

Please see attached double-sided map sheet for how to get there, where to find the centres when there, and general guidance notes.

1000 onwards: Arrival by East Gate only, reporting at gate or Hut just along inside the grounds. Admittance by ticket only. Collect Lapel Badge and group number. Cars proceed downhill to car park on grass in front of Castle. Please park neatly and close together. Tea and coffee making facilities will be available (DIY) in the tiny RGO Clubhouse, with tea bags and inst. coffee laid on - but there isn't room to swing a cat round... Herstmonceux Castle Tea Room, near Castle West entrance will be open for cafe sales about mid-morning. Clubhouse bar will be open for sale of soft drinks during day (and the hard stuff later), but bar space also very restricted. Tea room can seat about 70 a time. Assemble your outside-type display equipment on forecourt in front of Castle (or inside South entrance if inclement). Screens will be available for pictorial displays, etc., inside the South entrance and also inside the Clubhouse. Please hand them in to the persons involved in setting up the displays at either of these two places.

The Trades Fair section will consist of 7 stands (Astrobooks, Astro Instruments, Astrotech, JAS., Norman Fisher Ltd., Space Frontiers, Speedibrews and an FAS table.) It will be set up in the staff dining room of the Castle, entrance by south door, and should be under way by 1030 or soon after. Get a 35mm cassette with a small length of film loaded in from Mike Maunder (Speedibrews) if you would like to take part (and have a 35mm camera) in the 'On-the-Spot' Photo competition. See end of this programme for details of competitions.

1030: Programme announcements, directives given in Clubhouse and relayed to speaker immediately outside clubhouse. The afternoon grouping system will be announced though notices of these will be found on the south door entrance to the Castle. (Also see below for the groupings).

1045: Official opening of the Convention. Opening words by Dr. G. Wilkins, Deputy Director, RGO; Rosemary Naylor (Federation); Mr. J.L. White, (British Astronomical Association); Robin Scagell (Junior Astronomical Society) and possibly others, including Frances Glenn, (San Francisco Sidewalk Astronomers - if she can make it).

1115: Patrick Moore - Voyager 2, with slides. In Clubhouse, room for 150, or more if you don't mind a crush.

1145-1220: Fancy Dress on Causeway in front of Castle. All entrants to assemble at South door between 1150 & 1200 to walk across Causeway for the judging (by Ian Ridpath).

TEA ROOM light lunches, snacks, etc., available any time by West door. Menu encl. Please do ring Mr. D.M. Culton (Tea Room Director) before Sep 30 if you would like a set lunch (note price advantage of pre-order). Tel. 948 81 3171.

1240-1320: Lunch-time shows in Clubhouse. Sound & Light show "Creation" Room for 150 - will be repeated later (in the evening).

1320 - 1400: Free time. Suggestions: Lunch, Special Display stands in Clubhouse, Trade stands, telescope displays, software displays.

1400-1700: RGO facilities open for the Exhibition Hall, RGO shop, and group visits, see lists below. Please don't enter private/closed doors in Castle.

" " In the Clubhouse, for those not on group call at the time or not wishing to spend the whole afternoon as above (you have the choice!):-

1400: Talk by Mr. Gordon Taylor (Public Information Officer) "The Work of the RGO". (Informal - probably small audience only).

1430: Talk by Robin Scagell - to do with Observations and the Amateur, (or whatever). Remarks as above.

1500-1600: The Chris Green Show - an 'accomplished' performance of "Astronomy & Music".

1600-1700: Your last chance to visit the RGO facilities, or go and have tea or do your 'On the Spot' competition photography or walk the Castle Gardens.

RG0 Group Visits:-

In Castle - Special viewing of Lunar Thin Section samples (by permission of SERC), in the RGO Exhibition Hall. A small audience at any time can

view the projected slides associated with the lunar samples - in the Trade Stands room.

