

London & South East Branch of the Institute of Physics
Retired Members' Section (REMS)

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REMS visits in July, August and September 2010

After 3 years in the post, I am retiring from the position of REMS secretary. This is my last mailing. John Belling has agreed to take over and will be producing the next mailing in August. There will be a slightly confusing 3 month handover period. You should contact me about any events taking place in the third quarter and contact John about any events taking place after that. John and I will be having a meeting in early June and we will email or write to you about the change and how to contact John. Until then, if you want to organise an event in the fourth quarter, please continue to contact me.

Nine events have been organised for you this quarter including three walks on the London Loop and Capital Ring circuits.

The main method of distribution is by email. Those of you, who have requested hard copies for various reasons, will receive them by 2nd class post in a few days time along with members, who don't have an email address.

You will find the details of the events in my REMS website, which is at reinalt.co.uk/remss.aspx (there is no www. in the address). You can display the home page by holding down the Ctrl key and clicking on the web address above or by copying the address to your web browser. If you use the former method and the table of events at the end of the webpage isn't displayed correctly, please use the latter method.

You can display the details of an event by clicking on its name in the table. If you are interested in the event, you can then print it in Adobe pdf format. If you don't have a copy of Adobe Reader, you can enter "Adobe Reader" into Google and select one of the free download options. There are also links to download:

a copy of this letter;
the booking form in Adobe or Word format;
one file containing the letter, booking form and all flyers;
the organisers' guide.

The website is provided free through Microsoft Office Live, so there must be some limitations. If you can't access the site at peak times, please try again later. If you have a problem linking to an event page and downloading any document or documents, please let me know and I will send it or them to you as attachments as quickly as I can. If you are not sufficiently familiar with the internet to access the website or to download documents, please tell me and I'll add your name to the list of members, who receive hard copies. I may grumble about the cost of postage etc., but it is important to me that you should receive all the details of our events.

I still maintain the REMS webpage in the IOP website. You can reach it from the London & SE Branch web page at london.iop.org (again no www.) and clicking on Retired Members. It is controlled by the IOP, hence its geeky look, and is updated at the beginning of each quarter. It is primarily intended for branch members, who want to see what we do. I don't update it until after the last event of the current quarter.

Emails

I have 2 email addresses, reinalt@physics.org and reinaltvw@googlemail.com You can use either, but I always reply from the googlemail address. If you don't receive some emails, which you are expecting from me, it could be because they have gone into your junk or spam folders or because you haven't told me that you've changed your email address. If the former, please add my email address to your safe or trusted senders list.

I always reply to or acknowledge emails sent to me, except when there is obviously no need. So if you don't receive a reply, when you expect one, please email me again or telephone me.

Method of allocation of places on visits

I will be allocating places to visits on about the 30th May according to your orders of preference (not the order of receipt of your application). Most people are allocated their first choice and many people get their second choice. This is why it is important that you fill in the order of preference column and only use each number once. 1 is first preference, 2 is second preference, etc. If you don't do this, you may not get on your preferred visits. There is no need to enter an order of preference in the cells, which already contain zero.

The easiest way to return the booking form is to download the Word version, fill it in using Word and attach it to an email to me. Otherwise download either version, fill it in and mail or email it to me at the above address.

After the above date, I suggest that you contact me first to check the availability of places. If you telephone and we're out, you may leave a message on the ansafone, but please speak your name and telephone number clearly and slowly enough for my defective ears to hear them properly. When an event is full, I'll maintain a waiting list and use that to fill any cancellations.

Paying for visits

You can either send me:

- one cheque with the words "Not more than £" and a maximum amount, when you return the booking form;
- one cheque for the total amount, when you receive your allocations from me;
- one cheque for each visit, when you return the booking form, and I will tear up all cheques for visits, on which you didn't get a place.

Please don't send me one cheque with the total amount written in along with the booking form. It is highly probable that you won't get on all your selected visits and you'll end up having a credit with REMS.

All cheques should be made payable to the Institute of Physics and not to the IOP.

At Homes

As you will see, our next At Home is on Thursday 8th July and is on the subject of medical physics. This is a topic of great interest to most of us in REMS. We have some imminent speakers talking on the topic of their expertise. Please book your places on the booking form. I will be sending out a reminder later The January 2011 At Home will be a miscellany of speakers and topics and will take place on Thursday 13th January 2011. Please make a note of this date – if your diary stretches that far ahead.

