RIENDS OF STANSTED PARK



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN - CELEBRATING 21 YEARS

Our recent AGM on Thursday 18th April gave the attendees the opportunity to look back and celebrate the first twenty one years since FOSP was formed in 1998. The aims and objectives of the Friends established at that time remain the same today; to offer financial support for Foundation projects, to promote visitor and educational initiatives and to encourage volunteering. It is interesting to note how quickly the Friends took off and established a sound financial base. The first published newsletter spoke of the successful amalgamation of the two groups, the 'Friends of the Forest' and the 'Friends of Stansted House', with a combined membership approaching one hundred. By March 2001, the Chairman, Andrew Grant, was able to announce that the

membership had grown fourfold. Today, there are some 550 members. Andrew also noted that Stansted, although a rural gem, was not a well known facility. Today, however, the extraordinary growth of this multifaceted estate attracts thousands of visitors and makes a significant contribution to the community. During the intervening years, the FOSP have established an excellent relationship with the Foundation, and steady membership numbers has allowed a consistent supply of funds to support numerous Foundation projects. Since 1999, over £83,000 has been given to the Foundation, with a further £10,000 pledged towards the forthcoming Ponsonby Collection display. Members fulfilling voluntary duties supporting both Foundation and FOSP events have also been impressive.

Over the years, many people have contributed to the success of the Friends notably Andrew Grant, Chairman for eleven years who, with able support from Jimmy James, (Treasurer) and the late Bill Corrigan (Talks), did much to put the Friends on a firm footing. Jill Waring skilfully uplifted our newsletter to its present form and Rona Doyle's series of talks considerably enriched our funds. The present committee continue to work hard to fulfil our obligations

Over the years the FOSP has become, in the words of Trustee Jimmy Kenroy, "*The icing on the Stansted cake.*" May our loyal and supportive association endure for years to come as the Foundation faces the challenges ahead.

Michael Olding

HEAD FORESTER'S NOTES - SPRING 2019

Some events are like buses, so they say, with nothing happening, then a couple come along at once and this has been the case with personnel in the Woods and Park Department. In the last newsletter, I told you of the departure to warmer climes (Devon) of Kev Stallard, our long serving coppice contractor. Then, in March, Mike Holden, who has been one of my contractors for around sixteen years and carried out all manner of tasks on the Estate, informed me of his departure. He is still local but has now taken up a long held ambition to become a shooting instructor. As he is very much a people person and having seen him shoot, I am sure he will excel in this new role and we wish him well in this new phase of his working life.



Ash Die Back

The woodlands of the south of England are looking very grim at present with large patches almost leafless as our ash trees struggle with ash dieback disease. Many are breaking buds but often further back in the crown, leaving dead branches above which could soon present a hazard. We are already felling trees on roadsides and in other potentially hazardous positions where dieback is advanced and will start a major

programme later in the summer in the areas with the most public access. The sad fact is that most of these areas would never have been cleared but run on some form of continuous cover system as ash regenerates so freely. Our challenge will be to restock these areas with a mix of species suited to the site that will eventually produce useful timber and deal with potential climate change and incoming pests and diseases, to say nothing of squirrels and deer. One very prominent site on the escarpment has very thin soils over the chalk, a classic site for ash, so restocking choices here might be challenging. There will then be the cost of all this work and the ongoing



Mike Holden (on the right) with Sam and Colin during milling of the Farm Shop timber.

maintenance for many years. Editor's Note: "It is estimated that the total cost of this disease may be £15bn," explained lead author Dr Louise Hill, a researcher at Plant Sciences at the University of Oxford. "That's a third more than the reported cost of the foot-and-mouth disease outbreak in 2001."

Our lapwings on Holme Farm have had a poor year with no breeding pairs, despite there being eight birds displaying one day and at least one pair appearing to settle down to lay eggs. Then they were all gone and have not been seen since with no obvious explanation evident. The winter bird food plot held up reasonably well, providing food and cover despite a sizeable night time influx of fallow deer that devastated a large percentage of the kale plants. The weekly hand feeding that I carried out



Pearl-bordered Fritillary

deer that devastated a large percentage of the kale plants. The weekly hand feeding that I carried out from January to the end of April, known as the hungry gap, saw large flocks of farmland birds attending to hoover up the specific seed mix spread. This mostly consisted of chaffinch, yellowhammer, linnet and a few brambling. The nectar and pollen mix sown last year with a first year nurse of phacelia is coming on well, with the area liberally covered by a number of leguminous plants (pea family) that should flower this summer providing a welcome food source for insects but particularly bees.

