



The Friends of Osterley Park

• NEWSLETTER •

Issue 4

Sept. 1991

FRIENDS DONATE BATRICARS FOR DISABLED VISITORS

Following a unanimous decision by your committee, The Friends have made their first major donation to the National Trust: two battery-driven invalid cars for use by disabled visitors to Osterley Park. Dudley Foy, a committee member, together with the Trust's Administrator, Barry Williams, collected the cars at the end of August.

The two Batricars were purchased from the National Trust's Ashridge Estate. The total monies paid by the Friends was £1,000 – cash raised from subscriptions and fund-raising events held since FOOP was formed last year.

A handing-over ceremony will take place at Osterley Park on 17 September, to which the press are being invited.

Meanwhile, Barry and Dudley would like to hear from anyone who can help service the Batricars from time to time, or who is willing to be on a regular rota of volunteers available to instruct disabled visitors on how to operate them. Barry and Dudley can be contacted at the addresses shown on the back of this newsletter.

All being well, the Batricars will go into service immediately. More about this in our next issue.



A MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL TRUST'S REGIONAL DIRECTOR

I still find it hard to believe that the Trust's negotiations to assume full responsibility for the management of Osterley Park finally came to fruition on 1 January; since then much has been achieved. The negotiations were complicated and protracted, and Julian Prideaux, my predecessor who is now the

Trust's Chief Agent, and Ted Fawcett, who continues to act as Gardens Consultant at Osterley Park, played an influential part. Throughout that period, the Trust's staff were encouraged by the tremendous enthusiasm of the Ealing National Trust Association who also made substantial gifts in anticipation of the refurbishment which was needed. With the completion of the Trust's staff establishment at Osterley and the setting up of the Friends of Osterley, we look forward to a future full of opportunities whilst remaining conscious of the awesome responsibilities.

The Trust's acceptance of the gift of Osterley Park without an endowment by Lord Jersey in 1949 was made possible only by the granting of a 99 year lease to the Ministry of Public Works (which became part of the Department of Environment) which subsequently transferred its responsibilities to the Victoria & Albert Museum, Royal Parks Department and Property Services Agency whilst continuing to provide the funds required. As a result, the house, its collection and grounds were kept intact and a solid foundation created on which the future development of Osterley by the Trust can be built. We are grateful to the multitude of staff who worked for and at Osterley during its first 50 years in the Trust's ownership.

Inevitably, our first priority was to complete the recruitment of staff and we were fortunate that staff who have previously worked for the Trust in this region and for the Victoria & Albert Museum at Osterley Park were amongst those selected. Immediately, efforts were devoted to establishing working routines, the purchase of house-keeping equipment, a more detailed assessment of the fabric and services within the building and preparations for opening in April. Volunteers are a vital part in the arrangements for the care and presentation of most of the Trust's country houses, so with the help of the Friends, special emphasis was placed on the recruitment of volunteers as Room Stewards and to assist with a variety of other tasks.

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Profile

Ian Conacher, Membership Secretary of the Friends, was born in West London and has lived within a couple of miles of Osterley Park for over thirty years.

After service in the RAF, Ian read civil engineering at London University. He went on to spend six years with a consulting engineer (with a spell in pre-revolutionary Iran) followed by nearly 30 years in a major food processing company in charge of construction and machinery installation projects.

Since taking early retirement in 1986 Ian has extended his previous enthusiasms. He serves on scout executive committees at both group and district levels. A lifelong interest in railways (full-size and model) has led to chairmanship of the Twickenham & District Model Railway Club. He is on the committee of the Isleworth Probus Club and the Osterley & Wyke Green Residents Association.

And an abiding interest in history and industrial archeology led him eventually to join the Friends of Osterley Park.

Ian's acquaintance with Osterley Park began when he was courting his wife Audrey more than 35 years ago. Since then it has held a high place in the family's affections – for walking first the babies, then the dog and now the grandchildren, and for developing an interest in birdwatching.

But it seemed to Ian that intensive use for recreation in the 70s and 80s was causing progressive erosion of paths, plantations and wildlife habitats. This was the main reason why he was attracted by an invitation to join the committee of the Friends and to take on the job of Membership Secretary.

Ian would now like to see membership grow from its present level of about 330 into thousands! Already the Friends have been able to make worthwhile contributions to the National Trust's work at Osterley and a major increase in subscription income would really make some impact. Membership at this high level would also provide a wider base for our other activities – fund-raising and social events, and recruitment of more volunteers.

