

**Institute of Physics – London & South East Branch – Retired Members Section**  
**ROYAL SCHOOL OF NEEDLEWORK & HAMPTON COURT**  
**Thursday 15 June 2017**

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This visit has been organised by George Freeman

In the morning we will have a tour of the Royal School of Needlework and after lunch a guided tour of parts of the Palace, scientific instruments and garden.



The Astronomical Clock



An example of Stumpwork

Our tour of the **Royal School of Needlework** coincides with an exhibition on Applique and Stump work. The curator Dr Susan Kay-Williams will tell us about the school and highlight some of the exhibits.

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. [www.royal-needlework.org.uk](http://www.royal-needlework.org.uk)

**After lunch** we will have a guided tour of the important parts of the Palace, hear about about some of the barometers and clocks, the great astronomical clock and the gardens.

### **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  
Our Guide will be Steve Earl.

## **TIMETABLE**

10:00 – 10:45	Assemble in the HC cafe. Refreshments and toilets
10:45 – 12:30	Meet our morning guide
12:30 – 13:45	Lunch
14:00	Meet the official Hampton Court guide
16:30	Finish. Free to see more of the Palace.

**MEET** in the Hampton Court cafe for refreshments and toilets.

**LUNCH** will be taken in the Kings Arms. It is not necessary to pre-order.

**ENTRANCE** to the Palace. Some of us have existing tickets from our previous visit. If you do not, please purchase your ticket in the admin block - the barrack block on the left as you enter through the main gates. Tickets will be £23 or £19 concessions.

### **COSTS**

£30 per person + entrance fee. Minimum 15 and maximum 30 people. Coffee, lunch and tea at cost.

**BOOKING** will close on 13 June. If you miss this date and wish to come please contact George.

### **CONTACTS**

Before the meeting. Tony Colclough 020 8398 0766 or 07930 171 307 [tonycolclough@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:tonycolclough@tiscali.co.uk)

Or [georgefreeman@georgefreeman.force9.net](mailto:georgefreeman@georgefreeman.force9.net) 020 8979 1271

On day of visit. George Freeman 07941 916 944

**LATE JOINERS** - please phone me to find where we are.

### **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 via Richmond station to Kingston. Alternatively, the bus R68 runs from Richmond Station to the Palace, every 15 minutes, taking 3/4 hour.

**Car** – The Palace is on the A308 between J1 of the M3 and Kingston. KT8 9AU.

P1 is in the Palace grounds and is £1.60 per hour

P2 is on the A308 west of the Palace with charges.

P3 is in Bushy Park and is free. It is about 400 yards from the garden entrance of the Palace.

