

FRIENDS OF



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Some Friends at the AGM & Coffee Morning

The Annual General Meeting was again very well attended and the Coffee Morning, with homemade cakes which followed, was enjoyed by all.

I'm sure everyone will agree that the weather so far this year has been a big disappointment, but if you are looking for an indoor activity for an afternoon out with friends or family, I would remind you that the House is now open with new displays for this season and encourage you all to visit and make use of the benefits of your membership.

Hopefully though, as we entered the month of May, with its unprecedented three Bank Holidays, we can look forward to warmer weather for the upcoming events planned by both the Friends and the Foundation all advertised elsewhere in this Newsletter and look forward to seeing you at them.

Nigel Smith



Sasha, the House Manager, with Trustee, Clive Nickolds

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Season is now definitely underway and it is unlikely that we will come up for air until at least October! The House, Chapel and Grounds are now open to the public on three days a week and the House Stewards have eased effortlessly back into harness. I am very grateful to Yanni Petsopoulos for the immense task he undertook in redrafting the Stewards' Handbook. This has brought this important tome up to date and included a great deal of additional information which will complement the Stewards incredible depth of knowledge. I am very pleased that we have now recruited a House Steward Coordinator, Jessica Williams, who has already started work. Jess is a highly experienced hand, having worked at Chawton House and Waddesdon Manor and we welcome her warmly to the team.

The Events programme is also hotting up with a number of corporate dinners and conferences in the Mansion and we have been put through our paces recently to provide some high-end offerings. The Mansion lends itself to these sort of smaller events with its intimate and cosy feel and guests certainly feel that the House wraps around them. The limited use of the Library and Dining Room add considerable lustre and our Events team will be concentrating on how we can attract clients who are seeking the very special atmosphere that Stansted House provides. Sasha Fardell, as the House and Events Manager, is now well into her stride and I am delighted that she has a very able and skilled assistant in Mandy Earles. Mandy joins us with an impressive pedigree in publishing and design as well as experience as a Personal Assistant. Sasha now has a full complement and it is very encouraging that Stansted has managed to attract such excellent talent.

There is a great deal of work for Toby Hill to keep on top of the never ending list of repairs and maintenance tasks but he remains as cheerful as ever, although I could be being deceived by his fixed grin which he does well to maintain! The grounds are looking splendid thanks to his team and the Garden Volunteers who have survived the winter and have been instrumental in showing off Stansted in bloom.

Michael Prior has been busy planting in the last few months and ensuring that the woods and parkland are extremely well managed, creating a good sustainable timber crop as well as providing an exceptional environment for the public to enjoy.

Kim Grainger has shouldered much of the office burden in the last year when we have been short of staff, so she has been dancing something of a jig now that we have additional folk to relieve her of some of her workload! Consequently, we are in a positive mood as we seek to bring the Estate 'up together' across all our lines of operation. We will have a busy couple of years as we re-establish ourselves post Covid but I am confident that we have the right people in place to drive the Estate forward. The wider Stansted Family, of course, includes the Friends and the array of Volunteers without whom the Estate could not function.

We have an excellent programme of outside events this year, including our own Summer Festival over the weekend of 15th & 16th July. There are a great many activities showing off all aspects of the Estate and incorporating our retail tenants in the Walled Gardens. There will be rural crafts stalls, Forest School, a 'Stansted Safari', Napoleonic Reenactors, Jazz, Concert and Marching bands, Classic Cars, as well as some interesting guest Speakers. Lots of fun for all and there will be a call for volunteers to help out as we showcase the Estate in this rather eclectic and eccentric event! I hope that you all have a very enjoyable Summer.

David Bennett

CORONATION TREE

The Friends of Stansted Committee is pleased to be able announce that we will be providing a cedar tree, to be planted in the Estate's Orange Grove, as a fitting commemoration of the Coronation. Any tree is best planted in the autumn but, once in situ, will be a long lasting tribute to King Charles. **FOSP Committee**

STANSTED PARK FOUNDATION'S BOOKSHOP IN THE GARDEN CENTRE

Are you looking for a particular Book or Author? If so, email ngs.1957@hotmail.com with your request and we will keep a look out for you.

