

# The Friends of Osterley Park

In  
support  
of the  
**National Trust**



## **NEWSLETTER**

Issue 100 Spring 2016

£1 (free to members)

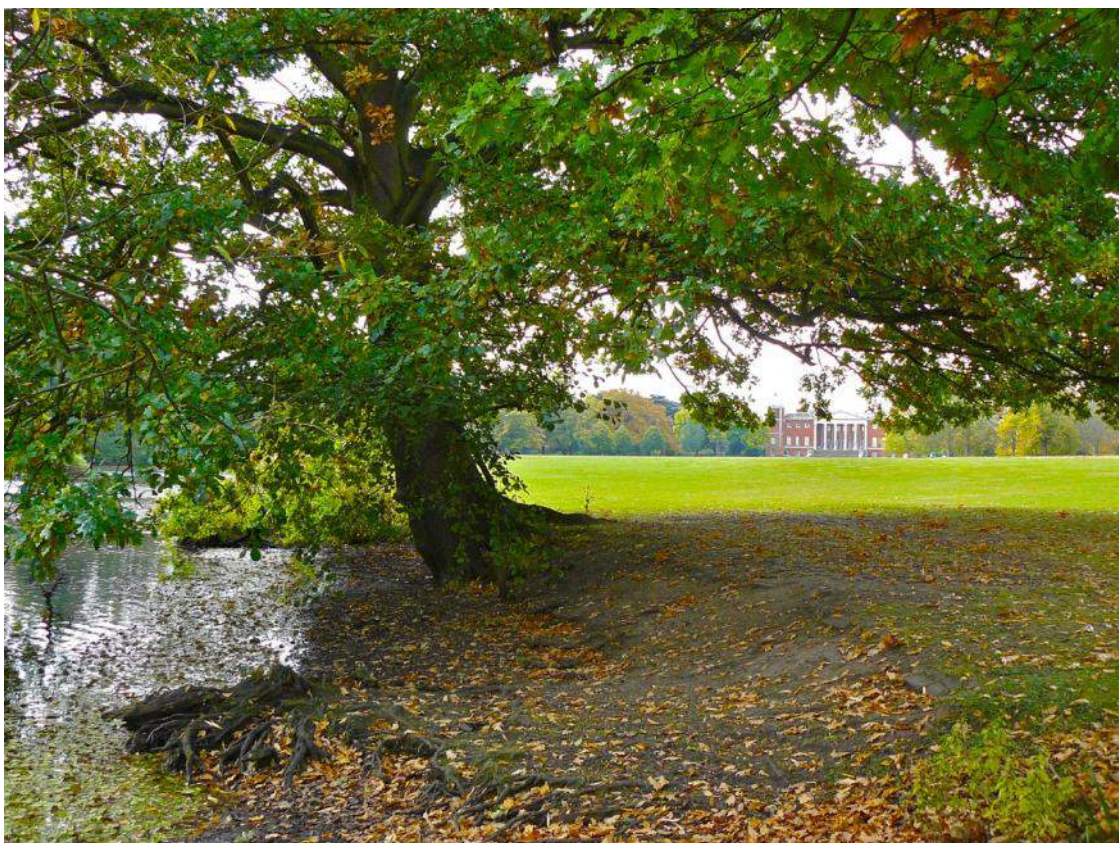


Photo John Stacey Osterley House from middle lake

I have used all of John Stacey's recent photos of Osterley in the body of the colour print issue so the online centre pages just have larger versions of some rather than the usual additional photos



Photo John Stacey Osterley cattle

## from the Chairman **John James**

Welcome to our 100<sup>th</sup> Newsletter. This issue was produced in colour to celebrate this special occasion. The spring edition of the newsletter is very fitting as the House starts a new exciting year. The National Trust's recent theme "Spirit of Place" certainly fits Osterley

Park and House at this season. The displays of daffodils everywhere have lasted so long, especially in the main drive. The winter work of replacing the railings up the drive and in the car park has made a difference. The Winter Garden has proved a very popular attraction. I love seeing the ploughed field near the farm shop as a sign of spring and new growth. The Spirit of Place is highlighted with the white cows and new-born calves grazing in the field next to Masons Bungalow. At our March coffee morning Lyndsey Feeney, Visitor Experience and Marketing Manager, updated us on the excellent visitor figures for the previous year and amazing marketing results. The popularity of the house and garden has gone from strength to strength over the past few years. This year's events have a Georgian theme, starting at Easter introducing the Georgian Bunny. Neil Cole, General Manager, announced to us at the coffee morning a change in catering arrangements. The catering facility at the car park has gone and there will be no ice cream van parked near the stables. The Brewhouse will have a new collect and go facility installed for coffee, snacks and ice cream, which will be run by in house catering. This will be available on Bank Holidays, holiday season and special weekends. It will take the pressure off the Stable Café.

