

The Friends of Osterley Park



in support of **National
Trust**

NEWSLETTER

Issue 78 AUTUMN 2010 £1 (free to members)

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Clock Tower on the Stable Block
Osterley Park
see article on page 14
Photo: John Stacey

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Friends of Osterley Park

Quiz Social

Old Brewhouse, Osterley Park

Wednesday 20 October 2010

7 for 7.30pm



"Friends" and Volunteers know a lot about all sorts of subjects. Here is your chance to test your wits against the rest in our Quiz Social. Teams of 6 - do the Thursday room guide volunteers know more than the education volunteers, the Jersey Road residents or indeed the Property staff - or come as you are and make up a team on the night. As for the subjects, well our quiz controller wants to give you a challenge ..

Tickets £5 "Friends" / Volunteers / Guests

on the door to include wine / nibbles

Please let us know beforehand that you intend to come so we can cater for you by contacting:

Ian Conacher 020 8560 8523

John James 020 8232 8683

john.james15@blueyonder.co.uk



100 club
draw

Car Parking in the Stable-Yard Please come early
Park Gates closed from 7.30pm until after the Social



from the Chairman Ian Conacher

Many of you will know that Audrey and I have moved from our home of fifty odd years into a "Retirement Flat" - traumatic but essential in view of our decreasing mobility. I have also acquired a new laptop with a

new system which is proving a challenge, but will enable me to move into the 21st century and go "online".

Audrey and I walked her dog in Osterley Park before we were married; later, we took our children there for walks. When in the eighties there were threats of development, we joined with the Residents' Association in campaigning against the proposals.

In 1989, the National Trust invited local residents to a meeting to discuss their plans to take over management of the Property which had previously been leased to the Victoria & Albert Museum. A Committee was formed and, assisted by Trust officers, initiated the establishment of and recruitment for the "Friends of Osterley Park".

In March, 1991, the Trust opened the House to the public with volunteer Room Stewards, many of whom were "Friends". In other areas, "Friends" also came forward as volunteers—Lesley Orton and her team took over part of the walled garden to grow flowers for cutting and arranging to decorate the House.

Dudley Foy devoted much time and energy to the "Friends", in particular, becoming involved in the provision of self-drive battery cars for the use of less-mobile visitors to the Park. We started with two second-hand 4-wheeled vehicles and a powered 2-seater tricycle—the latter was later condemned on the Orwellian principle "Four wheels good, three wheels bad"!

"Friends" continue to support financially the growing of flowers for the House by buying seed, bulbs and materials for the garden and to pay for maintenance and repairs to the battery cars.

With the support of the existing membership—and hopefully some new recruits—we will continue to support Osterley Park with donations for these "regular" and other projects. ☺

Sheila Clayden

Ian Conacher

We were sorry to hear of Sheila's death on 30 August. She was an energetic campaigner for Osterley Park, when it was threatened by developers in the 1980s, and a founder member of the "Friends". For some years past, Sheila had been one of the team delivering the "Friends" Newsletter to members by hand—she covered the area between Jersey Road and the Great West Road. Our condolences go to her husband and family. ☹

Williams & Glyn

Wei Hei Kipling



In the Summer 2010 issue of the newsletter, I reported that the Spanish company Santander had been confirmed as the only bidder for 318 branches of the Royal Bank of Scotland under the Williams & Glyn brand. A press release in August stated "The sale comprises: 311 Royal Bank of Scotland branded branches in England and Wales; 7 NatWest branded branches in

Scotland; the retail and SME customer accounts attached to these branches; the Direct SME business; and certain mid-corporate businesses" and is expected to be completed by December 2011.

What I had not appreciated until now is that this sale will NOT include Child & Co.! My logic was that Child & Co. had been part of "Williams & Glyn" as acquired by RBS and so would be sold when the "Williams & Glyn" brand was sold. However, the sale is actually of "Royal Bank of Scotland branded branches in England and Wales" and this apparently does not cover Child & Co or Drummonds because these branches trade under their own names, not just under the RBS brand.

Apart from the inherent interest of the story, this aspect of the news will mean that Osterley researchers do not need to worry about the Child & Co. archives disappearing to Spain—at the moment, the archives are stored in Edinburgh. ☹

Digging Dad's Army

Andy Brockman

Ed's note: "Friends" might remember the archaeologists from the Digging Dad's Army Project who were working in Osterley Lane (see below) in July as part of the commemoration of the 70th Anniversary of the Osterley Park Home Guard Training School. I caught up with Andy Brockman who is managing the Project and he told me it is not all over yet.

