

# The Friends of Osterley Park

A SUPPORTERS' GROUP FOR  THE NATIONAL TRUST

## *NEWSLETTER*

Issue 69 SUMMER 2008 £1 (free to members)

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Lead Drainpipe  
Osterley Park

see article on page 14

Photo John Stacey

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# Sunday 29 June 2008

# Osterley Day

12noon to 5pm

.....free activities and entertainment for all the family, including music and dance, Art in the Park, face painting, craft activities and much more....

## “Friends” major fund-raising event

WE NEED DONATIONS OF GOODS

- NEW OR NEARLY NEW - FOR OUR STALLS:-

- THE TOMBOLA STALL gives a prize every time! and needs donations of small items -unwanted gifts, cans of soft drinks, etc (no chocolate or things which can't stand the sun)
- THE BOOK STALL sells good clean hardback and paperback books, CDs and DVDs
- BRIC-A-BRAC – vases, costume jewellery, ornaments etc

Ring Ian & Audrey Conacher on 020 8560 8523 to arrange delivery or collection



from the Chairman Ian Conacher

### Chairman and Acting Treasurer's Report - Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007

2007 was a steady year for the "Friends". We have supported our regular projects at the Property - materials for the volunteers growing flowers for decorating the House, maintenance of the self-drive battery cars for the less-mobile visitors to the Park and Garden, and printing costs of the Trust's "Osterley Newsletters". For the Education Department, we paid for a badge making machine.

Special projects included the "Power Point Projector" and an electric floor buffing machine to ease the labour of polishing of the wooden floors. We paid for a Jazz band on Osterley Day, and handed over the sums collected from members for a Memorial Bench for Tom Folley and a Tree for Pat Head. In total, our donations to the Trust amounted to over £3,800.

Income came as usual from subscriptions and the "100 Club". The surplus on our series of "Winter Lectures" was lower than in 2006 due to lower attendances - a trend which continued in 2008. Jim Tickle's cautious planning of the day trips and the tour of South Wales ensured that these were not run at a loss. In the event, due to their popularity they ran at near full capacity, resulting in a surplus of over £1900. Osterley Day stalls raised less than in previous years, due partly to the clash with other events. Wei Hei Kipling has taken over the editorship of the "Friends" newsletter - a great relief for your Chairman - and we thank her for the energy and enthusiasm which she has brought to this task. She is also continuing the organization of "London Walks" originated by Doris Sherwood, and we thank her for this. Douglas Craik came forward in the autumn to volunteer to act as Hon. Treasurer, and took over from me on 1<sup>st</sup> January - again a welcome relief!

*(Continued on page 4)*

from the Chairman

*(Continued from page 3)*

Last spring, Harold Rogers advised that he felt unable to continue as "Accounts Examiner" for the current year; we thank him for many years of service. At the A.G.M. in May, Patricia Barrett came forward with an offer to take over this duty, with result that you see before you. My special thanks are due to her for deciphering my untidy book-keeping!

Having delegated many of the tasks I have undertaken during recent years, I have had more time to think, and I have realised that it is time for the "Friends" to increase their fund-raising efforts in support of the National Trust. We have become set in our ways, with the same pattern of activities year on year; new initiatives are required. We would welcome suggestions from Members.

Fortuitously, since the end of the Year, we have had a volunteer, Jackie Marfleet, come forward to take over the job of "Speaker Secretary". This offer has been gladly accepted, and we hope that she will be able to organize not only Speakers but also Fund-Raising events.

Throughout the year, I have been grateful for the help and support of the Committee, and my thanks are due to them.

#### POSTSCRIPT

About 50 members attended the A.G.M. on 21<sup>st</sup> May. We were pleased to introduce Jacky Marfleet, who has joined the Committee and will be arranging "Friends" events - a job which has largely been the responsibility of your Chairman!

I said at the beginning of my report that 2007 had been a "steady" year; by this I meant that we had continued with same pattern of activities as in previous years. Recently, there has been a decline in the attendances at our "Winter Lectures" - and this continued with the 2008 series. It is time to reconsider our activities; maybe members no longer wish to venture out on a winter evening!

Following the formal business of the A.G.M., Sian Harrington, the

from the Chairman

Property Manager, gave a presentation of the financial problems faced by the Trust at Osterley. The house and park came without any endowment to provide income for the upkeep of the property; there is thus a need to generate more income. Charging for admission to the gardens is one measure which has been taken to help with this.

