

**Welford and Weston Local History Society**  
[www.welfordandweston.org.uk](http://www.welfordandweston.org.uk)

**Newsletter 31 – March 2016**

Our new programme commences on 8<sup>th</sup> June, a Wednesday, with a visit to Harvington Hall. The cost which covers entrance fees, morning coffee and a guided tour is £10 per person for members and £12 per head for non members. This is based on 20 or more people joining the visit.

Harvington Hall is a moated Elizabethan manor house situated southeast of Kidderminster. Many of the rooms still have their original Elizabethan wall paintings and the Hall contains what are considered to be the finest series of priests hiding places anywhere in the country. These hiding places were built at the end of the 16th Century, when it was high treason for a Catholic priest to be in England. Some of them are likely to be the work of the master builder Nicholas Owen, who was at work from 1588 onwards. He was arrested at Hindlip House, near Worcester in 1606 and subsequently tortured to death in the Tower of London.



This will be a self-drive event. The address and post code for satnav purposes is Harvington Hall lane, Harvington, DY10 4LR. We will try to organise a lift-sharing scheme. The schedule is as follows:-

- Arrive for coffee 11.15am - (& make & pay for your luncheon selection)
- Guided tour of the house 12 noon - 1.30pm

- Lunch to follow (see web site for 'tea room' menu)
- After lunch further access to Hall, Malt House & gardens is available.

If you are interested in joining this visit, please give your name to Sue Hook or Brad Plimmer or in fact any other committee member.

Unlike our visit to Sezincote last year, this site will be open to the general public on the day of our visit. The implication of this is that we are limited to a maximum of 20 people for reserved seating in the tea room / restaurant for lunch. The committee members and their spouses have agreed to forego lunch (in the Tea Room), and we will be making use of the many tables in the gardens – see photo below- for eating our sandwiches. So the first twenty people who put their names down for this visit will be assured of an 'inside' lunch. There is no upper limit to the number for the tour. I hope this is clear.



Please note that access to some parts of the Hall is by steep stairs and that some of the access is narrow and floors uneven.

For more information visit the web site at [www.harvingtonhall.com](http://www.harvingtonhall.com).

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