"There were some interesting finds during the dig including some brass sheet which may be from a shell case. However, most of the work happens after the actual dig is over. We have to draw plans, analyse finds and write the report as well as carrying on with research about the wartime story at Osterley."

"One of the things we have discovered is that there was more going on at Osterley during both World Wars than perhaps anyone realised. In addition to the Home Guard School and POW Camps in World War Two, there was also a very large Army Service Corps driving school at Osterley during World War One."

"There is one more thing that "Friends" can help with. There is a limit to what the DDA can find in the official archives. If anyone has any memories, stories from family or friends, photographs or documents about the Home Guard School or any of the other military activity at Osterley during both World Wars—any information, no matter how trivial it seems, might be useful—please get in touch with me so that we can record it."

"If you have any information which might help to tell the story of Osterley Park during the Two World Wars please contact..."

Andy Brockman
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e-mail: andy.archaeology@virgin.net



© Andy Brockman DDA

from the Property

Staff Changes

Dawn Watkins starts here at the end of August as Commercial Services Manager and will be heading up the café/tearoom/weddings part of Osterley. **Karina Swann**, the Visitor Experience & Marketing Manager, who started in March, explained the difference between the two roles as follows: "To make life easier if it's a visitor attraction (event) or facility, or anything to do with volunteers – it comes to me [Karina]; anything to do with making money, catering/weddings / private hire – it will be Dawn. 🏡

Birds and Beasts of the Park



Property Administrator Catherine Beazley grew up near the coast in Cornwall, often bird watching with her father or hunting for wild mushrooms. After graduating with a degree in fine art and a few stressful years working in the advertising industry, Catherine joined Osterley Park in November 2008.

As she settled in her role, her interest in the park's wildlife soon became an obsession. Hearing tawny owls on a walk down to the bus stop in winter and watching the young waterfowl grow through the spring are just examples of how engaging wildlife can be, especially if someone (as she was) is privileged enough to observe the same spots through the year.

Whilst unwell during the summer of 2009, Catherine was encouraged to revisit her love of art - she drew and also created and painted clay animals. By Christmas she was much improved and set herself a target – an exhibition in 2010. This opened on 4 August and featured around 50 original images of creatures either seen at Osterley Park or noted from a previous year's census. 🏡

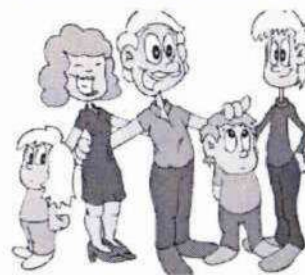
The Portico Steps

Visitors to Osterley may have noticed some damage to the steps of the portico (see example right). The steps suffered from frost damage this year owing to the very cold winter (especially January and



February). Some areas of the steps that had previously been repaired broke away again and some new chips appeared where the snow and ice got into the cracks. Fortunately the staff were able to collect up all the pieces and store them so they can be reattached at a later date. Nevertheless, a survey of the portico steps was requested from Cliveden, experts in stone restoration who have previously worked on Osterley's Entrance Hall floor. The survey has been completed and we are currently waiting on the results to see what our next step (pardon the pun) should be. 🏡

Guided Tours



In addition to continuing and updating current tours such as "Behind the Scenes", "Private View", "Conservation" / "Brushes and Beeswax" and other specialist tours, the House has introduced a number of different tours this year including "Upstairs –

Downstairs" (which is done in two parts) and the Family Tours. These tours are being included in the new interpretation which is being rolled out and so the House has started a "tours project" working with the British Museum to improve tour training and to recruit more Volunteer tour guides for next season. On the whole, there has been a good uptake on tours this year and the response has been very positive. There was particular interest in the new "Upstairs – Downstairs" tour, so much so that an extra date was added to the list as the first one was oversubscribed! 🏡

Harvest

As the Summer days become shorter, the leaves turn russet and gold and the morning mists begin to descend you are invited to celebrate the coming of Autumn at the Osterley Harvest Ball. The tables are set, the musicians are tuning up, the guests will arrive any second....


The Harvest ball takes place from 25



September to 3 October (excluding the Monday and Tuesday) and will be building on the upstairs/downstairs theme which has been running this season. The rooms will be decorated for a harvest ball,




including costumed interpreters, and the House will be highlighting the differing celebrations held throughout the 'levels' of the house.

