

LEATHERHEAD AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Telephone
Leatherhead 2696

Circular 2/55

"Beechcroft",
Hawks Hill,
Fetcham,
Surrey.

14th April, 1955.

Dear Fellow Member,

Fixtures

Your Programme Committee have pleasure in announcing the events arranged for the period April to September (there is no fixture for August this year). The particulars are as follows:

Saturday, 30th April. Polesden Lacy

The outing arranged for the opening of the season is to Polesden Lacy, a National Trust property. The mansion contains the Greville collection of pictures, tapestries, furniture and other works of art. From the terrace are beautiful views, and the gardens by themselves are worth the journey.

Members will be escorted through the house by the official guide, in groups of twenty, and tea has been arranged for 4.30 p.m.

We propose to meet at Polesden Lacy at 3 p.m. Members will find the 408 'bus will take them to The Victoria Hotel at Great Bookham; one leaves Leatherhead Institute at 1.55 p.m., arriving at Bookham at 2.06 p.m., and another at 2.15 p.m., arriving at 2.26 p.m. The house is $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles up the Dorking Road and the way is sign posted. We have been able to arrange for a car ferry service to take members who prefer not to walk.

<u>Expenses:</u>	Entrance to Mansion House (Free to National Trust Members)	_____	2s. Od.
	Tea	_____	2s. 6d.
	Total	_____	<u>4s. 6d.</u>

For members who are interested and would enjoy a slow walk after tea, there is Yew Tree Farm, reputed to be an Elizabethan building. It lies about a quarter of a mile south-east of Polesden Lacy.

There is a car park at the property.

Saturday, 21st May. Mickleham.

The Rector of Mickleham has kindly agreed to give us a talk on his Church this afternoon and we will meet him there at 3 p.m. The No.470 'bus leaves Leatherhead, Crescent, at 2.45 p.m., arriving at Mickleham at 2.51 p.m.

After seeing the Church we will go to the Burford Bridge Hotel for tea at 4.15 p.m. There is a 'bus leaving Mickleham, School Hill, at 3.51 for the hotel. When we have had tea, there will be a paper from Captain A.W.G. Lowther, F.S.A., on Stane Street, and a talk by Mr. F.B. Bengier on The Locks of Norbury and Fanny Burney.

Expenses: _____ Tea 3s. 3d.

There is a car park at the hotel.

Saturday, 25th June. Petworth.

The outing on this occasion is to Petworth House and Park, Sussex. The house was rebuilt in 1686-96 by the 6th Duke of Somerset and the south front was reconstructed in 1869-72. The property has a mid-13th century Percy Chapel and Galleries. One of the State Rooms was decorated by Grinling Gibbons. There is a very fine collection of furniture and pictures with numbers of Van Dycks and Turners. The Park itself is of 747 acres.

Tea has been arranged at "The Four and Twenty Blackbirds", next door to Petworth House. Instead of taking tea after looking at the house, we are having it first.

We have booked a thirty-seater coach to leave The Priory, Leatherhead, at 2 p.m., and have arranged tea for 3.15 - 3.30 p.m., and to start to look at the property at 4 p.m. We shall leave for home at 5.30 p.m.

We appeal to members to support the coach so that every seat is taken and your Society is not faced with a financial loss, as unfortunately happened on some occasions last year.

<u>Expenses:</u>	Entrance to Petworth House (Free to National Trust Members) _____	1s. 6d.
	Coach _____	6s. 3d.
	Tea _____	2s. 3d.
		<u>10s. -</u>

Saturday, 9th July. Ranmore

We have arranged a Geological and Nature Study Ramble on Ranmore Common for our outing today. We will meet by the Old Post Office on the Common and Mr. W.H.E. Rivett will give us a talk on the geological features we shall see around us from various selected points.

Tea will be taken at 4 p.m. at The Ranmore Common Tea Rooms, and afterwards Miss J.C. Brown, who is one of our members, has agreed to lead the party to discuss the local vegetation.

