

The Friends of Osterley Park

In support of 
**National
Trust**

NEWSLETTER

Issue 80 SPRING 2011 £1 (free to members)

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Tulips grown for flower arrangements
Osterley Park
see article on page 14
Photo: John Stacey

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Friends of Osterley Park Annual General Meeting

Old Brewhouse, Osterley Park
Wednesday 18 May 2011

Doors open 7pm

Meeting starts 7.45pm

NB Park Gates close 7.30pm



Speaker: Ben Griffiths (Warden)
Monitoring Wildlife at Osterley



**Wine will
be served**

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



**1st draw
"100 club"**



from the Chairman Ian Conacher

Ed's note: The Chairman's Report for the year ending 31 December 2010 is in the papers for the AGM so please look in the AGM papers for this item.

from the 100 Club

The final draw for the current competition was held at the preseason training meeting on 14 February.

Congratulations to the winners who were:

£100 Mrs Weaire

£ 40 Mrs B Robertson

£ 20 Mr J Robertson



Total income for the year was £1,448 of which £740 was given as prizes with a similar sum available for projects at Osterley. Many thanks to all who took shares and congratulations to all the winners. A new competition will start on 1 April 2011 with each share costing £12.00. We hope that existing shareholders will renew and that others will join. Remember that 50% of all income is given as prizes. Some Friends have elected to pay both "Friends" annual subscriptions and 100 club membership by standing order and will receive a letter. Those paying by standing order may buy more 100 club shares by sending a cheque payable to "Friends of Osterley" 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.

Those paying by cheque can use one cheque for 100 club shares and "Friends" annual subscriptions and a form for paying both is enclosed. You may wish to consider a standing order for future years. The first draw of the new competition is scheduled to be held at the "Friends" AGM in May. Please note that the 100 Club is a private lottery and so shares can only be allocated to paid up members of the "Friends".

from the Property

Staff Changes

Congratulations to **Judith Evans** who has taken over as House Steward and to **Kate Churchill** who is now a full-time Assistant House Steward. Completing the House Steward team are two new assistants, **Laura Hussey** and **Emma White**.

Paul Osmond has joined as the new bookkeeper. **Allyson Henderson** makes a return to the Kiosk as VRA (Visitor Reception Assistant) and is joined this year by **Janet Ravat** and **Amrit Gujral**. Sadly, we also say "goodbye" to **Emily Toettcher** (Audience & Community Development Manager) who left just before Christmas, **Gerry Schleifer** (VRA—often to be found at the information point) and **Rob Chambers** (car park warden). 📧

20 years at Osterley

Congratulations to the following Friends who received their 20 year Service Awards as Volunteers for the National Trust this year:

Patricia Barrett	Joyce Bing	Margaret Collins
Audrey Conacher	Ian Conacher	Rita Ford
Jane Freke	Pat Fuller	Yvonne Homan
Joan Mound	Arthur Spikins	Jane Talbot
Ruby Warne		

As Osterley opened under the direction of the National Trust in 1991, these volunteers have been involved right from the start! 📧

Flower Festival in May

The Flower Festival will take place 7 to 15 May (excluding the 9th and 10th) when we will be able to see the house festooned in flower arrangements and decorations made with flowers cut from the estate. This is a chance for our amazing flower arranging team to show off their talents and ideas without being restricted to 18th century styled arrangements. 📧



Conservation in Action Tours

The house was open from 23 February, half-term week and relatively early in the year, for themed guided tours—either Conservation in Action or Family Discovery. The adult tours have continued to be popular since half-term week but there has been less call for the family tours mid-week during school-term when children old enough to join the family tours would be at school.

We joined an adult tour one Sunday afternoon. In addition to general commentary about the Jersey family and conservation and a visit to the Textile Store, we were privileged to see two demonstrations of textile cleaning. In the Breakfast Room, jackets, such as



the dress uniforms of the 7th Earl, were being cleaned (*see above*). As this takes place only every 4 or 5 years, this was a rare opportunity to see the cleaning and also the rack of jackets including the replica jacket (*see left at front*) worn by the 9th Earl when he dressed as Francis Child for a Georgian Ball in 1939. In the Long Gallery, cleaning of upholstered chairs was taking place. The museum vac

could be used to remove dust from the upholstery. Alternatively, dust brushed off the gilding using a soft brush could be removed from the air using the vac (*see right*).

