

WTU3A SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY TRIPS 2019

WHEN	April 4th
WHERE	Buzz Rail - Leighton Buzzard
WHAT	<p>Leighton Buzzard and the surrounding villages are built on sand - thick seams of very pure sand laid down in prehistoric times. This is a very valuable material, which is still quarried in large quantities.</p> <p>The coming of the Leighton Buzzard-Dunstable branch line, in 1848, opened up new areas for exploitation. The thick seams of sand in the hills of the Greensand Ridge to the north, towards Heath & Reach village and what is now the A5 road, remained largely untouched. The cost of transport would have made them uncompetitive with cheap imports from Europe.</p> <p>The outbreak of the First World War, in 1914, changed all that. Industrial and military demand soared, while supplies from the cheap overseas competitors were eliminated. Once the war was over, the quarry owners were told that they would be responsible for repairing any future road damage, and this led quickly to the formation of Leighton Buzzard Light Railway Ltd. Using mostly surplus materials and equipment from the War Department Light Railways (WDLR), which had operated the supply lines to the battle zones, it was built to 2 foot (610 mm) gauge, and was just over 3.5 miles (5.6 km) long.</p> <p><u>Preservation</u></p> <p>In 1967, a group of railway enthusiasts had received permission from the owners to run passenger trains over the LBLR "main line", starting with a series of diesel-hauled "fan trip" specials, on 3rd March 1968. This was the beginning of the non-profit body whose members still operate the railway as volunteers. Initially, it was called the Iron Horse Preservation Society, and sought to recreate an American image, but soon changed to Leighton Buzzard Narrow Gauge Railway Society.</p> <p>A journey time with a workshop tour at the end of the line will be around 1Hr and 30 minutes. There are toilets at both ends. A souvenir shop at the first station will be open and at the other end of the line a Craft shop will be open.</p>
LOCATION	Leighton Buzzard Railway, Pages Park Station, Billington Rd, Leighton Buzzard LU7 4TG Travel time – 30 Min, 15 miles
FACILITIES	Toilets, Souvenir Shop, Workshop and Craft shop
TIMING	Leave W/T at 1-00 from 5 Bells Car Park for those who wish to have or offer lifts. Arrive for train journey at 2-00.
COSTS	Including journey on train, visit to engine sheds and visit to Engine sheds max £10. To be Confirmed
OTHER ACTIVITIES	

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WHEN	May 2 nd
WHERE	Museum of Military Medicine & Milestones Museum
WHAT	<p>The Military Medicine Museum (MMM) tells the story of army medicine and healthcare, human and animal, from the English Civil War to the current day, as Army Medical Services personnel continue to serve across the globe as part of the British Army.</p> <p>On arrival and after a toilet break, we will split into two groups. One group will start a guided tour whilst the other has a cup of tea and listens to a talk. Roles are then reversed.</p> <p>The Milestones Museum in Basingstoke allows you to step inside the story of our social, retail and industrial heritage and imagine what life would have been like during the Victorian era and the 1930s as you explore the life size streets, buildings, shops and vehicles, all under one roof. Be inspired by wonderful collections from vehicles, toys, domestic appliances and lots more! See how our homes developed through decades from 1930 - 1970s with our authentic room-sets. Experience our 1940s sweet shop when you purchase an old penny for £1 to buy your 2oz ration of sweets in the sweet shop. Have fun in our vintage penny arcade. Dress up in Victorian costumes. Experience our working Edwardian pub where you can enjoy a pint and a sandwich.</p> <p>Self-directed tour departing 4pm. Have something to eat and drink and explore.</p>
LOCATION	<p>The MMM is located at Keogh Barracks, Midchat Place Road, Midchat, Surrey, GU12 5RQ. Photographic identification is required – bring a driving licence, bus pass or passport as identities will be checked by the Army as we enter the site. Travel time – 1.5hrs, 60 miles</p> <p>The Milestones Museum is located at Churchill Leisure Park, Basingstoke RG22 6PG. Travel time around 30 minutes from MMM.</p>
FACILITIES	MMM - toilets. Milestones – toilets , pub, cafe
TIMING	Leave WT 9.30am – aim to arrive MMM by 11am. Leave MMM for Milestones by 1pm. Leave Milestones 4-4.30pm
COSTS	By Coach - £35 including guided tour and all entrance fees. This includes a donation of £2 per head to the MMM who charge only for the guide.
OTHER ACTIVITIES	

