

REME Museum Ride

by Adrian Oldfield

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On the 21st May, a bright and sunny Sunday morning, 10 bikes with 11 people left Lasham Gliding Club café for the first leg of our trip to the REME museum at Lyneham. Through country lanes, we headed towards the Yew Tree Garden Centre, south-west of Newbury, for our halfway stop for coffee to be joined by two more bikes.

Suitably refreshed, we pressed on through more country lanes before joining the A4 to Marlborough. The cross-country road from Marlborough to Lyneham was an absolute gem, twists and turns, rises and drops, with a backdrop of wonderful scenery and hardly any traffic. We continued through rolling farmland and small villages before arriving at the museum at 12.30. Tables had been reserved for us for lunch in the café and, after a relaxing and enjoyable lunch, we made our way to the museum.



Set up in 1942, REME, (Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers) is one of the youngest regiments in the British Army. It was founded in response to a perceived need for more technical support for all the army's equipment including, tanks, helicopters, vehicles, artillery, weapons systems, engineering plant, etc. The museum



is a showcase of REME's equipment and capabilities through WW2 to the present day. Some of the specialist vehicles and adaptations were very interesting and ingenious, there were many different displays including a very comprehensive display of rifles and machine guns. Very well presented, the museum is a great improvement over the REME museum at Arborfield which closed many years ago to make way for the present site.



After the visit we gathered in the car park for group photos and discussions as to routes home. We started off on the wonderful road back towards Marlborough before splitting up into various groups heading in different directions.



This was an enjoyable day with glorious weather, great company, and all that with lovely biking roads. What more could anyone ask for?

