

Wednesday 4th June 2025

**Garden outing to Thornton Hall Gardens and Eggleston Hall
Nursery and Gardens**

Thornton Hall Gardens, near Darlington is a privately owned garden which is opened several times a year for charity. A three acre walled garden is wrapped around a Grade 1 listed 16th-century hall. The owners Michael and Sue Manners restored the hall and gardens from a blank canvas. The garden consists of wildlife and waterfall ponds, a vegetable garden, a meadow and colour-themed borders with unusual perennials interspersed with interesting trees, shrubs and quirky seat and sculptures. The majority of the garden is on grass with some steep banks and gravel. Refreshments are available.

Following on from the Thornton Hall we will be going to Eggleston Hall Nursery and Gardens near Barnard Castle. The nursery is framed by the Pennine Hills and is enclosed within high stone walls, retaining the atmosphere and charm of 400 years gardening on the site. The garden includes traditional borders, winding paths, a sparkling stream, ruined church and many unusual plants.

The cost of the outing is £30 (this includes £17 for transport and £13 entrance into both venues.) Two mini buses are available for the outing (32 places). The buses will leave Costa Coffee, Seaham Harbour at 10 am. Names will be taken at the monthly meeting on the 26th March as well as a £5 deposit.

Sheila O'Connor/Linda Solaiman