



## BERKSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Patron: H.M. THE QUEEN  
President: Professor Michael Fulford FBA FSA

### SPRING TOUR 2010

#### The Northern Borders: 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> May 2010

Hadrian's Wall, Brovacum Roman fort and Letocetum a Roman staging post on Watling Street, an abbey, only two castles, three industrial archaeology sites, a WW1 munitions camp and good company!



fascinating bottle kiln, there is



The Annual Spring Tour departs by Tappins coach from Reading Rail Station at 9.00am on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2010 heading north towards the Scottish Borders. Our first visit is to the Gladstone Pottery Museum, where we can see a complete Victorian factory with workshops and a tea room on site and the 'Flushed with Pride' toilet exhibit.



We then travel all the way north to the outskirts of Penrith to visit Brougham castle and Roman fort, before travelling to our destination – the Gretna Hall Hotel at Gretna Green. We've arranged a visit to the blacksmith's shop but no runaway weddings please!



Day two will be spent visiting sites on Hadrian's Wall with Vindolanda, Corbridge, Birdoswald Roman fort and Banks East turret and then Lamercoast Priory before returning to Gretna for a guided tour of the blacksmith's shop and museum with whisky tasting before dinner.

*(bear off slip please complete deleting where appropriate and return as shown below)*

Please reserve ..... place/s for the 2010 Spring Tour at a cost of £231 per person.

! / We require a Double / Twin / Single room Single rooms available on a first come basis for a £18 supplement

! / We enclose a non-refundable deposit of £35 per person, cheques made payable to 'Berkshire Archaeological Society'. The balance is required by 14<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

Name / s: .....

Full address: .....

Postcode: ..... Telephone: .....

! / We are members of: English Heritage [ ] National Trust [ ] please tick if appropriate

! / We understand that ! / We are responsible for arranging our own travel insurance to cover unforeseen events such as cancellation, illness, personal injury, loss of personal effects etc.

Signed: .....

This form together with deposit should be returned to:  
Barrie Randall, 43 Birch Road, Burghfield Common, Reading, Berks. RG7 3LU.

#### Berks Arch Soc Spring Tour 2010

Day three sees us travelling west towards Dumfries to visit Sweetheart Abbey and a restored corn mill at New Abbey. The spectacular Caerlaverock Castle is next on the itinerary, where although the access across the site for the less mobile has been improved, the trek to the old castle is difficult but there is a good audio visual display and café!



Returning past Brows Well where Robert Burns was advised by his doctor to bathe daily in the waters of the Solway we visit the 'Devil's Pomridge' exhibition and museum recording the WW1 munitions factory stretching 9 miles from Longtown to Annan, the towns of Gretna and Eastriggs were created to house the 30,000 workers, and secret at the time but made famous by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's description of the explosive paste mixed by hand to produce cordite.

Day four sees us heading home with the first visit of the day to Quarry Bank Mill established in 1784 alongside the fast flowing River Bollin where we take a guided tour of the mill, its hospital and the Apprentice's House. As usual with a National Trust property there is a good café on site.



After a lunch break we head south to Cannock Chase where our first stop is at the German Military War Cemetery with 5,000 graves in a very peaceful and beautiful glen.



Next we drive across the Chase to the Visitor Centre on the site of RAF Hednesford with information and displays about the history of the Chase and we take a look at the preserved RAF hut. Our final visit is hopefully to the Wall Roman site [Letocetum] where we have requested a special opening of the site and small museum. We then head off homeward, stopping only for a convenience break at the M40 services. Finally arriving home about 19.00.



Please provide full details of any special needs that need to be taken account of such as medical conditions, restricted mobility, hotel provision or special diet requirements.

*(This information will be held in total confidence by the tour organiser and only essential elements passed on as necessary to achieve the necessary action)*

Although special requests are not guaranteed, the hotel undertake to do their best to try and meet such requests. Tappins Coaches also need to be aware in advance of any mobility aids (size and weight) or medical equipment to be carried on the coach.

Note: The Itinerary is suitable for those with limited mobility but may be subject to change due to traffic conditions, late changes to opening times and other unforeseen circumstances.