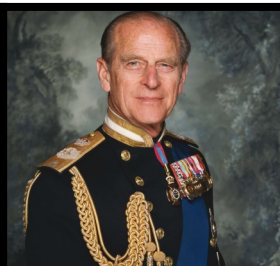


FRIENDS OF STANSTED PARK



SPECIAL COVID UNLOCKED EDITION



Born 10th June 1921
Died 9th April 2021

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH

The Duke of Edinburgh's death leaves a huge gap in the House of Windsor. The Queen described him as 'quite simply, my rock', while his influence on his children and grandchildren was extensive.

He was a loved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. But, more than that, he was a major figure in British public life for over seventy years.

His legacy encompasses many areas and his impact was wide ranging. Philip, the prince forced into exile as a baby, became the bedrock of an ancient monarchy. His place in its history is undeniable.

He was the patron of over 800 charities and organisations and was the longest-serving royal consort in British history, carrying out more than 22,000 solo engagements and more than 630 solo overseas visits during his lifetime.

FRIENDS OF STANSTED AGM AND COFFEE MORNING - 10.00AM THURSDAY 22ND JULY

I am pleased to announce that our long overdue AGM will be held in the Mansion at 10am on 22 July. Following brief formalities, members will be able to enjoy our popular Coffee Morning.

For your information, Michael's *Chairman's Report is below whilst the Treasure's Report is on page 5*. These are also included with the AGM Papers which we are distributing alongside this Newsletter.

If anyone wishes to have a copy of the Minutes from the last AGM - Thursday 18th April 2019 – please contact me at anneburton99@gmail.com, or 01243 377485.

The Committee very much look forward to seeing you.

Anne Burton - Secretary

CHAIRMAN'S REPORTS 2020 AND 2021



The Hexagonal Hut
One of the many Projects
supported by the Friends

The year 2019 gave us the opportunity to celebrate our 21st Anniversary and evaluate our relationship with the Foundation over that time. The Trustees are currently assessing future initiatives and we await requests for support. We pledged £10,000, over two years, towards the reorganisation of the old family dining room to display the Sir John Ponsonby collection. This is a most exciting project and should prove to be a fascinating visitor attraction.

The occasion also gave us the opportunity to say goodbye to James Cooper, who did so much to establish and promote the Friends during his time as Director of the Foundation, and we welcomed James's successor, David Bennett, who has already attended a number of Friends' social events since his appointment. We wish David every success and have every confidence that a close working relationship with him is being established.

The year 2020 was a really difficult year for us all. However, the year ahead gives us the opportunity for optimism, as we can begin to pick up the positives and fulfil our constitutional obligations. I'm sure you will agree that, during these difficult times, our support to the Foundation is more relevant than ever.

With the above in mind, my first task is to thank each and every one of you for your constant commitment to the Friends. Our numbers have dipped a little, but I am particularly pleased to hear that several people, who have been using and appreciating the forest during the pandemic, have joined the Friends, and donated trees under Stansted's Tree Sponsorship Project. This suggests something well worth pursuing, along with other potential opportunities, to boost membership. The Committee is picking up on our events programme, which we believe is an essential element of membership, and underlies the importance of social interaction, which brings so much pleasure.

The Committee and the Foundation are looking into the benefits of the Gift Aid Scheme, and discussions are in progress to see if this is a viable prospect.

I would like to thank all my Committee colleagues for their continued commitment to the Friends. We have been in regular contact throughout the year and I am particularly grateful to Anne for her sterling work in keeping us all together; to Sarah for ensuring that our accounts are kept in good order; to Robert and Valerie for the high standard of newsletters; and to Paul, who has settled in well as our new Membership Secretary. A special mention is also due to the Foundation team, whose regular updates and administrative support are greatly appreciated.

Our relationship with the Foundation remains as strong as ever and, once some form of normality returns, it will be a pleasure to enjoy the benefits of membership and be re-united with Friends and the glories of magical Stansted.

