

FOHA News 2008



Gainsborough Old Hall, a Medieval Manor House marks its 548th year in 2008. The site has been occupied for over 1,000 years.

north aspect of the Gainsborough Old Hall, a Manor House built in 1460 by Sir Thomas Burgh.

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE - 1949 - 2009

The Friends' are now on count down, as they prepare to mark their Diamond Jubilee in 2009.



2009 also marks the 500th anniversary of the accession of



Henry VIII ON April 21 1509 & that of his first marriage on June 11th 1509 to Katherine of Aragon.



2009 marks the birth of Lord Alfred Tennyson, the Poet Laureate from 1850, who was born at Somersby, Lincolnshire in 1809. [August 5]

A special programme of events will be released in September 2008. The Friends' are exploring such events as; a Dinner in the Great Hall, a concert by the Choir of Lincoln Cathedral, a two day visit to Hampton Court Palace & The Sunderland Lectures will be themed to coincide with the 2009 celebrations.

520 ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF LADY BURGH DEC 1488.

Margaret de Ros was born before 1430. She was the daughter of Thomas de Ros, 8th Lord de Ros and Lady Eleanor Beauchamp. She married, firstly, William de Botreaux, 3rd Lord Botreaux, son of William de Botreaux, 2nd Lord Botreaux and Elizabeth St. Lo, before 1458. She married, secondly, Sir Thomas de Burgh, 1st Lord Burgh (of Gainsborough), son of Thomas Burgh and Elizabeth Percy, between May 1462 and 1464. In 1483 Richard III made Sir Thomas a Knight of the Garter [224 on the roll]. On September 1 1487, Henry VII created Sir Thomas a Baron. Lady Burgh died on 10 December 1488 & buried in All Saints' Church, located to the NE of the Old Hall .In 1496 Lord Burgh died & a Chantry Chapel was founded in their memory.

Children of Margaret de Ros and Sir Thomas de Burgh, 1st Lord Burgh (of Gainsborough).

Elizabeth Burgh + d. 1 Aug 1507 became a religious at Knaith Priory where she was interred.

Margaret Burgh d. b Apr 1493 [married Richard Topcliffe of Somerby Hall] buried Louth Parish Church

Sir Edward Burgh,+ b. c 1463, d. 20 Aug 1528 never called to the House of Lords. It was his son who was made **Baron Gainsborough** in 1525,a new creation.



BIG BEN 1859 150 year Anniversary of the Clock & its connection with The Old Hall.



Edmund Beckett First Baron Grimthorpe 1816 – 1905. In 1851 he designed the mechanism for the clock of the Palace of Westminster, responsible for the chimes of Big Ben. The Clock Tower houses a large clock, also designed by Pugin, known as the of Westminster. On each of the four sides of the tower is a large clock face. The tower also houses five bells, which strike the Westminster Chimes every quarter hour. The clock mechanism, created to Denison's specification by clockmaker Edward John Dent, was completed before the tower itself was finished. The clock became operational on 7 September 1859

Great Clock
the tower is a large clock face. The tower also houses five bells, which strike



Elizabeth Beckett

Edmund Beckett was cousin to Elizabeth Beckett [b 1829 d 1885] of Somerby Hall, near Gainsborough, who married Sir Henry Hickman Bacon Bart; whose estates included Gainsborough Old Hall. In the Upper Great Chamber hang two portraits of Elizabeth Beckett, Lady Hickman [the one to the left hangs over the fire place] & one of Sir Henry Hickman. 1872] Two of their sons inherited the title & estates, Sir Henry Hickman Beckett Bacon & Sir Nicholas Bacon.



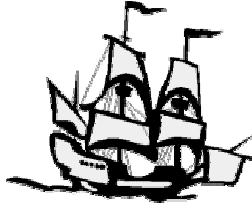
THE DOLLS' HOUSE MAGAZINE Jan 2008 issue

Exclusive article 'Gainsborough Old Hall Under Threat'. See pages 10 to 12 of the magazine.

The fate of one of the UK's most finely crafted & well researched miniature scenes, as we take a (last?) look at Gainsborough Hall

This miniature of the kitchen of Gainsborough Old Hall was up for sale for £2,000. However The Friends' have purchased the model. It will be used for educational & marketing purposes

<http://home-and-garden.webshots.com/photo/2410438380054616156mQLbCA>



PILGRIM FATHERS' WITH ROOTS AT GAINSBOROUGH OLD HALL FINALLY SUCCEED IN LEAVING OLD ENGLAND 1608

In the spring of 1608, the Pilgrim Fathers' organized a second attempt to flee the country, [their attempts in 1607 miserably failed] this time from Killingholme Creek, about 60 miles up the Lincolnshire coast from the site of the first, failed escape bid. The women and children travelled separately by boat from Scrooby down the River Trent to the upper estuary of the River Humber. Brewster and the rest of the male members of the congregation travelled overland.

