

The 14th ARA Rowing Tour ***The Upper Thames***

Bablock Hythe to Henley
Thursday 30th August – Sunday 2nd September 2007



The Ferryman Inn, Bablock Hythe

Our journey starts at Bablock Hythe, a few miles upstream of Oxford, where there was formerly a ferry. Day 1 takes us through the peaceful Oxfordshire countryside to St. Edwards School boathouse and the Trout Inn, Godstow, where we stop for lunch. In the afternoon we row through Oxford, arriving at the end of the day in the historic market town of Abingdon. Day two takes us through Wallingford, an important Saxon stronghold known as the largest defended Town in the Kingdom of Wessex. We leave our boats at Goring Gap Rowing Club, just past Whitchurch lock and Hardwick House, which was the model for Toad Hall in the Kenneth Grahame's *Wind in the Willows*. Day 3 brings a change of scenery as we row through Reading, home of several high-tech companies, then through the pretty villages of Sonning and Shiplake before reaching our final destination, Henley.

We will stay in two hotels in the centre of Abingdon, 10-15 minutes walk from the rowing club.

This year's tour is organised by Weyfarers and Falcon Rowing Clubs.

Provisional Programme

Thursday p.m. 30 Aug	Boats and trailers to Bablock Hythe, unload and rig Trailers to Henley Rowing Club Check in at hotels in Abingdon (Crown & Thistle / Upper Reaches) Dinner at Crown & Thistle
Friday 31 Aug	Row Bablock Hythe to Godstow (13 km, 4 locks) Lunch at the Trout Inn Row Godstow to Abingdon (19 km, 4 locks) Evening free
Saturday 1 Sept	Row Abingdon to Wallingford (20 km, 4 locks) Picnic lunch at Wallingford RC Row Wallingford to Pangbourne (Goring Gap / Oratory School BC) (19 km, 3 locks) Group dinner at Upper Reaches Hotel
Sunday 2 Sept	Row Pangbourne to Henley (24 km, 5 locks) Lunch at Henley RC Load boats and depart

Accommodation

Twin, double or single rooms with en-suite facilities at the Crown & Thistle or Upper Reaches Hotels, Abingdon

Boats

Many tourers have their own boats, but for those who do not, approximately 10 seats in touring coxed quads will be available to hire.

Cost

The price includes:

- 3 nights accommodation (Thursday, Friday, Saturday) with full English breakfast
- dinner on Thursday and Saturday evening
- picnic lunch on Saturday and Sunday
- transport to and from boating sites
- tour T-shirt
- temporary license for visiting craft

Provisional cost (may vary depending on number of participants)	£225.00
Non-residential	£70.00
Hire of seat	£15.00

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Please register me for the Tour. I understand that I take part in the tour at my own risk and confirm that I have no medical conditions which may affect my ability to participate.

Name:

Address:

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Tel No: Email:

Accompanied by:

(rowing/non-rowing) *please delete as appropriate*

T-shirt size(s): S / M / L / XL / XXL ARA number:

(please note: you must be a member of the ARA to take part in the tour)

Room requirements (subject to availability):

Single: Double: Twin:

Any special dietary requirements:

Boat (please complete one option):

Own boat name and type:

Sharing boat with:

I wish to hire a seat:

Signature: **Date:**

Deposit:

Please enclose a cheque for £30 per person, payable to Weyfarers/ARA Tour

Return form to:

Caroline Turnbull
Lea Rigg
Pyrford Woods
Woking
Surrey
GU22 8QL