If you have any spare carrier bags, we would be very grateful for them - just pop them in the pull-out book Donations box, adjacent to the Bookshop Store. Thank you. **FOSP Committee**

MOTHERING SUNDAY



*The Friends of Stansted Committee wish to thank Rona Doyle for again providing beautiful posies of spring flowers for all the mothers who visited the House on Mothering Sunday. Rona, a long standing member of FOSP, is a lady of many talents, who has supported the Stansted Park Foundation in many ways over many years. Though modest and self-effacing by nature, she has given us a brief resume of her involvement with the Foundation, and Friends of Stansted: **Anne Burton***

I originally joined the Friends of the House, which would later amalgamate with Friends of the Forest to become the Friends of Stansted Park, over twenty five years ago.

My involvement as a volunteer began when there was a note in the Friends' Newsletter asking for people to become costumed stewards. Thus it was that I donned my outfit as Nursery Maid, spending many hours on duty in the Servants' Hall and Crypt. Having made a number of outfits for other stewards, I thought that the children making school visits may also like to get into character so created

sets of costumes for them too!

The first year the House opened on Mothering Sunday was April 2011. For some reason it was advertised as "Come and Visit on Daffodil Day". Unfortunately, the combination of an early Easter, together with rather unfavourable weather, had resulted in there not being a single daffodil out on the Estate! I explained that, at church, we made little posies for the mothers, so offered to make some more for Stansted, and so at least there were a few daffodils to be enjoyed. I have been making posies each year ever since then, some years over 100 posies!

One summer it was decided to have a 'Teddy Bears' Picnic', so I dressed four rather stern looking teddies to have with me in the Servants' Hall. From that beginning, there followed several 'Teddy Events' during the summer holidays, which were much loved by visiting children. These events grew and grew, culminating in 2013 with 200 bears being a part of a celebration of 'Kings and Queens', and to celebrate the anticipated birth of Prince George. I also dressed teddies in costume as all the main servants in the House – butler, upstairs maid, cook, housekeeper etc.

It was a privilege to serve on the Friends' Committee for five years, launching initiatives like the Coffee Mornings and Cream Teas, as well as being the link with the Foundation on educational matters and school visits.

Perhaps the most unlikely development was when I was asked if I could deputise as speaker at a Women's Institute meeting. There followed around 150 talks entitled 'Stories of a Stansted Maid'! My greatest pleasure was to see the restoration of the Hexagonal Hut, funded in part by the donations received from such talks.

Rona Doyle



DOWN IN THE ARCHIVES! - Order of the Royal Guelph of the Kingdom of Hanover



Working in the archives is never dull. Sometimes it can be a bit tedious, but the other day the pages of a badly written letter came really alive!

In a large thick leather book, kept by Major General Sir Henry F. Ponsonby, are some letters from his father, Sir Frederick Cavendish Ponsonby, who fought at the Battle of Waterloo.

Somehow Sir Frederick managed to survive the night on the open field of battle, having sustained seven serious injuries and eventually became a very successful Governor General of Malta. One of his wounds resulted in his having to learn to write with his left hand. So his letters are often very difficult to read.

In one of these letters, however, it is possible to make out that it is a reply to King William's personal desire to award him the honour of a Commander's Badge of the Royal Order of the Guelph. This was an award which was given only on the King's personal recommendation and agreement. It is entirely a decision of the reigning monarch, in this case King William IV. This is not the only thing that is remarkable about this particular act, as the actual medal had already been presented to Sir Robert Spencer, a very famous and a much respected Admiral and close friend of Sir Frederick. Upon Spencer's death, the actual order and ribbon had been returned, as was the custom, to King William.

