

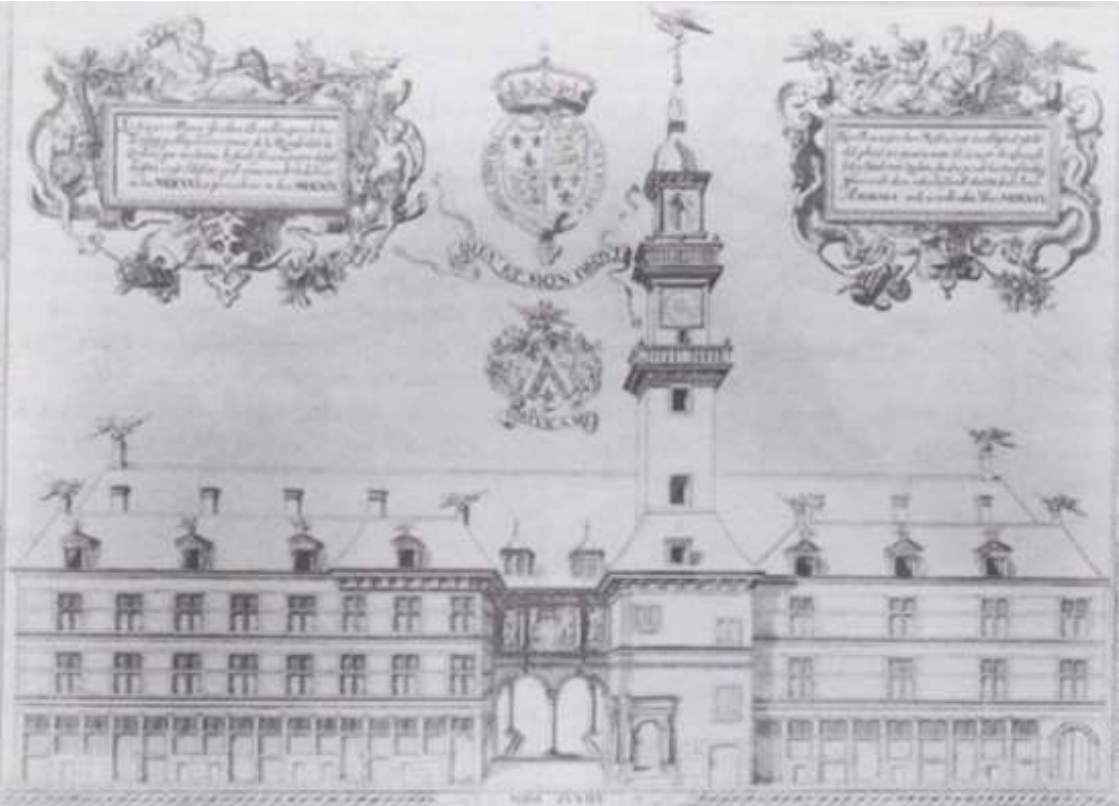
# The Friends of Osterley Park

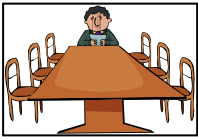
In support  
of the  
**National Trust**



# NEWSLETTER

Issue 106 Autumn 2017 £1 (free to members)





## from the Chairman

John James

When you read this newsletter we will have officially launched the new buggy on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September when we named it “The Conacher Carriage” and had the Conacher family present.

I hope you have had an enjoyable summer. On reading my reports for Autumn 2015 and 2016, I see that the weather has been so different each year. We again had two weeks holiday in Devon in August, with very mixed weather. The Friends’ holiday, again very well organised by Douglas Craik, was in York and was greatly enjoyed by all.

Osterley Park and House had a very good summer, with visitor numbers up. In June Osterley celebrated the official opening of the Pathway Project. The multi-purpose paths and cycle skills area are being well used. Work continues externally on the House, now at the back. The gardens, the great meadow and the nine acre meadow have really looked their best this summer. Outdoor activities continue to be successful, especially the bi annual Osterley Park 10k run, in partnership with Ealing Half Marathon. 700 entries were received this summer. No doubt the December 10k run will also attract similar numbers. During this summer’s school holidays, Osterley has participated in the Trust’s National Summer of Sport programme. There was an activity every day of the six week school holidays.

Our coach trips have been well attended, with visits in April to Leeds Castle, May Sherborne Castle, June Lydiard House and July Apeworth Palace. London visits, once again ably organised by Margaret Friday, started in April with a visit to Keats’ House, in May to the Queen’s House, Greenwich, in June Eastbury Manor House and in July a Georgian Walk in Fitzroy Square.

