

Institute of Physics

LONDON AND SOUTH EASTERN BRANCH REMS SECTION

Visits to The Guards Museum and the Queen's Gallery. Thursday 23th October 2003

This visit has been organised by Dennis Hill

The Guards Museum is in Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, St James Park. The Guards Museum covers the history of the five regiments of foot guards - not the household cavalry. These regiments are the Grenadier, Coldstream, Scots, Irish and Welsh Guards. The period spans time from 1642 to the present day.

The displays present the history by means of Uniforms, Colours, Weapons and more importantly, the personal relics and memorabilia of the soldiers who have served in these famous regiments in peace and war. Includes twenty Victoria Cross medal groups.

The Queen's Gallery at Buckingham Palace is a permanent space dedicated to changing exhibitions of items from the Royal Collection, the wide-ranging collection of art and treasures held in trust by The Queen for the Nation. The original building was designed by John Nash as one of the Palace's three identical conservatories or pavilions in the form of Ionic temples. It was constructed on the south-west corner of the Palace, facing the garden, and was completed in 1831. The building was converted into a private chapel for Queen Victoria in 1843 but was destroyed in an air raid in 1940. At the suggestion of The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh, it was redeveloped as a gallery for the Royal Collection in 1962. The Queen's Gallery was planned as a small exhibition space open to the public in which exhibitions could be mounted to display works of art from all sections of the Royal Collection.

There will be an exhibition of works by Leonardo da Vinci: entitled "The Divine and the Grotesque" and "the Royal Treasures". A selection of over 400 outstanding works for the inaugural exhibition at The Queen's Gallery has been made across the entire breadth of the Royal Collection, from nine royal residences and over five centuries of collecting. It includes paintings, drawings and watercolours, furniture, clocks, sculpture and ceramics, silver and gold, arms and armour, jewellery and miniatures, books and manuscripts.

Lunch is at the Feather's Pub, 20 Broadway, opposite St James Park Station. According to "Beer and Totty" this is a four star pub. It is a large venue with upstairs balcony. It offers a wide range of quality food. Slightly better than the usual pub fare.

Programme

- 10.15-10.30 Meet in the Shopping Mall of St James Park Tube Station
- 10.45-12.30 Guided Tour of the Guards Museum by its Curator Captain Home (with tea and biscuits)
- 12.45-14.00 Lunch at Feathers 20 Broadway
- 14.15-16.0 Visit to the Queen's Gallery

Cost is £12 per person.