During this year, together with the NT management, we will be planning the purchase by the Friends of a new 8 seater buggy and we are looking into possibilities of the buggy route extending part way along the main driveway.

On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June for our coffee morning we will have Sophie Slater, Commercial Manager, and Kayleigh Slade, Catering Manager, with a catering "taster session". Our A.G.M. will take place on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> May, 7 for 7.45 p.m. Do come along – there will be an overview by Neil Cole, and this is also a social event. This newsletter also includes details of our next Friends' coach trips and



Photo John Stacey  
Osterley Farm house

London visits, so do consider joining one during the year. Douglas Craik has once again planned a summer holiday, this time to Devon and Cornwall, based in Plymouth.

Finally, have a look at our website "Friends of Osterley Park". Mike Doran has worked extremely hard on this and it is very impressive and informative.



## Volunteering at Osterley

Susan Miles

Hello Everyone, I'm the Volunteering Coordinator at Osterley Park and House, although some of you may know me from my days as a room guide and Behind the Scenes tour guide at Osterley

As you may be aware, following a successful year at Osterley in 2015, we are extending our visitor offering for 2016 by opening the whole House for an additional 2 days a week. To support this we are currently recruiting more volunteer room guides, tour guides and organiser/administration support roles to our team. If you, friends, or maybe a member of your family are looking for a volunteering opportunity to learn a new skill, add to a CV if currently seeking work, or would just like to meet new people, we'd love to help you get started.

We are looking for volunteers for our new Monday/Tuesday teams, but also to add to our existing volunteer family across the rest of the week. We have day, shorter Tea relief and flexible administration shifts, so it doesn't matter how much or little time you have to offer we should have something to suit you.

If anyone is interested, they can contact us by email at [Osterley.volunteering@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:Osterley.volunteering@nationaltrust.org.uk), or if they wish to have a chat, my number is 020 8232 5065. Anyone joining us will also receive training for their role and attend an Osterley induction session. We run a mentor/buddy system, so all new recruits are supported until they feel confident to go solo.

Interested? Why not make 2016 the year you help us unlock the secrets of the 'palace of palaces' for our visitors – we'd love to hear from you.

From Editor, we have about 230 Friends and about 30 currently volunteer.



Photo John Stacey  
Osterley Inner Portico

## Our Activities

**Douglas Craik**

We continue with coffee mornings (page 9), another London visit (page 9) and two more coach outings (pages 4 and 10).

There is a second opportunity to book for some of the events advertised in the last issue. Our first coach trip of the year to Kentwell House was nearly fully booked and our London Visits are proving very popular with up to 25 people booked on each. So place your orders now! There is also the Osterley Book Club (page 9)

## Friends Summer Holiday

Bookings are going well, currently we have 43, we can take 48 so if you want a late booking give me ring or drop me an email. **Balance payment with second form needs to be sent to me by 1st May.**



## Petworth House and Park

**Pat Herod**

Wednesday 6th July

**09:30 at Osterley Park or opposite Osterley Underground Cost £20**

Petworth has been a family home for 800 years. The estate was a royal gift from the widow of Henry I to her brother Jocelin de Louvain who married into the renowned Percy family.

It was intended for occasional use only but in the late 1500's it became their permanent home after Elizabeth 1st grew suspicious of their allegiance to Mary, Queen of Scots and confined the family to the south of England. The Percys' "house arrest" started the expansion of the medieval building but it was another 100 years before it was completely transformed.

The state rooms and North Gallery house the finest collection of art and sculpture in the National Trust and outdoors is a woodland pleasure ground and a 700 acre deer park landscaped by Capability Brown with views of the South Downs National Park.

