

Arun West U3A plants and gardens group today visited an NGS garden near Worthing.

We all arrived at no 6 Plantation Rise at about 10.20 to be met by Nigel and Trixie, the owners.

The garden was approached via the front garden in which there were lots of bluebells and primroses, all looking lovely in the sunshine. The side gate led onto the back garden, past pots of narcissus (I think) and wallflowers, and roses trained onto a trellis, just beginning to bud. The back of the bungalow has a conservatory and several seating areas, leading on to an alpine area...with a small wall also covered in alpinas.

Trixie told us that when they first moved there, the garden was flat, but her husband wanted a fish pond... and what a pond! Nigel had dug out the area for the pond, lowering the whole aspect of the garden. The soil removed was used to build up the rest of the garden. There was a walkway, past pots of pansies and gazanias..... and lots more bluebells and primroses, past another perfect sun trap seating area where several of us enjoyed tea, coffee and cake... very nice. Various interesting features in the garden, an old boiler!, a dovecote and very small spade as a door knocker.

Walking past the seating area , there were ferns, clematis... leading round down a woodland path to the summer house, which stood on the side of the pond. Didn't see any fish, but they must have been there... we saw their food! A step down to the grassed area which led up to the back of the conservatory and alpine area.

There were more clematis and camellias as well. And we were told that this lovely garden was lit in the evening... bet it looks great!

All in all, a lovely garden, a lovely visit and lovely company

and lots of ideas.