



Friends of Hylands House

NEWSLETTER

November 2023



<http://www.friendsofhylandshouse.com>

FRIENDS OF HYLANDS HOUSE

Reg. Charity No. 1059969

President: LORD PETRE

**Vice-Presidents: Glenda Hicks, Paul Hutchinson, Stuart Mole,
Richard Oscroft and David Thomson**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman: RICHARD OSCROFT
4 The Manor House, Roxwell Road, Writtle, CM1 3RY
Tel: 01245 421039, email: romansfewriddle@btinternet.com

Vice Chairman: Vacant

Treasurer: ROS COLERIDGE
41 Long Brandocks, Writtle, CM1 3LS
Tel: 01245 421677, email: coleridgehouse@msn.com

Secretary: CHRIS RYCROFT
35 Canford Close, Chelmsford, CM2 9RG
Tel: 01245 473047, email: c.rycroft123@btinternet.com

Membership Post Vacant – Urgently required
Please contact the Secretary as listed above

**Ann Bell, Val Chiswell, Berry Cornell,
Stan Kaluza, Cynthia Walker, Nick Wickenden**

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RATES

At a recent committee meeting it became apparent that the new Friends of Hylands House website presented an opportunity to reduce administration costs notably with postage but also to reduce the time spent by the Membership Secretary concerning the Annual General Meeting. It also seemed the right time to simplify annual membership fees. That being the case the committee agreed to the following to be ratified at the AGM:

Adult: £18; Joint adult £34; Concessions: Single £13; Joint £24

Existing members – you can change your payment to a Direct Debit on the new website at any time. Payment will be collected on 1st March each year and if you have given your consent, we will claim Gift Aid.

Do visit the new website @ www.friendsofhylandshouse.co.uk. Grateful thanks are due to Edward Price: Hylands Assistant Manager – Business Innovation who has given many hours of his time designing and installing the website and to Chelmsford City Council for setting up *Friends of Hylands House donation points*.

“The object of the Friends shall be the preservation and improvement of the listed building – Hylands House, Chelmsford – together with the associated park, for the benefit of the public, and the promotion of its use by the public, through the activities of a group of Friends.” – an extract from the Constitution.

A message from our Chairman, Richard Oscroft, MBE



Our thanks to Linda Knock who has recently returned to Yorkshire, the county of her birth; our hard working Vice Chairman and excellent support to me, Linda had previously served longer than any of her predecessors – thanks to the imposed Covid movement restrictions – as Chairman of the Friends during which time she had quietly assumed the roles of Editor of our Newsletter, events and outings coordinator as well as being an avid researcher of the history of Hylands. An amazing contribution to the Friends for which I was delighted to present her with a token of our appreciation.

We are hoping to present Graham Byford, our outgoing membership secretary, with a token of our appreciation at our Christmas Lunch on 11th December when 64 members will be gathered in the splendid Banqueting Room to enjoy not only a traditional meal but also the chance to win a prize in a raffle before moving into the Drawing Room to sing carols round the piano – though probably more likely to be a keyboard these days!! Let's hope there is no snow this year!!

Alas we had to cancel both our summer coach outing to Suffolk and our trip to an old-time Music Hall in London in November, as with both the effects of inflation on coach and venue prices and the imposition of ever earlier dates for down payments increased the financial risk to beyond a level that your Committee was prepared to take on. We realise that such outings are enjoyable social occasions so we have our thinking caps onto come up with some affordable alternatives. Watch this space?!

Meanwhile we are making arrangements for our AGM which next year will be held on 16th April at 3.00pm. Our speaker will hopefully be Graeme Cooper, who gives an in depth and personal account of the life of his father, Johnny Cooper 'One of the Originals', a member of the SAS detachment based for a while at Hylands. You may recall that Graeme was unfortunately unwell on the day of our AGM this year.

Activity on our new website continues to increase thanks in no small measure to Edd Price, Hylands House Assistant Manager-Business Innovation, working hard with Chris Rycroft and Berry Cornell on our Committee to maximise the transfer of members to our new database which

will be so much simpler to manage going forward. Consequently, I have no hesitation in **putting out a plea again: PLEASE will someone offer to be our membership secretary.** Guidance will be on hand and I give my assurance that the role is straightforward and includes membership of the Committee (our Trustees) – just six meetings a year on alternate second Wednesdays in the month. Meanwhile many thanks to Chris Rycroft for undertaking essential Membership tasks in addition to being our Secretary: our apologies to those new members who await their Membership cards – we are actively endeavouring to find the best way to get them printed efficiently.

