

U3A Gardening group June report for Forum

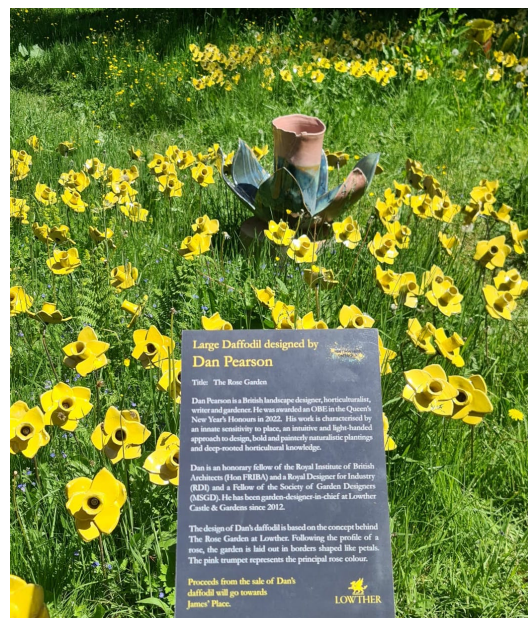
In early June the gardening group visited Lowther Castle Gardens in Cumbria. It was a glorious day with the sun shining and just the right temperature.

Lowther Castle is a ruin but has some restored areas with a history of the site dating back to the Vikings.



The Lowther crest is a dragon which has been picked up in the willow sculpture in the entrance courtyard by the pleached trees,

The garden has been redesigned by Dan Pearson. We were able to view the Parterre, Garden in the Ruins and the Rose Garden, although we were a little too early for the roses. There are plans in progress to redevelop the Sweet Scented Garden, Japanese Garden and the Rock Garden and we look forward to a return visit some time in the future to see how these areas look when complete. The view from the Western Terrace over the River Lowther and beyond was stunning.



At the time of our visit there were 10,000 ceramic yellow daffodils in situ as part of a charity project. There were also larger ceramic daffodils which had been individually painted by people with a connection to the garden.

The site has a pleasant café area serving snacks and delicious lunches.

In July we will visit Alnwick Gardens in Northumberland.

In August we will visit Levens Hall near Cumbria.

Our September visit has changed to Harewood House.

Julie Archer and Kate Keen