By the time you receive this, the house will be open for free-flow visiting. However, in November, there will be further opportunities to join tours looking at conservation in action though the focus may be on something other than textiles. 📧



Don't rest on your laurels!

The Warden team have obviously decided that they do not want to rest on their laurels. Recently, they cleared the laurels and brambles in the area leading from the car park to the North East Meadow and the Middle Lake. The cut up trunks and branches



were used to make a dead hedge (see above) providing an excellent ecosystem for invertebrates and insects and so a good restaurant bar for birds and small mammals. Other NT properties are thinking of making and using such dead hedges so it is pleasing to note that Osterley are one of those leading the way.



Laurel trees are an invasive species and release cyanide into the environment, killing off other plants including wildflowers that we want to see. It is hoped that their removal—with the laurel stumps having been ground up—will produce an open semi-native woodland area and that we will be able to see bluebells and lords and ladies (see left) in the late spring. Clearing the laurel has opened up vistas to the Middle Lake and to a lovely oak tree—a reminder here to

Photo: (flickr)
Eco heathen

look out for the oak processionary moth caterpillars (see right) from

April to June and report any sightings to the House. In late May and early June before becoming a moth is when the caterpillar poses the most risk to human health. We do need to be vigilant because the caterpillars were seen in Osterley Lane last year. **You must not attempt to handle the larvae caterpillars yourself, or disturb their nests.** 📧



Group of larvae feeding on an oak
www.forestresearch.gov.uk/

Junk food for birds

Some of you may have seen Gabriel (see right) at Osterley. The poor bird has featured in the Volunteers' newsletter and publicity around the site because "Chances are he is suffering from a disease called Angel Wing. This is a direct result of eating bread (especially white bread) as it is high in calories and protein and low in essen-

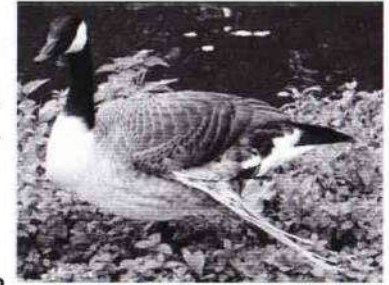


Photo from NT Osterley Park

tial vitamins E and D. He'll never fly again, can't fold the damaged part of the wing in and the mallards probably call him names." As well as being bad for the birds, left over bread encourages rats and other pests and creates pollution in the lakes which damages both fish and plant life. The Trust acknowledges that feeding the birds is fun and that seeds, grains and specialist bird food can provide a nutritious supplement to a natural diet. People who want to feed the birds can pick up floating bird feed free of charge from the car park hut, shop or info point during the open season. 📧

Shopping at Osterley



corner (see above) rather than an island. Or check out the new second-hand bookshop (see right) by the information point. 📧

Do go shopping at Osterley and admire the new layout in the NT shop with the counter in one



The Significance of Newton Wei Hei Kipling

Amongst the arabesque panels in the Entrance Hall, above the door to the Long Gallery, is a painted portrait medallion (see right) of Sir Isaac Newton. According to the 1994 Osterley guide



book, this medallion was not in Robert Adam's original design for the Entrance Hall – which suggests that it was included at the wish of the owner Robert Child. So why did the Child family want to give such an honoured position to Newton?

Even in his own lifetime, Newton's genius was acknowledged—he was buried in Westminster Abbey. The publication of his *Principia mathematica* in 1687 is considered by some to define the beginning of the Age of Enlightenment.

One of Newton's responsibilities was at the Royal Mint. Before the 1690s, most coins in circulation dated to before the Civil War with quite a large proportion issued in the reign of Elizabeth. These coins were hand-struck with an ill-defined periphery, and so were often clipped (see page 9), reducing their actual (as opposed to face) value. After 1663, only milled coins (i.e. with the edge that we know today) were struck – these coins were less easily clipped but the relative content of silver to their face value meant that they were often hoarded, melted down and exported as silver bullion. In January 1696, Parliament decided that all the silver coin of the realm should be collected and recoinage so that only milled coins were in circulation. Unfortunately, Thomas Neale, the Master of the Mint at the time was incompetent and by May 1696, when the Treasury would accept only milled coin in payment of taxes, there was little cash in circulation. John Evelyn commented on the "want of current money to carry on the smallest concerns, even for daily provisions in the market.". Broadsides blamed King William III for

the problem – there had been plenty of coin in the reign of his predecessor, the deposed James II.

