



Cory Family Society

BRISTOL AREA MEETING 23RD - 27TH JULY 2010

The Cory Family Society would like to give you all a very warm welcome to visit England this year. Our base will be in Bristol and we are also touring Cardiff, South Wales, and the beautiful city of Bath.

Friday 23rd July - we will meet up in the evening for introductions and itinerary information. If you arrive early we are based in the city centre so lots to see, e.g. open top bus tour.

Saturday 24th July - will begin with a walking tour of Bristol centre, introducing you to a city steeped in history. As early as the 12th century it is described as full of ships from every part of Europe. Later, trade with the Americas was an important part of the city's growth. In 1497 John Cabot sailed from Bristol in "The Matthew", under the patronage of Henry VII and explored the coast of Canada and North America. At that time he was hoping to find a sea route, a northwest passage to the Indies and China. Sir William Penn, founder of Pennsylvania is buried in St Mary Redcliffe church.

After lunch in one of the many restaurants on route, we will be visiting the SS Great Britain, designed by Isambard Kingdom Brunel. It was built in 1843 and was the first steam powered passenger liner and a forerunner to modern shipping. You will see the first class cabins and where the "steerage" (third class) passengers lived on board. Her maiden voyage was to New York in 1845. In the evening we are hoping to have a trip on the reproduction of the "Matthew".

Sunday 25th July - we will be visiting Cardiff to explore the world of John Cory, born in 1828 he became a ship owner, coal owner and philanthropist a business which he built up from his father Richard who was master of a small vessel and traded from Cardiff, Bristol and Ireland. We will see a statue to him, Cory Buildings and visit a small estate he had built especially for his workers. After lunch we will drive on to Dyffryn House, a mansion house in which he lived and his son Reginald Radcliffe designed some of the gardens, a memorable days outing. The famous composer Ivor Novello has a statue in Cardiff Bay. In the evening we will be having our Annual Meeting.

Monday 26th July - we are going to travel to Bath, this is a city not to be missed, one of the most beautiful in England of the Palladian period, and designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Its long history stems from the natural hot springs which the Romans exploited 2000 years ago. We are hoping to organize a package whereby you can visit the Roman Baths, lunch in the Pump Room to the sounds of a string quartet and then go into the Thermal Spa and experience for yourselves the benefits of the hot springs. There are open top bus tours available and the river is not far away, making the centre of Bath a lovely place to explore. Many famous people lived in Bath including Jane Austin, the painter, Gainsborough, Admiral Nelson and Josiah Wedgwood well known for his pottery.

Tuesday 27th July - *(For those checking out a secure room has been arranged for luggage)*. When in this part of the country a visit to Stonehenge, the most famous prehistoric monument in Europe, is a must. Stonehenge is not a single-period site, but the ruins of a series of earthen monuments, now heavily eroded, and stone monoliths, over 5000 years old. During our tour we will also view the world famous bridge begun by "Brunel" in 1831, the Clifton Suspension Bridge. We finish back at the hotel mid afternoon to say our goodbyes.