In Castle Grounds - Two Domes in the Equatorial Group and the 'Starlink' Computer floor in the West Building. See map for positions/entrances of them - you have no time to get lost! The number on the back of your lapel badge indicates your group. There are 6 groups of 44 in each. Please stay within your group and adhere to the times below. Allow plenty of time to reach the centres as the grounds are extensive (10 minutes). Use the west entrance to the Domes compound and split into two groups of 22 each on arrival at the gate so that each of the domes will be in use together - $\frac{1}{2}$ hour in each dome. Groups and times:-

GROUP	VISITING TIMES		
	Eq. DOMES	LUNAR SAMPLES	STARLINK CC.
1 - 44	1400-1430	1500-1530	1600-1630
45 - 88	1430-1500	1530-1600	1630-1700
89 - 132	1500-1530	1600-1630	1400-1430
133 - 176	1530-1600	1630-1700	1430-1500
177 - 220	1600-1630	1400-1430	1500-1530
221 - 264	1630-1700	1430-1500	1530-1600

Note that the times are not in order, L. to R. for any one group, eg., Gr. 89-132 is the first to visit Starlink CC at 1400h. Regrettably, only 30 people per half hour can be accommodated in the Computer Centre. This means that not everyone will be able to visit it and a selection (by your own choice as far as possible) will have already been made at the entrance gate on your arrival. Only Starlink card holders, 30 in each group of 44, can be admitted to the Comp. Centre at the times above. The Lunar Sample viewing should present no problem as about 60 per hour should be OK - this will allow time for groups to see the RGO Exhibition in the same interval, or visit other goings on between the timed visits to the centres above.

1700-1800: Rest & Refreshments! RGO tea room open for varied menu. Also Clubhouse Bar for soft drinks.

1730-1800: Last chance for Trade stands - who should now start packing up for closure of South door of Castle by 1830. Please leave room tidy.

1800: In Clubhouse - half an hour in which to put on any left-overs or any slides, announcements, etc. that people may have brought. Please give notice or hand in slides to 'operations' desk in Clubhouse before 1800h.

1830: The show of the day! HENCOUP ENTERPRISES ACT. Your guess is as good as mine but with Heather C. and Nigel B anything can happen and it's bound to be tops.

1900-2100: By permission of RGO Admin., a buffet meal is available in the Long Gallery of the Castle to ticket holders only. Entrance by West door. Local Caterers Cleavers Lyng (£3.50 per head). Wine available extra. To be followed in the Lecture Theatre with a talk by RGO Director, Prof. Alec Boksenberg.

1900-2100: (For those not dining). Grounds: Sunset about 1830. Moon 5 -6 days old. Telescopes in use, please, if clear. Performance competition if possible. Clubhouse: A surprise! (Wait and see). Bar open. Second showing of the Sound & Light show (about 2000h). your last opportunity for processing your bit of 'On the Spot' competition film and getting it dry for showing. May be a session of simulated astronomical 'observing' esp. if not clear.

2115: Competition results and awards. (In Clubhouse).

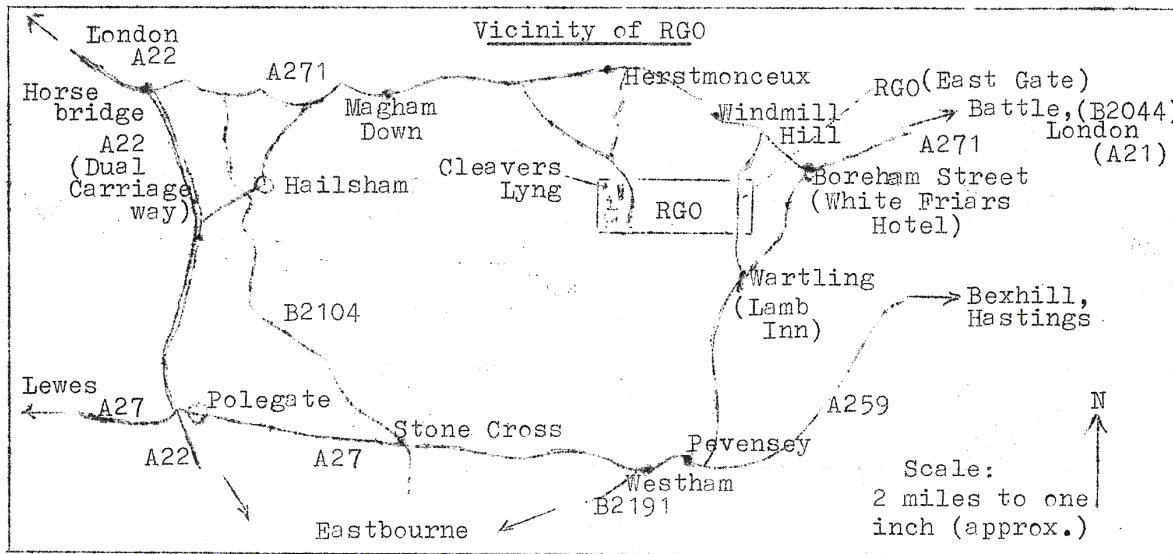
2130: Half an hour of final fun: 'Call my Astronomical Bluff' Questions by Ian Ridpath. Teams: Eastbourne and Plymouth.

