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NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL MEETING ON THE RESTORATION PROJECT, Saturday 26 November

Members of the project team planning the restoration programme for Gunnersbury Park and Museum have agreed to come to a special meeting to discuss the project with members of the Friends.

The group includes Hounslow and Ealing officers who are co-ordinating the work of a series of expert consultants and drafting the applications for funding which will be submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund and other bodies. This meeting is an important opportunity to hear how the proposals are developing and what the programme is going to be for submitting the funding applications and, if successful, for implementing the works.

The meeting will take place in the Terrace Room, Small Mansion, from 10.30 to 12.30 – all Friends are welcome

STIR UP SUNDAY, 20 November

Join this free family activity with Gunnersbury's Victorian servants as they prepare for the Christmas festivities!

Traditionally, Christmas preparations in a big household would begin on the last Sunday before Advent, known as Stir-Up Sunday. Gunnersbury's Victorian kitchens will be decked with holly and ivy to put you in the Christmas spirit. You can help the servants pound the sugar and spices, stir the plum pudding and make a Christmas wish!

You might also discover a few Christmas traditions . . . For example, why is the pudding stirred from east to west? Why does the recipe for mince pies include three spices? And who are the Lord and Lady of Misrule?

No advance booking necessary, just come and join one of these three sessions: 11.30am to 12.30pm, 1 pm to 2pm or 2.30 – 3.30pm.

***Please note:* Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times**

AUTOCHROMES

Don't miss the exhibition at the Museum of the Rothschild photographs which were taken using this early colour process. The talk last week saw a packed Terrace Room, with standing room only, proving the popularity of the subject!

The exhibition shows back-lit enlargements of these beautiful images, including views of Edwardian Gunnersbury and continues until 29 January 2012.

OPEN HOUSE

Gunnersbury again took part in this very successful London event in September.

A Friend who acted as a steward in Princess Amelia's Bath-House on the day was very impressed by the great enthusiasm of the visitors for the chance to get inside this charming little building (right). As a result we are hoping to arrange a special chance for Friends to visit in 2012.

FRIENDS' ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At this meeting in July the following were elected to the Friends' Committee: Val Bott, Nigel Blades, David Bush, Philippa Dolphin, Ann Hobson, Sonya Leydecker, Helen Poskitt, Renee Tyack and James Wisdom. The meeting formally received reports on the year's work and on our finances. After the business meeting, we celebrated 30 years with tea and birthday cake

IN THE MUSEUM

A Hive of Industry this exhibition of local products from the boroughs of Ealing and Hounslow is well worth a visit

Admission to the Museum is free. It is open 11- 5 (April to October), 11- 4 (November to March). 020 8992 1612



NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of this *Newsletter* will be compiled in January 2012 and, as always, your contributions are very welcome. Contact Val Bott, Honorary Editor, 25 Hartington Rd, London W4 3TL

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FRIENDS of GUNNERSBURY PARK & MUSEUM

A warm welcome to those have joined us recently! Existing Friends can always help by encouraging others to join.

The £5 subscription is modest and a bigger membership means a better income and a stronger voice. Please send a cheque, made out to The Friends of Gunnersbury Park & Museum, to The Membership Secretary, Friends of Gunnersbury Park & Museum, 55 Park Drive, London W3 8N.

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