

Lovely day in Devon

It was a lovely day but a very early start as we had to be on the coach, in Knowle, for 8.00am.

I set off well before 7.00 thinking that it would be a nice quiet drive at that time of a Sunday morning. After only a couple of miles a deer came out of the hedge and decided to cross right in front of me.

Despite some hard braking I still could not avoid hitting the animal but fortunately only a glancing blow. It spun around and landed in a heap on the grass verge and before I could stop it jumped up, shook its head and ran into the opposite hedge – almost as if nothing had happened. Fortunately, my car didn't have any damage either but that was quite a start for what I thought was going to be a leisurely day.

Anyway, we all arrived by the set time, as did the coach, and we set off to Devon full of expectation.



Everybody at the entrance



Sara Rittershausen

We were greeted by Sara Rittershausen who took the photo of us all at the entrance to the nursery.

As we entered we were greeted with a wonderful display of *Oncidium Sweet Sugar* down the centre of the greenhouse with dozens of *Dendrobiums* down the left hand side. Our appetites were whetted.

Sara welcomed us and gave us a talk about the nursery and then showed us around the various greenhouses full of the most wonderful delights, some well known and others fairly obscure.

This gave us a good understanding of what we would find when we were let of the lead which we very shortly did giving Sara and her team the opportunity to lay out the lunch.

We all scattered to every point of the compass like a load of school children playing hide and seek.

After scouting the various benches and selecting a few choice items we enjoyed a lovely buffet before returning to the greenhouses searching even more diligently for those must have items.

By the time we came to leave nearly everybody had bags full of goodies with our driver at the ready to squirrel them away in various compartments under the coach.

We set off for home with smiles on our faces after enjoying a really lovely day, looking at and purchasing orchids as well as enjoying the company of lovely friends from Solihull, Central and Hinckley .

I hope everybody enjoyed the day as much as me and many thanks to Sara and her staff at Burnham's for looking after us so well.

Malcolm Moodie



Oncidium Sweet Sugar



Dendrobiums



Orange Vanda



Brassia verrucosa var. grandiflorum



Neofinetia (now Vanda) falcata



Stanhopea nigroviolacea

There will be no BOGA Show at Arden School this year. BOGA have decided to move to a new venue at Becketts Farm in Wythall (B47 6AJ) on Saturday 19th November. The Society will not be providing any support for the event and will not be putting on a display.