

# 'The iniquity of slavery'



A special day to  
commemorate the  
bicentenary of the abolition  
of the slave trade

13 July 2007



## Welcome!

Welcome to Palace Green as we remember and reflect upon the horrors of the transatlantic slave trade. From the mid-15<sup>th</sup> century to the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century it has been estimated that over 12 million Africans were forcibly torn from their families and homes and transported thousands of miles away to live as slaves working on the plantations in the Americas. The legacy of that trade is still with us today.

We hope you have a great day and that you will remember the experience for some time to come.

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## Thanks

We would like to thank all the people taking part in this event for their help and support, much of which has been given voluntarily. We would also like to pay especial thanks to the Heritage Lottery Fund whose generous assistance has made this day possible.

## Programme of events

10:00am	Arrive in Durham.
10-11:15am	Opportunity to look at museum artefacts and join in African dancing and drumming workshops.
11:30am	Re-enacting the slave ship Brookes. There will be a two minute silence when everyone has taken a place on the ship to reflect on the horrors of the transatlantic slave trade.
12:00noon	Lunch. To be eaten on Palace Green.
12:30-12:45pm	Schools start to make way to Durham Cathedral
1:00pm	Afternoon workshop on contemporary issues relating to the slave trade
2:00pm	End of session
2-2:30pm	Depart Durham

### **The Brookes**

The plan of the Brookes was commissioned by anti-slavery supporters to draw attention to the horrific conditions suffered by the slaves on the voyage from Africa to the Americas - the so-called Middle Passage.

The space allowed for each slave was as follows:

men 6 feet by 1ft 4 inches

women 5 ft by 1ft 4 inches

boys 5ft by 1ft 2 inches

girls 4 ft 6 in by 1ft 2 inches

The journey across the Atlantic took at least six weeks. During this time, slaves were rarely allowed above deck, the men were often shackled together to prevent escape or rebellion and water and food were in short supply. Not surprisingly, many slaves perished on the journey.

## Who is here today?

### **Durham University Library**

Durham University Library is also home to our archives and special collections. We have books and documents going back to the fourteenth century. The image of the slave ship Brookes which forms the focus of the event today can be found in one of the books in our collection. Anyone is welcome to visit the Library on Palace Green to look at the archives and special collections. We also have a dedicated website for schools - [www.dur.ac.uk/4schools](http://www.dur.ac.uk/4schools) where you can find lots of classroom resources on a variety of topics including slavery.

### **Durham Cathedral**

Durham Cathedral is the greatest Norman building in England, perhaps even in Europe. It is cherished not only for its architecture but also for its incomparable setting. For this reason it was inscribed together with the Castle as one of Britain's first World Heritage Sites. In a nationwide BBC poll held in 2001 it was voted the nation's best-loved building. The aim of the Education Service is to provide activities and resources that support RE and the National Curriculum. We employ methods and hands-on activities that will present Durham Cathedral as a unique educational resource and one which can not be replicated in the classroom!

## **Who is here today?**

### **Changing Perspectives**

Changing Perspectives is an exciting and innovative project led by members of the African community in the North East. It is seeking to capture the reflections of different generations of African families on slavery and their lives today and present these reflections in a variety of different media.

### **Stockton Museum**

Based at Preston Hall Museum, the Education team run a wide variety of activities including history, art and science workshops, object and costume handling sessions and also offer a loans box service. This year they are also involved in a project called 'Manacles and Money' which is looking at slavery and its legacy in the Tees Valley. This project will culminate in a multi-media exhibition at Preston Hall Museum from mid-October.

### **And you!**

The schools involved today are:

Framwellgate School, Durham

Hermitage School, Chester-le-Street

Parkside School, Willington

Ryton Comprehensive School, Ryton

Walbottle Campus, Newcastle.

*Thanks for taking part!*

# Notes

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## Notes

## Taking it forward

If you have been inspired by what your experience today, these organisations can provide you with more information about the transatlantic slave trade and offer guidance on what you can do.

### *Anti-Slavery International*

Anti-Slavery International, founded in 1839, is the world's oldest international human rights organisation and the only charity in the United Kingdom to work exclusively against slavery and related abuses. They work at local, national and international levels to eliminate the system of slavery around the world.

[www.antislavery.org](http://www.antislavery.org)

### *UNICEF*

UNICEF is the driving force that helps build a world where the rights of every child are realized. Their motto is 'For every child, Health, Education, Equality and Protection'. One of their many campaigns is to put a stop to child trafficking.

<http://www.unicef.org/index.php>

### *One World Network North East*

OWN was set up in February 2002, to support teachers in schools in the North East region of England in building a global dimension in their school curriculum.

<http://www.ownne.org/index.html>

## Let us know what you think

We hope that you have enjoyed this day and found it a memorable experience. Please take a couple of minutes to let us know what you thought about this event by answering the following questions.

The most enjoyable thing about today was.....

The most interesting thing I found out today was....

The thing I will always remember about today is....



*pto*

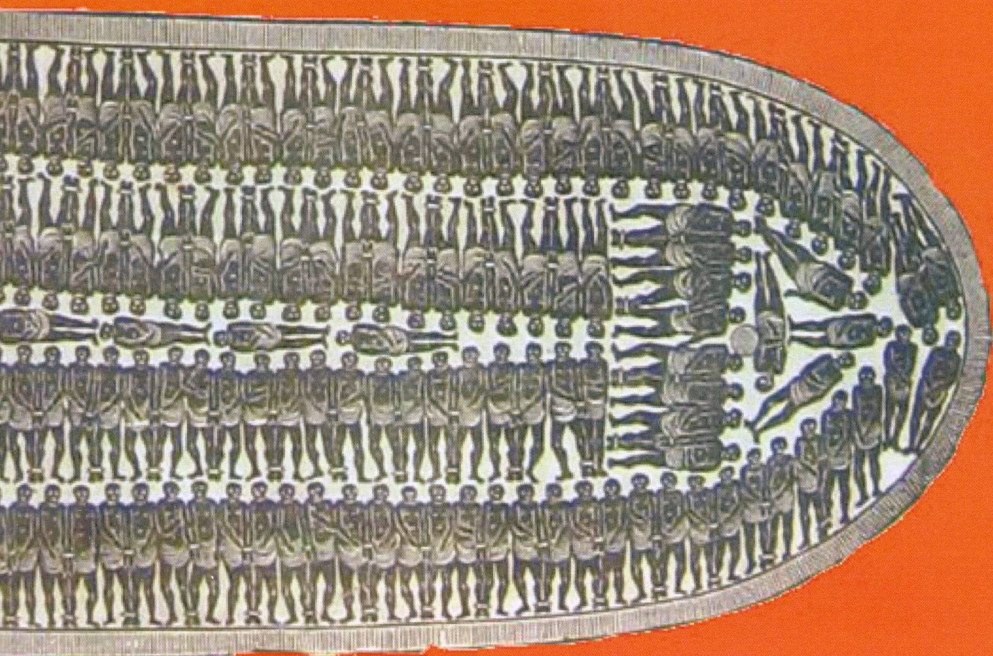
The thing I will always remember is....

The thing I feel inspired to do after today is....

Describe the day in three words.

Thank you very much





Durham  
University



Heritage

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