



NORTHUMBRIAN CAMBRIDGE ASSOCIATION

CRAGSIDE: FORMAL GARDEN VISIT & SPRING WALK

Saturday, May 19, 2018

This year’s garden visit and spring walk takes us to **Cragside**, a National Trust property near Rothbury, in Northumberland, which was formerly the home of the arms manufacturer Lord Armstrong. Created out of a small hunting lodge, which Armstrong built between 1862 and 1864, the much enlarged house was transformed by the architect Richard Norman Shaw into a Tudor Revival mansion overlooking the dramatic gorge of the Debdon Burn. The surrounding landscape was also transformed, with the planting of what is estimated to be over 7 million trees and the rhododendrons that create such a spectacular display in the early summer. Now both house and estate are in the guardianship of the National Trust, which has recently acquired the formal gardens and greenhouses.

We plan to assemble in the **Visitor Centre** close to the car park at **10.00** with time for a quick coffee before a guided tour of the **Formal Garden** by **Senior Gardener, Dale Stevens**, from **10.30 to 12.00**. This will be followed by lunch in the Visitor Centre. After lunch, there will be a choice of two walks, a shorter (one hour) walk (the **Basin Tank walk**), led by Bill and Andrena Telford and a longer (two to three hours) walk led by Heather Cordell and Ray Brown (the **Gun Walk**).

The Garden is accessible by a ramp and steps from a car park. There should be a shuttle bus in operation on the day and so our party may travel from the café to this car park on it. The Formal Garden is fully paved with stone or gravel and has several flights of stone steps. Any visitor to Cragside should wear sturdy footwear and be prepared for mud in places.

Entrance to Cragside is free for National Trust members. The group admission price to visit the grounds for non-members is £11.50 (please identify yourself as NCA on entry). Since entrance and lunch are paid for on an individual basis, no payment need be made to NCA, but please do complete the attached booking form and return it [TO ARRIVE BY Wednesday, May 9, PLEASE] either electronically or by post to the Secretary: Dr Andrena Telford, Ladywell Cottage, 24 West Road, Ponteland, Northumberland NE20 9SX.

NORTHUMBRIAN CAMBRIDGE ASSOCIATION GARDEN VISIT AND SPRING WALK— BOOKING FORM

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We would like to join the Cragside Garden Visit and Spring Walk as follows:

National Trust members:persons Non-members: persons Children in party:

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone No.: _____ Email address: _____

Guests: _____

Would you like a lift to the venue? YES / NO

Would you be able, if called upon, to offer a lift to someone else? YES / NO