It is also desirable that the "Friends" should increase their contribution to the running costs of Osterley - a challenge for Jacky! One target which we have in our sights is the replacement of the existing Courtesy Bus, which is past its "use by" date. We are looking with the Trust at specifications and costs; once these are agreed we will be appealing for donations.

#### MARY GROOMBRIDGE

We were saddened to hear of Mary's death on Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May. She had been a volunteer at Osterley for many years, as Room Steward and in the Shop. She was also an active member of the Osterley and Wyke Green Residents Association. ☹

#### Swans at Osterley

Wei Hei Kipling



This pair of swans and their two cygnets were caught on camera on the main lake at Osterley on 30 May 2008. I have been told that there were originally four cygnets but two did not survive. ☹

**Friends of Osterley Park  
Income & Expenditure Account 2007**

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Subscriptions	1,828.00	1,855.50
100 Club	706.00	804.00
Winter Lectures	163.00	221.00
Excursions	1,942.54	1,942.01
London Walks	18.00	111.00
Battery Vehicle Maintenance Fund - Donations	160.39	97.91
Osterley Day Stalls	313.67	656.15
Misc. Donations	126.00	34.00
Memorial Fund Donations (Held in trust)		672.50
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>5257.60</b>	<b>6,394.07</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>DONATIONS TO NATIONAL TRUST :-</b>		
Materials for Volunteer Flower Growers	649.97	757.78
Repairs to Battery Cars	457.76	314.20
Trust Welcome Leaflets & Newsletters	349.00	1,389.00
Litter Pickers		186.68
Jazz Band - Osterley Day	250.00	
Floor buffer	652.00	
Badge maker	325.95	
Powerpoint projector	452.65	
Memorial Donations	672.00	100.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,809.33</b>	<b>2,747.66</b>
<b>OTHER :-</b>		
"Friends" Newsletter	1,167.93	705.01
"Friends" Leaflets		110.50
General - postage, etc	226.15	135.02
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>5,203.41</b>	<b>3,698.19</b>
<b>EXCESS - INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>54.19</b>	<b>2,695.88</b>
<b>BALANCE SHEET - YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2007</b>		
Community Account - Bank Balance @ 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2006		8,648.21
Deduct Cheques not presented		836.68
Uncommitted balance		7,811.53
Deposit Account		811.74
<b>TOTAL ASSETS @ 31.12.06</b>		<b>8,623.27</b>
Community Account - Bank Balance @ 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2007		8435.72
Deduct Cheques not presented		570.00
Uncommitted Balance		7,865.72
Deposit Account - Balance @ 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2007		831.62
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>£8,697.34</b>

## from the Property



### Summer Masquerade Wei Hei Kipling

As I approached the House on Friday 30 May, I could see garlands decorated with representations of yellow marigolds winding up the central columns of the Portico. A red carpet should have led me to the Entrance Door (but it had been very wet that week – the carpet was in place when I returned on Sunday 1 June). A servant greeted me as I entered the Entrance Hall of the House. Inside, at one end,



was a table (see left) spread with sweetmeats and fruit. The lady of the house explained that, during a masquerade, such refreshments with wine would be available during the whole evening while a supper would be served at about 11pm,

probably in the Eating Room. Wonderful flower arrangements were standing in both the Entrance Hall and the Long Gallery. In addition, there were tables in the Entrance Hall with cages for the pet birds and other flower arrangements. Music recitals in the Long Gallery were given by up to four musicians (harpsichord, singer, treble recorder and what looked like a small cello) dressed in Turkish looking costume.

From the Long Gallery, I could see a tent in the meadow. Such temporary buildings were, apparently, a common feature of masquerades and the visitor was invited "to sit down inside and imagine yourself as a guest at Osterley's lavish ball." Within the tent, the Turkish theme (see above) was again evident.



(Continued on page 8)

## Summer Masquerade

(Continued from page 7)

The other room modified for the Masquerade was the kitchen. On the Sunday, a cook demonstrated how some sweetmeats were



made – a very time consuming job.

Most of the people in costume were servants – mainly serving maids although I did see a different footman on the Friday and Sunday. On the Friday, I also meet a lady (see left) wearing a mask and a domino – a loose cloak which covered the entire body so that the person could not be


recognised. Can you recognise this masked lady? 

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## from the Garden

According to an information board by the Temple of Pan "You will discover the Boat House Island towards the end of the Long Walk. In the 18th century, boats would carry visitors from the island back to Osterley Park House. Do you think the National Trust should restore the Boat House and the boat service?"




