

FRIENDS OF STANSTED PARK



HEAD FORESTER'S NOTES - WINTER 2018



Ash Die Back

An already busy winter work programme in the forest and park is being compounded by the rapid onset of ash dieback disease across the estate, which will have a number of impacts on our operations. First and foremost is safety and we are felling some ash trees most weeks, as we identify those badly affected that could pose a risk from branch or stem fracture. We are fortunate in not having very large areas of ash but we still have a number of stands that are dominated by it and, in these cases, I am applying for felling licences so we can remove the timber whilst it has some value and take advantage of grants to restock cleared areas. There are also large numbers of single trees and groups scattered across the estate, which will have to be dealt with in time. There will be winners and losers in the bio-diversity stakes as many specialist species rely almost wholly on ash trees for their existence. On the other hand there will most likely be an increase in decaying wood habitats, as many trees in areas where they cannot easily or economically be accessed will die standing and create

habitat. In addition, with increased felling, a greater volume of lop and top will be available on the woodland floor, all of which will be beneficial to organisms that recycle woody debris back to the soil. In areas where natural regeneration of ash has underpinned the future timber crop, saplings have been devastated and this will require a rethink on their future.

I am hopeful that, by the time you read this, the new wildlife pond on Holme Farm will have been created after a rather tortuous process, not all of which is yet resolved. This small area of ex-arable land never grew a crop worthy of the name, mostly due to the heavy soil and seasonal flooding which created a small lake most winters. Designed by the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (HIWWLT) the pond has a large area of shelving margins surrounding it to give the maximum area of varied wetland habitat. With the lapwing, winter bird food, nectar and pollen plots and the enhanced hedgerow management adjacent to all of them, I am hoping that we can create an area of long-term benefit to struggling farmland wildlife.



Typical Wildlife Pond (HIWWLT)

In late August, Colin Hobden, our grazier, took delivery of a new acquisition to the herd of Highland cattle that graze our conservation areas. This was Terry, a fine Highland bull, who quickly settled in and has, along with the cows, become quite an attraction to regular users of the estate. All being well, we await the arrival of new additions to the herd in the spring.

A less pleasing aspect of animal, and indeed human behaviour, has been the rise in the number of dogs attacking deer on the estate. I am saddened by the attitude of many dog owners who believe that exercising a dog means releasing it into woodland and letting it do as it wishes. Deer are the most obvious casualties of this irresponsible behaviour but, in spring, ground nesting birds also suffer from disturbance as well.



Terry the Bull

Michael Prior (Photographs: Terry - Michael Prior..... Ash - Bing.com and Pond - HIWWLT)

TALK BY MICHAEL EDWARDS - 'A PHOTOGRAPHIC TOUR PAST AND PRESENT'

The above talk was received by some forty FOSP members on a dark damp evening.

Michael opened his photographic studio, 'Michael Edwards Photography', during 1952 in West Street, Havant. Throughout the following few years he took many pictures of early Havant and surrounding areas, which he subsequently re-photographed in 2002. During his presentation, Michael reviewed and discussed the many changes that had occurred throughout those years.....asking are there really improvements?

The splendid photographs, along with very descriptive dialogue, took many of the members back to a time gone by, as the nostalgic comments emanating from the audience showed.



Hayling Billy Line - 1950s

Michael not only presented us with photographs of buildings and scenes, some now long gone, but one or two of a more personal nature which brought back even more memories of a past that most of us once knew.

At the end of the talk, and after a question and answer session, Chris Freeborough gave a warm vote of thanks to Michael for a truly wonderful and entertaining evening.



Hayling Billy Line Now

Editors

LIFE BELOW STAIRS AT STANSTED HOUSE

Continued from the Autumn Newsletter 2018, from the diary of Elaine Bevis's grandmother, Mary Isobel Plummer, who was working at Stansted House in the 1900s, when it was owned by the Wilder family.....Although he must have been thirty, he was just like a jolly school boy. I was coming along this courtyard one day when his head came out from under a sports car with a 'hello' and such a nice smile. There were plenty of people to do such work, but I expect it was a change for him to get dirty!



