

LONDON ASHRIDGE CIRCLE

PROGRAMME: SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 2012

TUESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

MARBLE HILL HOUSE

Meet at Entrance, Marble Hill House, Richmond Road, Twickenham, at 11.20 for 11.30 am (for a cup of tea beforehand, if required).

Marble Hill House is owned by English Heritage and was built for Henrietta Howard (mistress of George II). The interior has been restored and includes a collection of early Georgian paintings. After the visit, there is a small café in the Park, serving sandwiches, baked potatoes, etc. Charges: £5.50 Adults, £5.00 Concessions, English Heritage members free.

SATURDAY 8 AND SUNDAY 9 SEPTEMBER

RIVER PAGEANT

TUESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

TOUR OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Meet at Tour Entrance, Buckingham Palace, Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1, at 10.45 for 11.00 am.

"Diamonds: A Jubilee Celebration", is the exhibition at the summer opening of Buckingham Palace for the Queen's special year. This will include a dazzling display of the Queen's personal jewels. Tickets: Adults £18.00, Concessions £16.50, have been booked for the tour already.

THURSDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

TRADITIONAL ROAST LUNCH

Meet in the Foyer, The Civil Service Club, 13-15 Great Scotland Yard, London SW1A 2HJ, at 12.30 for 1 pm.

Enjoy a 3-course roast lunch, glass of wine and coffee/tea, pleasant surroundings.

SATURDAY 16 AND SUNDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

OPEN HOUSE WEEKEND

WEDNESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

MONTHLY TALK

Meet in The Grill Room, Victory Services Club, 63-79 Seymour Street, London W2 2HF, at 6.30 for 7.00 pm.

David Evans, a Registered London Guide, will talk on the Heyday of Cinema Going in Britain in the 1940s and early 1950s, "Plus Full Supporting Programme".

TUESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

ST PANCRAS RENAISSANCE HOTEL TOUR

Meet at Reception, St Pancras Renaissance Hotel, Euston Road, London NW1 2AR, at 2.45 for 3.00 pm.

This hotel was designed by the Victorian architect George Gilbert Scott. A 1½-hour tour has been arranged and will be led by an in-house historian, to view the refurbished building after many years of decay. We shall see the Grand Staircase plus other public and private rooms. Price £20, to be paid on the day.

THURSDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

ART LOVERS' LUNCH

Meet at 14 Forsyth House, Tachbrook Street, London SW1V 2LE, at 12 noon.

The theme this time is "Through an open door or window". Bring a picture of a painting. Bowl food and a glass of wine (or soft drink) will be served. Cost £2.50.

TUESDAY 2 OCTOBER

LECTURE AT DULWICH PICTURE GALLERY

Meet at Dulwich Picture Gallery, Gallery Road, Dulwich, at 10.00 for 10.30 am.

Lecture entitled "George V's refusal to give sanctuary to his cousin, the last Tsar and family", by Ian Curtis, playwright and dramatist. For over 40 years a TV Director for BBC Drama. Part of a series of Jubilee lectures this year by notable speakers. Limited tickets, £10 and £9.00 concessions, to be purchased on day.

SATURDAY 6 OCTOBER**LUNCH AT THE ALEXANDER POPE followed by
VISIT TO STRAWBERRY HILL**

Meet at The Alexander Pope, Cross Deep, Twickenham, TW1 4RB, at 12 noon.

A light lunch has been booked (e.g. Club sandwich £5.95). Lovely view from here over The Thames. Then a short walk to Strawberry Hill House, 269 Waldegrave Road, Twickenham, TW1 4ST, for 2.00 pm. This is an elegant and eccentric Gothic house. Horace Walpole owned this interesting, pretty property. Very helpful guides. Seniors £6.30. There is a car park.

WEDNESDAY 10 OCTOBER**RICHMOND THEATRE**

Meet at Carluccios at 12 noon, or Richmond Theatre at 2.15 pm.

The play is *Good Grief* by Keith Waterhouse, and stars Penelope Keith. It is humorous and poignant. Tickets are in Rows Q and R and are £22 for Senior Citizens.

FRIDAY 12 OCTOBER**NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY**

Meet in the Foyer at 11.30 am.

"The Queen: Art and Image". There will be 60 portraits and photographs from various artists celebrating her Diamond Jubilee. Admission £5.50.

SUNDAY 14 OCTOBER**A WALK IN SPITALFIELDS**

Meet at Whitechapel Gallery, Whitechapel High Street, Whitechapel, at 10.45 for 11.00 am.

We will see evidence of French Huguenot connection and explore the buildings and history of Spitalfields. The walk costs £7.00.

WEDNESDAY 17 OCTOBER**MONTHLY TALK**

Meet at The Grill Room, Victory Services Club, 63-79 Seymour Street, London W2 2HF, at 6.30 for 7.00 pm.

Keith Lowe (author of *Savage Continent* and *Inferno*) will speak on "The War that never ended: The Aftermath of World War II".

SATURDAY 20 OCTOBER**LUNCH AT OSCAR'S BRASSERIE**

Meet at Oscar's Brasserie, Croydon Park Hotel, 7 Altyre Road, Croydon, at 12 noon for 12.30 pm in the Bar.

