

Scarborough Fair

Tuesday 15th August

And indeed it was! Rain was forecast but we had ne'er a drop, only a smattering on the way home. The number of fairground attractions seemed to have increased, including a large London Eye that dominated the South side of the Beach. But more of that later!

We departed in high spirits at 8 30 am from Ruston's, with a new coach (Whee!) and a new driver, who missed the turning! It is a long drive to Scarborough due to the type of roads on the latter stages of the journey, taking us from 8 30 to 11 15 to arrive. However, we had till 3pm to enjoy the sunshine and gentle sea breeze.

We all headed off in different directions. Moira and I decided to try the Cantilevered Observation Wheel (let's call it The Eye.) It cost £5 but was well worth it for the breath-taking views you had of Scarborough's beautiful bays. You stopped at the top for about 5 minutes to enjoy the views, then the Wheel descended once again. The ride lasted for 3 revolutions, good value for money.

What to do next? No visit would be complete without a ride on the open top bus, though there is a confusing number of companies now who won't accept each other's tickets, nor bus passes! Peasholm Park is well worth a visit, whether to stroll round the small boating lake, pedal like mad on one of the dragons afloat there or sample the lovely Kelly's ice cream on sale. The park was opened in 1912 and I think some of the squirrels have been there since, they are so tame.

There is so much to do in Scarborough. You can climb to the castle and visit the grave of Anne Bronte buried in the nearby churchyard. You can (if you're young, insane or have a grandchild in tow!) go on the fairground rides or simply stroll along the sea front with your fish and chips.

It is a long drive, but you feel so relaxed after your visit it is well worth the effort. I am sure many of us have very fond memories of seaside holidays here or in similar resorts, so it's a trip down memory lane. And we had sunshine! What more could anyone ask for? Thanks to our new driver, Steve, Chris, Brian, Debbie- all the usual suspects- for a lovely day by the sea.

Barbara Garfunkel (AKA Barbara Pearce)