



THE AUSTIN FAMILIES REGISTER

THE JANUARY 2007 NEWSLETTER OF THE

Austin Families Genealogical Society

AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF AUSTIN FAMILY RESEARCHERS

LONDON CHOSEN FOR 2007 INTERNATIONAL AUSTIN CONVENTION

2006 AFGS BALLOT RESULTS

A majority of AFGS voting members selected London as the site of the 2007 International Austin Convention. Dr. Charles Ward Austin of Garden Grove, California was elected as an AFGS Vice President, replacing Pauline Lucille Austin who is stepping down for health reasons. Pauline continues as an Associate Editor of the *Register*.

2007 INTERNATIONAL AUSTIN CONVENTION

AFGS will hold its annual meeting on 18 and 19 August, with attendees checking into the Best Western Homestead Court Hotel in Welwyn Garden City on Friday, 17 August. The hotel is a 20-mile train ride north from London's Kings Cross station, and is ideally positioned for those wishing to explore London and up to Cambridge and the surrounding area. Welwyn has the remains of a Roman bath-house, part of a villa built over 1700 years ago. Ingeniously preserved in a vault underneath a modern highway, it provides fascinating insights into how the Romans bathed with a series of hot and cold rooms and baths, how the under-floor 'hypocaust' heating system worked, where slaves used to stoke the fire, and displays of items from the villa showing how people lived and worked in the Roman countryside. Panels show how the site was uncovered by archaeologists. It is a good idea to combine your visit to the Roman bath-house with a visit to the nearby Verulamium Roman Museum at St. Albans.

AFGS has arranged group rates with the hotel of £75 for twin or double rooms and £60 for single rooms, with a full English breakfast included. Reservations can be made via the hotel e-mail: bwhbookings@hotmail.co.uk or phone: (0)1707-324336 or via AFGS (convention@austins.org). If you go through the hotel be sure to mention you are with the Austin Convention to receive our group rates. Singles willing to share a twin room may contact AFGS to take advantage of the lower per person twin room rate.

AUSTIN-AUSTEN DNA PROJECT REPORT

As has become traditional with our January newsletters, the latest DNA Project developments are reported and discussed in two articles appearing on PAGES 117 and 120, with the latest Profiles Table shown on PAGES 118-119. As more tests are extended to 37 markers, relationships between them become both clearer and more enigmatic!



The Chief Yeoman Warder (a 'Beefeater' wearing his everyday blue undress uniform) guides tourists around the Tower of London, which William the Conqueror began building in 1078. The top photo shows nearby Tower Bridge, begun in 1886 and completed in 1894.

2007 CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Please register for the convention as soon as possible, for an accurate 'head count' is needed of those planning to attend. Please either fill out and mail the enclosed form, or follow the "Conventions" link at the AFGS website.

NORTH ANDOVER, MASS. HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Visitors to the North Andover Historical Society Library in North Andover, Massachusetts now need only mention they are AFGS members to take advantage of full NAHS membership benefits. This is of particular interest to the descendants of Samuel and Hopestill Austin of Boston, whose sons Thomas and Samuel Jr. appear frequently in the extensive old town records maintained at the Library.