

**MILESTONE SOCIETY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
&
AUTUMN CONFERENCE
SATURDAY 4th October, 2014
Droitwich Spa Methodist Church Hall,
Worcester Road, Droitwich Spa
WR9 8AN**

Parking & Travel: ample parking at the venue, marked in red above. Easy access to Droitwich via M5. Railway station 10 minutes on foot.

Meeting Fee: to include refreshments - £3 for MSS members, £5 non-members.

Catering: bring your own packed lunch, use facilities in town or **enjoy Connie Swann's** home-cooking at bargain prices (**Main Course £2, Dessert £1** - proceeds shared by Milestone Society and MSS Worcs. Group) -

Choice of Main Course, served with salad:

- (1) Cottage pie
- (2) Tuna and Pasta Bake
- (3) Chicken and Ham Pie (pastry topping)
- (4) Leek Quiche

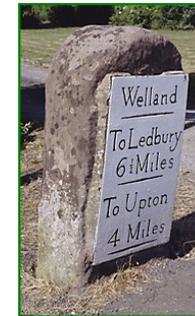
Choice of Dessert:

- (a) Raspberry Pavlova
- (b) Fruit Crumble and Custard

Record you choices here and let Hon. Sec. know (see below).

Main Course No. Dessert Letter

To give Connie an idea of numbers, by 27th Sept. please let the Hon. Sec. know your name and the number and letter of your choice (e.g. 2b or 3a) by email (honsec@milestonesociety.co.uk), by post (Hollywell House, Hollywell Lane, Clows Top, Kidderminster DY14 9NR) or by text (07792714792).



DROITWICH SPA The history of Droitwich is bound up with the story of its place as a major source of salt throughout recorded history, although that is no longer the case today. Unlike other salt producing areas, ones that are dependent upon rock salt, Droitwich's salt is derived from brine springs and wells that have a concentration of 30% salt, which is ten times more than seawater. The Romans named the town Salinae and the principal roads leading to and from it are still known as *Saltways*. In the 19th century the benefit of bathing in the concentrated brine (which is denser than the Dead Sea) were discovered and this led to the town's development as a Spa that specialised in the treatment of rheumatic diseases; sadly, however, the Brine Baths are no longer open.



Droitwich High Street 1904 The higgledy-piggledy buildings were caused by subsidence due to brine pumping and in 1926 the top storey of the church had to be taken down.

Places of interest in the surrounding area include the 700 feet tall aerial masts at Wychbold, two miles north of the town. Erected in the early 1930s these are still used for the Radio 4 Long Wave Service and Droitwich used to be one of the stations named on the tuning dial of older radio sets. To the east is Archers country upon which this long-running radio soap is based and one can buy a pint of Shire's in The Old Bull at Inkberrow. The area also has strong connections with the Gunpowder Plot, it having been the home of some notable Catholic families, and to the north west is Harvington Hall which has more priest-hides than any other country house.



Harvington Hall
DY10 4LR - a moated country house between Droitwich and Kidderminster.

The Old Bull, Inkberrow
WR7 4DZ (Not to be confused with The Bulls Head on the main road!)



Amongst the National Trust and English Heritage properties close to Droitwich are Hanbury Hall (NT) WR9 7EA, Croome (NT) WR8 9DW and Witley Court (EH) WR6 6JT, the resort of Edward VII, with its Perseus and Andromeda fountain.



As to milestones that you may wish to look out for if travelling by road, those in the vicinity of Droitwich are virtually all the concrete 1930s ones that we call *Bradleys* after the County Surveyor who designed them. On the B4090 east of Droitwich, The Saltway, are two replica replacements made by Worcestershire Group members Connie and Robbie Swann; these are at SP019611 and SO931627; and another is south of Droitwich on the A38 at SO887611. Also on the B4090 at Feckenham is a first generation milestone built into the bridge parapet (north side) over Bow Brook at SP004613.

AGM & AUTUMN CONFERENCE

4th October, 2014

Programme

09.30 Doors open; erection of displays.
Tea, coffee available.

10.15 Welcome and Introduction – *Jan Scrine*

10.30 AGM

11.30 Terry Keegan Memorial Speaker:
Ray Worth
- Worcestershire
Conservation Projects



Break for lunch

13.45 *Anthony Collis (Inn Sign Society)*
- Roadside Heritage

14.45 *Connie Swann - Worcestershire Turnpikes*

15.30 Closing remarks

15.45 Conference closes



Website: www.milestonesociety.co.uk

Reg Charity No. 1105688