July 2024

Dear Friends,

Yesterday, I and a few clock friends, went on our annual outing. We went to Waddesdon Manor in Aylesbury because they have a significant clock collection. The house and grounds are worth a visit too!

For once, I had the luxury of being driven. I say luxury because my kind friend enabled me to look about and take in the surroundings rather than concentrating on the traffic, road and pavement, to anticipate which person would do something silly or animate object would leap out in front of me – you think I jest!!

I was able to look around, take in the scenery and the verges. As we travelled along, I was struck by the diversity of the flowers, plants and grasses which inhabit our roadsides: the colours of the flowers, their shapes and the different greens of the grasses. These words of Jesus came to mind:

"Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labour or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these."

This thought sparked another (yes, I know, two thoughts in a row - I need to lie down), lines from a poem:

"What is this life if, full of care, We have no time to stand and stare. No time to turn at Beauty's glance, And watch her feet, how they can dance."

Reminding me of the dancing heads of the cow parsley and the waves of the grass as the traffic passed.

God has given us the most beautiful and dazzling of planets to inhabit - let's keep it that way.

Love and blessing

Denise