No doubt, produce from vegetable plots in the walled garden will find its way into the House. Two plots are bursting with food to be harvested while another two are being prepared for next season. 

Giant Sofa

Did you get a chance to try out the giant sofa at Osterley this summer? The top level of the sofa was big enough for adults to sit on while a young boy enjoyed



playing on the sofa as a slide or a castle. Grass sofas were also made for other NT properties but on a smaller scale. 

Self-drive battery cars

Have you enjoyed the woodland of the Long Walk around the Great Meadow recently or are you perhaps worried about falling over or being stranded because you are too tired to walk back?




One visitor to Osterley, because of his mobility problems, normally expected to stay in the car in the car park while the rest of the family visited a place of in-

terest—at least this gave him a change of scenery from home. He was so happy to come to Osterley and find that he could use a self-drive battery car to make his own way around the garden and the Long Walk, to enjoy the pleasure of exploring the natural world.

There are three self-drive cars—two one-seaters and one two-seater. The two-seater means that two people can enjoy the ride together, particularly if one person is not able or does not want to be responsible for driving the car. Before anyone drives a car in the garden, they are given some tuition in the stable yard and have to demonstrate that they can drive the car. A map is provided so that the driver knows which parts of the garden they can explore and how far around the Long Walk they can go—unfortunately it is not possible to complete the circuit.

As Ian mentioned on page 3, the "Friends" pay for maintenance of the self-drive battery cars. Ron Simpson co-ordinates a team of 16 volunteers, weather permitting, covering Saturdays, Sundays, Bank Holiday Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays during the season—all the days that the garden is open apart from Fridays. If there were more volunteers, it might be possible to provide a service on Fridays as well. Some times, the service is very busy and people have to wait—on other days, there is no interest at all. If you would like to know more, please phone Ron on 020 8574 5870.

If you want to check that the cars are available on a particular day, please phone the House on 020 8232 5050. 

from the Oak Trees

One old English oak tree in the woodland by the Long Walk is hollow at the base of the trunk – indeed so hollow that the Head Warden, Jeremy Dalton, was able to step inside (see right). He is not sure how the damage was caused; it may have been storm damage, vandalism or perhaps a lightning strike. The tree is probably about 300 years old and despite the hollow is still growing as demonstrated by the leaf canopy this summer



(see left). The amount of timber needed for a hollow tree to be structurally safe depends on the size of the crown of the tree, although generally around 1/3 of the radius should be intact.

Old veteran trees, such as this, are important because they are rotten inside because they provide food for invertebrates and therefore contribute to the local eco-system.

A story of more concern about oaks is the discovery of nests of oak processionary moths in an oak tree in Osterley Lane. As we have discussed in

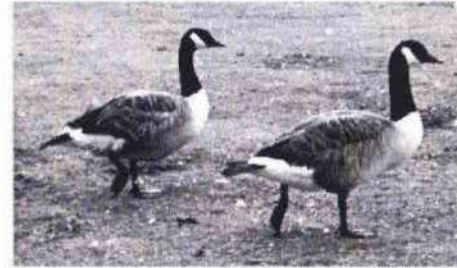
previous newsletters, OPMs are a non native species which, if left unchecked, can defoliate oak trees as well as posing a danger to human health. The nests (see right—not so clear in black and white) have been destroyed by an experienced contractor but Jeremy thinks that more will be found next year



Photo supplied Jeremy Dalton

in the Osterley area. If any one thinks they have seen OPM caterpillars please **do not touch** and let a member of staff know. 📧

Ringling the Canada geese



Canada geese are very prolific breeders, capable of out-competing other waterfowl, so you may be surprised to hear that they are being ringed on the estate in a similar way to other rarer species of birds. The rea-

son is that Osterley is so close to the flight path at Heathrow that the number of Canada geese has to be controlled. Ringing allows the number of new geese each year to be established and so indicates the effectiveness of the population management. The current method of population management is identifying nests and then covering the eggs in a light coat of vegetable oil. This is better than removing/destroying the eggs as the mother goose continues to sit on her 'dud' eggs rather than lay another clutch. 📧

