

PORTSDOWN U3A BUILDINGS APPRECIATION GROUP

NOTES FROM MEETING HELD ON 30TH APRIL 2019

Feedback Our new member, Viv, who came last time but is indisposed today, said that she had greatly enjoyed her visit last time, and commented on what a friendly group it was! (Thanks to all for making her welcome.

In memoriam We acknowledge the loss to U3A and our group of Beryl Fowler, who was only with our group for a short time, but we will miss her.

We also noted the fire at Notre Dame in Paris, and the loss of part of the building as a result. We will await with interest the plans for the future - replace? restore? alternative use??!!

Christmas Lunch David told us that he could arrange with South Downs College for us to have a Christmas lunch there but the general feeling seemed to be that many people go to a lot of these in December, and we would prefer the lunch to be in January 2020! David agreed to investigate this, possibly for the 4th Tuesday, which would be 28th January.

Chichester Cathedral This is now firmly booked for Tuesday, 23rd July at 11a.m. - the cost will be £5.50 per person. **I will collect this at our May and June meetings, please.** If you choose to go by bus, it would be the first one after 9.30am at either Havant or Hilsea, which gets in just before 11 a.m. and stops in front of the cathedral. If you need to contact me on the day, my mobile number is 07969 525587. I have been told that the Clerk of Works has agreed to come and talk to us for 20-30 minutes at the end of our tour, to talk about his role, the current building projects and to answer any questions (so have some ready, please!)

Winchester Cathedral Chris Hatton is working on this. She tells me that we can't meet the stone masons, so I've asked if maybe they could recommend someone to come and talk to us. Please give some thought to whether you still want to do a trip to Winchester, to visit the cathedral and/or the museum, and when!

Eltham Palace Judy Jones, Travel Group, is organising this trip. Cost £18.53, which is just for the coach, as she has negotiated for it to be an educational tour, so be prepared to look keen and interested!! The coach leaves the Church of the Resurrection at 8.30 a.m.

Good News!! I am told we have £55 in hand which we could use for a speaker, or any other group activity. It should be something all the group could participate in! Other

suggestions - Andrew Negus; someone from the Portsmouth Society; or the Portchester Society (Lesley and Jill offered to talk to Brian Jarrett); I mentioned an excellent talk by Martin Critchley about buildings in Havant that I'd heard, and will get in touch to find out his fee and availability; Julie also has a contact at Hampshire Genealogy..... **ANY OTHER IDEAS WELCOME!**

Meantime, it seems sensible to reduce our contribution to hire and refreshments to £1.50 from the next (May) meeting.

Open Afternoon Colin and Lynne have volunteered to manage our display at the Open Afternoon on 9th October. However, we also need volunteers for the myriad other 'jobs' that need doing, such as ushering visitors, making tea and moving furniture. If you are willing and able to help, please let ME know (As I foolishly volunteered to be co-ordinator!!)

Portsmouth Cathedral David is working on a presentation/video about this, and has offered to deliver it to us once it is completed, and to conduct us on a tour with tea and staying for evensong. This would be on a Tuesday or Friday afternoon 3.30/4pm - of which , more later...

NORMAN CATHEDRALS We had interesting presentations about Lincoln, Ely and Peterborough cathedrals from Janice, Helen and Colin & Lynne. Thanks to all of you for your hard work. At our May meeting, we will be hearing about St. Albans, Chelmsford and Hereford.

Thanks to everyone for your input, in whatever capacity, for making this such an enthusiastic and welcoming group.

Christine London