As I write this (2nd May), I can confirm that I have seen the first pearl-bordered fritillaries again and hope for a good breeding year. We have coppiced a number of blocks close to the core release area and numbers of violet plants, the caterpillars food source, have been spectacular on the ride edges so I am hoping, with fair weather, we will have a good year.

Michael Prior

LIFE BELOW STAIRS AT STANSTED HOUSE

Continued from the Spring Newsletter 2019, from the untoward. It did upset the weekend rather as most of the staff diary of Elaine Bevis's grandmother, Mary Isobel Plummer, had plans for a Sunday off, but there it was - it taught one to who was working at Stansted House in the 1900s, when it was always be prepared for the unexpected. owned by the Wilder family.......There were under-maids who advantage to do so. Life was very good for one and all.....

I remember getting one rather bad fright. The Squire and his lady had gone away for a few days. They were not expected home until the following Tuesday and on the Saturday afternoon the whole staff had gone to Portsmouth, except for myself and the second footman. I was sitting at one of the ornamental tables in front of the house, making lace for the latest pile of underclothes I had made, and the footman was having a bath, when through the trees in the distance I thought I recognised our big yellow and black car. I raced across to the Keepers Cottage, or rather Lodge, which was not far from the house to make sure. I was right! There was not a housemaid in the place and the house was in a shroud of dustsheets. Worst of all, was the fact that the big kitchen range had just been made up and was as black as ink. It was the only means of boiling water and cooking we had. I pulled all the dampers out and rushed to the telephone and got some fish and chicken from the fishmonger. He had closed, but as a favour came out with all we wanted. Meanwhile, the footman and I were whipping off the dustsheets. The funny part was that when the front door bell rang, he had no idea who it might be and hurriedly pulled on his trousers and was still drying himself when he opened the door to the Squire. The lady was examining my fancywork!

Never again did we get caught like that, although the Squire was very nice about it and said they would have dinner half an hour later than usual. The rest of the staff did not come in until ten o'clock that night, and what a surprise they had! The house was a blaze of lights and they were prepared for something *Elaine Bevis* (to be continued)

We had our own private church about a stone's throw from had no wish to move, although it would have been to their the house. The pews for the Squire and his guests were in front, but curtained off from the rest of the congregation. There was none of the compulsion to attend I had experienced in my previous situations. About a mile away, still on the estate, was another church, and the vicar alternated between the two. No doubt the church had played an important part in the lives of the Squire's ancestors. There were stories about



may how strict the Squire's mother had been. By all accounts it had not been the happy house we all had the good fortune to enjoy. She had a bell by her bedside which she rang at six o' clock each morning into the staff quarters in the north wing. She would then proceed to take a walk from her part of the house to ensure that everyone was rising. Woe betide you if you were

Christ Church - Forestside

still in bed! In our time, however, she lived quietly in the Dower House.

Now that I had a companion for my free Sundays, we would go further afield than I had been able to go before. One day we came across a large building quite near the house. It was built like a pantheon and was very imposing. On enquiring, we found that former Squires had used it for theatricals. In our time it was used for storing precious articles collected by the Squire and his wife on their tour of the East. I believe I have read in later years that under its present owner it has been renovated and used as a theatre.

FOSP WALK 9th APRIL 2019

Nineteen Friends and dogs met at Lordington Copse on a damp, and sometimes wet, afternoon with Michael Prior, to see the changes undertaken in this area during the last few years.



The roadside edge had been cut back and tidied up during 2018 making a more open vista into the wood. Michael pointed out the thinning that had also taken place to improve the plant regeneration on the woodland floor. Strolling along on one of the rides, a hare was spotted running away from us - a really unexpected sight. As usual, squirrel damage was prominent and, together with ash dieback, is causing concern. Honeysuckle is being retained, along with old thorns, for

wildlife benefit. Michael also showed us the 'Peter Gabriel Tree', (from a Peter Gabriel song!) together with the woodland bank management that is ongoing.

The central ride throughout the copse is to be opened up and the edges



Peter Gabriel Tree

made more definable, giving a better balance between the ride and the wooded area on either side.

There have been problems with tubed trees, which volunteers are slowly managing by their Wet, But Not Downhearted! removal. The Estate is also slowly removing tree butts for further use.

