

Three students remember England

My study abroad

By Susie George

As defined by an Elon student, "winter term" means a chance to make extra money, a time of endless parties, and an easy way to earn three credits.

Some 50 students who participated in the British studies program successfully completed two of three winter term objectives; however, they did spend a little more than they earned.

Dr. David Crowe, tour leader for the last four years said, "This is one of the best groups I have gone with. They were not as lively as previous groups, but just as much fun."

General consensus concerning the three-week trip was good. Almost everyone who went enjoyed it. One of the major attractions was the pubs, particularly the beverages sold there.

Dr. Thomas Anderson, a retired minister who went on the trip with his wife, liked having a base in London for excursions from there. The favorites among the many tours were the Tower of London, St. Paul's Cathedral, Brighton, Hastings, and the British Museum.

The train trip to Edinburgh, Scotland, was probably the best. Students who went thought more time should be allotted to this part of the tour. Sharon McHale and Chris Christopher liked Scotland because there they

talked to more people their own age. Students ventured out alone, met, were entertained and guided by peers. Students could see another country from a viewpoint similar to their own.

During the "free week," students were able to travel in Britain or on the continent. A large group spent their time in Greece; others went to Ireland, France, Switzerland, or Spain. The ones staying in London enjoyed the city, saw plays and even a rock concert. The Boomtown Rats played "like a cross between Bruce Springstein and the Rolling Stones," according to Britt Wilkins.

Although the group liked just about everything on the trip, there were a few disappointments. A major complaint was the food—costly and often tasteless. Mike Davis ate three meals in a row at the Victory Cafe. His only complaint about the cafe was that he found it a little late.

The main transportation was by underground, or the "tube" as it is popularly called. It was as crowded as the streets in Washington during rush hour. Because the English drive on the left side of the road, some forgot right, and described crossing the street as "taking my life into my own hands."



Students saw the historic Tower Bridge near the Tower of London on the Thames River.

We loved the Lake District

By Charlotte Alford

For eight of the Elon group, one of the most memorable of the British studies excursions was a weekend in the English Lake District.

On Friday, Jan. 9, we set out from London on a four-hour fast-train ride to the northwest section of

England famed for the beauty that inspired poets such as Wordsworth and Coleridge.

As we neared the lakes area, we saw from the train windows the magnificent scenery that awed us for the next several days. Barren mountains, green sheep pastures, stone walls, and clear blue lakes combined to bring calendar photographs to life.

Guided by Dr. Mary E. Priestley who has spent much time in the Lake District, we toured our home base of Keswick, Cumbria, shortly after our arrival. Then we walked along Derwentwater (lake) to Friar's Crag, a path taken many times by the Wordsworths, Coleridges and Southneys. There we saw a monument dedicated to artist-writer John Ruskin who had lived at Coniston Water. After a delicious meal at our inn, we visited the Keswick Museum, usually closed in winter but opened for us.

Saturday was a full day of touring by a small bus. We started with Crosthwaite Church, founded in 553 A.D. where the poet laureate Robert Southey was buried in the churchyard. Inside the church a marble effigy of Southey has a eulogy by Wordsworth engraved on the base. From the church we climbed to Castlerig Stone Circle, a miniature Stonehenge.

In the village of Grasmere we saw Dove Cottage where Wordsworth once lived as well as the church where the family is buried. Next we visited Rydal Mount house and gardens where Wordsworth spent most of his adult life. Not far away was Ambleside where we ate lunch and browsed through small stone shops selling such items as pottery, second-hand books and sheepskin coats.

On our way around the long lake of Windermere, we drove to Sawrey and to Hill Top Farm, home of Beatrix Potter, known for her children's books, her illustrations and stories. During our stop in Hawkshead, we saw the well-preserved grammar school that Wordsworth attended.

On our last day, several of us climbed Skiddaw, 3,400-foot mountain near Keswick while Dr. Priestley worked at the museum. On the way up we could look back at the mist-enveloped valley and town on the edge of Derwentwater. Snow began falling as we neared the top, and we hiked back down as darkening clouds covered the peaks.

All eight of us thoroughly enjoyed our quiet weekend in the Lake District. The inn, called the Walpole Ho-

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Royal Windsor Castle, largest in Europe, is a home of the Queen of England and a great tourist attraction. Students toured the State Apartments.