Michael Olding - Chairman April 2021 (Photograph - Michael Parry)

THE MANSION - FRIENDS PRIVATE VIEWING

Sunday 4th July (see page 5, News from the House). Contact the office if you would like to have a tour and see the renovations and changes.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

It does seem that, however tentatively, the nation is emerging from the suspended animation that has been Lockdown. It is clearly not over yet and we all expect to live with some degree of Covid restrictions for some time to come. However, if the numbers of people enjoying the Estate and using the car park are anything to go by, then we seem well on our way to a gradual restoration of normality.

The Estate has been at full stretch for some time now as we have used the opportunity to invest in some exciting projects and major building works. In the Mansion, we have made some significant changes to the displays. Under the expert guidance of Yanni Petsopoulos, we are busy creating a new display in the Waterloo and Victoria room and have opened up an old doorway to improve the Visitor Route. The Boudoir will be re-arranged to tell the story of Stansted. This is all very exciting and sets us up well for our grand re-opening of the House and Grounds on 10th July. This special weekend, which we are billing as 'Stansted Unlocked!', will showcase Stansted Park and we are hoping that it will provide a morale boost to many who may have had a dismal time over the last 15 months or so. There will be cricket, jazz and a re-enactment group, as well as the stirring spectacle of the Band of the Grenadier Guards Beating Retreat on the forecourt in front of the Mansion. We would love to see as many members of FOSP there as possible. (See page 8)



We have also undertaken some major infrastructure improvements and maintenance. You will have noticed that the scaffolding has now been taken down as the Cupola repairs have been finalised and we are now investigating what is required to repair the Clock Tower. The main Visitors' Car park has undergone a significant make over with the creation of tarmacked priority spaces, improved drainage and installation of ducting for lighting as well as extensive planting. These improvements are part of the drive to make Stansted Park a safe and attractive destination for its multitude of visitors. A key component of this will be to incorporate our new logo into all our signs across the Estate and ensure they are consistent and better inform our visitors.

It is good to see that the Garden Volunteers are now firmly back in action and they have already made a great improvement to the Dutch Garden. The House Stewards are gearing up for a strenuous few months and will be looking forward to being updated on the changes to the Mansion.

The Events programme is also looking very positive, although planning will have to take into account some limitations imposed by Covid. It is abundantly clear that people are very keen to get out and enjoy themselves and a refreshed Stansted Park will, I am sure, remain firmly on the list of places to visit and enjoy the unique surroundings. This Summer is set to be one of the busiest for

the Estate and I suspect that, at the end of it, we may wistfully look back on the relative peace and slower pace of life caused by Lockdown!

David Bennett

HEAD FORESTER'S NOTES - SUMMER 2021

Our planting programme ended in the second week of April with all planned areas of trees put into ground that was becoming worryingly dry and has continued in that vein ever since. The toxic combination of strong winds, frosty mornings and no rain is the very worst conditions for newly planted saplings, although the majority of people visiting the estate are enjoying the lack of mud. The period of strong winds with hot weather last summer finished off many of our new trees, which we had to replace this last winter and it looks like, unless we have significant rain, we will be doing the same again.

Our main contractor has restarted the programme of felling diseased ash on a number of sites. I have been going ahead of



them, marking the trees to ensure the few that are showing little or no disease are retained for the present in case they exhibit a degree of resistance, which could prove to be important. A feature of the areas where ash has been removed are the huge patches of violets that have appeared. This is to be welcomed as it could underpin the expansion of our pearl-bordered fritillary population from the recently cut coppice to other open areas and, hopefully, along our improved ride system.

Tree tubes have been a wonderful development for successful tree planting, creating a beneficial microclimate, making herbicide application easier and protecting the sapling from rabbit, hare and deer damage. However, they are not a panacea for all ills and do not negate the requirement for effective maintenance. Unfortunately, I often see plantations several years old with tubes on their sides, at forty-five degree angles and with little growth appearing out of the others, a sure sign of the plant and forget mentality. Another annoyance is tree tubes left lying all over the woodland floor becoming plastic litter. We endeavour to collect all our tubes as they become redundant but used to have to skip them from where they went to landfill. Tubex, the largest manufacturer has recently launched a recycling scheme so we now put ours into large

sacks, which they provide and, for a charge, they collect them and, after going to a centralised point, are washed and then recycled into new tubes. I therefore hope we can continue to use tree tubes but in a more environmentally sound manner.

