



The 20-Ghost Club Limited

A weekend of culture and fun in Hampshire and an opportunity to drive one another's Rolls-Royce cars at Lasham Airfield

Thursday 23 to Sunday 26 April 2015

A tour of Hampshire is planned with a visit to Wilton House including a light lunch and Danbury Vineyards on Friday 24 April. On Saturday, 25 April we will visit St Cross Hospital & Village, have lunch in the barn at Armsworth Park House (the home of members Strone and Alex Macpherson) followed by a visit to Lasham Airfield where members will have the opportunity to drive one another's cars around the perimeter track. On Sunday 26 April, there is a choice of either a drive through the Hampshire countryside and a pub lunch or touring the Portsmouth Historic Dockyard including the Mary Rose and new submarine museum. Throughout the tour, accommodation has been reserved at the Norton Park Hotel, Sutton Scotney, SO21 3NB.

Wilton Estate



The estate, which is located 3 miles west of Salisbury, has 14,000 acres divided into 14 farms, one of which is run by the estate, and more than 200 residential properties. Wilton House is the family home of William Alexander Sidney Herbert, 18th Earl of Pembroke, 15th Earl of Montgomery and

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his wife Lady Victoria Pembroke and their two children, Lady Ekaterina and Lord Reginald Herbert. Since 1544, when the buildings and land were granted by Henry VIII to Sir William Herbert, the house has been inextricably linked to the political and artistic circles of England whilst providing employment and homes for estate workers.



The 17th Earl initiated a major programme of restoration and improvements, which is continuing to this day and includes the addition of several new gardens and the complete renovation of the Inigo Jones South Front, including all the state rooms. In 2010, another phase of restoration included the dining room and Wyatt Cloisters, which received the HHA/Sotheby's Restoration Award. The house is being opened especially for our group and arrangements have been made to have a talk by the Estate Manager to explain how the estate works and this will be followed by a private guided tour. www.wiltonhouse.co.uk



DANEbury  **VINEYARDS**
STOCKBRIDGE HAMPSHIRE

Ernst Piëch, (the great grandson of Ferdinand Porsche), who kindly hosted participants in the 2013 Alpine Rally at his museum in Austria has kindly invited us to a tour of the Danebury Vineyards followed by a cream tea and wine tasting. These wines will be available to anyone wishing to purchase them on the day.



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Fine English Wines Since 1988

Danebury Vineyards is a privately owned estate located near Stockbridge, in the heart of Hampshire, on the paddocks of what was a famous nineteenth-century racehorse training yard. The vineyards cover seven acres (2.8ha) of sheltered, south-facing fields on chalk and flint-stone soil.

The first vines were planted in 1988 and today they produce their flagship vintage brut sparkling wine 'Cossack', two varietal still white wines Madeleine Angevine and Schönburger, and the Danebury Reserve, a blend of all the grape varieties. The family has chosen to focus on limited production, following organic principles, which is reflected in the quality of the wine. Although on the fringes of the wine producing regions of the world, England's long summer days allow for maximum ripening of the grapes, ensuring strong fruit flavours and the chalk and flint soil, characteristic of the region, lends the wine its minerality.

Danebury wines are made from grapes harvested from a single vineyard. Their experienced viticulture and wine making skills are reflected in Danebury's exceptional fine wines, which are consistent medal winners at international wine awards and are poured in top institutions.

www.danebury.com

St Cross Hospital



William Corbett, a 20 Ghost Club member, is Chairman of the Trustees of St Cross and has kindly arranged for us to visit St Cross. The Brethren's Hall is where the Brothers gathered and ate for several centuries and almost all of the original features can be seen today: the central hearth where a charcoal fire used to burn, the stairs leading from the Master's lodging, the raised platform where he took his meals and the fine musician's gallery above the entrance. The Brethren's Hall is still used today by the Master and Brothers of St Cross to celebrate special events and feast days. The Victorian kitchen, meat room and cellar are also open for public viewing.



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Outside, take a walk along the Tudor ambulatory to visit the Compton gardens and the Master's garden. Enjoy a leisurely stroll around the gardens or sit by the pond and enjoy the peaceful ambiance that has been a feature of St Cross for so many centuries.

