

Visit to Warwick: Guys Cliffe and Hill Close Gardens
1 July 2023



Talks at Guys Cliffe walled garden



An example of Hill Close Gardens

Kings Bromley Historians joined the Gardening Guild for a visit to two gardens in Warwick on 1 July, organised by Margaret Smith. The first garden was Guys Cliffe, a small walled garden run by a Trust and maintained by volunteers. Two volunteers offered the choice between a history-based tour or a gardening-based tour and everyone enjoyed finding out more about the history and the development of the garden, finishing with drinks and home-made cakes. After a nice lunch at a pub called the Four Penny Shop in Warwick, the group then visited Hill Close Gardens nearby, which comprised 16 plots rented out to local tradespeople from the 1840s to be used as individual gardens. After the 2nd World War, the local council started buying up land for housing, but local residents joined forces to rescue these gardens and renovate the summer houses. It was fascinating to see the history of these garden plots and the different ways they had been cultivated, with a variety of flowers, vegetables, fruit trees and shrubs. All in all, an excellent day out!