

Markenfield Hall

2021



supported by

THE FRIENDS
OF MARKENFIELD

to conserve to promote to protect

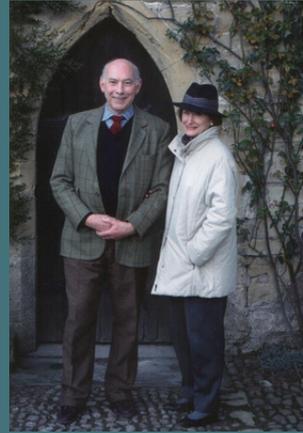
WELCOME TO MARKENFIELD HALL

“It is an extraordinary privilege to live in one of the most unspoiled surviving early fourteenth-century houses in England, and seemingly one of the most continuously inhabited since that time.

It is a place with an astonishing history, beginning with its entry in the Domesday Book (1086) and continuing to the present day, sometimes peacefully, sometimes in considerable strife. It is now being gradually restored to something of the status and dignity for which it was built.

Whilst Markenfield has had its fair share of unhappiness over the centuries, it has a remarkable atmosphere: peaceful and benign. Visitors often remark on that, and we hope, when you can visit, that you take away some of that peace with you.”

Mr Ian & Lady Deirdre Curteis



cover image by kind permission of Tim Hardy
image on the right by kind permission of Val Corbett

A medieval, moated and much-loved family home, Markenfield Hall is a historic house unlike any other. Set within stunning Yorkshire countryside south of Ripon, medieval Markenfield has remained largely untouched, and is one of a handful of moated manor houses that could still be recognised by their original owners; indeed the Hall is instantly recognisable thanks to its crenelated silhouette reflected in its encircling moat, which was patrolled by two Black Swans until 2019 - when we discovered we had acquired an Otter...

SEVEN HUNDRED YEARS



You will find that things have changed somewhat this year: Open Days have morphed into Tiny Tours, Lectures are Online and group sizes will be smaller. Even Markenfield, which has stood the test of time for over 700 years, has to adapt and change.

But even though you may not physically step through the Gatehouse arch, and into the medieval courtyard this year, we hope that you will still get a sense of the oasis of soothing tranquillity where time has stood still; and even if you find yourself entering England's oldest continuously inhabited manor house virtually, we think you will still see why it has been described as *"so stunningly beautiful it should be wildly famous – and yet it is not"*.

And that is the beauty of Markenfield: it is a hidden gem, waiting for you to discover it - one way or another.



North Yorkshire sash windows

sash window repair,
restoration and
draught proofing

quality craftsmanship
from a family business

01765 601737

nysashwindows.co.uk

info@nysashwindows.co.uk

RISING TO THE CHALLENGE OF 2021

At the time of writing, in the midst of the third Lockdown, raising hopes of normality seems rather irresponsible; and so we have taken the opportunity create a number of online offerings:

Behind Closed Doors: a series of films that peek behind the scenes at the Hall.

Book Club - join us to celebrate our favourite authors, and discover new favourites along the way, all whilst supporting The Little Ripon Book Shop.

Peace of Mind at Markenfield - including creative writing workshops, meditation and mindfulness.

TINY TOURS

Tiny in number, but certainly not tiny in content, our Socially-Distanced tours, for up to eight visitors, proved to be remarkably popular last year with the public and our Guides alike. All visitors are asked to don a face mask before entering the house, hand sanitiser is liberally distributed and each party is seated 2m apart from their fellow participants. Why not "bring your bubble" and have a tour for your family members only.

Now a tour wouldn't be a tour without cake, so we also provide cake-to-go courtesy of the wonderful Harrogate Cake Lady.

See the website, or telephone, for dates and further information and to book your tickets.



GROUPS

Markenfield Hall is open for pre-booked groups throughout the year. We have welcoming Guides who adapt their tour to the interests of your members, an Administrator who aims to



make the booking process as simple as possible, and we are always happy to hold dates for you whilst you juggle coach companies, lunch bookings and additional venues. Whilst we do not have a café, we don't let it stop us serving delicious homemade cake. Why not bring a small group this year, or give your group something to look forward to and book for next year?

