

Renewable Energy Systems and The Paper Trail

Thursday 12th April 2012

This visit has been organised by Tony Manning.

Note: This visit is a repeat of one made about eight years ago.

RES (Renewable Energy Systems) is a specialist company involved in the planning of wind energy farms, together with other forms of renewable energy. The wind turbine visible from the M25 in Hertfordshire is on their site.

Additionally their UK Headquarters utilises a “re-cycled” listed building, adapted to minimise energy requirements. The energy that is required is all produced from sustainable sources. In addition to the wind turbine, these include solar panels for both heating and photo-electricity, and the production of biomass fuel for the winter central heating. They also have a novel “heat store” which retains the hot water from the solar panels in summer for use later in the year.

After lunch at The Paper Mill, a Fullers pub, we will visit the Paper Trail, which illustrates the history of paper making in the Gade Valley, under the Victorian entrepreneur John Dickinson. The museum contains the first Fourdrinier production machine still in working order, and dating from 1895. This is still used for producing small quantities of special papers. These include a type beloved of small boys on school party visits as it is known as “Elephant Poo” paper, after the source of its fibrous raw material supplied from the neighbouring Whipsnade Zoo!

Travel arrangements:

By train: To Kings Langley on the London Midland from Euston. The 10.05 from Euston arrives at 10.30. The return will be from Apsley, the next station down the line. Turn right on leaving Kings Langley station and then turn right again after 250m into Egg Farm Lane and RES.

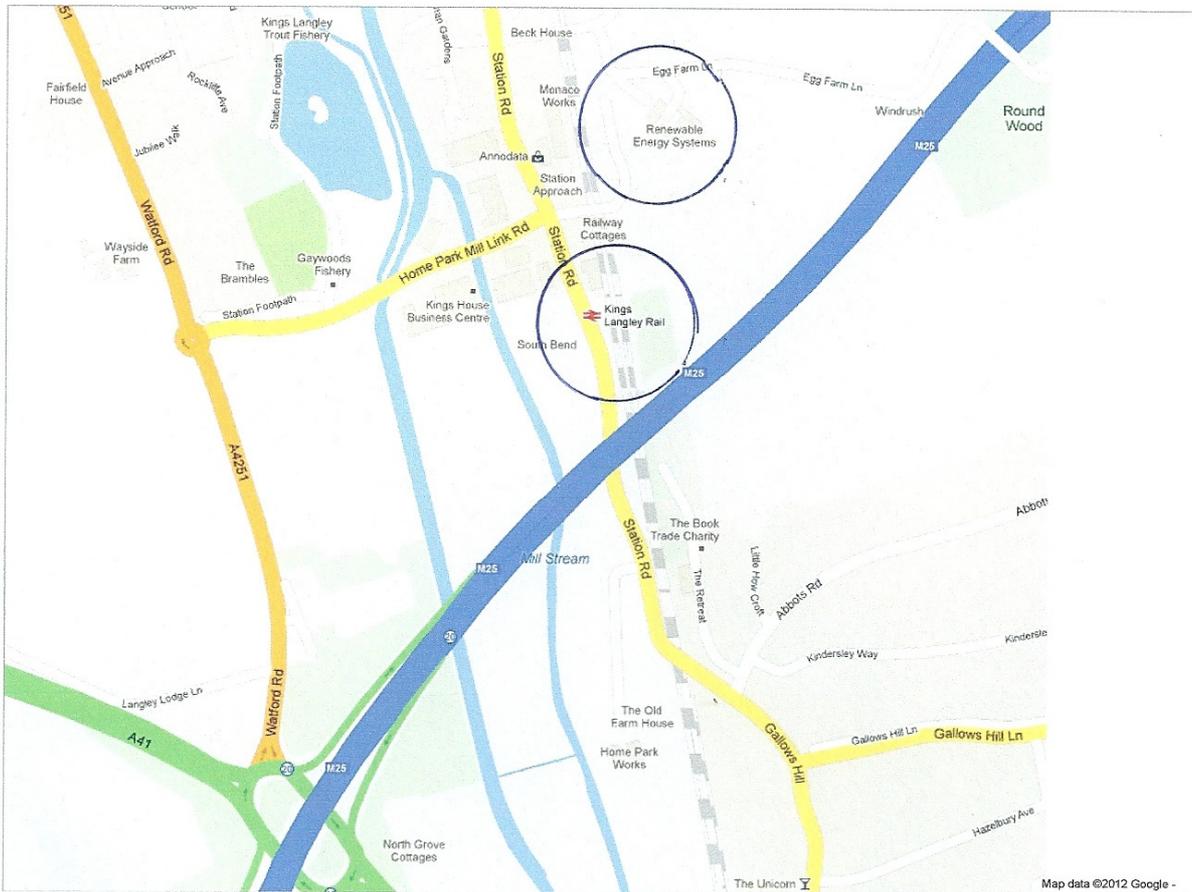
For transport to lunch and between the two sites car drivers will be requested to take passengers.