Before leaving, I would like to give you an idea of the outside of the house. The front entrance was on the west side, and on going up a wide sweep of stone steps, there was quite a good sized space for chairs, etc. and a group of twelve columns. On top of this was a balustrade which the ballroom opened onto. (The ballroom had a dais for the band and the walls were mirrored.) The design on the east side was exactly the same. On the south side there was no door but two flights of steps onto a terrace where surmounting the balustrade were fifteen garden plant ornamental vases. I do not know if that is the right word, but they resembled huge rose bowls on stands and, except in winter, they were always in bloom. The family crest was artistically worked over the west and east portals, and a tall glass structure with a dome on the top went up from the centre of the house and from which the flag was flown when the family were in residence. This would be hauled down when they were away. Except when there was a week's shooting, the races or hunting, they were rarely in residence from Tuesday to Friday. We never minded the weekend being full of company as we always had the mid week break to look forward to. It was really a place in a thousand. We could play bowls, cricket and croquet, or go to the nearest town, Portsmouth.

My firm intention was to spend my life in service. I was, in fact, becoming one of those stern old housekeepers, desirous of keeping those under me in their place and endeavouring to get them as interested in their work as I had been. But even then it was not easy and rather hard work for a head servant. No doubt I had also been a headache to those over me in the past. At this time I met my future husband, but I did not know so as first. I first saw him the day I arrived at this place. He was coming from the house with a gentleman's cricket bag which had been left behind after the cricket match. Although he was working on the place I did not see him again for six months. Then, one evening as we were being driven in the staff van to a concert, I sat next to him, thinking no more of each other than fellow servants. It then happened that the head housemaid wanted me to meet her at the station at 9 o'clock as she did not like coming home in the dark. I started out in good time to meet her, but when I got out of the open part of the drive and under the trees, it was so dark that I was afraid to go another step. I could not even see the sky, so I got back into the open part and went back the way I had come and on to the gardens. I went to the bothy and asked if there was anyone who could come with me? *(to be continued)* **Elaine Bevis**

200 YEAR ANNIVERSARY FOR LEWIS WAY AT STANSTED - OCTOBER 13TH 2018

In October 1817, the Rev Lewis Way made perhaps his greatest contribution to the London Society for the Promotion of Christianity among the Jews, known today as the Church's Ministry among Jewish People (CMJ), when he funded and lead an enquiry into the state of Jewish conditions in Holland, Germany and Poland. He then had four remarkable interviews with Czar Alexander 1st in Moscow during January 1818. Alexander, a Christian Sovereign, shared Way's evangelical views and persuaded him to abandon his intention of returning to Stansted, and make his appeal to the forthcoming European Congress to be held in Aix-la Chapelle. Way's petition, delivered in French with eloquence and conviction, was rewarded with a clause written in the Protocol promising tolerance to the Jews and their entry into Society. Heartened, Way returned to Stansted in time for Christmas with his wife and family, (his fourth child was born in his absence) and the consecration of his chapel in January 1819.

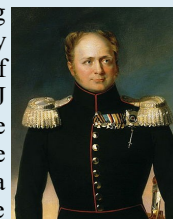


Lewis Way

The impact of Way's appeal to the Congress can be seen in terms of significantly advancing the Jewish hope for emancipation and a return to their ancient land. Subsequently, wrote his biographer Anne Stirling, it was said of Lewis Way that he was the first Christian to convince the Jews that it was possible for a Christian to love them.

The recent CMJ's special event held in celebration of Lewis Way, paid tribute to his outstanding achievements. It is largely due to Penny Swift, a member of the CMJ and a Friend of Stansted, that regular gatherings of the CMJ are held on the estate. Over the years notable speakers have included Kelvin Crombie, the CMJ's historian, Dr. Richard Harvey, a Messianic Jewish Theologian, and the Reverend Alex Jacob, the Chief Executive. The recent meeting included a talk by the academic Rodney Curtis, a fellow FOSP and a great supporter of the chapel. Copies of Rodney's latest book, 'Christian Philosemitism, Lewis Way and the Development of the London Jews Society between 1810-1840', can be obtained from the mansion. £5 per copy is donated to Chapel funds.

