

Dorothy Clive and Wollerton Old Hall

15th May 2024 (Wednesday) £75.00

- o 8:15am Coach Departs Solihull Methodist Church
- o 10:00pm Arrive Wollerton Old Hall Garden Market Drayton Shropshire TF9 3NA
Coffee/Tea/Cake + Guided Tour
- o 1:00pm Depart Wollerton
- o 1:25pm Arrive Dorothy Clive Gardens (Included Lunch and Guided Tour)
- o 4:30pm Depart Dorothy Clive Gardens
- o 6:15pm Return Solihull Methodist Church

Wollerton Old Hall Gardens

- Set around a 16th century Hall, these are formal, modern gardens on an old site. Located in north Shropshire and covering 4 acres, its garden rooms are richly planted with perennials and bursting with design ideas. The garden is renowned for its salvias, clematis and roses, growing in controlled exuberance, and the clever use of colour, form and scale.
- 4 acres of inspirational English Country Garden
- Full of vibrant and colourful planting combinations
- History: When Lesley Jenkins moved back to her former childhood home of Wollerton Old Hall in 1983 with her husband John, she quickly discovered that the great age of the site demanded formality in the gardens design. She created three north-south and three east-west vistas. The resulting linearity of these vistas together with the hedges, walls and paths resulted in a collection of separate gardens, with each one having its own style and ethos.

Dorothy Clive Garden

- The garden is intimate, informal and inspiring.
- There are many areas of diverse interest within this 12 acre, hillside garden. These include a new winter garden, an edible woodland, a woodland quarry with waterfall, an alpine scree and pool, rose walk and amazing seasonal borders.
- Additionally the garden has several notable collections of plants including: rhododendrons, azaleas, camellias, and hydrangeas.
- History: The garden's initial creation lay in Colonel Harry Clive's wartime decision of 1940, to provide his ailing wife – Dorothy – with a 'series of interesting walks' as she battled with Parkinson's disease. Unfortunately Dorothy died in 1942 but Colonel Clive continued work apace throughout the 1940s and 1950s, especially in The Quarry Garden which covers approximately 2 acres.
- In 1958 management of the then 'fledgling' garden was entrusted, by Colonel Clive, to a newly established, small-scale, independent charity – The Willoughbridge Garden Trust. This charity still manages, what is now a much larger and considerably enhanced 12 acre garden. Currently, the 'Trust' directly employs a small specialist team of staff to manage the site's affairs. These core staff members are ably supported by a dedicated group of volunteers who primarily help with gardening, administration and the running of events.