

Provisional programme

BBC BUSH HOUSE

Afternoon visit Monday 14 May 2012

This meeting has been organised by Rodica Mager and George Freeman

The BBC started in Broadcasting House, Portland Place, but this was bombed during the war. The foreign services and some domestic ones moved to Bush House in 1942. With the new building alongside Broadcasting House, most services from Bush House are moving back to Portland Place (New Broadcasting House). This is a chance to see and hear about life in Bush House during the war and since.

Bush House, grade II listed, was built in 1920 by an American business man called Bush as a plush hotel where he could entertain and meet his international business contacts. Some of the original features still exist.

We will be told of the history of the house and of the BBC. We hope to meet several programme producers and watch a programme going out live. For the tour we will be divided into three groups. There is a possibility of our being interviewed by a producer with an interest in science. Four of us will be selected in advance and we should suggest our topic/question and have prepared the reply. Our hostess is Rodica, wife of REMS Ed Palmer, and a BBC retired member of staff.

Meet in Bush House 12:30 to 13:00. Check into security and be collected by Rodica to assemble in the restaurant.

Lunch in restaurant at cost – licensed, reasonable prices. 13:00 to 14:00

Programme - Meet producer(s), talk, tour and possible interviews. 14:00 to 16:30

Travel - Bush house is in the Aldwich opposite the end of Kingsway. The nearest underground stations are Temple and Holborn but it is within walking distance of many stations.

Contacts

Before the meeting - John Belling john.a.belling.secrems@gmail.com 07986 379935

On the day only - George Freeman 07941 916 944 or John's mobile.

Cost - £3 with a maximum of 15 visitors, pay John on the day.

Apply - email to John.

Interview - Tell John if you wish to be considered if the round table discussion would become available. John will let you know if and when this is arranged and who will be involved. The rest of us can watch.