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**THE ARTS SOCIETY WEST MIDLANDS AREA
DAY OF SPECIAL INTEREST
FROM ARDEN'S SOILY HILL TO THE DOMESDAY BOOK ... AND PIMM'S!
ON TUESDAY 16 JULY 2019**

You are invited to join us for this morning's visit to the parish church of Saint Alphege in Solihull (**meet at 10:45 am**). The name Solihull is commonly thought to have derived from the position of Saint Alphege's Church which was built on a soily hill in a clearing in the Forest of Arden. This red sandstone church dates from medieval times and is a large and handsome example of English Gothic church architecture with a traditional spire 51 metres high making it visible from a great distance. It is located at the top of the High Street and is a Grade I listed building. It was founded about 1220 by Hugh de Oddinsell. **We will then travel by coach to "The Bull's Head Inn"** in the nearby village of Wootton Wawen where we will have a refreshing glass of Pimm's or a soft drink on arrival, before our buffet lunch of assorted meat and vegetarian sandwiches, salad, fresh fruit, fruit cake and tea and coffee.

After lunch we will visit the parish church of Saint Peter in the village of Wootton Wawen, which has a famous Saxon Sanctuary and is the oldest church in Warwickshire, although much of the present fabric is later. The tower is the earliest part of the church. The font is an octagonal bowl resting on eight sculptured heads and the old oak pulpit and choir screen are 15th century. St. Peter's has a small chained library of 17th century theological works and some notable monumental brasses, particularly the altar tomb of John Harewell and his wife Anna (1505.) "Wootton Wawen" means a farm near a wood belonging to Wagen or Waga, who was an Anglo-Danish landowner who established the present church. The Domesday Book records that in 'Pathlow Hundred in Wootton Wawen there were 23 villagers with a priest and 22 smallholders. Waga held it freely.'

Cost: £39 pp, to include guided visits at both churches led by Alan Griffiths, a Blue Badge Guide with a special interest in church architecture, all coach travel, lunch and gratuities, including donations to both churches. There is plenty of parking available in Solihull town centre, the nearest being Touchwood Car Park and Church Hill Car Park both a 5-min (approx) walk to St Alphege's Church.

Please apply early as numbers are limited; at the latest by 20th June 2019. After this date there will be **no** refunds unless there is a waiting list. If you have to cancel, please let me know by email or telephone as soon as possible. (**Application forms** can also be downloaded from www.westmidlandsarea.theartssociety.org)

Please reply to: Maria Graham, 12 Northwick Crescent, Solihull B913TU Email: mariagramham12@blueyonder.co.uk
Tel: 0121 704 4887

APPLICATION FORM

NAME(S):

YOUR SOCIETY:

ADDRESS: POST CODE:

TEL: MOBILE: EMAIL:

I require place(s) at £39 per person. Please include all names for attendance list. Cheque(s) enclosed for total of £
(payable to **The Arts Society-West Midlands Area**)

Please advise of any dietary requirements:

Please email to confirm that you have sent in your application. I will acknowledge and send you further directions by email.
For written confirmation (if you are unable to email me) please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.