

## Barrington Court Access Statement

Tudor house (the Court House) and 17<sup>th</sup> century stable block (Strode House), remade by Colonel Lyle in the 1920s, and refitted with his collection of salvaged antique woodwork. The houses are surrounded by formal walled gardens, inspired by Gertrude Jekyll's plans and a working kitchen garden. The Lyles added model farm buildings, creating their 1920s vision of a working medieval estate. Park land and orchards form part of the estate.

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### Points to note about the area:

- There is limited mobile phone access across the site.
- Assistance dogs are welcome. There is a water bowl alongside the reception building which is refilled regularly.
- There are three manual wheelchairs available for loan; one in the Court House and two at reception.
- Light levels are good in the house. Some areas are a little dark on dull days. There are no blinds or curtains over windows. There is no furniture collection, but some rooms may be used as temporary exhibition spaces.
- There are areas of unfenced water. The pond in the Lily Garden is very deep. There are unfenced drops. Livestock graze in the park land. Beehives in East Orchard.
- Traffic drives through the estate, beyond the car park, throughout the day, as access is required for deliveries and tenants.

### Arrival and parking facilities:

- There are brown signs from the A358 and A303 and through Barrington village. Satnav incorrectly directs visitors to rear entrance – follow brown signs from Barrington village. The entrance is signed and the main car park is down a short driveway.
- Cycle racks are available alongside the reception building.
- There are six designated spaces for disabled visitors in the main car park, which is adjacent to the reception building, and one at the back of Strode House (level access to the Strode Dining and Tea Room and house is via the entrance to the residents/holiday cottage). The surface is tarmac.
- The main car park is gravel, the overflow car parks grass. All are uneven in places.
- There is a 6-seater transfer vehicle available for visitors able to transfer from their wheelchair (vehicle is able to take a folded standard wheelchair in the back). Please call in advance to check availability (01460 241289). This can be requested from any area around the houses and gardens. Please ask any staff or volunteer to do this for you.
- Visitors are able to be dropped off at the back of Strode House (for level access to the Strode Dining and Tea Room, via the holiday/residents entrance, and house and garden). The driver of the 6-seater transfer vehicle holds a key the entrance door.

## WCs

- There are no wheelchair accessible toilets at reception.
- There is a large toilet in Strode House (180 metres/ 200 yards, a ten minute walk from the main car park, or a short distance from the designated one parking space for disabled visitors at the back of Strode House). This toilet has right and left hand transfer and space to turn a wheelchair through 1500mm diameter circle. There are no adult changing facilities but baby changing facilities are available here.
- The toilets at reception have a door width of 67cm.
- All WCs have automatic hand dryers, laminated floors and brick wall surfaces, with non-fluorescent lights.

## Visitor Reception

- This wooden panelled building is in the car park. It has a carpeted floor. The building is shared with retail, so there are soft furnishings as part of shop stock. These help to minimise noise.
- The part glazed double door entrance is non-power operated, approximately 107cm wide, and opens outwards. Staff and volunteers can assist with opening the door if required.
- There is a slight slope up towards Reception; the surface is mainly carpeted and wide enough for a turning circle in front of the reception desk.
- There are two reception desks which are both 75cm high and there is a separate table 76cm high, which the team can also use for admission and membership enquires.
- There is a lot of natural light provided by six windows. During the winter period light is provided by three hanging light bulbs and is limited.
- There is no induction loop available within Reception.
- There are seats available for visitors to use and three have arms.
- Two manual wheelchairs are available to borrow from Reception and one from the house - these are all available on a first-come basis. Please ask at Reception.

## House

- The house is about 200 yards (180 metres, or about a ten minute walk) from Reception.
- The accessible entrance (east door of the Court House) is signed from the moat bridge onwards.
- There are brick paths through the gardens to the house which are accessible for wheelchairs, though bumpy and uneven due to historic paving.
- There is limited disabled parking at the back entrance to Strode House via the Avenue. Please discuss access via this way at Reception upon arrival.

