

The Friends of Osterley Park

In
support
of the
National Trust



NEWSLETTER

Issue 96 Spring 2015 £1 (free to members)



Derby Winners Cup Bay Middleton Photo John



from the Chairman

John James

Welcome to our 2015 Spring Newsletter.

Just before Christmas I received an invitation from No. 10 Downing Street to attend an evening reception for “Community Champions” on Monday, 5th January. I had no idea why I had been invited, but having a sports background thought it must be connected with that. There were over 100 people at the reception, all volunteers, from different organisations, from local authorities, NHS, sport and charities. I spoke to two young paralympic athletes from Cheshire who were there with their grandparents and we were joined by their local MP who had nominated them to attend. I realised that I must have been nominated by my local MP, particularly when the Prime Minister came across to talk to us about volunteering and “Community Champions”. I then met up with our MP, Mary Macleod, who told me that I had been nominated by her for my services to Friends of Osterley Park! It was a great honour to be representing all of you and it was a memorable evening.

The new opening hours at Osterley Park have proved very successful, with 5,000 visitors to the garden so far this year and 8,000 to the café. The Friends’ first coffee morning of the year on Tuesday, 27th January attracted the biggest number so far, 42, to hear Neil Cole give an overview of 2014 and share the focus and vision for 2015.

The start of the season training in February for volunteers included many new faces among the established volunteers. There has been a concerted drive to recruit new volunteers. Any Friends interested should enquire to Stephanie Bigley, Volunteer Development Officer, at the House. At one of the training sessions Long Service Awards were awarded to volunteers. I would like to congratulate in particular John Stacey (20 years) and Margaret Friday, Audrey Kelly, Lesley Orton, Betty and Ron Simpson (25 years).

March has certainly started traditionally, with the abundance of snowdrops in February followed by daffodils and hellebores in full bloom. As I write I notice that the magnolias promise to be magnificent this year. The gardens at Osterley Park, too, definitely have a look of spring. Over the last few months a lot of work has

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been done by the Park Rangers on the Garden Lake, near the weeping willow, and also up at the Middle Lake.

After the success of last year's sporting opportunities, the new Sports Development Officer Isaac Roche has been planning a programme for 2015. Recently Hounslow Mini Marathon in Osterley Park had just over 80 boys and girls aged 11 to 17 competing to represent Hounslow at the London Mini Marathon in early spring.

I am pleased to say that membership of the Friends has increased over the last six months. We can thank our trips organising team for planning trips for the year and also Douglas Craik for organising the holiday to Glasgow in August which many of you have signed up for. Margaret Friday is arranging London Visits starting in April.

An exciting event will be the launch of the Friends' website, ably produced by Mike Doran, a committee member. This is very important progress to improve our communication with Friends and with the general public, and to promote our activities.

Many Friends have now set up standing orders for payment of membership and the 100 Club and more would be welcome. Some Friends are now receiving the colour version of the newsletter by email – please contact Douglas if you would like to join them.

Do try to come to one of our coffee mornings. Our latest one took place on Tuesday, 10th March when Megan Tanner, Commercial Manager, gave us a wonderful overview of the portfolio of London properties for which she is responsible, much enjoyed by the 40 Friends who attended. Our next coffee morning is on Wednesday, 22nd April, 10.30 a.m. for 11 a.m., in the Brewhouse, when the speaker will be Lyndsey Marshall. Hope to see you there.



from the 100 club

Douglas Craik

The first draw in 2015 was made at the coffee morning on the 10th March. The lucky winners were:-

B Smith £20, J Ryan £40 and B Martin £100

All members of the Friends can purchase one or more “shares” in the 100 Club. Half of the money pays for the 3 prizes won at each of the four draws per year and the remainder goes to the house.



