

THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY

BIRMINGHAM & WEST MIDLANDS

A day visit to Abberley Hall School and Witley Court, Worcestershire

Monday 11th June 2018

£38 including morning refreshments, lunch and donations

Additional entry charge for non-members of English Heritage at Witley Court

Our coach will leave Church Street, Birmingham, just by the Cathedral, at 9.15 a.m. and refreshments will be ready on our arrival at Abberley Hall School. The school, designed in 1844 by Samuel Daukes, and restored in 1846, is in the Italianate style of Charles Barry. The iconic 161 feet high clock tower, by J.P. Aubyn (1883-85) can be seen for many miles. Since 1916 it has been a private school, but still retains much of the 1840s interiors. We are fortunate to be able to arrange a special guided tour of the building and gardens while the children are on their Half Term holiday.

We will then travel the short distance to Witley Court, formerly the seat of the Earls of Dudley and now cared for by English Heritage, where a buffet lunch will be ready for us at approximately 1.15 p.m. Witley Court was converted by Samuel Daukes for the First Earl of Dudley, although it is now just a shell, following a fire in 1937. Our main reason for visiting Witley Court is to view the magnificent, and now restored, Perseus & Andromeda fountain, designed by James Forsyth between 1858-60. Following the Society's 2016 Conservation Award to Dudley council for the restoration of Forsyth's fountain in Dudley Market Place, we wanted to view this larger work, as well as the Flora Fountain on the east parterre, also by Forsyth. You will also have an opportunity to view the adjacent St Michael's church. Although built in 1733-5 its Italian Georgian interior is a must-see. It is not maintained by English Heritage.

Please return the booking form below **BY 29th May** to Helene Pursey, 54 Prospect Rd, Moseley, Birmingham, B13 9TD. E-mail: helene@victorian-society-bham.org.uk

We do not issue tickets and will only confirm a booking if you send a SAE or request an e-mail confirmation.

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Monday 11th June 2018 visit to Abberley Hall School & Witley Court

Please reserve _____ places on Monday 11th June coach trip @ £38 per person

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone/Email: _____

Please confirm my booking by e-mail: **Yes/No** (delete as appropriate)

I enclose a cheque for..... payable to **The Victorian Society, Birmingham Group**

Please indicate if you prefer a vegetarian for your buffet lunch:
