

seeker after fun...”) She plays tennis and golf and is seen frequently in the environs taking long walks. She is what the Seinfeld gang would describe as a “loud talker” (for Claire, a telephone is optional for conversation within the village). While in England, Claire is interested in seeing gardens, walking in the countryside and getting to know the locals.

**TRAVEL PLANS:** Jinnie and I will meet Melinda in Boston and fly to London that night, arrive on the 22nd and stay at the Grosvenor House, Park Lane W1, until Friday when we will go to the Sackville House. We return to the US on May 2.

**Melinda Stuk**

278 Hidden Lake Court  
Marietta, GA 30068

Tel: 770-977-9341. E-mail: mstuk@mindspring.com

Melinda lives in Marietta, Georgia, and is Claire Bean’s sister (Rob’s next door neighbor in Jaffrey). Melinda is an alumna of Agnes Scott College in Decatur, Georgia, and after a brief career in teaching and corporate training has spent the last 20 years raising three children, three dogs and caring for her mother. Melinda’s husband, Stephen, is a professor in the Goizueta Business School of Emory University. Her sons, Paul and Fred, are a senior and a freshman, respectively, at Stetson University in Deland, Florida. Her daughter, Elizabeth, is an eighth grade student and a talented singer and pianist. Sprinkled in, there has been time for gardening, sailing, reading, travel, volunteer work at schools and church, and summers at our Pensacola Beach house. Her last visit to England was with Elizabeth seven years ago to visit friends.



**TRAVEL PLANS:** Leave Atlanta on April 21 and meet Claire and Jinnie in Boston and fly to London that night, arrive on the 22nd and stay at the Grosvenor House, Park Lane W1, until Friday when we will go to the Sackville House. We return to the US on May 2.

**Jinnie Russell**

192 Foreside Road  
Falmouth Foreside, ME 04105

Home Tel: 207-781-2451. E-mail: jinnierussell@aol.com

I am not sure how far back to go; I guess I’ll start with Jaffrey. I moved there from Wellesley when I was very young. It was so long ago that Jaffrey Center didn’t have or even need a Historic District. My parents eventually moved away, but I chose to stay in New England attending college in Medford, Mass. I then taught art for seven years in the Newton Public School System. During a weekend trip to Jaffrey, I re-met Peter Russell whose family owns a farm near the village. We married four years later and ended up living in Jaffrey after a whirlwind five-year tour of the south. It was at this time that we met Rob, Claire and Mary Payson, and fell in love with Jaffrey all over again. Our children were Claire’s children’s ages so we spent many happy hours at the Bean house, with Rob desperately trying to make order out of kiddie chaos. Our son, Peter, is now 25, living in Japan and teaching English in a middle school west of Tokyo. Lily, our daughter, is a senior at the University of North Carolina. She is looking for a job for next year; any suggestions? We now live in Falmouth, Maine, where my husband owns and operates a company that manufactures and distributes landscaping mulch. (I think of him as the “Maine Monarch of Mulch.”) I have been teaching in the Windham Public Schools and this spring resigned after 17 years. I’m enjoying the transition to domestic goddess, traveler and student.



**TRAVEL PLANS:** Claire and I will meet Melinda in Boston and fly to London that night, arrive on the 22nd and stay at the Grosvenor House, Park Lane W1, until Friday when we will go to the Sackville House. We return to the US on May 2.

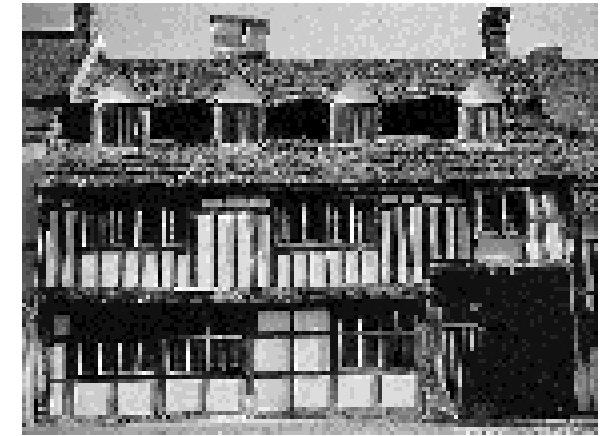
# The Sackville Shout

Issue 2

8 April

April 25 – May 2, 2003

Sackville House, High Street, East Grinstead, West Sussex [Some say East Sussex, others say West Sussex, but it is, indeed, West Sussex, just on the border.]



“Sackville House was rescued from decay in 1919 by Geoffrey Webb, a stained-glass artist and nephew of Sir Aston Webb, the architect. His daughter left it to us, with the wish that it be kept as a dwelling.

It stands on the south side of East Grinstead’s broad High Street. Timber-framed, like most of the older houses here, and roofed in thick Horsham stone, it was built in about 1520 as a hall with chambers at one end, but remodelled 50 years later to form a substantial house running back from the street with a yard at the side.

