

1st July 2026 visit to Marks Hall

17 members and friends of the Gardening Club visited Marks Hall. We were given a short talk about the garden, a map and some fish food! Some of us used the buggy (which is manned by volunteers), to access the walled garden. On the way to the walled garden we saw the cottage garden which is used for wedding ceremonies. We passed two large lakes which contained the most enormous Carp which were eagerly fed by visitors. The ducks also had a feast. On entering the walled garden there was a magnificent magnolia tree just coming into bloom. Turning the corner was the longest herbaceous border in Essex with many varieties of plants - beautiful dahlias in full bloom, different varieties of lavender, roses, sea lavender, penstemons.

Below the herbaceous border there were some garden 'rooms.' One containing tables and chairs shaded by climbing plants on pergolas.

The grounds were dotted with many sculptures some of which popped up in the flower beds they were available to purchase. The arboretum was a lovely place to take a shady walk.

We all enjoyed sitting in the shade having something to eat at the restaurant after the visit.