Newton, appointed Warden of the Mint in 1696, analysed the process of recoinage and implemented practices which speeded up the process. According to Levenson "The swift and ample transfer of silver coins ... into public hands, quelled the deepest fears of the day. There were no currency riots. The poor of London did not rise up to demand the return of good King James. ... Everyone knew who deserved the credit for thisthe enterprise would have failed without the presence of Isaac Newton at the Royal Mint."



Silver shilling & clipped shilling of Charles I—British Museum

It is likely that Sir Francis Child the elder (1642-1713), grandfather of Robert Child and a contemporary of Newton's, was deeply involved in the recoinage. He was Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths Company in 1690 when a group of goldsmiths

petitioned Parliament for a solution to the problem of silver leaving the country and was one of a number of financiers to advance money to pay for plate for use in the recoinage. He would therefore have appreciated and respected the work of Newton in this context. Sir Francis and Newton would also have met at the Trial of the Pyx in 1696 and 1710 when Sir Francis was in the jury and Newton was at the Mint. In this trial, coins struck by the Mint were tested to ensure that they met the necessary standards. Obviously, their mutual interest in the coinage and finance of the realm may have led to other business meetings. It is suggestive that a Francis Child was a witness to an agreement in 1705 in which Newton was the prime mover – only the name is given so there is no positive confirmation that it is the Sir Francis Child of Child & Co.

Thus, in addition to his intellectual standing in the country as a whole, Newton may have had particular significance for the Child family. There is evidence that he and Sir Francis Child the elder knew each other, that Sir Francis respected the work of Newton and that they may have been business associates. 📖

London Visits Summer '11 Wei Hei Kipling



Photo: James.Stringer (flickr)

During the Friends' visit to the Mansion House last June, It was quite difficult to keep the whole group together as several of you wanted to take a closer look at the pictures. The Harold Samuel Art Collection—84 pieces, a unique collection of 17th century

paintings from Holland's Golden Age and perhaps the best collection of Dutch art in Britain - enriches the splendour of the Mansion House's interior. A guided tour of the **Art Collection at the Mansion House** has therefore been arranged for Tuesday 10 May. Cost: £10 (cost per guide £82, remainder to Friends). **Please book asap (in case a second guide is needed) and in any event by 18 April and advise names of all people for whom tickets are being requested as this information is required by the Mansion House.** Please also note that, given the high level and continuous demands for use of the House for functions of national importance or of special importance to the City, booked tours may **very occasionally** have to be cancelled at short notice. Meeting arrangements: 10.40am at Bank tube station exit 8 at street level (across the road from the Mansion House) to arrive at Mansion House, Walbrook at 10.45am for security clearance before 11am tour (about 1 1/2 hours). No refreshments available.

The February tour of the **Conservation Centre Studios at the**

British Library was quickly oversubscribed so I arranged a second visit on Thursday 23 June. There are still a few places left on this visit though you may wish to phone me first to check availability. On this one hour 'behind the scenes' tour, we will be given a chance to see the work of conservation at the British Library. Cost: £5 (£2.50 to BL, £2.50 to "Friends"). No refreshments included in tour but there are cafes on site. Meeting arrangements: 1.30pm at Information



Desk on ground floor of British Library, 96 Euston Road NW1 for 2pm tour (The closest tube station is King's Cross St Pancras but this complex is so big and the British Library so close—it is signposted—that it would be as easy to find the British Library as to find a meeting point in the complex.) Please note that coats and bags (including handbags) must be left in the lockers (£1 deposit) or cloakrooms so please allow enough time for that. No chairs available in the studios so people with walking sticks with seats may like

to bring those along.

