

# The Friends of Osterley Park

A Supporters' Group for the National Trust

## **NEWSLETTER**

Issue 67 WINTER 2007 £1 (free to members)

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#### Great Stair (detail)

Osterley Park  
18th century

see article on page 14

Photo John Stacey

#### Printed by:

Colormax (West Ealing)  
020 8566 1155





## ADDING CAPACITY AT HEATHROW AIRPORT PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Many members living near Osterley, or under the flight-paths, will already be affected by the noise of aircraft movements, particularly during the night. Many of you will have received the "Summary of Proposals" from the Department of Transport, which includes the demolition of the village of Sipson and the abandonment of "Runway Alternation", and have been invited to register your views.

The National Trust, along with many other bodies, including the London Borough of Hounslow, is opposed to these changes. It is vital that every member also opposed to the plans register their views before the closing date of 27<sup>th</sup> February 2008; the greater the number of individuals expressing opposition, the greater the chance of defeating these plans.

If you have not received a copy of the "Summary of Proposals" but would like to find out more, your options are:

- the website <http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open/heathrowconsultation/>
- an exhibition – the following are taking place in the new year and may be convenient for you (others were taking place in December so before this newsletter is published)

Mon 14 Jan 10am-8pm Sheraton Heathrow Hotel Colnbrook  
Bypass Harmondsworth West Drayton Middlesex UB7 0HJ

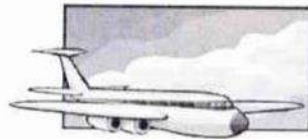
Wed 16 Jan 10am-8pm Holiday Inn Brentford High Street  
Brentford Middlesex TW8 8JZ

Fri 18 Jan 10am-8pm Adult Community College Parkshot Centre  
Parkshot Richmond TW9 2RE

You can obtain a response form from:

Heathrow Consultation  
PO Box 236 Wetherby LS23 7NB  
Tel: 0845 600 4170

Deadline for response: 27 February 2008



## from the Chairman Ian Conacher

Another year is drawing to its close - a year that has flown by. Where were the "lazy, hazy days of summer", the heat waves of our youth? True, we had a few very hot days, but no long spells of fine weather.

However, despite the weather, Osterley Park has flourished. The vista of the House and Stable block when seen across the lake as one walks from the car park is as breath-taking as ever.

The National Trust at Osterley has had a good year. The decision to develop the gardens north-west of the House has led to increases both in visitor numbers and in the income needed to maintain the property.

The "Friends" also have had a good year. We have welcomed a new Newsletter Editor, Wei Hei Kipling, and Douglas Craik (see *right*) has come forward to serve as Honorary Treasurer. Their arrival will greatly reduce the work load on the Chairman - although I will still have to produce the year-end accounts for 2007! Wei Hei has also taken on the organization of "London Visits", with, in 2008, group visits to exhibitions and sites connected with Robert Adam.



During the year, the "Friends" have made donations of £3,000 to Osterley. Membership is flourishing - now is a good time to persuade your friends and relations to join as a subscription of £6.00 will give 18 months membership to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009!

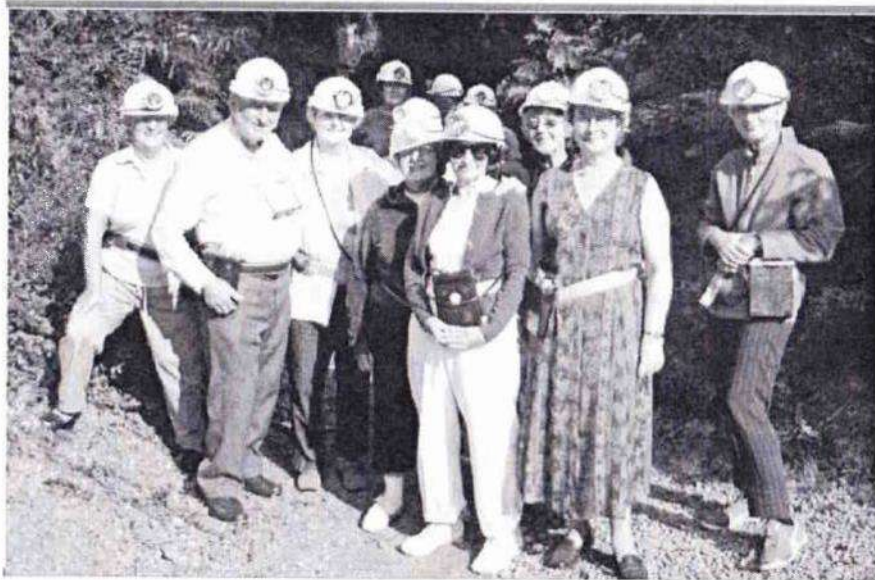
With this issue you will find Jim Tickle's introduction to his summer tour of the North West, including the Peak District. Early booking is advised! Jim has been running his trips and tours since 1993, and our thanks are due to him for all the hard work involved. My thanks are also due to all the Committee for their support during the year.

