

Croydon Camera Club

Faversham Outing, Tuesday 17 May

We will meet at one of the cafés in Market Place at 11:00 am for anyone requiring a refreshment before commencing the walk. There are two (Annette's Baguettes / Havishams) that are adjacent to each other opposite the Guildhall. Both have outside tables if the weather is warm enough to sit in the open. We will choose the one with the most space available. The only public toilets in the town are close by at the Central Car Park on Leslie Smith Drive (see Car Parking below).

My thanks go to Steve for providing some additional local information for this guide.

Schedule

- **11:00** - Meet in Market Place at Annette's Baguettes / Havishams
- **11:30** - Walk to Standard Quay via Court St/Abbey St, stopping at St Mary of Charity Church en route
- **13:00** - Lunch at the Secret Garden Tea Rooms (Standard Quay)
- **14:00** - Continue exploring Standard Quay and the adjacent boatyard
- **15:00** - Creek Basin and Stonebridge Pond or optional visit to Oare Marshes
- **16:00** – Depart

All timings are approximate. The locations that we will be visiting are close together and the distance we will cover during the day is approximately two miles.

Notes

Tuesday is market day. Based on previous experience, there are a limited number of stalls but nonetheless, they might provide some photographic opportunities. As often occurs with our pursuit of images, chance and what we make of it play their part.

We will walk to Standard Quay via Court St and Abbey Street, passing by the many old and picturesque buildings for which Faversham is known. St Mary of Charity Church, which dates to the medieval era, is at the end of Abbey Street. As that name suggests, the church was once associated with the abbey founded in 1147 by King Stephen and dissolved by Henry VIII during the Reformation. Today, only the church remains. Among its many features, there is an unusual painted column in the nave dating to the 14th century and King Stephen's reputed tomb.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Faversham_Parish_Church

<https://www.britainexpress.com/counties/kent/churches/faversham.htm>

Standard Quay has several old buildings and a variety of shops to explore, some of which sell antiques and bric-a-brac. One, which is long established, specialises in old tools and gardening implements. I have not seen its like elsewhere. There are also a variety of boats which sometimes include Thames sailing barges moored in Faversham Creek. For those who want lunch, we will stop at the Secret Garden tea room which has both indoor and outside seating. The menu is comprehensive and Steve particularly recommends their cakes.

<https://standardquay.co.uk/>

There is a boatyard beyond the quay. When Paul Mitchell presented to the club in 2019, he mentioned it as a good place to find subjects to create abstract images.

We will return to the centre of Faversham via Creek Basin and Stonebridge Pond. There is an option to visit Oare Marshes (Church Road, Oare, ME13 0QD) which will involve a car journey of around 2½ miles. Parking is available and costs £2-50. Steve says that the area can become boggy after rain so appropriate footwear is advisable for anyone who wants to make the trip.

<https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/nature-reserves/oare-marshes>

Car Parking

There are several car parks in Faversham and all, except for Standard Quay, cost £1-20 per hour. Payment is either by cash or the RinGO mobile app. Debit and credit cards are not accepted. The most centrally located is the Central Car Park in Leslie Smith Drive (ME13 8PW) but it is short term with a maximum stay of four hours. Not quite long enough for our purposes, unfortunately.

Partridge Lane (ME13 7DX) and Queens Hall in Forbes Road (ME13 8QE) are both long stay with a maximum charge of £6 for over four hours. Partridge Lane is the most conveniently situated but has only 55 places. Queens Hall is larger and just over a quarter of a mile from our meeting point.

Parking is free at Standard Quay (ME13 7BS) but is restricted to two hours. On my recent visit in March, there did not appear to be any enforcement of the limit nor any penalty for overstaying. This is purely an assumption based on observation and I cannot guarantee the accuracy of this information. ***Park for longer at your own risk.***

I intend to try Partridge Lane initially and, if full, then Queens Hall. Failing that, there should be spaces either in the Central Car Park or Standard Quay. Those options are less convenient as they will require me to move my car at some point during the outing. There is some free on street parking but that has a maximum duration of one hour, assuming there is a vacant space.

Public Transport

Our meeting point is just over a quarter of a mile from Faversham railway station. Allow 5-10 minutes for the walk.

Images

I encourage everyone to post a few shots from the day on the club's forum. We can stand side by side with each other yet come away with completely different shots. It is always fascinating and informative to see what other people have made of a location.