Wesley's Chapel and House (see right) were designed in the late 1770s by George Dance the Younger, who was then the surveyor to the City of London. A visit on Monday 4 July will be an opportunity to see one of the



Photo: Gruenemann (flickr)

finest surviving small Georgian townhouses in London as well as to learn more about the history of Methodism. Cost £6 (£4 to Wesley's, £2 to Friends). **Please book by 24 June.** Meeting arrangements: 1.45pm at Old Street tube (exit 4) to walk to Wesley's Chapel, 49 City Road, London, EC1Y 1AU for 2pm tour (1 1/2 hours). No refreshments available but plenty of cafes nearby. No London Visits have been arranged for August as volunteers will be even more in need at the House with holidays (less volunteers and hopefully more visitors). This also allows Friends to budget for the Chatsworth excursion (pages 20 and 21). ☹

Trial of the Pyx

The Trial of the Pyx mentioned in my article on Newton (pages 8 and 9) still takes place each February in the grandeur of the Goldsmiths Hall. There is limited seating capacity for visitors (so it was not possible for me to arrange a London Visit) but it is possible to book tickets (normally two per person) the preceding November by contacting the Deputy Clerk (020 7606 7010) at the Goldsmiths Hall. A few of us went this February and enjoyed watching the ceremony and chatting to the people weighing the coins. ☹

Wallflowers and early Tulips
Osterley Park

Photograph: John Stacey
(see article on page 14)



Spring Flowers at Osterley

(see photographs on cover and centre spread)

Margaret Friday

The beautiful colour pictures in this 80th issue of the Friends' newsletter taken by John Stacey celebrate our flower garden and the team of growers, led by Lesley Orton, who provide fresh traditional flowers for Osterley Park House throughout the season.

Lesley has provided me with much important information on the flowers in our pictures. (A useful book for this article was *The Tulip* by Anna Pavord, London, Bloomsbury Publishing 2000).



Photo: Crux Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 2.5 Generic license

The earliest blossoms used to decorate the rooms at Osterley were the wallflower or *Erysimum* featured on the centre page along with some early tulips. The wallflower may have originated in South East Asia but it was able to spread quite easily. The earliest colours for the wallflower were yellow, orange and brown-red. The first wallflowers may have been brought to Britain by the Romans but one account said the seeds came over with the stone brought by William the Conqueror from Normandy to build the Tower of London (see left)

and other castles. Wallflower seeds like dry stony surfaces and can grow from brick or stone hence their popular name - wallflower. Butterflies and moths love them as well as red deer (see below) in

Europe. They were "good for producing much honey" according to Gervaise Markham.

Thomas Tusser listed wallflowers in his *A Hundred Pointes of Good Husbandrie* published in 1557. Tusser was the first to mention that flowers were used to decorate the interior of houses. This idea was well established by 1597 when Gerard published his



Artist: Walter Heubach
Public domain art: Wikimedia

Garden Flower List. He commented that the wallflower "groweth in most gardens in England" and "upon brick and stone walls". Those grown at Osterley today, like those grown in 16th century gardens, retain their sweet perfume making them a perfect flower to grace the fine rooms at Osterley.

The flower featured on the cover is the tulip. It is the national flower of both Turkey and Iran. Its name came from the Persian word for turban, *dulband*, which became *tulipan* in Latin. It is naturally found in parts of Africa, Asia and Europe particularly where there is a temperate climate with long cool springs and early summers. The



Canaletto: Lord Mayor's Show (1747)
Public domain art: Wikimedia

best date for planting tulips in England is said to be the day of the Lord Mayor's Show (usually the second Saturday in November). I wonder if Francis Child the younger acted on this when he became Lord Mayor in 1731.

One of the first literary mentions of the tulip was by the 13th century Persian author Sadi in his book *Gulistan* where he described a garden paradise with "the murmur of a cool stream, bird song, ripe fruit in plenty, bright, multicoloured tulips and fragrant roses".

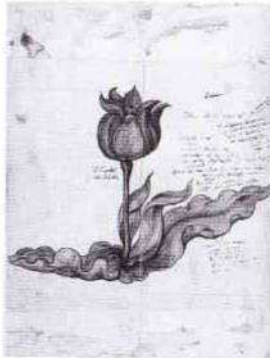
The first plants brought to Europe came with Oghier Gislain de Busbecq who was the ambassador of Ferdinand I Holy Roman Emperor to the Ottoman Empire ruled by Suleyman the Magnificent in 1558. Conrad Gessner (see page 16 for his sketch) described the tulips he saw flowering in Augsburg in 1559. After writing the first book entirely on tulips in 1592, Carolus Clusius planted tulips at the Hortus Botanicus (see page 16) in Leiden University thus introducing the tulip to Holland in 1593. The Netherlands became and still remains the largest source of tulip bulbs in the world.

