

Institute of Physics – London & South East Branch – Retired Members Section

Tour of Cambridge Sundials + BBQ on Thursday 12 September 2019

This visit has been organised by Bill Metcalf.

We will be guided on a tour of selected Cambridge sundials by [Dr Frank King](#), Chairman of the [British Sundial Society](#) who was formerly the University Chief Proctor and the official Cambridge University Bell Ringer. Frank has posted a [useful summary](#) of Cambridge dials on the web for those that want a little advanced reading.

Description: the tour will be preceded by a talk in Newnham College during which Frank King will explain the history and background to the design of sundials. Weather permitting, the tour will include dials at Newnham (3), Selwyn (1), Darwin (1), Little St Mary's (1), Pembroke (1) and finish with the elongated square gyro bicuspolia dial on the Downing Site attributed to Venn of diagram fame.

Subsequently, we will be taken by mini-bus to Daniela and Bill's home (CB25 9NB) just to the north of Cambridge for a BBQ where you can also view a modern armillary sphere made by [Robert Foster](#) of Ironbridge.

Where and when to meet: we will meet at Pret à Manger in the square in front of Cambridge railway station. We plan to depart from Pret at 10.45 by minibus. Alternatively, meet in the hall opposite the Porters' lodge in Newnham College at 11.00.

Getting there:

By train: trains run approximately every 30 minutes from King's Cross. Please purchase tickets for Waterbeach (not Cambridge – but get off in Cambridge) which only cost pence more but allow for the return journey after the BBQ: there are hourly trains (the local station is a seven minute walk away) direct to Kings Cross

By car: recommend using the Park & Ride site at Trumpington or disabled parking at Newnham College. Exit 11 from M11, turn left into Cambridge (keep in left-hand lane) and then into the Trumpington Park & Ride site on the left.

Do not use the Park & Ride bus but catch the Busway to the railway station: they leave approximately every 16 minutes with a journey time of ~15 minutes. £3.30 return from the larger of the two ticket machines (well signed!). Loos available at the site.

Alight at the railway station and make your way to Pret in Station Square.

We will ferry you back to your car after the BBQ unless you wish to drive yourself (directions on request).

Lunch: We will have a late lunch in the form of a BBQ, so have a bun or similar at Pret.

Timetable:

- 10.15 Meet at Pret à Manger, Station Square, Cambridge CB1
 - 10.45 Travel by minibus to Newnham College for a preparatory talk
 - 11.00 Talk & visit to Newnham sundials
 - 11.45 Tour of sundials on foot
 - 2.30 Depart for BBQ by minibus
 - 2.30 BBQ
- Depart mid-to-late afternoon.

Some details of the programme may change.

Size of party Maximum size of party 23 (dictated by the minibus)

Cost: £28.50 (room hire and mini-bus)

Contact: Bill Metcalf T.07831 600165 E.bill.metcalf@physics.org

Late arrivals: Phone Bill on 07831 600165 or Daniela on 0778 0660 763