CLASSICAL MUSIC FROM THE COUCH
LITERATURE FROM THE LIVING ROOM
ARTS FROM THE ARMCHAIR
FREE TO ENJOY EVENTS, ON DEMAND
FROM OUR HOME TO YOURS



HIF PLAYER

BRINGING HARROGATE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVALS
INTO YOUR HOME

ENJOY NOW AT
HARROGATEINTERNATIONALFESTIVALS.COM

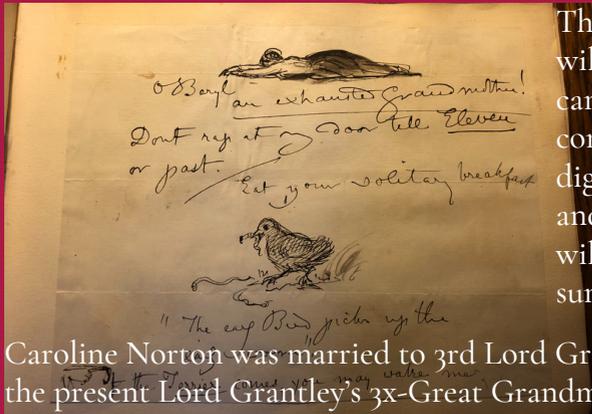
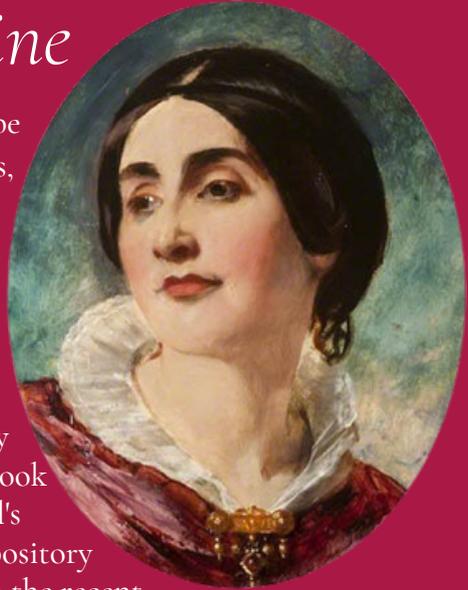
HARROGATE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVALS IS A REGISTERED CHARITY. NO. 244861

the year of Caroline Norton

the Hall's heroine

Caroline Norton may no longer be the household-name she once was, but we hope that this will be the year to change that.

In May 2021 Antonia Fraser's biography of Caroline will be published. Markenfield was delighted to be able to assist Lady Antonia in her research for the book by granting her access to the Hall's Caroline Norton Archives - a repository that has grown considerably with the recent re-discovery of numerous sketchbooks and albums belonging to Caroline.



This year, The Friends will lead a fundraising campaign to finance the conservation and digitisation of the albums, and carolinenorton.org will be launched in late summer.

Caroline Norton was married to 3rd Lord Grantley's brother, and is the present Lord Grantley's 3x-Great Grandmother. She was the first fighter for Women's Rights, passionately and successfully battling for, and seeing passed, the Custody of Infants Act 1839 and the Married Women's Property Act of 1870.

Weddings

It is a truth universally acknowledged that Markenfield holds a wedding licence. The Hall hosts a maximum of five weddings each year - each small and intimate, and each one very special to us.



There are no marquees, no discos and no dancing until dawn. What we do offer is a beautiful venue for you and your family to enjoy, Brian and Elizabeth Dennison of The Dusty Miller to serve you a delicious menu created with locally sourced ingredients, and the guarantee of a day that will live on in your and your guests' memories for many years to come.



To add your big day to our 700 years of history, please contact Sarah using the details on the back of this brochure.



images (left and above) by kind permission of Sarah Brabbin

VIRTUALLY MARKENFIELD

Social distancing, and the need to protect our audiences, have dictated a change at Markenfield: and so we present the Hall's first ever online lectures.



Gary Bankhead
Diving into Durham
Wed 21 April at 7:30pm £8

Star of the television series River Hunters, and Honorary Research Associate in the Department of Archaeology at Durham University, Gary's current role is to coordinate the wider research of the Durham River Wear Assemblage. He also spent an enlightening afternoon in Markenfield's moat last summer...

Janet Senior
The Plums of the Grantley Archives at Markenfield Hall
Friday 14 May at 2:00pm £5



Dr Pamela Hartshorne
An Accidental Author
Friday 28 May at 2:00pm £8

A fascinating life - made all the more so by a chance literary encounter with medieval England, which led to a PhD at the University of York. But how to fund it? "I would knock out a book, Mills & Boon would hand me a fat cheque, and I would be able to pay my fees. Easy." Or was it?

book online at www.markenfield.com

Dr Ross Nelson
The Novels & Narratives
of Caroline Norton
Friday 18 June
at 2:00pm £5



Alison Weir
The Queens of The Crusades
Friday 16 July at 2:00pm £10

The Plantagenet queens of England played a role in some of the most dramatic events in our history. Crusading queens, queens in rebellion against their king, queen seductresses, learned queens, queens in battle - these determined women often broke through medieval constraints to exercise power and influence, for good and sometimes for ill.