Tulipomania caused the price of bulbs to rise to very high prices between 1634 and 1637. The most expensive bulb, which sold for

(Continued on page 16)

Spring Flowers at Osterley

(Continued from page 15)



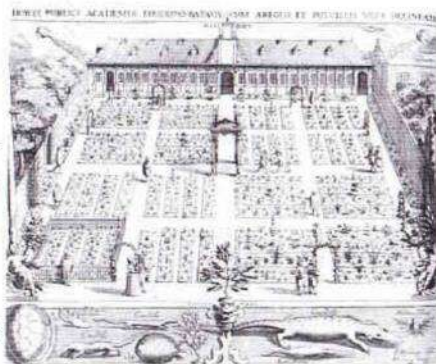
Gessner—see page 15
Wikimedia Public domain art:

5,500 florins, was *Semper Augustus* (see page 17), and another was traded for 12 acres of land in 1636 when the average skilled craftsman's wage was 300 florins a year! The tulip market crashed between February and May 1637 but is still used as an example even in films (*Wall Street*, *Money Never Sleeps*, 2010) of an economic bubble which burst.

A vase called a *tulipiere* was designed specially to hold cut tulip flowers. There is one displayed in Mrs. Child's dressing room and

many are pictured in Dutch still life paintings of the 17th and 18th century. Wealthy European tulip owners paid artists to record the expensive and exotic tulip flowers grown in their gardens and used to decorate their homes. The magnificent colourful blossoms seen in these pictures were usually the result of a broken bulb. These were bulbs that had been infected with a virus passed on by the aphids sucking the sap from the tulip. The result of this virus caused the naturally plain coloured tulip petal to break its colour and become pale with darker streaks of colour coming from the base. Blooms where the colour is on the edges of the petals are called "feathered". Those with dark markings going up the centre of

the petal were called "flamed". "Bizarres" are yellow with rich red and brown markings, some of these are also "flamed". Unfortunately, because all these bulbs were diseased or broken no one could predict how they would look when they bloomed. Even if they did look similar to the parent they produced weak plants and fragile flowers. Modern



Engraving of the Hortus botanicus in Leiden
(See page 15) Public domain art: Wikimedia

"feathered" and "flamed" bulbs have been bred to look like the stunningly beautiful flawed flowers but they are not infected with the virus. These colourful healthy tulip versions are shown on our cover and you will soon see them in the house brightening every room just as they have probably since Thomas Gresham was in residence at Osterley. We know the Childs decorated their home with the most extravagant and delightful things of their time, this continued into the 19th century with Sarah Sophia and then Margaret, Countess of Jersey brought



Anon: *Semper Augustus*
Public domain art: Wikimdeia

the tradition with her into the 20th century when Osterley came to the National Trust.

Today, Lesley and the garden volunteers present us with the most beautiful floral arrangements for the house each week throughout the open season – from March to October. Your membership of the Friends of Osterley Park means that you contribute to the purchase of bulbs and seeds used to create the fine floral displays so admired by all visitors to Osterley Park House. Do come and enjoy the house in flower this spring. 🌷

Donations to the Flower Growers



Friends regularly donate money to buy plants and seeds for the flower growers. In 2010, we also paid for materials to repair the wooden edging of the paths in their garden—the staff gardeners doing the actual work (see left). 🌷

Excursions 2011 Jim Tickle & Wei Hei Kipling

Don't panic!!! Despite the extra name at the top, it was Jim who put together the programme of day trips for this summer. Unfortunately, he was admitted to hospital before he could write the copy for the newsletter (there must be easier ways of getting an extension of the copy deadline) though he expects to be home again to receive your booking forms and to go on the actual trips.

The programme for the summer is varied and looks very exciting:

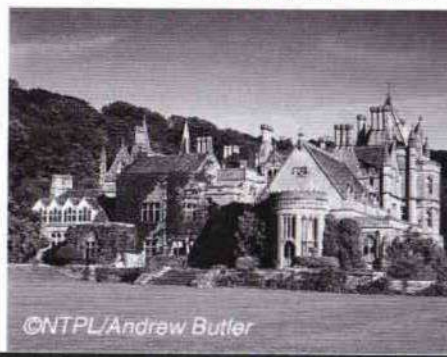
Tue 19 April	Sissinghurst Castle (NT) & Bateman's (NT)
Mon 23 May	Tyntesfield (NT), Somerset
Tue 21 Jun	Stourhead (NT), Wilts
Fri 8 Jul	Red House (NT) & Hall Place (free)
Wed 10 Aug	Chatsworth (£), Derbyshire

The April visit to Sissinghurst & Bateman's was featured in detail in the Winter 2010 issue of the Newsletter and was quickly fully booked with a waiting list. While not all day-trips last year were able to make that claim, it appears that some itineraries can capture your imagination and so early booking is advisable.

