

GroundhopUK

North Berkshire Football League

Groundhop 16 September 2017

September is not far away, so it means it's time for us to announce details of another great visit to the North Berkshire League for 2017. We have some unusual grounds in store for you again this year, including a trip to the futuristic Diamond Light Source and the annual James Rennie Memorial Trophy match. This year, we are looking at a Friday game in the Berks & Bucks Cup at Milton United (who are looking to move grounds) as an optional extra for those who want to come down the night before (subject to Berks & Bucks agreement). We have three games on the Saturday, ending near Oxford – which is good news as, due to the electrification of the Paddington-Swansea mainline, Didcot is in chaos (again) so we will run this Hop out of Oxford Parkway Station. It's on a direct line from London Marylebone, so with the last game ending before 7pm, we should be back at the station comfortably before 8pm. Please factor this in when booking train tickets, even with the James Rennie Trophy presentation timings should be comfortable.

The games

Please note all matches and kick off times are provisional and subject to change.

Friday 15 September 7.45pm Milton United v Stanford-in-the-Vale, Berks & Bucks Cup

Saturday 16 September 10.45am Drayton v Uffington United (Division 3)

(at the Diamond Light Source Ground, Harwell)

1.45pm Harwell Village v Long Wittenham Athletic (Division 1)

4.45pm Westminster v Berinsfield (Division 1)

The final match will also be for the James Rennie Memorial Trophy.

The transport

We will again have Rod, Jane, and Freddy running – our three minibuses have quickly become part of the fun of the North Berkshire Hop, and keep the weekend within a realistic budget. We'll do the same again this year, and will include pick up and drop off at Oxford Parkway Station or from our booked hotel. This is an ideal hop to sit back, relax, and be ferried to the games!

The accommodation

Not everyone will want to do it in a day, so there is B&B booked in the area for Friday and Saturday if you want to stay over. Simply call or email Chris before you book with your requirements, as it is subject to availability and the price will increase the closer we get to the date. Accommodation is also offered this year on a non-cancellation basis (sorry), but it was the best we could find at a reasonable cost in this area.

The tickets

Tickets are available to include all three admissions on the Saturday with programmes at £12. Alternatively, if you are only attending certain matches, you can buy a split ticket, giving admission and programme for your selected game at £4 per game. Your programmes for your selected matches will be saved for you, and you can collect them, along with your entry ticket, at your first game.

Laurence Reade / Chris Berezai

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