St Paul's Chapel was consecrated on the 25th January, 1819. A Lewis Way display area in the Vestry is planned to open in the Spring. **Michael Olding**



Czar Alexander

DECEMBER

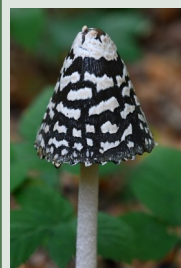
Snow falls,
Christmas calls,
Carols, holly,
All things jolly.
Festive times
With pantomimes,
Gifts galore,
In Santa's store.
Sweets, treats,
Spiced mince meats,
Words of cheer,
Loved ones dear
And, from afar
A shining star
To hail a birth
- And peace on Earth.

Valerie Godwin

FOSP AUTUMN WALK - OCTOBER 16TH

Michael Prior led twenty-three FOSP members and friends off on this 2.7 mile autumn walk, on paths littered with sweet chestnuts, their discarded green prickly shells and the autumn leaves of bright orange, red and brown from a diverse range of trees. First stop was Hare Warren, where coppicing of the sweet chestnut trees had started early and all the timber had already been graded and purchased by contractors. The sweet smell pervading the air was probably due to the tannin released from the felled trees. The area was last coppiced in 1993/94 and will regenerate to approximately 6ft by next autumn.

The second stop was Fir Tree Piece, a chestnut coppice with much poorer quality trees. It has been replanted with conifers, the remaining chestnuts protected by a carpet of brambles to prevent an invasion by deer. This is the rutting season and walkers were advised ***not to wear after shave or perfume, stay downwind, and never to approach any deer!***



Magpie Fungus

We moved on to an area treated with the mulching machine, which mashes up everything economically to provide an area for replanting during mid May with 90% oaks of two species and 10% other broad leaved trees, including some disease resistant elm. In the centre of the area is a lone standing bare trunk, which provides a raptor perch, which is already in use. Raptors help control the vole population that eat and destroy the base of young trees. This area also provides suitable habitat for nightjars and woodlark.

The group were shown the rapid growth of the coppice, where Pearl Border Fritillaries have been established. The spreading bramble and coppice have grown so rapidly that the area will only provide a suitable habitat for about 2 years. It is hoped the fritillaries will spread to the other side and into other areas where there are violets among the ground cover. Pupae, which survive on the forest floor for years, can then appear in the following spring. Ground cover is essential for the survival of these butterflies that flit, do not fly, but float across to new cover.

We looked at a 4 acre plantation area surrounded by very expensive deer and rabbit fencing, noting that the base of the fencing is no longer buried to prevent invasion but turned out, which seems to deter the rabbits just as effectively.

The area is planted with conifers and Japanese Red Cedar and is expected to be a good forestry crop of the future. The 'Beast of the East' (this year's great September storm) caused a 20% loss of the trees, with further losses caused due to the dry summer.

Ash disease, seen on thin chalk soils, is present at Stansted, but there is not the devastation as seen on hillsides in East Sussex. On the Ornamental Drive the ash trees are removed when their branches start to drop off. The gaps left are filled with oak and other hard wood trees. More attempts are being made to plant more interesting trees such as tulip, liquid amber and walnut species. Ash disease is spread by the wind and human and animal access. Trees that have blown down are left as decaying habitats for insects.

During the Second World War, German aircraft bombed The Avenue. It is assumed that the Luftwaffe pilots thought it was an airfield or may be just an area to jettison their bombs before returning to Germany. This would explain why several of the trees are full of shrapnel. 2018 has been a brilliant year for the number of sweet horse chestnuts.