Recently our arboricultural contractor has given the Magnolia grandifloras either side of mansion steps a good haircut, almost as drastic as the one I had the other week! Using a tracked access platform he was able to create a very pleasing re-shaping of them, which is always more difficult when climbing alone, especially as there were no anchor points above. I hope you will agree that this long overdue task is a distinct improvement when you next see them again, when events and visits to the mansion resume.

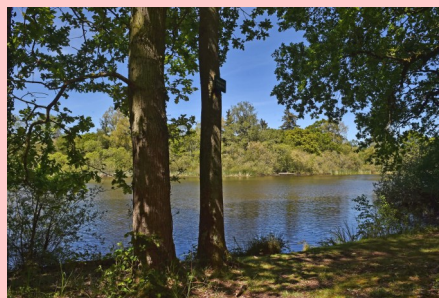
Michael Prior



SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2021

Most of us will have found going through the time of the COVID-19 Pandemic extremely hard. Some of us will have found doing so, *particularly* difficult. This is for all of us. *Valerie Godwin. Photograph Michael Parry*

Summer can you heal my pain,
Smile, and make me whole again?
Can your warmth dispel my fears,
Soothe my soul and stem my tears?
I have wept for far too long;
Now I need your starry song,
Your colours bright, sights, scents and sounds
To tell me there can be no bounds
To walk towards a world that's free
Where there are Friends and Family.



THINGS IN BLOOM

Of all the months in the year, May is the time when spring and summer mingle their loveliness, when birdsong is at its height and the woods are clad in their first green freshness. We may deck out our streets and houses with red, white and blue in honour of our newly crowned King and Queen, but man will never outdo nature when every English meadow, wood and garden is blaring with the Royal colours of blue and silver, purple and gold in clearer and brighter tints than we can ever hope to achieve.

Now the meadows are carpeted with buttercups, daisies and sweet-scented freckled cowslips. In the gardens bloom their cousins, the hybrid cowslips, with thick clusters of flowers in rich polyanthus shades of yellow, orange and red, and the true cowslip fragrance. In the woods are drifts of bluebells, matching the wood-smoke from the foresters' fires. Every hedgerow is bright with purple vetches and yellow deadnettle – each of its little flowers as delicately marked as a rare and lovely orchid.



A flower worth searching for this month is the wild meadow-orchid. The common sweet-scented purple one is easy to find, but the flower often has varieties of the loveliest mauve and shell-pink shades, their delicate veins exquisitely pencilled in pale green. Towards the end of the month, many rarer orchises may be found in the woods and on open downs, such as the dainty dark purple fly-orchids. If you are lucky enough to find them, remember that the bulb of an orchid will not live if the flowers are pulled. Nature's regalia, like England's, may be admired by all but touched by none; and, in any case, the flowers look far more beautiful growing; picked, they lose the dainty freshness in which lies their charm.

Gold is the traditional colour of Royalty and it may be seen all over the countryside in May – blazing banks of broom and almond-scented gorse, in whose prickly strongholds long-tailed tits, goldfinches and vociferous yellow-hammers are rearing their young. In woods and gardens, fruit trees are covered with snowy, pink-tinted blossoms. But if the May-time woods and fields are beautiful by day, they are even more so at night, when the soft, crinkly young foliage rustles in the dark and the nightingale sings in quiet lanes and lonely copses. Then, when the warmth rises in grateful waves from the earth where the spring sunshine has soaked in, and the air between the waves is deliciously sharp and cold, the warm scent of bluebells, the bitter, beautiful tang of curly young bracken, and the glimmer of orchards through the dusk have a magical quality. The cherry trees of early May are never so wildly beautiful as when they are seen by moonlight; and in the still, night woods like snowy crab trees, send out drifts of sweetness never caught by day. There is food for every sense as you stand in the scented dark, while the small people of the woods go about their own business, rustling along their private paths through the grass, and the apple-scented sweetbriar reaches out tiny clutching fingers from the edge of the ride.