Petworth was given to the national Trust in 1947 in the face of heavy death duties. The current Lord and lady Egremont continue to live in part of the house. The servants hall has a coffee shop serving coffee and treats; the Audit Room serves light lunches and afternoon teas with homemade cakes.

## **SPIRIT OF PLACE - OSTERLEY**      **Margaret Friday**

For this one-hundredth issue of the Friends Newsletter we are featuring two views intended to inspire the spirit of the main buildings at Osterley as photographed by John Stacey. Other smaller scenes of Osterley are spread around the newsletter. The cover displays a view of the house from the Middle Lake with a tree framing the aspect. We see Adam's grand entrance to the house with the colonnade and flight of steps just as can be seen at Palladio's Villa Rotunda at Vicenza. Our picture reveals just one of the four towers thought to have been a part of the original Elizabethan house built by Sir Thomas Gresham. Some of the designs for it may have been made by Hendrik Van Passchen of Antwerp who designed the Royal Exchange for Gresham and also worked for the Cecil and Bacon families in England. Gresham's daughter Anne married Nathaniel Bacon.

A drawing at Syon from Moses Glover's survey of Isleworth shows a house at Osterley with seven towers. In Norden's words Gresham built "a fair and stately mansion beseeming a prince". There is a drawing of the south front of the house by Robert Adam when hired by Francis Child showing features like the original front door which now graces the entrance to the stables. Once Adam began to work dramatic changes took place. Adam removed almost all of the East side of the house leaving just the towers and a small room making way for the grand entrance staircase and the colonnade. The room along the east front had originally contained the Fairfax library purchased by the third Francis Child. It included at least 10 Caxton's! It was later housed in the new library on the north side of the house with views of the semi-circular garden house by Robert Adam and the old Stable Block. Richard Wheeler, National Trust Historic Garden historian, believes that Robert Adam designed not just the house but also the gardens at Osterley. He says Adam planned the house to be viewed at a 45 degree angle from the extensive grounds as we see in the early paintings by Devis. Copies of these paintings are in the South Corridor.

The restoration of the almost circular laurel walk would allow visitors to view the house from the park seeing it as a three dimensional building rather than the flat single sided look we often see today. Take a walk along the path at the back of the great meadow also known as the bluebell walk to see the house as Adam wished it to be viewed.



Photo John Stacey Osterley House bluebells



Photo John Stacey Osterley Stables and marigolds



Photo John Stacey Osterley House bluebells

Photo John Stacey  
Osterley Inner Portico



# STABLE BLOCK WITH CLOCK TOWER AND MARIGOLDS

Margaret Friday

Our central picture by John Stacey displays several important parts of Osterley. First, the Stable Block is the oldest building on site - constructed by Sir Thomas Gresham and changed to be made even grander for the visit of Elizabeth I in 1573. Giles Worsley in his article on the Osterley Stables in *Aspects of Osterley*, says Osterley stables "stands out among its peers as architecturally impressive stables are by no means common in Elizabethan houses." He goes on to say that "Osterley is after all the sort of house that sets trends rather than following them". Above the stables is the impressive turret clock - another unusual exception. The clock movement is signed on the snail wheel 1714 RI Street London. It is described as a fine and interesting 8 day, English, hour striking turret clock. Richard Street was an important London clock maker becoming a Warden of the Worshipful Company of Clockmakers in 1714 just after completing the only turret clock he made at Osterley Park. By this time he had made clocks for Sir Isaac Newton and the Old Royal Naval Observatory at Greenwich. Street worked in Fleet Street so was likely to have been known by Francis Child, founder of Child's Bank at the sign of the marigold. Francis Child died in 1713 but may have commissioned the clock as may his son Robert who inherited Osterley on his fathers' death. Just two years later Richard Street took on the care of the Great Clock in St. Paul's Cathedral. As all the city companies set the timepieces from the chimes and clock faces of St. Paul's this was an exceedingly important job. Our clock originally had clock faces on two sides so it could be viewed from the grounds or the house or the back of the stable block or the garden where this picture was taken. This picture displays fine growing marigolds which are so much a part of the Osterley story. Blanchard and Child ran their goldsmithing business at the sign of the marigold becoming - when street numbers were introduced - 1 Fleet Street! Marigolds are found throughout the interior of Osterley beginning with the giant marigolds under the portico and continuing in ceilings, furniture, mirrors and even the door handles in the house. These pictures truly display the Spirit of Place at Osterley Park House.



