

HOCKLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

OUTINGS FOR 2010

Friday 19th March – Barrow Boys, Bankers & Silent London. For contrasting stories of rags and riches in London our guide will take us to visit the atmospheric streets and alleys of Spitalfields & Whitechapel, which are a stones throw from each other, but worlds apart. This will be followed by the history of banking. You will see England's oldest private bank. We will stop for lunch. One course is included in the price, but if you wish to have a two course meal it will be extra. After lunch we visit 'Secret London'. This is a guided tour starting in Holborn, finishing at Holland Park. We will be told about the great estates and places of interest along the way.

Saturday 15th May – 'The Producers' at the Cliffs Pavilion. This is produced by the Southend Operatic Society, and we attend the evening performance. This is a musical comedy which received rave reviews when it was put on in London; to quote "One is left stunned by a combination of unstoppable laughter and sheer happiness".

Sunday 23rd May – Beaulieu. Upon arrival we will have a guided tour of the House and Gardens. You are then free to visit any of the attractions, i.e. The National Motor Museum, The Abbey, James Bond & Secret Army Exhibitions, The Shell Art Collection, The World of 'Top Gear', or be transported through history with a ride on the Veteran Bus, Monorail & Wheels pod ride.

Saturday 26th June – Hemingford Abbots. This is a very pleasant day out visiting a lovely village (with no shops), and many beautiful open gardens. There are summer teas served, brass bands, historic cars and cycles, Morris dancing, stalls selling plants, cakes, preserves and various crafts. There is also a flower festival at the Church. We have a lunch provided by the W.I., which is optional.

Sunday 4th to Thursday 8th July – North Yorkshire Dales & Northumberland. We will be staying at a four star Jacobean Mansion in Bishop Auckland. During our stay we will visit the Wesleydale Cheese factory, The Teapottery, home of the eccentric teapot, a chocolate factory, Beamish the living museum of the North, Craggside the home of the Victorian inventor and High Force one of the most impressive waterfalls in England. Please see below for a more detailed itinerary.

Friday 13th August – Otley Hall & Boat Trip. In the morning we visit Otley Hall for a guided tour. Otley Hall is a 15th/16th moated hall, set in 10 acres of gardens. Wander along the H-canal and through the vine tunnel, or find a secluded bench to watch the peacocks, swan, chickens and ducks. In the afternoon we have a boat trip on the river Orwell. This trip has a commentary as we go along to the Stour Estuary. You will see the UK's largest container port at Felixstowe and historic Harwich.

Sunday 19th September – Chatham Dock Yard. We step back in time to the forties. Nostalgia, memories and wartime experiences, with vehicles, uniforms, music and activities, at one of the best events of its kind. Apart from this you can visit the historic warships, the Ropery to discover why rope was so important to the Royal Navy, 'Wooden Walls' where you will meet characters of a bygone age, and the Museum of the Royal Dockyard.

Saturday 20th November - 'Seven Brides for Seven Brothers' at the Cliffs Pavilion. This is presented by the Southend Operatic Society, and we attend the evening performance.

Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th December – Weekend Break. On Saturday we will visit Lichfield, Staffordshire. Lichfield is highly commended in the 'City of the Year' category of the Coach Tourism Awards 2008. Apart from the Heritage Centre and Museums there is a magnificent Cathedral, with a good chance of a carol concert in the afternoon. Our hotel will be the 4-star Telford Golf and Country Club, which has a swimming pool and spa complex, bathroom ensuite, colour TV and tea/coffee facilities. We will have evening meal, bed and breakfast. On Sunday we will visit Ironbridge (a living Museum), for a Victorian day at Blists Hill. You will be able to buy unusual gifts in the Victorian shops and small gift market, join in with carol singers, and chat with the townsfolk about their preparations for a Victorian Christmas in their traditionally decorated homes and work places. Whilst we are here we will have a four course Christmas Lunch.

HOCKLEY RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

21010 HOLIDAY

Five day break in Yorkshire Dales & County Durham from Sunday 4th to Thursday 8th July 2010

We will be staying at the 4 star Redworth Hall Hotel, which is a Jacobean Country House in County Durham. It stands in 150 acres of manicured gardens and woodland. We will have bed, breakfast and evening meal. All rooms are en-suite, with tea & coffee making facilities, T.V., trouser press and hair dryer. There is an indoor swimming pool, outdoor tennis courts, technogym equipment, sauna, steam room, plus a hair and beauty salon. We hope to arrive at approximately 4.30 p.m.

Monday – We will visit Beamish (The living museum of the North). For those who have never been before it shows you how people of the area lived during the end of the 19th Century. The site is easy to get around as you can take free rides on the working tramway and replica bus service. You can see beautifully rebuilt houses and shops in ‘The Town’, animals at the ‘Home Farm’, a real Colliery Village, a Manor House and a Railway Station. You can also take a ride on the famous ‘Puffing Billy’ (a working replica of the oldest surviving steam locomotive in the world).

Tuesday – In the morning we take the scenic route to Wensleydale Creamery. We will have a cheese-making demonstration, and see one gallon of milk turned into a 1lb of cheese in approximately 30 minutes, watch a video, look around the museum and visit the specialist shop for cheese tasting.

In the afternoon we go to Leyburn to visit the Teapottery, home of the eccentric teapot, followed by The little Chocolate Shop, a working chocolate factory, where you will see the chocolates being made. We will take a different scenic route to return to our hotel.

Wednesday – Today we visit Cragside, Northumberland, home of Lord Armstrong, Victorian inventor, innovator and landscape genius. The house was a wonder of its age, built on a rocky crag high above Debdon Burn. It is crammed with ingenious gadgets, and was the first house in the world to be lit by hydro-electricity. Following repair and restoration work, the Iron Bridge is open after 30 years. The variety and scale of Cragside’s gardens are incredible. Surrounding the house is one of the largest ‘hand-made’ rock gardens in Europe. There is a formal garden, a Dahlia Walk and an Italian Terrace with a quatre-foil fountain.

Thursday – In the morning we visit High Force, one of the most impressive waterfalls in England. After a stop in York for lunch we will return home.