My best wishes to you all for Christmas and the New Year.



## By the pricking of my thumbs.. © John Stacey 2007

Maybe, the night before  
I'd read too late, or too long, the latest of J K's, *HP*  
But, disoriented, on that first morning  
of the Wales holiday, I was sure it was  
a Welsh Witch which woke me.  
Woke me with her spellbinding, crackling, cackling  
As I became aware, in that strange bed,  
in that strange room  
Nere a Witch at all – but a Gull  
-declaring her very Gullness  
her Welshness, to Cardiff in general  
and me in particular  
I'd often hear her through the week  
at a distance or close at hand  
but no terror, hex, or jinx,  
ever came my way, (I'm very glad to say)



"Friends" at Dolaucothi Mine

Photo: David Dodson

## Dolaucothi Mine

© John Stacey 2007

"That's fool's gold," he said  
swishing the water in the pan  
revealing yellowish nodules  
"But this is the real thing,"  
as he skimmed the water over  
the grey mud. There could be no doubt  
Different as sawdust to tinsel  
one lumpen, crude, pale  
the other, bright, nimble, full of life  
They'd found where the Romans  
had excavated, had their slaves peck and pick  
at the unforgiving rock – cleaned out a large cave  
Then left, the spoils sent to where all roads led  
To decorate some delicate neck on the Palentine  
In the quarryside, as thanks,  
they'd carved a likeness to the god.

So now we come  
Into the cold, made cold by the breeze over the  
cool, rust-red iron-oxide-rich streamlet  
and the dripping sides of the adit  
damp with grey, arsenic mud  
Helmeted, we've our lamps and batterypacks  
we are loud with chatter and questions  
But not so loud as the hammers and rods  
and the feeble gunpowder of yesteryear  
Ten tons of crushed rock yields  
only a sugar-cube nugget of gold  
Men and boys have worked in here for centuries  
driven by the glittering prize, and that delicate neck  
About fifty yards he took us – into another world  
gold is still there, but uneconomic to mine  
"That concludes your tour, if you turn round,  
there is light at the end of the tunnel"



## from the Property Staff changes

Those of you who have volunteered in the House will have met Sandeep Kumar (conservation cleaner and assistant in the House – *see right*). We said “goodbye” to him when he left in the autumn to return home to Delhi.



©NTPL/Matthew Antrobus

Welcome to Joanna Haines who started work as Assistant House Steward on Monday 8 October. Her post is a one year training post supported by NT central training and development team. Joanna has worked at Dunham Massey, Cheshire, as a Conservation Assistant, but was previously self-employed as a jeweller.

In the car park, Neil Henken has left and we say “hello” to Brian Bailey. He has previously been a volunteer warden at Osterley Park and has stepped in as a member of staff, to cover the Car Park a few days a week.

## London Voices



©NTPL/John Hammond

Previous reports and talks have focused more on the work of London Voices with children and families. Perhaps of more interest to some “Friends” in November was the presentation of the results of research into particular questions raised at the four NT properties of Osterley, Ham, Morden Park and Sutton House.

For Osterley, the topics were the emergence of the banking trade and the fortunes of Francis Child at Osterley; Osterley and the East India Company; and Chinoiserie (such as the Meissen plate – *see above*) at Osterley. A copy of the research is in the Volunteers’ tearoom.

## Putting the house to bed

Wei Hei Kipling

Do watch where you are walking!

