

New Forest & Beyond

We are a friendly group and meet occasionally on the first Thursday afternoon of the month at a member's house to plan our forthcoming adventures, unless we have arranged a "jolly" somewhere in which case the time and day might vary.

If you would like to find out more about the New Forest and its environs do come along and join us.

The following are suggestions for the coming months in 2018/2019 include:

Saturday/Sunday 13/14 October – New Forest Cider Festival, Burley

The annual open weekend is a chance to see cider making as it was done in days gone by. There will be demonstrations on the art of cider making the old fashioned way with a variety of vintage presses, ranging from a 'workman' steam driven mobile press to the simplicity of a hand operated twin screw press using straw as a filter, then sample the finished product in our farm shop. There will also be traditional country craft demonstrations. Entrance £2.00.

Friday 19 October – Eling Tide Mill, Totton

Eling Tide Mill is a water mill that harnesses the power of the tide to grind wheat into flour. Situated on the edge of Southampton Water beside the renowned New Forest - there has been a mill on this site for over 900 years. It is one of the only fully working and productive tide mills in the United Kingdom, producing flour as it has throughout the last millennium. In fact one of only a handful of tide mills in the world still producing flour on a regular basis.

Thursday 1 November – Blandford Fashion Museum (and possibly Blandford Town Museum) December TBA – Romsey Abbey

We have had guided tours of Salisbury and Winchester Cathedrals so perhaps we should now visit Romsey Abbey.

Other places of interest but with no dates fixed as yet:

Snowdrops at Kingston Lacy
Lulworth Castle and Park
The Boat House, Poole
Whitchurch Silk Mill
Heale House, Salisbury
Avington Park, nr Winchester
Forde Abbey & Gardens
Stock Gaylard House, Sturminster Newton
Minterne House and Garden
Southampton City Walks

Some of these will obviously be “fine weather” visits and perhaps some which are further afield might use a minibus or small coach.

My thanks to those group members who have kindly suggested places of interest. Do keep the ideas coming!

Please contact Jo if you are interested in joining in any of these