Among the flowers and plants in this unique area of Stansted are: bluebells, violets, primroses, periwinkle, wood anemone, wood spurge, hellebore, honeysuckle, wild cherry, ground ivy, celandine, Solomon seal, purple orchid, and wild garlic. The work effort into this area will soon bear fruition. Thank you Michael for another interesting walk into a fairly unknown part of Stansted. Editors

SUMMER'S HERE

Summer's here in all her glory Telling out her gorgeous story, Linnets, larkspur, country lanes, Long hot days and sudden rains, Honeysuckle in the hedge, Fresh green leaves and sun-burnt sedge. Spades and buckets on the beach. Ice-cream cones, a ripened peach, Strawberries, raspberries, clotted cream, Yes, its for real, its not a dream. The summer months are truly here -The very best time of the year!

Valerie Godwin

VOLUNTEER GARDENERS SPRING REPORT



The Gardening Team

On 25th May the garden volunteers said farewell to Dimi, the very popular Stansted Gardener, who has left to take up an appointment at Houghton Hall owned by the Cholmondeley family and originally built for Sir Robert Walpole. Dimi has led our team with energy and enthusiasm for just over a year and we shall miss him tremendously; we have learned a great deal under his good humoured expertise while guiding us through projects old and new.

Dimi's planting of spring bulbs has created a wow factor from the new entrance to the Well Head garden and, just before he left, we embarked on the long awaited re-planting of the long borders in the Walled Garden, now that they are free of bindweed. The Friends made a generous donation towards the cost.

The weather has put quite a strain on efficient gardening, with watering of new and established plants a constant worry due to the lack of rain. However, the dry weather did

mean that access was possible to the lower Arboretum for the Mothers' Day celebration while the daffodils were still blooming. A lively display of parrot tulips in the Well Head garden has been enjoyed by many visitors.

New volunteers have joined during the Winter and we always welcome any enquiries to our happy team which gardens every Thursday morning. *Tessa Culley (For further information on joining the volunteers Contact Stansted Office:* 023 9241 2265)

AGM - 18TH APRIL

The AGM was attended by Trustees, Committee and Members, totalling 57 persons.

The Chairman, Michael Olding, opened the proceedings by reporting that it was 21 years since the inauguration of the 'Friends of Stansted Park', uniting the 'Friends of Stansted House' and the 'Friends of the Forest'. He recounted the development of the association, under the Chairmanship for many years, of Andrew Grant; the development of the Newsletter; and the increase in membership. Over the past 21 years FOSP had been able to sup-

port the Estate's plans and projects. The Estate too, during the years, had developed immeasurably and now had some 200,000 visitors a year, to the grounds, Tea Room, Garden Centre, Farm shop and House, making the Estate the hub of the community. The success of the Foundation was not only down to the management of the Estate by the Trustees, but enhanced by the people who visit and support it and, in no small part, by the Friends, building a real feeling of Stansted as a big family.

Michael thanked the Committee Members individually and expressed his gratitude, on behalf of the whole Committee, to the Foundation and office staff, particularly Dan Cook, Kim Grainger and Michael Prior, all of whom cheerfully work with the Friends' to support their events. He also stressed the importance of the members, without whom no progress would be possible, and thanked them most sincerely for their loyal support.

Michael reported that Bill Corrigan, a very long serving member of the committee, and a dear friend to Stansted, had recently died - he would be sadly missed.

The retiring Director, James Cooper, summarised the Foundation's past year and its plans for the future.



Lord Bessborough, The Trustees, the past and present Chairmen with James Cooper and Family

To mark the retirement of James, a presentation was made, from the Friends'

Committee on behalf of Members. Lord Bessborough, Chairman of the Trustees, expressed his gratitude to James for his service to the Foundation for 22 years, and commended the progress and development of the Estate under James's leadership. He stated that James's successor, who will be in post at the end of July, when he retires from his post with the Army, is Colonel David Bennett. The meeting was closed and Friends joined with James's family and Trustees for refreshments in the Entrance Hall. *Anne Burton and Editor*

SUMMER PARTY - 27 JUNE 2019

Our Summer Party will again be held in the atmospheric Pavilion Tearooms. Friends and guests will have the opportunity of once more enjoying Clare's delicious buffet supper along with sparkling wine or soft drinks. Other beverages can be purchased at the bar.

The Party is an extremely popular event, so I advise an early booking. The cost remains a modest charge £16 (FOSP members) and £20 (non-members). The generosity of members who contribute raffle prizes and purchase tickets enable us to cover our costs. I have no doubt that this year will be no exception.