By car: Leave M25 at Junction 20. Take the A4251 exit from the roundabout below the motorway, and after 500m turn right at the next roundabout. After 400m, at the tee junction, turn left, and, within 250m, take the first right, Egg Farm Lane. This leads directly into RES.

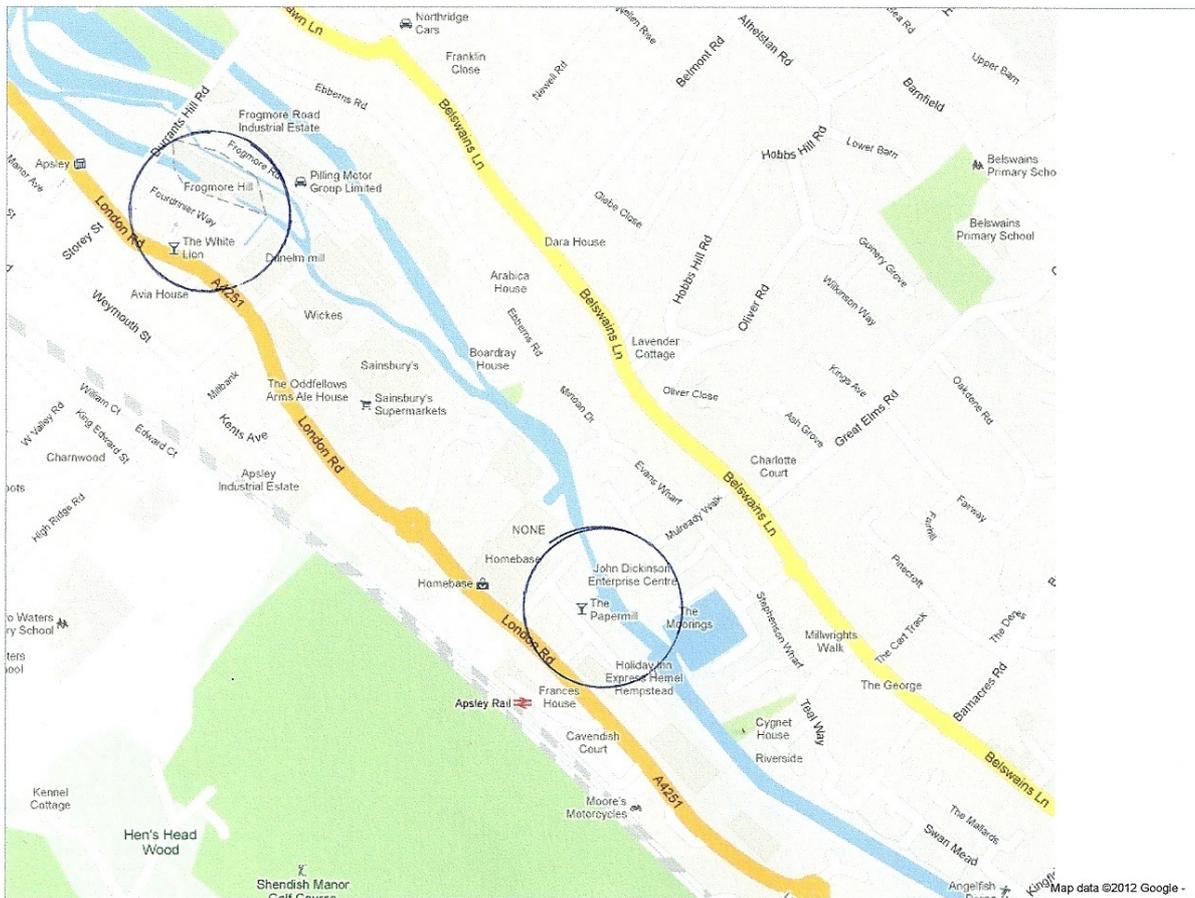
On leaving RES for lunch, turn right. After 2.5km (1.5 miles), and passing under the railway on a light controlled bridge, turn left, just before a construction site. At the traffic lights turn right, re-joining the A4251. There is a roundabout after 300m. Go straight over and look for the Holiday Inn Express on the right. Turn right at the traffic lights and park at the “Paper Mill”.

After lunch re-join the A4251, and turn right. Note Apsley Station on your left, for your passengers. After 1km (0.6 miles) turn right into Durrants Hill Road, the Bull pub on the corner. Park in the low cost Pay and Display car park on your left. The entrance to the Paper Trail is in Fourdrinier Way, just back over the river bridge.

Timetable:	11:00	Tour of Renewable Energy Systems (2 hours)
	13:00	Lunch
	14:30	Tour of the Paper Trail (2 hours)
	16:30	End of visit



Map 1. Kings Langley Station and R.E.S.



Map 2 "The Papermill" and the Paper Trail