



# FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

Spring 2025: Issue 109



## NEW YEAR, NEW LOOK, NEW EDITOR...

Happy New Year to everyone and welcome to the "new look" Spring 2025 FOSP Newsletter.....

This year starts with a new layout, new content, new colour scheme and a new Editor! Yes - that's me - Peter Dudman, a resident of Waterlooville, keen gardener and married to Linda who will provide valuable assistance with the preparation of the Newsletters. My background is in Sales, Marketing & Distribution of Marine Leisure Electronics & Equipment - having spent 40+ years with a number of local companies.



*Peter Dudman*

I am also a Garden Volunteer at Stansted Park.



### FOSP MEMBERS - YOUR FEEDBACK WOULD BE APPRECIATED...

If you have any suggestions, ideas or articles for future Newsletters please feel free to contact me at [peter.dudman1@virginmedia.com](mailto:peter.dudman1@virginmedia.com)

The next FOSP Newsletter copy date for articles is Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025. Hard copies of the Newsletter are available from the Estate Office on request.

## NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR

It has certainly been a very busy period since the last Newsletter.

our residential tenants has accumulated a range of frightening animatronics which created a particularly devilish atmosphere. This was convincingly added to by a number of Friends and Staff who dressed up in ghoulish attire with the public really enjoying the great Stansted Scare!

Our Armistice Day Service continues to attract a really good turn out and my thanks to all who took part. For the first and only time in Stansted history, the 2 Minute Silence commenced as the final note of the Last Post was sounded by the Bugler on the dot of 11 o'clock; I am sure that this timing will never be quite so impeccable again! The Armistice Talk was delivered by Brigadier Justin Maciejewski, the Director of the National Army Museum, who gave a most interesting talk on the nation's perspective on its history, identity, heritage and remembrance.



*Halloween in the Undercroft*

We created a brand-new Halloween event which involved converting the dark and dingy Undercroft into a harrowing, horrifying den of demented demons. One of

The Carol Service in the Chapel was well attended and led for the first time at Stansted by the Reverend Christopher Hancock with Richard Barnes on the organ.



*Dressing the House for Christmas*

The House was dressed superbly for Christmas and looked so stunning for all the House Tours, Wreath Making workshops, plays and concerts. I am very grateful to all those who helped and I appreciate the creativity that they brought to bear; the House looks better and better each year.

We were treated to another marvellous performance of 'A Christmas Carol' which used rooms throughout the House for different scenes. Peter & Verity Auty together with a brilliant pianist enthralled us with a magnificent operatic concert in the Chapel followed by a more intimate rendition of Christmas favourites by the piano in the Music Room, a fabulously traditional Christmas tableau.

On the broader Estate front, our residential cottages have now been much improved and the Estate is considered to be a highly desirable place to live. The commercial office sector remains buoyant; most offices

are now occupied and the demand for salon space by beauticians shows no sign of abating. The retail elements in the Walled Gardens go from strength to strength and we are well established as a vibrant commercial and business hub.

Our events programme is bursting with exciting offers. At Stansted Park we feel it is our duty to remain optimistic and provide lots of luscious entertainment from The Proms, Opera and Open-Air Cinema to the South Downs Food Festival and our own Summer Festival to lift everyone's spirits!

I am very grateful to the Friends for all the glue that they provide to the Estate both in terms of volunteering as well as attending many of our events.

We are very excited about the prospects of this year despite the all-pervasive gloom; Stansted Park will strive in 2025 to be a beacon of hope as we offer a wealth of recreational activity for the public to enjoy.

**David Bennett**



*Peter & Verity Auty Christmas Concert*

## NOTES FROM THE HEAD FORESTER

**N**Our planting programme should be completed by the end of March providing the weather does not cause us any further problems. The replanting of the large block of Norway spruce at the northern end of Stansted Forest which we felled in late summer 2023 is our major programme for this season. This is being restocked with eight species of timber producing conifers to ensure diversity in this stand of trees in future years. I am also adding a scattering of disease-resistant elms around the ride edges as we have had great

success with some of the varieties available in recent years. The elms were donated to us by the South Downs National Park for which we are very grateful, they are excellent specimens and should do very well.



