

VISIT TO HIGHCLERE CASTLE

Subject to whichever Covid restrictions are in place this summer, we are planning to run a coach trip to Highclere Castle on Sunday 18th July 2021. The visit will include the Castle, the Egyptian Exhibition and the Gardens. The price will be £35 per person, which includes entry costs and the coach fare.

The coach will depart from Beaumont Way, Hazlemere at 8.15am (sharp) and leave Highclere at 2.0pm. This should give us over 4 hours to see everything.

If you are interested in this trip please indicate via the HGA email address when you renew your membership. Monies will be collected at the end of May when we hope to be able to confirm whether or not the visit will proceed.

HIGHCLERE CASTLE

During the First World War, Highclere Castle was converted into a hospital for wounded soldiers run by the 5th Countess of Carnarvon. Then, in the Second World War, Highclere Castle was home to children evacuated from London.

There are between 250 and 300 rooms in the Castle Saloon and during your tour you will explore the main state rooms so familiar from "Downton Abbey". You will see some of the bedrooms after which you will follow the stairs down to the cellars and old staff quarters where you will find the Egyptian Exhibition, celebrating the 5th Earl of Carnarvon's discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun.

THE EGYPTIAN EXHIBITION

The Discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun was the first global media event and has given a legacy of understanding knowledge and insight into a remarkable civilisation.

The exhibition explores the path to the discovery of this most famous of tombs. The six rooms of the exhibition catalogues the Earl's fascination with Egypt, his early excavations from 1906 onwards, his relationship with his friend Howard Carter and the discovery and contents of the tomb, including a magnificent reproduction of the sarcophagus. It begins with part of the Earl's own collection of antiquities.

HIGHCLERE'S GARDENS

Records show the gardens were first developed here during the 13th century. Today you are welcome to explore the original Monks' Garden, the White Border, the Wood of Goodwill, the Rose Arbour, the Wild Flower Meadow and, nearer the house, the Healing Herb Garden.