

# The Friends of Osterley Park

In  
support  
of the



**National Trust**

## **NEWSLETTER**

Issue 99 Winter 2016

£1 (free to members)



**Osterley Park Ice house Photo Ian Davidson**

**John Stacey was not able to do this issue's photos and we thank Ian for stepping**



## from the Chairman    John James

May I wish you all a very Happy New Year. Since my last Chairman's report the Friends have had a busy autumn, as well as the House and gardens attracting good numbers for events and Christmas activities. At our autumn reception Daniel Duthie, National Trust General Manager Surrey Landscapes gave an excellent talk on Runnymede and Ankerwycke – a home for politics and picnics for over 1000 years. This area by the Thames has had a fascinating history. Over 2000 years old, the Ankerwycke Yew is the National Trust's oldest tree. Our autumn coffee mornings continued to attract good numbers. In October we had Head Gardener, Andy Eddy, giving us an update on the gardens, the future plans for the new garden entrance and the rebuilding of the greenhouse in the walled garden, once planning permission has been granted. In November our own Peter and Margaret Bush gave us a wonderful illustrated talk on their visit to the ancient ruins in Baalbeck, Lebanon and Palmyra, Syria.

London Visits in the autumn were made to the Fan Museum in Greenwich and to the Wallace Collection. Coach trips were made to the lovely town of Thame and on to Ascott House in September, and in October a visit was made to The Vyne in Hampshire.

There were many activities in the House and Gardens leading up to Christmas. The Halloween Pumpkin Festival was well attended, with over 1600 visitors. Activities for children were very popular (with adults as well!). A very busy half term week with "50 things to do" also attracted good numbers. The first after dark tour to be held in Osterley House was sold out two weeks before the event. Two Christmas weekends were organised and named "Osterley Georgian Christmas; Upstairs and Downstairs with the Child Family". House volunteers dressed in period costumes added to the occasion.

For the second year running the National Trust Night Run series welcomed runners from all over London and in December the 10K Winter Run attracted over 300 runners. In January there will be the return of the Evans cycle event, with over 600 cyclists expected to attempt to tackle three challenging cycle routes.

Our Trips group have been very busy planning coach trips for 2016.

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Our thanks once again go to Douglas for facilitating the trips and for already having arranged the holiday for next August.

Margaret Friday has been organising London Visits for the year.

Neil and the Osterley staff have already confirmed speakers for our coffee mornings. Neil will be the speaker for the first coffee morning on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January. On Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March we will have Lyndsey Feeny, Visitor Experience and Marketing and on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April Andy Eddy, Head Gardener.

These talks by the staff are very rewarding and keep us all up to date on all aspects of the House, gardens and grounds.

We look forward to seeing many of you during the year.



## Osterley Park opening hours

### From the National Trust Website

27/12/15 to 24/12/ 16 the cafe and garden will be open 10:00 until 17:00.

Open (almost) all hours From 27/2/16 until 30/10/16 **all** of the house, the shop and bookshop will be open 11:00 to 17:00. These will also be open 11:00 to 16:00 on 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> December 2016.



## Friends Summer Holiday

### Douglas Craik

Bookings are going well, currently we have 42, we can take 48 so there is still time to book. If you have lost the form let me know and I'll email a replacement out to you.

Following more detailed planning there will be 2 additional visits from the programme in the last newsletter. The National Marine Aquarium on Monday (in place of the Mayflower Museum which can be visited on Friday) and the Plymouth Gin Distillery on Friday. Revised programme will be provided in May for those who book.

The balance payment with second form needs to be sent to me by 1st May. Late bookings **may** be possible up to that date or later if there is a cancellation.

For anyone intending to travel from Paddington if the actual extra cost is less than estimated on the second booking form then a refund will be made.



## OSTERLEY HOUSE BOOK GROUP

Meet at house family entrance

2 pm UNTIL 3-3:30 pm

All volunteers, staff and members of  
*Friends of Osterley Park* welcome

Please let the Wendy Sim know if you are coming.

