

ARCO (Association of Retired Council Officers) Newsletter

Summer 2019

www.arco-kingston.org.uk email secretary@arco-kingston.org.uk



Dear Friends,

We have just held our AGM, which was attended by 28 members and friends. The Committee were re-elected, with me as Chairman and June Collins as Vice-Chairman. I expressed my thanks to all our stalwarts who continue to organise our successful events. I was pleased to present the Mayor, Councillor Thay Thayalan, with our cheque for £100 towards his charities.

You will find a full list of our activities over the next year, both confirmed and proposed, in these pages. We aim to organise something every month, except August. The first outing of the year to the RAF Museum at Hendon on 30 April still has spaces. Nevertheless, early bookings were sufficient to encourage your Committee to try a second trip in July and a third in September. For July, Val Weedon has planned a visit to the Royal Armouries at Fort Nelson, near Fareham. You will find full details and a booking form included.

Apart from our trip to Hendon, the next events will be an informal gathering at The Kings Tun on Thursday, 9 May and our Summer Get Together at the Guildhall on Wednesday, 12 June. There is an attendance form for the Get Together but you can just turn up at The Kings Tun. We will have some reserved tables in upstairs bar between 12 noon and 1.30 pm.

Our Social Secretary, Bob Weedon, wants to gauge members' interest in going on 2/3 day trips with ARCO – please see his note on the last page and let him know.

Kind regards,

Chris

Chris Coke
Chairman

Contact Chris at chairman@arco-kingston.org.uk

Invitation to Summer Get-Together

Wednesday, 12 June 2019

12.00 Noon to 2.30 p.m.

Guildhall, Kingston upon Thames

RSVP by post to Jenny Longhurst, Mayfield, Hoe Lane,

Dorking, Surrey RH5 6RS **by 31 May 2019**

Telephone for queries only: 01306 730321

Email for queries only: jenny.longhurst@btinternet.com

Retain top half as a reminder and send off bottom half

I would like One/Two (please circle) places at the Get Together on 12 June 2019

and enclose a cheque for £ (payable to ARCO)

to cover the cost of £3.00 per head for Sandwich Lunch, Wine and Coffee

Name(s) required on Badge(s) (Capital Letters)

1. _____ 2. _____

Telephone No. _____

Email: _____

Royal Armouries

Fort Nelson

Tuesday 2nd July 2019

The Fort was built in the 1860's as part of a defensive chain around Portsmouth and its Royal Dockyard, and is probably the best surviving example of a Victorian fortress which has been restored to its original 19th Century state, together with parts of its Second World War heritage. See some of the biggest guns ever made while exploring 19 acres of ramparts, outer fortifications, secret underground tunnels, and ammunition bunkers. Discover what life was like for soldiers in the Victorian garrison's barrack rooms, hospital and kitchen. There is also a small museum.

There is a cafe for freshly brewed tea & coffee, cakes and light meals. If you wish to bring a picnic lunch you are very welcome to use the picnic areas around the Fort. There is also a Museum Shop. Photography is allowed without flash. There are Disabled toilets in the visitor centre and also some galleries.

We have arranged for a private conducted tour of the fort for our members which will be approx. an hour. I have done the tour myself and found it very informative and interesting. The ground is uneven in places and one needs to take care, but I did manage the whole tour even though I am disabled. We plan to make a comfort stop on route to the fort.

This trip is open to friends & family of ARCO members. Please note that no driver's gratuity has been included in the cost, it is up to the individual to tip or not & the usual time to tip is on leaving the coach.

Time of departure from Kingston Library – 9.30 am

Departure for home – 4.30 pm

Closing date: Monday 10th June

Cost: £27

Please make cheques payable to ARCO and return to me with the tear off slip to:

Val Weedon

Telephone: 01403 251390

51 Morrell Avenue, Horsham,

E-mail: val.palaeo@sky.com

West Sussex RH12 4DD

Shona 07934139834 (for use on the day)

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I/We would like place/s for the trip to Royal Armouries: Fort Nelson @ £27

(Please enclose an SAE if you require a receipt or confirmation we have received your cheque)

Please Print:

NAME:

Address:

Tel No. Email

DIARY OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 30 April 2019	Outing to RAF Museum, Hendon <i>Spaces still available</i>
Thursday 9 May 2019	Informal Gathering at The Kings Tun, Clarence Street, Kingston (opposite Wilkinsons) – drop in to the upstairs bar between 12 and 1.30 p.m.
Wednesday 12 June 2019	Summer Get Together, Guildhall
Tuesday 2 July 2019	Outing to Royal Armouries, Fort Nelson, Fareham
August 2019 (<i>tbc</i>)	Informal Gathering at The Kings Tun
September 2019 (<i>tbc</i>)	Outing to St Mary's House & Gardens, Bramber
Wednesday 16 October 2019	Coffee Morning, Guildhall
November 2019 (<i>tbc</i>)	Informal Gathering at The Kings Tun
December 2019 (<i>tbc</i>)	Christmas Lunch
January 2020	To be arranged
February 2020	To be arranged
Wednesday 18 March 2020	Annual General Meeting, Guildhall

Short Breaks With ARCO?

With the current arrangements for outings, we are limited in how far we can travel to locations of interest. If, instead, members were prepared to stay at a hotel/motel overnight or even for a couple of nights, we could go much further afield.

Before we spend too much time investigating this, we would like to know how many members may be interested, in principle, to going on a 2/3 night holiday. If you are, could you please let us know by e-mailing bobw.palaeo@sky.com or phoning me on 01403 251390 or writing to me at 51 Morrell Avenue, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 4DD.

Please note the following –

- 1) Although we do not have any prices they would obviously be a lot higher than for the outings
- 2) Any holiday would be offered on top of, rather than instead of, the regular outings

Thank you all,

Bob Weedon

Social Secretary

Keep up to date at www.arco-kingston.org.uk