

# WEALD AND DOWNLAND MUSEUM TRIP 11TH SEPTEMBER 2019

A number of messages of thanks and praise for this trip. The following report by Geoff Stubbs sums up the day.

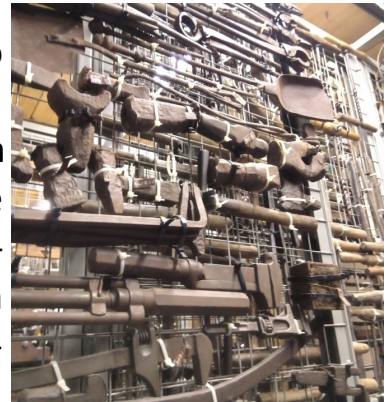
"Congratulations to Pat for organising such an interesting trip to the Weald and Downland Museum, home of BBC's Repair Shop. Not a coach full, so plenty of room for the journey.



The museum has an extensive collection of over 50 historic rescued rural homes and buildings dating back as far as 950 AD!!! The weather was fine, and with 40 acres of the South Downs National Park to wander around the time flew by.



One of the highlights was a guided visit to the Gridshell building, an enormous open space beneath a wooden lattice-based roof where they do large scale wooden restoration work and run training courses for the craftsmen of tomorrow. Beneath the first floor is a fascinating collection of old artefacts, many of which have been donated to the museum from retired craftsmen and women from days gone by.



High on the visit list was the bakery, where they were baking fresh granary bread using a restored working mill, and the blacksmith, crafting horseshoes and a range of other metal ornaments, all for sale in the Museum's shop. With shopping bags full of freshly baked bread and for some, the odd metal snail crafted by the blacksmith, all that was left was a quick cup of tea in the restaurant and then the drive back to Verwood. A lovely day!!"



If you've not been, it's only 7 miles from Chichester and well worth a day out.