(wendyasim@BTinternet.com or 020 8979 3834.

**25 January 2016** when we will discuss Philippa Gregory's novel exploring intrigue, and betrayal at the Elizabethan court, **The Virgin's Lover** (published by Harper, paperback and Kindle editions)

**21 March 2016** Book will be selected at the January meeting and May date agreed More information from Wendy



## COFFEE MORNINGS BREW HOUSE

10:30 FOR 11:00 UNTIL 12:00-12:30

Friends Members £3

non-members £4



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:-

Tue 26<sup>th</sup> Jan 2016 Neil Cole General Managers update

Tue 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016 Lyndsey Feeney (Visitor Experience and Marketing)

Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Apr 2016 Andy Eddy on the gardens



## The Newsletter - 20 Years ago

### Douglas Craik

The winter newsletter of 1995 was full of the usual events (coach trips, lectures, lack of Friends committee members) but one unusual item referred to the past very hot and dry summer when in August fire broke out in Osterley Lane with the wind driving it toward the house. Not a danger this August! However the meadow had recently been close cut



(250 bales of hay) and the staff reacted with a water tank towed by the tractor until the arrival of the fire brigade and their new helicopter, though water was not scooped out of the lake— no doubt to the relief of fish and swans.



## The Osterley Ice-house

### Margaret Friday

Ice-houses were first introduced in Britain from 1619 when one was constructed in Greenwich in the reign of James I perhaps inspired by his wife Anne of Denmark. A second Royal ice-house was built at

Hampton Court in 1625. Later in the century the poet Edmund Waller extolled the improvements created by Charles II in St. James's Park in 1660 thus:

Yonder the harvest of cold months laid up  
Gives a fresh coolness to the Royal cup  
There ice like crystal, firm and never lost  
Tempers hot July with December's frost...

James II and his companions enjoyed a dozen dishes of ice cream on a visit to Hounslow Heath in 1686 suggesting that there must have been an ice-house nearby.

Windsor Castle also had an ice-house and the Duchess of Cleveland installed an ice-house at Chatsworth in 1693.

We are unsure when the ice-house at Osterley was first constructed - it could have been in General William Waller's time, he died at Osterley in 1668 or later when Nicholas Barbon acquired Osterley in 1683 or when first Robert and then Francis Child moved to Osterley between 1713 and 1740.

The lake was created by Sir Thomas Gresham in the park in the 1560's and it freezes over even today when temperatures are slightly higher than they were in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries.

Tim Buxbaum tells us in *Icehouses* published in 1992 that 3,000 ice-houses were built in Britain mostly between 1750 and 1875. Eileen Harris, author of *Osterley Park*, the National Trust guidebook of 1994 feels that the Osterley ice-house may have had a rustic stone entrance but we have not been able to find drawings or photographs of the Osterley Park ice-house showing us how it appeared.

At the time when the Child family were in residence, in the newly published Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1771, volume 2, page 829, an Ice-House is described as "a building contrived to preserve ice for the use of a family during the summer-season". There follows a detailed

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description of how an ice-house should be constructed suggesting that it should be made to contain enough ice for two years because the frozen lake might not always provide enough ice in a mild year. The entrance to the ice-house should face north with the whole to be sited so that it would drain well and not be susceptible to flooding. The interior should be made of a double brick wall or stone. The external wall "may be built in any form the proprietor pleases; and as these ice-houses are placed in gardens, they are sometimes contrived to have an handsome alcove seat in front with a small door behind it through which a person might enter to take out ice" to quote the encyclopaedia. The Osterley ice-house is close to the lake making it easier to move the ice in order to store it until required in the summer. Usually the entrance was a small porch followed by a short passage leading to a deep pit which had been lined with stone. Chunks of ice cut from the lake could be placed in the ice-house using a small wagon. The encyclopaedia suggests covering the ice with barley straw to keep it cool. Ice-houses of this type usually had a heavy wooden door to keep the area cold and prevent the ice from melting. The whole structure was often covered with earth and trees were planted to provide shade from the sun. This was the arrangement at Osterley as the photographs of the ice-house mound show. (picture 2 shows the mound clearly)