A larger membership would also help give the Friends an effective

voice in opposing any development which threatens the present status of the Park and its surroundings.

To achieve this growth in membership Ian would like all members to act as recruiters and persuade their friends and neighbours to join the Friends. Application forms are not essential – just send name, address and cheque for the minimum subscription of £5 per person, made out to The Friends of Osterley Park, to Ian Conacher (his address is on the back of this newsletter). A stamped addressed envelope 9" x 4¼" would be appreciated.

As a further inducement the Friends committee have agreed subscriptions renewed at 1 January 1992 will run until March 1993, to bring membership into line with the National Trust's summer season, and thereafter annually from 1 April each year.

The £5 subscription for new members joining after 1 October 1991 will cover them to 1 March 1993.

Ian looks forward to hearing from you!



VISITOR SURVEY

A summary of the visitor survey findings, presented to volunteers by Dr Elson at a reception at the end of July, has now been published.

The survey took place over 17 separate days from January to September 1990 and involved the systematic counting of vehicles and pedestrians. Over 2,000 interviews were conducted with selected groups.

It is estimated that some 330,000 'person visits' were made to Osterley Park in 1990. The number of visitors on an average weekday was estimated as 650 with approximately 1500 on Saturdays and 2000 on Sundays. There was an even pattern of visitor numbers over the year, with no major seasonal peak of use.

Osterley Park House had over 30,000 visitors during 1990, around 9 per cent of the total for the park. The main peak of visits was in the spring and summer period.

Some 80 per cent of visitors entered the park by the main South Avenue,

and 10 per cent from Norwood Green, over the motorway. The remainder arrived from the Wyke Green direction via Osterley Lane, or by the footpath crossing the South Drive near the shop.

Those interviewed made regular use of the park. Some 59 per cent claimed to visit once a week or more often. Only 11 per cent of those interviewed had not visited Osterley before.

What do visitors particularly like about Osterley Park?

In response to this question, visitors referred to the natural beauty of the site, including its countryside and 'green' associations. Key words mentioned included: scenery, peace, wildlife, fresh air, cleanliness and greenery.

Another main grouping saw the site as a place to pursue various activities. These include walking, cycling, horse riding, jogging and fishing. Family groups in particular used the site for picnics, playing with their children or feeding the ducks.

A smaller group instanced visiting the house or using the shop in the South Drive as main reasons for their visit.

Reactions to the visit suggested very strong support for retention of the character of the area. The site was regarded as a unique rural scene embedded in an urban area. Its countryside character is complemented by a feeling of size and spaciousness, leading to an impression of never becoming overcrowded. Visiting the site was said to create 'a feeling of being in the country.'

The major criticism by visitors related to the running of dogs off their leads, dogs swimming in the lakes and dog hygiene problems. The only reactions of respondents to the introduction of the dog free zone in front of the house were supportive – see article on page 5.

Note: This article is an extract from the Osterley Park Visitor Survey – Summary of Results published by The National Trust, Regional Office, Hughendon Manor, High Wycombe, Bucks HP14 4LA.



This article by James Yorke, Assistant Curator of the V & A's Furniture & Woodwork Collections, is reproduced with the kind permission of the author. It first appeared in Country Life in September 1989.

OSTERLEY BEFORE ADAM

HOW IT LOOKED IN THE 17th CENTURY by JAMES YORKE

Osterley Park, Middlesex, is famous for Robert Adam's interiors. Yet there was a substantial 17th-century mansion here before his arrival. Now, with the recent opening of the south-front basement, the visitor can see two panelled rooms installed by the colourful Dr Nicholas Barbon, who lived there from 1684 to 1698.

Unlike Ham House, across the river near Richmond, Osterley Park had no single family continually occupying the house until the banker Sir Francis Child, grandfather of Adam's client, acquired the house in 1711. For the architectural historian, the story of Osterley begins with a map of 1635 preserved at Syon House. Drawn by Moses Glover, it depicts the house built for Sir Thomas Gresham in about 1575. It shows a building with four towers, in a walled enclosure, with what roughly corresponds to the present stable block and walled kitchen to the right.

Twenty years after the map was executed, Sir William Waller, the Parliamentarian general, bought the property. He would seem to have settled down to a relatively quiet life, and died in 1668. An inventory was taken on December 14 of that year by, among others, the young Francis Child. Three storeys and 42 rooms are listed. The bedchambers are named, as one would expect, by the material on the bed, for example the "Blew Velvet Room" or "Red Damask Room".

