



PRESIDENT'S WEEKEND 2025 | SAVE THE DATE

To be held in Derbyshire on Friday 25th & Saturday 26th April

BREADSALL PRIORY

Guests will be staying at Breadsall Priory Country Club, a 4 star Marriott group hotel situated in beautiful countryside, on the outskirts of Derby. Once the home of Erasmus Darwin, and set in extensive grounds, the hotel has a golf course and spa; that will both be available for use.

Friday 25th April 2025

On Friday evening, there will be a drinks reception at 18.30hrs in the Darwin Room, followed by a buffet supper in the Haslam Room, where the Darwin family entertained their guests.

Saturday 26th April 2025

DERWENT VALLEY MILLS WORLD HERITAGE SITE

On Saturday morning, guests will have an opportunity to see highlights of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site. This extends some 24km north of Derby and was designated as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in recognition of the importance of the area for the development of the factory system. Transport will be by luxury coach, with commentary.

ECCLESBOURNE VALLEY STEAM RAILWAY

Guests will board a specially chartered steam train, operated by Derbyshire's longest heritage railway. They will travel in luxury through beautiful countryside in restored 19th century LMS carriages. Morning coffee and cake will be served on board.



LEAWOOD PUMPING STATION

The coach will then take guests to Leawood Pumping Station, built by local industrialists to pump water from the picturesque River Derwent, into the Cromford Canal. Maintained by volunteers, the 150-year-old engine is in pristine condition and will be 'in steam' especially for the group.

JOHN SMEDLEY LTD

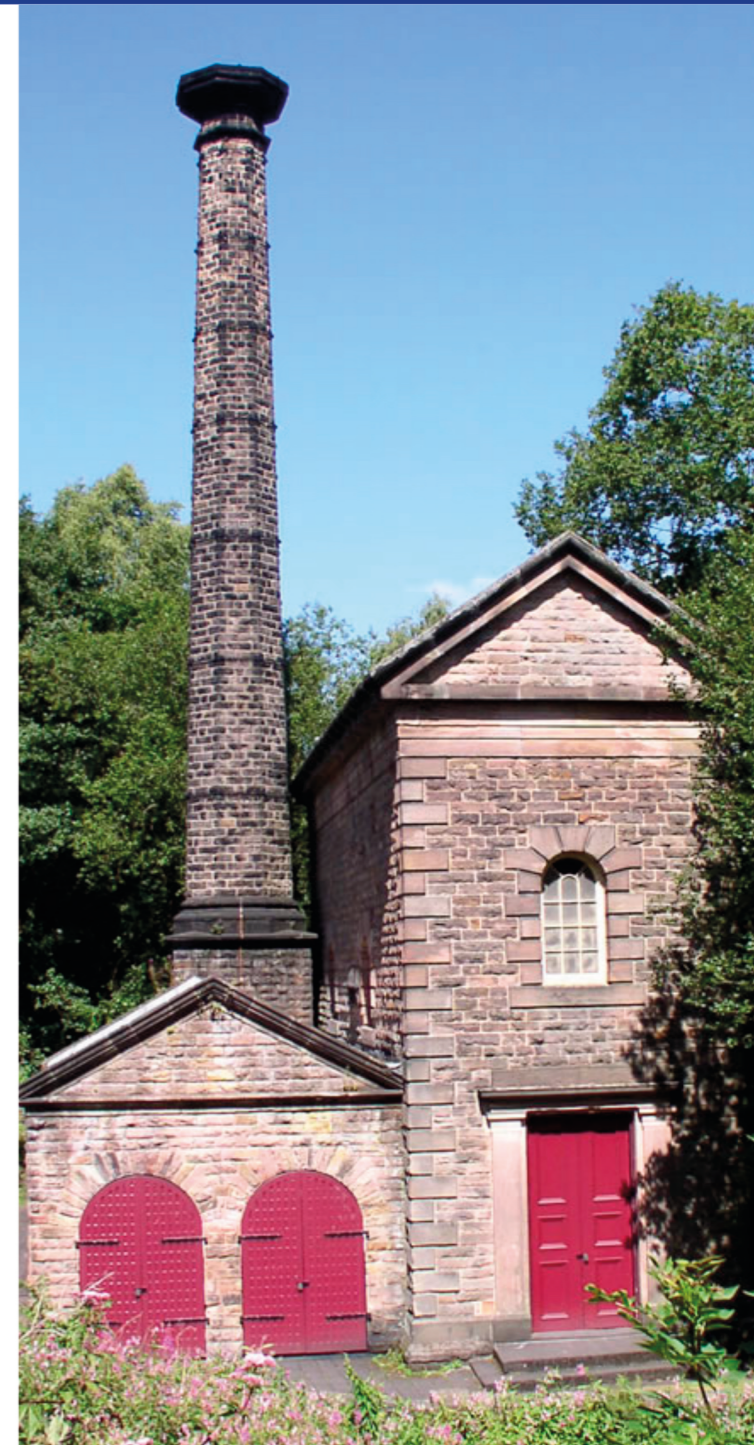
Following this, guests will visit the John Smedley Factory, where luxury fine gauge knitwear has been manufactured since 1784. Guests will have a chance to explore the Archive of this remarkable 240-year-old family company, see the 2025 Spring/Summer collection and have a chance to visit the mill shop.



Her Majesty visits John Smedley in 2014

Lunch will be served at the mill, followed by a talk from Lucy Bamford, Keeper of Art at Derby Museum and Art Gallery, home to the world's largest collection of paintings by the 18th century artist, Joseph Wright. Lucy will highlight his links to key industrialists and to scenes in the Derwent Valley.

Guests return to the hotel by coach allowing time to freshen prior to the evening events.



GALA DINNER - SILK MILL DERBY

The 3 course Gala Dinner will be held in England's first textile factory, the Derby Silk Mill. Operational in 1721 the Mill is now operational to the home of an award winning museum and offers a unique and atmospheric venue for dinner and entertainment to follow.

Sunday 27th April 2025

For guests wishing to attend a church service, Holy Communion is celebrated at 10.15hrs at All Saints Church, Breadsall.