

**IOP** | Institute of Physics  
**London and South East Branch**      **Retired Members Section**  
**Royal School of Needlework and Hampton Court Palace**  
**Thursday 14 June 2012**

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This meeting has been organised by George Freeman

**The Royal School of Needlework** was founded in 1872 to revive the beautiful art of embroidery which had fallen into disuse and to provide employment for educated women who, without a suitable livelihood, would otherwise find themselves compelled to live in poverty. It has always had Royal patronage. It commissions designs and takes on commercial work. It runs a two year degree course as well as a range of classes ranging from fun-day and weekend courses to Certificate and Diploma Courses. They moved to Hampton Court in 1987 from Kensington Palace. There are many examples of their work around the country; one we saw is the balcony hanging at Buckingham Palace which represents the Commonwealth on Her Majesty's Golden Jubilee. We will see an exhibition of some of their work.

I have selected the standard 1.5 hour tour and includes the history of RSN, the techniques used in historic restoration and modern work and the workshops. There is a two hour tour which is in more depth but costs more. If there is enough interest I will organise half the part for each tour ([george.freeman@physics.org](mailto:george.freeman@physics.org)).  
[www.royal-needlework.org.uk](http://www.royal-needlework.org.uk)

### **Hampton Court**

Cardinal Wolsey started building his palace about 1612 but Henry VIII confiscated it in 1620. He carried on building including his Great Hall with its magnificent hammer-beam roof. Most centuries have seen more building, two notable architects being Wren (William and Mary) and William Kent (George II). Kent rebuilt some of the famous west front and parts of the inside. Wren built the Fountain Court and the south and east wings. Inside there are pictures and furniture from these periods and in some rooms there are costume guides who explain the history. [www.hrp.org.uk](http://www.hrp.org.uk) KT8 9AU

This is an all-day meeting so you can also enjoy the Palace and its gardens.

**MEET** in the Tiltyard Cafeteria (**M**) for refreshments and toilets.

**LUNCH** can be had in the Tiltyard cafe or the Kings Arms just outside the grounds. I will book tables in the Kings Arms.

10.30 – 11.00	Assemble in the Tiltyard cafeteria ( <b>M</b> )
11.00	Enter the Royal School of Needlework for talk and tour
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch
14.30 onwards	Free access to the Palace

### **TRAVEL**

The nearest stations are Hampton Court and Kingston (with a bus trip 111, 216 & 411 - see below)

**LATE ARRIVALS.** Phone George or John to find out where we are.

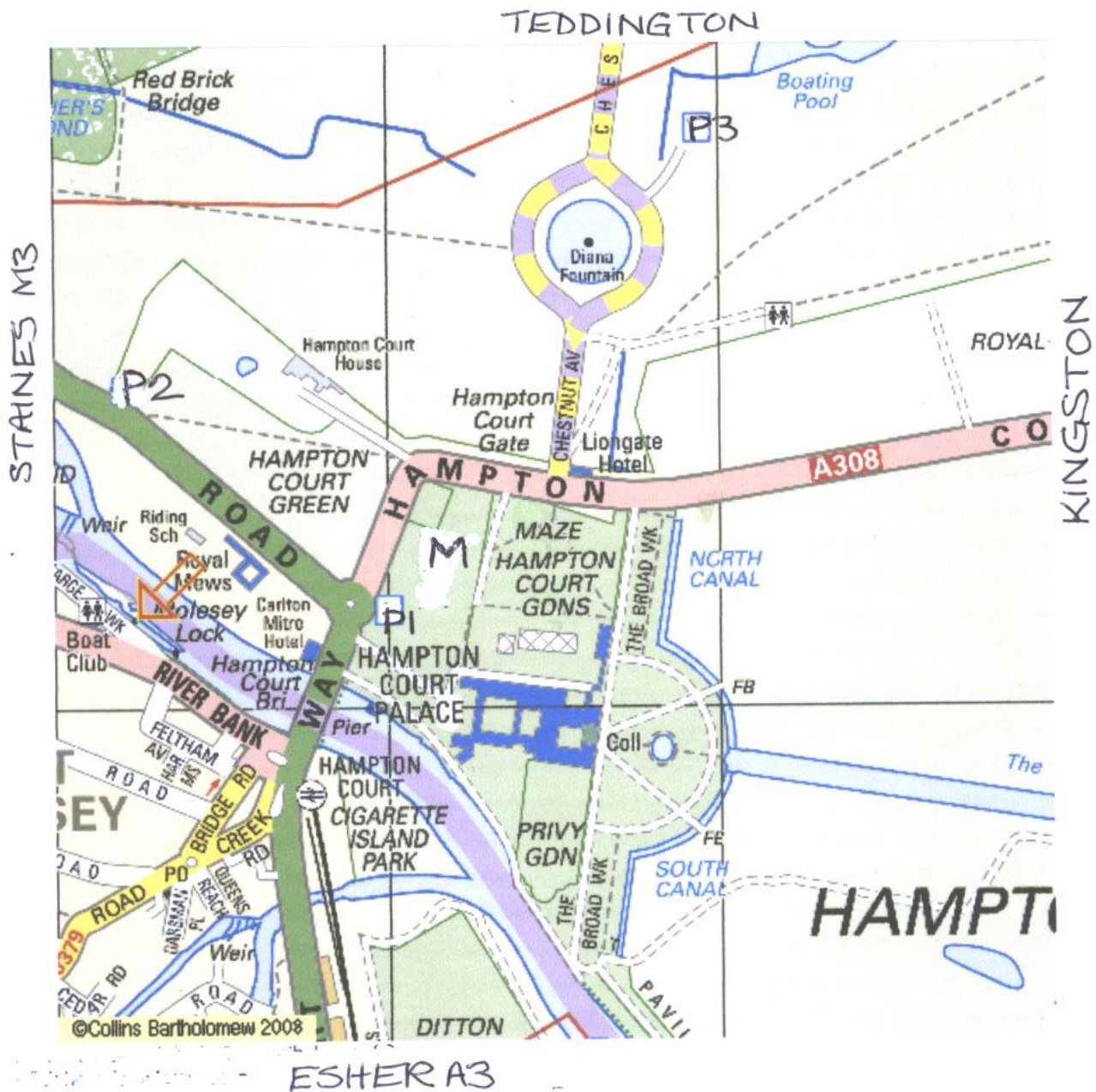
### **CONTACTS**

Before the meeting John Belling [john.a.belling.secrems@gmail.com](mailto:john.a.belling.secrems@gmail.com) 07986 379935

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

### **COSTS**

£30 each with a maximum of 20. Refreshments at cost.



## GETTING THERE.

**Trains** - every half hour from Waterloo to Hampton Court Station, zone 6, at .26 and .56 each hour, taking 35 minutes.

Alternatively, there are 4 trains an hour from Waterloo via Clapham Junction and Wimbledon to Kingston. Near the station buses 411, 111 and 216 run frequently and pass the palace. Alight at "Palace Gardens" and walk past the maze to the cafe.

There are two trains an hour from Richmond station to Kingston. Alternatively, the bus R68 runs from Richmond Station to the Palace, every 15 minutes, taking 3/4 hour.

**Car** – On the A308 between J1 M3 and Kingston. KT8 9AU **P1** is in the Palace grounds and is expensive. **P2** is on the A308 west of the Palace with charges. **P3** is in Bushy Park, is free and is about 400 yards from the Palace.