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WHEN	June 6 th
WHERE	Mary Rose Museum and HMS Warrior
WHAT	<p>HMS Warrior 1860, Britain's first iron-hulled, armoured battleship and the newest member of The National Museum of the Royal Navy's fleet. Launched in 1860, at a time of empire and Britain's dominance in trade and industry, HMS Warrior 1860 was the pride of Queen Victoria's fleet. The fastest, largest and most powerful warship in the world when she was launched. Such was her reputation that enemy fleets were intimidated by her obvious supremacy and deterred from attacking Britain at sea - yet she never fired a shot in anger.</p> <p>Guided tour takes about 1hrs</p> <p>The Museum is home to the Mary Rose and the thousands of artefacts that were recovered from the Solent. Built between 1509 and 1511, the Mary Rose was one of the first ships able to fire a broadside and was a firm favourite of King Henry VIII. After a long and successful career, she sank accidentally during an engagement with the French fleet in 1545. After a 34-year conservation project, the Mary Rose is now fully on display within her purpose-built museum opened in 2017. On three floors with a central walkway, you can see the Mary Rose, now dried out and restored, on one side and opposite recovered artefacts relevant to that position on the ship e.g. Ship's canon opposite the relevant gun port.</p> <p>Guided tour takes about 1.5hrs</p>
LOCATION	<p>Portsmouth Historic Naval Dockyard, Main Road, Portsmouth Naval Base, Portsmouth PO1 3PY, England</p> <p>Travel time – 2hrs, 110 miles</p>
FACILITIES	Toilets, cafés. Pubs & shops available outside the dockyard
TIMING	<p>Leave WT by coach at 8.30am arriving Portsmouth 10.30am to 11am. Guided tour of HMS Warrior at 11.30, lasting about 1hr.</p> <p>Assisted tour of Mary Rose Museum commencing 2pm, split into three groups starting at 15-minute intervals. Tour lasts about 1.5hrs. Venue wheel chair friendly with lift access to all floors. Coach leaves 5pm. Return to WT around 7.30pm</p>
COSTS	Including coach and both guided tours £55.
OTHER ACTIVITIES	See Historic Naval Dockyard web site for other attractions.

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WHEN	September 5 th
WHERE	Brooklands Museum
WHAT	<p>Brooklands Museum is the site of the original race track built in the early 1900's and home to world motor racing till the Second World War. It was also the site of aircraft manufacturing with many famous planes made and tested here. It still has the original runway albeit now used by Mercedes Benz.</p> <p>The Museum celebrates those wonderful years, with displays of vintage cars, motorbikes, Penny farthings, side cars, then the aircraft, including a Wellington Bomber which was built there, flew in the war and found in Loch Ness, recovered and renovated. Concorde is also there, you can go over it, and the Bus Museum. There's a great cafe and toilets all-round the site. Accessible for wheelchairs. Fab day out. Wrap up warm though as often windy and cold!</p> <p>Guided tour takes about 1.5hrs. Concorde Experience after lunch</p>
LOCATION	<p>Brooklands Road, Weybridge, Surrey KT13 0SL</p> <p>Travel time – 1.5hrs, 50miles</p>
FACILITIES	Toilets, café
TIMING	Leave WT by car at 9.30am arriving Brooklands around 11am. Guided tour of museum at 11.30, lasting about 1.5hr. Opportunity to have lunch and revisit exhibits. Concorde experience PM
COSTS	Including guided tour & Concorde £21.
OTHER ACTIVITIES	