During a “Putting the house to bed” tour in November, we were reminded that the floors of the house are the one feature of the house with which visitors have to make contact and so the feature which requires the most cleaning. If a floor is not kept clean, this will detract from the overall appearance of the room and, yet, the floor may be the feature which visitors notice least. Shirley Dave, one of the staff conservation cleaners, was the speaker for a session on cleaning the floors of the property. I was most intrigued by the amount of work which goes into maintaining the wooden floor in the Long Gallery (*see below*). Daily



©NTPL/Dennis Gilbert

maintenance involves removing fine dust and scuff marks using a paraffin and vinegar cloth – this does not polish the floor but simply removes dust. A vacuum cleaner is also used once a week. Polishing of the floor takes place once or twice a year. The trick here is to apply the polish discriminately so that there are no dark marks arising from a build-up of polish in any

area. Shirley takes into account the fact that polish is only removed from the floor by people’s shoes. Polish is therefore applied using lambswool to areas where people tread and then, when the polish has dried a little, spread a little into those areas where people do not tread (such as under the furniture). A floor polisher is then used to polish the floor – Shirley is very pleased with the new floor polisher that “Friends” helped to buy this year. In addition to Shirley’s talk, we were given a presentation in the Entrance Hall on “Caring for Collections” which told us a little of what goes on in the winter in NT properties. The NT focuses on

(Continued on page 8)



## Putting the House to Bed (Continued from page 7)

"preventive" conservation, i.e. preserving the historic integrity of an artefact rather than restoring it. With this approach, at best, the NT can only slow down the ageing process. The presentation considered "catastrophic" deterioration in which an artefact is lost through fire, flood or stolen; and then other agents of deterioration: physical (earthquakes, subsidence, breakages, wear-and-tear); chemical (pollution from aeroplanes going to Heathrow); and biological (mould, birds, bats and insects). A little "historic wear-and-tear" is often considered attractive or intriguing but often wear-and-tear is caused by visitor traffic depositing dust and dirt together with over-zealous contact cleaning.

After Shirley's talk, we were guided through the Drawing Room, Tapestry Room and State Bedroom before a demonstration of the cleaning of furniture and textiles in the Etruscan Room. There was also a demonstration of the cleaning of silver and ceramics in the kitchen. One important difference between the cleaning of ceramics and other objects is that ceramics are handled with bare hands rather than with gloves – the danger of a ceramic slipping in the gloved hand and breaking is too great.

I attended the "Putting the House to Bed" tour on Friday 2 November and so, as well as tea / coffee and biscuits before the tour, I had a wonderful three course meal with wine in the Stables tearoom afterwards. There were 31 of us on the tour and I think everyone enjoyed themselves,

*Due to filming and building work in the House, it was not possible for volunteers to take part in activities while the House was closed in November. The Property hopes to have a project in January or February 2008 which interested volunteers might like to be involved with.*



Bats are a protected species and so difficult to deal with.

## Christmas at Osterley

Wei Hei Kipling

We walked into the house at the family entrance: Christmas decorations at Osterley. The Great Stair was decorated with foliage and two garlands were arranged symmetrically around two of the columns on the principal floor.



In the stairwell, hung a kissing bough (see left), a symbol of blessing upon a house intended to be hung just inside the threshold of the house – a custom which started in the 15th century. The kissing bough was formed of a hoop of greenery.

Traditionally, there would be a small effigy of the Christchild or the Holy Family inside and the bough would be blessed by the local priest. Anyone who called on the house showed that they brought goodwill with them by symbolically embracing under the kissing bough. The kissing bough included mistletoe and the embrace became a kiss – hence the tradition of kissing under the mistletoe.

One treat was the Breakfast Room arranged as if for a music recital. Sarah's harpsichord was open so that you could see the marquetry inside. Other signs of musical amusement were the portable organ in the Entrance Hall and instruments and furniture arranged for a small music group at the south end of the Long Gallery ready for a festive ball. Another treat was a table set for dinner in the Eating Room with a wonderful table decoration including greenery and fruit topped by a whole pineapple. Many of the fireplaces and mantelpieces were decorated with foliage arrangements.

The presence of Christmas trees in the Long Gallery and

*(Continued on page 10)*



(Continued from page 9)

Entrance Hall might raise an eyebrow as the Christmas tree was not introduced to England until the 1790s and was popularised by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. Still, the tree decorations looked suitably historic with slices of dried fruit (such as oranges) and handmade paper hearts. Candles flickered on the trees and the Library mantelpiece (although the power source might be electric!).