Please complete the enclosed reply slip, and send it with payment, to Anne Burton at the address given. The Committee look forward to welcoming you on the 27th June. *Michael Olding*

FOSP COFFEE MORNING



What a fine coffee morning, attended by 52 Friends, was held last March for the opening of the new season. Once again we are indebted to the Friends' team of loyal helpers and cake providers for making our first social event of the year such a joy. In an

attractively arranged Music Room, a fine selection of cakes, served by waitresses, combined to make a setting delightfully English.

James Cooper gave an update on the Foundation activities over the past year. The sum of $\pounds 59.26$ was raised by attendees. *Editors*

3

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 Spring Newsletter 2019...

beyond.

Electricity

Ian Hodgkinson in Portsmouth

Cathedral and moved to Scotland

became Manager of Inverkip Power

Station in South Renfrewshire. Ian

and I had two daughters, Amanda

and Laura, and both girls still live

north of the border with their own

Generating

Board,



Florence

families.

Amanda married and has three children; Rachael, who is studying journalism, Zoë, who is pursuing a career in sports psychology and Stuart, who is still at senior school and is showing an aptitude in various subjects! Amanda works for Royal Mail (Scotland).

Laura married and has two daughters, Caroline, a qualified chef, and Dawn, who studied at James Watt College, Greenock. Both girls are at present working as nursing assistants in Largs. Laura is a fully qualified nurse.

Dawn has a little girl, Freyah Lily, who is Florence's great-great- great granddaughter.

In 1992, after my first marriage had sadly failed, I married Robert Godwin, a senior engineering civil servant with the

MoD(N), whose last employment was the Estate Manager of Portsmouth Naval Base. It is Robert who has carefully and painstakingly restored the Dolls House to its former glory. His excellent skills at woodwork and other crafts have now firmly ensured its future.

I, like my mother before me, became very involved in amateur dramatics, both in Scotland with 'The Skelmorlie In bringing the story of the Dolls Attic Players' and later, back in England, with 'The House, 'Florence Villa', up to the Portsmouth Players'. I have also appeared in a Portsmouth present day, this entails a brief Fringe Festival and, in 1997, had a book of children's poems history of the next generation and published.

Each child of the Hobbs, Duck descent, except for little In the summer of 1965, I married, Freyah, has either played with or spent time with the Dolls House and all have loved doing so.

Florence, in her elderly years, was still a gentle and genteel where Ian, who was with the then lady. With her snow white hair, fragile figure and sweet na-



ture, she was beloved of friends and family alike. She died in 1967 at the age of 84. And 'Florence Villa' itself has

been looked after and treasured all its life. In 1984 it went on show at Longleat House, Wiltshire, in aid of the 'Save the Children Fund', where Nancie was presented to Princess Anne, who is the patron of this charity.

The Dolls House is now on long

term loan to the Stansted Park

Princess Anne and Nancie at Longleat

Foundation.

Whilst there, it has been featured in 'Dolls House Magazine', in an article written by Sandra Harding. Long may this little house be admired and enjoyed, for it is, indeed, a truly delightful time capsule.

Valerie Godwin

IVDAEA CAPITA (JUDEA CONQUERED)

With the Lewis Way heritage display in the Chapel underway, the recent discovery of a large stone medallion on the Stansted estate is timely.

The medallion carries the inscription IVDAEA CAPITA and is a reference to the capture of Judea and the destruction of the Second Temple with the fall of Jerusalem during the Great Jewish Revolt against the Roman Empire in 66-70 AD. This event, one of the major calamities that have befallen the Jewish people, is solemnly observed on the Jesuit annual day of mourning, Tisha B'ah.



Ivdaea Capita Coin

To celebrate their hard fought victory against the Jewish nation, The Roman Emperor, Vespasian, issued a series of commemorative coins with the inscription IVDAEA CAPITA JUDEA (has been) CONQUERED. Minted in gold, silver and bronze, of all meaning denominations, the coinage issued over a twenty five year period carried several variations of imagery on the reverse. Prominent reliefs included the standing figure of the victorious Emperor, Roman symbols of war, a distressed female figure and a palm tree. These coins were issued throughout the Roman Empire to demonstrate the futility of possible future rebellions. Today, some 48 different types of these coins are known, and much sought after by numismatics.