Coffee mornings have also been well supported with the Brewhouse being almost full to capacity. In April Margaret Friday gave us a very good talk on her trip to Iran, and in May Ffion George, House and Collections Manager, gave us an update and told us of future plans. In June Christine Diwell gave an excellent talk on historic houses in the borough and in July Andy Eddy, Head Gardener, talked about the variety of plants in the garden and how they were propagated.

In August Arthur Spikins, supported by Margaret Friday and Joan Mound, talked about the early days of volunteering at Osterley Park and their experiences – the discussion that took place was very illuminating, to the extent that it was agreed that a second talk on volunteering should be held next year.

**Please note that there is a change of date for our December coffee morning, from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December to Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December, when Jeremy Dalton, Head Ranger, will be the speaker.**

At our Autumn Reception we were privileged to have as our speaker Jim Foy, Assistant Director Operations, National Trust London and the South East. Neil Cole introduced Jim and he gave a talk with illustrations which were perfect to update us on how the National Trust is growing, reaching out to so many people. The members were very appreciative, as was shown by the number of questions during and after his talk. There was a very good attendance and having the reception earlier in the day did attract more people as they could travel in daylight.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will see the advert for a Friends' Christmas Lunch in the Brewhouse. This is a new venture for us which we hope will be popular.

Mike Doran has continued to oversee and update our website. He also arranged for an advert on the website of a charity called Reach for a Membership Secretary for the Friends. As you know we are in urgent need of members of the Friends to come forward to help us in filling our committee vacancies and securing the future of the Friends. Please do speak to me or Douglas Craik if you are interested.



## Postal Addresses

**D Craik Editor**

Some of you may have noticed that your Newsletter address is not the one we have used before.

I have changed all addresses to the official Royal Mail ones so counties like Middlesex disappear.

Those who get their Newsletter by email won't see this!

We are always looking for volunteers to hand deliver Newsletters (e.g. 14 addresses in or near Brentford Docks). If you can help please let John James know.

# Coming events

## See also draft 2018 programme



### COFFEE MORNINGS BREW HOUSE

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

Members of Friends £4, others £5

£2.50 pays for Coffee and biscuits



Our programme of coffee morning talks continues, all are welcome and it is a chance to catch up on the latest news from other Friends & staff.

The next ones are:-

Tue 14<sup>th</sup> November in the Tudor Kitchen: Virginia Fassnidge

Mon 4<sup>th</sup> December Jeremy Dalton Head Ranger

### NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

We have coffee mornings once a month. About half of these are updates on the property from members of the House and Park staff and the others on subjects that will hopefully be of interest to many members of the Friends.

### 2018 Programme

**We are working on next years programme and need 6 members or others as speakers, so far we have 5**

If you are willing to do a 30-45 minute talk on any (fairly) relevant subject next year please tell John James.



### Christmas Lunch

Douglas Craik

Friday 15th December 2017 £28

12:00 for 12:30 in the Brewhouse

**BOOK BY 20TH NOVEMBER**

**Cancellation possible up to 21st November**

This year we have the offer of a Friends Christmas Lunch in the brewhouse.

We realise that some of our members are volunteers and will be having lunch at Osterley as a day group but they might want a second bite at the cherry, or more accurately, the turkey.

All members are welcome. We can manage 40 people on first come basis, Please see enclosed booking form and menu choice. The free range turkey is a Fine Food Produce Award winning bird reared by Steve Conisbee, tenant farmer at Polesden Lacey.



## OSTERLEY HOUSE BOOKGROUP

### Meet at house family entrance

Monday 13th November at 2pm:

"Falling Angels" by Tracy Chevalier.

Please let the Wendy Sim know if you are coming.

wendyasim@BTinternet.com or 020 8979 3834.



**For all volunteers, staff and members of Friends of Osterley Park**



**2019 Holiday** I had said that 2018 would be the last holiday I would fully organise but I am now thinking about Aberdeen in 2019. Whilst there are oodles of castles (over 300) there are other properties as well. This might be a bit more expensive (£550-600) due to the travel involved– 10:00 start/7 hours on train/no changes. This would give us 4 days in Aberdeen. I need to judge the interest in this before I start planning, please indicate your interest on the 2018 holiday booking form or on any 2018 coach/visit booking form, or just email/phone me.



