

Sponsor's Day
Holmwood Common – Hidden History
Wednesday 2nd August 2017
1.45pm – 4.15pm



A View on Holmwood Common by Myles Birkett-Foster

One of the benefits of having a Newsletter Sponsor (Anthony Wakefield) with a Dorking based business is that he has a network of contacts which enable us to access hidden gems and learn more about the area. This year for his Sponsor's Day event, he has persuaded the Chairman of the Friends of Holmwood Common to provide a guided tour just for us.

Whilst this 650 acre common may be under the protection of the National Trust, it is not well known by people from outside the local area. With a multitude of wildlife, ponds, woodland and wildflowers, it is a fascinating place to visit at any season – but particularly in high summer when our visit occurs.

What makes our guided tour even more special is that much of the historical interest is invisible or hidden! Over the centuries, much has taken place in the area and the, now peaceful, landscape has been home to numerous buildings, people and events. Our guide has been researching this history for many years and has a plethora of facts and stories to share with us.

We will take a gentle amble around the common over a period of 2 hours or so walking mainly on good quality, fairly level tracks. There are no stiles and only one significant uphill section towards the end of the walk. Total walking distance will be about 3.5 miles (5.5km) with lots of stops to learn about our surroundings as we go.

There is good parking at our chosen start point on the common, but we feel that many of you may wish to arrive early to buy yourselves a drink or simple lunch at the nearby Royal Oak pub (location details will be sent with your booking confirmation). We are therefore suggesting that we all gather at this location at 1.45pm and you will then be given directions to our parking / starting point. At the end of the event you can return to your cars without further distance to walk.

Whilst the trail is mainly gravel and hence normally firm, please do wear sensible walking shoes and clothing which is appropriate for the weather on the day.

The event is suitable for well-behaved dogs and would be suitable for older children. Subject to the distance involved, the route may be suitable for those with mobility challenges, but please check with us at the time of booking.

The cost will be £6 per member (£8 per non-member), which will include a donation from the Society to the Friends of Holmwood Common to support them in their conservation work.

Booking is essential. If you would like to join us, complete and return the attached slip to arrive at Warren Farm Barns before 25th July. Please include your e-mail address or a stamped addressed envelope so you may be sent full details, directions and locations for the visit.

For further details and enquiries, contact us at info@surreyhillssociety.org or on mobile 07530-949302.

Please note that the Surrey Hills Society and its Event partners accept no responsibility for any loss, damage or personal injury during events. Participants are requested to wear appropriate clothing and footwear and take due care and attention. The Society uses members' photographs on social media and on our website. If you are not happy to have your photo taken during this event, please notify us in writing prior to the event and make the event organiser aware on the day.

*Please detach and return this slip with your e-mail address **or** a stamped addressed envelope to:
SHS – Holmwood Common, Warren Farm Barns, Headley Lane, Mickleham, Dorking, RH5 6DG*

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I wish to book _____ member places at £6 per person and/or _____ non-members at £8.

I enclose my cheque for £ payable to "Surrey Hills Society".

NAME MEMBERSHIP NO.....

NAME MEMBERSHIP NO.....

Telephone E-mail

Date Signed