The Stansted discovery is a superb example of stone carving. The medallion is dominated by the female figure in the attitude of mourning at the base of a palm tree. The juxtaposition of these two figures leads to the contention that the palm tree stands for victorious Rome with the distressed woman representing the defeated nation or perhaps Jerusalem. Some Jewish observers interpret this imagery as reflecting the biblical prophesy of Isaiah (3.8 25-26):

> For Jerusalem is ruined and Judah is fallen.... 'Thy men shall fall by the sword and she being desolate shall sit upon the ground."

The Stansted medallion must be at least 200 years old. Although now in five pieces, it appears to be in excellent condition and judging by the quality of its reliefs would not have been exposed to the elements. If it was a feature of Way's carefully designed interior, there is no reference to it in Goodhart Rendel's 1926 restoration of the chapel. The two Hebrew tablets and the Open Book were removed from their original positions and relocated internally. The medallion, assuming it was in the chapel, clearly left the building and found a resting place elsewhere. Its discovery, therefore, is to be welcomed. Michael Olding



The Stansted medallion

THE TIMES – WEDNESDAY MAY 13TH 1992



The Times - Wednesday May 13th 1992

Cricket is blooming at the Earl of Bessborough's Stansted Park ground in West Sussex – but batsmen are having to place their drives with extra care. A rare green wing orchid *(orchis morio)* has unexpectedly sprouted at short midwicket and its delicate cerise flower has taken precedence over willow and leather.

"We have put a cage of plastic netting around to protect it," Lord Bessborough's agent, Captain John Gowan, said yesterday. "We believe it is the first green wing orchid on the estate and experts have told us it will be impossible to move it to another site without killing it."

A protected species, the orchid feeds on fungus deep in the ground and its hair-like roots go searching for food up to 30 feet away, which would mean digging up the square to move it. The flower was spotted by Ian Perkins, the gardener, and identified by Michael Prior the

head forester. The cricket club hopes it flourishes, even though it is uncertain what will happen if it multiplies. Lord Bessborough, a former government minister, said, "I am more than happy it's made its appearance and that the cricketers are able to accommodate it." (From an article written by Michael Horsnell of The Times and found in Ruth Tomalin's archive of press cuttings).

Cultivation details - Orchids are in general shallow-rooting plants that like sun and well-drained low-fertility soils. Their symbiotic relationship with a fungus in the soil allows them to obtain sufficient nutrients and be able to compete successfully with other plants. They are very sensitive to the addition of fertilizers or fungicides since these can harm the symbiotic fungus and thus kill the orchid. This symbiotic relationship makes them very difficult to cultivate, though they will sometimes appear uninvited in a garden and will then thrive. Transplanting can damage the relationship and plants might also thrive for a few years and then disappear, suggesting that they might be short-lived perennials. Plants can occasionally appear in lawns where they will increase freely if allowed to set seed. The lawn should not be mown early in the year before or immediately after flowering.

NEWS FROM TENERIFE

Tony and I were delighted that Robert and Valerie were able to spend some time with us when they recently visited Tenerife via P&O Cruise Ship Oriana. Most shops in Santa Cruz are shut on Sundays except for an enormous flea market that spreads itself in all directions, which, combined with ongoing complicated road works along the seafront, made finding each other quite a logistical exercise! Thank goodness for mobile phones, without which our meeting might have been doomed! With no diversion signs, we had to launch ourselves into the unknown, on roadways which were created more for donkeys/mules, not modern forms of transport. However, we all saw parts of the old city which might otherwise have not been viewed. A drive to Puerto de la Cruz in the north, combined with an excellent leisurely lunch at a favourite restaurant to catch up on all Stansted news, made for a most enjoyable day together. *(Editors Note: It certainly was a fantastic get-together)*.

Finally, it was with great sadness that Tony and I learned of the death of dear Bill Corrigan from Michael Olding and Robert. He was very much a part of Stansted and FOSP Committee during the eleven years that I was involved and many of us enjoyed the great variety of interesting evening talks he organised as well as his regular participation in Michael Prior's excellent walks. Some of my most enjoyable memories are from the days I hand delivered minutes or newsletters and he would insist on showing me his latest crop of wonderful fruit or vegetables and we would share notes on seed varieties and methods of planting.

> Birds fill the balmy air with songs enchanted, How can I worry over seeds not planted? That list was never made – well anyhow That burden I may drop – 'tis too late now.