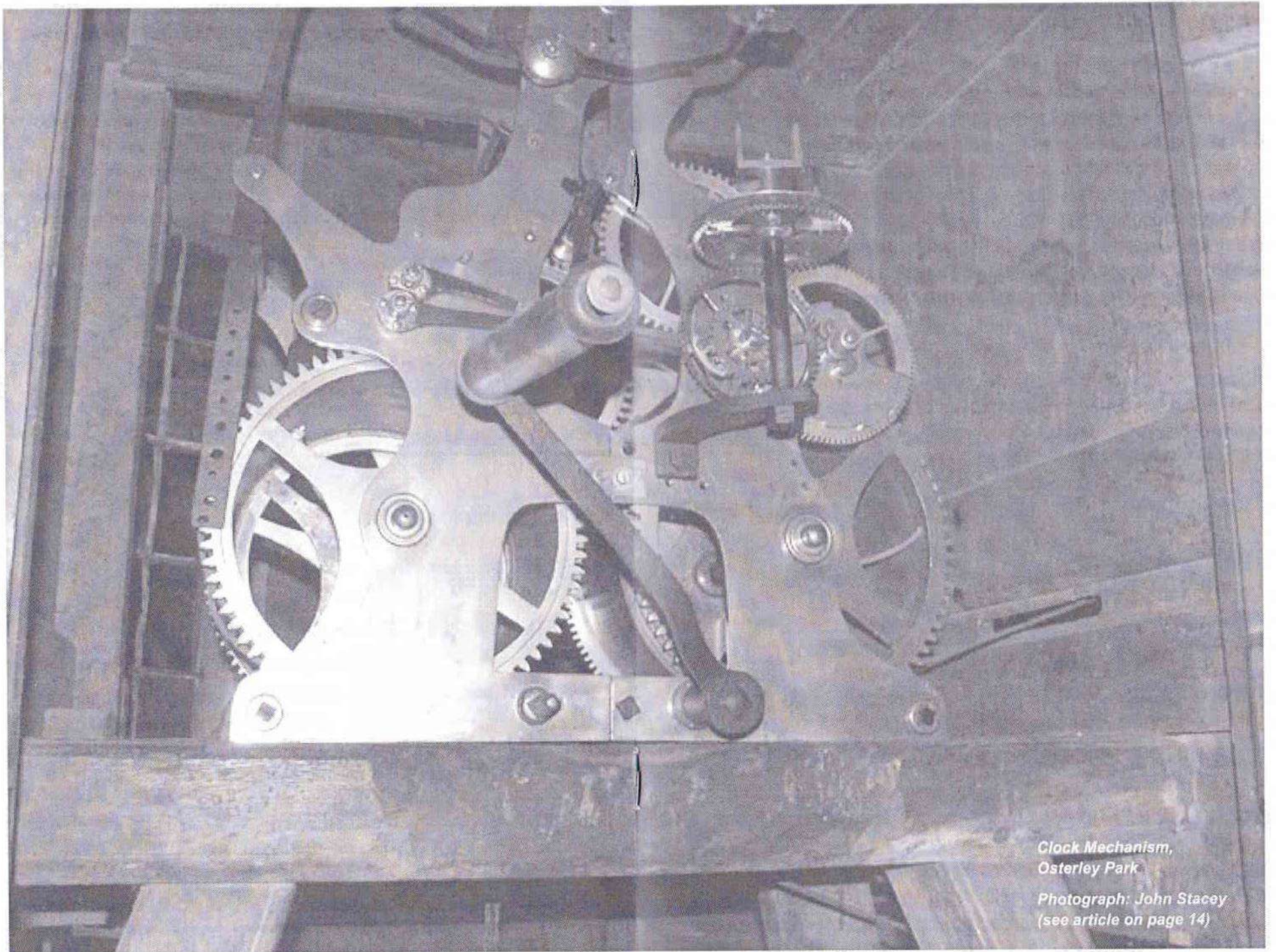
Lemon drizzle cake

In the interest of journalistic investigation, I had to check out the lemon drizzle cake in the tearoom—I was told that it was made using lemon curd as sold in the shop. Yummy! 📧



Lakeview Coffee Shop

Have you tried the Lakeview Coffee Shop recently? It continues to be popular but, unfortunately, Jo has left which means that Barry and Sheila from the Park Café on Thornbury Road have to run it themselves. The hours of the Shop are quite long: seven days a week from 10am to 5 or 6 in the evening depending on weather and custom. If anyone might be interested in taking on the job on a shared basis—perhaps two mature ladies sharing alternate weekends, one taking three weekdays and the other two weekdays, please contact Barry or Sheila. 📧