COFFEE MORNINGS BREW HOUSE 10:30 FOR 11:00 UNTIL 12:00-12:30



£3 for members, £4 for non-members of the Friends

Our programme of coffee morning talks continues at roughly 6 weekly intervals. All are welcome and it is a chance to catch up on the latest news from other Friends and staff

The next ones are:-

22nd April Lyndsey Marshall, Visitor Experience & Marketing Manager

3rd June Isaac Rooke, Sports Development Officer

14th July Jeremy Dalton, Head Ranger

BOROUGH ROAD COLLEGE
WAR MEMORIAL



Borough War Memorial Douglas Craik

Some of you will recall that this time last year I gave a coffee morning talk on the Borough Teacher Training College War memorial in Borough Road Isleworth. The stories of all those commemorated by this are now on the Brunel University Website (the West London Institute of Higher Education, the “descendant” of BTTC became part of Brunel) The link is:-

<http://www.brunel.ac.uk/services/archives-management/ww1-profiles>



From the Editor Newsletter Distribution

Douglas Craik

Newsletters are delivered in 4 ways. About 120 are posted on publication day, about 50 are emailed on the same day, about half a dozen are collected from the house/bookshop by Friends who are volunteers (these are available by the Thursday following publication) and about 40 are delivered by hand in the week or so after publication. Where a publication date is the day of a Coffee Morning (as in July and October) then they will be handed out to those present who take a paper copy. Occasionally a posted Newsletter gets lost in the post or a hand-delivery is delayed. Anyone who wishes to switch from post to any of the other methods please let me know.

New Catering Hut

A new coffee shop at Osterley Park opened on 28th March in the area next to the disabled parking, this is open 10:00 to 17:00 mid Feb to Oct Barry's Hut on the access road was not in a condition that would have survived a relocation and has now been removed.



Visitors, 2 and 4 legged testing the new hut Photo Douglas Craik

After extensive discussion it was decided that additional catering was still very much needed, to provide a 'grab and go' offer, alleviate queues and to start building a presence at the car park, in light of future plans around cycle trails etc. NT does not have the

resources to provide their own product for a secondary unit and is delighted to be working with Wynnings and Weaver in a mutually beneficial partnership. W&W already have units at Polesden Lacey, Petworth as well as many other NT properties, and worked at Osterley before during the Cafe refurb. Osterley will benefit financially from the new unit for the next two years, while the demand for increased NT presence at the car park is established.



Coach Trips

Douglas Craik

This year's trips continue with the next two both in July, and a second opportunity to book the May and June trips.

NB the September visit to Ascott is now on 8th not 15th as house is now closing earlier in the year

Also Dyrham house has a major project to re-roof the mansion and install conservation heating. The house will be covered with scaffolding whilst 22 tonnes of lead and 8,000 slates are removed

Two thirds of the collection will be packed away to protect it and we will not be able to visit the first floor of the house and there will be some noise and disruption. The garden, deer park and Tea Room will be open (although there will be some disruption to the West Terrace and noise should be anticipated).



Photo Stuart Buchan CC-BY-SA-2.0

Avebury Manor **Pat Herod**

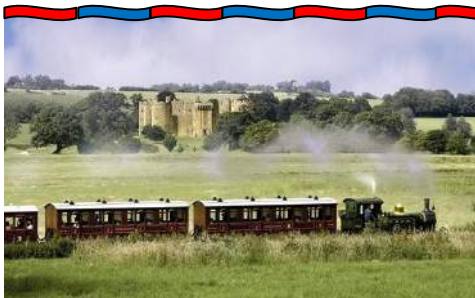
Monday 6th July 2015 cost £16

Avebury manor is a 16th Century Wiltshire manor House, set amongst beautiful tranquil gardens, located just outside the banks of the largest prehistoric stone circle in the world.

Millionaire Alexander Keiller excavated here in the 1930s and there is a museum bearing his name, divided between the Stables and the Barn (a 17th century threshing barn).

In 2011 the manor was the subject of a unique collaboration with the BBC fronted by Penelope Keith and Paul Martin. The aim of the project was to bring to life the lives and stories of the House's many owners.

The Circles cafe provides hot meals, snacks and cakes and the Manor tea room serves afternoon tea from 2pm. Also you are welcome to picnic in the manor gardens.