2200-2230: Clearing up and departure. Everybody to be out of grounds by 2300 at the latest.

Competitions: A list of possible classes for the various items people may bring was given in the draft programme (q.v.), but the actual ones will have to be decided on the day in the light of what is brought along, etc. Herstonceux 81 Merit Certificates will be the general prizes but Astro Books, Astro Instruments and Space Frontiers have very kindly offered contributions or credit tokens to the prize fund. Many thanks! The 'On the Spot' Photo comp. was given in full detail on the Draft Prog. See Mike Maunder on his stand who will explain all. Entry fee for cost of materials. In-cassette processing is child's play - no darkroom necessary. This will be done on the tray to be placed in the Clubhouse kitchen.

Special Display stands in Clubhouse: Computerised read-out of orbital positions by Denis Price, Sheffield. Magnitude Comparator by John Bush and George Ricketts (Brighton AS). Laser Beam Mirror test by Mr. D. Wright (Southampton AS). Home-made Maksutov and catadioptric Astro-camera by Jack Youdail and Arthur Wilkinson. These are not definite.

Admission: £1.50. Enquiries and bookings to Geoff Pearce, 1 Valletort Cotts, Millbridge, Plymouth. PL1 5PU Tel C752 556269. Hope you all have a very good day!



There is no public transport to Herstmonceux Castle.

Rail from London: 1) Victoria to Polegate (about 1 hour 20min). Hourly service during morning, leaving Victoria at 52min past the hour. 2) Charing Cross or Cannon Street to Battle (about 1½ hours). Hourly service during morning leaving Charing X at 45min past the hour. (Advisable to check these times).

Taxi firm opposite Polegate Rly Station (fare about £4). No taxi service from Battle Stn. Return Polegate to Victoria: hourly service to 2206, leaving 6min past the hour (check). If anyone is desperate, it may be possible to arrange a lift from and to Polegate station.

By road from London: 1) A22, L'don to Eastbourne: Take 2nd exit at Boship roundabout, about 10 miles S of Uckfield (signposted 'Boship Farm Hotel') on to A271 signpost Bexhill. Straight on thro' Horsebridge, Magham Down, Herstmonceux Village, Windmill Hill, thence t.R for Wartling. This minor road passes RGO East Gate, 1 mile down on the right. 2) A21, L'don to Hastings. Turn R on outskirts of Battle on to B2204. About 6 miles to 'T' junction, whence t.R on A271 through Boreham Street, thence 1¼ miles to the Wartling turn. Allow at least 2½ hours by road from London.

Local Hotels: Cleavers Lyng Guest House (tel. 032 181 3131) B/B about £10. Lamb Inn, Wartling (tel. 032 181 2116) B/B about £8. White Friars Hotel, Boreham Street, (tel. 032 181 2355) Country House style, AA 3-star, private bathroom, B/B about £13-£16. Dinner available at any of the above to advance order. Prices may now be increased. The above info is taken from an RGO leaflet kindly supplied by Miss Hanning, Director's personal Secretary.

Distances to coastal resorts (for more abundant accommodation): Pevensey Bay, 4 miles; Eastbourne, 11 miles; Hastings, 13 miles.) Places can be suggested in Eastbourne - write Geoff Pearce. Official caravan sites at Magham Down (Sandy Bank) and at Windmill Hill (Orchard View). Overnight parking in the Castle grounds, or the small car park at the East gate, is not permitted.