The interpretation of what we saw was assisted by room stewards and also by two people in costume, the lady of the house in the Long Gallery and a cook busy at work in the kitchen. When we arrived in the kitchen, the cook was busy making fine sausages. On the table was also a mixing bowl with ingredients for a plum or Christmas pudding and visitors were invited to "stir" the mixture. Around the kitchen were plates of Christmas goodies: gingerbread and mince pies and, also, recipe leaflets for those who wanted to have a go themselves.



We went to Osterley on Saturday 1 December, the first day the House was open for Christmas and enjoyed refreshments before and after our visit at the Stables tearoom. With the combination of a lovely sunny day, the House being open, a craft fair in the Jersey Galleries and an exhibition in the Garden Gallery, the tearoom was very busy (by the end of the afternoon, they had sold the food prepared for the whole weekend and would have to start again to prepare food for the Sunday!)

Thanks must go to the volunteer flower arrangers who prepared many of the foliage displays and to the house staff who did the rest. Particular mention of Linda Custin who made the kissing bough and Alan Rideout who went up the ladder to arrange the garlands symmetrically around the columns.

## from the 100 Club

Ron Piper

The second draw for the current competition was made at the "Friends" Autumn Reception on Wednesday 24 October 2007 and the winners were as follows:

£100	84	Mrs B A Cunningham
£ 45	14	Dr P & Mrs M Bush
£ 20	153	Mrs E A Griffith
£ 10	83	Mrs S Haisman
£ 5	163	Mr D & Mrs K Blackett

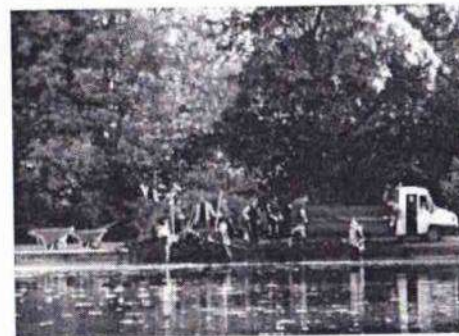


The third draw was scheduled to be held at the Volunteers' Christmas Party on Tuesday 11 December 2007 and details of the winners will be published in the next Newsletter.

The final draw of the current competition will be held at the Winter Event on Thursday 6 March 2008 and a new competition will start on 1 April 2008

The 100 Club was started in January 1989. The basis of the Club is that members purchase shares at £12 per annum each. A number is allocated to each share which goes into a draw four times a year. Half the subscriptions form the prize fund and the other half is used by the "Friends" to fund projects which benefit Osterley.

