

Highgrove Trip – 30th May 2018

On a damp and miserable day at the end of May a coach load of people from the West Worcester Group of Churches left St Johns for a trip to HRH Prince Charles' home at Highgrove. Due to the security concerns of visiting Highgrove everyone had been fully checked, including ensuring they had photo ids with them, before we departed.

The events team had managed to completely fill 2 tours, so we had 2 consecutive tours in the late morning. We arrived at Highgrove in the rain in time for the first group to be checked in, faces checked against ids, and they were taken through. Those of us on the second tour were able to have a quick drink and slice of some fantastic cakes before we were also called through.

The tour was fascinating, and the guide was so knowledgeable about the Prince and his Garden so, even though it was raining we all had a thoroughly enjoyable 2 hours walking round the garden. If you are looking for an immaculate garden with not a thing out of place then Highgrove may not be for you as the Prince's main belief is 'Let it be' so. If something grows out of place then Let it be and see what it will do, if the vine around the front door gets so big that you cannot get in through the door then Let it be until it needs to be pruned and they will use another door until then!

Seriously his garden is absolutely stunning wherever you look and it actually looked even more impressive with the rain glistening on the leaves and flowers. Well worth the visit and this was my third trip and I will be happy to go again at a different time of the year as it is ever changing. There is one downside though you are not allowed to take any photos, due to security reasons! So they have now set up a photographer who takes a picture of you in front of the house as you get to the end of the tour. So we bought one of the group and if anyone would like a copy for a small donation to church funds then please see me.

After the tour we had time to look round the shop and garden centre, of course, before going on to Tetbury for a late lunch and walk around the town, where, oh yes, there is a larger Highgrove Shop!

Yet again a lovely trip arranged by the events team and everyone enjoyed themselves despite the weather.

