

# MID SUMMER OUTING

Wednesday 15th June 2022

The Haslemere Gardening Society Visited

Haslemere  
Gardening  
Society

## Cliveden Gardens (NT), Maidenhead, Buckinghamshire



**Cliveden** stands on a high wooded plateau overlooking the River Thames. The present house and garden were designed by Sir Charles Barry in 1849, converting the estate to the Landscape Style. The garden is in the Italian mode of the nineteenth century Mixed Style. A balustrade was brought from the garden of the Villa Borghese, in Rome, in 1896. Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe designed a Rose Garden for Lord Astor in 1959.

On Wednesday 15th June 2022 we were off on the second coach outing of the year to Cliveden Gardens and Bledlow Manor Gardens. This outing was originally planned for 2020 and had been postponed twice due to Covid and re-arranged by Georgina. This time it went ahead but sadly without its organiser who was not well enough to come. Regrettably several members of the Committee were also unwell and Madelaine stepped into the breach keeping us in order and shepherding us on and off the coach at the right times.

We arrived at Cliveden Gardens after a trouble-free journey and had 3 hours to explore. It was a beautiful Summer's day and there was plenty to look at and admire. Looking over the South Terrace we could see the extensive parterre laid out beneath us. Sadly, the alliums which had filled it were now finished and we were told that the gardeners were having a lot of trouble with rabbits eating the young plants. In the distance was a view of the Thames and those who walked down to the river were able to take advantage of a boat trip between the two locks. Very tempting on such a lovely hot day. There were so many red kites flying overhead and the boatman warned that they are now becoming like seagulls and pinching food from picnickers' hands but with the added advantage, to them, of large sharp talons.

After climbing back up the hill the rose garden was not to be missed and the herbaceous border, just coming into full flower, was interesting particularly looking at the way the plants were supported with woven twigs.