

Chair's Report to C20 Southern Region AGM – 19 March 2022

Introduction

At our AGM in March last year we were hoping that during 2021 we would be able to resume our programme of visits. Disappointingly that was not to be the case. Instead, we continued with our series of Zoom events in co-operation with the South West and West Group. Following on from the successful launch event on Seaside Buildings we held further well attended events on Ecclesiastical Buildings and Leisure Buildings. Before the year was out we managed a one day event to Poundbury in Dorset.

Future Programme

We are hoping that this year we will be able to relaunch a series of visits. Already in the diary is the 'Southampton Weekender' from 13 – 15 May 2022. Now sold out this weekend is part of our Group's commitment to Head Office to run a national event when possible. Although I see only a couple of Southern Group members are signed up for the event the research and work that has gone into the planning should allow us to offer some one-day events in the future on:

- Twentieth Century Churches in Southampton
- A Focus on the Work of Herbert Collins
- University of Southampton and Halls of Residence
- Post War Social Housing in Southampton and the work of the Borough's architect, Leon Berger

Outline Plans for Visits this Year

- June is earmarked for a possible visit to Wimborne (Tivoli Theatre and Model Village) combine with Briantspuddle where a model village of workers housing was developed by Ernest Debenham, grandson of William Debenham, founder of the British department store, Debenhams. Member, Mike Henderson is kindly looking into organising this visit for us.
- Hooke Park, near Beaminster
- Christchurch, Dorset
- Woking, Surrey

Other Ideas

- Potential Event on Hampshire Schools

The Committee

The committee of myself as Chair, Clare Dales as Secretary, Basil Fowler as Treasurer and Fi Rosen, Committee Member has continued to meet this year on Zoom. Clare, Basil and Fi are happy for their names to go forward for re-election. I need to stand down as Chair and so we are hoping to elect a new Chair during the AGM.

Social Media

I have continued to manage the Southern Group's Twitter Account. If anyone else would like to take this role on please let me know as there is a lot more we could do with this account. We now have a presence on Instagram thanks to member, Mark Hazell. Please do follow these accounts.

Caroline Martin
Chair, C20 Southern Group
19 March 2022