(Ruth Tomalin - from the Hampshire Post 21st May 1937) Jill Waring

GARDEN HOUSE DIARIES - 1930 to 1934 (In The Woods)



Before my eyes, a winding path,
Bright, beautiful and bold
Where daffodils like sentinels
Stood proud in glorious gold.

20th July. Saw two blue butterflies, the colour of harebells, a beautiful little copper, many white-letter hairstreaks, and, on the buddleia, peacocks and tortoiseshells. In the woods; cabbage whites, meadow browns, white admirals, red admirals and a fritillary with black-marked orange wings and greeny-silver underwings.

21st July. Fledgeling thrushes flew from the pear tree nest.

25th July. Two red squirrels frisked by the wood. At dusk a brown owl, with big round head and beautiful eyes, flew over; and when we called out he dipped straight down out of sight. A bat has been in the cricket pavilion after moths, and it is strewn with lovely moth's wings. Found the wing of an emerald moth. In the garden today, a comma butterfly, tortoiseshells, peacocks, whites, hairstreaks, blues, a silver-washed fritillary. A spotted flycatcher sits on the buddleia bough and swoops after them. Baby flycatchers in a nest on the wall nearby. Three swallow fledgelings in the church nest with green-blue glossy wings, chocolate bibs, white breasts, very bright eyes.

27th July. The corn is being cut. Barley and oats are pale yellow, wheat russet-brown. Red berries on rowans. Hazel nuts are creamy-white with green and brown tints. Many

rabbits and squirrels about in the woods. Under a hedge I came face to face with a wicked-eyed, red-coated, white-breasted weasel, who turned and flashed away into the underbrush, his tail stiff out behind him.

Taken 'From Garden House Diaries' by Ruth Tomalin

Editors Note: Interesting that the Stansted Estate had Red Squirrels??

Photograph - Michael Parry. Poem - Valerie Godwin

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2021

FRIENDS' SUMMER PARTY - TUESDAY 29TH JUNE, 6.30PM

With the proposed easing of Covid-19 restrictions, it is now possible to begin the process of returning to something like normality. Whilst there is always the possibility that planned events may have to be changed, the committee feels more confident that the events outlined on **page 7** will be able to take place.

The Summer Party has become one of our most important gatherings. The membership will have a golden opportunity to meet and greet fellow Friends and enjoy a convivial evening for a modest charge of £16 (FOSP members) and £20 (non-members). There will be much to look forward to, not least, Clare's splendid buffet supper served in the atmospheric Tearooms with sparkling wine or soft drinks. Other beverages, of course, can be purchased at the bar. It is important to remember that the Summer Party has become that special occasion when the loyalty of the membership is recognised and duly acknowledged. Accordingly, the occasion is seen as a non-profit event but, every year without exception, the generosity of members donating raffle prizes has enabled the event to cover its costs, return a small profit to our funds and present a gratuity to the Pavilion staff who work so willingly to make the evening so special. I remain ever optimistic that your generous contributions will continue.

The past year has been one like no other, with much that we rather took for granted sadly out of reach. With regulations becoming more relaxed, however, the Committee is now looking forward to picking up where we left off and welcoming as many of you as possible on the 29th June. **Please book using the Booking Form distributed with this Newsletter.**

Michael Olding

STANSTED HOUSE - 1815



I recently came across this close-up and interesting view of Stansted House from the north. It is an engraving by William Woolnoth (1780-1837) after a painting by Charles Wild (1781-1835) a water-colour artist who specialised in architectural subjects. The engraving was published in 1815 when the Stansted Estate was owned by Lewis Way.

The engraving clearly shows the changes to the house by James Wyatt and Joseph Bonomi commissioned by Richard Barwell, namely, the double porticoes back and front, the two pavilions at the front of the house, and the colonnades joining the pavilions to the house. The aerial view of Stansted by Kip, dated 1724, included in the 'Enchanted Forest', shows two buildings in front of the house, housing the stables and offices that were replaced by Barwell with the two pavilions. He may have built them further apart as there are two tunnels at different angles from the house that appear to have provided covered access to the southerly buildings. Barwell's alterations were commissioned in the late eighteenth century when there was a revolution in France and the nobility were subjected to the guillotine. The tunnels would have provided an escape route via the stables in case of similar trouble in England.

