

LONDON'S VILLAGES THE END OF THE LINE

We celebrate the world of Metroland by taking journeys out from the centre of London to "villages" at the end of the Underground lines: Epping (Central Line), and Morden (Northern Line).

MORDEN

THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

Still surrounded by rural farmland and forest, part of the old Royal Hunting Forest of Waltham, the Epping market has been held every week since 1253. On the main road from London to Cambridge and Bury St Edmunds, it is beautifully-stocked with Carolean and Georgian buildings. Of 26 coaching inns lining the High Street, two still survive. We visit some of the oldest parts of Epping Forest with coppice stools a thousand years old.

EPPING

THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

The Roman Road from London to Chichester passed through Morden. In 1015 Ethelstan the Aetheling, son of Ethelred the Unready, left "land at Mordune" to create the first Saxon parish church of St Lawrence. Morden Hall Park with Morden Hall, a former Snuff Mill and old farm buildings, blend with old industrial buildings along the River Wandle along which we walk to William Morris' Merton Abbey Works.

Please meet at 11.00 at the Morden or Epping station. The day ends back at each station at 4 pm. Lunch is optional. Cost: £65 per day.