They were to rendezvous at Killingholme Creek, where a Dutch ship, contracted out of Hull, would be waiting. Things went wrong again. Women and children arrived a day early. The sea had been rough, and when some of them got seasick, they took shelter in a nearby creek. As the tide went out, their boats were seized by the mud. By the time the Dutch ship arrived the next morning, the women and children were stranded high and dry, while the men, who had arrived on foot, walked anxiously up and down the shore waiting for them. The Dutch captain sent one of his boats ashore to collect some of the men, who made it safely back to the main vessel. The boat was dispatched to pick up another load of passengers when, William Bradford recalled, "a great company, both horse and foot, with bills and guns and other weapons," appeared on the shore, intent on arresting the would-be departees. In the confusion that followed, the Dutch captain weighed anchor and set sail with the first batch of Separatists. The trip from England to Amsterdam normally took a couple of days—but more bad luck was in store. The ship, caught in a hurricane-force storm, was blown almost to Norway. After 14 days, the emigrants finally landed in the Netherlands. Back at Killingholme Creek, most of the men who had been left behind had managed to escape. The women and children were arrested for questioning, but no constable wanted to throw them in prison. They had committed no crime beyond wanting to be with their husbands and fathers. Most had already given up their homes. The authorities, fearing a backlash of public opinion, quietly let the families go. Brewster and John Robinson, another leading member of the congregation, who would later become their minister, stayed behind to make sure the families were cared for until they could be reunited in Amsterdam.

Over the next few months, Brewster, Robinson and others escaped across the North Sea in small groups to avoid attracting notice. Settling in Amsterdam, they were befriended by another group of English Separatists called the Ancient Brethren. This 300-member Protestant congregation was led by Francis Johnson, a firebrand minister, who had been a contemporary of Brewster's at Cambridge. He and other members of the Ancient Brethren had done time in London's torture cells.

Read More > Sue Allen's The Mayflower Maid & Jamestown Woman Restoration Lady

www.mayflowermaid.com

www.pilgrimfathersorigins.org



WELCOME TO GAINSBOROUGH COMMUNITY DIARY

The Gainsborough Community Diary is to be launched on Monday 2nd February 2008. The Friends' welcome this facility.

Its objective is to enable organisations in the town to get and give advance notice of each other's events, so that they can avoid conflicts, promote co-operation and mutual support. If you have any events planned or already committed, which you would like advertised in this way, please forward them to

E-mail > anne.lcdp@hotmail.co.uk Or contact her on 07900 838880

SOUTHWELL MINSTER 900 CELEBRATIONS.

Southwell Minster [The Cathedral and Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin, in the diocese of Southwell, Nottinghamshire] marks 900 years this year Building commenced in about 1108 and was largely complete by 1340.

'Is there in England, we wonder, a greater surprise for most of those who come, for here is the least known Cathedral in our motherland, with a dignity and beauty unsurpassed. The rushing tide of life has passed it by and left it standing in a quietude of loveliness, like some dream of time gone by...Arthur Mee



Southwell is also home to Southwell Workhouse, a property of the National Trust.

TOM SUNDERLAND 1958 - 88

2008 marks 50 years since Tom became the Second & thereby longest serving Chairman of The Friends of the Old Hall Association. He succeeded Harold Witty Brace in 1958, when he was elected its First President. H W. Brace FRHistS; was the First Chair from 1949 - 1958 & President 1958 - 62. Tom retired 30 years later in 1988. The Sunderland Lectures were formed in his honour to mark his 90th birthday. He died in Jan 2006, aged 93.

Without those pioneers, the Old Hall may well have been razed to the ground, to make way for a town centre parking or housing. They saved the Grade One Listed Building, for a Social, Educational & Cultural Resource, for future generations to enjoy & appreciate.

2008 Calander

8 & 9 March 2008 Greater Lincoln Weekend



May Open Churches Festival Weekends in West Lindsey -
May 10 & 11
May 17 & 18.

When churches & chapels open to the public - exhibitions, organ recitals, concerts, catering available at many of the sites participating.

May 1 to 31

celebrates MGM Museums & Galleries Month.
The theme for MGM 2008 is Ideas and Innovation.