Members will have the opportunity if they desire, to visit Ranmore Church, a typical mid-19th century building, and The Old Fort which lies at the end of the road containing the Church.

Transport: The No.433 'bus leaves Dorking, Star and Garter, at 1.22 p.m., arriving at 1.30 p.m. at the Post Office. The next one leaves Dorking at 3.52 p.m., arriving at 4 p.m. The service is unfortunately infrequent and members may prefer to make up their own parties and hire a taxi from Dorking or contact their friends who will be going by car.

Expenses: _____ Tea _____ 2s. 3d.

Sunday, 18th September. Epsom.

We have chosen a Sunday afternoon for this conducted visit to Epsom. We shall meet at the junction of Wells Road and Dorking Road (which is just on The Downs on the Epsom side of the Ashted-Epsom Road) at 3 p.m. and proceed down Wells Road to The Old Wells. The site is in the midst of a building estate, but is fenced round and can be seen easily. The Wells, famous for their medicinal qualities, attracted the court and fashionable people at the end of the 17th and early 18th centuries. Visitors also came from Europe. We shall then follow the line of the ancient Saxon way to Claytrell across the Common, meeting West Hill near The Cricketers (the building was there in 1680). We turn down West Hill towards the High Street to have tea at Wrights at 4 p.m. The many interesting and historic buildings passed on the way will be pointed out and explained. One of the most interesting items is the site of the New Wells, now the garden of the Old Manor Hotel. After tea we shall continue our itinerary along the High Street, turning up Ashley Road to The Parade (behind Reids) and at the kind invitation of Mr. R.S. Wells, C.B.E. and his wife, visit them at their house Rosebery Cottage. It was built in 1764 and Mr. Wells has promised to give us a talk about its history. Members will then have an opportunity, if they so desire, of proceeding on to S. Martin's Church where there are some interesting monuments and an interesting churchyard. A little further on is Pitt Place.

Expenses: _____ Tea _____ 2s. 3d.

THE PROCEEDINGS

"The Proceedings" for 1953 have now been distributed and any member who has not received his copy should communicate with Mr. S.E.D. Fortescue, at "Englands", High Street, Great Bookham, Surrey.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON LECTURES

(1) An Extension Summer School in various subjects, including field archaeology and local studies in Kent, will be held at Wye College, near Ashford, Kent, 30th July - 13th August, 1955.

(2) A series of five lectures will be given at 1.10 p.m. on the five

Wednesdays commencing 27th April, in Basinghall Street, E.C.2. on "Aspects of the History of the City of London".

Full particulars can be obtained on application to Mr. A.T. Ruby, M.B.E., at 53 Nutcroft Grove, Fetcham, Surrey.

VISITORS

Your Committee have decided to follow the practice prevailing in other similar societies, and charge a visitors' fee. The charge will be 1s.- for each visitor for each function. We welcome visitors at our meetings and outings and hope eventually they will become members, but we think all will agree this charge for the benefits they receive is very moderate.

GENERAL NOTE

Because of the great difficulty in obtaining transport and to avoid the sometimes awkward necessity of having to collect expenses during the course of the outing, members are asked to forward with their applications for a place, the amount of any charges shown in the fixture list. For all applications accepted a receipt will be given which will serve as a Reserved Ticket and will give the time and place for boarding transport where provided. The receipt will similarly reserve tea, where desired.

If the transport booked becomes filled up, every endeavour is made to obtain supplementary vehicles. EARLY APPLICATION IS ADVISABLE, but at the latest forty-eight hours before the outing.

It will be much appreciated if any member who intends to use his own car will notify me if he is able and willing to take passengers. Such members should, in any event, send in the charge for any teas provided, in which they wish to share.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Some Subscriptions for ^{1955/56} 1954/55 are still outstanding and we should be very grateful if members who have not yet paid would do so as soon as possible. They should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. S.E.D. Fortescue, "Englands", High Street, Great Bookham, Surrey.

Yours sincerely,

P. G. SHELLEY,

(Hon. Assistant Secretary)