

**SULGRAVE MANOR**  
**NATIONAL BOARD and BIENNIAL COUNCIL, OCTOBER 18 & 19, 2024**

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2024 honors the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the NSCDA Endowment for Sulgrave Manor now known as the Sulgrave Manor Fund for the Future. We would like to thank the NSCDA membership for their outstanding participation in our fundraising this year. In recognition of this milestone, Friends of Sulgrave Manor is proud to be sponsored at a reception at the British Embassy with Ambassador Karen Pierce on October 16<sup>th</sup> 2024.

Sulgrave Manor has at last sold all real estate not part of the museum compound. The money raised is restricted, pending the creation of a separate Trust to hold endowment money from which only the income will be accessible. With a goal of raising £10 million by 2030, the current holdings are valued at nearly £3 million.

Striving to raise awareness of Sulgrave Manor, its gardens, and all they have to offer, the Trust is forging stronger relationships with the community: local mayors including the Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire; nearby Croughton Air Base; and the historic country house hotel Fawsley Hall.

A new garden shed sits on the grounds with an historically accurate roof of oak shingles individually crafted and affixed using traditional methods. With a state-of-the-art alarm system, the shed provides secure storage for garden equipment. A new garden border filled with plants inspired by those available to George Washington at Mount Vernon in 1785 has been installed with a teak bench celebrating Friends of Sulgrave Manor Honorary Presidents.

The 2023-2024 Sulgrave Manor Seminar series focused on the theme “Democracy”. Three lectures delivered by both American and English scholars explored the areas of Constitutions, Voting, and Leadership.

The schools program attracted 694 children. A nature/science-based program, “Bugs & Buds”, has recently been developed. Also newly instituted is a homeschools program. Focusing on the Tudor era, it has attracted over 200 students.

FSM and the NSCDA are enthusiastic to welcome Carole Souter, CBE SMT Chair and Alison Ray, CEO to Washington DC in October for the Annual Meeting of Friends of Sulgrave Manor. They bring a wealth of information and excitement to share about the latest activities at the Manor.

Friends of Sulgrave Manor and the NSCDA continue to provide essential support for the museum’s Operating Budget; together they contribute over \$160,000. Additionally, FSM pays the salary of the CEO and provides funding for special grants.

FSM remains deeply grateful for all donations from the membership of the NSCDA and hopes that the level of giving during the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be sustained in 2025.