Only for the "Blew Velvet" bed are curtains and a valance mentioned; the bedsteads in the "Maide's Chamber" are "half-headed" (half-testered). The "Black Embroyedered Velvet" bed lined with "clouded sarcenet", a transparent silk, must have been quite striking. There is plenty of seating, almost always *en suite* with bed clothes, but the furniture is otherwise somewhat sparse. "One black cabinet", possibly from Antwerp, standing in the "Matted Withdrawing Roome", was probably the most impressive item.

Waller seems to have liked tapestries, often described as "Landskipp", and they are to be found in most chambers. He concentrated his pictures in an otherwise sparsely

furnished long gallery: other than 24 pictures, it contained only a table and a pair of firedogs – there was therefore only one fireplace. The gallery is described as "painted" – perhaps with strapwork or grotesque decoration – but since no curtains are listed, we do not know how many windows it spanned.

A chapel is also mentioned. Just where it was we do not know – Adam made no plans for one – but it contained 17 chairs, two forms and a pulpit. A chamber was set aside for the chaplain.

A more colourful occupant was Dr Nicholas Barbon, a London property speculator who pioneered fire insurance and land-banks. He acquired the property early in 1684 for £9,000 and promptly raised a mortgage for £12,000, of which £5,000 was supplied by a Christopher Cratford, a trustee of Francis Child. Doubtless the money was to finance one of his many schemes.

His mixture of charm, ostentation and ruthlessness forced aside any householder who stood in the way. Roger North has left us with a vivid pen-portrait of Barbon in his autobiography: "It mattered not a litigious knave or two, if any such did stand out, for the first thing he did was to pull down their houses about their ears, and build upon their ground, and stand it out at law till their hearts ached, and at last they would truckle and take their terms for a quiet life."

North goes on: "I have seen this house in a morning like a court crowded with (*him*) coming down at his own time like a magnifico, in *deshabille*, and so discourse with them." The house mentioned was probably his London residence in Crane Court, near Fleet Street.

In 1690 Barbon's sharp dealing led to a writ of possession being taken out on Osterley by Roger Jackson. It had little success, for Jackson found that Barbon "had pulled down part of Osterley dwelling house and was making considerable alterations to the house which was not fit to be inhabited unless Barbon went on to finish". Barbon managed to hold on to Osterley, and died there in 1698,

ordering his properties to be sold off to pay debts.

An undated surveyor's drawing of the "South Front of a House for Francis Child" gives us some idea of the appearance of Barbon's house.

Various alterations had been made since his time, such as the Venetian windows at the left end of the first storey, added between 1756 and 1759, and possibly the pediment. The right tower is shown a foot narrower than the left, although today it is the same width.

Inside the building, the long gallery is linked to the basement by what might be thought to be a late-17th-century staircase, had not Matthew Hillyard's carpentry bill of 1756-59 mentioned its "pendants, square cap'd newells and twisted balusters", of which 48 are described as "old". There are a few mentions of other old material, such as 672ft of bolection moulding and 103ft of cedar moulding.

The first panelled room in the sequence is almost certainly the steward's room mentioned in a 1782 inventory. The symmetrically arranged panelling has close parallels with rooms in 32-34 Essex Street, London, one of the few surviving interiors that can be associated with Barbon. The contours of the bolection moulding, the use of narrow strips in the corners and the proportions of the upper and lower tiers are very similar in both cases, although unlike the Essex Street rooms the steward's room panels are not painted.

The second room has a more botched-up appearance. Its position corresponds with the entrance shown in the drawing of the south front. When Adam had that entrance blocked up in the 1760s, this room would have lost its use as a minor hall or lobby. While one can imagine Robert Child preserving the first room as a good example of panelling, one cannot see him tolerating the hotch-potch of the second, which may suggest that it was fitted up at a later date. Certainly the area around the fireplace and the fittings concealed behind would seem to date from after his time. It is not, however, mentioned in repair accounts of 1870 or 1871 or in an 1884 schedule of damages.

Nonetheless, both these rooms give us some idea of the appearance of the house's interior in Barbon's day. Furthermore, the 17th-century layout remains in the enfilades used in the

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(Continued)

state apartments and upper and lower floors.

Soon after Dr Barbon's death, this advertisement appeared in *The Postman*: "At Osterley Park, near Branford, on Wednesday, the 17th inst. sept. will be exposed all sorts of Household Goods, viz. linen beds of several sorts of bedding, fine tapestry, hangings, looking glasses, tables, cabinets, cane chairs, also pewter, brass and copper brewing vessels, a parcel of orange trees & co. with a very good collection of pictures."