2023 is rapidly vanishing – where does time go?! – but I can thoroughly recommend ENLIGHTENMENT – a spectacular lighting event being put on in Hylands Park from 23rd November until 1st January: tickets are essential and are available from the Civic box office.

Special thanks to Berry Cornell and Cynthia Walker for compiling this, their first Newsletter as Editors – and to all our contributors.

A touch early, perhaps –

With Seasonal Greetings and my best wishes to you all for a peaceful and happy time with family and Friends.

Richard

DON'T FORGET YOUR DISCOUNTS!

As a member of the Friends you can get a discount at the Vintage Afternoon Teas on Open Estate Days. You just need your membership card to do this!



The Friends of Hylands House new website



Our new website and online membership management system was launched early September this year. The development of this project was kindly managed by Edd, the Hylands Assistant Manager – Business Innovation. Our old website was outdated and not in line with modern websites and Edd said he would kindly assist us as he has relevant experience. After looking into this more he realised that it wasn't just a website that would help but we needed a way of managing our members online which would allow new members to join online. Edd implemented the same type of system for his tennis club which has thrived since doing this! Our former Membership Secretary, Graham, performed a wonderful job for many years for which we are ever so grateful. However new technologies allow for more modern ways of working which makes jobs seamless and a lot easier. Therefore, after some research Edd worked with a company called Whitefuse who specialise in these systems for voluntary organisations, not-for-profits and charities.

On our website you will now see dedicated pages: About Us, Membership Benefits, Projects, News, The Bookshop, Join Online and even Donate Online! This is just the start, and we hope to add more to it.

Please do take a look at www.friendsofhylandshouse.co.uk

Also please note that Edd helped us set up a new committee email address – committee@friendsofhylandshouse.co.uk

We are looking for a Membership Secretary. This new system makes the role very simple. Are you interested? Please get in contact.

We also hope to add News articles to our new website. Do you have any experience or skills to help us with communications? We would love to hear from you.

Thank you Linda

Linda has recently moved away from Chelmsford to the West Riding of Yorkshire to be nearer to her Family.

Linda was a pivotal member of the FofHH Committee and we would like to thank her for her dedication and loyalty, both as a Committee member, Chairman of the Committee and as a volunteer in the Bookshop.

Our Chairman Richard Oscroft thanked Linda for the many years she has been a member of the FofHH Committee and presented her with a vase engraved with a picture of Hylands House.

She will be greatly missed and we wish her every happiness in her new home and lots of fun and laughter with her family.

Thank you Linda for your outstanding contribution to the Friends.



Before I lived in Chelmsford

Before I lived in Chelmsford – where I have lived longer than anywhere else – I lived in Beverley, East Yorkshire, where I was born; then in Cheshire where I went to college, returning home to work in Leconfield in East Yorkshire. This was in a village school that served an RAF camp and the children left East Yorkshire to live in faraway places. I was envious and after an interview in Eltham Palace my travels started – I lived near Malacca in Malaysia; Detmold in Germany; Bodelwyddan in North Wales; then back to East Yorkshire; near Belfast in Northern Ireland [during the Troubles!]; Grove Park just outside London, where my husband was the adjutant of the Essex Yeomanry Regiment; and Soest in Germany; and then in the late 1970s moved to Chelmsford until mid-September this year when I moved to Menston in Wharfedale, West Yorkshire. I am a Yorkshire woman and this is back to the county of my birth but 64 miles away from where I was born!

Working in Chelmsford I met Barbara Sargeant at Oaklands Infant School and became a Friend. I taught at Oaklands for almost twenty years and some time after I retired, Barbara and Ron asked if I was interested in joining the Friends' committee. By this time, I was involved with many organisations and decided that to join the committee I would need to drop one of the other organisations I was involved with and said that when I did, I would seriously consider joining the Friends' committee. Eventually I did this and was co-opted towards the end of Richard's previous term of office as Chairman.

