

## ARTS, CRAFTS AND MUSIC GROUP

### Proposed visit to Stanley Spencer's Sandham Memorial Chapel on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025 (transport by car sharing)

Stanley Spencer was a medical orderly and soldier in the First World War. His experiences, in particular the forgotten front in Salonika and the Beaufort Hospital in Bristol, provided inspiration for the large-scale paintings in the chapel. Our visit would include a guided 40 minute tour of the chapel (compulsory for groups) plus time to visit the exhibition, garden and shop.

It takes about 1hr 15-20 mins to get from Nailsworth to Sandham Chapel, which opens at 11.00. Morning viewing is recommended as there is no artificial lighting and this is when the daylight is best.

We need 15-20 people to make a group. If there are more wishing to visit we will have a second group. The morning timings would be:

Group A	Group B
11.10– 11.50 approx. Chapel tour	11.10 – 11.50 approx. Exhibition, garden and shop. External viewing of Sandham House
11.50 – 12.30 Exhibition, garden and shop. External viewing of Sandham House	11.50 – 12.30 Chapel tour
12.30 Lunch The Carpenters Arms, Burghclere looks good, or bring a picnic. It may be possible to sit on benches in Sandham garden.	12.30 Lunch

#### Cost of visit:

##### A group of 15 + people

National Trust members: Entry free (with card), Tour £7.	Total £7
Non-members: Entry fee £9.50. Tour £7.	Total £16.50

##### Fewer than 15 people

Members £7 for tour. Non-members entry £11, tour £7. Total £18

## Travel

The journey is straightforward, leaving the M4 two junctions east of Swindon at the Newbury exit, then south just a few miles on the A34 to Burghclere, RG20 9JT. Drivers will receive a contribution of £5 per passenger towards petrol costs. This will be added to the cost of entry of all passengers and paid all together in advance. This will save a significant amount compared with coach travel and allow greater flexibility in how you organize your day.

## Morning coffee

The Carpenters Arms is closed from 10.00 – 12.00 in the morning and there is nothing else in the village. However, there is a Starbucks at the service area on the junction where you leave the A34, on the west side. There is also a Macdonalds. The chapel is very close to the junction but on the east side.

(Sandham only has one toilet so this might be a useful stop.)

## The afternoon

If you wish to make this a full day out there are two nearby options, but I will not be organising these. They are:

- 1) **Highclere Castle** [highclerecastle.co.uk](http://highclerecastle.co.uk) 5 minutes away. There is still availability for non- group bookings on this date. Click on the tab **Spring Public Openings** for prices and to book this date. All the other event tabs are very expensive. You will need to register (top right) in order to book and online payment is preferred. The office phone number is 01635 253 210 should you need it. (Historic Houses members please note: Highclere no longer offers free entry to HH members.)

**Refreshments** are available in the tea rooms. If you have your own picnic they ask you to eat it in the car park, not the grounds.

- 2) **Whitchurch Silk Mill**, 13 minutes away. [whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk](http://whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk) Entry £10, over 60s £9.  
The Riverside Café does light lunches, tea/coffee, cakes etc.