The archive consists of four letters:

1. A letter from King William's secretary, awarding the honour to Sir Frederick,
2. Sir Frederick's acceptance letter thanking the King for such an great honour.
3. A letter telling Sir Frederick that the King was delighted that he would accept the honour and that Sir Robert's father, Lord Spencer, having already returned this particular Commander's Badge of the Order the King, had decided it should be handed on to Sir Frederick, a suitable and worthy owner of such a commendation and also as a token of someone who Sir Frederick greatly admired.
4. A letter, painfully written by Sir Frederick to the King, addressed to Sir Hubert, the King's secretary, expressing Sir Frederick's great appreciation at having his Army career "*being honoured by such an award and doubly humbled and honoured by the fact that this actual Badge of the Order had once been the proud possession of such a distinguished, beloved and departed friend which adds to the immeasurable value of such an award.*"

The amazing thing about all this is, that you and I are able to look at the very same medal in the Ponsonby Room now, one hundred and ninety two years on! I hope you will all feel a real interest and even perhaps a warm glow when you next look at it. You will notice that there are two medals. One is correct, the other has a serious flaw to it. Why? We still do not know. Perhaps next time I shall have an answer!

Diana Roberts

VISIT TO PARHAM HOUSE (for further information see page 6)

Do not forget to book your FOSP visit to Parham House to enjoy this very fine Elizabethan property set in the South Downs. A guided tour will enhance your understanding of this lovely building and, afterwards, you will have time to stroll around the beautiful grounds and take refreshments in the delightful tea room. **Robert Godwin**

HEAD FORESTER'S NOTES SUMMER 2023

It has been a sluggish spring with very variable weather but one thing that has been outstanding has been the blossom on trees and shrubs. Starting with the very first to bloom, the cherry plum, then blackthorn followed by wild cherry, they have all put on a stunning and lengthy display. Likewise, the many ornamental cherry trees have been particularly good this year and, as I write, the first ornamental apples and the hawthorn are starting to make a show and the fresh new leaves of beech are luminescent in the morning sunlight.



Our main contractor, Powell Forestry, is at present carrying out a thinning operation throughout a number of broadleaved areas, to assist the development of the best trees. The beech of Lumley Wood look much improved for being respaced, as do the trees on either side of the main drive through North Coopers Wood. The produce from this work will be extracted and sold as firewood. However, the thinnings from an area of sweet chestnut standards have been sold to English Woodlands Timber who will convert them into fine cladding for high-end building projects. The removal of chestnut of this size also avoids the problem of shake, which is often a problem of large chestnut butts and gives us a good return on mid rotation stems.



The next sizeable project in the forest will be the felling of the crop of Norway spruce in Compartment 3. This will be dependent on a grant to assist with restocking being forthcoming from the Forestry Commission, but it is getting to the end of its commercial life anyway. Due to the end uses of spruce, the modern automated sawmills that convert it do not want very large logs. In fact the prices for medium sized spruce is much better than for larger logs, unlike Douglas fir, where it is almost the bigger the better. Later, they will move back to the felling of ash from a number of areas across the Estate where, sadly, trees are still succumbing to this disease.



Thanks to a generous grant from Southern Water, which covered purchase and labour and machinery for installation, we have been able to replace three barn owl boxes that had deteriorated and install one at a new site. Two of these were occupied by barn owls within the first two weeks so I am hopeful that weather and vole population permitting, we will have a good breeding season.

So far, I have not seen any pearl-bordered fritillaries but I am not surprised as still, hot days have been in short supply when these fickle butterflies would be on the wing but I am hopeful that they will



be soon. With the increased amount of violets that we are seeing on the widened rides, which are the caterpillar's food plant, their future should be good but the weather is a key factor.

We had a large but worthless oak butt on the edge of Lumley Wood. From this, Sam and Terry have created a wonderful carved seat, which has room for a whole family, so visitors to the park can rest awhile and maybe watch the Highland cattle grazing. There is even a place to rest your cup. *Michael Prior*

FOSP WALK - 19th April



Fifty-one FOSP Members (which must be a record) met at German's Yard for the first of Michael's walks of the year. The weather was fine, with sunshine, but underfoot it was extremely muddy due to many days of rain.