*Clock Mechanism,
Osterley Park*

*Photograph: John Stacey
(see article on page 14)*

The Unique Osterley Turret Clock

(see photographs on cover and centre spread)

Margaret Friday

Some time ago our gallant photographer John Stacey climbed the clock tower to take these dramatic pictures for the newsletter. The cover shows the clock face on the stable block. The picture taken inside the tower illustrates the clock's unusual brass construction and asymmetrical shape. There is a four wheel going train and a five wheel striking train. The great wheels are both 11.5" in diameter and the large brass barrels both have brass winding wheels on the rear end working with permanently meshing pinions on winding square arbours. The movement is signed on the rim of the snail wheel "1714 RI STREET LONDON". The description is "a fine and interesting 8 day, English, hour striking turret clock by Richard Street, London 1714".

Richard Street is an important clock-maker with links to many well known makers of the age including Thomas Tompion, the father



of English watch-making. Street became a brother of the Worshipful Company of Clockmakers in 1687, a steward in 1705, an assistant in 1713 and a Warden on 14 November 1715 just after he had completed the clock at Osterley. He took no apprentices through the Company saying he had "urgent business on his hands". He worked in Shoe Lane and Fleet Street so



was ideally located to meet Sir Francis Child, the founder of Child's Bank, or his son Sir Robert who inherited Osterley when Sir Francis died in 1713.

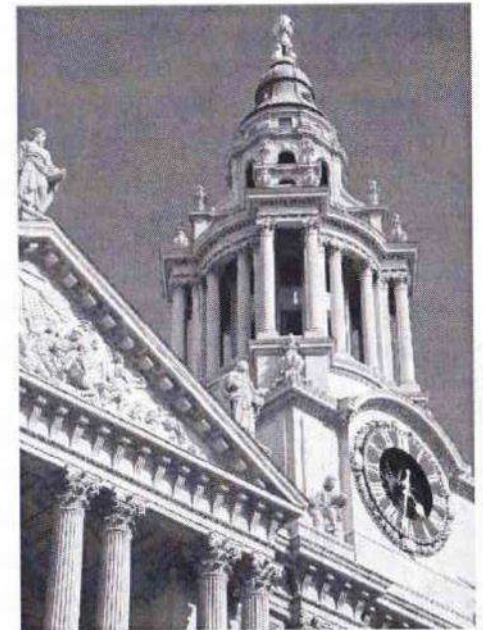
The clock may have been Robert's first improvement at Osterley. Few people had their own timepiece so a chiming clock at Osterley

would have been an important addition to the estate and its organisation. The original clock also had a face on the kitchen garden side of the turret (see page 14 garden side of Stable Block and detail showing turret today with no clock face). The present bell was made by Thomas Swaine in 1753. The fine Osterley timepiece is the only turret clock known to have been made by Richard Street. By the time Richard Street made the Osterley clock he was well established as a clockmaker. In 1708, Sir Isaac Newton asked Richard Street to make him a longcase clock costing £50 which he presented to Dr. Bentley, Master of Trinity College - it can still be seen in Cambridge today. A fine walnut long case clock with a 12" dial was made in 1710. Another excellent example of a clock by Street is displayed in the most prestigious of places for clocks - The Old Royal Observatory in Greenwich.

One of the most interesting watches by Street is described as being made for John Lowe in a heart shape with the tip of the hand moving in the same shape. There must be a story behind this in-

triguing order but I have been unable to discover it. This watch has been displayed in the Clockmakers' Museum but was not on show when I went there recently.

In 1716, Richard Street received an important commission when he and William Wright took over the care of the great clock (see right) of St Paul's Cathedral from Langley Bradley. All the city companies set their timepieces using the clock and chimes of St Paul's Cathedral so this role required



Will Fox (Wikipedia Commons)

(Continued on page 16)

the most expert of horologists.

I have to thank Sir George White, Keeper of the Clockworkers' Museum, for suggesting I contact Dr. Jonathan Betts of The National Maritime Museum and the Royal Observatory, Greenwich who is advisor on clocks to the National Trust. Dr. Betts did a survey of Richard Street's turret clock at Osterley in 1991 and made the following suggestions. He said the movement was sound and complete but very dirty. He suggested that it be dismantled and the brass and steel cleaned using the National Maritime Museum's special cleaning solution and that the brass work be lacquered. Previous work had been done on the clock in 1890 when a minute hand was added to the dial facing the stableyard. In the 1970s the rotten wooden cupola was reconstructed and the no longer working clock movement in the stable roof was disconnected and an electronic Crouzet synchronous motor fitted by the Department of Environment contractors. In 1991, Dr. Betts felt that the clock

"would have required too much restoration to put it in working condition. However, the work was done entirely reversibly, and the clock can be reinstated as a working timekeeper by the removal of the electric clock with no permanent change whatever to its original state."

