

## Visit to Bryn y Llidiart garden, Llanrhaeadr, Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2016

Margaret really came up trumps with this visit – despite the grey and at times damp weather, it was truly fantastic!

The garden is situated at 1100 feet up in the hills between Llanrhaeadr and Penybontfawr with fantastic 270° views – a site where the local farmers said, when they moved there, would never grow anything. John & Christine Scott couldn't have proved them more wrong. They have created a beautiful, lush garden full of interesting plants and summer-long interest, very sympathetically blended with the existing stone walls, boulders, slate and shale to reflect the landscape. There is an extensive green roof, a sitouerie in a Welsh orchard, bog garden, wildlife pond (with sitinerie sunken into the bank) and vegetable garden. There are also 8 acres of wild flower meadow, with mown paths, which was still flowering although we were there a little late to see it at its best.

The house was originally a rather narrow Welsh long house, to which John & Christine have added a wonderful full height extension, with a lot of oak beams and full-height glass windows in evidence. After a most informative and interesting garden tour with John & Christine, we retired to the new dining area, the 11 of us plus our hosts fitting easily round their dining table, mostly on the side with the lovely views (to give an idea of the size of it). We were treated to wonderful cakes (I had three pieces of cake, as did many of our group – it would have been rude not to sample them all) – the apricot & almond slice was to die for. And after a leisurely tea discussing the garden, the area and the birdlife on their sculptural bird feeder (with John playing us the bird song of various birds to help identification), our hospitable hosts gave us a tour of the rest of the extension, which was worthy of Grand Designs. I apologise if I appear to be gushing in this write-up but it really was a brilliant garden and visit.



Deutzia



Rosa chinensis mutabilis



*Thalictrum Elin*



*Primula bulleyana*



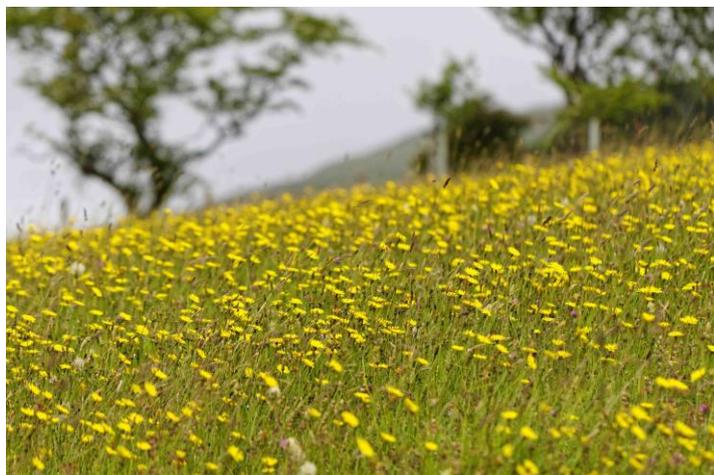
*Acaena*



*Veratrum nigrum*



*Aconitum*, possibly *Napellus*



Euphorbia mellifera



Nemisia



self-set, along with 2 others, and is possibly a Common Spotted x Northern Marsh hybrid

Sally Barrett [photos Sally & John]