



UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

GARDEN/VISITS Group – Meeting held on 12th September 2012

Sandra welcomed everyone including one new member.

24 people attended the meeting.

One or two people managed to visit the Fuschia show at Attenborough and enjoyed seeing all the delightful plants.

A couple of people attended the open gardens at the university. Guided tours and mini bus access were available or you could just wander by yourself.

Two people had planned to visit the Derby Arboretum Tour but hadn't managed it in the end.

Nobody attended the Sutton Bonington Open Gardens.

Sandra went to Sawley Flower Festival and was delighted with the displays. The one at the font, like a waterfall, was stunning.

Liz and Paula visited the Lincoln Flower Festival in the cathedral. Paula said how inspiring it had been. The theme was the Olympics. Down the centre was a life size paper sculpture of a chariot and horses. There were city displays where the Olympics had been held, sports e.g. cycle wheels and helmets in different coloured flowers, and an 8 foot high flame display.

Barbara reported that no interest had been shown for Bardills next meal and talk by Stuart Dixon in September. (Same date as lunch group)

As part of the Heritage Open Days, the Tower at Bramcote was well attended.

Barbara paid a visit to the open day at the Inham Nook Allotments. There was a variety of activities including flower arranging, food displays and a very good shop which is open every Saturday morning.

The trip to Coton Manor proved to be a resounding success and enjoyed by all who went. It was a varied and a very special place, complemented by lovely weather. Food and plant sales were at reasonable prices. The size of the coach



was perfect and a good price – Sandra felt it was fine for a short journey and others agreed. They also enjoyed the visit to the garden centre. Several people

have returned or are returning for another visit to Coton manor.

Lucy is arranging an overnight visit to Chelsea next year for U3A members.

Ann Verity might be able to open her garden in Risley next year for a private visit but is not taking part in the NGS.

Sandra has met up with the Garden Visits person from the West Bridgford group who meet fortnightly. She is hoping we can develop links in the future.

Wrest Park, Berkshire was mentioned. Paula had been ages ago and it is in the process of restoration. Jan's sister went with the History Group. Sandra is going to mention it to Wollaton travel and is a place to bear in mind in the future.

Pam went on a trip to Belgium with Sharps of Nottingham. Every 2 years in Brussels there is a carpet of flowers made up of begonias. They are rolled up and a ceremony is held to open out the flowers. The theme was Africa. The town Hall was open at night with displays of anthuriums in all different colours and you could look down on the carpet. She also went to Floriade which was in the style of Hampton Court type gardens. The gardens of different countries were disappointing but the floral glass house displays were huge and splendid.

Suggestions to increase number – A table at the main U3A meeting

- Announcement at main meeting*
- Sign for notice board*
- Piece for next news letter and photos*

Sandra had asked for the 'full' notice to be removed on the website which Steve said he had done.





Discussed move to larger room, pros and cons. Larger room available from November if required.

Speakers for meeting:

Mona was to make enquiries about Howard Drury

Sandra to follow up on the 'Bee Lady' as a possibility for a talk. She is booked to speak at a main U3A meeting but has 4 different talks.

Other suggestions for meetings:

Photo session – possibly using the computer.

Quiz

Garden Dilemmas

Members recommendations of good visits

Christmas visit to a garden centre

Snowdrops visit? - Hopton, Hodsock, Felley Priory, Coton Manor, Easton Walled Gardens could be possibilities. Other local places? E.g. Lincoln, Clumber.



SEPTEMBER

Sat/Sun Sept 29th/30th MALVERN AUTUMN SHOW – at the Three Counties Showground Malvern

Sat Sept 29th Bardills – 7:30am - 1 bus filled 40 more people needed for another one. £32 including entrance. Phone Bardill's for a place if interested.





OCTOBER

Sun 7th Oct

FELLEY PRIORY GARDENS PLANT FAIR

All day £4 Variety of Stands

More info at www.felleypriory.co.uk/event/nccpg-new-plant-fair

Wed Oct 10th

GARDEN VISITS GROUP MEETING 10am Wesley Room

Recommendations for places to visit.

Wed Oct 10th

DOBBIES WORLD – with Felix coaches

Fri Oct 12th

NOTTINGHAM HARDY PLANT SOCIETY –

Talk ‘Late Again...Reliable Late Bloomers’ – Martin & Janet Blow

West Bridgford Community Hall

Thurs Oct 25th

BATSFORD ARBORETUM – Moreton in the Marsh. Wollaton Travel £24.95

Departs 9am Contact Sandra

Expanded gardens, Autumn Colours, Tree and shrub sales, Terrace Café

Wed Oct 24th

BENINGBOROUGH HALL & GARDENS – Georgian mansion near York (NT)

Felix coaches £17.30 + £7.70 admission



NOVEMBER

Fri Nov 9th

BUNNY GUINNESS TALK ‘Transforming Your Garden’

Nottingham Hardy Plants Society

West Bridgford Community Hall, Church Drive. 7:30pm Tickets £5

Tickets available from Carol Jones - 30 North Road West Bridgford NG2 7NH

Phone 9142474 Cheque and stamped address envelope