Kent & East Sussex Railway and Bodiam Castle

Margaret Friday

Tuesday 28th July 2015

cost £31 (includes train)

Optional Ploughman's lunch on train £7.20

We will be making our way to Tenterden in Kent. This pretty town is filled with 18th century and earlier dwellings. The wealth here came from the wool trade. The Kent and East Sussex Railway has been beautifully restored and we will be travelling to Bodium on the 1.15 steam train. A ploughman's lunch will be served to those who book (must pre-book). When we arrive at Bodium station at 2.05 the coach will meet us and take us to the Castle car park. For those requiring a lift to the castle buggy transport like Osterley's will be in the car park. There is a tea room at the Castle.

Diocletian's Palace, Croatia

Sylvia and Colin Bell



The first detailed plans and drawings of how Diocletian's Palace must have once looked were published in 1764 by the Robert Adam, in "The Ruins of the Palace of the Emperor Diocletian at Spalatro, in Dalmatia."

The Peristyle is the central square of the palace, where the main entrance to Diocletian's

View of the Peristyle by Robert Adam quarters (pictured) is located.

Adam was fascinated by the scale and quality of Diocletian's building projects. He heard about the Diocletian's Palace on his Grand Tour and he went with a team of draughtsmen and stayed in Split for five weeks in 1757 to investigate the palace.

By asking permission to enter people's houses and inspecting their walls he managed to trace the original Roman structure through the medieval buildings. This was no easy task - the Venetian governor of the time suspected him of spying and nearly had him deported, this didn't prevent him from enjoying the trip as he summed up the town by saying "the people are vastly polite, everything vastly cheap, a most wholesome and glorious situation". Fortunately, Adam completed his research, and the space and symmetry of Diocletian's Palace is said to have inspired some of his greatest buildings, which in turn became models for neoclassical architects throughout Europe.

The resulting book of engravings of the palace caused a sensation offering inspiration to Neoclassical architects all over Britain and Europe. Adam's work was certainly seminal in the development of the Georgian style in England, and large chunks of London, Bath and Bristol may be claimed to owe something of their space, symmetry and grace to Diocletian's buildings in Split. The palace inspired features in some of Adam's famous houses, such as Osterley Park, Syon, Kedleston and his ill fated Adelphi development in London.

A book was published in 2013 called "Four Emperors and an architect" by Alicia Salter. www.fouremperorsandanarchitect.co.uk

ISBN no is: 978-0-9575719-0-7



Spring is nearly here Photos by John Stacey





Derby Winners Hoof made into inkwell. With statuette of favourite pet dog Photo John Stacey



FAVOURITE ANIMALS OF ROBERT CHILD & THE EARL OF JERSEY Margaret Friday

John's photographs for this newsletter feature a little red dog from the Isleworth Pottery and the magnificent racing trophy cup for Bay Middleton along with the inkwell later made from his hoof. The dog and the inkwell used to grace the desk in the Steward's Room here at Osterley.

We believe the Isleworth Pottery, which was set up by Joseph Shore and his son William with Benjamin Quarman as a key worker from 1760 at Railshead Creek probably made the little dog. The business employed about 20 workers and had two kilns. The Isleworth Pottery is referred to by Lysons in his *Environs of London* published in 1795 as "a china manufactory at Isleworth belonging to Messrs. Shore & Co." A collection of their red pottery pieces called "welsh ware" and described as strong and close earthenware is here at Osterley. As Isleworth was the local maker we think the little red pottery dog may have been made for Robert Child.



The Robert Child portrait in hunting dress painted in 1772 by Sir Joshua Reynolds shows Child with a dog which looks much like the one John has photographed. This picture is shown in Eileen Harris *Osterley Park Middlesex*, 1994 and is described as "destroyed by fire". The dog also features in the centre of a desk set with inkwells on either side also a part of the collection.