Ice could be carried from the ice-house on the wooden carrier still to be seen in the Osterley kitchen. Working staff could have used the side door next to Mr. Bunce's Estate office to bring the ice into the house where it would be used to cool drinks, chill desserts and to make ice cream. In some houses all the available male staff were organised in winter to cut the ice from the lake, crush the ice and pack it into the ice-house.

To quote Tim Buxbaum "early ice-cream was made with cream flavoured with cinnamon, aniseed, almond, flowers or fruit, poured into a tin and kept in a bucket of ice. Brown bread ice-cream appeared around 1770". "After 1660 silver wine cisterns became increasingly popular for cooling decanters of wine, which would stand in iced water". We have a fine example of a very large silver wine cistern originally owned by Francis Child, founder of the bank and eventually

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passed down to his grandson Robert. We know it had pride of place beneath the sideboard in the Eating Room as Agneta Yorke on her 1772 visit described Adam's carved and gilt mahogany sideboard as "Magnificently furnished with plate, and under the table was a Massy and large silver Cistern". The pair of white pedestals on either side of the table are lined with lead to hold water and ice providing cold drinking water on hot summer days. This room was furnished in 1767.

By this time many excellent recipes for ice cream and sorbet have begun to appear. The first in England was Mrs Mary Eales's *Receipts* printed in London in 1718.

The Child family interest in ices and sorbets may stem from the fact that Robert Child purchased a townhouse, 38 Berkeley Square in 1767. At that time, Domenico Negri, the man credited with introducing the British to fine continental ice creams worked from The Pot and Pineapple also in Berkeley Square. Both of his apprentices published recipe books - Frederick Nutt's *Complete Confections* offered 32 ice creams and 24 water ices in 1789 but the first book giving clear instructions on exactly how to make ice cream was Borella's *Court and Country Confectioner* published in 1770. Borella was employed by the Spanish ambassador in Britain as a confectioner. These details help us to understand how important the Osterley ice-house was in making Osterley the exceptional party house that it was in the 18th and 19th centuries. Without ice the parties the Child family and the Earls of Jersey hosted at Osterley could not have been the lavish successes that they were.

Nearby examples of ice-houses which have had a change of use include the Holland Park ice-house built above ground and now converted to an art gallery. Hatchlands Park ice-house is now a summerhouse.

There is hope for the Osterley ice-house yet for Compton Verney in Warwickshire now has a fully restored ice-house. It was designed by Capability Brown and built in 1772. It originally had a thatched roof but this was later covered in earth and grass. Restoration work began in 2008 and has now been successfully completed so visitors may step inside. The shape of the interior resembles the shape of an ice cream cone - how very appropriate!



**Osterley Park Ice house Photo Ian Davidson**







**Osterley Park Ice house Photo Ian Davidson**





## Membership Renewal Douglas Craik

You will shortly receive an individual email with details of your membership renewal. Payment is due by 1st April 2016. Repeating what is said in the emails:-

IF YOU PAY BY STANDING ORDER you need do nothing unless:-

1. You want to add extra 100 Club shares, if so send cheque (£12 per share) to John James along with a completed new Standing Order for 2017
2. You haven't previously signed a Gift Aid form and want to now, if so post a completed Gift Aid form to John

IF YOU DON'T PAY BY STANDING ORDER please send your payment to John James with a stamped addressed envelope. If you wish to switch to Standing Order for 2017 or sign a Gift Aid form **for the first time** then include completed forms.