The Hospital of St Cross is famous for its unique and ancient tradition of providing the Wayfarer's Dole - a horn of beer and a morsel of bread to any visitors who request it. This tradition was founded by a Cluniac monk whose holy order always gave bread and wine to travellers and still continues today. Just ask at The Porter's Lodge on your way out - and please stay long enough to buy a souvenir or two in The Porter's Lodge shop.

Finally, before you leave why not enjoy a cup of tea and home-made cake. The tearooms (open in summer months only) are situated in the Hundred Men's Hall, where up to a hundred local men were given food each day in mediaeval times.

Legend has it that the Hospital's foundation originated in a walk that Henry de Blois, a grandson of William the Conqueror, took in the Itchen Meadows.

He was supposedly stopped by a young peasant girl who begged de Blois to help her people, who were starving because of the civil war. The parallel with the Virgin Mary was not lost on de Blois, who was so moved by the girl's plight that when, a little further along the river, he discovered the ruins of a religious house, he resolved to use the site to establish a new community to help the poor. How much of this is fact is unclear, but we do know that Henry de Blois was young, wealthy and powerful: a monk, knight and politician in one. Appointed Bishop of Winchester in 1129 at the age of 28, he founded the Hospital of St Cross between 1132 and 1136, creating what has become England's oldest charitable institution.



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The Hospital was founded to support thirteen poor men, so frail that they were unable to work, and to feed one hundred men at the gates each day. The thirteen men became the Brothers of St Cross. Then, as now, they were not monks. St Cross is not a monastery but a secular foundation. Medieval St Cross was endowed with land, mills and farms, providing food and drink for a large number of people - do not forget the water was unfit for drinking so copious amounts of ale and beer were needed!

In the fifteenth century, Cardinal Beaufort added to the St Cross buildings and is widely regarded as giving St Cross the look it has today.

Lunch at Armsworth Park

20-Ghost Club members, Strone and Alex Macpherson, kindly invite you to an informal buffet Spring lunch in the 16th century barn that they have restored at Armsworth Park House, Old Alresford, Alresford, Hampshire SO24 9RH. Menu – Fizz, Shepherd's Pie, Treacle Tart, Coffee/Tea.

Lasham Gliding Society



The village and airfield are now usually known as “Lash-am” but until recent times most locals called it “Lass-ham”. The village dates back to the eleventh century when it was “Esseham”, becoming “Lessham” shortly after. The airfield was built by Irish labourers and Italian prisoners of war. Its construction destroyed much of the avenue of beech trees that had been planted by George Purefoy Jervoise of Herriard Park in 1809, to commemorate the Jubilee of George III (in 1810). A painting was made of The Avenue by Thomas Hennell. It is one of about 1500 paintings made by a large number of artists early in the war as part of Recording Britain project funded by the Pilgrim Trust. The painting of the avenue is now in the Victoria & Albert Museum.



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Gliding Activities

The club originally occupied one of the hangars now used by ATC. In the meantime the Surrey Gliding Club and Imperial College Gliding Club were both seeking a new home because Redhill airfield had many other users. Other places were considered but Lasham was chosen on the basis of where members lived. Lasham was chosen by a majority of one.

The Surrey club and Imperial College moved to Lasham in August 1951. Auto-tows and winches were initially used. Aero-towing began in February 1954 with a Tiger Moth. Eventually all wire launches were done by auto-tow, until 1988 when winching was reintroduced and replaced auto-towing. Lasham Gliding Society was established in 1959 and later signed a long lease on the airfield from the Ministry of Defence. The Defence Research Establishment later maintained a satellite station there but most of the buildings from the World War Two have been demolished, except for the large hangars.

Lasham Gliding Society is now one of the largest gliding clubs in the world. Over 220 gliders are based at the airfield. The airfield is in constant use throughout the year and regularly hosts national and regional gliding championships.

In 1999, Lasham Gliding Society (LGS) completed the purchase from the Ministry of Defence of the freehold to the airfield, making the final payment in 2001. It now owns all of the land within the fenced and gated area as well as the fields that form the undershoot area at each end of the main runway.

The Society lets part of the land to an aircraft maintenance company (ATC Lasham). This company uses the main runway several times a week to bring in airliners for overhauls and is the largest employer in the area. Surplus land and buildings are let to local farmers and businesses.

