

## WB Gardeners Newsletter – July 2023

Hi everyone

It's Wimbledon.....and it's raining.....fancy that?!!! Mustn't complain though because any little drop is greatly appreciated, not just by the plants but me also .....to refill our waterbutts!

We have now concluded our 2023 garden visits, the last of which was on Friday to Blunts Hall in Witham. I think we were very lucky not to have any rain and it wasn't that warm but this didn't detract from the really interesting garden and superb hospitality shown to us by our Hosts. We were split into 2 groups and guided round by Alan and Lesley Gamblin who told us not only about the hard work involved in bringing the gardens up to their present layout but also about its history. The garden has a Grade 1 listed Mound in it and a part of the house dates back to the 1100s. Having been greeted with a tea or coffee when we arrived, after our wander around the garden we were treated to an Afternoon Tea which was little sandwiches, a cream tea AND cake! It was delicious, totally unexpected and I'm sorry to say that those of you who could not make it, definitely missed out!!



Blunts Hall Garden

As you know this garden visit was an NGS organised one and all our £10s went towards their charities. They raised over £3 million last year which is invaluable to those charities and I would strongly recommend you to try and visit at least one this summer to enjoy someone else's garden, whether big or small. Just look at their website for some ideas.

In less than a year we will be running Open Gardens on Sunday 9th June and I would appreciate you putting this date in your diaries because we will be asking for your help in any way that you can - by opening your garden, baking some cakes, helping in the Orpen Hall, etc. etc.

I would also like you to know that I now hold the cards giving a 50% reduction for 2 of you to visit any RHS garden. Please contact me on 240588 to book a date. It is actually valid until 31st January 2024 although does not cover Flower Shows or the GLOW illuminations so you have 7 months to make use of it!

I will be contacting you again via email before the meeting on 18th September with the paperwork for the AGM but I would just like to remind you all now that we will be

saying goodbye to Terry Claydon, our invaluable long-standing Member and Treasurer, that we will be welcoming our new Treasurer by voting him on to the Committee and also that anyone who would like to join the Committee would be most welcome.

As usual, I'm finishing with a few pictures and this time its Blunts Hall gardens.

Happy summertime everyone! K-e-e-p relaxing!!

Shirley

On behalf of your WBGA Committee