It is much to be regretted that no portrait of this flamboyant character, presumably included among them, has survived. However, the opening to the public of the basement rooms on the south front of Osterley allows the visitor to experience something of the house that Barbon knew.



In the first of two articles written specially for The Friends of Osterley, Peter Thornton, Curator of Sir John Soane's Museum, writes about. . .

INSIDE OSTERLEY IN THE 1960s AND 1970s

It was my happy lot to look after the inside of Osterley from 1966 to 1984, during which time I was Keeper of Furniture at the Victoria and Albert Museum with responsibility for the contents of Osterley and Ham House. The contents belonged to the Museum, as they still do.

At first it was merely a question of seeing that the things were safe, and of moving furniture around a bit in order to make the place look "lived in". This was the aim in those days, when owners of historic houses often used to tell me that the building they occupied was their home, stressing emphatically that it was "not a museum".

What they had in mind, of course, were the many ancient houses being run by local councils and the like, and which did indeed look dreadfully institutional and unfriendly. We rather agreed with the owners and we happily busied ourselves making the rooms at Osterley look cosy.

Although it was a bit bare, Osterley otherwise looked very much like any other house that was open to the public on a regular basis. In fact, every house in the country was

presented with this same basic notion in mind, and of course, they all came to look alike.

The reason was that the image of the English country house has been crystallised, as it were, through being photographed in the early decades of this century for magazines like *Country Life* and the books of Avray Tipping. That set the pattern; that was how old houses were supposed to look. It was not realised that this "look" was that of the Edwardian period – watered-down Victorian, with the furniture still scattered about the room but with the heavy Victorian load of ornaments somewhat thinned out. This was alright if you were presenting a house in its "1910 guise" but it made it difficult to appreciate what a Baroque house had looked like or how it functioned, and threw no greater light on the state of affairs in more recent periods – the Regency, for instance, or even quite late Victorian.

When the V & A (before my time) selected which items of furniture to retain at Osterley, they singled out items from the Adam phase but they did not set them out in an Adam manner. You may now think this strange as there would seem to be no point in having the Adam furniture (each piece specially designed for a specific location) if you did not arrange them in the Adam way. But this was not how people were thinking in the 1950s and 1960s – not in our country, at least. And, to be fair, the items of Adam furniture were then regarded as "antiques", of superb quality, and this in itself justified their retention. Each item was there for its own sake, not as part of a carefully created whole. House and contents were not seen as an entity and it did not occur to anyone that arranging tables and chairs (let alone pictures or candlesticks) was a matter of any consequence.

However, in the late-mid 1960s it began to dawn on us in the Victoria and Albert Museum that these things could matter, and this sprang from our having studied old illustrations of rooms in paintings, engravings, drawings and early photographs and noticing that the pattern of arrangement had not been the same through the centuries, and that the arrangement favoured in 1680 had been rather different from that required in 1750 and was quite different from that of 1820 – and that all were utterly unlike the look of

1910 caught by the *Country Life* photographers.

The result was that we began to look into how furniture had been arranged in Adam's day and, to the horror of many visitors (including many of our friends), we suddenly one day placed all the furniture at Osterley in the positions for which the various pieces were designed. Suddenly the floors were empty – but you saw the magnificent carpets well and the rooms came to look much grander. Moreover, the purpose of many items suddenly became apparent.

Later, as we came to understand much more about the question of "room arrangement" and how it had been different at each period because people's requirements had changed, we moved the furniture at Ham about on the same principles. We learned a great deal from these exercises so my department became for a while the chief source of information about this matter.

A few people saw the point when we first Adamised Osterley and thought it an interesting exercise, intellectually, but hardly anyone liked it. The main objection was that the rooms looked too empty to eyes adjusted to the 1910 norm. This was because there was no furniture standing in the middle of the floor, in a correct Adam arrangement. When, after a while, The National Trust began to present Adam rooms in a similar guise, they could not resist retaining a centre-piece comprising table with attendant chairs out in the middle of the room, such was the **horror vacui** of even the well-informed eye in the 1970s when this development was taking place. (There were still cardtables out in the centre of the Saloon at Saltram when I was last there but I believe these have now been removed so that the magnificence of the room may today be enjoyed without the eye being arrested by a flimsy piece of satinwood placed half way across the superb specially-designed carpet. The room is now a knock-out, as was originally intended.)