Portsmouth Historic Dockyard - Mary Rose Museum





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The exciting, new £27 million Mary Rose Museum opened its doors to visitors last year. Located just metres from Nelson's flagship, HMS Victory and the ships of the modern Royal Navy, the new museum provides one of the most significant insights into Tudor life in the world and creates the new centrepiece to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard. The Tudor ship that captured the world's imagination when she was raised from the seabed in 1982 is the only sixteenth century warship on display anywhere in the world and the new museum built around her reunites her with many of her 19,000 artefacts and crew.

Royal Navy Submarine Museum HMS Alliance Submarine



The three submarines HMS Alliance, Holland I and X24 represent the core of the Museum's unique collection. However the collection also contains extensive holdings of photographs, documents, ship plans and artefacts. Much of the collection is on display in the Museum's galleries but in the case of the archive and photographic archive these two areas comprise tens of thousands of items the majority of which are in storage but are accessible to the public via the Historical Enquiry service that the Museum provides.

Visit HMS Alliance, newly restored after a £7m refit and ready for patrol! Assault all of your senses by walking on board HMS Alliance, the only remaining WW2 era British ocean going submarine.

The cost for a couple participating in the 23-26 April 2015 Tour of Hampshire, staying at the Norton Park Hotel (double room en suite, buffet breakfast and dinner excluding wine, for three nights, Thursday 23, Friday 24 and Saturday 25 April 2015) and entry to Wilton House will be £795 per couple. (Note: This also includes lunch at Armsworth Park House).

To make your reservation, please complete the attached form and send it with a **non-refundable deposit cheque** for £395 per couple, made payable to The 20-Ghost Club Limited, to Brian Fidler, The Treasurer, The 20-Ghost Club Limited, The Eighth House, Vernon Avenue, Oxford OX2 9AU, to arrive no later than 1 December 2014, followed by a cheque for the balance of £400 by 1 March 2015.



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Please also notify Strone and Alex by email on strone@stronemacpherson.com

I/We would like to attend the 23-26 April 2015 Tour of Hampshire and take part in the visit to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard/Drive through the Hampshire countryside (please delete as appropriate) and enclose a **non-refundable deposit cheque** for £395 (per couple)

Names.....

Address:

.....Post code

Telephone:.....

Email (in capitals please)

Dietary requirements:

Car: Model.....Chassis No..... Reg. No.....Year.....

Body style.....Colour.....Coachbuilder.....

As a participant in the 20-Ghost Club 2015 Tour of Hampshire and in consideration of the right and privilege to participate in this event and intending to be legally bound, I agree to release the 20-Ghost Club and all committee members and its representatives from any and all liability and injuries, damage or loss or consequential loss arising from my participation in the event.

Signed:.....Date:.....



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Spring Lunch in Hampshire

Saturday 25 April 2015

Strone and Alex Macpherson kindly invite you to an informal buffet Spring Lunch in the 16th century barn that they have restored at Armsworth Park House, near Alresford, Hampshire, SO24 9RH.

Members are welcome from 12:30 onwards and there is seating at tables for up to 40. Another 10 people can be accommodated on sofas or if it is dry there are also seats for 10 in the stable yard. However, as there can be a heavy demand for places, payment in advance is required to guarantee your booking.

Menu

Fizz
Shepherd's Pie
Treacle Tart & Cream
Coffee/Tea

Cost: £40.00 per head

To make your reservation, please complete the attached form and send it with your cheque made payable to The 20-Ghost Club Limited, to Brian Fidler, The Treasurer, The 20-Ghost Club Limited, The Eighth House, Vernon Avenue, Oxford OX2 9AU to arrive no later than Friday 20 March 2015.



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Please also notify Strone and Alex by email on strone@stronemacpherson.com

Spring Lunch in Hampshire

Saturday 25 April 2015

I/We would like to attend the Spring Lunch on Saturday 25 April and enclose a cheque for £.....

Names:

Address:

.....Postcode.....

Telephone.....

Email (in capitals please)

Dietary requirements, if any

Car: Model.....Chassis No.....Reg. No.....Year.....

Body style.....Colour.....Coachbuilder.....

As a participant in the 20-Ghost Club Spring Lunch and in consideration of the right and privilege to participate in this event and intending to be legally bound, I agree to release the 20-Ghost Club and all committee members and its representatives from any and all liability and injuries, damage or loss or consequential loss arising from my participation in the event.

Signed:.....Date:.....