Photo John Stacey Osterley Stables





## OSTERLEY HOUSE BOOK GROUP

Meet at house family entrance

Monday 23rd May 2 pm UNTIL 3-3:30 pm

All volunteers, staff and members of Friends of Osterley Park

Please let the Wendy Sim know if you are coming.

(wendyasim@BTinternet.com or 020 8979 3834.

Discussing "Charles Dickens - a Life" by Clare Tomalin



## COFFEE MORNINGS BREW HOUSE

10:30 FOR 11:00 UNTIL 12:00-12:30

Friends Members £3 non-members £4



Our programme of coffee morning talks continues at roughly 6 weekly intervals. All are welcome and it is a chance to catch up on the latest news from other Friends and staff. The next ones are:-

Tue 15<sup>th</sup> June 2016 Sophie Slater & Kayleigh Slade

Catering taster session

Wed 13<sup>th</sup> July Ian Grierson (Events)

Wed 24<sup>th</sup> Aug Isaac Rocke (Sports)



## London Visits Margaret Friday PARKSTEAD HOUSE

Holybourne Avenue, Roehampton SW15 4JD

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July Price £10

(Banqueting House trip now in October)

The House was designed in the 1760s for

William, Earl of Bessborough by William Chambers. This house is not usually open to the public but we will have a private tour which may help us to get a better idea the 18th century designs at Osterley.

There are five rooms in the house which were part of Chambers' plan, the dining room, drawing room, hall, library and bedroom and they have many original features.

The entrance overlooking the park bears a close resemblance to the entrance overlooking the great meadow at Osterley.

Chambers involvement at Osterley continues to be questioned today at Osterley. The fireplaces in the Long Gallery are thought to be by Chambers. Roehampton is on the 72 bus route from Hammersmith.

**Meet at the house at 1:15 for our 1:30 tour.**



## **Stoneleigh Abbey**

**Margaret Friday**

**Tuesday 16th August**

**09:30 at Osterley Park or opposite Osterley Underground Cost £30**

Today we visit Stoneleigh Abbey in Warwickshire for the first time. It was the family home of Margaret, Countess of Jersey. She grew up at Stoneleigh Abbey - her parents were William Henry Leigh and Caroline Grosvenor. In 1848 they entertained Queen Victoria and Prince Albert for two days at Stoneleigh. A year later their daughter Margaret was born. In 1872 she married the 7th Earl of Jersey. So much of the decoration at Osterley is reflected at Stoneleigh that it is easy to see why Osterley became Margaret's favourite and the party house where she entertained her friends. Stoneleigh Abbey suffered a fire in 1960 but most of the furniture was rescued by family and staff. The house and Repton landscape have been fully restored. The house is now owned by a private trust so not a National Trust house. Our guide knows we are particularly interested in Margaret, Countess of Jersey. Tea and cakes at £2.50 can be prebooked, no other on site catering.

## **Editors Apologies Douglas Craik**

I managed to make 2 mistakes in the last issue— I attributed the photo's to Ian Davidson when it should have been Ian Brown.

Ian, if you shoot the editor could it be only with your camera please!

There were three items about the forthcoming Coffee mornings, one in John James column, one in the Diary and an advert on page 4— the last one was wrong (so at least 2 out of 3 right). Thanks to Sue Kendrick for spotting this.



Photo John Stacey Blossom

## **100 Club**

**Douglas Craik**

A draw was made at the coffee morning on the 8th March 2016.

The winners were Sheila Royal £25, Marilyn Buekett £50 and Christine Leon £100.

All members of the Friends can purchase one or more "shares" in the 100 Club. Half of the money pays for the 3-4 prizes won at each of the four draws per year and the remainder goes to the house. Extra shares can be purchased at any time.

