

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

Visit to Bentley Priory and Bushey Museum on Friday 6 March 2015

This visit has been organised by Tony Manning

We will visit the beautiful eighteenth century Bentley Priory, which was purchased by the RAF in 1923, and served as Fighter Command headquarters during the blitz.

After lunch we will visit the local Bushey Museum, which features the artist Sir Herbert von Herkomer and his pupil Lucy Kemp-Welch.



Bentley Priory Museum tells the fascinating story of the beautiful Grade 2 listed country house, focussing on its role as Headquarters Fighter Command during the Battle of Britain. We explain how technology, leadership and courage forged victory allowing Britain's darkest hour to also be her Finest Hour. We tell the story of 'The One' – Air Chief Marshal Hugh Dowding, 'the Few' who took to air to defend our skies and 'the Many' without whose tireless work on the ground victory would not have been possible.

The Bushey Museum tells the story of Bushey and its unique artistic history. It has a large collection of works and articles relating to Sir Hubert von Herkomer RA and his world-renowned Art School. Also on show is the Lucy Kemp-Welch Memorial Trust Collection, including many of Lucy's superb paintings of horses. Lucy was a pupil of Herkomer, and lived locally.



Bushey's social history is shown through displays on life in the village both in time of peace and war, some of the many locally made products and historic maps.

TRAVEL by car:

Satnav use HA7 3HT (or HA7 3FB is also recommended). For traditional navigation by map the entrance is on the south east corner of the traffic light controlled junction of the A409 Harrow to Elstree road with the Stanmore to Watford road A4140. Do not be put off by the marketing posters for the very expensive homes being built on the estate, or by the closed steel gate, as the gatekeeper will open it when you announce your business. There is ample parking almost under the wings of the Spitfire (an original, but no longer airworthy.)

By public transport: go to Stanmore station on the Jubilee Line and take the 142 bus which stops right outside the entrance. If your health requires you to take a lift call Tony Manning on 01923 263 982 at least 24 hours before.

PROGRAMME

- 10.30 Arrive and meet. Toilets and coffee available
- 11.00 Start of tour
- 13.00 Lunch. This will be taken at the nearby Harvester Inn, the Windmill.. No need to order in advance and all meals include a visit to the salad bar.
- 14.30 Drive to Bushey Village and the museum. Lifts arranged for train passengers, which will include a return to Stanmore Station at the end. The museum postcode is WD23 3HW, and it is in Rudolph Road on the right hand side off the High Street. Drivers may park in the museum site if there is room; otherwise use the shoppers' car park.

COST £10. Pay your own travel and food.

CONTACTS

Before the meeting: Tony Colclough on 020 8398 0766 or tonycolclough@tiscali.co.uk
On morning of visit: Tony Manning on 07747 611 503.