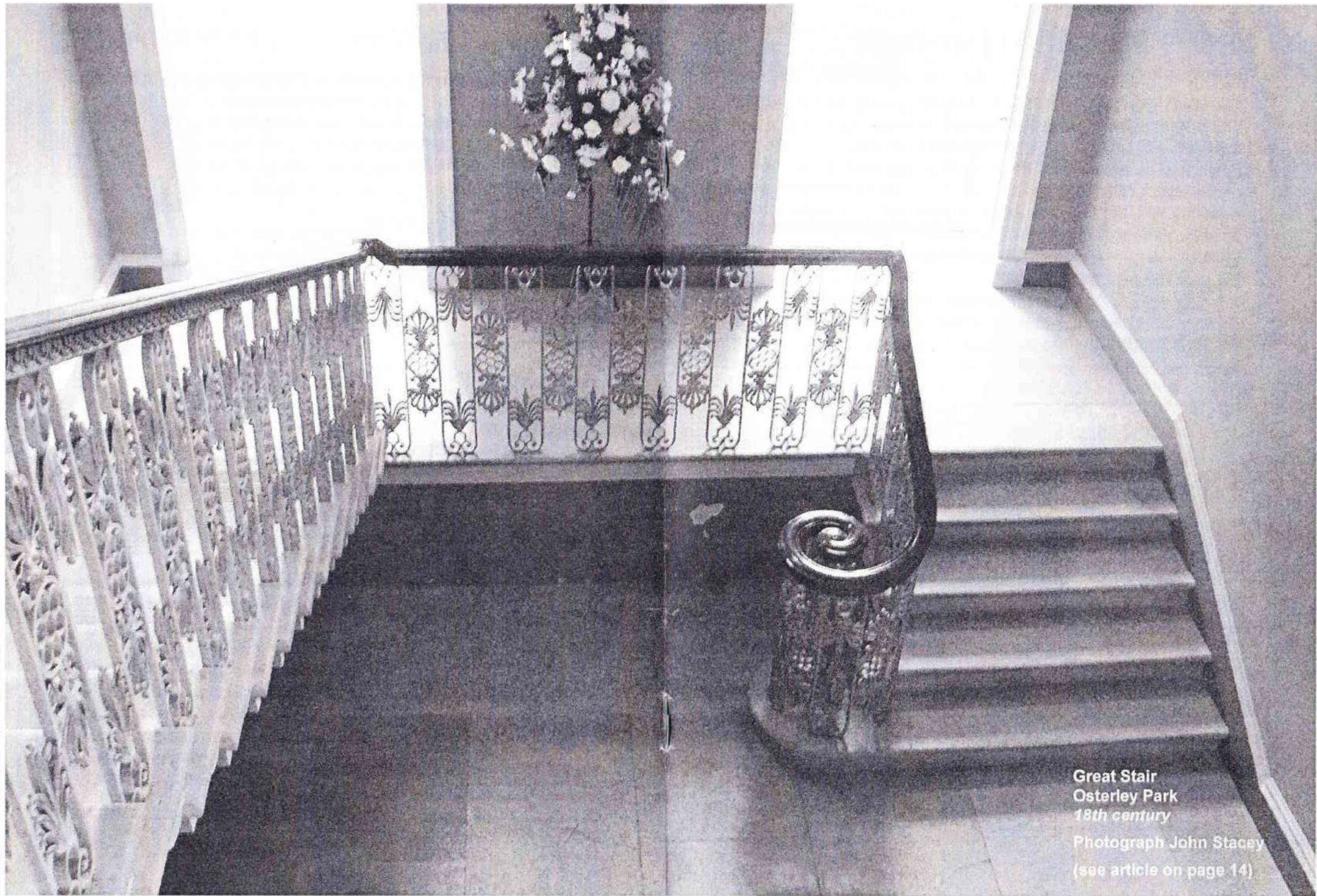
Please note that the 100 Club is a private lottery and shares can only be allocated to paid up members of the "Friends".



### Dredging the lake

Leaves from the overhanging trees have fallen into the lake and bread given to the birds adds to the high level of nutrients. The leaves are removed from the lake, allowed to dry and then taken away in a truck.





Great Stair  
Osterley Park  
18th century

Photograph John Stacey  
(see article on page 14)



## The Great Stair at Osterley

(see photographs on cover and page 12)

Margaret Friday

The elegant cantilevered stair at Osterley is designed to please and delight. It leads from the ground floor to the piano nobile and then to the floor containing the bedrooms and dressing rooms for family and guests. Above the grand stair was the Rubens portrait of the Duke of Buckingham purchased by Francis Child, the founder of Child's Bank on a visit to Amsterdam in 1697. The Adam decorations for the plasterwork to surround the painting were made in 1768.

... designed to  
please and delight

The first designs for the staircase were probably made in 1765 showing the Corinthian columns of the main floor and the Ionic columns above with the stucco wall decorations. The ewers and vases are symbolic representations of the welcoming hospitality offered to guests at Osterley.



Photo: English Heritage

The Adam staircase at Kenwood (see left) is similar in some ways but the stairs appear to be wood rather than stone and are not cantilevered. The Kenwood balusters (see detail right) were made in 1769 of two metals - the anthemion was cast brass and the central design was wrought iron. By 1817 they are described as gilt and bronzed. Adam changed his plans



Photo: English Heritage

for the Kenwood stair dramatically when Lord Mansfield decided to feature the antechamber and the library on the ground floor instead of using the first floor for entertaining.

Adam was at work on Osterley before he began the conversion of Kenwood for the judge, Lord Mansfield, in 1764. The stunning Adam plaster ceiling for the Kenwood "Great stair" of 1767 was removed in 1796 when the house was extended. The Osterley staircase remains as a tribute to the genius of Robert Adam.



detail from cover photo

At Osterley the Vitruvian scrolls on the mahogany banister (see left) also feature in the staircase wall mouldings and decorate the library shelves next door.

The honeysuckle and marigold in the balusters continue a theme which recurs throughout the house. The "fair blue" colour was added to the ironwork in 1773 declaring to every visitor that the Child's were extremely wealthy for the colour was made from gound lapis lazuli - a semi precious stone. The walls of both the dressing rooms in the Childs' family suite are painted in this same rich colour.