*Elms in tubes on edge of new conifer planting*

The other major planting task is 420m of new hedging alongside the farm track between Lyels Wood and Chalkpit Field. Once the



remainder is in place next winter it will join several of our hedges to those of our neighbours, creating a wildlife corridor and nesting/foraging habitat. As it is fenced, it will also help to stop uncontrolled dogs running out across the fields and disturbing any ground nesting birds and as we develop this area further for environmental outcomes this will be very important. The new hedge consists of 70% hawthorn, 10% each of field maple and hazel and 5% each of guelder rose and spindle.



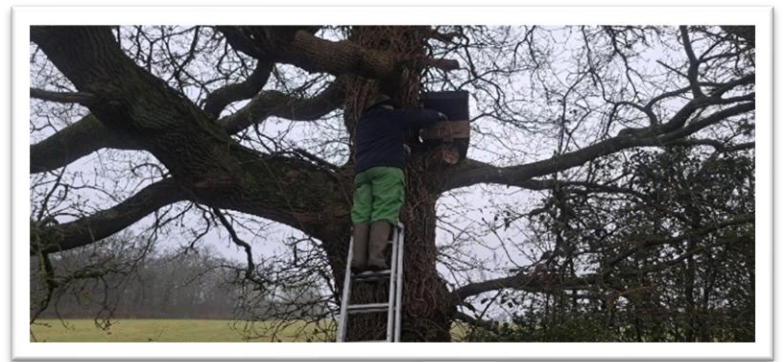
*Double row of hedge plants*

One of the areas of chestnut coppice that is being harvested this winter has for many years had an understorey of grand fir saplings covering the woodland floor in one corner of the block. These are the result of seed dropped by a large specimen of this species situated on the edge of the ride opposite. Grand fir are a shade bearing species and they have quietly been putting on 6" or so every year under the canopy of the chestnut coppice. Steve and Adie the two contractors who I selected to cut this area have, as I knew they would, carried out a very skillful operation in cutting the coppice without damaging the fir. Given light the fir should now grow vigorously to exploit the space, exactly as they would do

naturally in North American climax forest. This is an interesting experiment and will add some species diversity to that immediate area.



*Young Grand Fir released from coppice, seed tree in the background*



*Colin cleaning out an owl box*

Another task which we need to complete very soon is the clearing out of the barn owl boxes and effecting any repairs needed. Considering they are such beautiful birds with such delicate plumage their domestic arrangements leave a lot to be desired and after a few years of use a box can become pretty grim with an accumulated layer of pellets and the mummified remains of prey. We have completed the first one which had not been done for a while due to its awkward position and Colin needed to use a trowel to break up the detritus to allow it to be scooped out. Face masks are essential for this task. We have lost one box to the recent storms which was situated in a large beech tree which succumbed to the wind. Either there were no owls in it at the time or they felt the tree begin to crack and vacated it in time as no corpses were found.

**Michael Prior**



**Spring Guided Walks** - no need to book - just turn up at the meeting place...

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April, Stansted Forest north, meet in German's Yard at 2.00pm, approx 2 miles.

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May, Lyels Wood and Horse Pasture Farm, meet in Main Avenue car park at 2.00pm, approx 2 miles.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE GARDENS...

In 2024, we focused on revitalizing the gardens at Stansted, establishing and upholding new routines and seasonal tasks. As 2025 gets underway, we look forward to a year of creativity and change.

In recent years, the British weather has shifted away from seasonal extremes but with this shift the gardening year has been plagued with rain and wind on a regular basis, causing some difficulties in areas of the garden which have remained boggy for months on end. This year will partly be about embracing this in our horticultural practice and looking at how we can promote sustainable and wildlife-friendly gardening.

