

MID SUMMER OUTING

Wednesday 15th June 2022

The Haslemere Gardening Society visited

Haslemere
Gardening
Society

Bledlow Manor Garden, Bledlow, Buckinghamshire

Bledlow Manor House Garden is set in the Chiltern Hills and is the private garden of Conservative politician and former cabinet minister Lord Carrington. The house was designed by Robert Adam. It is a dramatic example of an Arts and Crafts compartment garden, making more use of topiary than of herbaceous plants. We will have a private viewing of the walled kitchen garden, water garden, parterres and sculptures.



At 1.30pm we were off again and this time to a very different garden, that of Lord Carrington. It was a delightful experience in every way. We were treated to tea and very tasty cakes on arrival at Bledlow Manor and then Lord Carrington told us about the garden's history and design and took us on a tour himself. It was obviously a much loved and personal place for him and a joy to be allowed to admire it. The garden is divided into different 'rooms' each brimming with flowers. There was an alpine garden where we were warned to watch where we put our feet as in between the paving stones were lovely little treasures. Roses were a strong feature in most of the gardens and seemed to be having a good year. There is a sculpture garden which is very interesting and formal ponds with vegetable dye in them to make them look deeper. The afternoon ended with a walk around the Lyde Gardens, which is open to the public and goes down into a valley with narrow walkways and paths and interesting trees and shrubs with a stream running through it. We were all very grateful to Lord Carrington for allowing us to see his beautiful garden and for sparing the time to share it with us.

The journey home was smooth and uneventful and once again we all