

Gardening Group Report for September 2022 by Sue

We were blessed with a warm dry sunny day for our penultimate visit for 2022 (yes, we have another one planned). Breezy Knees, described by Monty Don as “a beautiful modern garden created on the grandest scale” and I have to say I agree with Monty.

Many people asked where the name came from, and as explained, a very exposed site with few trees, no effective hedges, standing there in the middle of January, no need to ask the question.

The 20acre site began in 1999, planting a framework of trees and shrubs and as these became established work started on the extensive borders giving a succession of flowers through the summer. Further seasonal highlights have been created, - May, June and September gardens, an annual meadow, a rose garden, a cottage garden, the list goes on. There is a fountain, a lake and arboretum, a pond and shade garden, even a Stonehenge – clipped box to resemble Stonehenge. To say it is a riot of colour is not doing justice to the gardens, every turn in the path brought a new vista. I am sure that everyone found one area that was especially pleasing and took something from it to try in their own plot.

Adjoining the garden is their own nursey selling perennial plants which can be seen growing in the garden, and as they say the plants have been tested by whatever the Yorkshire weather throws at them - have they been to Teesdale? Unfortunately as it is almost the end of their season the nursey was a little depleted, even more so after our visit, as many plants made their way back to Barnard Castle.

Several people commented that would be nice to return at a different time of year, perhaps our new convenors would consider this another time?

Indoor Meetings at Stainton Village Hall, 1.45 pm

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| 7th October | - Jill Cunningham, Bugs and Beasties |
| 4th November | - Dianne Nichol-Brown, Edible flowers and teas, samples will be available. |
| 2nd December | - A visit to Nunnington Hall, ‘Christmas Through the Ages – step back in time to see Nunnington dressed as Christmas from the past’. |
- Times and prices to follow.