As a committee we worked hard for Hylands – with projects to enhance the Pleasure Grounds, and the park, organising a free bus service with a committee member to 'meet and greet' [lots of publicity but few takers!] and so many more projects – inside the House and in the gardens. Our biggest project during these times was the Hanbury Memorial Garden. By the time of the official opening, I was Chairman and because of Covid had a longer term of office than had been expected!

At the same time, I was busy researching for Hylands and presenting exhibitions. I became fascinated by the stories of all the owners – each has a different story. People said I would find a house to research here, but I don't think that there is another with such a varied history. The nearest house to me now is Harewood House and I don't think it needs any research! But I will find other interests once I am properly settled!

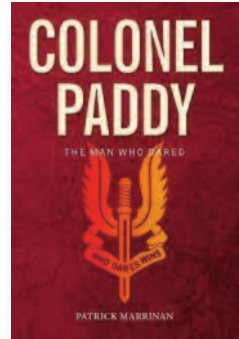
I shall think of Hylands and the Friends often and wonder what is happening. I was presented with a lovely, engraved vase by the Friends, and it is something I shall treasure.

Linda Knock, October 2023

Colonel Paddy

by Patrick Bermingham

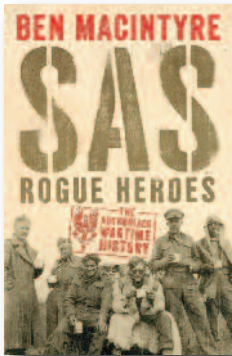
“A natural born guerrilla leader, maybe the best the British Army has ever possessed”, writes Patrick Marrinan in his book *Colonel Paddy*, a biography of the late Lt-Colonel Robert Blair Mayne DSO and three Bars. Paddy was an athletic young solicitor who joined the Army at the beginning of World War II. He had played Rugby for Ireland and had been the Irish amateur heavyweight boxing champion. In December 1940 he joined the 11th Scottish Commando and early in 1941 went with them to Egypt. In many engagements he built a reputation as an aggressive soldier and successful leader and was invited by David Sterling to join the newly formed Special Air Service. With them, his inspiring leadership and courage behind enemy lines produced



SAS soldiers in their Jeeps prior to a desert raid. Photo by Major Geoffrey Keating, No 1 Army Film & Photographic Unit, coloured by Lt Colonel Simon Malik (Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry Association)

astonishing results. He finished the war as Commanding Officer of 1 SAS Regiment, which was based at Hylands from 11th November 1944 until it was disbanded at a ceremony at Hylands on 8th October 1945, which was attended by Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery. Paddy earned four DSO's. He was a remarkable soldier and is still remembered and held in high regard by his old SAS comrades; as those Friends of Hylands House who met a few of them earlier this year will testify. After the war Paddy returned to Ulster and became Secretary of the Ulster Law Society. He was tragically killed in a car crash in December 1955. The blurb on the book states: "He was an Air Commando: a leader of the most daredevil and dangerous regiment in the British Army – the SAS. He was the scourge of the Nazis. Hitler ordered that he was to be shot on sight. He was the personification of Irish courage and the most loveable character ever to come out of Ulster". Locally he seems to be mainly remembered for taking a jeep up the stairway of Hylands House one night, for a bet, and being told off by Mrs Hanbury, the owner of the House, when he got to the top – for waking her up! I'm surprised that a film has not been made of Paddy's remarkable wartime exploits.

(I'd like to thank Lt Col Edlin, Secretary of the SAS Association, for sending me a copy of *Colonel Paddy* by Patrick Marrinan, The Ulster Press.)



In 2016 a book by Ben Macintyre called *SAS Rogue Heroes* drew attention to Mayne and his commanding officer David Sterling for their roles with the SAS in the Second World War. In 2022 the BBC produced a television series of the same name in which Blair Mayne was played by Jack O'Connell.