A bridge (see above) over the lake from Boat House Island to the rest of the Park includes steps leading down to the water where guests could walk on to a boat. Perhaps the boat would then land the guests at steps (see left) on the shore of the lake closer to the House. 



## Staff changes

We say goodbye to **Luke Trehearn (Warden)** who left on 2 May to move east of London in a new venture and to **Caroline Sketchley (Property Assistant)** who left on 30 May to take up a position at Ham House as the Volunteering Development Officer. Caroline explained that her role at Ham will be "... an exciting year's project looking at the way they currently look after their volunteers and to introduce some areas of improvement, including a Volunteer Programme Manager. Hopefully the successes of the project will be able to be taken on further to other properties across the Trust!" The highlight of her two years at Osterley "has to be running into one of the Chuckle Brothers wearing a toga in the basements and witnessing the collapse of the 12' Christmas Tree on the first day of Christmas opening!"

### New(ish) Staff

**Rhian Morris (Arts Officer)** comes from an Art History background and is looking forward to developing the content of the galleries and cementing relationships with the local art community. **Philip Stoddard (Car Park Warden)** joins in a seasonal role each Monday and Tuesday. Previously from a banking background, he is enjoying working in the outdoors for the Trust. **Jeremy Dalton (Warden)** started on 1 May, Jeremy is looking forward to the variety of tasks involved with being a Warden. He previously worked as a freelance tree surgeon, so his skills will be put to good use at Osterley! **Ian Lacey (Visitor Reception Assistant)** started in May and will be mainly working at the Garden Entrance point. He currently also runs his own holiday business with his wife. **Sue Beckett (Admin Assistant)** is joining us in the main office for a few months to help with visitor enquiries following Caroline's departure. Sue works Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. **Victoria George (House and Functions Assistant)** worked at Osterley in 2007 and returns this year to help in the House. 



## Filming at Trust locations Wei Hei Kipling


On Saturday 5 April, Harvey Edgington came to talk to volunteers about his work as Broadcast Filming Co-ordinator for the National Trust.

Why does the NT allow filming on its locations? The obvious answer is the fee income but there are secondary benefits. Although Basildon Park was closed for six weeks for the filming of *Pride and Prejudice*, this resulted in a 76% increase in visitor figures afterwards. Exposure for the Trust in TV documentaries alone was worth £100 million pounds in 2002-4 (based on cost of terrestrial TV advertising of £65,000 per minute off peak).

The Trust do have a limit to what they will allow: no porn and no reality shows (no location can be made available 24/7). Issues of conservation are, of course, important – it is not a good idea to have a flame thrower in a gallery!

One question Harvey raised with the volunteers is that he has no record of filming taking place at NT locations prior to 2003. Can you help? One person at the talk mentioned a *Two Ronnies* scene in which they were scrubbing steps – the steps (see right) leading up to the Portico. If you know of any other filming which took place at Osterley before 2003, do get in touch. (*Editor's Note: If it would help, I could take notes of your stories and write something up for you.*)



Following the article in the Spring 2008 newsletter, *Young Victoria* is now in the post-production stage but there is still no release date. The latest release date for *The Duchess* is 5 September 2008. Some of the characters mentioned in the book of the film will be known to "Friends": The Duchess of Devonshire's contemporary, the Countess of Jersey is the mother-in-law of our Sarah Sophia, daughter of Sarah Anne and the 10th Earl of Westmorland and there is also a brief mention of the 10th Earl himself. 

## Osterley Day Carole Roche


### Community arts and fun day at Osterley Park Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> June 2008 from 12.00pm - 5.00pm

Run by the National Trust at Osterley Park, this exciting and fast growing annual event is developing into a community festival celebrating the achievements of local people in Hounslow with showcases of music, art and dance. Performers this year include a Bollywood Dance Group, Hounslow Baroque Ensemble, Village School of Dance, the Oddfellas, Norwood Green Singers, Bridge String Quartet and Sanju Sahai on tabla, accompanied by Tarun Jasani on sarod.

A host of community groups are also attending to promote their work in wildlife, sports & leisure, local community and health. Participants this year include the Amateur Entomologists Society, Great Western Railways Preservation Group, Grasshoppers Rugby Club, 1<sup>st</sup> Osterley Scout Group, Herts & Middx Butterfly Conservation Group, West Middlesex Family History Society, The Ramblers' Association, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, the RSPCA, London Cycling Campaign and many more.

