



EDINBURGH DECORATIVE & FINE ARTS SOCIETY

President: The Countess of Rosebery

EDFAS TOUR TO YORKSHIRE IN ASSOCIATION WITH Ian Dickson Travel Service

THE BEST OF YORKSHIRE: PART TWO. *22nd - 25th May 2012*



Neil Hynd has agreed to lead his second tour to Yorkshire. In a relaxed tour we will take in houses great and small, cathedrals, churches and gardens. We will be staying at the Cedar Court Hotel, situated on the edge of Harrogate town centre overlooking a 200 acre park. Single and twin/double rooms are reserved for members, and the maximum size of the tour will be 25. Bookings will be secured in order of receipt.

Tuesday 22nd May.

The tour will start from York railway station at 12.00 noon, where we will meet our coach and drive directly to **Newby Hall**. (1690s – 1750s). After lunch in the restaurant (at own expense) we will be welcomed by Lucinda Compton whose family have owned the Hall since 1748 and we will then be led on a tour of this late 17th century mansion transformed and enlarged by Robert Adam and still containing many of its “Grand Tour” and other original contents around which Adam redesigned much of the house. The extensive gardens (1920s) too should be part of our visit, though the more adventurous might strike out to visit the richly appointed family church in the park by Burgess (1876). Dinner in the hotel.

Wednesday 23rd May

Our destination today is the medieval village of **Coxwold**. Firstly we visit the local manor house, **Newburgh Priory**. As the name suggests, the building started its life as an Augustinian priory. At the Dissolution it was acquired by the Earls of Fauconberg and then by descent to the Wombwell family who still run it as a working estate of 6000 acres. The Priory was much enlarged in Georgian times. We take our lunch in the Coxwold tearooms, after which we walk through the village to the **Church of St Michael, Coxwold** which contains fine monuments to the Fauconbergs and Wombwells. This is where we first encounter Laurence Sterne (1713 – 1768) who was vicar of the church in the 18th century.

Please turn over

On to **Shandy Hall** which was the home of Reverend Sterne and now owned by a Trust in his memory. We shall meet the curator, Patrick Wildgust, who will explain the life and times of this noted satirist and author and show us round his fascinating home. On our way back to the hotel we will stop to experience evensong in **Ripon Cathedral**. Dinner in the Hotel.

Thursday 24th May.

A morning to visit **Harrogate** in your own time. The Mercer Art gallery, The Royal Pump Rooms. Antique centre, and the valley gardens could all be visited in this compact town centre. At Midday we board our bus again for **Harewood House** (1759). After lunch in the courtyard café or terrace tearoom (at own expense) we will visit this iconic Robert Adam house, still containing its Chippendale furniture designed for the house, as well as its many treasures including Old Master and British paintings, Sevres china, etc all set off by the fine Adam ceilings by Joseph Rose. Outside there is a Victorian terrace from which to admire the capability Brown landscape. Dinner in Hotel – or possibly dine out at one of the town’s fine restaurants. (own expense).

Friday 25th May

We leave the Cedar Court Hotel with luggage on board and head for **Old Markenfield Hall**. This charming 14th century moated manor house is the best preserved house of this size and style in the country. Today the hall is owned by Ian Curteis (well-known author) and his wife Lady Deirdre, who are direct descendants of the original builders. We now return to York where we stop for a buffet lunch at **Knavesmire Lodge**, a 19th century villa overlooking York racecourse. At the kind invitation of Mr Darrell Buttery (Chairman of York Civic Trust) we will be able to enjoy his home full of pictures of York and Yorkshire. The tour ends at York railway station in time to catch a late afternoon train to Edinburgh.

The cost of the tour will be £375, single room supplement of £60. To reserve your place, please complete the attached booking form and return to **Mrs Janice Dickson, Ian Dickson Travel Service, 50 Dundas Street, Edinburgh EH3 6JN** (0131 556 6777). A deposit of £200 is required on booking so that hotel rooms and other arrangements can be confirmed with the operators. The price is inclusive except where stated above, and teas, coffees, and wines with dinner etc. To take account of railcard concessions, and other special prices, rail travel to/from York is not included so that you can make your own arrangements. If you prefer, Mrs Dickson will book your tickets for you if you state your requirements. Special deal rail tickets can be booked 2 months in advance – details will be given then.

