

Gardening Group Report for August 2022 by Pauline

Our August visit was to two very different National Garden Scheme (NGS) gardens.

Firstly, we went to the garden at **Coldcotes Moor Farm** which is 15 acres of landscaped grounds and woods. The house was built in 2000 on the footprint of former farm buildings, incorporating some of the old bricks along with a new section linking the wings. The present owners came to the farm in 2010.

The garden design featured a series of garden rooms which were linked with strategically placed vistas taking you from one garden room to another with views outwards to the lake and fields. The whole garden was wonderful with many benches and pergolas inviting you to sit and take in the views plus many ornaments and features tastefully arranged around the garden. I should not forget the lovely tea, coffee, and cakes we were offered.

We then moved on to Dobbies Garden centre where members enjoyed lunch and some shopping and then on to the Beacon.

The Beacon is a cottage garden on a steep slope and a real contrast to Coldcotes not least because Patricia Hodgson the owner greeted us wearing a pair of 'Dumbo' type ears and a saw across the top of her head saying in a strong Glaswegian accent that 'she had a bit of a headache but was all ears.' What else can I say - we had lots of laughs even though we had to shelter in the summer house and gazebo from a very heavy rain shower. It was amazing what Patricia and husband Derek had done with the garden which not much more than a field covered with brambles when they moved in 25 years ago.

2nd September.

Breezy Knees Garden, described by Monty Don as "a modern garden created on the grandest scales an extraordinary achievement and beautiful, with café.

This coach is fully booked but as we know sometimes members must drop out at short notice. Contact Pauline if you are still interested.

Indoor Meetings in Stainton Village Hall

7th October. Jill Cunningham will talk about Bugs and Beasties.

4th November. Dianne Huntley to give her talk herbal teas and edible flowers, which will include samples, no tea and biscuit that day.

2nd December. TBC

Good news 2 or 3 members have offered to take over the running of the group – more information to follow.