Today, most people involved in the presentation of historic house interiors approach their task in a very sophisticated manner because so much is now known about this question. It is, however, not widely recognised that this way of looking at such rooms was an invention of the 1960s and that it manifested itself for the first time at Osterley.

(Part II follows in our next issue.)

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To many of the Friends it may have seemed that the Trust was only interested in their voluntary support, but this merely reflects the immediate need and the short period of time in which the Trust had to prepare itself. In consultation with Sheila Chapman and her committee, the aims of the Friends have been very carefully defined and are fully endorsed by the Trust. We are very grateful for the interest and support – in all its forms – of local people and of others with a special affection for Osterley who live further afield. For many who are concerned about the future of Osterley and wish to be kept informed, membership of the Friends is sufficient itself; for others, it is the opportunity to attend lectures and events which bring Osterley to life or to help with fundraising to meet the cost of specific improvements and other projects. But some like to participate directly and we plan to increase the variety of tasks which volunteers may like to undertake. However, your support and interest, in whatever form it is manifested, is valid and valued by the Trust.

Quite apart from providing an opportunity to share in the Trust's daily work, volunteering plays an essential part in keeping operational expenditure to a minimum. This is important at Osterley because whilst the Trust received a handsome payment from the Department of Environment, it reflected only the capitalised value of the Department's maintenance and repair liabilities during the remaining part of the 99 year lease. No provision was made for new facilities and other improvements required to bring the care, protection (e.g. against fire and theft) and presentation of the property up to the standards now expected, as compared with those anticipated when the lease was first granted in 1949. Consequently, Osterley is not entirely self-supporting financially, as it would be if it had been newly acquired by the Trust with a full endowment. It means that new projects and further improvements will need to be programmed to suit the funds available each year. Recognising that this would be the case, the **Ealing National Trust Association** has already donated £24,000 raised from its splendid concerts and other events towards a Development Fund set up by the Trust.

Hoechst UK Ltd's sponsorship of ENTA's fund-raising concerts for the past eight years, as well as their sponsorship of other projects at Osterley – including, of course, this newsletter – has, of course, been invaluable.

Events are an important source of funds and have been a prominent feature at Osterley in recent years. In future it is hoped to make use of parts of the Stable Block and grounds.

The Trust is anxious that Osterley should be a 'flagship', i.e. represent the very best example of its work. This entails not only imaginative methods of presentation and use but also the highest standards of conservation and care of what is first and foremost a house and collection of outstanding importance. Consequently, the need to protect stone and wooden floor surfaces and fragile textiles and furniture, to maintain environmental controls and the loading on ancient floor structures and plaster ceilings beneath them is of fundamental importance. All these factors must be taken into account in determining future events. A policy is being devised and further information will be available later.

Osterley is beset with immense responsibilities, yet blessed with wonderful opportunities. These have to be reconciled and in my experience it is best not to rush. The more that can be learnt by the Trust's staff in these early stages about the character and behaviour of the building, its local community and their needs and expectations the better the final result will be. The Trust is devising a long term plan for the development of Osterley and we look forward to discussing its recommendations with others who care about the future of the property. It seems certain that education will be a major constituent and during 1991 preliminary discussions are being held with the LEA in Hounslow to establish what is needed most and how best Osterley can contribute. There is always the unexpected to cope with, and the collapse of ceiling plaster beneath the Portico and subsequent discovery that ceilings in the Drawing and Eating Rooms needed to be strengthened immediately served as an expensive and forceful reminder of this point!

The Trust's staff responsible for Osterley Park – both at the property

and at the Regional Office – join me in looking forward to a very friendly and worthwhile partnership, sharing with the Friends the burden of responsibility for one of London's most remarkable historic sites and the many opportunities which it offers. At any time, I hope that you will feel able to put your ideas and concerns, proposals and criticisms to Barry Williams, the Administrator at Osterley, or to write me or to contact the committee of the Friends who regularly meet the Trust's staff.

Robin Mills



Dog Toilets

A major criticism of dogs running about the park without their leads, swimming in the lakes and creating hygiene problems was revealed by the recent visitors' survey (Summary of Results on page 2).

Following a public meeting in April to discuss how to reconcile the interests of all visitors, the National Trust has introduced dog litter bins with the approval of dog owners.

To help keep the park clear of dog mess, owners are requested to put dog mess in the litter bins located at various points in the grounds.

Hoechst UK Ltd, who have a long history of supporting activities at Osterley Park, have agreed to sponsor some of the costs for setting up the scheme. Their donation of £350 will pay for 4 dog-litter bins and the printing of leaflets for dog owners.