The Gift Aid and Standing Order forms are attached to everyone's email even if not needed (that's how gmail works). If you set up your own Standing Order (e.g. Online banking) that is fine, just let me know.



## Coach Trips & London Visits Douglas Craik & Margaret Friday



The 2016 programme starts from April with coach trips and London Visits. The April, May and June ones are covered in this newsletter .

You will see that a number of this year's outings are to non NT places which have an entry fee. This is because over the last few years we have been to almost every NT property within easy travel!.

The outings are priced to make a contribution which goes to Osterley so supporting our property as well as giving an opportunity to visit places with Friends.

In previous years most of our outings have been on a Monday or Tuesday when few volunteers were at the house. However as the house is now fully open all week we will shift to spreading activities



## **Kentwell Hall**

**Angela Lynskey**

**18th April 09:30 at Osterley Park**

**or opposite Osterley Underground Cost £28**

or £19 for members of Historic Houses Association

A stately home in Long Melford, Suffolk, England. It includes the hall, outbuildings, a rare breeds farm and gardens.

Most of the current building facade dates from the mid-16th century, but the origins of Kentwell are much earlier, with references in the *Domesday Book* of 1086. In 1375 Kentwell passed to Sir Thomas Clopton. The current Hall was constructed by several generations of the Clopton family. The oldest structure is the Moat House, which is estimated to have been built in the early 15th century. The main house at Kentwell was built in three phases. The main block was constructed in the late 15th century. The wings were added in the 1540s; finally the extra level, including a new long gallery, was added in the 1560s. In 1676, the Manor of Kentwell was sold to Thomas Robinson who was responsible for planting the mile-long avenue of lime trees that borders the driveway to the house.

From 1782 to 1823, the owner was Richard Moore and there is evidence of work carried out by him to the interior. There are Georgian features such as dentil cornices, fireplaces and doorways introduced during this period; and the mantelpiece in the Moat Bedroom, in the west wing, is decorated with the coat of arms of the Moore family. In 1823 Kentwell Hall was purchased by Robert Hart Logan, Three years later a fire broke out which destroyed much of the central interior. This prompted Logan to commission major structural changes to the interior of the central part of the house by Thomas Hopper. The principal alterations were to the main dining room and the Great Hall. Hopper also undertook alterations to the Library and the Billiard Room in the east wing, including raising the ceiling heights by two feet. In 1839, Kentwell was sold to the Starkie Bence family who continued to occupy or let the house for over a century.

The Starkie Bence family finally sold Kentwell in 1971 to Patrick and Judith Phillips, who use the house as their home. The house was in an advanced state of disrepair and since that time, repairs and restorations have been funded by opening the house to the public.



## **Mottisfont Patricia Barrett**

**17th May 09:30 at Osterley Park  
or opposite Osterley Underground Cost £17**

This house cunningly crafted from a medieval priory and set in beautiful riverside gardens would become the lifelong home of Maud and Gilbert Russell from their arrival in 1934. It became an oasis for artists and the first floor contains a spacious art gallery with a rolling programme of exhibitions, our visit coincides with the Schlee Collection—drawings from Henry Moore to David Hockney.

Unfortunately it is not wheelchair accessible but Ipads are available for visitors who cannot reach this area. The house itself is full of surprises, well worth a visit. Garden enthusiasts, art groups and nature lovers are bound to enjoy the beauty and tranquillity of Mottisfont's sweeping lawns, ancient trees and formal gardens including the walled garden and its famous rose collection. Geoffrey Jellicoe and others have created many areas of interest so this should be of special appeal.

There are various catering options. The historic Kitchen cafe has a full range of hot food, desserts and snacks, cream teas and renowned cakes. A newly opened Coach house cafe is a more informal self-service option plus other kiosks around the site. Needless to say there is a large shop with plant sales. Our coach will park by the Visitor reception and there is a buggy service available.