He remarked that

"the movement made in 1714, is exceptionally interesting, being of unique construction and almost entirely in brass which was very unusual in a clock of this size at that period".

In conclusion Dr. Betts stated that Richard Street is a most interesting character in horological history and requires further research.

Once again, we see that the Child family were only interested in having the very best examples available at the time, thus the turret clock by Richard Street is another tribute to their taste in acquiring this unique timepiece for Osterley Park. 🏰

Rowyards4kipling

Wei Hei Kipling

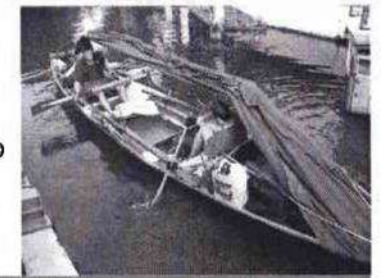


Some of you may remember Gary (Enstone), assistant house steward at Osterley about five years ago, and his brother David who worked in the tea-room. Gary, now premises manager at Bateman's (once home of Rudyard Kipling), was inspired by the friendship

between Rudyard Kipling and Jerome K. Jerome to help in the restoration of one of Rudyard Kipling's most famous pastimes for children. In 1907, Rudyard Kipling won the Nobel Prize for Literature becoming the first British national to do so. With the money he received, he completed a paddling pond in the gardens at Bateman's. He also had built a small vessel (see above) to sail upon this pond and for the children to enjoy. The pond can still be seen at Bateman's and enjoyed by many people but the boat no longer exists. Gary, his brother David, and close friend Keith Holland, recreated the classic Jerome K Jerome novel '3 Men in a Boat' this July to raise awareness and, hopefully, enough money to re-create Rudyard's boat for the pond. They set sail from West London and travelled in an original 1870's rowing skiff (see below) up the Thames to Oxford—a total of 97 miles. Our three intrepid explorers rowed the whole way and lived on the boat for the whole journey.

Margaret, 7th Countess of Jersey, might have approved of this project as she was an acquaintance of and corresponded with Rudyard Kipling. To be involved, you can donate through the following website: www.justgiving.com/RowYards4Kipling. Alternatively, cheques

payable to "The National Trust" may be sent to Wei Hei (no relation to the writer – the name derives from villages in Yorkshire) with your London Visit form to be forwarded to Bateman's. 🏰



Photos supplied by Gary Enstone

The Earl of Jersey

Wei Hei Kipling

Ed's note: As a volunteer room guide at Osterley, I hear visitors asking if the family live in the house and in what sort of business the current Earl of Jersey is involved. There is some information about the Earl of Jersey on the internet but I thought it might be interesting to email and see if he would like to provide some input. Imagine my surprise and delight when I answered the telephone and the caller identified himself as "Lord Jersey"! This article is the result of that phone call and I am grateful to Lord Jersey for his assistance.

The full title is "Earl of the Isle of Jersey". The title was created in 1697 for the statesman Edward Villiers and may have been a reference to his new role as Ambassador to France from 1698 (to 1699) or a gentle reminder to France in the intermittent dispute over sovereignty of the Channel Islands that Jersey is English. The 9th Earl (see right for 1994 portrait in Child family suite—who gave Osterley to the National Trust)



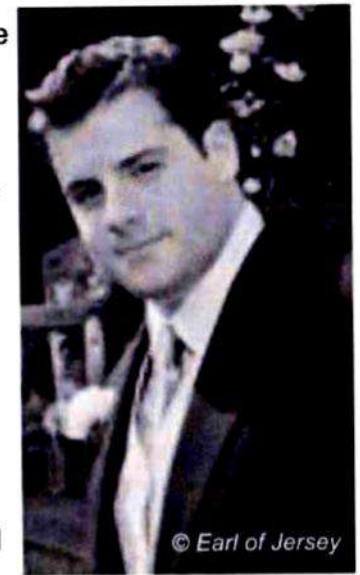
was the first holder of the title to live in Jersey and his grandson, the current (10th) Earl was the first to be born on the island.