## Diary Friends Events and Excursions

Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Coach Trip: Kentwell Hall
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> May	AGM 7:00 for 7:45
Thu 12 <sup>th</sup> May	London Visit: Charlton House
Tue 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Coach Trip: Mottisfont
Tue 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Coach Trip: Arundel castle
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Coffee Morning Sophie Slater and Kayleigh Slade (Catering “taster session”)
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> June	London Visit: St Katharines Dock
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Coach Trip: Petworth House & Park
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Coffee Morning: Ian Grierson (Events)
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> July	London Visit: Parkstead House, Roehampton
Sun 7 <sup>th</sup> –Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Summer Holiday
Tue 16 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Coach Trip: Stoneleigh Abbey
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Coffee Morning: Isaac Rocke (Sports)
Thur 8 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Coach Trip: Waterperry Gardens and Hughenden Manor
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> Sep	London Visit: Queen’s House Greenwich
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup> Sep	25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Friends, 7:00 for 7:45
Oct date TBC	London Visit: Banqueting House
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Coach Trip: Melford & Long Melford
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Coffee Morning: Ffion George (House and Collections)
Wed 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Coffee Morning: Jeremy Dalton (Ranger)



**Coffee Mornings** 10:30 for 11:00



**Coach Trips** depart Lakeside Car park at 09:30 and Bus Stop **opposite** Osterley Station at 09:30 sharp.

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Published 14th of</b>	<b>Contents</b>
Winter	January	Membership renewal first 3 coach trips First 3 London Visits
Spring	April	AGM papers, membership cards, next coach trips, next London Visits
Summer	July	next coach trips, next London Visits
Autumn	October	Next summer holiday booking

### **Chairman /Membership Secretary**

John James 020 8232 8683  
 John.james15@blueyonder.co.uk  
 Parkfield Cottage, Osterley Road,  
 Isleworth, TW7 4PF

### **Treasurer / 100 club / Coach trip/ Newsletter**

Douglas Craik 020 8977 6449  
 friendsofosterleypark@gmail.com  
 118 Fairfax Road,  
 Teddington, TW11 9BS

### **London Visits**

Margaret Friday 020 8991 0593  
 Margaretfriday@talktalk.net

The '**Friends**' website gives you all the current news, meetings, events, publications, and membership information relating to the work of the Friends of Osterley Park in supporting Osterley House and Park.

[www.e-voice.org.uk/friendsofosterleypark](http://www.e-voice.org.uk/friendsofosterleypark)

If you experience any problems in using our website, or have any suggestions for its improvement, please email **Mike Doran** at [mike@mbdoran.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:mike@mbdoran.wanadoo.co.uk)

## **Next newsletter**

to be published 14 July 2016.

Any contributions to the Editor by **30th June 2016**.

The Editor may edit contributions if necessary.

# Additional pages for online readers

This covers topics relevant to those taking the online version of the newsletter.

## No Printer

If you do have a printer, if you do online banking then see next page. Otherwise for day coach trips or London walks just send a cheque with SAE and a note of which trips and for how many people to Douglas. For Standing Order and Gift Aid forms drop Douglas an email and forms will be posted out (must have your actual signature).

## Printing

From the online view of the newsletter you will be able to print out selected pages– watch that you select only the page(s) you want e.g. Diary. With some systems it may be easier to save the newsletter into your computer and open with Adobe.

Most computers will have this but it is a free, safe program from [adobe.com/uk/products/reader.html](http://adobe.com/uk/products/reader.html)

## Other Questions

Just email me with any questions, if common I will add answers here in future issues.

## Any suggestions

Any ideas on improvements to the online newsletter are welcome, just drop me an email.

## Online readers

We now have over 50 Friends taking the online Newsletter (about half of those members with email) please encourage others to join us.

## Email booking of trips

For Friends who use on line banking we now offer the option of booking Coach trips or London Visits by email, this is quicker and will save you over a pound in postage.

1. email [friendsofosterleypark@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofosterleypark@gmail.com) with your names of trippers, name of trip and amount being paid and where you want to be picked up, for example

**Jane Smith and Harry Smith, 2 Friends for Vyne = £30 opposite Osterley UG,**

**Jane Smith and Jill Brown, Friend & guest for Fenton House = £7, at Car Park**

**Total £39**

2. I will email back confirming booking, or very occasionally saying that there is a waiting list.
3. You make a bank transfer to

Name of Payee	<b>Friends of Osterley</b>
Sort code	<b>20 02 06</b>
Account number	<b>70389315</b>
Your Reference	<b>Trips/<i>your name</i></b>

4. Once transfer received I will email your tickets to you.