Over time, there will be planted two varieties of eucalyptus, Nitens and Gregoriensis, noting that it is possible to coppice the latter. The leaves of these trees are always cold to touch, due to the oil present. On our return, on one of the paths, there was a small clump of Orange Peel fungus. Michael also discovered a Magpie and a Puff Ball fungus and we passed a pollarded beech stump which provides a habitat for the Honey and Oyster fungus. Thank you Michael for yet another interesting walk. ***Anne Fox-Robinson (Photographs - Michael Parry)***



Eucalyptus Tree Plantation



Orange Peel Fungus

STANSTED PARK: THROUGH THE GLASS HOUSE!



Proposed Visitor Centre

Stansted Park Foundation has secured first stage funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) towards a new visitor centre and exhibition of the Ponsonby family. The award marks the beginning of important restoration work to the derelict Victorian glasshouse, one of a pair in the estate's Walled Gardens. The second was restored in 1999 and houses the Pavilion Tea Rooms. The 'Through the Glasshouse' project puts Stansted Park's rich heritage right at the core of the site.

A wide range of activities will encourage participation from audiences of all ages, including a Visitor Welcome and Information Point, exhibition space and workshop rooms, along with education programmes. One of the aims is to introduce Stansted's visitors to its landscape and rich history - including its most recent owners, the Ponsonby family.

In 2016, the Stansted Foundation secured ownership of the nationally significant Ponsonby Family Archive Collection. The archive comprises medals, miniatures, letters, photographs and personal documents, including hand-written notes from Queen Victoria to Sir Henry Ponsonby, her private secretary.

Other highlights of the collection include Frederick Ponsonby's sword, which saved his life at the Battle of Waterloo and is considered to be one of the nation's most important surviving artefacts from the battle.

Lucy Wood



Ponsonby Sword

MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING - ST PAUL'S CHAPEL, STANSTED

On the first Thursday of the month, there will be a short service of Prayer in St Paul's Chapel at 12 noon. Midday Prayer provides a brief pause in the day to spend time with God and is a short service consisting of a psalm, Bible reading and brief reflection, as well as prayers for the House and its community. ***The Rev. Lindsay Yates, Priest in Charge, The Octagon Parish***

For more information: Telephone: 023 9241 2265 or Email: enquiry@stanstedpark.co.uk

FLORENCE VILLA

At Stansted Park, in the house keeper's room, is a dolls house. I have often been asked for more historic information about this Victorian artefact, so below is the story behind this dolls house and that of the children who have played with it: Continued from the Autumn Newsletter 2018.....



Florence's Wedding in 1908

In time, of course, 'the dolls house girls' grew to adulthood but only two ever married. Florence met the man who was to become her husband at a ball, at the age of sixteen. He was Adrien Jouvin Sharp, who subsequently became Portsmouth's first City architect when the town was decreed a City in 1935. Adrien's older brother, Frederick, a qualified barrister, was also an actor of some repute, taking lead roles both in London's West End and on Broadway and cameo roles in several films, including 'The Man in the White Suit' with Sir Alec Guinness. Frederick declined to appear on television, saying 'It will *never* catch on!'

Dora, Florence's sister, married Frank Sumpster from a Canadian farming family, only to lose him during the First World War.

Adrien and Florence greatly enjoyed entertaining. Adrien had a beautiful singing voice, Florence also sang and played the violin and they owned a large box of period costumes in which they loved to dress for charades and gatherings with their friends. They also collected antiques, and Adrien joined

the Rotary Club and Florence the Inner Wheel. In 1933, they acquired a beach hut on Hayling Island and bought a car. Many a weekend was spent exploring the Hampshire and West Sussex countryside, usually with a well stacked picnic hamper!

As for the Hobbs girls, Effie, Maud and Bertha, they had a house built at the top of Amersham Hill in High Wycombe which they called 'The Knoll' and there they lived out their days with their maid and companion, Lizzie. Effie was the only one of the three to have a profession, qualifying as a maternity nurse.