Lord Jersey explained that his grandfather moved to Jersey in 1948. He had already sold the family home of Middleton and was living at Osterley. However a tax rate of 90% and the impracticalities of living at Osterley—it took so many staff and so long for food to arrive from the kitchen that the 9th Earl never ate a hot meal there—prompted the Earl to move to Jersey and to build the current family house, Radier Manor.

The death of his father before his grandfather meant that the current Lord Jersey inherited the title in 1998 aged 22 and did not have the experience as an adult of learning how to be an Earl from his father. The right of hereditary Peers to sit and vote in the House of Lords ended in 1999 and so he no longer has that responsibility. His opin-

ion is that being an Earl is what you make of it and he has used his position to be involved in charitable work and in the community life of the island. Lord Jersey (see right) is patron of a number of charities including Macmillan Cancer Support (Jersey) and the Jersey Society for Deaf Children and Young Adults. In 2008, he founded the Lord Jersey Rugby Cup for under 16s schools rugby.

Before he inherited the title, Lord Jersey was an actor under the name William Villiers. However, he stopped when he became Earl—it was impractical to travel



© Earl of Jersey

to the mainland from Jersey for auditions and later his marriage and young family (two children aged 3 and 2) meant that he preferred not to travel away from home. The family did consider moving back to the mainland and Radier Manor was put up for sale in 2007 but later taken off the market.

Since March 2010, the grounds of Radier Manor have been available for private hire including weddings (although the Manor itself remains a private home). Lord Jersey is pleased with business so far and has plans to open the gardens to the public in the future. Lord Jersey enjoys visiting Osterley and, indeed, has visited in the last year or so. He is consulted about changes and feels that the National Trust is looking after the property. His opinion is that houses can be impersonal and it is the people who give them meaning—he hopes that the National Trust might make more of the life of Sarah Sophia, who married the 5th Earl of Jersey and who was grand-daughter of the Robert Child who instructed Robert Adam to work at Osterley.

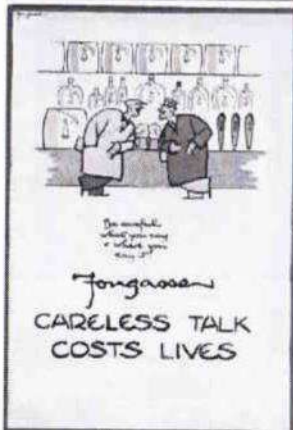
Our visitors presumably agree with him that people give places meaning in that they want to know more about the family that gave Osterley to the National Trust. 🏡

London Visits

Wei Hei Kipling

CARTOON MUSEUM VISIT
12 NOVEMBER

An exhibition of classic wartime poster designs and cartoons by Fougasse - a master of social observation



There are still a few places available for the visits to **Watermen's Hall** on Monday 20 September and to **Strawberry Hill** on Monday 25 October. For details, please see the Summer 2010 issue.

I went to the **Cartoon Museum** with a friend in August and came out with a big grin over my face. I thought a London Visit on Friday 12 November might be of interest because of the Fougasse temporary exhibition and also the permanent exhibition with examples showing the history and development of the arts of cartoon, caricature and comics in Britain from the 18th century to the present. Cost: Art Fund £9, other £13 (£2.50 to "Friends", remainder to the Cartoon Museum). Meeting arrangements: 2.15pm at

Holborn tube to walk to the Cartoon Museum, 35 Little Russell Street for 35-40mins talk followed by refreshments and free-flow around the museum. Please note that the talk will be on the first floor and there is no lift although there is a handrail.

A visit to the **Royal College of Physicians** has been arranged for Friday 26 November. The building is an acknowledged modern masterpiece created by Sir Denys Lasdun. On the 18th century, there is the Symons Collection – a group of medical care artefacts and instruments from the 18th and 19th centuries—and a small exhibition celebrating the 350th anniversary of the birth of Sir Hans Sloane (see page 21), and the founding of the Royal Society.

