

## Report for The Hive Leonardslee Trip – April 20<sup>th</sup> 2023

20 members plus a dog and an under 3-year-old met in the car park at Leonardslee, and once the admission was paid, we made our way to the feeding of the Wallabies. It was quite amazing to see some Albino wallabies, it was explained that there was a male Albino that had been separated around November time, as part of the breeding programme. He was placed in with the deer so that a new male could be bought into the 'herd'. Unfortunately, the Albino kept escaping from the deer pen and finding his way back through 2 gates to the wallaby pen, where he then managed to join in the breeding programme!

The 'young' were still young enough to be in their mother's pouches and it will be a while before they will be old enough and big enough to leave. The young ones were still too young to be sexed but when they are, the males are removed from the pen at around 8 months to avoid them mating with their own daughters later down the line.

We then made our way to the Clocktower Café for lunch – this proved to be very slow. On getting our lunch, we stayed outside to eat at the picnic tables due to the warm weather. Those who brought a packed lunch, sat in an area by the lake to eat.

After lunch, we split into 2 groups to walk around the gardens as 6 had booked the garden tour. We had arranged to meet back at the Clocktower café after the tour but sadly as the start was delayed, we returned later than expected. As most of the group had to leave, we were unable to get together again for a post event cuppa and catch up. The garden tour was very informative and took us around the manor house and down towards the Leonardslee Manor. The guide was very knowledgeable and well worth attending.

The day finished at around 3pm when the tour group made their way back from the lower lake

A good day was had by all and some amazing photo's.

