## GARDEN/OUT AND ABOUT GROUP VISIT TO RHS BRIDGEWATER, 23 JUNE 2022

It was a fine sunny morning in June as we set off for Salford in the capable hands of our driver Alan. The Welcome Building is very attractive, built in a long low design it houses the restaurant, shop, and facilities.

At the gardens entrance the lawns are dotted with giant yew balls, so amazing I wanted to bring one home! With map in hand we set off to the woods and shade heading towards the lake. The landscaping is beautiful. A Chinese inspired garden is still being made using local gritstone and a water garden rock feature. So many gardens. The walled garden, the kitchen garden with super veg growing in raised beds, and the Paradise garden, at its heart a large lily pond. Very peaceful and tranquil. There are 89 individual planting beds and over 27,000 plants. The planting was very soft with lots of purple and greens which is very calming.



The plant shop was well stocked. Our previous Gardening Co-ordinators, Martin and Pauline Ford, arrived during the

afternoon which was a nice treat for the Garden Group. So much to see and so warm we didn't have time to get round it all. I shall look forward to another trip to Bridgewater in the future, maybe autumn, the colours will be stunning.

## Lesley Clark, GOAT Team Member





Pauline and Martin (either end) with Betty and Pauline





(photos courtesy of Val Coldwell and Lesley Clark; for more photos see website GOAT group page)