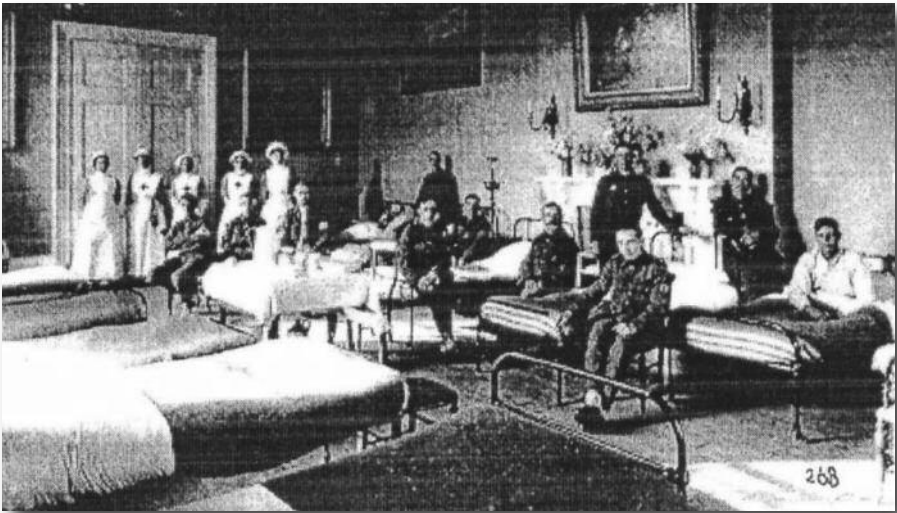
URGENTLY REQUIRED

We are urgently looking for a new Membership Secretary to join the committee. If you are interested in finding out more about the role, please initially contact the Secretary : Chris Rycroft, Tel: 01245 473047, email: c.rycroft123@btinternet.com

Hylands House ‘At War’

“Hylands House” responded magnificently during both world wars. In his book *Hylands – the story of an Essex Country House and its owners*, Stephen Foreman covers the history of the many owners of the House. Sir Daniel Gooch bought the House in 1907 and made many improvements employing a large staff in the House and grounds.

On 26th October 1914 Sir Daniel joined Sir Ernest Shackleton as part of his team to reach the South Pole arriving on the island of South Georgia on 5th November. Back in Europe the Great War had broken out and Sir Daniel received news that Hylands House was to be taken over and used as an emergency hospital. He returned home to fund and equip the hospital with the most up to date equipment money could buy. 1500 Patients known as Blue Boys were treated there with the 2nd and 3rd South Midland Ambulance service running two wards of 95 beds each.



Ward B, ground floor, Hylands, October 1914.

Many military units were posted around the area and in August 1915 Lord Kitchener visited the House to inspect the 2/1st South Midland Division “Despite a shower of rain, Lord Kitchener sat on a large white horse for 70 minutes while the troops marched past him. A small aeroplane made a brief appearance and circled overhead” Lord Kitchener also visited the hospital wards.

Two fetes were held at Hylands and raised over £1000 for the Essex Regiment’s Prisoner of War Fund. The hospital closed in early 1919. Sadly, Sir Daniel and Lady Gooch’s eldest son was taken ill whilst serving on HMS Implacable and died in Greece on 4th October 1915.

In August 1922 the House was purchased by John Mackenzie Hanbury who died suddenly in April 1923 leaving his widow Christine to run the estate. Mrs Hanbury was closely associated with the Red Cross with an in-depth knowledge of nursing and administration from before and during WWI and from 1939-1945 was Assistant County Director of the Red Cross.



Wireless Operators at Hylands House World War II.

During WWII Hylands House and park became a command post for military forces with the cellars being used as air raid shelters and in the basement a wireless communication centre. Mrs Hanbury's only son John (Jock) had been a pilot before the war rising to the rank of pilot officer; when the war began he was attached to 615 Squadron. Tragedy again struck the family

when John was killed by flying into the ground while on night patrol in 1939. His ashes together with his parents are buried in a consecrated plot in the Memorial Garden of Hylands Park.

In October 1939 the Preliminary Training School of the London Hospital was evacuated from London to Hylands House, the matron was Maybel Reynolds who wrote "At a time when the standard of our practical and theoretical work might tend to suffer, it seemed particularly important that the training should continue. Mrs Hanbury's most generous offer to house a succession of 32 trainee nurses in a wing of her beautiful home near Chelmsford was truly heaven sent" The training school stayed until 1941 and the House may later have been used as a maternity Hospital.



Nurses take a break from treating the wounded at Hylands House during World War II.

