

# Institute of Physics – London & South East Branch – Retired Members Section

## Horace Walpole's Strawberry Hill House on Thursday 7 September 2017

This visit has been organised by Tom Jacobs.

We visit Strawberry Hill House or 'Horace's Castle' near Twickenham, built by Horace Walpole and famed internationally as Britain's finest example of Gothic Revival architecture. We shall enjoy a guided tour of the house and join a walking tour of Walpole's garden.

**Description:** . The House is a striking white castellated building two story building. As well as splendid architecture and a magnificent gallery, we will see fine stained glass windows, and numerous works of art. The House stands in a large attractive garden open to the public. When Horace Walpole, 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford, son of prime minister Robert Walpole and later author of the early Gothic novel, *The Castle of Otranto*, came into a fortune, he set out to build a 'castle' as a country seat and, guided by a Committee of Taste, produced a building which prefigured the Gothic revival in architecture which to a significant extent eclipsed the neo-classicism of the day. 'Horace's Castle' has undergone major renovations in recent years and there is much to see that is new. For more information see the Strawberry Hill House Website at: [www.strawberryhillhouse.org.uk](http://www.strawberryhillhouse.org.uk)



By Chiswick Chap - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0,  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=19592352>

**Where and when to meet:** The house is at 268 Waldegrave Road, Twickenham, TW1 4ST, adjacent to Queen Mary's University. We will meet there in the café at 10.30am.

**Getting there:** There are trains from Waterloo to Strawberry Hill station every half hour. Coming from Waterloo, exit Strawberry Hill Station, turn left, take

the second road on the right, which is signposted, and at its end turn left, and you will come to the main entrance leading to Strawberry Hill House.

**Lunch:** We can lunch in the café at 12.30.

### Timetable (times approximate)

10:30	Begin to assemble in the café at Strawberry Hill House
11:00	Guided tour of Horace's Castle.
12:30	Lunch
14;00	Gardens

**Size of party:** 15 Max.



Horace. By John Giles Eccardt (floruit 1740-1779) - Info : Pic, Public Domain,  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=12736065>

**Cost:** Please pay the entrance fee of £14 on arrival. If you belong to the National Trust or the Art Fund and have your card with you, the entrance fee is £7.00.

**Contacts:** Contacts: Tom Jacobs can be reached at home on 020 8893 8535, by email at [tjandjaj@aol.com](mailto:tjandjaj@aol.com) and by mobile on 07823358444. Or contact Tony Colclough [tonycolclough@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:tonycolclough@tiscali.co.uk) before the day or call 07930 171307 on the day.

**Late arrivals:** Phone Tom on 07823358444