In addition, the event will also feature:

- A spectacular promenade performance through the Park produced by students from West Thames College
- Musical and dance performances from a range of local arts groups
- Free art and craft activities provided by the National Trust and Hounslow Adult and Community Education
- Face painting and Henna painting
- Art in the Park and craft marquee with local artists displaying their work for sale

*Editor's Note: See page 2 for information about the stalls run by the "Friends" and how you can help.* 



Looking at the Portico through the old glass of the Entrance Hall, Osterley Park

Photograph John Stacey (see article on page 14)

## Drainpipes and Windows at Osterley

(see photographs on cover and page 12)

Margaret Friday

The rather elegant water pipe pictured in this newsletter (cover) may seem commonplace today but "until the end of the eighteenth century the high cost of manufacturing rainwater goods meant that their use was predominantly restricted to high-status buildings". The drainpipe featured runs down the north side of the house (by the gate into the garden). In the 18th century, only very wealthy residences had drainpipes but they were never visible from the front of the house. The north side of Osterley by



The north side of the House with four drainpipes visible.

the rustic entrance and the servant's door was the perfect location for the pipes taking rainwater from the roof. The brickwork here is of exceptionally high quality and was probably completed in 1764 by Robert Adam as part of the recasing of the house in eighteenth century brick before he began work on the Eating Room in 1765.

It was at this time that Robert Child with Robert Adam began to decorate Osterley making it, to quote Alistair Rowan, "one of the most sumptuous and innovative Neoclassical interiors of its age. Robert Adam's interiors – their materials, the finishes, the degree of complexity and the level of quality control – meant that he was an expensive architect."

We know that Queen Charlotte had complained that the Royal Family "could not afford to employ

the Royal Family "could not afford to employ Mr Adam"

Mr Adam" yet he worked at Osterley and at the Child's family townhouse in Berkeley Square for 20 years. Alistair Rowan says that "it is no surprise, and could probably be explained as no more than prudent management of an important asset, that the banker Robert Child set about the completion of the interior on a

room by room basis." Horace Walpole described Osterley Park House as "the palace of palaces" when he visited in 1773.

The picture (see page 12) showing a column through a rippled glass does not represent the majority of the glass at Osterley. The reason may be that polished plate glass made at Ravenshead using the French method was not introduced to England until 1773 and the Entrance Hall was finished by 1767-8. The French had begun to produce polished plate glass in 1688 for larger sized panels which were cast and hand polished and often used for mirrors.



Entrance Hall door through which the photo on page 12 was taken.

This pane appears to be an example of crown glass and the best maker of crown glass in 18th century London was Ratcliffe. A case of Ratcliffe's crown glass consisted of 24 leaves and was said to be a pale sky blue colour. Lambeth glass was

less fine and was green. This crown glass had an advantage over broad glass because once it was blown it was not placed whilst hot on any other surface. A sphere of glass was made and then the open end was widened until centrifugal force caused the glass to spin to a flat disc. This glass was slightly concave and sometimes appeared to have curves. It also had a lustre not found in other types of glass. This account seems to match with the piece of glass featured in the photograph and the image that we see when looking through it.

Remember that glass was a luxury product at this time. It took 10 specialist glass makers to produce crown glass and the methods used were protected by the family firms producing the glass. The many sash windows at Osterley would probably have contained the newly available polished plate from Ravenshead.

A Window Tax introduced in 1696 taxed owners of buildings with

(Continued on page 16)



## Drainpipes and Windows at Osterley (Continued from page 15)

more than a given number of windows. In 1766, that number was reduced to 7, but this does not seem to have deterred Robert Child in any way. Some of the windows at Osterley are completely false, only showing on the exterior to balance the Neoclassical design and not casting any light in any room of the House.

We must not forget all the buildings in the Park that were full of windows – the Temple to Pan, the Adam garden house (see below) and also the large Orangery – the tax bill for all of these must have been enormous.

This is simply another indication of how very wealthy the Child family were. Their “palace of palaces” was a truly spectacular Neoclassical house where the most magnificent things the age could offer were on display ... but the truly amazing part of the story is that today we can still enjoy the splendour of the Osterley created by Robert Adam and Robert Child. 🏡



On the south side of the House, the window with the white blind on the first floor is in the Drawing Room. The two black windows to its left are false ones in the Long Gallery end wall.



The Adam garden house “full of windows”

## The Georgian Ball

Wei Hei Kipling

In July 1939, not long after he opened Osterley to the public, the 9th Earl of Jersey hosted a ball at Osterley Park. According to *Country Life*, the purpose of the ball was to enable “as many people as possible” to “see one of the most beautiful Georgian houses in existence under conditions approximating to those for which such buildings were largely designed.” The other purpose of the Ball, organised by the Georgian Group, was “to devote any profits which may be made for the preservation of other such architecture for all time.”