### from the 100 club

**Douglas Craik**

A draw was held at the Autumn Reception on the 13th September. The lucky winners were:- Mrs J Ryan £25, Mrs H Lyell £50, and Mrs P Mulcaire £100.

All members of the Friends can purchase one or more "shares" in the 100 Club. Half of the money pays for the 3 prizes won at each of the four draws per year and the remainder goes to the house. If you see your name in a prize list but don't get a cheque please let me know –one of last year's prizes disappeared (has been replaced)



### Hoarding

**Douglas Craik**

At August coffee morning Margaret Friday recounted, that shortly after the National Trust took over the running of Osterley House from the V&A in December 1990, the marigold rose in centre of the portico ceiling fell to the ground. The NT set about replacing this and approached the firm "descended" from Joseph Rose & Co, the original makers of the rose in the 1760s to see if a replica could be created from photos. The company responded that they had the original mould as it was only 230 years ago. I now feel vindicated for keeping things on the chance they might be needed in the future.



# Sir Thomas Gresham and Osterley Park House

## Margaret Friday

This article was inspired by the excellent full-length portrait of Sir Thomas Gresham currently in the National Portrait Gallery while The Mercers' Hall is being renovated. See next page. At the time, full portraits for those who were not royal were exceptional but it was commissioned by his father Sir Richard Gresham, according to some accounts, from Hans Holbein.

The portrait bears Gresham's merchant mark for the Mercers' Company and his motto: Love, Serve, Obei with his initials TG. His new wife Anne' initials AG appear above the motto. It was painted on his marriage to the widow Anne Ferneley Reade.

The elderly Sir William Reade was a good friend of Thomas's father, Richard, who sent him to help Reade in his last illness. There he met the young and comely Anne. Reade suggested to Richard Gresham and to Anne that Thomas would be a very suitable match. Anne agreed and they were married less than a year after William's death. The wedding in 1544, paid for by Sir Richard, was exceptionally grand. Thomas had an enamelled and bejewelled double interlocking wedding ring made for Anne with a pair of hidden golden cupids within, only revealed when a spring let the bands fly apart. It was engraved in Latin 'Whom God has joined, Man cannot separate'. It can still be seen at Titsey House in Surrey.

Although Gresham was only twenty-six years old he had already studied at Gonville College, Cambridge and served an eight-year apprenticeship as a Merchant Adventurer. In 1543 he studied law in Gray's Inn and began working with the money market in Flanders. He became friends with William Cecil. In 1550 he became Royal Merchant to Edward VI and moved, with his wife, to Antwerp. Here he helped reverse the national debt by increasing the value of the pound at the trading market in Antwerp. His son Richard was born and in 1553 his mistress gave birth to a daughter Anne who was brought up with Richard by Thomas' wife in Gresham's home. When Mary I became queen, Thomas was dismissed but then asked to return, because of his monetary abilities, to help solve the national debt problem again. After Queen Mary died in 1558, Thomas was knighted by Elizabeth I and made Royal Agent and Ambassador in the Netherlands.





Once again in Antwerp, Gresham was involved in an accident in 1560 when his horse was alarmed by a shot, threw him and fell on him severely breaking his leg. He was with his close friend and assistant Richard Clough who worked with him in Europe. It took a year for Gresham to recover, thereafter he always walked with a limp. Some believed this was an failed assassination attempt.

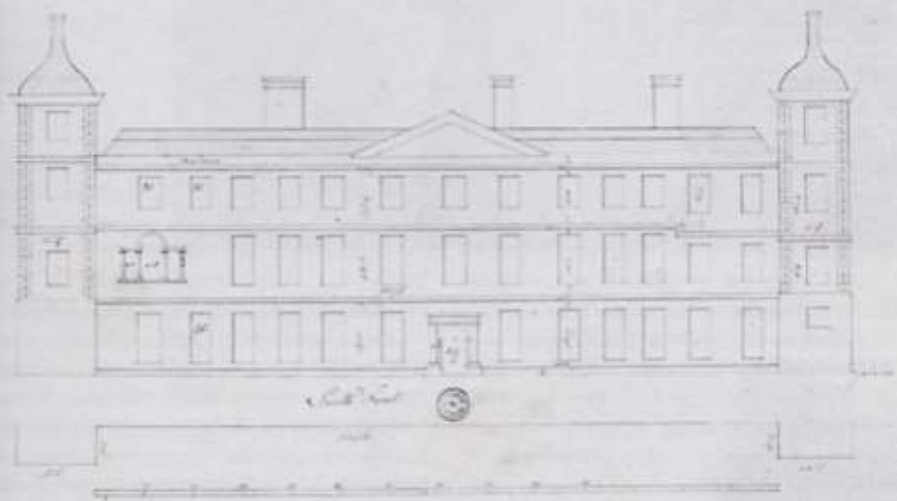
Returning to London in 1561, Gresham House was begun and he wrote an economic plan for Queen Elizabeth 1. He oversaw the making of new coinage for England, which with currency reform, restored solvency and faith in merchants and trade. Due to Gresham's care Elizabeth was renowned for paying her foreign debts in full and on time. She had also bought munitions (imported via Gresham described as black velvet for her majesty's gowns) and kept the navy strong with Gresham's help.

