



KEYNSHAM & SALTFRD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

DETAILS OF MEMBERS' VISITS 2024

- MAY Monday 13th 2.00 pm**
RODMARTON MANOR
- JUNE Monday 10th 10.00am**
RECONSTRUCTED ROMAN VILLA AT THE NEWT
- JULY Wednesday 3rd 2.00 pm**
BATTLE OF LANSDOWN – GUIDED WALK
- JULY Tuesday 23rd 2.00 pm**
GUIDED WALK OF WARMLEY GARDENS AND GROTTO
- AUGUST Monday 19th 9.00 am - COACH TRIP**
HIGHCLERE CASTLE

If you have any queries about the visits contact Liz Walker, tel 0117 9324539 or email alanliz@blueyonder.co.uk

Scroll down for details of each event

RODMARTON MANOR

MONDAY 13 MAY 2024 2.00 pm

We have arranged a private visit to Rodmarton Manor which is just north of Tetbury. Rodmarton Manor was built by Ernest Barnsley who was a follower of William Morris, one of the leaders of the English Arts and Crafts Movement towards the end of the 19th Century. The aim of the Arts and Crafts reformers was to re-establish a harmony between architect, designer and craftsman and to emphasise the importance of handcraftsmanship to the production of well-designed, affordable everyday objects with individual and regional expression, honesty of construction, simplicity, and fitness of purpose.



The house is the home of the Biddulph family.



The 8 acre Cotswold garden was designed originally as a series of outdoor rooms and is still the same today.

OUR VISIT – At 2.00pm we will have a private tour of the house followed by refreshments in the tea room. After this you can visit the garden at your leisure

REFRESHMENTS

Tea and cakes will be served in the tearoom after the tour of the house. This is included in the cost. Please use the form to advise of any allergies etc.

TRAVEL By car: Rodmarton Manor is approximately 32 miles from Keynsham and takes about an hour. If you are travelling by car and are able to give a lift to someone, please let me know.

Dial-a-ride: For those who do not drive, we have arranged for a minibus from Keynsham Dial-a-ride to take up to 12 people. The cost for this will be £15 payable at the time of booking. If you use a walking aid, please let me know at the time of booking as this reduces the number of seats available in the bus.

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| <i>Departs</i> | Keynsham Ashton Way Bus Lay-by | 12.30 pm |
| <i>Arrives</i> | Rodmarton Manor | 13.45 am |
| <i>Departs</i> | Rodmarton Manor | 4.30 pm |
| <i>Arrives</i> | Keynsham Ashton Way | 6.00 pm approx |

MOBILITY – Wheelchair Access

There is wheelchair access to the ground floor of the House and most of the paths in the garden.

PRICES For Society members and their guests

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| A House tour, tea and cake | Single adult | £23.00 |
| B Dial-a-ride with House tour, tea and cake | Single adult | £38.00 |

BOOKING –

Please note the following:

1. Payment in full must be made at the time of booking. Cheques should be payable to “Keynsham & Saltford Local History Society”.
2. If the trip is cancelled due to lack of support this decision will be made before 31st March and all monies paid will be refunded.
3. If the trip is curtailed or abandoned due to circumstances beyond our control, such as a major road delay, no refund will be possible unless the Society can recoup any outlay.
4. It is the responsibility of every passenger to ensure that they are at the departure point by the required time, as the minibus will leave promptly.

Use Part 2 of the booking form and return this with payment.

Roman Villa Experience at the Newt, Bruton

MONDAY 10TH JUNE 2024 10.00 am

The Newt is a Somerset estate owned since 2013 by Koos Becker and Karen Roos. The Newt opened as a hotel in 2019 and was voted the World's best boutique hotel in 2023. The owners have developed extensive kitchen gardens and vineyards. There are Roman remains on the estate dating back to 350 AD which provided the inspiration for building a replica Roman Villa which opened in June 2022. We will have a guided tour followed by a visit to the museum.

The Romano-British Villa Ventorum with original foundations, stunning glass-walled visitor centre, reconstructed villa, including working bathhouse, surrounding vineyard has been described as one of the most evocative sights in southern England.



OUR VISIT – At 11.00am we will have a tour of the Roman Villa including a visit to the museum. After this you can have lunch in the Garden Café booked for 1.00 pm and look round the gardens

MEET - In the car park at The Newt at 10.00

REFRESHMENTS The Newt has an excellent reputation for food, sourcing produce locally and growing much of their fruit and vegetables in the kitchen gardens which you will be able to visit. Lunch in the Garden Café costs £30pp for 2 courses, £40pp for 3 courses. Please indicate on the booking form if you would like to book this. Otherwise there is the Cyder Bar which serves coffee, cakes and lighter lunches. The Newt is a hotel and therefore the grounds are not suitable for picnicking!

ACCESSIBILITY - There is a shuttle bus between the car park and Roman Villa which can be made available for those with limited mobility.

TRAVEL By car: The Newt is approximately 30 miles from Keynsham via the A37 and A371 and takes about an hour. If you are travelling by car and are able to give a lift to someone, please let me know.

Dial-a-ride: For those who do not drive, we have arranged for a minibus from Keynsham Dial-a-ride to take up to 12 people. The cost for this will be £14 payable at the time of booking. If you use a walking aid, please let me know at the time of booking as this reduces the number of seats available in the bus.