To start our season nearly 1000 bulbs have been planted mainly in the walled garden and a few around the house and Dutch Garden. Alliums of various varieties, Muscari latifolium and some tulips will start to present themselves in the borders. If the season remains mild this may be sooner rather than later!

The volunteer group will be helping me to divide some of the plants this spring which need to be rejuvenated such as Iris, Scilla peruviana, Nerine and Cannas. Some new plants will be planted this spring such as Helenium 'Moerheim Beauty', Catananche caerulea, Calamintha nepeta and Geum coccineum 'Queen of Orange'

Spring and summer will see our continuation of work in the Dutch Garden, which is a long-term project for the next couple of seasons.

This month will see the climbing roses and Wisteria pruned ready for the summer flowering. We have Forsythia and Viburnum plicatum to look out for in amongst the earlier flowering shrubs. We hope to create more information for visitors this year and also introduce some early flowering shrubs such as Hamamelis and varieties of Viburnum ready for 2026.

Gardens are ever evolving and for myself and the volunteers this should make for an exciting season.

*Jan Atkinson, Contract Gardener*



*Jan Atkinson*

## THE HISTORY OF STANSTED SECOND-HAND BOOKSHOP

In 2014 James Cooper, the then Director of the Foundation, decided to open a secondhand bookshop in the Garden Centre, based on those operated by the National Trust to raise much needed funds.

The first shop was a cupboard at the front of the Garden Centre but when the new tenant took over in 2019 and the Store was refitted a larger shop was built at the rear, adjacent to the new Café.

Fast forward to the present day and from those early beginnings the Shop now sells more than 20,000 books per annum and is looked after by 20 part time Volunteers.

An [online shop](#) opened on eBay in 2023 and more than 500 books and other donated items have been sold to date. Well worth a look if you're searching for something a little different.

In 2023 & 2024 the Foundation demonstrated its commitment by carrying out two refits adding more shelving, a donations point and a detached external storage facility.

Don't be fooled, this is not a run of the mill High Street Charity Shop and the quality of the stock and the way it's presented has made this a destination shopping experience which attracts customers who regularly travel from all over Hampshire and West Sussex.

[Stansted Park Foundation Bookshop](#) & [eBay Online Shop](#)

*Nigel Smith, Chairman FOSP*

# FULL STEAM AHEAD...

Make sure to visit the [Stansted Park Light Railway](#), which operates on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10:30am to 3:30pm starting March 1<sup>st</sup>. Bring your children, grandchildren, parents, or grandparents for a delightful ride of approximately one mile through the beautiful grounds of Stansted Park



The Producers Market planned for 23<sup>rd</sup> March will be free to visit but tickets will also be available through the [Farm Shop website](#) for a pre-booked lunch.

Bigger and better for 2025, the South Downs Food Festival will be held on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of June. Details are still being finalised so keep checking the [website](#) for more information.

## Sarah Sykes, The Fruit Room Art Studio

 [the\\_fruit\\_room\\_art\\_studio](#)



In the grounds of Stansted Park, the Fruit Room Art Studio is attached to the Dutch Garden and is occupied by full time potter and retired art lecturer Sarah Sykes. Her inspiration for the highly decorated functional earthenware and slip decorated ceramics is taken from the gardens, woodlands and wildlife that surround the studio. Sarah's style of decoration uses strong colour and abundant patterns. Regular workshops offer the opportunity to experience using the potter's wheel plus there are also decorating workshops. Travelling frequently Sarah collects idea and inspiration from other countries and cultures which include India, Mexico and the Mediterranean.

