

# Institute of Physics

LONDON AND SOUTH EASTERN BRANCH REMS SECTION

**VINTNERS' HALL and GUILDHALL LIBRARY**  
**MONDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2008**

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This visit has been organised by George Freeman

**The Vintners' Company**, with its first charter in 1363, is ranked eleventh out of the Twelve Great Livery Companies of the City of London. The Company regulated the wine trade from the early times and continues strong links with the wine trade today.

The Company is on the site it has occupied since the 15<sup>th</sup> century, reaching from Upper Thames Street to the river. The site, and hence the building, has changed as widening the road took some of the early buildings away. The façade and entrance dates from 1910. Much of the interior dates from the rebuilding after the Great Fire and the building escaped with little damage from the war.

The Vintners and Dyers own some of the swans on the Thames between Eton and Abingdon. Both take part in the Swan Upping in the third week of July.

[www.vintnershall.co.uk](http://www.vintnershall.co.uk)



The seal of the Company dated 1436

**The Guildhall Library** is not only the local library for the City but also contains the archives of many of the Livery Companies, such as those of The Vintners' Company, and other records of the City. John Fisher, librarian, Prints and Maps Section, will give us a short description of the library and its work and then will show us some of the plans, drawings and pictures of the bridges of London. These will not only be the well known ones from the past but some of the might-have-been ones as well, such as Telford's single span cast iron proposal for the London Bridge replacement of early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Because of limited space we will be divided into two groups with one visiting the clock museum while the other is in the library.

[www.collage.cityoflondon.gov.uk](http://www.collage.cityoflondon.gov.uk)

**MEET** in "Pret-a-manger" on the corner of Cannon Street and Queen Street (1)

The nearest underground stations are Mansion House - walk east along Cannon Street, Cannon Street Station - walk west along Cannon Street and the Bank - exit 8, walk down Walbrook to Cannon Street and turn right.

Late joiners go straight to Vintners' Hall (2), which is at the end of Queen Street and across the road (Upper Thames Street). Enter under the flagpole.

**LUNCH** can be taken in a pub/café called All-Bar-One (3A) or in one of the pubs in Queen Street, eg The Golden Fleece (3B)

**REASSEMBLE** at the Guildhall Library entrance (4).

10.30 – 10.55	Meet Pret-a-Manger (1)
10.55 – 11.00	Walk to Vintners' Hall (2)
11.00 – 12.15	Introduction and tour of hall
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch (3A or 3B)
14.00 – 14.15	Walk to Guildhall Library (4)
14.15 – 15.00	Group 1 in library
15.00 – 15.45	Group 2 in library

COSTS FOR 30 PEOPLE MAXIMUM

£ 7 per person, payable in advance.

Lunch and tea at cost.

CONTACTS

Prior to visit – Reinalt Vaughan-Williams, [reinalt@physics.org](mailto:reinalt@physics.org), 020 8946 3399 & 07758 085741

On morning of visit only – George Freeman, 07941 916 944

