

Institute of Physics

LONDON AND SOUTH EASTERN BRANCH REMS SECTION

Visit to LAVENHAM Thursday 1st June

This visit has been organised by Ray Peevor

Lavenham, set in the heart of rural Suffolk is the finest surviving example of a mediaeval town in England. Today it is a bustling village with a wealth of timber-framed buildings and the very large 'wool' church of St Peter and St Paul. The splendid Guildhall of Corpus Christi (NT), situated in the market place, has a very interesting museum of Lavenham life and industry and also a tranquil walled garden containing plants associated with weaving and dyeing. Also in the market place is 'Little Hall' which is open to the public and home to the Suffolk Preservation Society.

Should you wish to make this visit a part of a short stay in the area, there are plenty of other places of interest nearby - eg. Melford Hall (NT) a Tudor mansion (4.5 miles), Kentwell Hall a moated Elizabethan manor house (3.5 miles), Sudbury - birthplace of Thomas Gainsborough (6 miles), and historic Bury St. Edmunds (12 miles).

Programme

10.15 Meet at Car Park (toilets available)

10.30 Walk along High Street to Market Place, for coffee in the National Trust tearooms

11.05 Conducted tour of the Guildhall (NT or £3.50), its Museum and walled garden by the administrator.

13.00 Lunch*

14.30 approx. Suggestions for the afternoon include -

1. Tour of the village (audio-tours available £3)
2. Visit Little Hall (£2.50)
3. Explore the church of St Peter and St. Paul.

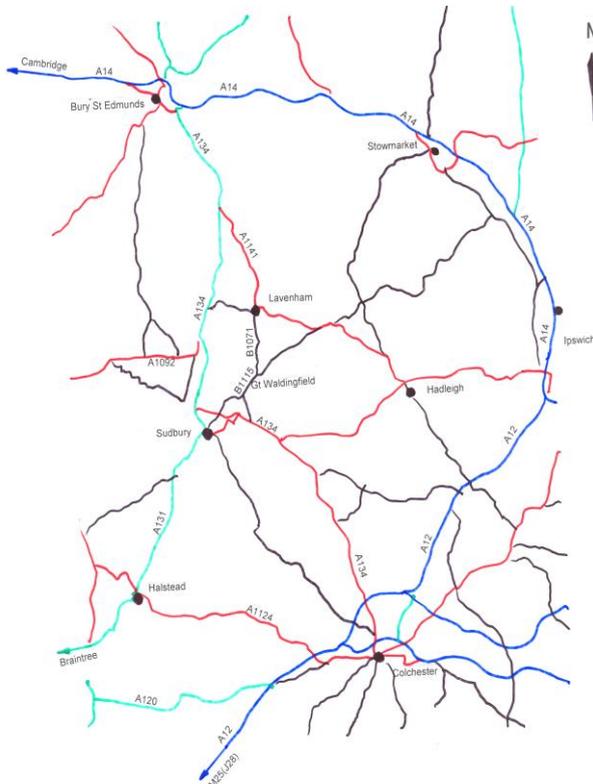
16.00 Tea in National Trust tearoom.

16.30 approx. Return to Car Park for journey home, or otherwise.

- Notes:
1. This event is only suitable for those with their own transport.
 2. Numbers limited to 30 - partners welcome.
 3. If you are a member - bring your National Trust card with you.
 4. Do remember to bring your camera.
 5. A walk about the village is about 2km.

* There are three pubs in the village and all serve lunch, also a gourmet French restaurant. A snack-type lunch can be had in the NT tearoom.

TRAVEL DIRECTIONS



From the South:

Take the exit from the A12 marked 'Colchester Central' and follow the signs for Sudbury over three roundabouts. Proceed along the A134 (~10miles). Just after Newton Green take a sharp right indicated Lavenham - this shortcut avoids going into Sudbury town centre. Turn right onto the B1115, proceed along this road and finally along the B1071 into Lavenham (~4miles). You will arrive at the church end of the village and the car park is almost opposite behind the Cock Inn.

From Cambridge:

As you approach Bury St Edmunds along A14 you will see 'British Sugar Corporation' on your left. A few hundred yards further on take the exit indicated 'B St E (east) & A134 Sudbury'. Follow the Sudbury signs over the next three roundabouts onto the A134. Continue along A134 (~5miles) and take the sharp left turn indicating Lavenham(A1141). The village is about five miles along this road. Proceed straight through the village until you come to the church. The car park is almost opposite behind the Cock Inn.