* * * * *

Please note that though we hope lots of delegates equipment will be brought for display, neither the RGO, nor the FAS (nor me!) can be held responsible for any losses or damage to the said equipment and owners should insure it themselves. It is advisable for all loose bits to be removed (e.g., eyepieces from telescopes) when leaving equipment unattended to visit other places in the grounds, but please everybody, respect other people's property so that we can all go home happy. Of course, it's not going to rain but in case you think it looks like it, still bring your exhibits as it's hoped to provide some cover for those who would like it.

MEALS ARE NOW ON - no need to bring your own food after all. The Tea Shop in the grounds by the West Door of the Castle can provide lunches, hot or cold (light), ices, liquid refreshment and teas (or light early evening meals). See copy of menu enclosed. The Tea Shop Manager would appreciate prior knowledge of how many lunches might be required, so please do try and let me know. Seating is limited but a seat would come with your order! The RGO Clubhouse bar will also be open for sale of soft drinks some time during the day, (and later, of course!)

HERSTMONCEUX 81, Oct. 3

Herstmonceux Church

gleavers Lyng

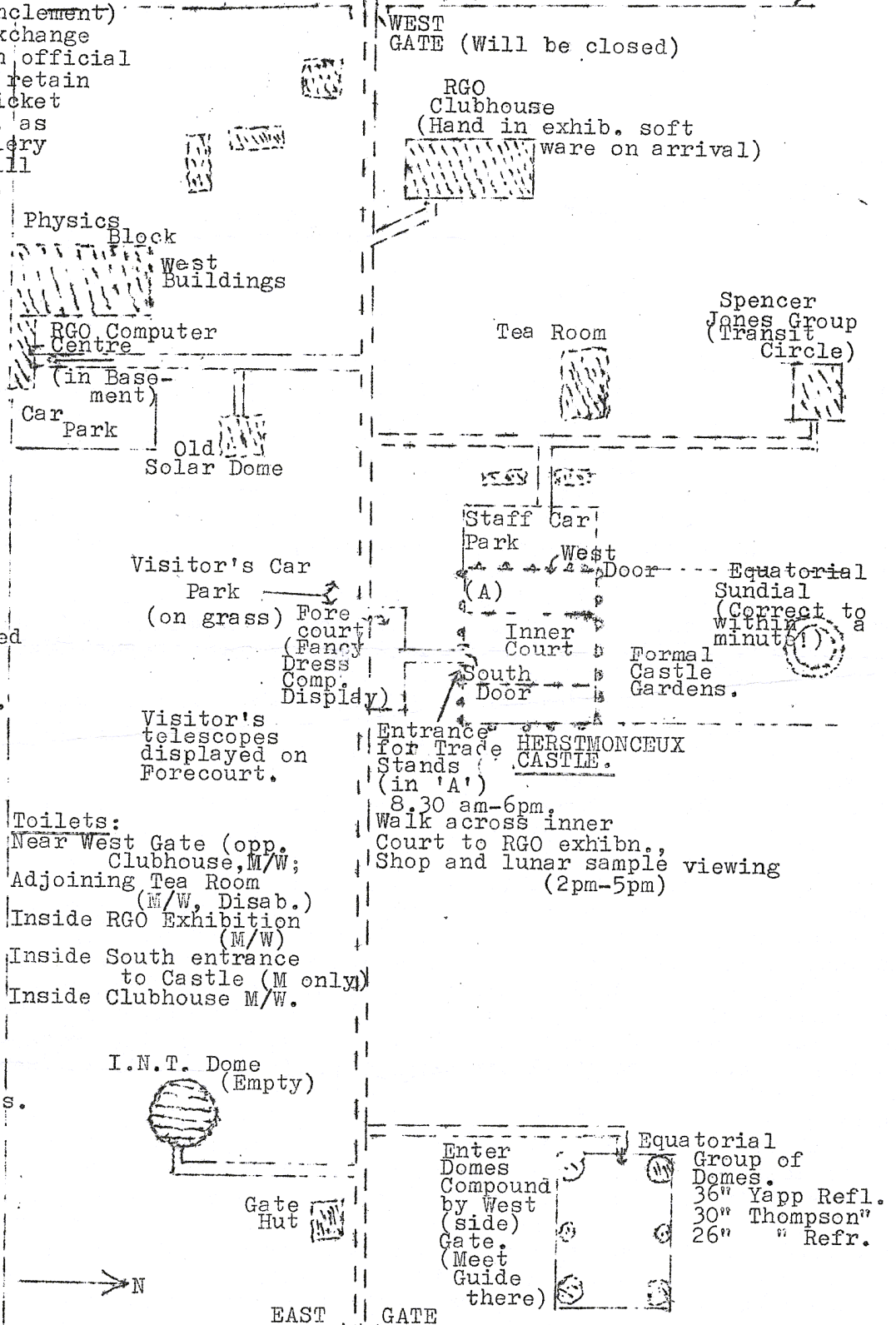
To A23 for London, 58m.
To A271 (Herstmonceux village) about 1 1/2m