Janet Senior
The Caroline Norton Archives at Markenfield Hall
Friday 23 July at 2:00pm £5

Dr Cristina Figueredo
The Knights Templar
Friday 30 July at 2:00pm £8

Dr Cristina Figueredo
Merchant Adventurers' Hall
Friday 25 June at 2:00pm £8

Built between 1357 and 1361 on the site of a Norman mansion, the Merchant Adventurers' Hall is one of the few surviving examples of Medieval Guild halls in Britain. Explore the medieval history of the York Guild of the Lord Jesus Christ and the Blessed Virgin Mary (later Merchant Adventurers) and their magnificent Hall.

The history of the Knights Templar has frequently been hidden behind the veil of their myth, which associates the

book online at www.markenfield.com

order with the arcane and the occult. Follow their rapid rise from a modest beginning to a position of power and wealth, and explore their ability as warriors and castle builders, before finally discovering the possible causes for their precipitous downfall.



Dr Diane Atkinson
The Marvellous Mrs Norton
Friday 6 August at 2:00pm £10

Author of *The Criminal Conversation of Mrs Norton*, Diane Atkinson has been instrumental in the campaign for a Blue Plaque to commemorate Caroline Norton. Fresh from its unveiling, join us for an afternoon on all things marvellous about our Mrs Norton.

A visit to The Plot
Sunday 29 August at 5:00pm £15

Own transport required.
A tour of The Plot, followed by a barbecue and drinks, with stunning views over the Howardian Hills.



Madeline Bunting
The Plot
Friday 20 August
at 2:00pm £8

Guardian journalist turned author, Bunting chronicles the history of *The Plot*, her family's North Yorkshire acre of land. Described as "a startling, willed one-off", it is written as an exploration of place and belonging, as she explores the modern cultural myth of the rural idyll.

book online at www.markenfield.com



Lucy Beckett

A study in contrasts: some medieval saints

Friday 3 September at 2:00pm £5

Explore the Saints, their shrines and the pilgrimages central to medieval Christianity.

Caroline Chapman

Women Artists of the C19th

Friday 8 October at 2:00pm £5

Dr Peter Hewitt

Felines in Folklore

Friday 29 October at 2:00pm £5

EVENTS AT MARKENFIELD

Dr Susie Harries

The Art of the Joke

Friday 10 September at 7:30pm

£10 Friends / £12 standard

Artists have always used jokes to make serious statements - about themselves, each other, the world and the nature of art itself. From medieval manuscript margins to a moustache on the Mona Lisa, from pun to parody, artists' jokes will tell you a lot - once you know how to read them...



book online or

telephone

01765 692303

Study Day with Dr Cristina Figueredo

The Making of Italy

Wednesday 13 October from 10:00am

£25 Friends / £30 standard including refreshments and lunch.

Before Markenfield was even built, the Italian Oligarchies of Venice, Milan, Genoa, Florence and Siena had already been established and were flourishing. Join us to discover how these fortified towns formed the Italy we know and love today.

ALSO THIS YEAR

Additional dates will be confirmed throughout the year. Please see www.markenfield.com for details.



Antonia Fraser in conversazione with **Lord Grantley**

Wednesday 12 May at 7:00pm. £12

In *The Case of the Married Woman* (pub. May) Lady Antonia turns her biographical eye to the story of

Caroline Norton, drawing on the Hall's archives for source material to bring her story vividly to life.

A N Wilson
The Man who saved the Monarchy £10

Prince Albert is one of the least known Royals, yet he quietly revolutionised the Royal family. When royalty was perceived as "a distant gilded viper's nest of

dissoluteness", he created a royal family that placed scandal-free family life at its centre.



Alexander McCall-Smith
Fundraising event
October £15

Tobit Curteis
Medieval Wall Paintings
November £5

The walls of many medieval buildings were sumptuously decorated with motifs and illustrations. What might the Chapel and Great Hall have looked like in medieval times, and what challenges face those seeking to conserve these fragile pieces of the past?

THE FRIENDS OF MARKENFIELD

to conserve to promote to protect

The Friends of Markenfield was established in 2007, with the aim of bringing together the diverse and far-flung people to whom Markenfield means a lot. Some value it for its history, some for its tranquility, and some for the sense of family and community it has given them. By becoming a Friend you will be contributing to The Friends' role of conserving, promoting and protecting this beautiful building and the surrounding Estate.