To Bill & Kitty with love, Jill Waring



Sketch by Bill Corrigan

CDR WILLIAM (BILL) RICHARD CORRIGAN, RN (January 10th 1935 - 9th April 2019)



It was with great sadness that we learnt of Bill's passing in April, after a short illness. Bill was born at home in Grosvenor Square, Rathmines, Dublin. The family moved to Hertfordshire in 1938 where two younger siblings were born. Bill passed the entrance exam to Dartford Naval College in 1951 and served nearly 37 years 'before the mast', having several placements in Belfast, Portsmouth and Washington. He met Kitty at a dance in Wimbledon and they were married in 1958.

Bill served on the FOSP Committee for some 26 years as Talk Co-ordinator, bringing some interesting and varied lecturers to FOSP, ranging from deer control to silhouette portraitures, from 'HMS Victory' to 'The Royal Yacht, Britannia'. He had a great knowledge in many subjects and would always go out of his way to meet with new members at social functions and make them welcome. His love for the countryside was well known and, on Michael Prior's forest walks, would make copious notes for insertion in FOSP Newsletters. Our condolences go to Kitty and family. *Editor*

'The success of the committee lies in its unselfish commitment to enhancing the facilities for visitors and thereby improving footfall which helps the Foundation. In my time with the team I have always been impressed with the fact that no one has evinced a personal agenda but worked towards results by guided consensus to the satisfaction of the beneficiaries' - **Bill Corrigan**

WHAT'S ON AT STANSTED

2019 HOUSE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING AT ST PAUL'S CHAPEL, STANSTED

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

SKETCHING SUNDAYS 1st Sunday of the month from 10am to 1pm THURSDAY 23rd MAY

Musical Evening SUNDAY 26th MAY

Rolls Royce South of England Rally

FRIDAY 7th to SUNDAY 9th JUNE The Stansted Garden Show

> **SUNDAY 16th JUNE** Father's Day Classic Cars

SUNDAY 23rd JUNE Steeleford Supercar Rally

THURSDAY 27th JUNE 'Wuthering Heights' - Outdoor Theatre - on South Lawn

> FRIDAY 28th to 30th JUNE The Nostalgia Show

SATURDAY 10th JULY 'Midsummer's Night Dream'

SATURDAY 13th & 14th JULY RNTA 'Merchant of Venice'

SATURDAY 20th & 21st JULY David Walliams's - 'Gangsta Granny'

SATURDAY 27th & 28th JULY 'Romeo & Juliet' / 'Much Ado About Nothing'

FRIDAY 9th AUGUST Outdoor Theatre - 'The Legend of King Arthur'

FRIDAY 23rd AUGUST Outdoor Theatre - 'The Secret Garden' SATURDAY 31st AUGUST

Orion Orchestra - Proms Concert

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

FOSP MEMBERS DISCOUNT

Please be aware of the attached letter from The Walled Garden Tenants.

The Committee is disappointed in the decision to withdraw the discount that has been available to FOSP members.

FOSP MEMBER EVENTS - 2019

TUESDAY 11th JUNE Visit to Knole House and Park. (Waiting list only)

> THURSDAY 27th JUNE Summer Party

A BOOKING FORM IS WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

THURSDAY 25 JULY AT 3pm Cream Tea

THURSDAY 3rd OCTOBER AT 7pm FOSP talk by Chris Dobbs The Mary Pose – From Stansted Forest to Shin to Museum?

'The Mary Rose - From Stansted Forest to Ship to Museum'

PLEASE TELEPHONE **023 9241 2265** TO BOOK YOUR PLACE for talks, coffee mornings, FOSP events etc so we can arrange appropriate seating and refreshments. Thank you.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Can you spare an hour or so every three months to help in delivering the FOSP Newsletter in your area? If so please contact Anne Burton:-

anneburton99@gmail.com

PLASTIC CRATES

Do any FOSP members have any of the plastic green crates that the supermarkets leave when they do home deliveries? I would be most grateful if you have. Please contact:-

Toby Hill - Estate Manager - 023 9241 2265

FOSP PROMOTION AT THE GARDEN SHOW

This year, instead of the Hexagonal Hut, FOSP will have a plot on the South Lawn, backing onto the House, which we will be sharing with the Garden Volunteer Team, to promote their invaluable work, and the Foundation's Second Hand Bookshop.

Volunteers from the Bookshop, situated in the Garden Centre, will be selling a selection of gardening and countryside books and, space permitting, cookery books and fiction. All at bargain prices!

With this combined promotion we hope to see more visitors, in an area which is much more prominent.

If you are able to spend a couple of hours at our promotion tent, on any of the three days, do contact me.

Anne Burton

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 DATE

Friday 27th July - Autumn