The pottery continued to make "welsh ware" until about 1825. They stopped producing porcelain in about 1805 but pieces were purchased by the Duke of Northumberland for use at Syon. Some "welsh ware" was purchased for use in his kitchens. It seems that those living nearby patronised their local manufacturer. One of the Duke's Isleworth plates was sold at Christies in 1997.

The Isleworth porcelain was blue and white in the style of Worcester porcelain. Shore and his family came from the Worcester area and may have learned their trade in that city. The Isleworth pottery moved to Hounslow in the 19th century but did not fare well as it was too far from London and the Thames. Their original site in Isleworth was next to the ferry easing transport. The entire holdings of Shore & Co. were sold in 1830.

The Osterley collection used to be kept in a glass display cabinet in the Steward's Room but had to be removed a few years ago as the room was affected by damp and the "welsh ware" began to mildew. It has now been carefully cleaned and as the damp problem has been solved we shall be able

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to see our splendid pieces on display in the cabinet again next year.

The Steward's Room was used in Robert Child's day as the Estate Office where Edward Bunce looked after the Child properties at Berkeley Square and Upton as well as Osterley. He was in position until 1810's - several years after Osterley had passed via the marriage of Sarah Sofia to the 5th Earl of Jersey - George Villiers.

When the 9th Earl gave the house to the National Trust in 1949 he used the Steward's Room as an office. He kept Mrs. Richardson on as a part-time secretary until her death in 1977. The room has been left as it looked then although items which used to appear on the desk have been put in store - for example, the little dog and the horses hoof inkwell.

There is a picture of the Steward's room in the present guidebook showing it as it looked when the 9th Earl used it in the 1970's before the below stairs area of the house was open to the public. In the picture the silver Bay Middleton inkwell is visible but not the little dog although he may be obscured by the large book.

The whole of the room cannot be seen in the picture but it still contains the dog bed located behind the door and next to the large sofa. The 9th Earl revealed on one of his visits to Osterley that when he and his brother were small children - probably aged 6 and 4 they used to come to the Steward's Room when their father the 8th Earl was working at the desk. They used the giant sofa as a stage to put on plays for dad to enjoy. The 9th Earl was quite proud of his Isleworth collection which was kept in and will be returned to the cabinet which you see as you enter the room.

Some of the information in this article comes from *Marks and Monograms on Pottery and Porcelain* by William Chaffers ed. by G. Godden. 15th ed. William Reeves, 1965.

The racing cup commemorating Bay Middleton's win at Goodwood in 1837 was made by Paul Storr who founded Storr & Co. in 1819. Bay Middleton was known to be a horse which refused all riders but George Child Villiers, 5th Earl of Jersey was convinced that Bay Middleton would be a winner. He finally bribed his jockey James Robinson to ride the horse in the Derby in 1836, he won. The 5th Earl rewarded Robinson with £200 a large reward but Robinson had risked his life to achieve success. The Earl, recognised as a fine breeder and trainer of horses, was proved right when Bay Middleton won again and again. When Bay Middleton died his hoof was made into a silver inkwell to grace the Earl's desk. This was made by John Samuel Hunt, nephew of Paul Storr who was active in the company under his uncle and his partner Mortimer, becoming Mortimer & Hunt and finally Hunt and Roskell in 1843. The silver is engraved with the name Bay Middleton and the date

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1844. The company were silversmiths to Queen Victoria. This information is from *Paul Storr 1771-1844 Silversmith and Goldsmith* by N. M. Penzer, Hamlyn, 1971.

These two items show us that animals were very much a part of the lives of those at Osterley in the past. The recently returned crayon portrait of the Child family by Margaret Bettine after Douglas Gardner shows us Robert Child, his wife Sarah and his daughter Sarah Ann with a horse and a dog in 1781. Go and admire this picture in Mr. Child's Dressing Room for in it we see the Child family relaxing with their pets, an activity enjoyed by families across the country from the eighteenth century until today.



Summer Holiday Douglas Craik

Thanks to a late burst of bookings the Glasgow trip this year will go ahead as planned with 44 people, there were some very late bookers. Anyone interested in a cancellation let me know. For those going please remember your balance payment (£425 +/-) is due by 1st May along with the option booking form.



