

THE THOROTON SOCIETY OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE



Excursion to **Wentworth Castle** Saturday 6th September 2008 Leaders Ceril & Derek Little

One of the most important historic gardens in the North of England, this hidden gem from the 18th century opened fully for the first time on a daily basis in May 2007. After capturing the nation's imagination on the BBC TV series 'Restoration', the secret gardens of the Earls of Strafford are being carefully restored. Rare formal gardens have been rediscovered and National Collections of Rhododendrons, Camellias and Magnolias enhanced.

Many of the 26 listed buildings across the only Grade 1 listed garden in South Yorkshire are being repaired and open to visitors. Wentworth Castle itself with its Palladian and Baroque fronts now houses the Northern College for Adult Residential Education. We shall split into two groups for guided visits to the mansion and the gardens and park. Stout shoes are recommended.

We shall have exclusive use of the Arch Barn during the day where tea and coffee will be provided and where lunch can be eaten if you bring your own. They ask that if more than 15 people are thinking of eating in the cafeteria then we should pre-book and pre-pay. This will enable us to be served quickly so avoiding the queues and possibly being late for the afternoon tours. Please tick the box if you want lunch and we will send you a menu and other details. We have to advise Wentworth 14 days before the excursion of our lunch needs.

PICKUP

8.15a.m. County Hall (bus stop on Hall side), 8.25a.m. Maid Marion Way (Blood Transfusion Centre bus pull in), 8.35a.m. Forest Park & Ride (bus stop on opposite side of road), 8.45a.m. The Vale (bus stop at jn of Ribblesdale Road.)

TIMINGS FOR THE REST OF THE DAY

10.00 a.m. arr. Wentworth-tea/coffee. 10.30a.m. divide into groups to see house and garden, 12.30p.m. lunch 13.30p.m. divide into groups to see garden or house, 15.45p.m. tea, 17.00p.m. depart, 6.15 p.m. arr. County Hall.

COST £21 including coach, tips, tea/coffee, guided tour of the house & gardens and tea. Please return the slip below to K Goodman, 59 Briar Gate, Long Eaton, NOTTINGHAM, NG10 4BQ (tel 0115 9726590) before 23rd August. Enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you would like an acknowledgement.

Please reserve _____ place(s) on the excursion to Wentworth. I enclose a cheque for £ _____ payable to the 'Thoroton Society' (Please send a separate cheque for each excursion.)

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

_____ TEL NO _____

I will board the coach at _____ Please note any

special requirements _____

Lunch Yes/No