## Sarah Lloyd, artist

 [sarah\\_lloyd\\_paint](#)



Occupying the renovated Hex Hut by the cricket pavilion the classically trained, BA (Hons) Fine Art (Wimbledon) and MA Visual Arts (West Dean) artist Sarah Lloyd has always painted and was awarded The British Institution Prize for painting from the RA in 1982. Sarah has had her work exhibited alongside David Hockney and R B Kitaj and has had her works shown at Haslemere Museum, the Oxmarket in Chichester, the Farnham Pottery, Arundel Gallery, etc., etc. Living between the UK and Italy Sarah continues her explorations in paint and is currently studying for an MA Painting at the RCA in Battersea.

## Natalie March

<https://physio-logical.net>



Physio logical, which is based in The Stable Block by the Maze Courtyard at Stansted Park is owned and operated by Natalie March. Specializing in making people feel better by easing pain to enable a pain free lifestyle and enhancing wellbeing. Since 2008 the experienced team have provided hands-on treatment combined with rehabilitation exercises to treat a range of conditions which include Back, Neck, Shoulder, Knee and Hip pain and offer tailored programs to prevent further recurrences.

**Physio**  **logical**



## STANSTED PARK CRICKET CLUB

Fixtures are published on the website, together with contact details if anyone would like to not only watch but are looking to join the club. Planned fixtures for the next few months are -

Ian Graham, SPCC Secretary  
[Stansted Park CC](#)

**Stansted Park CC Fixtures 2025 (DRAFT)**

Day	2025 Date	Opposition	Location	Time	Type
Sunday	April 6th	Shirell Heath	HOME	1pm	40 over
Sunday	April 13th	West Meon	HOME	1pm	40 over
Sunday	April 20th	Zambuca Tigers	HOME	1pm	40 over
Sunday	April 27th	Newport Gents	HOME	1pm	40 over
Thursday	May 1st	Goodwood staff XI	AWAY	6pm	T20
Sunday	May 4th	St James Casuals	HOME	2pm	40 over
Thursday	May 8th	Shipwreck CC (Harting)	AWAY	6pm	T20
Sunday	May 11th	Walberton	HOME	1.30pm	40 over
Wednesday	May 14th	Portsmouth Civil Service	HOME	6pm	T20
Sunday	May 18th	Emsworth	AWAY	2pm	40 over
Wednesday	May 21st	Essex Road	HOME	6pm	T20
Sunday	May 25th	Broadhalfpenny Brigands	AWAY	2pm	40 over
Wednesday	May 28th	Curdridge	HOME	6pm	T20
Sunday	June 1st	Boxgrove	HOME	2pm	40 over
Wednesday	June 4th	Portsmouth Academicals (Bath Lane, Fareham)	AWAY	6pm	T20



## CHECK OUT THE GARDEN CENTRE

Live Music Fridays are now a permanent fixture in the Garden Centre, taking place every Friday from 2.30 to 4.30pm. Local musicians will be treating customers to a relaxing afternoon of music whilst enjoying a late lunch or afternoon tea. Check out the [Garden Centre Website](#) to see who is playing and when.

The Local Garden Centre Group remains a family business and prides itself on providing excellent customer service with an extensive choice of high-quality plants, gifts and delicious foodstuffs,

supporting local suppliers as part of its remit to truly be "your local garden centre".

The Gardener's Kitchen restaurant offers various seating options, including covered dog-friendly areas. It's perfect for traditional meals, afternoon tea, or a quick coffee and cake.



## REGULAR EVENTS

### St Paul's Chapel Monthly Prayer Meetings

This short service of Prayer will take place on the first Thursday of every month at 12 noon. The service consists of a psalm, Bible reading and brief reflection along with prayers for the House and its community. Future dates are 6<sup>th</sup> March, 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 1<sup>st</sup> May, 5<sup>th</sup> June, 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 7<sup>th</sup> August...

### Guided Tours of Stansted House

These take place on the first Sunday of every month with future dates of 2nd March, 6th April, 4th May, 1st June, 6th July, 3rd August...