In 1564 Gresham's only son Richard died.

Gresham had the idea of building a bourse in London where merchants could trade. Gresham was familiar with these trading centres in major towns across Europe but in London merchants met on a street corner in the city. Gresham promised the Queen and the Mercers' Company that he would build one at his own expense. He brought Hendryck van Paesschen, a Flemish architect, to London to build a bourse based on those in Venice and Antwerp. The Exchange was built with many imported items. Both Clough and Hendryck had ships sent from Antwerp, Amsterdam and Hamburg with fine building materials including roof slates and marble. The wood came from trees owned by Gresham in Norfolk. At Gresham's request columns were to be plain - not fluted or carved. Statues of kings and queens of England were to grace the building. The principle statue of Elizabeth I was sculpted in Antwerp but Gresham sent examples of completed statues to Clough so that Elizabeth's statue would be similar but much more finely made. On this newsletter cover see the drawing of the completed bourse with the plain columns and the golden grasshopper on the tower representing Sir Thomas Gresham. Now look in the next page at the drawing of Osterley house before Robert Adam began work on it. The house entrance in the drawing is today placed on the Stable Block.



*South Front of a House for Thomas Child Esq at Osterley Park. 1760*



*An anonymous survey of the south front, made about 1760, before Adam took over (Sir John Soane's Museum)*



Osterley Stableyard

See the photograph of this entrance whilst still painted white. Note that the straight columns and thick wooden door can also be seen in the picture of the Royal Exchange. After Gresham purchased the Manor of Heston, perhaps Hendryck also contributed to the plans for Osterley House, built from the 1560s and described at the time as a "faire and stately building" fit for a prince

Elizabeth I visited Osterley on several occasions. Thomas Fuller tells us that on her first visit she declared the courtyard was too big declaring " it would appear more handsome if divided with a wall down the middle" so Gresham called in bricklayers from London and had a wall built across it during the night. The Queen was very pleased with the size in the morning. Courtiers claimed it was "no wonder he could so soon change a building who could build a 'Change" while others commented on Gresham's marriage at the time that a house is easier divided than united.



The wall under the Osterley long gallery, as this picture shows, is Elizabethan brickwork. The stable block is also built in the smaller Tudor bricks. Gresham constructed the first paper mill in England along with oil and corn mills at Osterley. He introduced the herons which can still be seen on the lakes today. Hendryck van Paesschen also worked for Thomas Gresham's good friend Sir William Cecil at Burghley House in Lincolnshire.

We know that Queen Elizabeth dined at Gresham House in the City and we have seen the splendid tablecloth with portraits of Gresham and Elizabeth woven into the cloth which were used on that occasion in 23rd January 1571. After dining, the Queen also visited the new bourse and upon opening it announced through her chief herald "The bourse is henceforth, by command of Her Most Gracious Majesty, the Queen Elizabeth, proclaimed the Royal Exchange of England, to be henceforth so designated and called, and not otherwise."

This bourse was the first shopping centre in London with an open court surrounded by a colonnade for trading in stocks and shares on the ground floor.

On the terrace above were more than 100 shops selling a great variety of products. Gresham returned their rent for the year before Elizabeth's visit to encourage the number of shops which the Queen could explore on her visit. Elizabeth was delighted. Rent from the shops increased Gresham's income even more.

Later portraits by Antonio Moro of Gresham and his wife Anne hang in the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam. We saw copies of these on our visit to Gresham College last year. The artist who painted the other Gresham portrait in the National Portrait Gallery is not known.

We plan to visit St. Helen's Church containing Gresham Chapel where Gresham was buried in in 1579 next to his son Richard and joined by his wife in 1596.