In later years, their brother, Gordon's wife, Dora, caused quite a stir in the family when she began a liaison with George, Duke of Kent, the son of King George V. They had met and become friends at musical evenings while stationed in Malta. Queen Mary got to hear of it and sent for her son to come home immediately!!

All of the Hobbs boys grew up to qualify as medical practitioners with very successful careers.

Florence and Adrien had one child, a little girl, Nancie, born on Christmas day in 1912. Her early years were spent in a tall house that now forms part of St John's College, Southsea. She was delivered by Effie Hobbs who became one of her godmothers.

Nancie loved the dolls house, 'Florence Villa', as much as her mother did and she and her cousin, Thelma, Dora Sumpster's daughter, were the next generation of children to play with it. *(To be continued)*

Valerie Godwin



Effie Hobbs with Nancie

THE GARDEN CENTRE ROOF



When the Garden Centre building (a second-hand structure imported from Holland, where it had served as a nursery glass house) was built in 1999, it was roofed in new polycarbonate. During 2005, the building was extended by 50% in size and another glass house was sourced from the same place to add space on the north side of the building.

Polycarbonate was always an unsatisfactory option for such a roof as it sets a poor tone for the building, is very noisy in rain and suffers from huge thermal fluctuations. This makes it cold in winter and excessively hot in summer, with excess light which damages the stock. The real advantage was that it was the cheapest option at a time when the Foundation had huge liabilities for repairing buildings across the estate and few spare funds were available. Latterly, when the seals have failed, the roof has leaked, which is not a good advertisement for the business.

We have been searching for a solution for some time and have now decided to opt for a turncoat steel roof, heavily insulated, not unlike the Pavilion Tea Room roof in appearance. Our new tenants are sharing the cost 50/50 with the Foundation. This will make a darker, more solid building, with lighting controlled internally and much better insulation against both heat and cold. Whilst it is guaranteed for 25 years, we have been told this roof should last 40 years plus.

In August this year, we secured planning consent (necessary, as the profile of the roof, and its height, will change considerably). An order has been placed, and work starts on 12th November, with a 15 week contract. It should be completed by Easter. When completed, it should bring a huge change in tone to the building. Business will continue as normal during the re-roofing process.

There will be over 1000 sheets of polycarbonate, still with a good service life, coming off the current roof. If anyone wants some, we are asking for a small gift-aided donation. Please call the Estate Office on 02392 412265

James Cooper

STANSTED PARK FESTIVAL OF LIGHT

From 1st to 13th December you are invited to take a moonlight stroll through the enchanted parklands of the Stansted Estate and see the house and forests brought to life as never before. From the mystery of the chapel grove to the magic of the mansion house, you will marvel at the interactive displays and magical lights as you navigate the pathways of Stansted, including many secret tracks not usually open to the public. Along the way you will discover unique works of art and encounter walkabout performers who will guide you along the way. Your visit will take you through the ancient arboretum to a welcome finish in the Victorian walled gardens for hot chocolate, mulled wine and other festive refreshments. Please wrap up warm and bring wellies - we are a country estate and the route may be muddy. While it is wheelchair and buggy accessible, please call us to discuss your needs prior to booking for the same reason.

Tickets are £10 per head and we would advise you to book in advance as some of the most popular slots are already sold out.
Lucy Wood (For more details call 023 9241 2265 or check www.stanstedpark.co.uk)

THE RIGHT HONORABLE VERE BRABAZON PONSONBY, GCMG

Following on from the Stansted Theatre article taken from the archive of Ruth Tomalin, I found several cuttings of the 9th Earl of Bessborough's obituaries from which there are some interesting facts and some comments which must have been of great comfort to the family.

Excerpts taken from **The Times, March 1956** – *writer unknown*



The Right Hon. Vere Brabazon Ponsonby, G.C.M.G., born on October 27th 1880, was the eldest son of the eighth Earl of Bessborough. Educated at Harrow and at Trinity College, Cambridge, he took his degree and was called to the Bar at Inner Temple in 1903.