The tickets were 21/- each and about 1000 people attended the Ball, about one third in 18th century dress. The *Daily Mail* felt “that the people who looked best in their period costume were the staff. Every single one of them, whether ostlers, boot boys, or footmen, looked as though they had stepped straight out of an old-time oil painting.”

Entertainments included Cumberland wrestlers (see below), darts, fireworks to Handel's “Water Music” played from a raft on the lake and 1000 pints of free beer (no gentleman's drink in the 18th century) in a beer-garden. There was a dance floor in a huge marquee in the garden: although the dance band wore 18th century costumes, they played more modern music.



Arrangements were made by the Hyde Park Hotel in Knightsbridge for a special dinner to be available before the Ball at the reduced price of 7/6 per person for those guests wishing to eat beforehand. Lord and Lady Jersey themselves entertained forty guests in town before driving down for the Ball.

(Continued on page 18)

## The Georgian Ball

(Continued from page 17)

The newspapers commented on the costumes worn by the guests with Lord and Lady Jersey "dressed as ancestors". One photograph (see right) showed the Earl in the costume Francis Child wore for his portrait by Allan Ramsay. He is posing with his wife below the Ramsay portrait of Francis Child. The Countess was, apparently, dressed as the "black sheep" of the Jersey family – the fourth countess who was the posthumous daughter of the notorious Bishop Raphoe, spare-time highwayman.



THE COUNTESS OF JERSEY at the ball.  
**Countess's Bracelet Lost at Ball**

The other matter of great interest to the press was the loss of Lady Jersey's diamond and sapphire bracelet worth £250. The clasp may have been slightly loose and the bracelet may have fallen from the Countess' wrist when it brushed against her own or someone else's dress. The next day, Detective Inspector Baker of Scotland Yard was searching for the bracelet "among cigarette stubs and empty matchboxes – debris from Thursday night's Georgian Ball." The bracelet was not found. Although there were private detectives mingling with the guests, their task was complicated by the black silk masks worn by so many guests.

*Editor's Note: This article is based primarily on copies of press cuttings and other*

*papers relating to the Ball given to me on a London Visit to the Georgian Group in 2007.*

## Excursions

### Wei Hei Kipling


"This must be my worst trip," groaned Jim as we sat in the coach at Salisbury on 3 June. Although it was my first trip of the season, that wasn't the problem. There had been continuous heavy rain all morning. More seriously, one member of the group had collapsed on her way back to the coach after lunch and even now (just before 2pm), an ambulance was in attendance. This was the first time there had been such an occurrence in over 15 years of trips organised by Jim Tickle.

Fortunately, the person who had collapsed was pronounced well enough to remain with us on the coach (and was more embarrassed at keeping the rest of us waiting than anything else). And the cheers at the end of the day when Jim asked if the rain had dampened our spirits must show that it takes more than a spot (or more) of rain to spoil one of Jim's trips.



We had arrived in Salisbury at 11am and Jim gave us 2½ hours to explore the city. He had not organised a visit to the NT property Mompesson House (see left), an elegant 18th century house in the cathedral close, as it was too small to take all 40 of us in one go but did encourage us to go in,

particularly as there was now a tearoom. Some of us also took the opportunity to go around the Cathedral while others simply enjoyed a leisurely lunch.

In the afternoon, we enjoyed a visit to Mottisfont Abbey, famous for its Whistler Room, with trompe d'oeil painting on the walls by Rex Whistler, and the lovely rose gardens. I also discovered a lovely mosaic angel (see right) by Boris Anrep on the outer wall of the Chapter House. 



## London Visits

Wei Hei Kipling

19 of us ("Friends" together with some friends of Doris Sherwood's from Brentford Docks) enjoyed a lovely morning's walking tour in Highgate led by Doris on 14 March. We went first to Lauderdale House – indeed the same family who owned Ham House. As we walked along, Doris explained that Highgate used to have 19 pubs – a great attraction for the cattle drovers taking cattle to the abattoirs at Smithfields! The Gatehouse was famous for its food and Charles Dickens used to go for the one shilling lunch. These sights and more were pointed out to us.

Most of us then took the bus to Kenwood House where we had lunch and then enjoyed a guided tour around the House with a knowledgeable English Heritage guide.