Several areas of the forest were discussed, such as the rides, regeneration, pollarding, thinning and the beautifully constructed hide used to cull the deer population.

A particular area of interest was where larch trees were being felled and collected. A really lovely walk. Thank you Michael.



(Photographs by Valerie Godwin)

STANSTED VOLUNTEERS

Do you love Stansted and have you a few hours to spare each week? Then why not join the very friendly team of House Stewards and bring Stansted to life for our many visitors. We are always looking for those with enthusiasm and passion for the House and its history.

Contact the Estate Office for more information on: **023 9241 2265**

or

Email jessica.williams@stanstedpark.co.uk



Sasha Fardell

STANSTED RAILWAY WITHOUT VOLUNTEERS THERE WOULD BE NO RAILWAY!



The Stansted Light Railway depends on volunteers and the friendly team is always keen to welcome new people, regardless of skills or experience. There are plenty of tasks and roles which you could help us with. No prior experience is required, as the team will be able to provide you with all the skills and training you need to safely and successfully undertake your role. You don't need to be a keen railway enthusiast either; volunteering is about more than just the trains, it's the social life, the skills gained and the experiences had.

So whether you have specific skills or simply want to get involved, one of the Team will be happy to have a chat about the opportunities available..... there's always plenty to do.

If you are interested and require further information then please contact: The Estate Office: **023 9241 2265**

Robert Godwin

FELT APPLIQUE PICTURE

The felt applique picture of Winston Churchill at an easel, which I bid for, and won, at the auction in the Pavilion Tea Room on the occasion of FOSP's Summer Party in June 2017 and which I subsequently had re-framed, has given me much pleasure and always brings a smile to my face!



The following is an extract from an email from Michael Olding to Mary Anne on 2nd April 2022:-

One Sunday afternoon, I was working in the Chapel when I was approached by a charming lady who told me that she had a piece of work by Lady Mary and she wished to donate it to the Friends of Stansted to raise money for their funds. Would I be interested? We agreed to meet the following week and she passed over the collage.

From what I can recall she was a member of the Nesbit family, a very well known local name with an antiques business in Southsea. Mr Nesbit also held important public offices. The Nesbits lived in Forestside and were on friendly terms with the 10th Earl and Countess Mary. She was not quite sure how she acquired the collage but reasoned that it might have been bought at a fund-raising coffee morning held at Stansted, sometime in the 1970's, when the house was still a private home to the Bessborough's.

I wrote and told her that the collage had been bought by you and she was delighted that it had found a safe home.

Following are some notes that Michael Olding gave me in July 2017:-

Sheila Nesbit is the daughter of the late Mr Douglas Nesbit, the founder of the well-known Estate Agents & Auctioneers of Southsea. During the 1970s, the family home was in Forestside on the doorstep of Stansted Forest, then the private Estate of Eric, 10th Earl & Countess Mary Bessborough. The Nesbits knew the Estate well & attended many services in St Paul's Chapel.

The applique was bought by Mrs Nesbit at a fund-raising coffee morning in the old stables, probably during the mid-1970s. Mr James Kenroy, solicitor & County Coroner, Trustee of the Foundation and a member of FOSP, remembers Desmond Nesbit sitting next to the County Court Judge on many occasions. He wondered whether the fund-raising event at that time might well have been for the Chichester Festival Theatre. Lord Bessborough was the President of the CFT Trust, a position which he held until his death in 1993.

Mary, an American heiress, became a key figure in the restoration of Benjamin Franklin's London home. It is true that she was motivated to restore the house by a link to Franklin in Eric's family history (the 2nd Earl 1704-1793) but it is highly unlikely that a fund-raising event would be held at Stansted for such a cause. In addition, Mary did not establish the Friends of Benjamin Franklins' House until 1978.

Mary Munn, as she was before her marriage, spent her late teens and 20s living in New York working as a decorator until 1939. She married Eric in Paris in 1948 (see pages 18/119 in *The Enchanted Forest*).