It was a fine funeral costing £800 with 200 poor men and women in black gowns (at Gresham's expense) following the cortege. His helmet was carried on a silk cushion and placed on the bier. Knights of the realm were present. Elizabeth I cried when she heard of her advisor's death and sent her king of arms and heralds to the funeral.

Gresham is called the most generous philanthropist in the Elizabethan age. Not only did he build the Royal Exchange but also almshouses and supported Christ's Hospital, and the other hospitals in London, but his greatest contribution was leaving his house to become Gresham College after his wife's death and funding it so that there could be free Gresham lectures every day.

There were seven lecturers and each offered a lecture on one day of the week. The subjects were astronomy, divinity, geometry, law, medicine, music and rhetoric and the lecturers were to receive £50 per year and live and work in Gresham House renamed Gresham College. The funds were to come from the rent for the shops in the Royal Exchange.

These free Gresham lectures still continue today supported by Gresham College.



# 2018 Friends Holiday Douglas Craik Liverpool 9<sup>th</sup> — 14<sup>th</sup> August 2018 £520

## Book by 31st January 2018

**Thursday 9/8/18** Meet at Euston Station at 10:30 (to be confirmed)



On arrival at Liverpool at about 14:00 take coach to Speke Hall manor house for visit and eating opportunity It is still a Tudor courtyard property so we will see what Osterley may have looked like in

the 16<sup>th</sup> century (although on a smaller scale). Then to the university accommodation.

**Friday 10/8/18** Coach to the Albert Docks and go to the Beatles



Story, a journey through the lives, times, culture and music of The Beatles. No doubt some will linger longer than others but once finished each can take



open top bus tour of the city (bus runs every 20 minutes) returning to the docks. You are then free to visit the many restaurants around the docks and the Liverpool Museum, the Maritime Museum (including sections on the Lusitania and the Titanic) and the Tate. All are free entry except for any special

exhibition. A 50 minute river tour boat sails from the Pier Head in the docks, as does the “Ferry Cross the Mersey” but only between 17:00 and 18:30.

On the tour bus route near Queens Square bus station are the Walker Gallery, Library (an amalgam of 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century interior) and St George’s Hall (all are free entry), elsewhere the 1960s Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral (R.C.), the Williamson Tunnels (a rather specialist attraction) and other areas of interest are on the route. Don’t visit the World Museum or Liverpool Cathedral as we will be going to these as a group later in the holiday.

Make your own way back to the University (see “Travel” below)

**Saturday 11/8/17** First we will visit Liverpool Cathedral, Britain’s



largest cathedral. Most of us will have a one hour guided tour but for the intrepid (and very fit) there is the alternative of the a trip to the top of the cathedral tower 152m (500ft) above sea level, two lifts and 108

steps (equal to 5 flights of stairs) Please indicate on the booking form if you want to tackle this. We then leave England and visit Wales.



Chirk Castle was completed in 1310 during the reign of the conquering Edward I to subdue the last princes of Wales. With over 700 years of history, and as the last castle from this period still lived in today, Chirk Castle's many occupants

have left behind lavish interiors including a 17th-century Long Gallery, grand 18th-century saloon with rich tapestries, servants' hall, and the restored East Range, containing the library and 1920s style Bow Room showing off Chirk Castle's connections to high society..

**Sunday 12/8/17** Only one property today, but a big one,



Quarry Bank Mill which was featured in the NT Autumn magazine. We will have a guided tour of this cotton mill, built in 1784. The clattering and whirring of the heritage machinery and steam engines make an astonishing noise. We will explore the progression of the cotton industry from the mediaeval era through to the 19th century.

To see the contrasting society of the 19<sup>th</sup> century we visit Quarry Bank House near the mill where the owner Samuel Greg lived and have a guided tour of the Apprentice House which housed the pauper children who worked in the mill and learn about their working and home lives. We will visit the adjacent mill workers village of Styal where No.13 Oak Cottages retains its original features and decoration. Finally, we can visit the stunning gardens, and explore the newly restored curvilinear glasshouse. Part of this property is 150 feet above the mill so plenty of exercise opportunities, but they have 4 buggys (two 4 seat and two 6 seat) – not as grand as ours but very useful for those less active.



**Monday 13/8/17** Coach to Dunham Massey, an 18<sup>th</sup> century building like our “modernised” Osterley but with a less impressive frontage. There were significant alterations and extensions made in the the early 20th century but the furnishings are generally Victorian.



After lunch, we go to Rufford Old Hall. This is a Tudor manor house with extensions in 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries in a bit of an ad hoc way rather than the comprehensive renewal we

usually see. The surviving main hall has a magnificent carved screen and incorporates element of 15<sup>th</sup> century religious buildings obtained following Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries.