More recently, on Sun 1 June about 20 of us enjoyed the hospitality of Patrick and Christine Howard at the Old Farmhouse (see below). This date was suggested by Patrick in the hope that we could enjoy the garden at its best. On the day, there were some clouds but the rain held off. The bearded irises (see right) gave a good show and some of the roses (see below) were in bloom. We also went inside the Old Farmhouse to see some of the 18th century features. A lovely time was had by all.



## from the 100 Club

Ron Piper

The Competition which finished on 31 March 2008 ended with 121 shares taken. The total income was £1452 and, in accordance with the rules, £726 was paid out in prizes and a similar sum was made available to support projects at Osterley. The current competition started on 1 April and, although quite a few members did not renew their shares, this was almost compensated by new members joining for the first time or existing members taking additional shares, giving a current total of 118. Many thanks to all who joined.

The first draw of the current competition was made at the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 21 May 2008.

Congratulations to the winners who were as follows:

£100	80	Mrs M Barclay
£ 40	58	Mrs A Conacher
£ 15	98	Mr & Mrs McMichael
£ 10	72	Mrs S M Smith
£ 5	81	Miss S Freke




If anyone wishes to join, rejoin or increase their holding, there are still three draws to come and I can offer membership for £9 per share for the rest of this competition. Please send your cheque made payable to "Friends of Osterley" to me (Ron Piper) at 44 Killowen Avenue, Northolt, UB5 4QT with your name, address and telephone number and an SAE for your membership card and the rules of the competition.

(Those "Friends" who have not yet paid their subscription to the "Friends" for the current year will receive with this newsletter a reminder and can send just one cheque to cover both their annual subscription and their 100 Club share(s). This should be sent to John James (Membership Secretary) who will forward the 100 Club details to me so that I can keep my records up to date.) Please note that the 100 Club is a private lottery and shares can only be allocated to paid up members of the "Friends".

## Donations to Osterley



For the year 2008, up to 22 May, £927.49 had been given by "Friends" to the National Trust at Osterley. In addition to our regular donations for plants and seeds and other materials for the volunteer flower arrangers and for printing of the free Osterley Newsletter, we also gave money for a cart for the Education Department. You may have seen adverts for the "Craft Cart" available on Thursdays during the Hounslow school holidays (while the House is open) 




## from the Editor

Did you know that there are over 50,000 people volunteering for the Trust in various roles?

Obvious roles at Osterley include room stewards, guides for private tours, gardeners, flower arrangers (who also grow their own flowers) and shop assistants.

Education Volunteers help with projects and the growing events programme for schools and families (including the Craft Cart). Working with Emily Toettcher and Julie Gallagher, the Education Volunteer team supports over 30 school visits a year and more intensive school projects. I should mention here the Schools Arts Partnership in which the Isleworth & District Embroiderers have worked together with students from two schools to explore the House and create embroidered wallhangings – their work will be in the Jersey Galleries 16 to 20 July.

For those who would like some assistance from the car park to the House or around the grounds, the work of the volunteer buggy drivers and batricar supervisors is invaluable.

Would you be interested in volunteering at Osterley? It is a good way to make new social contacts and to find out more about the Property. If you would like to know more, please phone the office on 020 8232 5050. 

## from the Diary

### "Friends" Events and Excursions

Sun 29 Jun 12-5pm	"Friends" Stalls at Osterley Day (see page 2)
Wed 9 Jul Tue 15 Jul	Excursion: Clevedon & Clevedon Court Deadline for payment for Cheshire & the Peak District
Thurs 14 Aug	Excursion: Buckingham & Stowe Landscape Gardens
Mon 8 to Sat 13 Sep Mon 6 Oct	Coach tour: Cheshire & the Peak District Excursion: Stratford-on-Avon & Hanbury Hall

Members booked on the six-day **Cheshire & the Peak District** coach trip, please note that your final balance of £305.00 per head is due by Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> July. Cheques payable to 'The Friends of Osterley Park' and addressed to Jim Tickle, please, at 54 Rosecroft Gardens, Twickenham, TW2 7PZ. If this will cause any problems, please phone Jim on 020 8894 4174 to discuss.

All of the excursions and the coach trip are fully booked but Jim does operate a reserve list so please do phone him to put your name on the reserve list or to check late availability.

### Advance Warning

Weds 29 Oct	"Friends" Autumn Reception Brewhouse, Osterley further details in next issue
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**Next newsletter** due to be published in late September 2008. Any contributions to the Editor by **13 September**. (Contributions regarding the coach tour by **20 September**.) The Editor may change or reduce contributions if necessary.