



The Chester Civic Trust

MANCHESTER'S HIDDEN MANSIONS

Friday, 6th May 2016

This is a privileged opportunity to see three houses rarely open to the public. The visits have been privately arranged with the Friends of each building by one of our Members.

Our first morning visit will be to Heaton Hall where the Friends will give us a tour of this Grade I Listed Georgian house by James Wyatt, begun in 1772. Heaton Hall has scarcely been open to the public for over five years. It is gradually being repaired and restored, and at the time of the visit it is anticipated that a phase of works currently ongoing will have been completed - the restoration and reinstatement of the west wing windows and shutters. The building itself is not furnished, but overall provides an opportunity to see a significant house at the early stage of repair, without the distraction of objects, artworks or furniture.

We will stop for refreshments at the Hall.

The next visit will be to Clayton Hall in East Manchester. The Hall dates from the sixteenth century but from 1620 it was the home of Humphrey Chetham, a notable Manchester businessman who was also High Sheriff of the County Palatine and founder of Chetham's School and Library in the city. At that time Clayton Hall was a moated medieval courtyard manor house, the house and its surroundings have evolved and changed over the years. The medieval access bridge and moat remain though it does not currently hold any water.

The Friends of the Hall will share the results of recent investigations and of their evolving plans for the future.

We will have a lunch of vegetable soup with a roll here, followed by cake and tea/coffee.

Finally the tour will continue to Wythenshawe Hall in the south of the city. The house and park were gifted to the people of the city by Lord and Lady Simon, formerly Lord Mayor of the city, who in turn had purchased it from the Tatton family. The house combines a medieval Hall House, a Georgian wing, Victorian and Arts and Crafts interventions. It is largely unfurnished.

It has been closed to the public since around 2010, but over the last two years the Friends of the Hall have started to arrange regular open days and have ambitious plans for the future.

We will pick up from Handbridge at 8.45 a.m., the Railway Station at 8.50a.m. and Boughton at 8.55 a.m..

The approximate arrival time back in Chester will be 5.30 p.m.

The cost of the visit is £28, which includes coach, entrance to sites and guides, morning coffee/tea and lunch and gratuities.

To book your place cut off this slip and send it to Chester Civic Trust, Bishop Lloyd's Palace, 51/53 Watergate Row, Chester CH1 2LE, enclosing a cheque payable to Chester Civic Trust. Please note tickets will not be issued, but you will be notified by e-mail or telephone

Manchester's Hidden Mansions, 6th, May 2016

Name (s)

I enclose a cheque to the value of

My contact details are telephone _____ and/or e-mail _____

I will be getting on the coach at Handbridge/ the Railway Station/Boughton. Please circle

I would like tea/coffee at Heaton Hall. Please circle.