Three course lunch £14.95 including coffee. Cold buffet table or soup, hot buffet or carvery, dessert or cheese are available. Wine is reasonably priced.

WEDNESDAY 24 OCTOBER**WELLINGTON ARCH AND APSLEY HOUSE**

Meet at Wellington Arch, Hyde Park Corner – time to be arranged, please contact organiser.

The Wellington Arch has reopened with a new exhibition gallery to add to the tremendous views from the top. Apsley House was home to the Duke of Wellington after Waterloo, and contains art and porcelain collections. Joint tickets cost £8.20, concessions £7.40, English Heritage members free.

SATURDAY 27 OCTOBER**AUTUMN FAYRE**

Meet outside The Tyburn Convent, 8 Hyde Park Place, London W2 2LJ, at 11.00 am.

Sales will consist of crafts, fancy goods, home made cakes, sweets, preserves and greeting cards. Light refreshments will be available. Admission 50p.

THURSDAY 1 NOVEMBER**HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS TOUR OF SOMERSET HOUSE**

Meet at Strand Entrance to Somerset House, at 12.45 for 1.15 pm.

Somerset House is a very historical house and the highlights will include Seaman's Hall, Fountain Court, Stamp Stairs, Great Arch, and more. The tour is free.

WEDNESDAY 14 NOVEMBER**VISIT TO ESTORICK COLLECTION**

Meet at 39a Canonbury Square, London, at 11.00 am.

Visit to Estorick Collection of Modern Art – a little known museum tucked away on Canonbury Square. Founded to house the Collection of Eric Estorick, American Sociologist and writer. It is devoted to Italian modern art. There is a café for lunch, and a shop. Admission £5.00, Concessions £3.50. Tours £3.50.

WEDNESDAY 21 NOVEMBER**MONTHLY TALK**

Meet at The Victory Services Club, 63-79 Seymour Street, London W2 2HF, at 6.30 for 7.00 pm.

Elizabeth Lawrence, Senior Guide at Syon House, will speak on "Mystery and Splendour".

WEDNESDAY 28 NOVEMBER**CUTTY SARK**

Meet at Cutty Sark, Greenwich, at 2.15 for 2.30 pm.

"Explore Cutty Sark like never before". Since the revamp and reopening in April 2012, the last surviving tea clipper is a magnificent living testimony to the bygone glorious days of sail and a national icon of British maritime history. There is gift shop and café serving Twinings tea, and there is also a selection of fresh food and drinks. Tickets £12.

SUNDAY 2 DECEMBER**PLAYERS' THEATRE**

Meet at Players' Music Hall Company, Charing Cross Theatre, The Arches, Villiers Street, London, at 3.30 pm for 4.00 pm.

Victorian Music Hall at its very best, come along to join the fun. There is a restaurant and bar available. Ticket price £20-25.

WEDNESDAY 5 DECEMBER**CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON**

Meet at Mark Masons' Hall, 86 St James's Street, London SW1A 1PL, at 11.45 for 12.30 pm.

Meet in the Bar which is situated on the second floor, access available by lift or stairs. The cost of a three-course menu, a glass of wine or soft drink, plus coffee and mince pies, inclusive of gratuities and VAT will be £35.00 per head. The first course will consist of a mixed plated starter, the second course will offer Rib of Beef, Turkey, Fish or Vegetarian options, and for the third course will be offered Fresh Fruit Salad or Christmas Pudding. It will be necessary when booking, to give prior information, if you require the Fish or Vegetarian course, and Christmas Pudding or Fresh Fruit Salad. Please note: Pre-lunch drinks from the Bar and any additional drinks with the meal are to be charged to individual guests on a cash basis.

TUESDAY 18 DECEMBER**SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL**

Meet at Main Door, Southwark Cathedral, London Bridge, at 11.30 for 12.45 pm, to get a good seat.

Join me for the Carol-sing-in at this wonderful Cathedral. Afterwards we can eat in the Refectory.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN THE NEXT PROGRAMME

SUNDAY 6 JANUARY

12TH NIGHT CEREMONY AT GEFFRYS MUSEUM

The burning of Christmas decorations and singing of carols. Refreshments, cakes and mulled wine.

SATURDAY 20 JANUARY

AFTERNOON TEA

Venue to be decided.

FRIDAY 25 JANUARY

BURN'S NIGHT LUNCH

Meet at Hammersmith College – time to be decided.

The suggested holiday for next year (22 July for 7 nights) is Littlecote Manor House with Warner Leisure Hotels. Double rooms with single occupancy can be booked.

DATA PROTECTION ACT

The London Ashridge Circle has computerised its membership details. The information will **NOT** be used for any purpose other than the mailing of London Ashridge Circle information of interest to members nor will names/addresses/telephone numbers be divulged to any other organisation or person.

PLEASE NOTE THAT IF A MEMBER'S NAME IS NOT ON THE COMPUTER, HE/SHE WILL NOT RECEIVE THE PROGRAMME OF EVENTS BY POST AND CAN ONLY OBTAIN THIS AT A MONTHLY MEETING.