



**QM FORMER STAFF ASSOCIATION**

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Hon Treasurer and Social Secretary  
Mrs B Paine  
50 Tudor Road  
East Ham London E6 1DR

July 2016

Dear Member

I'm pleased to say that we were reasonably lucky with the weather for our recent trip on the river and I do hope the sun shines for the next trip I have arranged for Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July. I know some of you have visited the Banqueting House in Whitehall before but for those of you who haven't, did you know that the Palace of Whitehall once stretched from Trafalgar Square south to Parliament Square and from Charing Cross westwards to St James' Park, before the Palace was burned to the ground 300 years ago?

The Banqueting House is the only original building left and this year there is a special event for 6 weeks only, depicting the lost Palace of Whitehall. This takes place mainly outdoors so be prepared for weather conditions and have comfortable footwear as it will involve walking for about a mile, sometimes on uneven surfaces, around Whitehall's modern streets.

Events of history will be brought to life using immersive technologies. The tour starts at the Banqueting House, which is opposite Horse Guards Parade, at 11.30 am. Please arrive 15/20 minutes earlier than this as latecomers will not be admitted. The tour takes approximately 80 minutes and will end at the Banqueting House. Following the tour, we will have a short walk to the Strand Palace Hotel, where we are booked in for a 2-course carvery lunch at 1.30 pm.

The whole event, ie tour and lunch, is a subsidised sum of £15 per person. Please complete the attached application form and return it to me as soon as possible but no later than 19<sup>th</sup> July. Numbers are restricted so it will be on a first come first served basis.

**BERYL PAIN**

**BERYL RYAN WRITES: FSA Thames Boat Trip from Westminster Pier to Hampton Court on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2016:** Members of the FSA last made this boat trip in June 2014. Although we travelled the same route, the commentary during this trip was much more informative. The weather was very kind to us in view of how it has been behaving of late.

From our departure from Westminster Pier the sun was shining and we were able to sit up on the top deck, enabling us to take in all of the very interesting places that one passes on the way to Hampton Court. This trip took us from the heart of London near Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament, wending our way through the picturesque outskirts to the West, following the Royal Barge route of King Henry VIII. We passed such famous landmarks as Lambeth Palace, Tate Britain, The Royal Hospital Chelsea and Syon House. Travelling up river through the locks at Richmond and Teddington, the journey took almost 4 hours.

Once we had passed most of the very interesting places some of our group decided to go down below to get some liquid refreshments. We were certainly glad that we did as at this point the rain finally came down, but stopped just as we were about to arrive at our destination, when the sun came out again.

Some of us made our way to one of the tea rooms, whilst others decided to explore the town before catching the train from Hampton Court Station back to Waterloo.

**BERYL RYAN**

Yours sincerely

Beryl

Beryl Paine  
Hon Treasurer/Social Secretary