

NEWS RELEASE

(Issued 21 August '06)

Solicitors sponsor visits to historic gardens

Swayne Johnson, Solicitors, who have offices in Denbigh and St Asaph, have entered into a sponsorship agreement with Pwllheli-based charity, The Gateway Gardens Trust, worth £1,000. The company's sponsorship will enable patients from St Kentigern Hospice, St Asaph and Ty Gobaith Children's Hospice at Ty'n y Groes near Conwy, to visit two historic gardens in the area.

The first visit takes place this Wednesday (**23rd August '06**) when a party of around 20 people made up of four children from Ty Gobaith Children's Hospice, their parents, brothers and sisters and members of staff, visit Penrhyn Castle for a guided tour of the gardens followed by lunch at the castle café.

The second visit sponsored by Swayne Johnson will take place in September (**Wednesday 20th**) when fifteen day care patients and ten staff from St Kentigern Hospice will visit Bodysgallen Hall near Llandudno where they will be treated to a tea on the terrace overlooking the garden, a tour of the garden and have the chance to speak with Bodysgallen's gardener.

The head office of the Gateway Gardens Trust is at Nanhoron near Pwllheli and its aim is to provide a wide range of community groups, schoolchildren and lifelong learners with the opportunity to appreciate the parks and gardens heritage of Wales for education, respite and fun.

Since it was established in 2000, the Trust has introduced more than 15,000 people of all ages to the fascinating social and environmental heritage of parks and gardens throughout Wales.

Commenting about their decision to sponsor the two visits, Swayne Johnson director, Michael Tree, said: "As a business, our policy is to put something back into the community we serve and we were more than pleased to offer our support for an initiative that enables more people to appreciate the wealth of historic parks and gardens we have in Wales."

Thanking Swayne Johnson for their support, Mrs Bettina Harden, MBE, Chairman of the Gateway Gardens Trust said: "We are extremely grateful to Swayne Johnson for their support which is enabling us to develop our pioneering work with hospices. Because each Gateway visit is tailor-made for every group we work with, we know we can offer a very special, gentle day out in lovely surroundings, which gives the opportunity for patients, families, carers and staff to enjoy their local heritage, connect with nature and just relax. Our feedback tells us that accessing the heritage this way gives people, from the very young to the very old, shared positive experiences, helps improve self-esteem and gives them renewed confidence, helping to combat isolation and loneliness."

Swayne Johnson is one of North Wales' leading firms of solicitors and employs nearly 50 staff at its two offices.

PLEASE NOTE

Photographs of this week's visit will be available on Thursday 3rd August '06 and will be sent to your newspaper upon request to Medwyn Roberts. Tel: 01745-710333 e-mail: med@impactcom.biz

Further details can be obtained by contacting the following:

- Mari Gibson at Swayne Johnson Solicitors. Tel: 01745-818271
- Sharron Kerr, Development Director, The Gateway Gardens Trust. Tel: 01792 390261 or visit www.gatewaygardenstrust.org