It is clear from extracts to his mother, Roberte, that, in 1941, Eric was smitten by the 19-year-old Mary Churchill, youngest daughter of Winston & Clementine Churchill. On March 31st, he describes Mary as a "knock out", living in hope that something profound would develop. Matters certainly moved apace, for just two months later, Clementine Churchill is asking Roberte & Vere to make "no public statement on the Engagement" of Eric to Mary and to request that the couple cancel it. Intimate friends and relations, she went on, would be in contact again with the explanation that both Winston & herself felt that Mary was too young and that, for the present time, there was no engagement.

Despite Eric's deepest wishes, Mary appears to have had a change of heart, claiming that she did not know him well enough to marry. On 11th June, the 28-year-old Eric remains optimistic. *"I have the most definite faith in the whole affair. It may astonish you (Roberte) but I feel that in a few months' time, after a few more meetings, the situation will develop very favourably!"*

This, as we know, was not to be. Whether, as it had been claimed, Clementine talked Mary out of a "rash engagement" or not, Mary Churchill went on to marry Christopher Soames and enjoy a wonderfully full life.

Mary Anne Mathews

MICHAEL & SHEILA OLDING'S MEMORIAL SERVICE

A Memorial Service for Michael and Sheila Olding was held on Monday 20th February at 2.30pm in St Paul's Chapel, to celebrate their lives, with particular emphasis on their time at Stansted. It was conducted by Edward Mynors.

In the congregation of sixty-one attendees were Lord Bessborough, members of Michael & Sheila's family, representatives from Stansted Foundation Trustees, FOSP Members and friends who joined together to remember and celebrate the lives of our remarkable retired chairman and his devoted wife.

Readings and reminiscences were read by; Oliver Edwards (a grandson), Andrew Grant (former FOSP chairman) and Nigel Smith (FOSP chairman). A Keats poem was read by David Bennett (Foundation Director), with poems dedicated to Michael and Sheila read by Valerie & Robert Godwin (FOSP Newsletter editors).

The flowers in the Chapel were donated by Andrew & Gina Grant and arranged by Christine Evans, who was President of the Emsworth and District Flower Club and a National Judge for the National Association of Flower Arrangers.

Refreshments after the service were taken in The Mansion. A DVD was shown of some of Michael & Sheila's holiday photographs. The Chapel benefitted from just over £300 in donations.

With great thanks to Kim Granger, Sasha Fardell, Sue Cosens, Toby Hill and all the Stansted staff and FOSP Members who made this a truly special day.

Robert Godwin



Michael in St Paul's Chapel, his special place on the Stansted Estate



SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2023

FRIENDS' SUMMER 25TH ANNIVERSARY SUPPER PARTY

Tuesday 27 June, 6.30 at the Pavilion Tea Rooms

This year marks the 25th Anniversary of the formation of the Friends of Stansted Park (following the amalgamation of the Friends of Stansted House and Friends of Stansted Forest) and the Committee, Friends and members of the Foundation's Board of Trustees will celebrate this milestone with a convivial evening at the Pavilion Tea Room, and we hope you are able to join us.

We will be sticking to our usual winning formula, which starts with sparkling wine and soft drinks (outside in the sunshine!) followed by Clare's delicious buffet supper, and dessert, in the Pavilion. Other drinks, tea, and coffee will also be available at the bar.

A regular feature of this evening is the Raffle. We already have some generous prizes donated, but we would welcome any extra raffle prizes (you could bring them on the day). The proceeds from the Raffle, as always, go towards special projects to support the Foundation.

Members again have the opportunity to pay by card: simply call the Estate Office **023 9241 2265 (mornings, before 12.00 please)** giving names, FOSP Membership number, a contact telephone number, and have your card details to hand.

Cost £23 (non-members £28)

If you would prefer to pay by cheque, payable to **Friends of Stansted Park**, please send it to Anne Burton, Dapplend, Walnut Tree Drive, Woodmancote, Emsworth, PO10 8QH, with details of names, FOSP membership number, and a contact telephone number.

