

The Garden Club - Chairman's Report 13 May 2024

First of all, we or more accurately Neil Stidwell, will be planting up the village hall border again this year. We won't have the benefit of the grant we had last year so Neil has come up with a Cottage Garden theme which I am sure will be delightful.

This time last year we had had a talk from Andrew Williamson who came to talk to us about vegetable growing at Home Farm, Nacton (part of the Orwell Estate) when he invited us to have an evening visit to Home Farm before he retired - I'm not sure he did that as I have seen his name in the paper still associated with Home Farm. We took him up on this offer and had lovely weather for the trip. Around the farm. We learnt a lot about selling vegetables to supermarkets not least the ignorance of young graduates who think an original order for cauliflowers can suddenly become an order for carrots as they would have done when in other departments.

Andrew Brogan came to speak about the development of Henstead Exotic Garden.

In July we visited Moat Farm, Little Saxham, an immaculately kept garden with evidence of the medieval moat which surrounded Little Saxham Hall and again we had lovely weather.

To continue the them of local gardens, Jamie Blake of Bressingham Gardens returned for a second visit and spoke to us about how has developed Bressingham Gardens which are owned by his father-in-law.

To conclude, we are pleased that new members have joined us so that our membership is currently around 40. We are looking for hearing about coping with a dry garden, the salvia genus and Chinese gardens in the coming months.

Diane Gladders .