Our At Homes are always an enjoyable occasion and an opportunity to bring guests and to talk to fellow members and the speakers. I am holding the cost at £25 again for the July At Home. The event is usually but not always subsidized by our branch and by surplus REMS funds. Because of increasing costs, it will be necessary to increase the cost for future At Homes.

We are looking for more people to organise and to chair our At Homes. If you would like to volunteer, please let me know. Your reward is a free lunch.

Can you organise a visit?

Since I became the REMS visits secretary, some 30 members have organised visits. Some of them organise two or more visits in a quarter. We are relying on a small number of people to keep us supplied. We have another 130 members, who are not organising visits. Some of you must have ideas of places to visit or favourite places, which you could introduce other members to. As an added incentive, organisers don't pay for their visits (REMS doesn't pay for lunches except at At Homes) and I give them additional priority on other visits. We will also pay their incidental expenses incurred while organising visits.

If you have suggestions for a visit or would like to organise a visit, please enter the name of the place or places on the visits form. If you need help or guidance, please let me know. I can add maps to the flyer, if you don't have the facilities. There is a file containing guidelines for organisers, which can be downloaded from the REMS web page or I can email it to you.

There is no need to wait until you receive these mailings to give me your suggestions. If you know of any exhibitions or places, which require a more immediate visit, you can let me know.

Badges

Most of us wear a badge with our name on it, when we are on a visit. It helps the organisers to identify members and is a useful aid in getting to know other members. If you would like a badge, please write your name in the appropriate place in the booking form. As a guide, most of us just show our first name and surname, but you can write your name in your preferred way. I should stress that a badge isn't obligatory.

Cancellations

It is disappointing when members cancel at the last minute and even worse when they just don't turn up. When this happens, people on the waiting list are deprived of the opportunity to attend the visit instead. Please give as much notice as you can, if you decide not to come for whatever reason.

Late comers

Some of the visit flyers tell you how to find the group if you arrive at the meeting place late. For the others, I suggest that you make a note of the organiser's and my mobile phone numbers and ring one of us as soon as you know that you will be late.

Admin charge

I am continuing to add a small admin charge of £1 or £2 to the visits. It helps to cover the costs of organising the visits and any losses which an occasional visit makes.

If you notice any mistakes in the web pages or flyers, please let me know. I will correct them as soon as possible. Any suggestions for improving the website will be gratefully received.

Regards

Reinalt Vaughan-Williams
REMS Visit Secretary

If you have a problem downloading a file, it may be because there are too many other members accessing this webpage. I suggest that you try the download a little later. I'm using Microsoft Office Live for the website. The advantage is that it is free; the disadvantage is that I don't know its limitations.

My latest letter can be downloaded by clicking [here](#).

The booking form can be downloaded in Word format by clicking [here](#) or in Adobe format by clicking [here](#). Alternatively, you can open the booking form web page by clicking [here](#) and copying or printing that.

You can download and print my latest letter, booking form and details of all the visits in one large file by clicking [here](#).

To see future visits, which have been organised or are being planned, please click [here](#).

The guide for organisers can be downloaded by clicking [here](#). It also contains a list of REMS visits since 2002, which may help potential organisers to find a visit, which they would like to organise.

You can view the details of individual events by clicking on the name of the event in the table below. I've attempted to make the pages as similar to the flyers as my limited knowledge allows. You can print the pages if you want to. Alternatively the flyers for individual events can be downloaded by clicking in the appropriate row of the Download column in the table below.

If you have any problems downloading a file, please email the secretary, who will be happy to mail a hard copy to you. I have written most Word files in an old format, which can be read by all versions of Word. But those with pictures are in Word 2003. If you can't read those, please download the Adobe version.

The programme for July, August and September 2010 is as follows:

Day	Date	Description	Cost	Max	Booked	Waiting
Wednesday	30 June	Royal College of Physicians & Regents Park	£11.00	30		
Thursday	8 July	At Home – Physics applied to Medicine no lunch	£25.00 £5.00	-		
Monday	19 July	Sherlock Holmes Walk	£5.00	30		
Saturday	31 July	London Loop Walk 12	£2.00	-		
Thursday	12 August	Blenheim Palace	£25.00	25		
Saturday	21 August	Capital Ring Walk 5	£2.00	-		
Wednesday	8 September	City of Oxford visit	£5.00	15		
Wednesday	22 September	Jane Austen, Chawton & Winchester	£12.50	25		
Saturday	25 September	London Loop Walk 13	£2	-		

This page was last updated on 09/05/2010.