Tyntesfield (23 May)

When Friends last visited Tyntesfield (*see below*) in 2006, after the Trust took over the property in 2002, visitor facilities to the house and estate were still in the development stage and Jim's comment was 'A packed lunch would be advisable.' The 2011 NT handbook proudly announces 'The wraps are off!' Unveiled for 2011, this extraordinary Victorian estate is now ready for visitors all year round.

After 18 months of intensive repair and restoration works, the Victorian Gothic house and chapel have emerged from their scaffolding cocoon. With all 106 rooms of the house, as well as the chapel, affected by the re-wiring, plumbing and roof re-

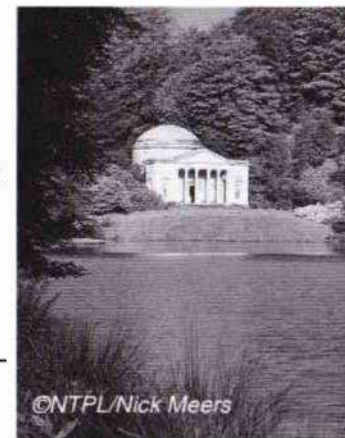


The Friends of Osterley Park NEWSLETTER

pairs, it has been a busy winter getting everything cleaned and put back in place for the new season. Four Gothic seats, repaired and conserved, will provide places for some to rest and view the lovely gardens while the more energetic may wish to explore the woodlands and hope to see a fine display of bluebells and wood anemones. As for the facilities, Tyntesfield's new Home Farm visitor centre opens this year – with a restaurant, shop and exhibition space.

Stourhead (21 June)

With the banking background of Osterley's Child family in mind, Friends may want to check out how another banking family, the Hoares, spent their money at Stourhead! Henry Hoare I, who built Stourhead was a contemporary of Sir Francis Child the younger while his son Henry Hoare II, who developed the extensive landscape gardens with Capability Brown, was 34 years older than, but probably a business contemporary of,



the Robert Child who employed Robert Adam at Osterley. In the house are a unique Regency library, collections of Chippendale furniture and inspirational paintings while the jewel in the crown is probably the surrounding landscape garden with its magnificent lake (*see above*) shimmering with reflections of classical temples, mystical grottoes and rare and exotic trees.

Red House & Hall Place (8 July)

Our July trip will take us around the other side of London to visit two properties in Kent. The morning will be spent on a guided tour at Red House (*see right*): the only house commissioned, created and lived in by



(Continued on page 20)

Excursions 2010

William Morris, founder of the Arts and Crafts movement; and described by Edward Burne-Jones as 'the beautifullest place on earth.' Acquired by the Trust in 2002, Red House is not fully furnished, but the original features and furniture by Morris and Philip Webb, stained glass (see right) and paintings by Burne-Jones, the bold architecture and a garden designed to 'clothe the house' add up to a fascinating and rewarding place to visit. Nearby Hall Place (see below), run by Bexley Heritage Trust (with free admission

(Continued from page 19)



Morris panel "Love"
©NTPL/Nadia Mackenzie



Hall Place—Photo: (flickr)
Gabrielle Ludlow

on this day), gives us a glimpse of a different era – a country house built in 1537 for Sir John Champneys, a wealthy merchant and former Lord Mayor of London. The house boasts a panelled Tudor Great Hall, overlooked by a minstrel's gallery, and various period rooms. The 17th century additions and improvements by Sir Robert Austen include a vaulted Long Gallery and splendid Great Chamber with a fine plaster ceiling. Surrounding the house are award winning formal gardens with magnificent topiary, enclosed gardens and inspirational herbaceous borders.

