



Pro-Biz



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WALK/PUB LUNCH, THE RED LION, HORSELL AND VISIT TO ALAN GREENWOOD'S FIRE ENGINE COLLECTION, 3rd SEPTEMBER 2024



Seventeen walkers plus Pepper the sheepdog met in the car park of the Red Lion in Horsell, a village which is effectively an outer suburb of Woking. The weather was fair, good for walking, and the initial stage of the walk was through residential streets and alleyways, before entering Horsell Common. The common is largely wooded and the route was along narrow paths that criss-cross the area, and sometimes we had to cross the fairly busy roads that cut across the common. Pepper had her work cut out keeping the whole flock of walkers together on these forest paths.

At one point we went through a gate that had a “Beware of the Bull” warning, but fortunately we just needed to pass through a group of very attractive, woolly-coated, black and white cows who paid us little attention (Pepper was safely on the lead). We also needed to take a couple of improvised detours to avoid overgrown paths and then connect back up with the route.

The walkers arrived back at the Red Lion before midday where several more people joined the group for lunch. There were almost thirty people gathered, and the group took over most of the seating in the bar area. The pub was very accommodating and provided good food and fast service given the number they had to cater for.

Following lunch at The Red Lion, members and wives went on to see Alan Greenwood's vintage fire engine collection which also included some old cars and lorries. The ages of the fire engines ranged from 1934 to 1993 and they were all originally in service with the Surrey Fire Service. All have been fully restored to a very high standard. Several of the fire engines had been moved out of their garages and we were free to view them and try the driving seats for size. Some had their ladders extended.



We were treated to drives round the local roads in the newer models, the Dennis Rapier and Dennis F12 pump. The last engine to see active operational service worked until 2010. There were a couple of helpful enthusiasts there, who gave some interesting information and anecdotes about the machines. Following the visit, some of us had further refreshments in the garden centre café.

Everyone much enjoyed the visit and appreciated that Alan Greenwood allowed us to view his collection, which is not generally open to the public. Our thanks to Alan and Malcolm O'Connor who arranged the visit.



CLUB LUNCH, TUESDAY 20th AUGUST

Members enjoyed a relaxed, speaker - free summer lunch at Fulwell Golf Club,, with conversation and companionship, along with a notably excellent lunch and the occasional glass of wine.

FUTURE EVENTS

TUESDAY 1st OCTOBER: Walk/Pub Lunch, *Details TBC*

TUESDAY 15 OCTOBER: Club Lunch, Speaker : Nick Dawson, “Swinging London”