

Gardening group July 1st. '09

I think today was possibly the hottest, most humid day the group have ever experienced on our garden visits.

Fourteen of us met outside Long Cross hotel (near port Isaac) to visit the Victorian garden.

Originally the hotel was the residence of Captain Allerdyce in late Victorian times. He had a team of gardeners who designed & developed the garden, much as it is seen today, to resist coastal gales & salt laden air (apparently one hundredweight per acre per year). With its many gravel paths threading between high, trimmed hedges, it reminds you of a maze.

We were given maps of the layout of the garden, but with no arrows on the map & no indication in the garden of which way to go, I felt you often came upon features more by accident than design!

The vegetable garden prompted a lot of discussion amongst a group of us who grow our own veg. The hotel use the veg. in their kitchen.

A very positive aspect of this garden are the wonderful coastal views obtained from several raised areas including the Prospect, a steeply gravel pathed mound from which can be seen panoramic views of Port Isaac & Port Quin bays. These views are a relief from the rather claustrophobic aspect of the garden.

Sylvia Henry has taken some good photos round the garden which will appear on the web site. Perhaps she will counter my rather negative, disappointed view of this garden with a more positive one! Marion Hall.

Future meetings.

August 5th. Ken-Caro garden, Bicton, Nr. Liskeard.

September 2nd. Tapeley Park, Instow, Nr. Bideford.

October 7th. Rosemoor, Great Torrington, N.Devon.

More details of all these & other meetings are on our program. For further details contact Marion Hall 01840 230678.