The position of the staircase poses many questions. We do not know where the staircase was in Thomas Gresham's house or if Nicholas Barbon changed its location. The first Adam drawings for Osterley, made in 1761, show the staircase in its present position. It does not appear to be a main

Where was the  
staircase in  
Gresham's house?



feature within the house if the grand entrance through the colonnade is used; however guests arriving in a carriage would enter from the covered door on the north side (see left) of the house to be ushered up to the principal floor via this exquisite stair embellished by Robert Adam, lit by Matthew Boulton's elegant

oil lamps and finished with a glorious Rubens ceiling painting of the Duke of Buckingham being escorted by Minerva and Mercury. The eighteenth century ambience is so complete that one can almost hear the rustle of silk gowns as the ladies come down to dinner.

If you have not visited Osterley recently we hope that John's marvellous pictures will inspire you to drop in for another look at the Robert Adam masterpiece during the Christmas open house.

(Editor's notes: See the photograph of the Christmas kissing bough in the stairwell on page 9. See page 21 for details of a London Visit including Kenwood in March 2008. )

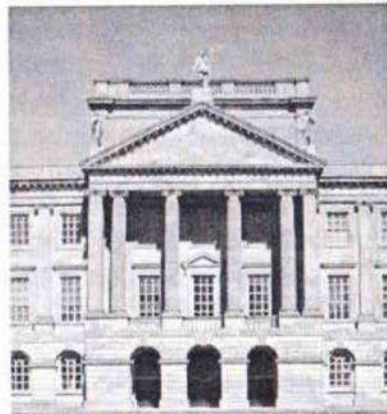


## Excursions 2008

Jim Tickle

For our excursion programme for the new year, we will – in at least one major respect – be venturing into the unknown; sadly, as reported in our last Newsletter, Barrie Pyle, our driver for the last fourteen years, is retiring, – though he hopes to join us from time to time as a fellow passenger. On Barrie's recommendation, Graeme McCormick, one of his friends, has agreed to take over the driving seat, and plans for our annual six-day break are finally taking shape.

From Monday 8<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September, I propose a tour of parts of Cheshire and the Peak District based on half-board accommodation in single, en-suite rooms at Manchester University's Fallowfield Campus, three miles south of the city.



©NTPL/Matthew Antrobus



©NTPL/Nadia Mackenzie

We will therefore be ideally placed to choose from visits to several National Trust properties including Lyme Park (*see above*), Dunham Massey (*see left*), Little Moreton Hall, Quarry Bank Mill & the Styal Estate, Tatton Park and Biddulph Grange Gardens. Travelling eastward, we can also experience the delights of the beautiful Peak District National Park and the lovely, historic spa towns of Buxton, Bakewell and Matlock, where you may choose to glide in an alpine cable car to the spectacular Heights of Abraham or take a ride to High

## Excursions 2008



Photo: Ashley Dace  
www.picturesofengland.com

Peak on the steam train mountain railway (*see left*). And close by is the Duke of Devonshire's opulent country seat, Chatsworth.

Inevitably, costs continue to rise and the accommodation charges at Manchester University represent a £10 per person per day increase on the amount we paid this year at Cardiff University. Despite the fact that the coach bill will be a little less than this year, since Graeme owns his own 48-seater coach and doesn't need to hire from Westbus, the total cost of our holiday will be in the region of £365. Even this price depends on our ability to fill the coach.

The University requires a deposit of £60 per head by mid-January, so to secure your place I will need to receive your completed booking form, deposit and a stamped, addressed envelope please, by Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> January. Should numbers prove insufficient, I will sadly find it necessary to abandon the plans and return all deposits.

Turning to the New Season's day trips, also with our new chauffeur, Graeme, at the wheel, you will find enclosed with this Newsletter the Booking Form for our first outing of the year on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> April. This should be a very welcome 'double-visit' to two Trust Properties that we first visited in May, 1995 – **Baddesley Clinton** (NT Handbook p.241) and **Packwood** (p.259). Situated quite close to one another just off the M40 south of Birmingham the two are related in time, but with sharply contrasting history.

Baddesley Clinton is a romantic, moated 15<sup>th</sup> century manor house, the home of the Ferrers family from the early 16<sup>th</sup> century until 1939. The Elizabethan antiquary, Henry Ferrers introduced the rich oak panelling, armorial glass and highly decorated overmantels that grace many of the rooms. He was the first of

*(Continued on page 18)*



many of his family to suffer for his Roman Catholic faith and the remote house became a safe refuge for recusants in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century, containing no less than three 'priest holes'. Heavy fines were often imposed and during the Civil War the family was further impoverished for their support for the King.

