



UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

GARDEN/VISITS Group – Meeting held on 9 September 2015

WELCOME: Sandra welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded them that the minutes and the monthly table of events could be found on the garden visits website. 32 members attended including four new members, Patricia, Andrea, Joan & Elizabeth.

PRIVATE GARDEN VISITS: Thanks were extended, in her absence, to Sheila Chambers for opening her garden to members on 19th August. Approximately 25 members attended on a gloriously sunny afternoon where they not only roamed the garden but were then provided with tea and cakes.

NGS SUMMER SPECTACULAR: Pam said there was a good turnout for the Summer Spectacular at the Millennium Gardens on 16th August.

COTON MANOR: On 26th August approximately a dozen members enjoyed a visit to Coton Manor, Northamptonshire with the Hemlock Garden Club. Sandra reminded members that monthly meetings of the Hemlock Garden Club resume on Thursday, 17th September at 7.30pm, when Don Witton will give a talk on People, Plants, Pleasures and Passions. Further details about membership can be obtained from Jane Smith (0115 9174207).

WINTERBOURNE HOUSE & GARDENS & BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS: Sandra said there were a couple of seats left on the coach for Birmingham on 10th September and asked for the balance of the cost to be paid to her at the end of the meeting. She reminded people that the coach would leave the Ilkeston Road Recreation Ground car park at 09.15. Although there are restaurants at both venues a packed lunch was recommended to avoid delays. It was hoped we would leave Birmingham at approximately 5 o'clock.

LONG EATON HORTICULTURAL SHOW: A free event to be held on 12th/13th September at the Coronation Hall, Toton. Dana recommended going on Sunday at 3.45pm when the produce is auctioned.

HERITAGE WEEKEND 12th/13th SEPTEMBER: Barbara recommended visiting the Wollaton Road allotments and/or the Inham Nook allotments at Chilwell between 9.00am and 4.00pm on Saturday, 12th. Tours of Strelley Hall also take place over the weekend as part of the Heritage Open Days. Joy said a Victorian weekend is also taking place at the St Anne's allotments at the same time.

POWIS CASTLE: 23rd SEPTEMBER: This is Hemlock Garden Club's final outing for 2015 and currently has a waiting list. Sandra confirmed pick-up points with members.

KNITTED GARDEN – RUDDINGTON MUSEUM: Sandra said she had recently heard about the knitted garden at Ruddington. However, the last date for visiting this year is 27th September. Another local venue that had received good press coverage recently was **DERBY ARBORETUM** which was created some 175 years ago.

PLANT FAIR, FELLEYS PRIORY – SUNDAY, 4TH OCTOBER 11.00am – 4.00pm £4.50.

FUNGUS FORAY – UNIVERSITY PARK: This will take place on 17th October and is a guided tour by Lee Scudder. Booking is essential on 07825753993.

SOUTHWELL APPLE DAY: This annual event takes place on Saturday, 24th October. Sandra will raise it again at the next meeting in case members wish to meet up or travel together.

GARDENS OF WALES 2016: Sandra said she had been investigating the possibility of using Swansea as a base for the proposed trip to Wales next summer as it is situated closer to the gardens on the itinerary. However, members said they would prefer to stay in Cardiff as it was a much nicer city. This will be discussed more fully at the next meeting together with ideas for two day trips for next year's programme. We then had a slide show of some of the gardens of Wales visited on a Skills tour in 2014 by Pat Barton.

U3A TRIPS FOR 2016: Two trips which may be of interest to members are:
SPETCHLEY PARK & ELGAR'S BIRTHPLACE - 14TH APRIL (£45.00 inc lunch)
MALVERN AUTUMN FLOWER SHOW - SEPTEMBER (£39.00 inc entrance fee)
Both trips are being organised by Lucy Beardsley (0115 9397230)

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, 14TH OCTOBER.

SEPTEMBER



Sat/Sun Sept 12th/13th LONG EATON & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SHOW -
Coronation Hall, Portland Road, Toton Good Raffle
Sat - 2pm-4:30pm Sun - 10am-4:30pm Auction of produce on Sun.

Thurs-Sun Sept 10th-13th HERITAGE WEEKEND- South Broxtowe, Wollaton, Strelley,
Bilborough, University. Brochures - Barbara Selwood
Sat 9am-4pm - Wollaton Road allotments are open. Stalls, demos, tours
Sat 9:30-4pm Inham Nook Allotments, Slade Road are open.

Wed Sept 23rd HEMLOCK GARDEN CLUB - visit to Powis Castle, Welshpool
Coach £16.50; Admission £7.50 Waiting List

OCTOBER



Sun Oct 4th PLANT FAIR FELLEY PRIORY - 11am-4pm £4.50

Wed Oct 14th GARDEN VISITS MEETING - 10am

Thurs Oct 15th SHARP'S TRAVEL - 'Autumn Gardens of Cornwall'
- Mon 19th 5 day tour staying at Falmouth.

Sat Oct 17th FRIENDS OF UNIVERSITY PARK - 'Fungus Foray' 10am-12noon
A guided walk by fungus expert Lee Scudder. Meet at Main Visitors'
Carpark, Cut Through Lane. To book call 07825 753993

Sat Oct 24th

SOUTHWELL APPLE DAY – lots of activities, shops are all decorated with apples and The Minster has a display and apple identification. Bus to Southwell from Queens Street. Well worth a visit.



NOVEMBER

Wed Nov 11th

GARDEN VISITS MEETING – 10am – Visiting Speaker from Woodthorpe Park.



DECEMBER

Wed Dec 9th

GARDEN VISITS MEETING – 10am - To be decided

Future Plans:

- February Garden Visits Meeting – Speaker from Clumber Park Walled Kitchen Gardens
- Westonbirt Arboretum
- Dorothy Lovell Quinta Arboretum at Swettenham Cheshire
- Next spring 2 U3A members have offered to open their gardens for the group
- A possible Skills visit to Wales staying in Cardiff