE SURE OF A PLACE PLEASE APPLY BEFORE THE END OF FEBRUARY 2019

Biography

Richard Wheeler has worked for the National Trust for the last 41 years and is now the Trust's National Specialist in Garden History.

He began with the Trust in 1977 as a Chartered Surveyor in North Wales, working for Ian Kennaway on the huge mountain estates across Snowdonia, the softer lowland farms in Denbighshire, and the exquisite coastline of the Llyn Peninsula. During this time he was working on the restoration of the late 17th century house and garden at Erddig, then the castle and garden at Chirk, with its park by William Emes and garden rescued after the war by Colonel Ririd and Lady Margaret Middleton, and Plas yn Rhiw, the Keating sisters' delightful Welsh manor house and garden in the woods on the end of the Llyn, restored by them and Clough Williams-Ellis in the 1930s and 40s.

He moved to Buckinghamshire in 1982, where surveying took second place to working with the irrepressible Sir Francis Dashwood at West Wycombe, Lady Iliffe at Basildon and Lady Brunner at Greys Court. Then in 1989 he was working on the negotiations with Stowe School over the transfer of the gardens to the Trust, and then their subsequent restoration. This project is still continuing 28 years later, currently involving the return (in replica) of 22 of Stowe's statues sold in 1921 and 1922. In this he has been working closely with the inspirational team at Stowe, and with Stowe's Anonymous Benefactor, who made the whole thing possible.

In 2001 he became Gardens Curator for the South and East of England, and in 2009 for gardens in the West also. In 2010 he became Garden Historian for the whole Trust.

He lectures and writes regularly, on all aspects of garden history.

He remarried in 2010 and lives with his wife Rachel, between the Thames and the Cotswolds, at Alvescot in West Oxfordshire.