Where to in 2016 Douglas Craik

Although it is a long time until next summer planning a group holiday is quite complex, particularly if it is some way from London (and I think only the further reaches of the UK make sense for a holiday). I would welcome any suggestions for next years destination, particularly from those likely to go on the trip! You can email me or drop a note in with a Coach booking form or give me a note at a coffee morning or send a carrier pigeon (my cats prefer this).



from the Treasurer Douglas Craik

Membership (and 100 Club) renewals now due

For the 20 people who take this online Newsletter and don't pay by Standing Order your Membership Card and 100 Club cards will have been posted in your SAE provided with your payment. For the 28 online readers who pay by SO your Cards are being posted out to you.



London Walks

Margaret Friday

The season starts with 4 walks in April to July.

Normally the early ones would have been advertised in January but the change of "leader" from Wei Hei to Margaret delayed this

Leighton House Monday 27th April

£5 if member of NT or Art Fund, please bring your card, £8 otherwise. Due to the short notice for this visit please phone 020 8977 6449 to make a booking (your payment can follow or pay Margaret on the day)

Our first London visit in 2015 is to Leighton House in Kensington. Lord Leighton was a favourite artist of Queen Victoria and Lord and Lady Jersey are shown in a painting of Lord Leighton opening a summer exhibition at the Royal Academy. Lady Jersey is standing next to Lord Leighton and Lord Jersey a short distance away. They would have dined with Frederick Leighton and enjoyed his house decorated and inspired by Leighton's travels in the Middle East just as Osterley is by China and India. There is no special exhibition on this day. Our visit begins at about 11am.

Meet at High Street Kensington station exit at 10.30 for a short walk to the house. Buses from outside the station will also take you close to the house which is in Holland Park Road.

Twinnings Tea Shop Monday 18th May

£3 plus cost of tea that you choose and pay for on the day.

Twinnings Tea House at 216 Strand, a few doors from Child's Bank at 1, Fleet Street.

Twinnings have been here since 1727 so the Child's as directors of the East India Company and importers of tea would have been familiar with them. Today there will be a talk about Twinnings and tea and a chance to taste teas you are unfamiliar with and purchase those refreshing tastes you really must have at home.

Meet at Holborn Station at 1.45 and we will stroll down the road to Twinnings.

Fenton House Wednesday 24th June

£3 plus entry (£4.50) if not NT/NTS member or volunteer card holder. Fenton is a National Trust House in London not visited by us for many years. Some of the contents compliment items we have at Osterley. It also has a fine collection of musical instruments from the 18th and 19th century. The house was built in 1686 so is contemporary with Nicholas Barbon's acquisition of Osterley via a loan from Child's Bank. There is even a Chinese painting on glass similar to the one at Osterley. The fine gardens at Fenton are still intact. Our visit begins at 11am. There is a tea room and light lunches are available.

Meet at Hampstead station exit at 10.30 for a short walk to Fenton House.

Charles Dickens House Mon 20th July

£8 (£2 if member of Art Fund, remember your card)

NB This trip is limited to 15 people.

Our July visit is to Charles Dickens House in Doughty Street. The link with Child Family is the description of Child's Bank in *A Tale of Two Cities*. Dickens calls it Tellson's Bank but the description is recognised by Dickens scholars as that of Child's Bank at 1 Fleet Street. Dickens would have walked past the bank when he was working at the blacking factory near Charing Cross. Come and see the rooms where *Oliver Twist*, *Nicholas Nickleby* and *Pickwick Papers* were written. There is a small tea room.

Our visit to the house begins at 11am

Meet at Russell Square tube station exit at 10.45.



Where's the "e" gone?

It has been pointed out that the NT blank Osterley posters used for various notices e.g. When the Friends have a coffee morning, have Osterley spelt as "*Osterly*" (without a second "e") at the bottom of the notice. This in fact a copy of Robert Adam's own writing and he always spelt Osterley this way.

