

Institute of Physics

LONDON AND SOUTH EASTERN BRANCH REMS SECTION

Visit to Ightham Moat, Ivyhatch, Sevenoaks & Knole House, Knole Park, Sevenoaks. Thursday 22 September 2005

This visit has been organised by Geoff Cockett & Tom Rutherford

IGHTHAM MOTE

This is an idyllic medieval moated manor house standing in a sheltered wooded cleft of the Kentish Weald. The house is built around an internal courtyard with a semi-fortified gatehouse. The earliest part is 14th century, the remainder being completed some 200 years later. Gothic windows pierce ragstone walls and the half timbered upper storey in Tudor “black and white” style, is jettied over the water. The modest pretensions of its successive owners has meant that its appearance has little changed in 400 years. When acquired by the National Trust (NT) in 1985, the building required a £10M conservation programme, completed last year. Our guided tour will see all of the main rooms in their new finery with the Great Hall and the main Tudor chapel occupying pride of place.

<http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hbcache/property/91.htm> For directions to Ightham Mote, please see map.

Programme

- 10:00 - 10:10. Assemble near Ticket Office in Ightham Mote walled car park with NT members producing their membership cards..
- 10:10 - 11:30 Guided tour of the house. Please be on time as the Ightham Mote house manager unfortunately does not allow late comers to join the guided tour
- 11:30 - 11:55 Free for visits to chosen rooms of interest or refreshments
- 11:55 - 12:40 Assemble outside the shop near the moat by 12:00 for a free guided garden tour
- 12:40 Depart for Knole House. For directions please see map. The entrance to Knole Park is at the top of Sevenoaks (South side) on the left near the Sevenoaks public school and is well marked

KNOLE HOUSE

This is one of the great treasure houses in England, dating from the 15th century. There are 13 magnificent state rooms containing treasures of Kings and Dukes, with important silver and furniture from the royal palaces. It has close association with Henry VIII, Elizabeth I, Archbishop of Canterbury, the Sackville family and the Dukes of Dorset. It is the birthplace of writer Vita Sackville-West and the setting for Virginia Woolf’s novel Orlando. Paintings include works by Joshua Reynolds, Van Dyck and Gainsborough. It is set in a glorious and extensive deer park owned by Lord Sackville. [<http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/places/knole/>]

Programme

| | |
|----------------|--|
| 13:00 - 14:00. | Arrive from Ightham Mote for lunch. There is adequate parking in front of the house. The restaurant (unlicensed) is about 50 yards down to the left side of the house, and is well signed. Picnics are allowed nearby. |
| 14:00 - 15:30 | Guided tour. |
| 15:30 | Tea, then disperse. |

Ightham Mote entry and guided tour of the house costs £10. NT members* have free entry but pay the guided tour fee of £3. Parking is free. There are picnic sets in the car park adjoining the ticket office. The restaurant opens at 10:00. The car parking fee of £2.50 at Knole House is collected at the Lodge Gate, free for NT members. House entry and guided tour costs £ 9.50. NT members* have free entry but pay the guided tour fee of £4.

The total cost for entry and guided tour at both properties is £19.50. For NT members, the cost is £7. Numbers are limited to 30. * NT have advised that members have free entry only on presentation of a current membership card.

Directions to Knole House from Ightham Mote

1. Retrace route via Mote Rd and Coach Rd.
2. At T junction turn left onto A25.
3. At traffic lights in about 3.4 miles, turn left into A225 (St Johns Hill)
4. After about 1.5 miles and just after passing church on right turn left into Knole Park.

Directions to Ightham Mote

1. From M25 West or North, at J5 take the A21 Exit signed for Sevenoaks.
2. Take 1st left onto A25 signed for Seven oaks.
3. After about 5.6 miles and ascending a hill, turn right into Coach Rd, signed for Iyehatch and Ightham Mote (brown sign).
4. In about 1 mile at Iyehatch. turn right into Mote Rd.
5. After about 0.4mile, turn left into Ightham Mote.

