

Institute of Physics – London & South East Branch – Retired Members Section
Visit to Chilterns Open Air Museum
Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire, HP8 4AB
on Thursday 21 July 2016

This visit has been organised by Ken Poulter.

Summary

REMS will be visiting the Chilterns Open Air Museum at Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire, for a conducted tour of the many historic buildings which have been restored and re-erected at the 45 acre site. Our tour will include areas not usually open to the public like the museum's store of buildings awaiting restoration and rebuilding.

Cost £12



Description

The Chiltern Open Air Museum in Chalfont St Giles is a 45 acre site in the Chiltern countryside, home to over 30 rescued historic buildings, mainly from the surrounding counties. The collection includes buildings which form a Victorian Farm yard, a village school room, a blacksmith's forge, a carpenter's workshop, a village church and a number of farm houses and cottages.

We will have a conducted tour of the museum and its buildings including areas not usually open to the public, among them the store of buildings awaiting restoration and rebuilding. The tour covers about 2 miles and the paths are mainly gravel or granite chips tracks. The site is predominantly level. Part way through the tour we will stop so that drinks and light refreshments can be purchased if required.

The Museum recently won 'Gold' in the 2013-14 'Best Small Visitor Attraction' category in the Beautiful South Awards for Excellence, and went on to win 'Bronze' in the 'England Small Attraction of the Year' category, in the Visit England Awards, with the judge describing the Museum as 'a hidden gem'.

After the visit we will withdraw to Chalfont St Giles for lunch at Merlin's Cave (not included in the cost of the visit) before making our way home although some members may like to pay a visit to Milton's Cottage in the village.

More information about the museum and its building can be found at www.coam.org.uk

Where and when to meet

We will meet in the entrance to the museum ready to start our visit to 11.00am.

Getting there –

The full address of the museum is:-

Chiltern Open Air Museum
Newland Park
Gorelands Lane
Chalfont St Giles
Buckinghamshire HP8 4AB

By car

The Museum is best approached from the A413 turning right off the road at Chalfont St Giles and then following the brown tourist signs. It is about 1.5 miles to the museum after turning off the A413.

The museum can also be reached from the M25 at Junction 17. Leave at the junction and follow the brown tourist signs to the Museum. It is about 4.5 miles from the junction the last 2 miles along a country lane.

The entrance to the museum site is well signposted and is a left hand turn off the drive up to Newland Manor and Academy just before the barrier. There is plenty of free parking on the site.

By Train

Take the Chiltern Line from Marylebone or the Metropolitan Line from Baker Street to Chalfont & Latimer Station or Chorleywood Station, both are within short taxi rides of the Museum.

Lunch

After the visit we will retire to a Chalfont St Giles for lunch in Merlin's Cave (the cost of lunch is not included in the cost of the visit). See www.merlins-cave.com.

Timetable

11.00	Assemble at the entrance to the museum
11.00 to 12.30	tour of the museum
12.30 to 13.15	free time at the museum
13.30	Lunch at Chalfont St Giles (lunch not included in cost of visit.)

Although the visit formally ends with lunch members may want to walk the short distance to Milton's Cottage in Chalfont St Giles where he wrote "Paradise Lost" see www.miltonscottage.org The entry to the cottage (£4) is not included in the cost of this day.

Size of party: Minimum 10, maximum 20

Cost £12

Contacts:

Before the day: Ken Poulter at kennethf.poulter@btopenworld.com or Tony Colclough at tonycolclough@tiscali.co.uk

On the day: Ken Poulter on 07778 933 663

Late arrivals: Please call Ken who will advise you how to catch up with the group.