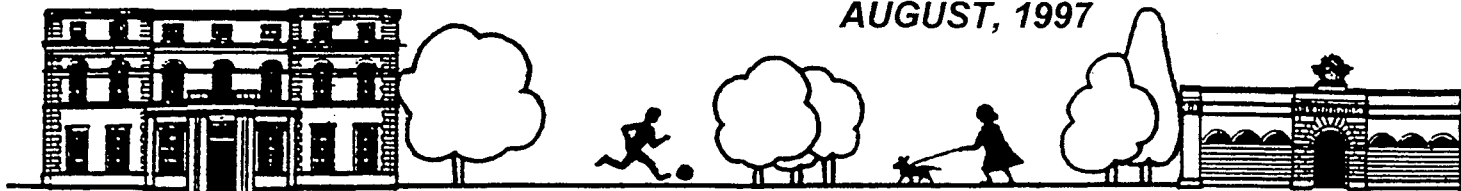


NEWSLETTER

No. 48

AUGUST, 1997



FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the August edition of the Newsletter - it seems incredible that we are already approaching Autumn. It will be lovely to see the trees changing colour in the park again, and to experience some cooler weather.

We look forward to seeing you all at the **AGM Meeting** in the Small Mansion at 2.00pm, September 14. Please make a note in your diaries, as progress during the year and particularly regarding the lottery bids, will be under discussion.

Following our request in the May newsletter for a volunteer to help with the conservatory, Anne Denton has very kindly stepped in.

We welcome any items *you* would like to contribute to future editions, so please send them to:

*The Editor, 14 Manor Gardens,
Gunnersbury Avenue, W3 8JU*

I look forward to hearing from you,
Ed

ADVERTISING

Should you wish to advertise in the Newsletter, we'd welcome an accompanying donation.

THANKS are due to all the people who helped to make the Gala such a success, particularly Philip, John, Nick and Barry from Hounslow Council. An enjoyable time was had by all, and the music was great. Don't forget to come along to the Chiswick Extravaganza at Chiswick House on August 25, for more fun.

GUNNERSBURY PARK IN THE 1920S

*Oh! why is Flaccus not alive
Your fav'rite scene to sing?
To Gunnersbury's charm
could give*

*His lyre immortal spring **
The Friends have just published a new booklet about Gunnersbury. It reprints a chapter from *Just Beyond London** by Gordon S Maxwell (1927) with additional illustrations from Roger Nicholson's fine collection of local postcards. Copies are available from Gunnersbury Park Museum and some Hounslow libraries, (£ 2.50). Order by post from: Friends of Gunnersbury Park & Museum, 25 Hartington Road, London W4 3TL.



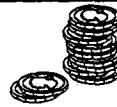
GUNNERSBURY PARK AND MUSEUM EVENTS

- **Turnham Green Bric-a-Brac Stalls**
Come and buy! *September 20, September 27*
- **Chiswick Extravaganza**
Come and act extravagantly on *August 25*
- **Gunnersbury Park Fete**
Make a note in your diaries not to forget this annual fun! *September 7*
- **From Tents to Travellers**
A story of the travelling community in Ealing *August 1 - January 11, 1998*
- **Fashion in Hogarth's Century**
Lace and silk from Gunnersbury's wardrobes will be on show beside an outstanding loaned collection from the Embroiderers' Guild, Hampton Court
September 25, 1997 - September 26, 1998

Teachers amongst you may be interested by the Museum's education programme

- **Blood, Pus and Pain**
Anaesthetics, amputations, leeches... Discover what it was like to be ill in Victorian times - not for the squeamish! *September 15 - October 1*
(*Key Stage 2: Victorian Britain*)
- **The Year of the Ox**
Come and help us celebrate yearly customs and ancient tradition. Toss pancakes, play skittles, learn Morris dancing ... *October 6 - October 23 (Key Stages 1 & 2)*
- **Victorian Kitchens**
Be shown round by servants, dress up and help with cooking (*Key Stages 1 & 2*)

lottery news



The Museum held a public Lottery Consultation Day on June 21, attended by 47 people representing a wide variety of groups. There was a lot of support for, amongst other things, creating a new local history gallery, a new restaurant, a transport gallery, increasing museum exhibition space, redecorating the Large Mansion, and opening up the Servants Wing. *If you would like more information, please call the Museum on 01 81 - 992 1 61 2*



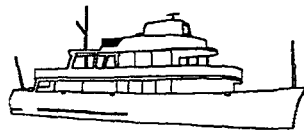
Down at Potomac Lake things are looking up. Mr Ian Miller of County Fisheries has taken over the fishing lease. His team have already begun clearing away rubbish and reinforcing the banks to halt further erosion. Future plans include re-planting water lilies and reed beds and repairing paths.

Season tickets at £45 have already sold out, but fishing by the day at £6 (concessions £4), and by the night £4 (concess. £3) are available. A £10 ticket is also available which enables people to fish until 10pm.

Bailiffs are now on site 24 hours a day.

Supervised fishing classes for children and beginners are available at reasonable rates.

Contact Mr Miller and staff at the lake for more info.



BRIC-A-BRAC NEEDED!

Please contact Joan on 01 81 560 4262 should you have any china, books, clothes, etc. you wish to contribute

news update



LOOKING FOR A NEW INTEREST?



STOP PRESS!

The artists at the Small Mansion are running art classes, and Jason is organising Floristry and Gardening courses at Capel Manor. Learn something new and have fun at the same time, instead of crouching in front of the TV as the weather becomes colder...

Please ring Jason (01 81 993 6266) for more details

Day Trip to Waddesdon Manor



Over 50 members of both Brentford & Chiswick History Society and the Friends of Gunnersbury Park & Museum spent "A Day with the Rothschilds" in July. The weather was perfect as we visited the extraordinary museum of natural history in Tring, before travelling on to Waddesdon Manor. Waddesdon is the Victorian recreation of a French chateau set in Buckinghamshire countryside...

The Tring museum, opened in 1992, was created by Lionel Walter Rothschild (1868 - 1937). It contains a large collection of preserved animals and insects which Rothschild began collecting from the age of seven. This includes zebras, giant tortoises, and fat dormice - the latter Rothschild introduced from the continent and they are still only found at Tring. Some collections have also been added by the Natural History Museum since Rothschild's death: most extraordinary is a wonderful one of domestic dogs. No-one will assemble a comparable collection again because we are now able to record animals on film, and are sensitive to the needs of rare breeds.

We arrived at Waddesdon Manor, 30 minutes drive from Aylesbury, at lunchtime. Its creator, Baron Ferdinand, was a member of another branch of the Rothschild family. Waddesdon is now one of the National Trust's flagship properties and enormous sums have been spent on refurbishment. We enjoyed a guided tour of the ground floor, and explored upstairs ourselves. The wine cellars are open for visitors, as is a large shop. There is an excellent restaurant, and also a summerhouse serving teas near a large aviary. The spacious gardens are beautifully laid out.

- ***Walter Rothschild Zoological Museum, Akeman Street, Tring (01 442 - 8241 82) Open 10am - 5pm, Mon - Sat & 2pm - 5pm Sun.***
- ***Waddesdon Manor (01 296 - 651 282) House open March - October 26, 11am - 4pm Thurs - Sun & Bank Hols. Entry by timed ticket bought when you arrive. Gardens, aviary, etc open March - December 21 10am - 5pm. Admission free to NT members, house & gardens £9.00. Gardens, wine cellar, aviary £3.00.***

THE NEWSLETTER QUARTERLY ISSUES:

February	Spring Lecture details
May	Summer Gala details
August	September Fete details
November	Christmas event details

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