

Institute of **Physics**

LONDON AND SOUTH EASTERN BRANCH REMS SECTION Visit to Basing House 29 May 2008

This visit has been organised by Mike Wall

REMS visited Basing House several years ago and it was much enjoyed, so we are repeating the visit. We shall be guided round the site by the same curator, Alan Turton, whose knowledge of the site, its long history, its historical context and its archaeology is extensive. He gives an excellent presentation.

Our visit coincides with the end of an archaeological dig of the Norman dry moat around the central area. This was the scene of the final stages of the siege and destruction in the civil war. The County Archaeologist, Dave Allen, will talk about the excavation and finds.

From the car park, we walk along the river Loddon past old mill fish stews to the magnificent Tudor Grange Barn. In a neighbouring field, there is the site of Tudor farm buildings and a late 17th century hunting lodge, which has been excavated by Time Team and the Hampshire Archaeologist over five years. The path may be muddy, so please wear appropriate shoes.

The next page tells you more about the site and includes a map of the area, which you may need.

Getting there

If you are driving on the M3 in a westerly direction, turn off at junction 5 and turn left onto the A30. Continue along the A30 for some miles. Turn right into Park Lane, which is on the map on the next page. If you miss the turning, turn round at the roundabout with Ringway East and turn left into Redbridge Lane or Park Lane.

If you are driving on the M3 in an easterly direction, turn off at junction 6 and turn right onto the A30. Turn left into Redbridge Lane or Park Lane.

If you are driving on any other road, get onto Ringway East and then east onto the A30. Turn left into Redbridge Lane or Park Lane.

Once off the A30, use the map carefully to get to the car park, which is marked with a large **P**, and is off Barton's Lane. Some junctions are not signed, so you will need the map. Please do not attempt to park in the village. We assemble at Barton's Mill, which is now the Millstone Pub (also marked on the map). If you are late, walk along the river, under the railway bridge, past the fish stews and Grange Barn for about 400 yards.

Food and Drink

We hope to provide coffee near the Millstones and afternoon tea on site. We will have lunch at The Crown, just outside the entry gate to the main site. We have to pre-order our dishes because of time constraints, so nearer the date, Reinalt will send the menu to members, who are on the visit.

Timetable

10.00 Meet at Barton's Lane County Parking and have coffee.

10.30 Walk to fish stews and Grange Barn, then follow Alan Turton to the main site.

13.00 Lunch at The Crown.

14.30 Return to the site to view the excavations, see the finds and hear from Dave Allen.

16.00 approximately. Have tea provided by the Friends of Basing House. You can then wander round more of the extensive site.

18.00 The site closes.

Cost for a maximum of 25 people

The cost of the visit is £8 per person, which includes entry tea and coffee. Lunch is at cost.

Contacts

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