Parking at the Visitor Car Park by the Garden Centre

FRIENDS' CREAM TEA

Thursday 17th August 2022, 3.00pm, at Stansted House

We are delighted to say that we are holding the cream tea again this year, a much loved annual event. Enjoy the traditional scone, jam and clotted cream, lots of tea or coffee, with the added bonus of home-made cakes, served in the beautiful rooms of Stansted House, with accompanying piano!. Numbers have to be limited, so please book early.

Members again have the opportunity to pay by card: simply call the Estate Office 023 9241 2265 (**mornings, before 12.00 please**) giving names, FOSP Membership number, a contact telephone number, and have your card details to hand.

Cost £7 (non-members £8)

If you would prefer to pay by cheque, payable to **Friends of Stansted Park**, please send it to Anne Burton, Dapplend, Walnut Tree Drive, Woodmancote, Emsworth, PO10 8QH, with details of names, FOSP membership number, and a contact telephone number.

Parking at the front of the House – use the North Entrance, through the black automatic gates.

FOSP Committee

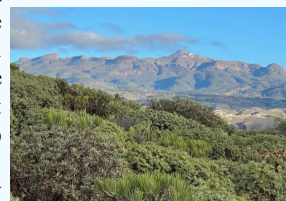
TENERIFE

At the end of last January, Tony and I moved into our twelfth year of residency in Tenerife, although we remain British Citizens. Taking ownership of our family 'holiday' apartment in December 2008, during a June holiday in 2009, we made the decision to sell everything in the UK and make this our retirement home - a decision we've never regretted, despite the pandemic curtailing visits back to family, friends and Stansted. The ageing process also makes travelling more onerous than it used to be!



The Stansted Estate is one of the few places I miss, with its wildlife and seasonal changes, but I also love the changes brought by our mountain - El Teide, which controls much of the weather on the island. An example has to be Christmas Day where we experienced the most glorious sunrise, cloudless blue sky all day with 24/25C and a beautiful sunset at 6pm. The next morning we awoke to torrential rain, which continued all day and then suffered a very loud a full blown thunderstorm which brought snow to the mountain summit. However, the view was spoiled after early morning sun by a warm Calima wind blowing in from Morocco bringing sand filled air for the day. During the last four months we've experienced more rain than all our eleven years put together, making the normally arid southern part of the island, where we live, a carpet of green. Some heavy morning dews are helping to keep flowering undergrowth alive, providing habitat for insects and butterflies and, for nesting birds, thick bushes in which to build. Whether these weather patterns are a part of climate change only time will tell but they have produced some lovely photos, a couple of which I include.

Jill Waring



COMMITTEE MEMBER PROFILES

FOSP COMMITTEE TREASURER - SARAH HUTCHINSON



I am a qualified Chartered Accountant with a degree in Civil Engineering from Bristol University. I have worked in all areas of financial services, including fund management and pensions, both in Finance and Operational roles. I was Head of Finance at British Airways Pensions and was responsible for all financial aspects of the pension schemes, including account preparation, operational risk, audit both internal and external and insurance.

For 26 years I have been resident in Forestside, Rowland's Castle, having moved from Emsworth where I had been for six years. I am a trustee and Treasurer of the Elizabeth Foundation, a charity that works with deaf children from birth to school age and also a member of the New Life Church in Emsworth and Treasurer for Christchurch, Forestside, that is part of the Octagon parish.

Since Covid, I now organise Rowlands Castle Bridge Club, where I am treasurer, and Direct and Score the games. I have been treasurer for the Friends of Stansted Park for 14 years, having joined the Friends almost at the start, when we moved to Forestside.