These privations consequently ensured that Baddesley Clinton (see right) has survived practically unaltered from the sixteenth century.

The Fetherston family, owners of Packwood from the 16<sup>th</sup> to late 19<sup>th</sup> century, seem to have suffered from few religious qualms and during the Civil War they offered shelter to both the Roundhead and Royalist factions. Cromwell's general, Henry Ireton, slept here the night before the battle of Edgehill and Charles II is reported to have been given food and drink here after his defeat at Worcester in 1651. Over the centuries the building saw many changes. In 1905 Packwood was bought by the wealthy industrialist, Alfred Ash, and his son Graham began to sweep away the Georgian and Victorian alterations and to restore period features. He also added the splendid long gallery and, to complete his romantic vision of a Tudor house, he fashioned the great hall, complete with oriel window, out of an existing barn. Ironically, the long oak refectory table in the great hall and a Charles II oak cupboard inlaid with mother of pearl in the dining-room are two of many pieces obtained from Baddesley Clinton when the finances of the Ferrers family were at a particularly low ebb. The famous, unique Yew Garden, laid out by the first John Fetherston, is said to represent the Sermon on the Mount.



©NTPL/Andrew Butler

## Winter Events

Ian Conacher

We are abandoning the title of "Lectures" for our winter activities for two reasons; firstly, because the word conveys to some the impression of abstruse academic presentations, and secondly - and more importantly - our programme this year includes a recital by a professional musician who lives locally.

The season opens on Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> January, with a talk by James Taylor, of the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich, who spoke to us last March on "The East India Company". His subject for 2008 is "The Art of Exploration". This illustrates with slides the work of the official artists who traveled with Captain Cook on his three expeditions in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, with striking images of Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific - discoveries which changed the face of the known world.



Photo: Lawrence Davis  
www.picturesofengland.com

On Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> February the speaker is John Garrod, who spoke to us in '06 on "Fleet Street". This year his subject is "The gardens of Hampton Court Palace", which have been magnificently restored in recent years (see left).



©NTPL/Andreas von Einsiedel

Joy Lee, a volunteer flower gardener at Osterley, will give an illustrated talk on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February entitled "From Seed to Arrangements - a year in the production of flowers for display in the House" (see left below).

Finally, on 6<sup>th</sup> March, Helena Browne will bring her harpsichord to the Parish Hall, and will introduce the work of 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century composers such as Handel, Scarlatti, and Arne, whose works might well have been performed at Osterley for the pleasure of the Child family.



## Winter Events

(Continued from page 19)

The Events are held in St Mary's Parish Hall, Osterley Road, commencing at 8pm. Tea or coffee will be served at about 9.15, and we close well before 10 pm.

Tickets for each event cost £4.00, or £12.00 for the series of four, and may be purchased either at the door or in advance using the booking form enclosed.

## London Visits

Wei Hei Kipling



9 November found a small group of "Friends" (see left) in Fitzroy Square, one of the London squares with work by our own Robert Adam, at an exhibition of photographs of Robert Adam houses from the archives of Country Life. The exhibition was relatively small, about 20 photographs in all. Still, it was good to talk about the photographs together and also to meet Eileen Harris (see left), author of the recently published book "The Country Houses of Robert Adam" and also of the present Osterley guide book.



The exhibition was sponsored by a Winchester firm "Robert Adam Architects". The Robert Adam of this firm is internationally acknowledged, both as a scholar and as a designer of traditional and progressive classical architecture. He is also a designer of classical furniture. It would be interesting to know if the two are

related and if today's Robert Adam finds his name an encouragement or a burden.

For the spring, we have three walks in the pipeline. I am grateful to Doris Sherwood for her help with contacts and organisation.



