

This visit has been organised by George Freeman.

In the morning we will have a guided tour of the metal ware display – armour, swords, etc., hear of the history, manufacture, conservation and recent results of neutron analysis on two instruments on ISIS. After lunch the rest of the collection will be available to us – paintings, porcelain and furniture, mostly French – a fantastic collection.

The **Wallace Collection** is a national museum which displays the wonderful works of art collected in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries by the first four Marquesses of Hertford and Sir Richard Wallace, the son of the 4th Marquess. It was bequeathed to the British nation by Sir Richard's widow, Lady Wallace, in 1897.

Displayed at Hertford House, one of the family's London properties in the nineteenth century, the Wallace Collection presents its outstanding collections in a sumptuous but approachable manner which is an essential part of its charm.



The metal ware display contains outstanding examples of elaborate decorations in armour and swords from the medieval period onwards. Much was used at ceremonial events and possibly for jousting, etc. The way swords were made is fascinating as they could not melt iron to make steel but the results are functional and beautiful. Recently, one of their Indian swords was subjected to classical and neutron analysis at the national neutron source ISIS at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory using two of the instruments on it – INES and ENGIN-X; see the reference below.

Alan Williams who is the Wallace Collection Honorary Archaeometallurgist and co-author will be our expert guide

The other displays contain pictures, porcelain and furniture. All items are of exceptional quality and mostly French. There is much porcelain from Sevres. There are paintings by Canaletto, Gainsborough, Jan Steen, Watteau and others, a wonderful collection.

Conservation is a large part of the work at the collection and there is usually a display about it which is worth seeing.

W1U 3BN www.wallacecollection.org.

Getting there. The Collection is in Hertford House on the far side of Manchester Square. The nearest underground station is Bond Street. Turn left (west) to Selfridges and take the road alongside it (Duke Street), over Wigmore Street and into Manchester Square.

Meet in the Lecture Theatre on the lower ground floor of Hertford House at 10:50. Leave your bags, etc in the cloakroom to the left. Coffee etc. can be obtained in the Central Courtyard but it is expensive. There are lots of cafes on the way especially in St Christopher's Place. The tour starts 11:00 in the lecture theatre.

Lunch will be taken in Zizzi on the corner of Wigmore Street and Duke Street. There are two pubs and many cafes in the area but this seems the best option.

Cost £25 each for a minimum 12 and maximum of 25. Refreshments at cost. Entry to the Wallace Collection is free.

10:50 – 11:00 Assemble in the theatre
11:00 – 12:30 Lecture and talk/visit to metal ware display
12:30 – 14:00 Lunch
14:00 – Free to see the other displays, an artistic bonanza.

Closing date is 26 February 2016 by which time they require numbers and prior payment.

CONTACTS

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On day of visit. George Freeman 07941 916 944

Late joiners go to the Wallace Collection and ask.

BOOK via the normal IOP quarterly requests. The **closing date** for this event is Friday 26 February. If you wish to register after this date please contact the organiser.

Characterization of an Indian sword; classic and noninvasive methods of investigation in comparison.
E Barzagli, F Grazzi, A Williams, E Edge, A Scherillo, J Kelleher & M Zoppi
Appl. Phys A, online 10 February 2015, DOI 10.1007/s00339-014-8968-0

Some definitions from Wikipedia

Ferrite - known as alpha iron; fairly pure iron

Martensite - hard form of iron containing carbon

Cementite - iron carbide Fe₃C, hard and brittle

Pearlite - two-phased lamella of ferrite (88%) and cementite (12%)

Troilite - FeS