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| Departs | Keynsham Ashton Way Bus Lay-by | 8.45am |
| Arrives | The Newt | 10.00 am |
| Departs | The Newt | 3.30 pm |
| Arrives | Keynsham Ashton Way | 5.00 pm approx |

DURATION The tour will start at 11 am and take about an hour and a half. The villa is approximately a 25 minutes walk from the car park through the woods. After the tour and visit to the museum, you can have lunch in the Garden Café if you wish or refreshments in the Cyder Bar and visit the kitchen garden.

PRICE For society members and their guests

A travel by car – Guided tour of the Roman Villa £25.00 per person.

B travel by dial-a-ride Guided tour of the Roman Villa – £39.00 per person

There is a **maximum of 25 visitors** for the tour

BOOKING – Use Part 2 of the booking form and return this, with payment.

Battle of Lansdown walk led by Richard Dyson

2.00 pm WEDNESDAY 3rd JULY 2024



OUR VISIT –Guided Walk

This is a walk to explore some of the key points and views relating to the principal encounter of the Civil War Battle of Lansdown on 5th July 1643. It is of interest because the topography played a major part in how the battle was fought and much of the landscape was very similar to that we see today. Maximum 25 people.

MEET AT Battle sign next to lay-by
Grid Ref ST 7210 7020
Nearest post code (Fire & Rescue Centre) BA1 9DB

DURATION Approx 1½ hours. Distance approx 2 miles.

TRANSPORT - Cars.

There is limited parking in the rough lay-by opposite the road to the Fire & Rescue Centre. Do not park on the main road. Please share cars if possible.

ACCESSIBILITY – This is a country walk including rough ground and stiles. Walking boots are recommended.

PRICES **For Society members and their guests**

No charge but attendance must be booked

BOOKING – Use Part 2 of the booking form.

GUIDED WALK OF WARMLEY GARDENS AND GROTTO

2.00 pm TUESDAY 23rd JULY 2024

OUR VISIT –

We have arranged a guided walk of William Campion's gardens and grottoes. The walk will take about one and a half hours over pathways and grass.



The museum building houses a variety of displays of local industries and social history. It will be open and has a café for refreshments.. Entrance to the museum costs £4 and can be paid on the day if you wish to visit.



TRANSPORT - Cars, please indicate on the booking form if you would like a lift or can give a lift. There is a carpark at the museum

DURATION The tour will take about an hour and a half (90 minutes).

FOOD & DRINK – There is a café serving drinks and cakes.

MOBILITY –Disabled toilet available. Walk is on pathways and grass.

PRICES For Society members and their guests

Guided tour of the gardens and grottoes– Single adult £8.00

BOOKING – Use Part 2 of the booking form and return this with payment in full.

HIGHCLERE CASTLE

9.00 am MONDAY 19 AUGUST 2024



OUR VISIT – Will be a full-day coach trip. You will be able to tour the castle at your own pace. Each room has well-informed guides who will be able to answer questions. There is a one-way system in operation. After this you can visit the Egyptian Museum celebrating the discovery of Tutankamun's tomb by the 5th Earl of Carnarvon.

In 1679, Highclere Place House was purchased by Sir Robert Sawyer, the direct ancestor of the current Earl of Carnarvon. In 1842, Sir Charles Barry, who also designed the Houses of Parliament, transformed Highclere House into the present day Highclere Castle.

During the First World War, Highclere Castle was converted into a hospital for wounded soldiers run by the 5th Countess of Carnarvon. Then, in the Second World War, Highclere Castle was home to children evacuated from London.



There are between 250 and 300 rooms in the Castle Saloon and during your tour you will explore the main state rooms so familiar from "Downton Abbey". You will see some of the bedrooms after which you will follow the stairs down to the cellars and old staff quarters where you will find the Egyptian Exhibition, celebrating the 5th Earl of Carnarvon's discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun.



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| TIMES – Coach | Departs | Keynsham Bath Road, Grasmere Court | - 9.00 am |
| | Departs | Keynsham Ashton Way Bus Lay-by | - 9.10 am |
| | Arrives | Highclere Castle | - 11.15 am |
| | Departs | Highclere Castle | - 4.00 pm |
| | Arrives | Keynsham Parish Church | - 6.00 pm approx |
| | Arrives | Keynsham, Bath Road, Talbot Inn | - 6.00 pm approx |

TRAVEL - The coach will be a full-size one, with toilet facilities.

MOBILITY –Whilst there are some gravel paths around the Castle lawns and through some of the Gardens, the Woodland Walks are rougher grass paths, as are the paths through the Flower Meadow in the summer.

FOOD & DRINK – There are various cafes and takeaway options in the grounds.

PRICES A - For Society members and their guests

NB: Highclere Castle offer reduced entrance to Historic Houses members. However this does not cover entrance to the Egyptian museum. This can be paid individually on the day.

- Single adult (non HH member) £47.50
- Single adult (Historic Houses Member) £27.00

Please note the following:

1. Payment in full must be made at the time of booking. Cheques should be payable to “Keynsham & Saltford Local History Society”.
2. If the trip is cancelled due to lack of support this decision will be made before 19th July and all monies paid will be refunded.
3. If the trip is curtailed or abandoned due to circumstances beyond our control, such as a major road delay, no refund will be possible unless the Society can recoup any outlay.
4. It is the responsibility of every passenger to ensure that they are at the departure point for each journey by the required time, as the coach will leave promptly.

BOOKING – Use Part 2 of the booking form and return this with payment in full.

ON THE DAY

- If you are a member of Historic Houses, bring your membership card.
- If joining at Grasmere Court/Bottom of Chandag Road, be there at 8.50 am.