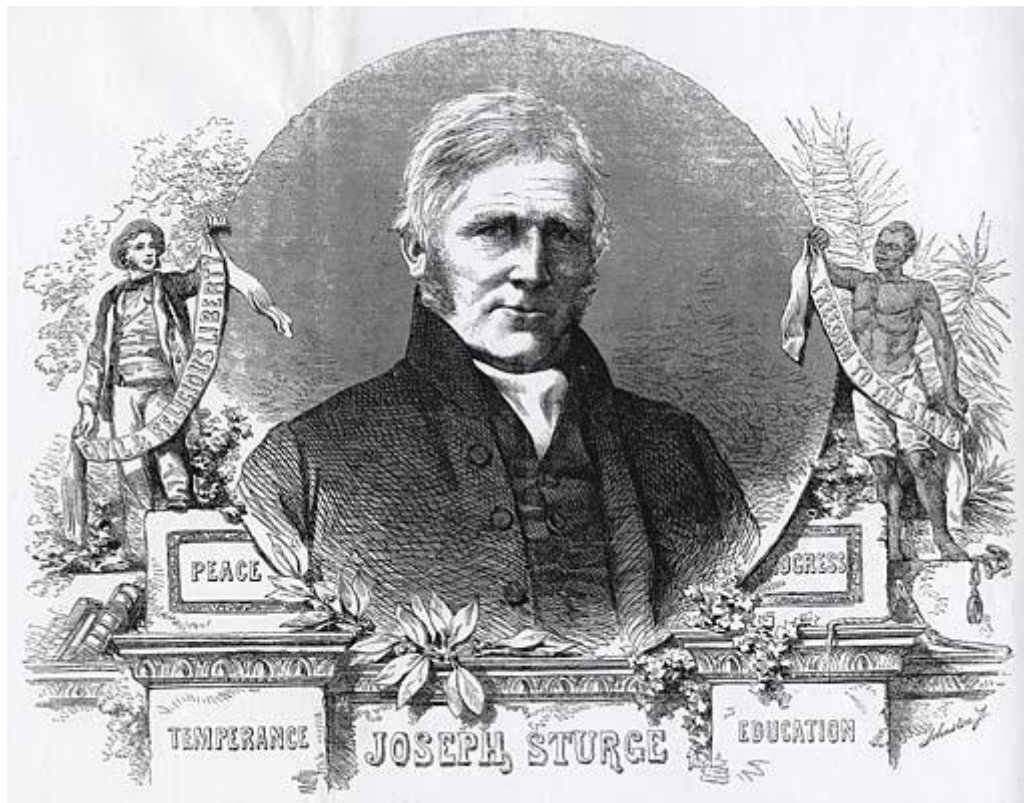


UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

Fighting to be free: Slavery, Anti-Slavery and the Black Presence in the Midlands

Saturday 27 October 2007



Joseph Sturge, the Birmingham anti-slavery campaigner
Image: Birmingham Central Library

Centre for Birmingham and Midlands History
www.cbamh.bham.ac.uk

Centre for Birmingham and Midlands History
Day Conference – 27 October 2007

**Fighting to be free: Slavery, Anti-Slavery and
the Black Presence in the Midlands**

Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr

Surname.....Name.....

Address.....

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PostcodeE-mail.....

Tel (daytime).....(evening).....

Conference fee: £25. This includes a buffet lunch and tea and coffee in the morning and the afternoon.

Please make cheques payable to '**University of Birmingham**' and send it with the completed enrolment form to: **Centre for Birmingham and Midlands History, Dept. of Modern History, University of Birmingham, Birmingham B15 2TT**

Those attending the conference are welcome to attend a free guided tour of the Equiano Exhibition on Sunday 28 October at 2.00pm in the Gas Hall, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, followed by a short talk.

For further information contact the Centre at cbamh-history@bham.ac.uk

Fighting to be free: Slavery, Anti-Slavery and the Black Presence in the Midlands

Saturday 27 October 2007, 10.00am – 4.30pm

The abolition of the slave trade was partly a result of a twenty-year national campaign. But why should British people who had benefited from African slavery decide to oppose the slave trade? Jim Walvin explores how the 1807 Act opened up a discussion about the changing nature of British society in the age of revolutions. Clive Harris considers the roles of Birmingham people and industries in the slave trade. Ian Grosvenor uses James Bisset's pamphlet, *Juvenile Reduplications or the New House That Jack Built*, written in 1800, as a starting point to consider changing representations of blackness in British society aimed at educating children about Africa, the West Indies and slavery. Rita Mclean examines the collecting and representation policies of museums to chart the visual representation of black history. Malcolm Dick unravels the motives and activities of local anti-slave trade campaigners, including Lunar Society members between the 1770s and 1790s, to explore cultural attitudes at the time. From Olaudah Equiano to Frederick Douglass, Andy Green's talk addresses Birmingham's freed slaves, fugitives and black transatlantic figures who challenged anti-slavery societies to campaign for social justice. After 29 September, Birmingham Museums & Art Gallery is hosting a major exhibition, devoted to Equiano which commemorates the 200th anniversary of abolition.

Venue: Lecture Theatre, Arts Building, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston Campus, Birmingham B13 2TT

10.00 Welcome and introduction by Dr. Francesca Carnevali, Director of the Centre for Birmingham and Midlands History

10.15 'Abolition after 200 years: what is so important about abolition?' – Professor James Walvin, University of York

11.00 Refreshments

11.15 'Birmingham and the transatlantic slave trade' – Dr Clive Harris, Three Continents One History Project

12.00 "Educating the child's eye": Representing blackness in modern Britain' – Professor Ian Grosvenor

13.00 Lunch

14.00 'Re-interpreting the past; visioning the future: charting and exploring the representation of Black History in museums' – Rita Mclean, BM&AG

14.45 'Birmingham, the West Midlands and the campaign against the slave trade' – Dr Malcolm Dick, University of Birmingham

15.30 Refreshments

15.45 'Riots, radicals and rebellions: Histories of Black resistance in Birmingham' – Dr Andy Green, University of Birmingham

16.30 Close

Receipts and directions:

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope with your enrolment form if you require a receipt. Directions and downloadable maps can be found on the University website at: www.bham.ac.uk

Data protection:

The names and addresses of the people attending the day conferences are held on a computerised mailing list which will be used to send you information. Please let us know if you wish your name to be removed.

Disclaimer:

This leaflet is prepared well in advance to provide information before you enrol. Whilst every effort is made to avoid any changes, we reserve the right to withdraw or amend any part of this programme without further notice.