Through their membership and activities, The Friends provide valuable on-going support towards the conservation of the historic fabric of the Hall, its archives and the wider landscape. They fund the ongoing work needed to ensure the Hall can be enjoyed by visitors and historians alike - today and for generations to come.



Archive Volunteers at work

There are numerous benefits to becoming a Friend, these include:

- Free entry to the Hall's Open Days.
- Discounted lecture tickets.
- Regular newsletters.
- Volunteering opportunities.

Membership costs £12 per year for individuals, and £18 for two people at the same address.

A message from the Chairman

“2020 was a hard year for everyone. We could no longer meet at the Hall, events had to be cancelled, and plans put on hold. Thankfully, at the time of writing, we have all survived unscathed; but sadly the same cannot be said for the Hall. Markenfield lost £50,000 in income owing to absent visitors, The Friends' income was significantly reduced, and sadly we now expect it will be the same this year too. Therefore, for the first time, The Friends are offering enhanced levels of ‘friendship’, the facility to make a donation, sponsorship opportunities for forthcoming projects and the opportunity to leave a gift to The Friends in your will.

“Markenfield has weathered many storms over the years, but this time it has The Friends to stand by it. We do hope that you will join us.”

if the walls could talk, they would surely give their thanks



Please contact The Gallery for our latest brochure

www.susanrumfitt.com



[susanrumfittfinejewellery](https://www.facebook.com/susanrumfittfinejewellery)



[@SusanRumfitt](https://twitter.com/SusanRumfitt)



[@SusanRumfitt](https://www.instagram.com/SusanRumfitt)

The Gallery · 2nd Floor Suite · Raglan House · Raglan Street · Harrogate · North Yorkshire · HG1 1LE
Tel: +44 (0) 1423 705 198 Email: contact@susanrumfitt.com

The Friends of Markenfield: Membership 2021

To join The Friends of Markenfield, fill in your details below and complete the standing order form. Please return this side to the address at the bottom of the form and the Standing Order form to your bank.

NAME 1:

NAME 2:

ADDRESS:

.....

..... POSTCODE:

EMAIL:

TELEPHONE:

Please tick to allow us to use your email to contact you in future to save our postage costs.

I/We have sent Standing Order instructions to my bank for

£12 individual £18 joint (at the same address)

I/We have set up my Standing Order online, using the details opposite, and my name as payment reference.

If you prefer to pay by cheque, please include it with this form.

I have read the privacy policy (see website for details) and agree to my details being used for the purposes described therein. IF YOU DO NOT TICK THIS BOX we cannot contact you about ANYTHING - even your membership

The Friends of Markenfield: Standing Order form

TO: BANK

BANK'S FULL ADDRESS:

.....

FROM (name):.....

ADDRESS:

..... POSTCODE:

Please pay The Friends of Markenfield

SortCode: 05-04-54: Account No: 16723947

Yorkshire Bank, James Street, Harrogate HG1 1QU

the sum of £..... immediately and thereafter on the 1st day of
January in each succeeding year until further notice in writing.

PLEASE REFERENCE MY PAYMENT (your surname and initial):

..... and DEBIT MY ACCOUNT

NAMED:

ACCOUNT No: SORTCODE:

This cancels any previous instruction to The Friends of Markenfield.

SIGNED:..... DATED:



GRANTLEY HALL



EXPERIENCE THE *unforgettable*



GRANTLEY HALL

Ripon, North Yorkshire HG4 3ET | +44(0) 1765 620070 | hello@grantleyhall.co.uk
www.grantleyhall.co.uk



PATRONS

This year The Friends launch their new Patrons scheme, which will bring together like-minded individuals for a programme of exclusive events.

In return, to say thank you, we will offer you and a guest the chance to visit Markenfield to take part in one or more Patrons' events. We will thank you as often as we can (unless you chose to remain anonymous) in our publications, at the AGM and on the website. Membership is annual. We will send you a reminder, but never chase you. Your patronage is optional and, whilst always gratefully received, will never be expected.



Whilst the Markenfields may have built the Hall, the Grantley family have been instrumental in its survival - undertaking three periods of restoration, and a fourth under the loving and watchful eyes of Lady Deirdre and Ian Curteis who together brought the programme of work into the twenty-first century. To honour the Grantley family, you will see that we have named our membership levels after notable family female members.

KAY NORTON Patron. £300

Kay Norton was the favourite sister of 6th Lord Grantley. She volunteered to be a nurse in WWI, where she served behind the front lines at the Battle of Ypres and was awarded a rare Medaille des Epidemies and the 1914 Star. After WWI Kay Norton started



a Salon of Haute Couture in Saville Row. The property had belonged to her ancestor Richard Brinsley Sheridan, and finally became the workrooms of Hardy Amies, Couturier to the Queen.