**Tuesday 21/8/17** After breakfast and checking out we take the coach to the World Museum to see the Terracotta warriors. This exhibition will be the first time in more than 10 years that these spectacular warriors from the tomb of China's First Emperor, Qin Shihuangdi, have been brought to the UK.



Currently the staff have no idea where in the museum it will be located, how much it will cost, whether it will be timed entry or how it can be booked. But I am sure it will be alright on the night! After some free time in the city centre we return by train arriving about 16:00 TBC.

### **General**

**Cost.** £520 including all tours and trips.

**Accommodation** Our accommodation is at the Gerald Manley Hopkins campus of the Liverpool Hope University with the usual en-suite student rooms in groups of 5-7 with a communal room with a fridge, freezer, kettle, microwave and TV. This is a small campus for 1,000 students and the



modern accommodation is in a courtyard layout about the same size as Osterley House (so this time they can't move us about much as York and Plymouth did). The rooms are on up to 4 floors without a lift so please indicate on the booking form the highest floor you are happy to be on. The refectory is in a converted Victorian school and there is a delightful garden. Only entry to the campus is by a 24 hour manned gate lodge, Liverpool centre is a 5 minute bus ride away.

**Dinner** Liverpool, like York, has a minimum of 30 meals per night. If we have a low number of bookings then it may not be possible to give the usual £15 reduction for all meals not taken, if so I will give a proportional reduction to those requesting this.

**Shops** About 6-7 minutes walk to a row of shops, open 6am-11pm.

**Travel to/from the city centre/docks** There are many public bus routes about 6-7 minutes walk away. These go to the edge of the city centre (Queens Square Bus Station) or between the docks and town centre (Liverpool One Bus Station). Freedom passes and equivalent give free travel on buses from 9:30 (Monday-Friday) and all day Saturday and Sunday, otherwise fare is currently £2.30

**Booking** See attached form, please indicate all option/choices.

There are no reduced payments for HHA, English Heritage or National Art Pass at any of our booked visits



## Diary Friends Events and Excursions

Tue 14 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>Coffee Morning:</b> In the Tudor Kitchen: Virginia Fassnidge
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec <b>NEW DATE</b>	<b>Coffee Morning:</b> Jeremy Dalton Head Ranger 100 Club draw
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<b>Christmas Lunch</b>
Thu 18 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>Coffee Morning:</b>
Tue 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>Coffee Morning:</b>
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> Mar	<b>Coffee Morning:</b> 100 Club draw
Tue 3 <sup>rd</sup> Apr	<b>Coach Trip:</b> Highclere Castle
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Apr	<b>Coffee Morning:</b>
Apr	<b>London Visit</b>
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>AGM 17:00</b> 100 Club draw
Tue 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	<b>Coffee Morning:</b>
May	<b>Coach Trip:</b> Buscot Park
May	<b>London Visit</b>
Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> Jun	<b>Coffee Morning:</b>
Jun	<b>Coach Trip:</b> Baddesley Clinton & Packwood House
Jun	<b>London Visit</b>
Thu 19 <sup>th</sup> Jul	<b>Coffee Morning:</b>
Jul	<b>Coach Trip:</b> Stonor Park
Thu 9-14 <sup>th</sup> Aug	<b>Liverpool holiday</b>
Wed 29 <sup>th</sup> Aug	<b>Coffee Morning:</b>
Sept	<b>Coach Trip:</b> Scotney Castle
Sept	<b>London Visit</b>
Tue 11 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>Autumn Reception</b> 100 Club draw
Thu 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>Coffee Morning:</b>
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<b>Coffee Morning:</b>
Oct	<b>Coach Trip:</b> Fort Nelson & Portsmouth Museum
Oct	<b>London Visit</b>
Tue 13 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>Coffee Morning:</b>
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<b>Coffee Morning:</b> 100 Club draw

**Coach Trips** depart from Lakeside Car park at 09:00 or 09:30 and Bus Stop opposite Osterley Station at 09:00 or 09:30 **sharp**.

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

<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 mikedoran47@outlook.com

## **Next newsletter**

to be published 14 January 2018.  
Any contributions to the Editor by  
**30th December 2017.**

The Editor may edit contributions if necessary.

### **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 the 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**

**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

**Friends of Osterley**

Sort code

**20 02 06**

Account number

**70389315**

Your Reference

**Trips/your name**

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