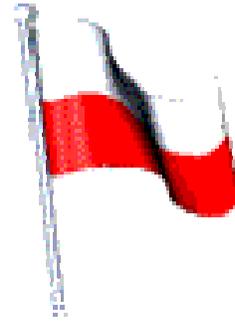




2005



Monday 11th April 2005

We set off from Southend High School for Boys at 6am. We then went and picked up some boys from the school David Adkins teaches in (one of our chaperones). We then went on to Dover and got on a ferry for the hour and a half crossing. We spent the journey shopping, in the food court and in the gaming arcade. We stopped off in France and on the outskirts of Cologne en route to the Youth Hostel. We finally arrived at the Youth Hostel in Hanover late that night.

Tuesday 12th April 2005

We woke up at 7am (German Time) and had breakfast. We left the Youth Hostel at 8:30am. We had lunch at a café en route to Sopot. We watched various videos and DVDs on the way but had to stop watching them while the German authorities checked our ID at the German/Polish border. We arrived in Sopot later that night at around 10pm where we met our host families. We were then taken to our host's house and given a warm welcome which included a meal of Polish specialities and a nice warm bed.



Wednesday 13th April 2005

We started off our first full day in Sopot by having breakfast and meeting the rest of our group at the school all of our hosts went to. We had a tour of the school and had a great time playing in the sports hall. We then went to the town hall and met the Deputy Mayor who spoke to us about Sopot. We then went shopping in the high street and had lunch. We went back to the town hall to be picked up by

the coach and taken to the Forest Opera House to rehearse and get ready for our first concert of the tour in a small hall next to the open air opera house. We then went to the after show buffet in the restaurant next to the venue of the concert. We then went back to our host's house to bed exhausted.



Thursday 14th April 2005

We met our group at the Town Hall at 9:15am (Polish time) to go to Stutthof Concentration Camp. At the Concentration camp we had to wait for an English speaking tour guide, he eventually turned up and he conducted a brilliant tour of the camp for us. After the tour we travelled to a medieval hill fort where one of the Archaeologists told us about the fort and we cooked sausages on sticks and played games (Pictured: Stephen Arthur locked in the stocks). Most of us then went to the Aqua Park or bowling.



Friday 15th April 2005

We met our group at the Town hall to go to Gdansk to go shopping and sight seeing. On the way to Gdansk we stopped off at a church and saw a display made up by members of the church about the Pope, his life and his Funeral. We then went shopping in a mall and went on to Gdansk to go sight seeing. We visited a cathedral and climbed the 410 steps to the highest point on the roof where we stood on a platform and looked out over the city. We then sang in the ballroom of a posh hotel called a castle.

We then had dinner in one of the dining rooms in the hotel. We had a 2 course meal of Polish specialities which included stuffed dumplings and special pancakes. We also sang happy birthday to Paul Toomey and Sam Fisher.



Saturday 16th April 2005

We set off early from the Town Hall car park and made various stops en route to the Youth Hostel on the way there we watched various videos and DVDs but had to stop watching them for a short amount of time at the border. We then made various stops on the way to the Youth Hostel in Hanover, we arrived at around 8:30pm (German Time) which was earlier than on the way there. Before bed a group of us had a game of pool.



Sunday 17th April 2005

We set off from the Youth Hostel fairly early that morning after breakfast. We stopped off in Germany and France on the way to Calais. On the ferry home we mainly shopped and spent our refreshment voucher in the food court. We then dropped David Adkins' group off at Dartford and arrived in Southend at around 10pm (Local Time).



The Boys that went on the trip from Southend Boys Choir would like to thank the following people:

Roger Humphrey and Rosemary Pennington the two people that organized the trip.

The Chaperones for making us all behave.

David Adkins and his group of boys for joining us.

John Puddick for organizing the concerts we sang in.

Our parents for allowing and paying for us to go on the trip.

Last but by no means least all of our hosts for making us feel so welcome.