His father succeeded to the Earldom in 1906, and Vere, after an early, but unsuccessful political start, Lord Duncannon as he now was, became parliamentary member for Cheltenham in 1910 and as member for Dover in 1913 where he remained until his father's death in 1920. In 1931, the 9th Earl was appointed Governor-General of Canada, created a GCMG, and sworn to the Privy Council.

Apart from his Governor-General duties, he made a valuable contribution to the cultural life of the Dominion. As an ardent patron of drama, he was distressed by the lack of support for it and, with enthusiasm and great success, promoted the revival of the National Drama Festival which had been inaugurated by Lord Grey. As a result of his efforts and ably assisted by Lady Bessborough, it became a flourishing annual institution. He left Canada in 1935 and two years later was created an Earl of the United Kingdom in recognition of his services. [The Earldom had previously been only in the peerage of Ireland.]

During the 1940s he was invited by the War Cabinet to head a department attached to the Foreign Office to coordinate the activities of all Government departments and voluntary organizations concerned with the welfare of the French in Great Britain. For this he was created a Knight of the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour.

Bishop of Chichester writes:-

No account of Lord Bessborough's work and character would be complete without a special mention of the service he gave to the Church. He was a devoted son of the Church of England and gave unstinting support to the work of the Diocese of Chichester over a long period of years and, after his return from Canada, was elected to the Diocesan Board of Finance in 1937 for which he directed its affairs with great ability and energy, not hesitating to introduce reforms where necessary. A most popular figure, he won the admiration and gratitude of clergy and laity alike.

In 1954 he was appointed chairman of the new Church of England Advisory Council of Empire Settlement which was set up by the Church Assembly, a choice to which The Archbishop of Canterbury paid a warm tribute for the work Lord Bessborough had done.

In the affairs of Church and State, in Canada [as many a Canadian Church leader could testify], in Britain and in the Commonwealth as a whole, Lord Bessborough gave a lead that set an example, for which those who realize what such a lead and example mean must be deeply grateful.

INSPIRER OF LOYALTY – *by Mr Frank Byers*

Obituary notices cannot adequately cover all facets of the long and distinguished career of a person such as the Earl of Bessborough. There is however, one aspect of his life which should, I think, be recorded. He was for 20 years a director of Rio Tinto Co. Ltd and, for the past nine years, had been its Chairman. In this office he displayed a remarkable facility for gaining the loyalty and affection of people at all levels of the organization. His visits to the mines in Spain were notable for the interest which he took in the lives and work of the British and Spanish staff, from the senior mining engineers down to the 'obreros' [workers], all of whom were left with the feeling that he had a special interest in them as individuals.

The last business visit which he paid was, to me, the most memorable. I had the good fortune to accompany him when last year he visited Canada for the first time since 1935. In spite of his age, he embarked on an arduous tour of the interests of the newly formed Rio Tinto organization there. His characteristic interest in human beings and what they were doing provided the very stimulant which a young organization needed.

More impressive to me however, was the warmth with which he was greeted by the Canadians everywhere. It was a happy chance that so short a time before his death he should have had the opportunity of hearing from the Canadians themselves the very genuine appreciation of his work as Governor-General, which so many of them expressed. This appreciation was in no way confined to those who had been actively associated with him at that time. It was shared by the younger people, many of whom were merely schoolchildren during his term of office.

There was no doubt that he and Lady Bessborough had earned the respect and affections of Canadians in all parts of the Dominion. He left behind in Canada many new friends who will feel, as his colleagues do, a real sense of personal loss. Those of us who worked with him realized that he brought to the tasks he undertook an enthusiasm combined with dignity which was the hall-mark of true leadership.