Barry Williams is still looking for a sponsor to provide the £450 needed annually for the cost of emptying the bins. Barry can be contacted at the address shown on the back of this newsletter.

Other measures recommended by the public meeting to help reconcile the interests of various users of the park, in particular those of dog owners, people with children and those seeking quiet enjoyment, includes keeping dogs on leads in the main avenue, car park and other areas heavily used by visitors.

These measures were implemented in August.

A ban on dogs on the lawns in front of the house has been in existence for a year and has met with the approval of most visitors, including dog owners.





NEWS ROUND UP

SUCCESSFUL GET-TOGETHER

The reception for Friends held in the Hall in August was a great success. Over 100 Friends were able to be there and it was a good opportunity for people to get to know one another.

Ticket sales and raffle raised nearly £250 adding to the funds the Friends are raising for Osterley. In a talk, the National Trust's Regional Director, Robin Mills, outlined the Trust's plans and priorities for the property – you can read his message to the Friends on page 1.

Sheila Chapman, who organised the event, thanked Barry Williams and Jim, Pat and Simon Rumsey for their help. And the Tea room staff came in for very special praise and thanks from everyone: they provided an excellent buffet.

TEA ROOM - CHRISTMAS OPENING

And talking about the Tea room in the Stableyard: make a note that it will remain open for light lunches and teas, from 11am to 4pm on Saturdays and Sundays only, from 2nd November to 15th December.

REPAIRS CONTINUE

With work on the portico completed and repairs to the ceilings of the Eating Room and Drawing Room nearly finished you might think that building works at the property would come to an end. Far from it. Barry Williams and his staff have begun a very busy period which will continue well into next year. First on the agenda is work on the heating system, mainly in the basement with work beginning in September on the main wiring and fire alarm system.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

The National Trust's Regional Volunteers Co-ordinator, Barbara Phillips, is compiling a register of volunteers willing to lend a hand at special events held in other National Trust properties in the Thames & Chiltern Region.

This could include, for example, car marshalling, programme selling, room stewarding (if rooms are to be opened during an event) and so on.

With your name on her register, Barbara will be able to get in touch if additional help is needed somewhere. This could be an interesting opportunity to see other Trust properties in the area at closer hand.

If you are willing to be included on her list or would like more information, please complete and return the enclosed slip to Audrey Ebison (whose address is on the form) who will pass it on to Barbara.



GEORGE MELLY CONCERT

The concert by George Melly and John Chilton's Feetwarmers went ahead in the park, as advertised, despite torrential rain earlier in the evening. And in entertainment terms it was a great success! The organisation, which had been extremely hard work for the people involved (including the volunteers who manned the car parks, ticket and programme sellers etc) was excellent and the audience enjoyed a superb and memorable performance of traditional jazz.

Around 400 people attended, setting up their picnic tables regardless of the weather. Champagne corks popped all round the park! George Melly and his band gave a bravura performance to which the audience responded with a standing ovation.

Undoubtedly a number of people were put off by the weather which is a great shame. As a result, ticket sales were lower than expected which was disappointing.

Still, the same thing happened to Luciano Pavarotti . . .

In a letter to Sheila Chapman, Robin Mills – Regional Director of the National Trust – wrote: "I would be extremely grateful if, as Chairman of the Friends, you would kindly express the Trust's warmest congratulations and special thanks to Sonia Pearson and the rest of the Committee for their huge effort in putting on the concert and securing such a splendid personality for it."

The Friends also extended grateful thanks to the organisers: Sonia Pearson, Dudley Foy, John Latchford, Gillian Bennett and Scilla McLintock of the Friends and Barry Williams and his staff, for all their efforts.

Some useful addresses:

The Friends of Osterley Park:

Chairman

Mrs. Sheila Chapman, Feltrim, Packhorse Road, Gerrards Cross, Bucks. SL9 8HU
Tel: 0753 885414

Membership Secretary

Mr Ian Conacher, 45 Wood Lane, Isleworth, Middx. TW7 5EF
Tel: 081 560 8523

Newsletter

Mrs Scilla McLintock, 43 Fairfax Road, Teddington, Middx. TW11 9DA
Tel: 081-754 3145 (Office)

Events

Mr Dudley Foy, 31 Cranford Lane, Heston, Middx. TW5 9EP
Tel: 081-570 8900

The National Trust

The Administrator

Mr Barry Williams, Osterley Park House, Jersey Road, Isleworth, Middx. TW7 4RB
Tel: 081-560 3918