Cost: £7 (£4.50 to RCP, £2.50 to "Friends"). Meeting arrangements: 2.15pm at Great Portland Street tube to walk to the Royal College of Physicians, 11 St Andrew's Place, entrance on Regents Park Outer Circle, for 2.30pm tour followed by refreshments and a chance to look more closely at the exhibitions. (Continued on page 21)

from the 100 club

There has been no draw since the Summer Newsletter but 14 late renewals and new members have taken the number of shares to 131, a bit below the total of 144 for the previous 2 years. About 25 previous members have not renewed - if you are one



and have just forgotten then it is not too late to enter the remaining 3 draws for the reduced cost of £9 per share. If you already have a share. why not increase your chances of winning by buying another? If anyone does wish to join, rejoin or increase their holding before the next draw, please send your cheque for £9 made payable to "Friends of Osterley" by **10 October** to:

John James (Membership Secretary, Parkfield Cottage, Osterley Road, Isleworth, TW7 4PF)

with your name, address and telephone number and an SAE for your membership card and the rules of the competition.

The next draw is scheduled to take place at the "Friends" Quiz Social on Wednesday 20 October with the two remaining draws being held in December 2010 and February / March 2011 on dates to be announced.

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



© Royal College of Physicians

The RCP visit is relatively late in November and so I have not attempted to arrange a visit in December as people are often busy then. In addition, our experience this year with snow for the visit to Goldsmiths' Hall in January (one person was snowed in at home) has made me reluctant to arrange a visit early in the New Year without good reason (there are very few public tours of the Goldsmiths Hall so it was worth taking the January spot). I hope to arrange more visits later in 2011.

Donations to Osterley

For the year 2010, up to 2 September, £511.64 had been given by "Friends" to the National Trust at Osterley. These have simply been our regular donations for the volunteer gardeners who grow flowers for display in the House; and repairs of the battery vehicles. 📄



from the Editor

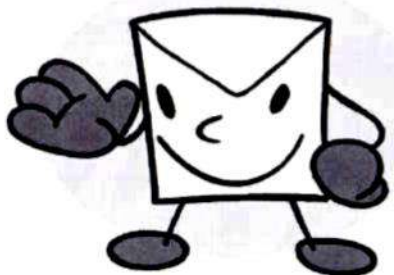
It would be boring of me to devote every editorial to thanking our contributors. However, this time I

must specially mention and thank the Earl of Jersey, Gary Enstone and Andy Brockman (Digging Dad's Army) for their assistance. In addition to our regular contributors, thanks also go to staff at Osterley including Jeremy, Karina—and all the people Karina harassed to answer my questions (some posed with a little prompting from the Volunteers' monthly newsletter). Without their patience and co-operation, there would be no content to edit!

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Audrey and Ian Conacher for their work "stuffing" envelopes with Newsletters and other materials to go out to "Friends" every quarter for the past three years even after I took over as Editor. Their move to a smaller place has prompted them to retire from this role. (Thanks also to Pat & John James for sorting out the "stuffing" in July while the Conachers were moving.)

By definition, if you are reading this, the job has been completed for

this quarter. However, if you live in the South Ealing area and would be willing to help with this essential but background job, please do get in touch (see cover for contact details) and we'll see if we can make a social occasion of it in the future. 📄



from the Diary

"Friends" Events and Excursions

Mon 20 Sep	London Visit: Watermen's Hall
Fri 1 Oct	Excursion: Belton House (NT)
Wed 20 Oct	Autumn Reception—Quiz evening (see page 2)
Mon 25 Oct	London Visit: Strawberry Hill
Fri 12 Nov	London Visit: Cartoon Museum
Fri 26 Nov	London Visit: Royal College of Physicians

For details of London Visits – see pages 20 and 21

Osterley Park House—a selection

25 Sep to 3 Oct Harvest Ball (see page 8)

until 31 Oct House and Garden
Normal summer opening times

Sat 4 to Sun 19 Dec House open Sat and Sun
12noon to 3.30pm (last entry 3pm)

Wed 3 Nov Café and shop open Wed to Sun
to Sun 19 Dec 12noon to 4pm

Celebrating Isleworth

As part of London Open House Weekend on 18 and 19 September, the Isleworth Society have arranged a celebration of Isleworth at Isleworth Public Hall on South Street, Isleworth from 11am to 4pm. In the Main Hall will be Isleworth organisations with their wide variety of interests. *Goodbye Concorde*, *Arrival of Gillette* and *Trolley Bus Route*, among others, will be shown in the Bijou Cinema.

The event is free—all welcome.

For more information, phone 020 8744 0663 📄

Next newsletter due to be published in December 2010.

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

The Editor may change or reduce contributions if necessary.