Nuit des Musees - Museums at Night event

Watch this Space for further details



June Gainsborough Riverside Festival Gainsborough goes Oriental



11 to 14 Sept 2008 Heritage Open Days in Lincolnshire
Over 10,500 people took part in 2007

Lincolnshire Heritage Open Days 2008 will take place over Thursday 11th to Sunday 14th September and our theme is "**Lincolnshire at Play**". The theme encompasses 'play' in its widest sense and could potentially involve theatre; seaside; football and other sports; hobbies; arts and crafts; playground and board games; feasts, fairs and village celebrations; traditional dance; fen skating; longbow and re-enactments; riding; music; motor sports; home based recreation, etc.

For further information, contact Sandra Kelley at Heritage Lincolnshire (telephone 01529 461499) or e-mail: sandra.kelley@lincsheritage.or

Oct BAFM 35th AGM & National Conference 3 - 5 Oct 2008 with The Friends of Penlee House Gallery & Museum. Theme - 'A Sense of Place'

NOVEMBER 9 2008 REMEMBRANCE WALKS AT
GAINSBOROUGH GENERAL CEMETERY

in honour of the War Dead. Organised by The Friends of Gainsborough Cemeteries & Chapel. The Chapel will be open to View & for exhibition & literature. 2008 marks 90 years since that war ended & in 1918, the owner of the Old Hall offered the property to Lincolnshire County Council as a war Memorial to the war dead, the offer was turned down. Tours by Mr Peter Bradshaw >>>>10.45am to 3pm
Details Contact > Sue 01427 612030.



Nov 29 & 30 **THE OLD HALL CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAYRE** which coincides with the Christmas Charity Market on the Sunday. Times 10am to 5pm both days. Refreshments

available. Admission £1. > Free to members of The Friends.



LIVERPOOL 2008 EUROPEAN CITY OF CULTURE

The Friends are exploring a day trip to Liverpool sometime in the Summer. Watch this Space!

FOHA AGM 13 Nov 2008 @ 7.30pm

guest speaker, Linda Tilbury will give a talk on 'The Duncan Grant Murals in Lincoln Cathedral'.



< Duncan Grant was a member of the Bloomsbury set who used Paul Roche, who died in 2007, as the model for the Good Shepherd in St Blaise Lincoln Cathedral, which became controversial at the time..



<Paul Roche who died in Oct 2007



'How We Built Britain' by David Dimbleby 2007

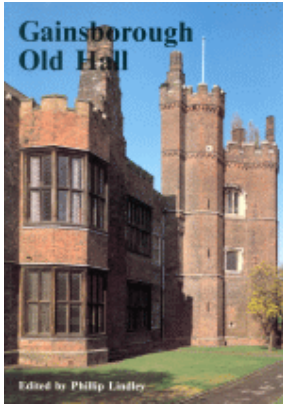
BBC TV 2 series obtainable in hard back £20 & DVD & from April 7 2008 in paperback priced £14.99 Amazon £9.89

Features Gainsborough Old Hall with pictures.
AMAZON prices competitive!

KARL WOOD 1888 - 1958.

2008 also marks the death of Karl Wood on 10 of Jan 1958. Karl Wood was a prolific artist both of the Town of Gainsborough & nationally of Windmills & various places he visited. Wood lived in Gainsborough from 1919 until 1950. He painted in watercolours & produced some fine pictures both of the interior & exterior of Gainsborough Old Hall. Many of his pictures are held by the Gainsborough & District Civic Trust, The Usher Art Gallery, Lincoln & West Lindsey District Council, Gainsborough. Tony Shaw wrote a short biography of Karl Wood in 19

'Gainsborough Old Hall' ed by Philip Lindley the lectures of which were delivered 20 years ago this year & later published in 1991 in honour of Patrick Faulkner .



Gainsborough Old Hall (SLHA Occasional Paper No. 8); P Lindley (Ed.), 1991; 88pp, 46 figs, 51 plates; ISBN 0 904680 96 7; First Printing Soft Cover, 4to - over 9¾" - 12" tall. Not to be confused with the old hall guide which is only a few pages long. A collection of essays dealing with the architecture, furnishings, conservation, history and ownership of this outstanding but under-rated, late-medieval, timber-framed, brick manor house.

The definitive book about the Old Hall to date is.

available from The Friends of Gainsborough Old Hall £6.00 (£8.00 by post UK) & in the Old Hall Gift Shop & All Saints' Church Café, to the north east of the Old Hall..

2008 also celebrates 100 years of the first State Pension made in 1908 by Lloyd George, the Liberal Chancellor of the Exchequer.. State pensions are pensions paid by the government to individuals. State pensions have been in existence in the UK since the early 1900's when Lloyd George then Chancellor of The Exchequer under the Liberal government led by Herbert Asquith, introduced the very first state pension. It is widely acknowledged that Lloyd George was influenced by the ideas of Tom Paine and especially his book The Rights of Man published in 1791. Paine strongly recommended progressive taxation, family allowances, old age pensions, maternity grants and the abolition of the House of Lords.

