

Englefield House Visit - 11 May 2026

What a treat and privilege to be guided around Englefield House by the Right Honourable Lord Richard Benyon!

We all enjoyed his informative and interesting chat, dotted with fun anecdotes, snippets about famous people who had visited over the years and serious battles fought locally, especially in Dead Man's Lane, Theale where during the Civil War Royalist and Parliamentarian forces fought with huge losses of life.

Visits from royalty and politicians were mentioned including the argument between the artist Constable who added cows to the garden and made the house look like a farm, so had to remove them!

Richard was considerate and amusing giving us time to linger over certain paintings and even mentioned the mark on the ceiling in one room where as a child he had left the bath running upstairs!

Englefield House has hundreds of visitors each year, including school groups who are encouraged to voice their opinions on the art and the surroundings and filming for films and TV series has helped to fund the upkeep the building.

An interesting and informative visit was concluded with coffee and biscuits in the grand setting of the Long Gallery ending a truly enjoyable morning.

