



Promoting the study and appreciation of industrial archaeology

January 2016

Dear Member

AIA Annual Conference, Telford 9th – 14th September 2016.

The Association's conference this year, which is being jointly organised by David de Haan, Ian West, Steve Dewhirst and Shane Keller, will be held at the Telford Campus of the University of Wolverhampton. While the University campus is substantial the buildings being used for the conference are close together.

The format of the conference will be similar to that adopted for many years. On Friday there will be a seminar 'Britain's Industrial Heritage: What has WHS inscription done for it?'. The main conference will, as last year, open with a welcome reception, this time to launch a new edition of Barrie Trinder's book 'The Industrial Archaeology of Shropshire' and extend from Friday evening to Sunday lunch time. It will include talks by local experts on local industries as well as reports on and presentations from our award winners and of course the Rolt lecture, this year being given by John Yates. As usual there will be an opportunity for member's contributions and early notification that delegates wish to make such contributions would be helpful. Saturday morning after the coffee break and before lunch there will be a choice of visits to local sites.

From Sunday afternoon to Wednesday afternoon there will be a series of coach trips to sites of IA interest, with evening talks on Sunday and Monday. On Tuesday evening dinner will be at the Ironbridge Gorge Museum, followed by a torchlight tour of the Iron Bridge. Where the sites etc. to be visited have restricted numbers places will be allocated on a first come basis.

The university offers two grades of bedroom; both have en-suite showers. There are also a few double bed rooms. Delegates should note that the economy suites are very basic, as detailed at item 4 of the terms and conditions.

The contractual arrangements with the University provide for a cancellation fee if the number of delegates falls below that contracted for. As a result we have set the number at what we consider to be a conservative level. Places will be allocated on a first come basis. Once all places booked have been allocated it may be possible to book further places but this cannot be guaranteed. For this reason early booking is strongly advised.

Delegates should note the changes to the terms and conditions.

Visits may involve walking longer distances and/or climbing into places with restricted headroom etc. Delegates, in deciding which tours to apply for, must consider their agility etc. The Association reserves the right to refuse to admit delegates should it be considered that their mobility is not consistent with the nature of the visit. All delegates are reminded that suitable clothing, including stout shoes or boots is regarded as **mandatory**.

Finally delegates should note **the changes to the terms and conditions**, from previous years.

John McGuinness
(Conference secretary)

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