

South East Alvis Day at Michelham Priory

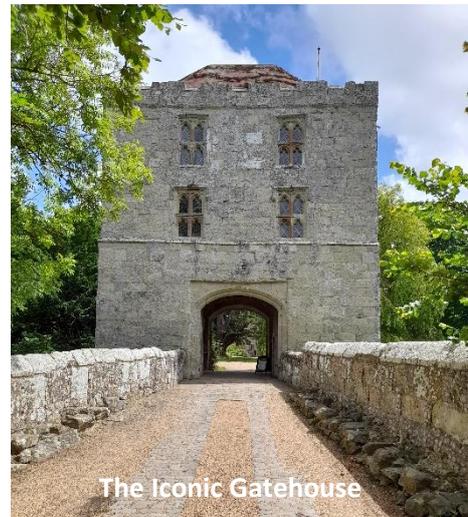
Held on 10th September 2022

The South East Section held their Alvis Day on Saturday 10th September at Michelham Priory House and Gardens. A Tudor house set on a picturesque moated island, complete with medieval gatehouse and watermill.

The Priory is the site of a former Augustine Priory in Upper Dicker, East Sussex, England, United Kingdom. The surviving buildings are owned and administered by the Sussex Archaeological Society and are Grade I and Grade II listed.

It was decided after the very sad news of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the Thursday evening, to continue with the event. Especially as the Duke of Edinburgh had an Alvis. The weather held and the turn out of Southern members from East and West was excellent.

On the day, 28 cars arrived, with 56 AOC Members attending. Pre and Post War cars were parked up on the lawns in front of the Priory. Everyone had to drive over the moat and through the iconic gatehouse and into the grounds.





Michelham Priory was founded by Augustinian canons in 1229, the site is steeped in history. During Tudor times the site suffered destruction caused by the dissolution of the monasteries, and in WWII it was home to evacuees and the Canadian Army.

A T-shaped stone-built structure, the East and North wings date from the 13th century and the West wing from the 16th century. The North wing, originally the Prior's Lodgings, comprises three storeys with an attic and the other two wings, two storeys. In seven acres of beautiful grounds there are buildings to explore including: a great barn; medieval gate house; watermill; and the kitchen, physic and medieval herb gardens. The whole site is surrounded by a moat.



The day flowed very nicely with everyone enjoying the lovely surroundings on a lovely day in September, tucking into picnics, checking out the array of Alvises, getting under the bonnet and watching the ever present ducks.



Many thanks must go to Barbara Long, who organised the event and on the day organisation of the Concours, Driving Test and Raffle from Harry Davey, Tim Harcourt, Tricia Harcourt, Owen Swinerd, all our members who attended and the Staff at Michelham Priory.



As the day came to a close, the cry went out for the final part of the days event: the Raffle followed by the Prize Giving.

And the Winners are:



Driving Test: Pre War (class A&B)
1st Paulus Smith – Firefly



Driving Test: Post War (class C&D)
1st Mark Seligman – TE21



Concours: Post War (class C&D)
3rd Philip Olden - TD21



Concours: Post War (class C&D)
Joint 1st: Mark Seligman -TE21
1st Tim Stables – TF21



Tony Saunders Trophy – Best
aggregate performance on the day
by a post war car
Mark Seligman – TE21



Peoples Vote Award - The car most
people wanted to go home in
Ray McMullen - Speed 20 2 seat+dickie



**South East Section Chairmans Prize – Malcolm
Davey Award**
Awarded to Barbara Long for organising the event

And then it was time to wind our way home.

Author: Richard Long
14th September 2022