## ..AT THE END OF LAST YEAR

### Yuletide Tea – Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024

The truly magical setting of the Main Hall and Music Room of the House, beautifully decorated for Christmas with trees and sparkling lights, welcomed FOSP members for a splendid tea.



Guests enjoyed mulled wine, delicious savory treats, cakes, and abundant tea while enjoying the musical talents of Vanessa Bowler at the grand piano.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Vanessa, Lynda, and her team of waitresses, as well as Nigel, our Chairman, who graciously greeted everyone at the door, for creating a wonderfully festive afternoon.

## WELL, HELLO BAKERS!!

Are you a secret "Great British Bake Off" maker, if so, the FOSP Events Committee would welcome your support. We are looking for additional bakers to add to our rota of cake makers, who donate a cake to support our Afternoon Teas and Coffee Morning events.

If you would like to help, please email us at [friendsofstanstedpark@outlook.com](mailto:friendsofstanstedpark@outlook.com). Thank you.



## INTRODUCING A NEW FEATURE ..



**Bloomberg Connects** - a new way to explore Arts & Culture in your local area, especially Stansted Park and all it has to offer. Download the app for Android or iOS on Google Play App Store or Apple App Store and start to explore the house, its history and its rooms and contents through the interactive guide.

### COMMITTEE MEMBER CONTACT DETAILS

Chairman.....	Nigel Smith– <a href="mailto:ngs.1957@hotmail.com">ngs.1957@hotmail.com</a>
Secretary.....	Anne Burton– <a href="mailto:anneburton99@gmail.com">anneburton99@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer .....	Sarah Hutchinson– <a href="mailto:hutchsj@yahoo.co.uk">hutchsj@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Membership Secretary.....	Paul Bennett– <a href="mailto:friendsofstanstedpark@outlook.com">friendsofstanstedpark@outlook.com</a>
Newsletter Editor .....	Peter Dudman – <a href="mailto:peter.dudman1@virginmedia.com">peter.dudman1@virginmedia.com</a>

For membership enquiries, please contact [Paul Bennett](mailto:Paul.Bennett@friendsofstanstedpark.com). Membership cards will be issued to new members only.

**Membership Renewals:** When renewing your membership, would you please consider setting up a Standing Order to save on volunteer time. Our Bank Details are: Sort Code 60-10-20 Account 61788627. Please give your membership number as a reference.

# WHAT'S COMING UP - DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

To see the full itinerary of coming events and house tours either visit the Stansted website [www.stanstedpark.co.uk.whatson](http://www.stanstedpark.co.uk.whatson), or contact the Office by email - [enquiry@stanstedpark.co.uk](mailto:enquiry@stanstedpark.co.uk) or phone 023 9241 2265. FOSP Members can get discounts on most Foundation Events. Contact the Office with your Membership number for discount codes.

## FRIENDS OF STANSTED HOUSE EVENTS

Pop-Up Bookshop (before AGM) see <a href="#">Page 9</a> for more information .....	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April @ 9:30am
AGM and Coffee Morning see <a href="#">Page 9</a> for more information .....	Wednesday, 9 <sup>th</sup> April @ 10:00am
Guided Walk see <a href="#">Page 3</a> for more information .....	Wednesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> April @ 2.00pm
Talk by Chloe Goddard, see <a href="#">Page 9</a> for more information .....	Thursday, 8 <sup>th</sup> May @ 2:00pm
Guided Walk see <a href="#">Page 3</a> for more information .....	Wednesday, 14 <sup>th</sup> May @ 2.00pm
Visit to Athelhampton House see <a href="#">Page 9</a> for more information.....	Wednesday, 18 <sup>th</sup> June
Summer Supper Party see <a href="#">Page 10</a> for more information & booking details .....	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> June @ 6:30pm
Cream Tea - save the date ... ..	Thursday, 14 <sup>th</sup> August @ 3:00pm

**How to get here:** Unless otherwise directed, please use the North Entrance to attend FOSP events. Drive through automatic gates, veer to the right when the drive forks and park in front of the House.

