

**SILVER DAY TRIPPERS SPRING 2022**

Tuesday 22 March	Polhill Garden Centre	£8
Friday 8 April	Guildford	£6
Tuesday 12 April	Richmond Park & Richmond	£5
Thursday 28 April	South Downs Garden & Heritage Centre, Sussex	£10
Monday 9 May	Leonardslee Gardens, Nr Horsham (including entry to gardens)	£20*
Thursday 12 May	Brighton	£12
Monday 23 May	Eastbourne	£12
Wednesday 25 May	Knole (including entry. National Trust members pay £7.75 for minibus fare)	£22*
Monday 6 June	Worthing	£12
Thursday 9 June	Hastings	£12
Tuesday 14 June	Broadstairs	£12
Thursday 16 June	Herne Bay	£12
Monday 20 June	Rye	£12
Thursday 30 June	Whitstable	£12
Monday 4 July	Brighton	£12
Thursday 7 July	Eastbourne	£12
Tuesday 12 July	Worthing	£12
Monday 18 July	Hastings	£12
Friday 29 July	Broadstairs	£12

**BOOKINGS HOTLINE 020 8675 3812**

**SILVER DAY TRIPPERS**

Welcome to the Spring 2022 edition of the Silver Day Trippers' newsletter. What a couple of years we have had, but let's look forward to the future with optimism!

Thanks to you all for supporting our outings programme during the pandemic. Our socially-distanced outings to the coast and historic cities were extremely popular. We know you were desperate for some fresh sea air and most importantly to catch up with friends after the various lockdowns.

**Outings Programme**

We are pleased to offer our traditional programme of outings. We have included Leonardslee Gardens and Knole, two wonderful venues for which advance payment is required. It will be our first visits to stately homes and gardens since 2019 so both will prove popular. Further information on these outings are overleaf. We are also visiting the South Downs Garden and Heritage Centre in Hassocks near Brighton for the first time on Thursday 28 April. In addition to an excellent garden centre they have a foodhall with lots of local produce and a museum of gardening. Sounds like a fun day out!

You will see plenty of day trips to your favourite seaside resorts too. Book early if you can!

**COVID Protocols**

At the time of writing it appears that the majority of Covid restrictions could be removed in the next few weeks. However, we will still operate socially-distanced outings with a maximum of 12 passengers per vehicle for the time being. We will also expect masks to be worn on the minibuses and ask you not to travel if you are displaying any symptoms or feel unwell. Buses will be thoroughly cleaned as before and top up cleaning will be undertaken during the trip

by the drivers. In the future we look forward to running buses at full capacity but we feel it is too early for that at the moment.

**Shopping and Shopmobility**

We are looking to recruit new members to our door-to-door shopping shuttle. If you find it difficult doing your weekly shop and carrying your bags home on public transport we have the solution! Our minibuses will collect you from your home and take you to Sainsbury's at the top of Garratt Lane, opposite the Southside Shopping Centre. You have a couple of hours to do your shopping before returning home on the minibus. The driver will carry your bags to your front door, so no heavy lifting is required. We can also provide a wheelchair and escort for those who require additional support. The fare is £2.50 and we operate from Monday to Friday. Do call us on 020 8675 3812 if interested.



Volunteer driver John collecting intrepid members at a windswept Worthing. Not a day for the beach on this occasion!

## Leonardslee Gardens—The finest garden in England!

We are delighted to announce that on Monday 9th May we will be visiting the spectacular Grade I listed Leonardslee Gardens, near Horsham in Sussex.

The gardens reopened to the public in 2019, just before the pandemic, following a ten year closure. They will be in full bloom for our visit in May with wonderful displays of rhododendrons, azaleas, magnolias and bluebells. There is also an ornamental rock garden to visit, designed in 1890.

There are a number of walks you can take across the 240 acre site to explore the flora and fauna. You may also see wallabies and several species of deer.

Other attractions include a sculpture park and an incredible Dolls House Museum which is situated in the main courtyard. It was created in 1998 and depicts an Edwardian estate and surrounding villages. You will be amazed by the incredible detail and the skill involved in creating this unique piece of work.

Leonardslee House, the Grade II listed Italianate villa, offers a restaurant and afternoon tea, although there are other catering options on site.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT LEONARDSLEE GARDENS IS A CASH FREE ZONE. ALL TRANSACTIONS MUST BE MADE BY DEBIT/CREDIT CARD. THIS IS NOT A NATIONAL TRUST PROPERTY.**



*Leonardslee Gardens in full bloom!*



*Enjoy one of the lakeside walks at Leonardslee Gardens.*

**PLEASE CALL US ON 020 8675 3812 TO BOOK THIS TRIP. IF YOU SECURE A PLACE ADVANCE PAYMENT IN THE SUM OF £20 PER PERSON IS REQUIRED. CHEQUES TO BE MADE PAYABLE TO “SILVER DAYTRIPPERS CLUB” AND SENT TO WANDSWORTH COMMUNITY TRANSPORT, 1 B YUKON ROAD, SW12 9PZ. PAYMENT CAN ALSO BE MADE BY INTERNET TRANSFER—PLEASE CALL US TO DISCUSS. PAYMENT MUST BE MADE BY FRIDAY 29th APRIL TO CONFIRM YOUR PLACE.**

## Knole—An Archbishop’s Palace

Our programme continues on Wednesday 25th May when we visit the superb Knole, near Sevenoaks in Kent.

Set in a 1,000 acre deer park, Knole House dates from the 15th Century and was the home of several Archbishops of Canterbury, including Thomas Cranmer. The House was frequented by royalty including both Henry VII and Henry VIII. The latter apparently enjoyed hunting deer in the extensive grounds.

The House contains a wonderful collection of 17th Century royal furniture, including three state beds, tapestries and textiles. There is also a most impressive art collection which includes works by Gainsborough, Van Dyck and Reynolds. Energetic members may wish to climb the spiral staircase to the top of the Gatehouse Tower to enjoy spectacular panoramic views across the estate.

Outside the house you will be able to enjoy a large walled garden with a smaller enclosed garden within. The extensive grounds are home to a population of 350 deer who have been in the park for centuries.

There is a café on site to cater for us and a rooftop terrace with pleasant views.

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*Interior and exterior views of Knole !*

### THANKS TO WBC

A special thanks to Wandsworth Borough Council. They have funded us since the 1980s and were happy for us to divert our resources into providing additional COVID related transport during the pandemic. This kind of partnership was vital to make things happen quickly and respond to emergency demand. We look forward to continuing our partnership in the years ahead.