### **from the 100 club**

**Douglas Craik**

A draw was made at the coffee morning on the 24th November 2015. The winners were £20 Patricia Elliott, £40 Yvonne Homan, £60 Felicity

Bernstein and £100 Susan Haisman.

All members of the Friends can purchase one or more “shares” in the 100 Club. Half of the money pays for the 3-4 prizes won at each of the four draws per year and the remainder goes to the house.

Extra shares can be purchased at any time



Lambert CCA 2.0

## **ARUNDEL CASTLE**

**Angela Lynskey**

**7<sup>th</sup> June 2016 09:30 at Osterley Park  
or opposite Osterley Underground  
Cost £28**

Home of the Howard family Arundel Castle was founded soon after the Battle of Hastings by the Norman warlord Roger of Montgomery, the only remaining parts of the castle still standing are the 12<sup>th</sup> Century Oval keep and the visitors gateway. Extensive damage was done during the Civil War of 1640 but rebuilding started in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century and the 15<sup>th</sup> Duke of Norfolk continued the reconstruction of the castles original grandeur by employing the architect Charles Alban Buckler. Buckler was not only an architect but also Surrey Herald Extraordinary and the stone beasts that guard the stone staircase echo his passion for heraldry. The Barons Hall with its hooded fireplaces and hammerbeam roof is huge and impressive and the chapel with its carvings by Thomas Earp and stained glass by John Hardmann Powell is stunning. The castles riches include Tudor furniture, armour, tapestries and clocks, paintings by Van Dyck, Lily, Reynolds, Gainsborough and many other reputable artists.

For the last 700 years the castle has been owned by two families the Fitzalans, Earls of Arundel and the Howards, Dukes of Norfolk and Earl Marshal of England. The 4<sup>th</sup> Duke of Norfolk married the Fitzalan heiress in 1556 and generations of Howards have played leading and sometimes perilous roles in English history. One was killed at Bosworth in 1485, one defeated the Scots at Flodden in 1513, one was uncle to two of Henry VIII's queens – both of whom were beheaded, two more Howards were executed and another, a Roman Catholic saint, died a prisoner in the Tower of London.

This castle although mainly a reconstruction of the old is steeped in history and retains an aura of past and present grandeur and mystery



## **Coloured Newsletter Douglas Craik**

For those of you reading this in Black and White the next issue will be in colour. Traditionally every 10th issue is done in colour and the next issue will be our 100th.

For those who take the newsletter on line every issue is in colour. If you would like to get your newsletter by email then drop me an email

## London Visits

Margaret Friday



*Photo by P. G. Champion*

### BOSTON MANOR HOUSE

Saturday 9th April

Price £8

We might view the park before a guided exploration of the house. The house is very close just 200 yards from Boston Manor tube station on the Piccadilly Line and buses

E3, E8 and 195 pass the house.

Boston Manor is a Jacobean manor house built in 1623. It has some fine plasterwork ceilings. Sarah Jodrell Child's sister lived here in the 18th century.

**Meet** at the house at 1.30pm to attend the house tour at 2.30.



*Photo Steve Cadman*

### CHARLTON HOUSE

Thursday 12th May

Price £10

In The Royal Borough of Greenwich - the nearest station is Charlton. The Manor House was built 1609-12 and is the most important Jacobean mansion in Greater

London. It has fine plaster ceilings and the park has views over the Thames to London. We plan to take a guided tour and have lunch (not included) at the house.

**Meet** at noon at the house.



*Photo Oxyman*

### ST. KATHARINE'S DOCK

Monday 20th June

Price £8

A guided walking tour with Christopher West who has published a book about the Dock. The tour is about 90 minutes long and gives us a chance to find out about all the products being

imported to Britain via the East India Company and others. This should be a fascinating visit given by an excellent guide.

**Meet** at noon at the modern round building in the centre of the dock (now a cafe) and Christopher will show us around.