Jill Waring

Photograph from a painting by Jonghers - Vere, 9th Earl of Bessborough as Governor-General of Canada 1935 courtesy of 'Enchanted Forest'

WINTER NEWSLETTER 2018

WHAT IS ON AT STANSTED

2018/19 HOUSE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING AT ST PAUL'S CHAPEL, STANSTED

1st Thursday of the month a service of Prayer at 12 noon

SKETCHING SUNDAYS

1st Sunday of the month from 10am to 1pm

THURSDAY 22ND TO SUNDAY 25TH NOVEMBER

Stansted Christmas Fayre

SATURDAY 1ST – THURSDAY 13TH DECEMBER

Stansted Park Festival of Light

THURSDAY 20TH DECEMBER AT 12 NOON

Carol Service at St Paul's Chapel

SUNDAY 24TH FEBRUARY

Wedding Showcase

THURSDAY 21ST MARCH

Music Evening

SUNDAY 31ST MARCH

Mothering Sunday

THURSDAY 4TH - SUNDAY 7TH APRIL

Son et Lumiere (Sound & Light Show)

SUNDAY 21ST APRIL

Easter Day (House Opening)

For more information please contact the office on

023 9241 2265 or enquiry@stanstedpark.co.uk

CONTACTING STANSTED HOUSE

For a general enquiry, or for information about FOSP membership, visits and social events, please telephone, email or write to:-

The Estate Office
Stansted Park Foundation
Stansted Park
Rowlands Castle
Hampshire
PO9 6DX

Telephone No: 023 9241 2265

Fax: 023 9241 3773

Email: enquiry@stanstedpark.co.uk

Director: James Cooper

Head Forester: Michael Prior

House Manager: Dan Cook

Head Gardener: Dimitrisz Sopisz

Estate Manager: Toby Hill

Events Manager: Helen Pine - events@stanstedpark.co.uk

Marketing: Lucy Wood - marketing@stanstedpark.co.uk

Stansted Park Website: www.stanstedpark.co.uk

STANSTED HOUSE CAR PARK IDENTIFICATION

Visitor Car Park

Formerly The Garden Centre Car park

Bothy Car Park

Alongside the Pavilion Tea Room

Mansion Car Park

North of The House

Boneyard Car Park

Formerly Mansion Overflow Car Park

FOSP MEMBER EVENTS - 2018/19

TUESDAY 27TH NOVEMBER at 7.00pm

Christmas Celebrations with The Phoenix Singers
(Members £5 Non-members £6)

THURSDAY 18TH APRIL at 6.30pm

FOSP AGM

(Agenda etc will be issued with Spring Newsletter)

THURSDAY 9TH MAY at 7.00pm

FOSP talk by David Rumble
From Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildfowl Trust

TUESDAY 11TH JUNE

Visit to Knole House and Park. Details to follow

PLEASE TELEPHONE 023 9241 2265

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE for talks, coffee mornings, our Christmas event etc so we can arrange appropriate seating and refreshments. Thank you

BOOKING IS NOT REQUIRED FOR HEAD FORESTER'S WALKS

For Foundation and FOSP events at the House, follow signs to 'Stansted Offices' (2nd Estate entrance from Broad Walk driving from Emsworth Common Road) and park in front of House.

FOSP SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL 2019

Subscriptions for the year January to December 2019 are due soon!

We very much value your support of FOSP, and of the beautiful Stansted Estate. We therefore look forward to your continued membership.

No action is required if you have previously set up a Standing Order. If, however, you usually pay by cheque, you will find a personal reminder enclosed with this Newsletter.

Payment in November or December 2018 will mean that you get your new Membership Card before Christmas or, if you want to change to payment by Standing Order, you have time to set it up for payment on January 1st 2019.

Again many thanks for your continuing support.

Helen Spilsted - Membership Secretary

COMMITTEE MEMBER CONTACT POINTS

Chairman - Michael Olding: michael.olding@btinternet.com

Secretary - Anne Burton: anneburton99@gmail.com

Treasurer - Sarah Hutchinson: hutchsj@yahoo.co.uk

Membership - Helen Spilsted: spilly@outlook.com

Newsletter - Robert Godwin: crana.crana@ntlworld.com

NEXT FOSP NEWSLETTER COPY DATES

Friday 25th January 2019 - Spring

Friday 26th April - Summer