The feature on the north side of the house that remains today is the Stairway Hall window. There is no current kitchen building, as this was added in the middle of the 19th century by Charles Dixon when he built the stable block where it is today. Daniel Defoe recorded a visit to Stansted House in 1724 that indicated that the dining room was in the front of the house, probably the room that is now the library, so where was the kitchen?

John Harvey

Editors Note: *William Woolnoth (1780–1837) His engravings are part of the British Museum collection and National Archives. An engraving by Woolnoth is also included in the Gott Collection of William Gott, a wool merchant, and his son John Gott who was vicar of Leeds and Bishop of Truro.*

PAVILLION TEA ROOM NEW BAR



I, like many others, was intrigued by the new bar facilities in The Walled Garden, so I managed to speak with the carpenter, Darren Minnell of *D Minnell Carpentry*, during its construction and gleaned the following:

For many years, Darren has worked closely with Stuart and Clare, successfully completing other projects at both the Pavilion Tea Room and Driftwood Café in Emsworth.

When they requested the requirement for an outside bar area to built at Stansted - wanting it to tie in with the existing pergola, have a rustic theme, for all sides to be open and to make the brick wall a feature, he went ahead with the concept.

With the outline brief in place, they trusted him to create a design they would be happy with. Darren has been accustomed to working on many rural/country projects so provided samples for them in order that they could be involved in the design along the way. For example, the cladding materials to be used and the finish. Together, the three of them saw the project naturally evolve.

Darren wanted to use traditional joinery in as many areas as possible, to reflect and connect with the old and the new, so he created a rustic scaffold board for the bar top, sanding the edges to give character and a worn feel. Curved braces were used to soften the appearance of the bar area and cladding to give the 'garden shed look', in order to remain in keeping with the surroundings.

The timber used for this project was Tanalised pine from Goodwillie Ltd, Waterloo, where all the timber sourced came with a FSC certification.

I think you will all agree that Darren has created a fantastic area in keeping with all that is Stansted?

Robert Godwin - Editor

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2021

FOSP TREASURERS REPORT

(15 MONTHS TO 31 DECEMBER 2019 AND THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 DECEMBER 2021)

This is my eleventh period as Treasurer and covers both periods, a total of 27 months. I thank David Knight from Jones Avens for examining both sets of accounts and they have both been included with those of the Foundation.

The accumulated fund has increased significantly over the period from £11,202 to £14,885, representing a surplus in 2019 of £2,975 and in 2020 of £312. The income for each year is slightly lower with a very commendable £6,495 in 2020, with no fund raising activities.

The administration costs were a total of £1,901 in 2019 and only £203 in 2020. Postage is a considerable cost but we do have to thank a committed army of distributors for reducing these costs and, during the pandemic, many copies were sent by email. The printer waived his costs in 2020.

We made a couple of donations to the Foundation in 2019, including a new computer for the archivists at £975 and plants for the re-planted walled garden beds of £1,500. In 2020 we bought a display cabinet for the Waterloo and Victoria room as part of our £10,000 pledge.

Treasurer Sarah Hutchinson- 22 April 2021

NEWS FROM THE HOUSE



Stansted House has been busy with the sound of drilling and sanding as we prepare the rooms for reopening. The door to what used to be the Private Dining Room has been fully restored, the Grand Staircase repainted and the stunning bird paintings, of the 10th Earl, returned.

The lighting for the new displays is finally complete and we have started hanging the history of Stansted Estate in the Boudoir. It has become the natural home for the Commemorative Book and painting by Nigel Purchase.

A number of Chattels have been rediscovered and returned to public view, including these William IV mahogany coat stands and many objects related to the 9th Earl's time as Governor General of Canada. Some of the family have donated prints and paintings that we are currently sorting through. They will help visitors learn more about the history of the Ponsonbys.

We cannot wait to reopen our doors and look forward to welcoming visitors once again.