In both World Wars, Prisoner of War camps were based in Hylands Park. Little is known about the prisoners during WWI but during WWII both Italian and German prisoners of war were based in the park at the Writtle end (this is now the A414 carpark). The prisoners were used as supplementary labour on local farms, sent by the Essex War Agricultural Executive Committee. One farmer

GERMAN P.O.W BROADCAST CAROLS FROM CHELMSFORD CAMP TO-DAY

By BASIL BROWNLESS

CHRISTMAS carols broadcast from the prisoner of war camp at Hylands, near Chelmsford, to-day will mark the last Christmas the Germans will spend here.

A choir of thirty of them, which has already made a reputation in some of our churches, will be heard singing a few of the old German carols on the Home Service of the B.B.C. at 1.10 p.m. in the programme called "The Eye-witness."

It will be one of the most delightful of the Christmas broadcasts, especially to the Chelmsford families who are again sharing their festivities with one or two of the German exiles. Families and friends in Germany will also be listening to them on the B.B.C. Overseas Service.

Five years most of them have spent in captivity, and since the war Chelmsford citizens have got used to seeing them walking through the streets of the town.

Old German harmony

The recording was taken on Friday evening. A Christmas mist hung over the slopes of Hylands Park, and in an isolated corner of the estate the strains of "Silent Night, Holy Night," broke from a small group of Army huts. It was not a Bing Crosby version, but the real old German harmony and words.

Inside one of the huts a group of Germans in battledress stood in a semi-circle round their conductor, Hans Mans, a 44-year-old miner from the Ruhr. Their tough faces, even with the sincerity written on them, scarcely seemed to match the tenderness of their harmony.

Before the recording started, Mr. Douglas Willett, the B.B.C. "Eye-witness," read this introduction, which will be heard by listeners to-day:

I am speaking from the 266 prisoner of war camp at Chelmsford, where in this little recreation hall a choir of thirty German prisoners are rehearsing for Christmas, when they will be singing at local churches.

They have decorated this converted Army hut with the best materials they could find.

Two old blankets make the curtains for the stage. The footlight reflectors are made from pieces of scrapped tins, and all round the walls the Germans have placed little sprigs of Christmas tree branches, in painted jam tins.

The iron stove is burning brightly. Just across the room is a grand piano, a very old piano, which, like the men here, has known better days.

And now standing dressed in their chocolate battle dresses, they are ready to sing Germany's favourite carol, STILLE NACHT, HEILIGE NACHT—Silent Night, Holy Night.

It is a beautiful carol, but never so fine as when it is sung in its original tongue. Germany is the home of Christmas carols.



From the Chelmsford Chronicle, 26th December 1947.

records that the Italians were great fun but did little work. "All they ever wanted to do was light fires and get around them, so my father insisted on having German POWs instead. They were absolutely superb and would work like mad".

One German POW remembers Mrs Hanbury regularly visiting the camp to make sure everyone was well. There were four huts at each camp housing Italian POWs prior to 1945 and the Germans POW's two years after. German prisoners made wooden toys for the local children. Prisoners were paid 5 shillings a week to be spent at the camp shop and 4 shillings which could be spent at local shops or picture houses. Some of the prisoners met local girls, stayed on after the end of the war, married and have descendants still living in the area today.

Copies of *Hylands – the story of an Essex country house and its owners* are available for purchase in the Friends of Hylands House second hand bookshop. Price £12.00.

Turning the Pages

As many of you know, this year our Bookshop celebrated its fifteenth year, and goodness me haven't those years gone by so quickly!



A number of our newer Book-team members have asked me how the Friends Bookshop came into existence. So with that in mind and it being a number of years ago since “Our Bookshop Story” was published in the Friends Newsletter, I thought that it may be a nice idea to re-publish the article and to include some new and updated material.

The story really began some 17 years ago in 2005.

It was then that the Friends were informed by the Council that their very popular Sundays Teas at Hylands House would have to cease when the new commercial operator (Hutton's) would be opening a Café at Hylands newly restored Stable Block.

As one could imagine this was very upsetting and worrying news for the Friends Committee, as the Sunday Teas were a major source of income for the charity, and for many years, raising thousands of pounds. Needless to say the Tea-team was stunned to hear such bad news and sadly on Sunday 17th January 2007 the Friends lost their flagship and served Sunday Teas at Hylands House for the very last time.