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2023

2023 HOUSE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JUNE

THE GARDEN SHOW - Friday 9th to Sunday 11th
'BAD DAD' by DAVID WALLIAMS- Friday 23rd at 18.00pm

Tickets - Children from £10.46 (Inc. fee)

Adults from £16.96 (Inc. fee)

JULY

'HMS PINAFORE' - PICNIC CONCERT - Saturday 1st

Gates open 3.30pm to 10.30pm

Tickets: Adult - £25, Child - £15

Programmes - £3.50

STEELEFORD SUPERCAR SHOW

Sunday 2nd 10.00am - 15.00pm. Tickets from £11.20

STANSTED SUMMER FESTIVAL

Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th

Gates open 10.00am

AUGUST

**BOND, BUBLÉ, SINATRA STARRING
SAM GRIFFITHS & THE NBS BIG BAND!**

Sunday 20th

Tickets - Children from £12.50

Adult from £25.00

ULTIMATE ELTON & THE ROCKET BAND

Friday 18th

Gates Open: 3:30pm - 10:30pm

Tickets - Children from £12.50

Adult from £25.00

Programmes - £3.50

THE PROMS AT STANSTED PARK - Saturday 19th

Tickets - Children from £21.00

Adult from £42.50

Programmes - £3.50

For more information please contact the office on
023 9241 2265 or enquiry@stanstedpark.co.uk

<https://www.stanstedpark.co.uk/whatson>

A discount to FOSP members is available on most
Foundation events. Contact the Estate Office.

COMMITTEE MEMBER CONTACTS

Chairman:- Nigel Smith
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Secretary:- Anne Burton
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Treasurer:- Sarah Hutchinson
hutchsj@yahoo.co.uk

Membership:- Paul Bennett
friendsofstanstedpark@outlook.com

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

For FOSP Membership Enquiries please contact
Paul Bennett.

NOTE: Membership Cards will only be issued to NEW
Members.

FOSP 2023 DATES

MAY

HEAD FORESTER'S WALK

Wednesday 24th at 2.00pm

Meet in the Main Avenue car park.

JUNE

OUTING TO PARHAM HOUSE-Wednesday 14th

Please contact the Estate Office, mornings only, to book
your place.

Parham House is one of the country's finest Elizabethan
Houses with extensive gardens set at the foot of the South
Downs and the cost includes entry to the house with a private
tour lasting approximately 40 minutes

**The coach will leave Stansted Garden Centre Car Park at
8.30am and depart Parham at 4.00pm**

FOSP SUMMER PARTY - Tuesday 27th at 6.30pm

To celebrate FOSP's 25th anniversary.

See page 5 for all booking details.

AUGUST

FOSP Cream Tea - Thursday 17th at 3.00pm

See page 5 for all booking details.

SEPTEMBER

FOSP TALK - Thursday 7th at 2.00pm

**Old Idsworth – what we thought we knew and what we
now know about its history by Mark Seaman**

Old Idsworth is believed to be the site of a Deserted
Medieval village. The Chichester & District Archaeology
Society has carried out extensive work in the surrounding
area in an effort to find the remains. Mark will reveal the
results of geophysical surveys and an excavation and explain
how these throw new light on the history of Old Idsworth.

IDSWORTH WALK - Thursday 14th at 2.00pm

Following the above talk about Old Idsworth, Mark will
be giving a guided tour to look at the site.

Meet near St Hubert's Church, Finchdean, PO8 0BE

**PLEASE TELEPHONE 023 9241 2265
TO BOOK YOUR PLACE**

For talks, coffee mornings, FOSP events etc, in order that
we can arrange appropriate seating and refreshments.

Thank you.

No booking required for Head Forest's Walks

For Foundation and FOSP events at the House, use the
North Entrance, go through the automatic black gate, and
park in front of the House unless otherwise directed.

AFTERNOON TEA



Sandwiches of cress and ham,
Warm fruit scones with cream and jam,
Chocolate cupcakes and some tea,
Freshly served to you and me.

Valerie Godwin

NEXT FOSP NEWSLETTER COPY DATE FOR ARTICLES

Friday 28th July 2023. NOTE: Hard copies of the Newsletter are available from the Estate Office. *Editor*

FOSP Newsletter - Designed, produced and edited by Robert and Valerie Godwin - crana.crana@ntlworld.com