



TR Register Shropshire Group

March Hare Run

Wednesday 26th March 2025



2025's March Hare run will take us on a visit to Wightwick Manor.

Wightwick Manor is a superbly crafted manor house and was built in 1887 for Samuel Theodore Mander, a partner in the local varnish and paint-making firm of Mander Brothers. The elaborate timber-framed exterior features tall chimneystacks, oriel windows and ranks of carved quatrefoils. In 1893 an east wing was added with help from the Pre-Raphaelite glass-designer Charles Kempe, who produced some fine painted glass for the house as well as advising on its decoration. In the grandest room, the great parlour, Kempe had a hand in designing the decoration of the roof and the plaster frieze. Much of Wightwick's remarkable Pre-Raphaelite collections were assembled by Mander's son and daughter-in-law, Sir Geoffrey and Lady Mander, who carefully preserved the house after his death in 1900.

After exploring Wightwick Manor, we will continue our journey to Ye Olde Punchbowl in Bridgnorth for a delightful lunch.

Ye Olde Punch Bowl Inn is renowned throughout Shropshire for the quality of its Carvery. The pub is over 700 years old with the actual date of its' construction unknown. It was originally a hundred house* and was first licensed as a pub in 1740 with the central part of the building serving as the pub itself. The building still retains much of its original characteristics despite major structural modifications over fifty years ago, only since the 1960's has the bar actually had beer pumps as the cellar for the pub was directly opposite, below the hundred house, and the beer was transported in porcelain jugs from the barrel to the bar.

It was renamed Ye Olde Punchbowl Inn in the middle of the 19th Century, probably because of its association with the Whig party who were traditionally Sherry and Punch drinkers.

During the seize of Bridgnorth as part of the civil war in 1646, many of Oliver Cromwell's troops were billeted at the Punchbowl. This was one of the few buildings that survived when the Royal troops set fire to all the buildings in high town. St Leonard's church was also destroyed then rebuilt after the fire.

Itinery:

09:45	Meet at Salop Leisure, Emstrey, Shrewsbury SY5 6QS. This located on the B4380 - just east of the A5 towards Atcham and Attingham Park. Please assemble by the Dragonfly. Arrive early if you want breakfast.
10:15	PROMPT Start of run.
11:15	Arrive at Wightwick Manor, Wightwick Bank, Wolverhampton, WV6 8EE. This is a National Trust property - admission £17.00 (£18.70 with Gift Aid). NT members - free.
13:15	Leave Wightwick Manor
14:00	Arrive Ye Olde Punchbowl Inn, Ludlow Road, Bridgnorth, WV15 5NQ, for lunch at 14:30

This is a non-competitive Social Run and is organised under the latest instructions of the TR Register. It will be necessary to sign the TR Register's disclaimer before the start of the run.

Contact:

Roger Critchley trshrops@gmail.com

01743 790253/07811 260166

* Hundred House - Traditionally, in England, Shires and Counties were sub-divided into Hundreds, each with its own court. A Hundred was an area equivalent to 100 Hides of land. A Hide is approximately 120 acres.