The magnificent Tea-teams final day

Finding an alternative fund raising scheme was difficult to identify, but an idea put forward by the Council, suggested that the Friends may wish to visit Wimpole Hall in Cambridgeshire, to observe how volunteers raise funds by running a Second-hand Bookshop.

After encouraging correspondence with the Wimpole Estate a number of committee members visited their Bookshop to assess the possibility of the Friends running a similar scheme at Hylands.

At a subsequent Friends Committee Meeting, after serious consideration it was sadly decided not to proceed with such a venture, as the poor facilities offered by the Council and the hard physical work involved would not be suitable for our mature volunteers.

The Friends Committee were now back to square one in trying to identify other fundraising possibilities. In the meantime the idea of a Second-hand Bookshop refused to leave me.

I was convinced that there must be a way to sell used books at the Stables Centre without necessarily having a shop. There was a possible way! Hutton's Café.

With the support of the Committee and agreement with Hutton's, a small bookcase was purchased from a charity shop for £3.50 and was placed inside the Café. Little did I know at the time that this was to be the beginning of a very special adventure.

I managed to gather in books from friends and family and all books were sold for £1 each and proceeds from sales were placed into a small money box behind Hutton's counter. Books soon began selling, averaging 40/50 or so a week, good news but of course they needed replacing.

Unlike today when donated books flood in by their hundreds, back then it was an uphill struggle to get enough. Flyers were sent out to Friends members even providing a personal pick up service in an effort to maintain the level of books required.

Needless to say large amounts of books were soon in storage and it proved to be very tempting to provide further bookcases in the Café. With the funds raised from book sales and in agreement with Hutton's two larger bookshelf units were installed allowing a much wider choice for customers and as a result sales increased significantly.



Hutton's Café bookcases

To assist further in fundraising, a few table top sales were held in the Stables yard. Although successful, they were not very practical for the amount of heavy physical work involving moving books. The time had come to consider how further to develop our second-hand book sales.

My eyes were set on a room in the corner of the Stables used at the time as the Information Room, which basically consisted of a desk with various information leaflets.

The room was barely used by the public and my thoughts were that this would be an ideal location for our Second-hand Bookshop. After months of haggling the Council finally agreed to offer the Friends the room for a six months trial



Empty future Bookshop

period on one condition, that they first need to see the Bookshop's intended Operational Procedures. *What?* Well that's another story!

The race was now on to create a fully equipped and functional Bookshop with its now approved Operational Procedures. The big question then was who was to man such a Bookshop, seven days a week! A frightening thought and an impossible task, I was told over and over again.

In Early 2008 a call went out to all Friends members appealing for volunteers to man our new Bookshop. A meeting was held soon after at Hylands House when I was more than pleasantly surprised to see over fifty Friends turn up to volunteer. On that day Babs Sargeant drew up her first draft rota.



Book-team volunteer meeting

A month prior I had the pleasure of visiting Babs and her husband Alf, a passionate Friends supporter at their lovely home. With her valuable experience and knowledge as the ex-Tea-team organiser I asked if she would consider taking on the task of Book-team staff organiser. To this day Babs jokingly insists that I actually ordered her to do it. *Well*, they were desperate times!

After four months of careful planning and preparation and with full support of our reassuring committee the Bookshop was now fully stocked, kitted out and ready to go.

It was decided to have a soft opening to test our procedures and to gauge the public's hopefully welcoming response and on Sunday 23rd March 2008 the Bookshop opened its doors.

An official opening followed soon after in early April at Hylands House attended by the Mayor and the late Baroness Platt, our dearly missed President.

After tea in the Banqueting Room the Book-team congregated on the front lawn of the House for our now famous Book waving photo.



The Bookshop was exceeding all expectations and within the first nine months sales totalled £15,000. With the Bookshop's success the Council's six month trial period ended and was confidently replaced with a full Annual Operator's Licence.



Our first year

With the success of the Bookshop it was decided to hold a one year anniversary tea party in the Banqueting Room at the House. This first year was a very special occasion for all those involved and as you can imagine even more so for myself. Very kindly Babs created a wonderfully themed birthday cake, which I actually never had a crumb of!