Lloyd George had been a long opponent of the Poor Law in Britain. He was determined to take action that in his words would "lift the shadow of the workhouse from the homes of the poor". He believed the best way of doing this was to guarantee an income to people who were too old to work. Lloyd George's measure, the Old Age Pensions Act, provided between 1s. and 5s. a week to people over seventy. These pensions were only paid to citizens on incomes that were not over 12s. (means tested & have no criminal record.) In 1908 the cost of pension provision was £16 million

The measure became controversial & ultimately his social reforms led to the Parliament Act of 1911.



**YORKSHIRE TV JAN 17 2008 @6.30pm
Filmed at Gainsborough Old Hall on Jan 11 **The Old Hall organised a cooking feature in the kitchen first [equipment loaned by The Lord Burgh's Retinue] and then film the School children and later Dante Ferrara is performing a little song –****

FOHA STATEMENT

on the recent Lincolnshire County Council Re structuring of Cultural Services effective from Oct 2007.

The Re-structuring impacts upon all heritage & Cultural Services throughout Lincolnshire & especially on Gainsborough Old Hall & therefore is a matter of concern to The Friends'.

The Libraries, Museums, Art Gallery, Heritage Sites & The Archives are now under one service -operative under 'matrix management'.

BUDGET:

The driving force for this radical shake up of these services is budget led the Heritage Service has for the third year running on over spend -[in 2006/07 this was 2.6 million].It is questionable whether there will be an improved service the reality is, that there will be a reduced service under budget restraints.

An interesting point is, that the architects of this re structuring are in the main, the officers in Heritage responsible for overspend, which inspires little confidence. The public press releases stressed in its first sentence that it would be 'cost effective', which betrayed the whole motive for the changes.

We have encountered problems in accessing budget material. This has been the case for our local County Councillor.

Budgets are now held by Divisional Managers, with a modest amount for essential daily supplies, eg's light bulbs and toilet rolls, being delegated to site co-ordinators. Any spending on other items therefore has to be agreed at Divisional Manager level

Some of the Divisional Managers failed to keep their heritage site within budget under the old structure.

LACK OF TRANSPARENCY

There has been no transparency in the restructuring before or after its implementation on Oct 1 2007.

NO CONSULTATION:

The restructuring has been on a radical scale affecting museums, archives, libraries & heritage sites. There has been no consultation with stakeholders, or 'users' of the services or with the general public & County Councillors have not been consulted or briefed about the re structuring either. It has not come from 'bottom up' from 'top down'. There were 40 'consultations' with staff. It challenges the County Council aim to 'work with the Community'.

THE MODEL:

The re structuring as far as we can ascertain, is not modelled on any system in the UK. The new structure has been developed 'in house'. 'Matrix management has not been adopted by any cultural services

departments elsewhere, as far as is known. It is officer led & they have no public accountability whatsoever.

This structure has been the creation of officers who failed to deliver a 'cost effective' service under the former regime.

ORGANISATIONAL CHART:

Runs to 28-pages.

It is a mammoth structure lacking in simplicity. The sheer size of the chart shows how wrong is the strategy.

LACK OF SPECIALISM:

inherent in the new structure is the concept, '**Jack of all Trades, Master of None**'. Staff will have to be adaptable to working across the sites, deployed wherever there are shortages, in which ever sphere of work & this challenges 'specialism' acquired by working at one particular site & accountability & communication.

There are examples of a qualified Archivist now working in book purchases for the library & a genealogist of 18 years standing no longer at the Archives.

There seems to be no realisation that by using the most qualified and experienced staff in a matrix management scheme is a very wasteful way of using scarce resources.

CULTURAL SERVICE ADVISERS:

All staff are now called Cultural Service Advisers across the sites- archives, library, heritage sites, museums, art gallery.

The new title is somewhat lacking in ingenuity!

Regarding the Old Hall it has been deprived of a manned daily office during the working week. The office is staffed in the mornings only, [already 2 officers since Oct 1] after which, all enquiries go through a central point based in Lincoln.

Staff morale across the sites is rock bottom. The full impact of 'matrix management' is yet to be realised.

The Sanford Heritage Education Award at the Old Hall is due for renewal this year, however because of the re structuring it will be in 2009.

Meanwhile The Friends' should still keep their ears to the ground and it would be useful if we could share any further examples of the new system working well or badly.