

**GAIL BROMLEY**

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS KEW, RICHMOND, UK

Gail has been at Kew for 38 years, working for the first 12 years as a plant taxonomist, specialising in Brazilian Plants, in particular Verbenaceae and the Asteraceae. She was additionally editor of the Kew Record of Taxonomic Literature for the first 3 years. Gail developed an appetite for education, leading on the tuition of systematic for Kew's student cohort for several years before joining the education section in 1987 to promote science education to Kew's many audiences. She became Head of Department in 1994. She developed and managed the education provision at Kew, including higher education and professional training, adult education, interpretation /informal education provision, schools programmes and Kew's first volunteer programme. She significantly built the learning team at Kew and introduced a volunteer guide force of over 50 to Kew. Over this period, Gail was able to gain a broad knowledge and understanding relating to audience engagement and how to integrate the themes of science and conservation into formal and informal educational delivery.

Gail moved on from Kew's structured education provision to develop her role as national and international advisor for Kew on botanic garden and biodiversity education and to explore programmes that support sustainable community outreach. She is responsible for the management of new community education projects and initiatives and for capacity building programmes at home and abroad on education for biodiversity and sustainability. She also has overall responsibility for the management, deployment and programmes for Kew's 600+ volunteers and Kew's internal engagement team. Recent successes include the development of teaching materials for Kew's 'The Great Plant Hunt', developing and implementing the interpretation and outreach programme for the newly restored Marianne North Gallery at Kew, and co-authoring the learning /outreach elements of a successful bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund bid for £17 million to restore the Temperate House (Grant awarded in March 2013).

Current work includes leading on science education programme to enhance science education techniques with teachers and botanic garden education staff in 15 EU countries as well as co-managing Kew's International Diploma for Botanic Garden Education with BGCI. She also collaborates with BGCI to jointly support input into Target 14 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation.

She is a director of the UK-wide Botanic Garden Education Network and represents Kew on several key national heritage and education committees as well as the UK government's Public Engagement Group for Biodiversity.