What is really exceptional about Sackville House lies beyond. East Grinstead was laid out in the thirteenth century, a street of houses each with a long plot of land behind, called a portland. Most of these have since been divided and built on. Only in one small area, opposite the church, do they survive in anything like their original form. The garden here, some 630 feet long, slopes to the south, passing through several stages from formal terrace to wild nuttury. On leaving the High Street and entering the yard, you find yourself with a view of several miles across a wide valley to Ashdown Forest. The contrast, and combination, are delightful.

FROM THE LOGBOOK: *A bustling town with nice shops and restaurants and all the essentials outside the front door, and the countryside in the form of the fantastic garden out of the back door. What a wonderful house; we never tired of looking around.”*

**GARDEN PARTY.** In all our English houses we’ve had a ‘Garden Party’ on the first Sunday from 4pm onward. This year the gathering will fall on Sunday the 27th of April, rain or shine. Invite your English friends.

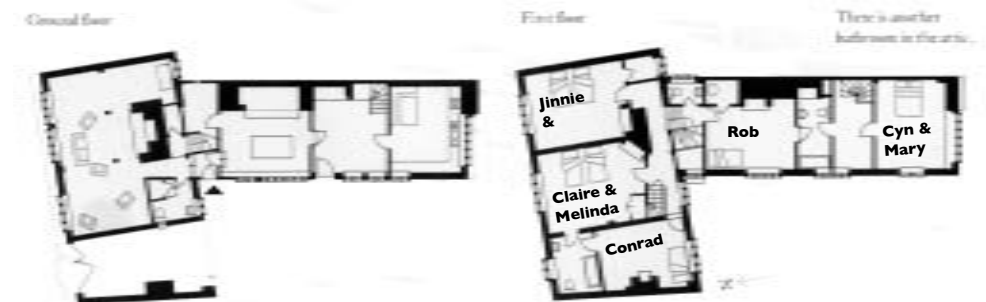
**SOME WEBSITES TO CHECK OUT:** <www.egnet.co.uk/> <www.midsussex.gov.uk/placetoenjoy/tourism/eg.html> <www.2cuk.net/local/eastgrinstead/index2.htm> <www.sussexcoast.co.uk/towns/east-grinstead/index.html> <www.knowhere.co.uk/3243\_eatdrink.html> <www.bluebell-railway.co.uk/>

**TRAVEL INFO:** London Gatwick is the closest major airport to East Grinstead, and is only about 15 miles away (about 30 minutes by car). From there you can go to East Grinstead by train, bus, coach, taxi or hired car. If arriving in the UK at Heathrow Airport, there is a shuttle bus service from Heathrow to Gatwick which takes about an hour, or you can go to London Victoria Railway Station by underground, by coach, taxi or car, and from there directly to East Grinstead. Connex South Central trains depart regularly from London Victoria or London Bridge Stations. The journey time is 52 minutes. [Checking the times on the Internet, service is every half hour, 23 & 53 minutes after the hour (Victoria to East Grinstead) and 8 & 38 minutes after the hour (East Grinstead to Victoria).]

Location map. Sackville House in center.



Floor plan with proposed room assignments.



## **Sackvillians:**

**UPDATE: Sadly, Carl and Dorian Lindbloom have had to bow out of our gathering. But on the bright side, Conrad is able to join us once again and we also welcome Leandra MacDonald.**

### **Leandra MacDonald**

34 High Street  
Peterborough, NH 03458

Home Tel: 603-924-3572. E-mail: leandra49@adelphia.net

I'm delighted to join what seems a great group of "housemates." I was born in North Carolina of Yankee parents, graduated from Wellesley in 1970 with a degree in the "dismal science," and have spent all my summers in New Hampshire. My husband, Bob, is starting a new business down in Worcester and will be fine as long as I leave dinner in the freezer. I have two daughters, Erika, a 2002 graduate of Yale College, who is an actress *cum* yoga instructor, and Gayle, a junior at Brown majoring in theatre and math. We live in Peterborough in a Federal brick farmhouse and are 23 years into our 10-year plan of renovation and restoration. I gadabout almost as much as Claire, enjoy gardens, antiques and old houses and spend a lot of time on town committees. I first visited England in 1962 and seem to manage to return about every 10 years, the last time with my elder daughter in Devon, Wiltshire and Cornwall.

**TRAVEL PLANS:** I am taking a day flight from Boston on April 23 and returning on May 2. I may stay at Grosvenor House and will try to be at *The Red Lion* in time to join the parade.



### **Conrad Paulus**

31 Center Street, Sea Bright, NJ 07760-2211

Home Tel: 732-530-4035. FAX: 732-933-9115.

164 East 78th St., New York, NY 10021

Tel: 212-472-2289. E-mail: conradlp@comcast.net

I grew up in Richmond, Virginia, moved to New York in the 50s, and have been in NY/NJ ever since. I raised my now-grown children and worked in publishing in New York, moving to New Jersey in the early 70s. I've most recently been a travel editor at Fodor's, and am now retired (though I still travel a lot). As with past Landmark Trust trips, I'm interested in seeing historic buildings and gardens and, of course, eating, drinking and conversing well into the evening.