## Diary Friends Events and Excursions

Tue 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Coffee Morning: Neil Cole (General manager)
Tue 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Coffee Morning: Lyndsey Feeney (Visitor Experience and Marketing)
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> Apr	London Visit: Boston Manor
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Coffee Morning: Andy Eddy (Gardens)
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Coach Trip: Kentwell Hall
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> May	AGM 7:00 for 7:45
Tue 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Coach Trip: Mottisfont
Thu 12 <sup>th</sup> May	London Visit: Charlton House
Tue 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Coach Trip: Arundel castle
Tue 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Coffee Morning Sophie Slater and Kayleigh Slade (Catering "taster session")
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> June	London Visit: St Katharines Dock
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Coach Trip: Petworth
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Coffee Morning: Ian Grierson (Events)
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> July	London Visit: Banqueting House
Sun 7 <sup>th</sup> –Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Summer Holiday
Tue 16 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Coach Trip: Stoneleigh Abbey
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Coffee Morning: Isaac Rocke (Sports)
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> Sep	London Visit: Queen's House Greenwich
Thur 8 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Coach Trip: Waterperry Gardens/Hughenden Manor
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup> Sep	25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Friends, 7:00 for 7:45
Oct date TBC	London Visit: TBC
Oct date TBC	Coach Trip: Melford TBC
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Coffee Morning: Ffion George (House and Collections)
Wed 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Coffee Morning: Jeremy Dalton (Rangers)

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Coach Trips depart from Lakeside Car park at 09:30 and Bus Stop  
**opposite** Osterley Station at 09:30 sharp.  
Coffee Mornings 10:30 for 11:00

Issue	Published 14th of	Contents
Winter	January	Membership renewal first 3 coach trips First 3 London Visits
Spring	April	AGM papers, membership cards, next 2 coach trips, next 2 London Visits
Summer	July	next 2 coach trips, next 2 London Visits
Autumn	October	Next summer holiday booking

### Chairman /Membership Secretary

John James 020 8232 8683  
 John.james15@blueyonder.co.uk  
 Parkfield Cottage, Osterley Road,  
 Isleworth, TW7 4PF

### Treasurer / 100 club / Coach trip/ Newsletter

Douglas Craik 020 8977 6449  
 friendsofosterleypark@gmail.com  
 118 Fairfax Road,  
 Teddington, TW11 9BS

### London Visits

Margaret Friday 020 8991 0593  
 Margaretfriday@talktalk.net

The 'Friends' website gives you all the current news, meetings, events, publications, and membership information relating to the work of the Friends of Osterley Park in supporting Osterley House and Park.

[www.e-voice.org.uk/friendsofosterleypark](http://www.e-voice.org.uk/friendsofosterleypark)

If you experience any problems in using our website, or have any suggestions for its improvement, please email **Mike Doran** at [mike@mbdoran.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:mike@mbdoran.wanadoo.co.uk)



## Next newsletter

to be published 14 April 2016.

Any contributions to the Editor by

**31st May 2016.**

The Editor may edit contributions if necessary.



# Additional pages for online readers

This covers 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](http://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.

## Online readers

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

## Email booking of trips

For Friends who use on line banking we now offer the option of booking Coach trips or London Visits by email, this is quicker and will save you over a pound in postage.

1. email [friendsofosterleypark@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofosterleypark@gmail.com) with your names of trippers, name of trip and amount being paid and where you want to be picked up, for example

**Jane Smith and Harry Smith, 2 Friends for Vyne = £30 opposite Osterley UG,**

**Jane Smith and Jill Brown, Friend & guest for Fenton House = £7, at Car Park**

**Total £39**

2. I will email back confirming booking, or very occasionally saying that there is a waiting list.

3. You make a bank transfer to

Name of Payee

**Friends of Osterley**

Sort code

**20 02 06**

Account number

**70389315**

Your Reference

**Trips/your name**

4. Once transfer received I will email your tickets to you.