Friends have an opportunity to enjoy a Private Viewing on Sunday 4th July, prior to the official opening of 'Stansted Unlocked' on 10th July, with an exclusive group tour of the house focussing on the new displays. Tours will be at 2pm and 4pm and tickets will be available on a first come first served basis by calling the Office on 023 9241 2265. Celia Hodges



FROM THE ARCHIVES - LOOKING FORWARD TO SUMMER

We are all, at last, beginning to look forward to our July opening and, although Mrs Dixon will not be giving out presents and punch, we hope that this will wet your appetite for things to come!

HARVEST CRICKET AND SUMMER PARTIES 1850s-1860s



'Every year Mrs Dixon (then the owner of Stansted Park) invites all the children of the surrounding schools in her district to assemble in her park near her House. They generally number on average four hundred and fifty. Wearing apparel, such as a dress or other useful article, is then distributed to each child and presents given to the teachers. After this they all partake of tea and cake then sing, dance and skip about amusing themselves until it is time to go home. Mrs Dixon is always present and her own servants wait on them.

A little later in the season when harvesting is over, all the men employed on the estate have a holiday. A game of cricket is played between the house and garden establishment and the out-door men of the farm and timber yard. At 7 o'clock the stumps are drawn and they all retire to the house for supper.

On one occasion the number of men was upward of ninety, then the coach house was cleared and fitted up for their reception. When all were seated, Mrs Dixon walked in to bid them a hearty welcome. Her son, Mr Wilder, took the head of the table and, after they had been plentifully fed, bowls of punch were brought in and songs and toasts went round until the small hours.'

We hope you all will have an equally memorable day! *Jennie Dolman*

BOOKSHOP NOW OPEN!



The Stansted Park Foundation's redecorated second hand bookshop in the Garden Centre is again open for business – so do drop in and support the worthwhile cause. Please also tell your friends.

Many of you will have had a sort-out during the lockdown and have spare books to dispose of, but please, at the moment, **we can only accept good, clean fiction books.** Donations may be left in the dresser cupboards in the Bookshop. Thank you all again for your loyal support.

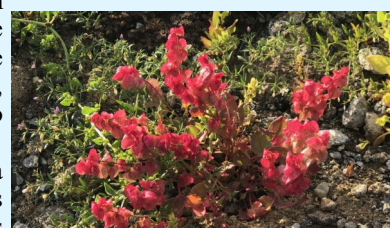
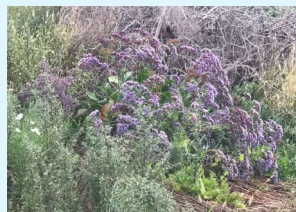
Janet Mynors

NOTE FROM TENERIFE



Since moving to Tenerife in 2011, the island this year, has enjoyed more rain than all other years put together. We've had occasional cloudbursts and short, sharp showers from time to time, but this year has been exceptional by giving us periodic rain from late 2020 until now and it continues to be forecast!

I well remember on one of Michael's many walks years ago, him showing the FOSP walking group how an area had been cleared of many old trees and thick bramble to allow regeneration. The following year, without the dark canopy and heavy ground cover, the dormant seeds of foxgloves and violets made a beautiful display. In our southern area of Tenerife the summers are very dry but similarly, the rain has brought to life varieties of succulents that have remained dormant for many years, some of which I have never seen here before. Many of the sedums are very small but carpet the volcanic rock in a multitude of colours with large areas of the predominant burgundy red visible over the rugged landscape, making my daily walks in the wild with our dog, Scruffy, so interesting. Thank goodness for mobile phone cameras! Scruffy, now in her eleventh year, proudly carried home a Guaza lizard [protected species with blue spots] about 6 years ago that has grown, hopefully, to adult size and has made its home in our large balcony planter where I have made him a rocky home for sun basking or tunneling under the roots of a small tree.



The seemingly never ending Covid lockdowns have made it difficult for friends and family to be together for so long but, hopefully, our vaccinations will enable travel again in the not too distant future and I will be able to return to enjoy visiting Stansted once again and meeting up with old friends. I know that Robert and Valerie have booked a cruise to the Canaries next year and we look forward to taking them out for lunch on their Santa Cruz stopover. Ready when you are Robert!