So not a mistake but a historical idiosyncrasy.

Diary Friends Events and Excursions

Wed 22 nd April	Coffee Morning: Lyndsey Marshall
Mon 27 th April	London Visit: Leighton House
Fri 1 st May	Balance payment for holiday
Tue 12 th May	Coach trip: Dyrham Park
Wed 13 th May	Annual General Meeting 7:00pm for 7:45
Mon 18 th May	London Visit: James Smith & Son Umbrella Shop
Wed 3 rd June	Coffee Morning: Isaac Rooke
Tue 9 th June	Coach trip: Hever Castle
Wed 24 th June	London Visit: Fenton House
Mon 6 th July	Coach trip: Avebury Manor
Tue 14 th July	Coffee Morning: Jeremy Dalton
Mon 20 th July	London Visit: Charles Dickens House
Tue 28 th July	Coach trip: Kent & Sussex railway & Bodium Castle
Sat15-Thu 20 Aug	Coach holiday: Central Scotland
Tue 25 th August	Coffee. Morning: Stephanie Bigley
Tue 8th Sep	Coach trip: Whipsnade Tree Cathedral & Ascott
Mon 14 th Sep	London Visit: Queen's House, Greenwich
Wed 30 th Sep	Autumn Reception 7:00pm for 7:45
Mon 5 th Oct	Coach trip: The Vyne
Mon 12 th Oct	London Visit: The Wallace Collection.
Wed 14 th Oct	Coffee Morning: Andy Eddy
Tue 24 th Nov	Coffee Morning: Ellie Jones

Coach Trips depart April, May, June from main Car Park then from Lakeside Car park all at 09:30
Coffee Mornings 10:30 for 11:00

Issue	Published 14th of	Contents
Winter	January	Membership renewal first 3 coach trips
Spring	April	AGM papers, membership cards, next 3 coach trips, next 3 London Visits
Summer	July	next 3 coach trips, next 3 London Visits
Autumn	October	Next summer holiday booking

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Next newsletter

to be published 14 July 2015.

Any contributions to the Editor by
1st July 2015.

The Editor may edit contributions if necessary.

Additional pages for online readers

In these extra final page we will cover topics relevant to those taking the online version of the newsletter

No Printer

If you do have a printer, if you do online banking then see next page. Otherwise for day coach trips or London walks just send a cheque with SAE and a note of which trips and for how many people to Douglas. For Standing Order and Gift Aid forms drop Douglas an email and forms will be posted out (must have your actual signature).

Printing

From the online view of the newsletter you will be able to print out selected pages– watch that you select only the page(s) you want e.g. Diary. With some systems it may be easier to save the newsletter into your computer and open with Adobe.

Most computers will have this but it is a free, safe program from adobe.com/uk/products/reader.html

Other Questions

Just email me with any questions, if common I will add answers here in future issues.

Any suggestions

Any ideas on improvements to the online newsletter are welcome, just drop me an email.

Email booking of trips

For those who do online banking you can now book trips online by making payments by bank transfer, see following page.

Online readers

We now have over 50 Friends taking the online Newsletter (about half of those with email) please encourage others to join us.



**From the Treasurer
(and trip booker)**

Douglas Craik

For Friends who use on-line banking (some no longer have a chequebook) we now offer the option of booking trips by email, this is quicker and will save you over a pound in postage.

If you wish to book a Coach trip or London Visit then email friendsofosterleypark@gmail.com with your name, name of trip and amount being paid, for example

Jane Smith

2 Friends for Avebury Manor £32

1 Friend plus 1 guest for Fenton House £7

Total £39

You will get back an email confirming booking, or very occasionally saying that there is a waiting list.

Then make a bank transfer to

Name of Payee	Friends of Osterley
Sort code	20 02 06
Account number	70389315
Your Reference	Trips-<i>your name</i>

You can use the same process to pay your annual membership and 100 Club subscription next year with the Reference **Membership-*your name*** or **Membership+100 Club-*your name***, remember to do so by 1st April 2016