

The promise of warm weather as we boarded our coach was on the cards, especially with Brian wearing shorts.

A comfort stop for the usual coffee and bacon bap was enjoyed to start off the day.

When we arrived we were greeted by a welcome speech telling us all about the history of the Hall and gardens.

Once visited by Queen Victoria and also by King Edward VII, Worsley Hall survived a fire and 2 world wars, only to be eventually demolished

In the 1940s.

Now RHS embrace the sites giving it a future!

A grand beginning.

RHS is located on the site of the estate of Worsley New Hall in Salford, built for Francis Egerton the 1st Earl of Ellesmere in 1840-1845 at a cost of £100,000, equivalent to 6.7 million pounds today.

During the second world war parts of the Hall were requisitioned by the war office and the gardens were training grounds for the Lancashire Fusiliers.

Eventually the Egerton Family left and the estate fell into disrepair.

The garden opened in 2021 after 4 years of developing it into a world class horticultural inspiration named after the Bridgewater Canal that runs to its side which was constructed by the 3rd Duke of Bridgewater destined to carry coal from his mines in Worsley to Manchester.

After the welcome speech we all ventured in different directions, some heading for the Walled gardens and others wanting to explore the Chinese stream side garden.

The walled gardens contain over 29000 plants , kitchen garden, Herbal gardens trained fruit garden, the vegetable garden supplies the cafes.

The Chinese garden with its music pavilion and pretty stream slowly meandering away from Ellesmere Lake and through the gardens and under little wooden bridges and into smaller pools.

With plenty of cafes , there was no shortage of a welcome treat of coffee and cakes and also not forgetting the shop and garden centre there was plenty to feed the mind and tummy!,

The weather broke just as we were waiting for the coach but didn't bother us in any way, as we all had a lovely day!!

Sue Dart