Finally, Tony and I offer our very best wishes to James Kenroy for his well deserved retirement. He always took great interest in our filming, the newsletter and was involved in the presentation at the re-opening of the Dutch Garden in 2005 - such a long time ago. When we moved away in June 2010, he wrote us a letter of which any recipient would be both delighted and proud. I quote....

"You seem to have planned your life delightfully - holidays, holidays, holidays! I hope that is not far removed from the truth as, in my own experience of you both, that it is very much what you deserve. And anyone connected with Stansted would I know be saying 'hear, hear'."

For the years of support in his role as a Trustee of the Stansted Foundation, the interest and appreciation he has shown in all FOSP projects and the friendship offered to all of us, I believe that his kind words of eleven years ago are equally appropriate in return, so Jimmy and Deidre, Tony and I hope that you both enjoy your retirement as much as we have enjoyed, and continue to enjoy ours.

Jill Waring - 30th April 2021.

PS. With the forthcoming re-opening of the House and the scheduled events, I hope that Stansted staff and all FOSP members have an enjoyable and safe summer. Best wishes to all.

Editor's Note: I am sure that FOSP members will wish Tony a full recovery after his recent heart attack scare and that the photographs by Jill of plants on Tenerife will give FOSP members a taste of holidays to come!

NEWS FROM THE GARDEN



The gardeners were delighted to be back with Jed again on April 8th. Our main focus is on the Dutch garden which has become quite overgrown but, with 10 volunteers weeding and pruning and mulching, progress has already been made, not only here but in the Walled Garden. We hope it will soon be open and a quiet haven for so many visitors who love the space.

The new car park has been enhanced by the successful bulb planting which has made a very cheery welcome to Farm Shop and Garden Centre Visitors. Likewise the long borders are giving pleasure in the Walled Garden

During lockdown the wildlife really enjoyed the peace and quiet with two pheasant nests appearing in the flower beds and the deer making merry with the new day lily shoots. We wish success to the pheasants, but not to the deer!

Tessa Culley

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2021

2021 HOUSE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JUNE

Friday 11th to Sunday 13th - The Garden Show

Friday 25th to Sunday 27th - The Nostalgia Show

JULY

Saturday 10th to Sunday 11th

STANSTED UNLOCKED!

A Weekend Extravaganza blending History,
Cricket & Fun (see page 8)

Saturday 17th

The Mikado by Opera Anywhere

Come along and enjoy a performance of Gilbert & Sullivan's magical masterpiece. (Gates open at 5pm)

Sunday 17th - 'Over The Wall' Fun Run

AUGUST

Friday 13th to Saturday 14th - Mr Stink

Sunday 15th August - Steelford Super Car Show

David Walliams Outdoor Theatre on South Lawn

Friday 20th - The Bootleg Beatles Tribute Band
(Gates Open: 4pm)

Saturday 21st - The Proms (Gates Open: 4pm)

SEPTEMBER

Friday 3rd

The Great Gatsby Outdoor Theatre in
The Walled Gardens.

Friday 10th - Murder Mystery Evening

Thursday 16th - Musical Evening

OCTOBER

Thursday 14th - Musical Evening

Friday 29th to Sunday 31st - Halloween Events (TBC)

NOVEMBER

Friday 26th to Saturday 27th - 'The Christmas Carol'
Immersive Theatre in Stansted House

DECEMBER

Thursday 2nd to Sunday 19th - Christmas at Stansted Park

Friday 10th - Musical Evening with Peter Auty

For more information please contact the office on

023 9241 2265 or enquiry@stanstedpark.co.uk

Please Support Stansted House

NOTE: There is a FOSP Member's discount on events
where applicable. Contact the House for further information.

CONTACTING STANSTED HOUSE

For a general enquiry, or for information about, 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

Email: enquiry@stanstedpark.co.uk

For FOSP Membership Enquiries contact
Paul Bennett (see column on right)

FOSP MEMBER EVENTS - 2021

COVID information will be updated in line with any
changes in Government policy.