## FOUNDATION EVENTS - March-August 2025 - use links to websites for more information

<a href="#">Music Afternoon</a> .....	Thursday, 13 <sup>th</sup> March @ 2:30pm (doors at 2pm)
<a href="#">Calligraphy Workshop</a> .....	Friday, 14 <sup>th</sup> March @ 10:00
<b>Producers Market</b> - Stansted Park Farm Shop - details to come .....	Sunday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> March
<a href="#">Stansted House Trail Run</a> .....	Saturday, 29 <sup>th</sup> March @ 9.00am-9.30am start
<a href="#">Spring Floristry Workshop</a> .....	Saturday, 29 <sup>th</sup> March
<a href="#">Mothering Sunday Guided Tour</a> .....	Sunday, 30 <sup>th</sup> March @ 11:00am
<a href="#">Mothering Sunday Stansted House</a> .....	Sunday, 30 <sup>th</sup> March @ 1:00pm
<a href="#">Servants Quarters Tours</a> .....	Monday, 7 <sup>th</sup> April @ 11:00am & 2:00pm
<a href="#">Upstairs, Downstairs Hours Tours</a> .....	Tuesday, 8 <sup>th</sup> April @ 11:00am & 2:00pm
<a href="#">Violin &amp; Piano Recital</a> .....	Thursday, 10 <sup>th</sup> April @ 2.30pm
<a href="#">Servants Quarters Tours</a> .....	Monday, 14 <sup>th</sup> April @ 11:00am & 2:00pm
<a href="#">Upstairs, Downstairs Hours Tours</a> .....	Tuesday, 15 <sup>th</sup> April @ 11:00am & 2:00pm
<a href="#">Murder Mystery</a> .....	Saturday, 19 <sup>th</sup> April @ 7:30pm (doors 7:00pm)
<b>STANSTED HOUSE RE-OPENS FOR THE 2025 SEASON</b> .....	<b>Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> April</b>
<a href="#">Teddy Bears Picnic</a> .....	Monday, 21 <sup>st</sup> April, 12 noon - 4:00pm
<a href="#">Blithe Spirit</a> presented by the Theatre of Dark Encounters .....	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> , Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> , Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May
<a href="#">Calligraphy Workshop</a> .....	Friday, 16 <sup>th</sup> May @ 10:00pm
<a href="#">The Most Perilous Comedie of Elizabeth I</a> .....	Friday, 30 <sup>th</sup> May—doors open 5:00pm
<i>Outdoor Theatre by The Three Inch Fools in The Walled Garden - more details online</i>	
<a href="#">South Downs Food Festival</a> - details to come .....	Saturday, 7 <sup>th</sup> June & Sunday, 8 <sup>th</sup> June
<a href="#">Steeleford Supercar Show</a> .....	Sunday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> June @ 10:00am
<b>Opera Gala</b> - details to come .....	Saturday, 28 <sup>th</sup> June
<b>Outdoor Cinema</b> - details to come .....	Friday, 11 <sup>th</sup> July, Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> July, Sunday, 13 <sup>th</sup> July
<a href="#">Stansted Summer Festival</a> .....	Saturday, 19 <sup>th</sup> July, Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> July
<a href="#">Hamlet</a> .....	Thursday, 7 <sup>th</sup> August - doors open 5:30pm
<i>Outdoor Theatre by The Pantaloons in The Walled Garden - more details online</i>	
<a href="#">Proms Weekend: Proms in the Park</a> .....	Saturday, 9 <sup>th</sup> August
<a href="#">Proms Weekend: TeaJazz in the Park</a> .....	Sunday, 10 <sup>th</sup> August
<a href="#">Pride and Prejudice</a> .....	22 <sup>nd</sup> August - doors open 5:00pm
<i>Chapterhouse Theatre Company in the Walled Garden - more details online</i>	



## FOSP EVENTS - WHAT'S COMING UP....

### Friends of Stansted Park AGM and Coffee Morning - Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April

**09.30am:** Doors open for books - as last year, there will be a **Pop-Up Bookshop** with books from Stansted Park Foundation's Bookshop in the Garden Centre. This has proved immensely popular at several of our events, and provides an opportunity to browse, and purchase, a wide variety of books. Books will be available before, and after, the AGM.

