

A visit to BRUGES

— E Merrill Johns —



Saturday, September 16th, was truly one of those days which were a gift from the gods. Everything went well. We travelled on a comfortable coach with an agreeable driver. Both sea-crossings were smooth, road traffic flowed effortlessly and the sun shone.

When we arrived at the coach park in Bruges, we were directed along a tree-lined path towards the centre. En route we arrived at public loos and decided to take advantage of the facility. Inside, it was spotlessly clean, fresh flowers were displayed and the very smart attendant spoke English. It was an auspicious start!

We continued into the square, prolific in restaurants, and our group elected to sit outside. We ate a delicious lunch, at the same time enjoying the outdoor ambience while we watched passers-by and experienced the added novelty of seeing horse-drawn Surreys.

Some of us were able to walk as far as the boats, thereby taking the tourist view of Bruges from the waterways. For those for whom it was a step too far, shady seats provided both rest and visual entertainment. No doubt some enjoyed museums and art galleries. It was a day without restriction and I suspect we were not the only ones to enjoy tea and a rest before returning to the coach.

I always anticipate eagerly the final outing of the summer, (though not the end of the season). I was not disappointed.

Thank you, Joan for arranging it.