Chatsworth (10 August)

Seat of the Duke of Devonshire, Chatsworth House (see page 21 above) is set in expansive parkland, backed by wooded, rocky hills rising to heather moorland and has been selected as the UK's favourite country house several times. It contains a unique collection of priceless paintings, furniture, Old Master drawings, neoclassical sculptures, books and other artifacts. Chatsworth is part way

through a major project of restoration and development which means that currently part of the exterior of the house is covered in scaffolding to allow cleaning, repair and restoration of the stonework. Work already completed

Photo: (flickr) Chris Ibbotson



in 2010 includes the creation of three new galleries and conservation and restoration of dozens of works of art and pieces of furniture in preparation for sparkling new displays. Chatsworth is also celebrating 200 years since the time of the 6th Duke who made huge changes at Chatsworth in the 1820s and 1830s, and brought the young gardener Joseph Paxton to work here. Paxton created the Emperor Fountain (see below) and the Great Conservatory at Chatsworth before going on to design the Crystal Palace for the Great Exhibition. In the grounds, there are the huge maze, the rockery and the rose, cottage and kitchen gardens, and also over five miles of walks with rare trees, shrubs, streams and ponds to dis-



Photo: (flickr) Eynon

cover. This excursion will be our most ambitious day-trip yet – the extra cost of petrol and the cost of admission will make it our most expensive day-trip – the opportunity to visit this famous country seat should make the day very rewarding.

Details of the September and October trips will be published in the next Friends' newsletter. 📧

JIM, GET WELL SOON!

Six out of Nine

John Stacey

I'm no expert, but over many years as a room steward / guide, I think I have stumbled on a Wet Afternoon Game. On the principal floor, of the nine rooms, six have what I can only describe as deliberate mistakes.



Surely, with Robert Adam's notorious quality control, these 'mistakes' were not the result of the Friday Afternoon Syndrome? Was it a pact between Robert Child and Robert Adam? Something for the guests to guess?

These are my own thoughts, and I really need an expert to verify them. Therefore I shall not name them here. So, the next time you're in the House, see if you can spot the six. If asked, I should be happy to discuss them.

Have fun!!



from the Editor

Just to mention that the Committee are not organising any fund-raising stalls at Osterley Day this year because of low receipts in recent years. However, as the Chairman mentioned in his report (see AGM papers), one way of raising funds is simply subscriptions from more members and so there will be an information stall about Friends at Osterley Day and also at other appropriate events—see Diary.

I read with interest the Garden Update in the recent Volunteers' newsletter (a good source of ideas) saying that many native trees had been planted in the Great Meadow including three beautiful rare tree magnolias from Cornwall. That would be a good item for the Friends' newsletter, I thought, and I do know what a magnolia looks like! Well, Andy Eddy, the Head Gardener did dissuade me from going to look for the magnolias but see right (!??) for a tree which the Warden team planted this year in the area (see page 6) from where they cleared the laurels and brambles. (The large stick is the supporting cane.)



from the Diary

"Friends" Events and Excursions

Mon 18 Apr	Booking Deadline for Mansion House (10 May)
Tue 19 Apr	Excursion: Sissinghurst Castle (NT) & Bateman's (NT) (fully booked)
Tue 10 May	London Visit: Mansion House Art Collection
Mon 23 May	Excursion: Tyntesfield (NT), Somerset
Wed 18 May	Friends AGM (see inside front cover)
Sat 18 Jun	St Mary's Osterley "Spring to Life" Fair (Friends information stall)
Tue 21 Jun	Excursion: Stourhead (NT), Wilts
Thu 23 Jun	London Visit: British Library Conservation Studios (check availability)
Fri 24 Jun	Booking Deadline for Wesley visit (4 Jul)
Sun 26 Jun	Osterley Day (Friends information stall)
Mon 4 Jul	London Visit: Wesley's Chapel and House
Fri 8 Jul	Excursion: Red House (NT) & Hall Place (free)
Wed 10 Aug	Excursion: Chatsworth (£)

For details of London Visits – see pages 10 and 11

For details of Excursions—see pages 18 to 21 and booking form

Advance Warning

Mon 5 Sep London Visit: Trinity House

Osterley Park House—a selection

30 Mar to 30 Oct except Mon, Tue	House open 12 to 4.30 Garden open 11 to 5 Café open 11 to 5 Shop open 12 to 5
7 to 15 May (except Mon, Tue)	Flower Festival in House
Open on Good Friday and Bank Holiday Mondays Last admission 30 mins before closing	

Next newsletter due to be published in June 2011.

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

The Editor may change or reduce contributions if necessary.