Entrance by East Gate only, and by ticket only. Report at Gate (or Gate Hut if inclement) on arrival, and exchange your ticket for an official badge. Be sure to retain your white meal ticket (if you have one), as entry to Long Gallery for Buffet meal will be by ticket only. (RGO security).

The official badges will be numbered in order of arrival and the numbers will be divided into groups for the afternoon's RGO support activities. (See programme and notice boards for group times). This is necessary to avoid overcrowding any of the centres and to ensure the guided parties not being too large for you to hear the guides.

For the domes and computer centre, pick up your guide at the respective entrances, but for the lunar sample viewing, just join the queue at your appointed time.

Grateful thanks are due to the RGO astronomical staff, who will be giving up their own time voluntarily to act as guides. Please acknowledge their kindness.



Toilets:
Near West Gate (opp. Clubhouse, M/W; Adjoining Tea Room (M/W, Disab.))
Inside RGO Exhibition (M/W)
Inside South entrance to Castle (M only)
Inside Clubhouse M/W.

8.30 am-6pm.
Walk across inner Court to RGO exhibn., Shop and lunar sample viewing (2pm-5pm)

Note: this dwg. [is not to scale.]

Small Car Park Report at Gate (or gate hut) on arrival.

To London via A21. 64m.

To A259 (Wartling 3/4m, Pevensey 31/2m, Eastbourne 11m.)

To A271 at Boreham Street (about 1m).

ENTRANCE to be used on Oct 3.

ROYAL GREENWICH OBSERVATORY, HERSTMONCEUX CASTLE. (Schematic)

SET MEALS FOR 3.10.81.

- A. Oxtail soup, roll and butter.
Scampi and side salad with French bread.
Apple pie and cream. Tea or coffee. £2.95. Pre-booked price - £2.50.
- B. Oxtail soup, roll and butter.
Ham salad. Apple pie and cream.
Tea or coffee. £2.70. Pre-booked price £2.25.
- C. Ploughmans Lunch.
Apple pie and cream.
Tea or coffee. £1.45 Pre-booked price £1.25.
- D. Two sausages and French Bread.
Arctic Roll. Tea or coffee. £1.30 Pre-booked price £1.00.

MENU

- * Oxtail soup - 30p. Plus French bread - 40p.
Two sausages and French bread - 75p.
Chicken fillets and side salad with French Bread - £1.50.
Scampi and side salad with French bread - £1.75.
Quiche Lorain and side salad - 90p.
Ploughman's Lunch - 75p.
Pate and French bread - 75p.
Salads: Cheese - £1.25. Ham, Turkey, Beef - £1.50
Sandwiches: Cheese - 40p. Cheese and tomato - 45p.
Ham, Turkey and Beef. - 50p.

-
- Arctic Roll - 35p.
Fruit salad and cream - 45p.
Gateau - 50p.
Cheesecake - 55p.
Apple pie - 35p. With cream - 45p.
Belgian apple flan - 55p. With cream - 65p.
Cakes - from 15p. Cream cakes - from 25p.
Set cream tea - 75p.
Tea per cup - 16p. Per pot, per person - 30p.
Coffee with milk - 25p. With cream - 28p.
Rombouts coffee - 40p.
Cans - 30p. Milk - 20p. Hot chocolate - 30p.
Milk shakes - 30p.