In return for your support, we will: Invite you and a guest to a Patrons' Champagne Afternoon Tea. Keep you updated with the Patrons' newsletter. Acknowledge your support on the Hall's website and in the AGM minutes.*



SARAH BARING Patron. £550

Sarah Baring was the daughter of 6th Lord Grantley. A Socialite, a memoirist and writer for Vogue; during WWII she worked in Hut 4 at Bletchley Park translating German Naval messages that had been deciphered. Here she shared a cottage with colleague Osla Benning. They were both god-daughters of Lord Louis Mountbatten, who suggested to Sarah that she might "find a nice girl" for his nephew, Prince Philip. Sarah introduced Benning, and she became Prince Philip's first girlfriend.

In return for your support, we will offer you all the benefits of the Kay Norton membership, plus an invitation for you and a guest to a Patrons' Salon.

CAROLINE NORTON

Patron. £950

The Hall's heroine needs no introduction. In return for your support we will offer you all the benefits of the Sarah Baring membership, plus an invitation for you and a guest to attend a Patrons' Dinner.



PATRONS MEMBERSHIP FORM

I wish to support The Friends of Markenfield by becoming a:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kay Norton. £300 | <input type="checkbox"/> I have paid by BACS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sarah Baring. £550 | <input type="checkbox"/> I have set up a Standing Order |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caroline Norton. £950 | <input type="checkbox"/> I have enclosed a cheque |

The Friends of Markenfield

Sort code: 05-04-54 Account number: 16723947

Please make cheques payable to The Friends of Markenfield Hall

Please send me my Patrons' newsletter by:

- Post Email

*I wish to remain anonymous, please don't thank me publicly

NAME:

ADDRESS:

.....

..... POSTCODE:

EMAIL:

TELEPHONE:

Your Patron's data will be subject to The Friends GDPR policy. We will not share it with third parties or use it for non-Patron reasons.

Leave a Gift in your Will

You can help The Friends continue their work by leaving a gift in your will, and together we will conserve, promote and protect Markenfield for future generations of visitors.

Markenfield Hall is a remarkable medieval survival. Ironically, this survival is largely down to several centuries of neglect by absentee landlords, but recent years have seen a programme of restoration that has seen much of the Hall returned to its former glory. But that comes at a price.

From its builders the Markenfield family, to its restorers



and protectors the Grantley family, and most recently Lady Deirdre and Ian Curteis, the Hall has always relied on the benevolence of individuals to survive.

Markenfield is a much-loved and lived-in family home once more, but it is more than that. Markenfield has become a centre for historical interest, culture and the arts; keen to welcome the hundreds of visitors who pass through its doors each year, and proud to do so.

Thank you for taking the time to read about this opportunity, and for considering giving Markenfield the gift of tomorrow. Rest assured that your gift will be used to continue the loving restoration of this magnificent house, for future visitors to enjoy.

There are a number of ways in which you can leave a gift to Markenfield in your will:

A PECUNIARY GIFT

This simply means that you choose to leave a single lump sum to The Friends in your will. It can be for any amount - small or large.

A RESIDUARY GIFT

This gifts a percentage of whatever is left over from an estate after debts, funeral expenses, administration costs, and all other gifts have been paid. This can be any percentage you like. Many people choose this type of gift as it ensures their loved ones are taken care of first.

A SPECIFIC GIFT

This is where you specify a particular item that you wish to leave to The Friends: possibly a picture, a book or documentation that is specifically related to Markenfield.

Whilst most Gifts are Unrestricted, meaning that The Friends can use it wherever it would be of most benefit to Markenfield, it is possible to specify the type of work you wish to support. Please choose from the following areas (we think we've thought of everything, but if you have a specific project in mind, please get in touch):

HISTORIC FABRIC
RESTORATION

NATURE
CONSERVATION

ARCHIVE
CONSERVATION &
RESEARCH

PUBLIC ACCESS



The Friends of Markenfield

(Parish, Park & Hall) Ltd Registered in England No. 7687591



Markenfield Hall

near Ripon

North Yorkshire

HG4 3AD

01765 692303

www.markenfield.com

info@markenfield.com



to conserve to promote to protect

RIPON
international festival

September & October 2021

Symphony, Choral &
Chamber concerts.

Folk & Jazz

Authors, Poetry &
Puppetry



www.riponinternationalfestival.org

T: 01765 605508

to join our mailing list email pastorale@gmx.com