On Tuesday 8 January, we have arranged a group visit to the Sir John Soane Museum (see left) at 13 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A to see the exhibition "Vaulting Ambition: The Adam Brothers, Contractors to the Metropolis in the Reign of George III". The visit was first advertised at the Autumn Reception but there are still some spaces left. Cost £5 per person with the first £50

going to the Soane Museum and any remainder to the "Friends". Meeting arrangements: 1.45pm at Holborn tube station (Kingsway exit) for 2pm entry. **NB change in arrangements advertised at Autumn Reception.**

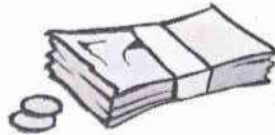
On Friday 1 February, there is a visit to Home House in Portman Square, "London's most exclusive Private Members Club". Our interest is in the work by Robert Adam and we should be able to see the Drawing Rooms on the first floor and the rooms on the ground floor so long as they are not in use for private events. Cost £8 per person with £5 to Home House for donation to their designated charity and £3 to "Friends". Meeting arrangements: 10am at Bond Street tube to walk to Home House for 10.30am.

A two-part outing has been arranged for Friday 14 March. Those who would like a gentle guided tour of Highgate village with Doris Sherwood will meet at Archway tube station at 11am. After the walk, those who would like to visit Kenwood will then take the bus to Kenwood where people can make their own arrangements for lunch before meeting at 1.50pm for a guided tour of the house at 2pm. If anyone wishes to join us for the guided tour only, please make your own arrangements to travel to Kenwood (bus 210 from Archway tube) and meet us at the main entrance to the house at 1.50pm. Cost: £3 per person for Highgate village; £5 per person for Kenwood (£4 to Kenwood and £1 to "Friends"); and £7 per person for both Highgate village and Kenwood (£4 to Kenwood and £3 to "Friends").

If you wish to join us, please contact me (Wei Hei – details on cover) to book a place. I will collect money on the day but places are limited so I need to know numbers in advance.



## Donations to Osterley



Since the last newsletter, we have made donations of over £500 to Osterley (and, as Ian mentioned, making a grand total for the year of about £3,000.) One recent purchase was a projector for making presentations which can be used by staff and should also be available for speakers at our Winter Events if required.



### from the Editor

Some of you may be wondering about my sources for the graphics in the newsletters.

If I don't have a suitable photograph, I might use clip-art – that's little drawings such as the cash in the piece on "Donations to Osterley" and the little icon representing an editor at a computer terminal. Such clip-art can be bought on a CD or on the internet. A very good source of relevant photographs is the National Trust Photo Library – the abbreviation is NTPL. This is a commercial website which I can access on the internet and, fortunately for the treasurer, they have waived the fees, presumably because the photographs are for a newsletter for a supporters' group for an NT property. English Heritage have kindly provided low resolution photographs for free – these are not as good quality as the NT ones but that doesn't matter because I am using small size photographs. I have also used photographs from other websites if they give permission for non-commercial use.

Photographs are normally more interesting if they have been taken for a specific purpose. Any photographs without a name are taken by me (or by my husband). For this issue, I was given a photograph taken by David Dodson on the Cardiff trip. And then we have the wonderful photographs by John Stacey.

Apologies for errors in the last issue no. 66 Autumn 2007.

The one which I do need to correct is:

page 7: "Wilton Park" photograph should include the acknowledgement "Copyright owner: Buckingham County"

## from the Diary

### "Friends" Events and Excursions

Tue 8 Jan	London Visit : Soane Museum
Mon 14 Jan	Deadline for booking coach tour
Thu 24 Jan	Winter event: "The Art of Exploration"
Fri 1 Feb	London Visit: Home House
Thu 7 Feb	Winter event: "The Gardens of Hampton Court Palace"
Thu 21 Feb	Winter event: "From seed to arrangement"
Thu 6 Mar	Winter event: harpsichord recital
Fri 14 Mar	London Visit: Highgate Village and Kenwood
Wed 9 Apr	Excursion: Baddesley Clinton & Packwood
Mon 8 to Sat 13 Sep	Coach tour: Cheshire & the Peak District
<b>Advance Warning</b>	
mid-April	Proposed London Visit: Syon House
dates from May	Day excursions
For details of London Visits – see pages 20-21	
For details of Winter events – see pages 19-20	
For details of Coach tour & excursions – see pages 16-18	

### Osterley Park and House

Wed 12 Mar	New season starts
<b>Advance Warning</b>	
Sun 23, Mon 24 Mar	Easter Egg Detectives
Sun 22 Jun	Osterley Day
Sat 19, Sun 20 Jul	Osterley through the Ages

**Next newsletter** due to be published in March 2008.

Any contributions to the Editor by **1 March**.

The Editor may change or reduce contributions if necessary.