The Bookshop was doing well but it soon became apparent that the entrance door was hidden away in the corner of the lean-to and many visitors to the Stables Centre were totally unaware of our existence. Something more than

a sign would need to be done to draw attention to our almost invisible Bookshop.

After a meeting with the Council it was agreed that we be allowed two mobile book trolleys placed directly outside the entrance door. This idea certainly worked and attracted more visitors, so much so that over a period of time. four more trolleys unofficially and mysteriously appeared?



A short while later, it was apparent that the Bookshop space and working conditions for sorting books was starting to cause problems. The cure would be to extend into the lean-to, something that I always had in mind and hoped for.

In 2013 a proposal was tabled to convert the lean-to into a fully functional extension of the Bookshop, totally financed by the Friends. In January 2015 the vision became a reality when planning consent was finally granted. Estimated Cost being £27,000.

With good news came bad news. Babs advised me she would not be standing for re-election at the next Friends AGM so would no longer be organising the Bookshop rota. I have to be honest that at the time it was a huge concern losing Babs and I knew that finding her replacement would not be an easy task.

Thankfully the Friends had over fifty Book-team members so it was there that my search began, and from those same ranks came our very special Admin Support Team, who contribute so much to the smooth functioning of the Bookshop. A very special thank you.

Cynthia Walker was soon identified and “*anointed*” and joined the Friends Committee. I must admit she was thrown in at the deep end, but has done exceedingly well in organising staffing for the Friends Bookshop.

On Monday 20th April 2015 the Friends Bookshop closed to allow for the extension to be built. It re-opened on 4th July, followed a few days later by a low key opening with Lord Peter, our President being our principle guest.

With the Bookshop now being considerably extended it was decided to invite the Stables Centre in-house artist to have a small display area for their use. The thought behind this idea was that it would be in keeping and also compliment the Bookshop whilst also encouraging more visitors to come inside.

Although closing down for “Covid”, the Bookshop is on target to make over £217,000 since we first opened, averaging £14,000 per year. Believe me, that’s an awful lot of books sold. Secretly I keep my fingers crossed that they don’t all make their way back!

Over the fifteen years we have seen most other facilities at the Stables come and go but thanks to our dedicated and loyal Book-team, our Bookshop has stood firm, operating seven days a week, a feat that many other charities would find hard to follow.

We are very much hoping that some of our members reading this article may be inspired to join the Book-team. We are currently struggling to fill a number of AM and PM attendance slots during the month. To help us avoid the need of closing the Bookshop on certain days we would welcome support from amongst the Friends Membership. Or even possibly, family members who could offer a little of their time working in a pleasant environment and meeting people. If you think that you can help us please contact Cynthia or myself. Our direct contact details are displayed in the Bookshop where you can also pick up a Bookshop Volunteer Registration form and an ideal opportunity to speak with a friendly Book-team member to see what is involved. You could also visit the Friends website for further information.
friendsofhylandshouse.co.uk

Why Not Become a Book-team Member

Our Bookshop really did start with a vision and a little £3.50 charity bookcase placed in the Stables Café. Ironically the very same Café that was responsible in ending the much loved “Friends Sunday Teas” had opened a door and created a new opportunity for the Friends. Our story continues...

Stan Kaluza

HYLANDS OPENING TIMES

For up to date information please check on www.hylandsestate.co.uk

Park and Gardens

Hylands Park is open to the public every day of the year. The gates at the park entrances are opened at 7.30 am and are closed and locked at the following times:

January	5pm	August	9pm
February and March	6pm	September	8pm
April	8pm	October	7pm
May	9pm	November	5pm
June and July	10pm	December	5pm

Hylands House

The House opens its doors Free of Charge on the third Sunday of each month, 10am - 3pm as part of the Open Estate Day.

Stables Information Point

Monday – Friday – 10.00am – 4.00pm

Saturday and Sunday – 10.00am – 5.00pm

The Deli Hylands (in the stables)

From April – 8.00am to 5.00pm every day

Castle Playground changing place and toilets

open every day from 9.30am to 2.00pm.

The Friends' Book Shop

Spring Summer – [1st April – 30th September]

10.30am – 3.45pm, weekdays and 10.30am – 4.30pm, weekends

Autumn – Winter [1st October to 31st March]:

10.30am - 3.00pm, weekdays and 10.30am - 3.30pm, weekends