Conrad was at Villa Saraceno in 2000, Gargunock in 2001 and Wortham in 2002.

**TRAVEL PLANS:** Conrad leaves New York on the 24th, arriving on the 25th. After Sackville she heads for France where she join a barge to Lyon and deal with some other things. Back to New York on the 22nd.



### **Rob Stephenson**

P. O. Box 435

Jaffrey Center, NH 03452-0435

Home Tel: 603-532-6066. E-mail: rstephenson@adelphia.net

Rob is an alumnus of the Harvard Graduate School of Design, has worked as a planner in New York and Boston and since 1992 has been involved in a variety of preservation, heritage tourism, writing and computer database projects working from his house in the village of Jaffrey Center where he also tends to find himself in the middle of controversial local issues. He's been working on his old house for a quarter century now and someday it may be finished. His major interest these days is the Antarctic, particularly the history of Antarctic exploration and its literature. He's filled one room in Jaffrey with Antarctic books and is well into another. He also has an Antarctic webpage and is in the throes of bringing together like-minded people in a loosely organized group called The Antarctic Circle.



Rob was at Goddards in 1999, Villa Saraceno in 2000, Gargunock in 2001 and Wortham in 2002.

**TRAVEL PLANS:** I leave from Boston on the evening of April 24th on British Airways, arriving Friday morning. I'll hang around London for a few hours and then head to *The Red Lion* at noon to meet those who want to head south together to East Grinstead via train from Victoria, arriving at Sackville House a bit after 4pm. After Sackville I head to Norway for a few days, then back to London where I'll be until 13 May when I fly back to Boston.

### **Mary Payson**

P. O. Box 322

Jaffrey Center, NH 03452-0322

Home Tel: 603-532-7455. FAX: 603-532-4551. E-mail: marypayson@monad.net

Mary (Carleton College; University of Wisconsin BA 1951 German; Defense Language Institute, West Coast 1974 Farsi) lived in Athens 1954-57 as a military wife, and in Tehran, on and off from 1960 until the Shah abdicated in 1979. Leaving Iran for the last time, Col. Batiste (d. Aug 1979) and Mary settled into their 1810 Cape, in the village of Jaffrey Center, in the shadow of Mount Monadnock. She has been climbing mountains and actively participating in historic preservation and in the life of the village ever since. Mary was married to Bill Payson from 1985 until his death in 2000. Her son and daughter and eight grandchildren ranging in age from 9 to 23 years keep her on her toes. Elizabeth lives in Raleigh, NC; Major General John is stationed in Germany where he commands the 1st Infantry Division. Rob is her friend and neighbor. For the past fifteen years Mary's days have begun, weather notwithstanding, with a four-mile walk before breakfast. Gardens surround her house in summer, winters are for cross-country skiing.

Mary was at Gargunock in 2001 and Wortham in 2002.

**TRAVEL PLANS:** We will fly Lufthansa from Boston to Frankfurt on 21 April. We will immediately travel by train to Paris. Three April nights in Paris! On the 25th we will take the *Eurostar* via the Chunnel from Paris to Waterloo Station, arriving 12:09. We will head to *The Red Lion* to meet others (and have a beer). On 2 May we will fly London-Frankfurt-Boston on Lufthansa.



### **Cynthia Oliver**

18630 Bonnie Lane

Brookfield, WI 53045

Home Tel: 262-786-3929. E-mail: cynoliver@aol.com

Cindy retired in June, 2000, after working as a speech pathologist in Wisconsin public schools for 23 years. She did her undergraduate work at the University of Wisconsin, with a graduate degree from Marquette University. She and her husband and family lived in Seattle and Orinda, California, before moving back to Wisconsin in 1968. Cindy is now a widow with four married children who live in Atlanta, New York and Wisconsin and nine grandchildren. She enjoys the time she now has to tend her garden in the summer, walk, entertain friends, learn *tai 'chi*, and do volunteer tutoring at the Lauback Literacy Center in Milwaukee.

Cindy was at Gargunock in 2001 and Wortham in 2002.

**TRAVEL PLANS:** Same as Mary's above.



### **Claire Bean**

P. O. Box 325

Jaffrey, NH 03452

Home Tel: 603-532-9369. E-mail: cbean@monad.net

Getting Claire to put pen to paper has been a losing proposition, so Rob cornered her at Mary's recent party and extracted some stuff along with husband Chris's help. Version No 1 would have been totally unprintable. Version No 2: not much better. Here's the 3rd and absolutely last: Claire lives next to Rob and her bathroom is in full view of his bedroom when the leaves are off the trees. They are good friends with Jinnie and, of course, Mary, who lives up the road. Claire's a Wheaton grad and a self-described "gadabout" (which Webster defines as a "restless

