

This meeting has been organised by George Freeman



**SALISBURY CATHEDRAL CLOSE.** The edge of the Cathedral is to the right of this photo. The tall house is Mompesson House (NT)

The Cathedral was originally at Old Sarum, a crowded garrison town with a water shortage. The present Cathedral was begun in the Avon Valley in 1220 and consecrated in 1258. Building was completed in 1266, apart from the tower and spire, added in the next century. The Tower placed an extra unintended load of six thousand tons on the pillars at the crossing.

The building is of limestone from Chilmark, 12 miles to the west, and dark grey “marble” from Purbeck. The close covers about half a square mile, is surrounded by walls built of masonry from Old Sarum, and has many fine houses.

The city which grew up around the new cathedral was regularly laid out with streets crossing at right angles – very early piece of town planning. Canals ran through most of the streets until they were covered in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Salisbury was not bombed in WW2 and so retains many early buildings.

The water meadows still have the network of channels and sluices by which they were systematically flooded. It is hoped to restore them. *RF*

Our Blue Badge City Guide will be Mrs Penny May and she will be with us all day. She will tell us of the history of the City, take us on the tour and show us the cathedral. The Tower tours are by Cathedral members and are for groups of 12. These take 1½ hours

**MEET** in The Bishop’s Mill, Bridge Street. Refreshments and toilets. (Illy coffee)

**LUNCH** will be taken in a City Pub. – Details later.

- 10.30 – 11.00 Assemble in the mill cafe; refreshments
- 11.00 – 12.30 Meet City guide and hear about Salisbury. City and Close walk
- 12.30 – 13.30 Lunch
- 13.30 – 16.00 Cathedral and tower
- 16.00 – 16.30 Tea in refectory – time flexible
- Close and walk to station (possibly) via the meadows

**TRAVEL**

The 09.20 train from Waterloo arrives in Salisbury at 10.42 (0927 Clapham Junction; 09.46 Woking). Walk towards the City Centre along Fisherton Street, over the bridge and the pub is set back on the left by the river. (return trains are at 16.21, 17.21 and 18.28)

**Car** drivers are recommended to use the Park&Ride. There are 6 around the City and are free with bus passes. Busses stop in the main market square. Parking in the City centre is very expensive, more than £7.50 per day.

**LATE ARRIVALS.** Phone George or John to find out where we are.

**CONTACTS**

Before the meeting John Belling [john.a.belling.secrems@gmail.com](mailto:john.a.belling.secrems@gmail.com) 07986 379935

On the morning only - George Freeman 07941 916 944 or John's mobile.

**COSTS**

£23 each with a minimum of 12 and a maximum of 24. This covers the guides and entrance fees. Refreshments at cost.

