

Historic Fruit and Kitchen Gardens

Newsletter number 3, May 2023



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Next online conference June 8, 2023

Our next online conference will be June 8, 2023, 10.00 – 12.00 a.m. (9.00-11.00 GMT). The topic is the history and conservation of some exceptional historical fruit trees.

Hilary Theaker (Hampton Court) will present the Hampton Court Kitchen Garden (UK) and the history of its 200-year old vine and how they take care of this vine to conserve it.



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Sébastien Conil and Stefan Vidts (Freÿr) will present the Freÿr garden (Belgium) and how they have been able to conserve and continue to conserve 300-year old orange trees. These are probably some of the oldest orange trees kept in cases in the world.

Please join in! In order to register for the conference, please send an email to contact@potagershistoriqueshistorickitchengardens.eu or amisdupotagerduroi@yahoo.fr



©Chateau Freÿr

After Chambord, we will meet in the Netherlands in 2024!

After Chambord, the **second European Symposium on the conservation of historic fruit and kitchen gardens** will take place in The Netherlands on Thursday 5th and Friday 6th September 2024. During the online conference on June 8 we will tell you more about this new event!



The kitchen garden at Zuylestein estate, Leersum ©Zuylestein

Warm congratulations to Alix de Saint Venant!

The garden of the Château de Valmer has just been awarded the Prix de l'art des Jardins 2023 of the Signature Foundation-Institut de France in partnership with the Ministry of Culture.

<https://www.fondation-signature.org/prix-art-du-jardin-2023>



Château de Valmer

Save the date – Edible fruit landscapes in the city

On September 7 and 8, 2023, in the city of Nantes, Amis du Potager du Roi co-organize, together with the city of Nantes and Plante & Cité, the first international symposium on Edible fruit landscapes in the city. For more information and registration, please follow this link: <https://artdespalier.org/>



Save the date – WKGN Forum 2023

Friday 6th and Saturday 7th October 2023 the Walled Kitchen Garden Network will host its annual forum at Harewood House, Yorkshire. The theme will look at the historic relationship between the Kitchen Garden and the Kitchen – a vitally important collaboration for the management of Estates and their households historically, and how some are recognising and working together again today.

One of the most important historic houses in England, Harewood has an extraordinary history, extending of course to the Kitchen Garden itself. Trevor Nicholson, Head of Gardens & Grounds, and his team are working on the restoration of the walled kitchen gardens and we will learn more about this work and the future it will lead on to. Booking will be open at the end of May. If you are interested in attending, please leave a reply on the WKGN-website: <https://www.walledgardens.net/the-grapevine/news-from-the-walled-kitchen-gardens-network-april-2023/>



Kitchen garden at Harewood House ©Harewood House

Green Blue Monitor

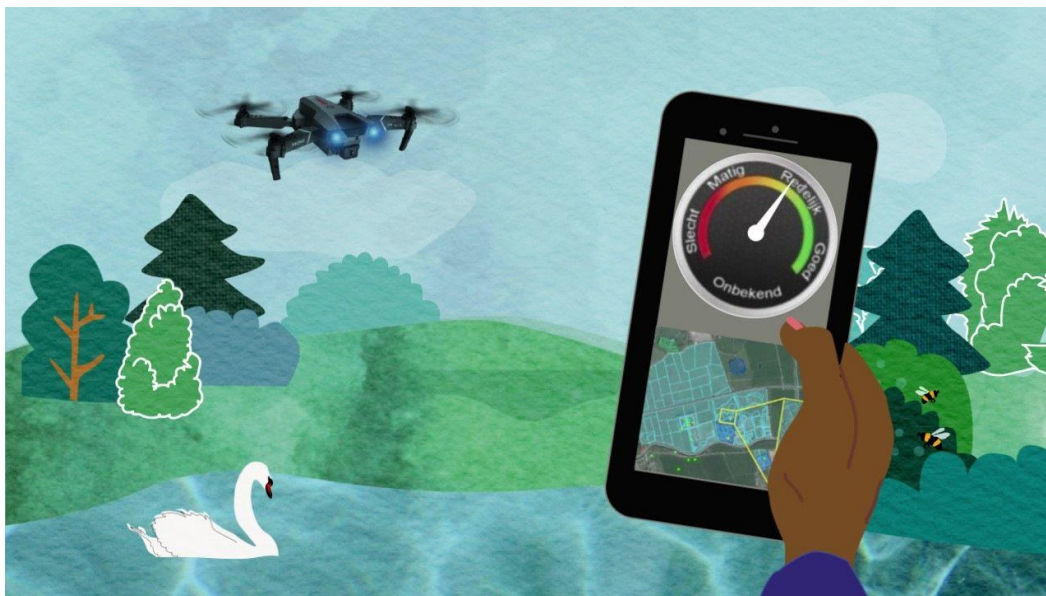
Extreme weather conditions are becoming more common in Europe. Spring and summer are getting hotter and drier, winters milder and wetter. This poses a major challenge to maintaining historic kitchen gardens and the estates they are part of. A proactive approach is needed to make them climate-proof. In Holland sKBL, Foundation for Castles, Historic Country Houses and Estates, set up a two year programme with representatives from local and provincial governments, Utrechts Landschap, a nonprofit organization dedicated to nature conservation and landscape protection, and the Utrecht Association of Private Land-owners. This programme aimed to build up knowledge on climate adaption in historic estates and help secure the future of green and blue heritage.

<https://youtu.be/ujfwVF14TPc>

As part of this programme several tools were developed. One of these tools is the so-called Green Blue Monitor. This monitor provides insight into the state of conservation and the resilience of green-blue heritage through a data-dashboard of various parameters measured on an estate. The monitor is made up of four key indicators:

- the state of maintenance of the green elements
- the state of maintenance of the water elements
- groundwater level and soil content
- the vitality of trees.

The Green Blue Monitor is a useful and affordable prototype, but it needs further development. It would be interesting to link information on flora and fauna e.g. to better understand the current and future vulnerability of green heritage. Or soil parameters that indicate changes in nitrogen or acidity. Finding the right balance between the effort required to measure and analyze and the outcome and impact of that measurement is a major challenge.



Please let us know your feedback and ideas!

We value your suggestions and feedback on the presentations. Please let us know by sending us an email at contact@potagershistoriqueshistorickitchengardens.eu. We also welcome your contributions to this newsletter and any suggestions you may have.

You receive this email because you participated in one of our online conferences or attended the symposium at Chambord Castle.

Our mailing address is: contact@potagershistoriqueshistorickitchengardens.eu

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