

Sarah Noton, Solicitor and Director of Swayne Johnson Solicitors, reports on her Company's sponsorship of the Gateway Gardens Trust (Registered Charity No. 1100892) and the visits they have organised for two local hospices.

"The Company was approached to sponsor visits organised and run by the Gateway Gardens Trust, to provide patients, staff, carers and volunteers of both of the hospices with an interesting and fun day out. The visits took place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2006, and the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2006, to Penrhyn Castle and Bodysgallen Hall, respectively. Both properties are in North Wales, and are superb locations for a day out. Amongst other sponsorships we deal with, the Gateway Gardens Project appealed to us because the Trust provides something different.

Two local hospices, Ty Gobaith in Conwy and St Kentigerns in St Asaph, took part in the visits and feedback we received from patients and visitors alike was that they were thoroughly enjoyed all around. Indeed, staff members from Swayne Johnson also attended the visits – I attended the Bodysgallen Hall visit which was a fascinating insight into the 17<sup>th</sup> Century gardens there and the renovation work which has been undertaken to recreate the gardens. My colleagues, Mari Gibson and Rachel Parry, went to the Penrhyn Castle visit (see Mari's report in our News section). At Bodysgallen Hall we were treated to a talk by Heritage Officer, Sarah Hutchinson, on "Food for Life", where she highlighted what types of food were eaten and the way of life in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century, for us.



We then had an entertaining guided tour around the gardens by Head Gardener, Robert Owen, who has been at the Hall for over 25 years and also has had a major role in the renovation. It was all absolutely fascinating and I look forward to going back sometime.

We were pleased to be asked to take part in the sponsorship deal and we are sure that they will continue to be a success for both sponsors and the Trust. We wish the Trust every success for the future.

Sarah Noton  
Solicitor and Director  
20<sup>th</sup> September 2006