TUESDAY 29th JUNE, 6.30PM

FRIENDS' SUMMER PARTY (see page 4)

THURSDAY 22nd JULY

AGM AND COFFEE MORNING - 10.00am

Please contact the office if you are joining us, so that
we make sure we have enough cake!

SUNDAY 4TH JULY

THE MANSION - FRIENDS PRIVATE VIEWING
(see page 5, News from the House).

Contact the office if you would like to have a tour and
see the renovations and changes.

THURSDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER

FOSP CREAM TEA (TBC)

EXTERNAL VISIT TO POLESDEN LACEY

WEDNESDAY 15th SEPTEMBER

We hope that the venue and transport will be opened up
by then. It is possible that there may still be some
restrictions on seating in the coach which it is hoped
that we will know by the time the booking forms go out.
More details, and booking form, will be in the next
Newsletter.

TALK BY LLOYD PECK

Thursday 11th November 2021.

The exceptional marine scientist (TBC)

If you have queries for any of the Events, please
contact the providers directly via their websites or call
the Estate Office on **023 9241 2265**.

HEAD FORESTER'S WALKS

Wednesday 23rd June

Garden Centre car park at 2.00pm
Lumley Wood, Lumley Plantation and Rosamond's Hill.

Wednesday 18th August

Garden Centre car park at 2.00pm.
Hare Warren and Firtree Piece.

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:- Paul Bennett friendsofstanstedpark@outlook.com

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

NEXT FOSP NEWSLETTER COPY DATE

Friday 30th July 2021

Have you an anecdote, article or news for the Newsletter
then please contact the Editor at:

crana.crana@ntlworld.com



A WEEKEND EXTRAVAGANZA BLENDING HISTORY, CRICKET & FUN IN A WEST SUSSEX COUNTRY SETTING

It's full steam ahead for the events team here at Stansted House.

We've been very busy with wedding enquiries, event enquiries and, of course, organising our own superb event to celebrate the re-opening of the House. If you haven't yet seen what's on offer please take a look at the information on our website, which will be updated regularly.

The weekend of the 10th & 11th July is set to be a wonderful family affair with Stansted's cricket and military connections at its core. It is the hope that we can provide a wonderful day out, as well as raising the profile and support for the Charitable Foundation.

Whether it's relaxing with a picnic whilst watching the cricket, visiting the House and learning about the colourful History of the Estate, watching the Grenadier Guards' performance on the forecourt or just kicking back and enjoying the great food and drink on offer, there will be plenty to do for all.

Your all-inclusive ticket will allow you to:

- * Explore a revitalised Stansted House with new displays
- * Witness the spectacle of the Band of the Grenadier Guards (Saturday Only)
- * Enjoy the sound of leather against willow with cricket in the iconic setting in front of the Mansion
- * Experience the thrills of battle with a Military Re-Enactment Group
- * Foot tap along to a soothing Jazz Band
- * Test your skills at Archery
- * Travel through magical woodland on the Light Railway
- * Get lost – and found - in our mystical Maze
- * Pit your wits against your family in traditional Garden Games



The Band of the Grenadier Guards

Cricket will be played on the iconic pitch in front of the Mansion. On the Saturday, there will be a series of matches between Stansted Park Cricket Club, The Midnight XI and a team from the Royal Lancers. Sunday will see an exciting match between *I Zingari* and the *Harrow Wanderers*, who incidentally, will be playing under the name of The Earl of Bessborough's XI for the day.

Also, on the Saturday only, the Band of the Grenadier Guards will be joining us to perform in front of the House.

The Band is one of the oldest and most famous military bands in the world and has a vast and illustrious history dating back over 300 years. We

are absolutely delighted to be able to provide the rare opportunity for our visitors to witness this remarkable spectacle as part of their inclusive ticket.



Harrow Wanderers

We very much look forward to seeing many FOSP members at this event and, as always, are thankful for your unwavering support.

FOSP Members will be able to purchase tickets at £12.50 from the estate office up until the event. The ticket price will increase to £18 for the public so this will give our members a generous discount as well as savings on administration fees.

Lucy Wood