**10:00am:** Brief formalities of the AGM, followed by the **Coffee Morning** with delicious homemade cakes

AGM papers will be sent to all members separately.

The FOSP Committee very much looks forward to seeing you but, for catering purposes, please contact the Office on 023 9241 2265 option 5.

*Anne Burton FOSP Secretary*

### Talk by Chloe Goddard – Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> May

Chloe Goddard is the Central Area Manager for the South Downs National Park which covers the area around Chichester and includes Stansted Park. To book your place on what should be a very interesting talk please call the Office on 023 9241 2265 option 5.

#### Cost

FOSP Members	£3
Non-members	£5

### Visit to Athelhampton House – Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> June

*Booking forms and further information about the visit will be sent out separately.*

Athelhampton nestles in the Piddle valley, between Tolpuddle and Puddletown near Dorchester.

The ancient manor of Athelhampton has been continually lived in since Saxon times and is mentioned in the Domesday book. The house has a rich history, starting with Saxon times, through turbulent Tudor England, the Glorious Revolution and a Victorian restoration.

The current house was largely constructed in Tudor times, with the Great Hall built by Sir William Martyn in 1485, landowner and collector of wine duty at Poole. He received a license to enclose 160 acres of deer park and fortify his manor with walls of stone and lime and to build towers with crenellations.

Athelhampton is one of England's finest Tudor Manors Houses. Dating from 1485, with the Great Hall considered one of the finest examples of Tudor architecture in England, it remains greatly unchanged with a mainly original hammer-beam roof, carved stonework, stained glass, and other details.

In Elizabethan times, as living standards became more domesticated, with separate eating, cooking, living and sleeping quarters, Robert Martyn, one of his sons, built the Kitchen Wing. The house was further extended when the West Wing and Gatehouse were added. The house has many interesting rooms, filled with antique furnishings and art.

In 1891, Athelhampton was purchased by the young Victorian gentleman, Alfred Cart de Lafontaine who created the fabulous gardens that surround the house and restored the house taking advice from his friend and mentor Thomas Hardy.



The Gardens remodelled in 1891 surrounding the House, with many 'compartments' built with Ham stone, each with a different style or theme, each with a water feature of a pond or fountain. The Great Court features the 12-world famous giant yew tree pyramids. The House and Gardens are protected by a Grade 1 listing,

In 2022 the magnificent Elizabethan kitchen, whose range had been bricked in and concealed behind modern units, has been restored and opened to the public.

*Extract from information on the history of Athelhampton House*

*Chris Freeborough*

## Summer Supper Party, Pavilion Tea Rooms - Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June, 6:30pm



This very popular summer event starts with fizz in the Walled Garden, followed by a delicious supper in the beautiful Pavilion Tea Rooms. Other drinks, coffee and tea will be available from the bar.

If you would like to contribute to our **Annual Raffle**, we'd be delighted if you brought something with you on the day. Thank you.

Book your place now - to **pay by card**, telephone the Estate Office 023 9241 2665 Option 5, **giving your details and membership number OR**, if you'd prefer, **pay by cheque**, payable to Friends of Stansted Park, **send details of names, and your membership number** to:

Anne Burton, Dapplend, Walnut Tree Drive, Woodmancote, Emsworth, PO10 8QH.

On the day, use the South Entrance, park at the Garden Centre Car Park or, for nearer, disabled parking, use the Bothy Car Park by the Chapel.

We look forward to a convivial summer evening with Friends.

### Cost

FOSP Members	£27
Non-members	£31