**DR. KIRK**: Yes—"all my own work"—so any blemishes are entirely down to me.

**KATHY**: Do you have favorite topics/problems to explore?

**DR. KIRK**: I wouldn't call them "favorite". Years ago I was foolish enough to believe that I knew enough to write a textbook on "The Science of Shot Peening." After a few months I realized that there was a very great deal that I did not understand. Subsequent articles are the fruit of my attempts to rectify that situation.

**KATHY**: You've shared pictures with me of your beautiful garden. Is gardening your hobby?

**DR. KIRK**: No, not really. I epitomize the lazy gardener approach. Seeds from neighbors' gardens and passing birds maintain the cottage garden effect. My favorite hobby was always ballroom dancing.

**KATHY**: I didn't know that! Tell me more.

**DR. KIRK**: As a teenager I was smart enough to realize that girls preferred boys who didn't tread on their feet when dancing. Taking lessons at a local dancing school led to unimaginable benefits. Whilst doing research for my PhD, I went to Birmingham's biggest dancing school where I met my future wife. We are still happily married after more than sixty years.

**KATHY**: Did you have other interests in addition to studying and dancing with pretty girls?

**DR. KIRK**: I represented my school at rugby football, athletics, swimming and chess, Birmingham University at boxing, and Coventry University at contract bridge. Quite a mixed bag!

**KATHY**: Thank you, Dr. Kirk, for making this article possible.



Dr. Kirk's cottage garden.

## Surface Engineering and Advanced Materials Processing Conference

**COULD YOUR COMPANY** benefit from accessing Purdue Engineering's advanced capabilities and world-class talent in the fields of surface engineering and materials processing? To find out, we invite you to join us for the Inaugural Surface Engineering & Advanced Materials Processing Conference on May 29 and 30 in West Lafayette, Indiana.

At this event, you will have the opportunity to network with Purdue faculty and graduate students, as well as your industrial peers, in a collaborative environment. We will focus on the challenges and applied research opportunities in these two fields of Materials Science.

While you are in town, you will have the opportunity to participate in the Center for Surface Engineering and Enhancement (CSEE) Workshop and attend the grand opening ceremony and tour our new Laboratory for Advanced Materials Processing (LAMP), an innovation center for applied research in advanced materials processing. Current technologies include, but will not be limited to, high temperature materials processing, ceramics and super-alloys as well as coatings and castings.

During registration, you will have the opportunity to list areas of interest to your company. These comments will help us mold and define the conference agenda.

## Tentative Schedule

*May 29* 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. CSEE Workshop

4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. Open Discussion for interested potential Center members

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Networking with Purdue Engineering Faculty and conference attendees

*May 30* 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. LAMP Grand Opening, Tour and Presentations

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Open Discussion for interested potential Center members

Registration fee for a single day (May 29th or May 30th) is \$75. Registration for both days is \$100. Fees will be used to cover the cost of meals and facility rental. Visit www.giving. purdue.edu/PurdueMSEConference for updates and to register.