- Access to the house is currently through the north door (width 135cm) to the house via 12 shallow steps without a handrail. The house can be accessed via the accessible entrance (signed from the moat bridge) via the east door (84cm wide with an opening inwards) by ringing a bell which is situated by the east door on the right side. The east door will be opened by a member of staff/volunteer.
- The house has no furniture collection. Rooms have wooden floors and panelling. Rooms contain small exhibits telling stories about the house. Some rooms are sometimes used as exhibition spaces. At Christmas, some rooms are dressed and contain furniture. Wheelchair access is maintained on the ground floor.
- All rooms are lit by natural light and/or artificial light. There are no blinds or curtains on windows. Rooms are well lit, except for the corridors on entry and exit which, although lit, have low light levels.
- There are three floors. These are accessed by three staircases (one main with shallow steps and two spiral), which are used to give a one-way flow of traffic. However, access to the first floor can also be reached via eight shallow steps and double doors which are normally closed to the public. Please ask at the front door to the house should you wish to access the first floor this way, rather than via the spiral staircase. The main staircase has 26 shallow stairs and wide historic banister rails on both sides. The stairs are 164cm wide.
- There are also two wooden spiral staircases with steeper stairs which are used to ensure a one-way flow of traffic. The up staircase from the first floor takes you to the Long Gallery (top floor) and has 24 steps. This staircase has a hand rail on the right hand side and is 72cm wide. The down staircase which does not have a hand rail will take you from the top floor to the second floor via 21 steps and finally to the ground floor via 24 steps and is 87cm wide.
- There are chairs which can be used by visitors on each floor (no arm rests). There is a Chesterfield sofa and two armchairs outside the Library, a small table and a chair with arms in the Old Kitchen and a large table with four seats (no arm rests) in the Small Dining Room. These allow wheelchair users and visitors with limited mobility to browse pictures of the rooms from interpretation books. There are copies of the interpretation panels for all rooms and photos of the upper floors on a table outside the Library. The location of these may move over the Christmas period.
- There is space to turn a wheelchair in all ground floor rooms except for the Small Dining Room, which also has a small step on entry and exit.
- There are volunteers available on the ground floor and occasionally one on the first/second floors.
- There are toilets in Strode House, one of which has right and left hand transfer and space to turn a wheelchair through 150cm diameter circle.
- Guided tours run on some days. Please see website or call 01460 241938 for details.
- There is no induction loop.
- Large print guide is available.
- Four-wheeled powered mobility vehicles and powered wheelchairs can be accommodated on the ground floor in all rooms except the Small Dining Room.

## Catering

- Strode House and Team Rooms is accessible via level access through Strode House. Please let Reception know on arrival and they will arrange for this entrance to be opened for you. If you choose to arrive here via the buggy, the driver has keys for this entrance.
- The restaurant is also accessible via a shallow ramp through double doors (width 107cm) from the South Lawn. There is a small lip at the top of the ramp as these are original doors.
- The main doorway to the dining room is 99cm wide and is always open to 90 degrees.
- There are two further rooms available to use, which may also be used to supplement restaurant space when busy; the Wren Room which has a door width of 104cm and opens inwards, and the William and Mary room which has a door width of 101cm and opens inwards. Both are usually kept open when utilised and are accessed from the main wide internal corridor from Strode House.
- During the spring and summer months, there is outdoor seating on the South Lawn with space for a wheelchair.
- Staff will assist visitors as required and seat them if they experience difficulty queuing. If you inform our Reception staff that you would like assistance, we can reserve a table for you and give assistance on arrival.
- There is circulation space between some tables of around 120cm.
- The self-service cake table is 76cm high. Restaurant staff are available to assist if required.
- There are currently no induction loops.
- There are no braille menus. Large print menus will be available next season.
- There are large handed cutlery and straws available.
- The floor is wood and the walls stone with panelling in the Dining Room, William and Mary and Wren rooms. Lighting is fluorescent in the William and Mary room, track lighting in the Wren room, and the Dining Room has fitted wall lights. All have natural lighting however the William and Mary room and Dining Room can be dark due to their dark wood panelling. The chairs have cushioned seats and there are two sofas available in the Wren Room.

## Retail

- Retail is in the reception building in the main car park. Six designated spaces for disabled parking are adjacent to the building.
- The car park is gravel, uneven in places. However, the first three spaces designated for disabled parking have been tarmaced all the way to reception.
- Entrance to the shop can be gained via either the reception or from a side entrance with manual opening doors 112cm wide and a slight step.
- Staff/volunteers can assist with opening the door if required.
- The building is carpeted and shop stock contains some items of soft furnishings which minimises noise.
- There is natural light provided by windows and in addition the shop area is covered by seven spot lights.
- Both the reception and shop are situated in a single storey building. The floor is undulating and a little uneven in places.

- There is limited circulation space between the displays and the smallest point is 97cm wide.
- Staff will assist in reaching and providing information on products as required.
- The counter top is 90cm high and there is no induction loop.
- During the summer period teas/coffees and ice cream can be purchased from the shop and there are picnic tables available alongside the building on the blocked paved area – these picnic tables are unsuitable for wheelchair users. However, there is sufficient space for wheelchair users to move around.

## Garden

- The formal garden is made up of a kitchen garden and three garden rooms, all separated by stone walls. Each section has at least one bench with arms and is accessed by brick paths which are suitable for wheelchairs, although bumpy and uneven in places.
- The route to the garden is step free. Path surfaces around the wider garden include brick, tarmac and grass.
- There is a ['ha ha'](#) on the South Lawn (in front of the Strode Dining and Tea Rooms) and a deep pond in the Lily Garden.
- There is a plan of fruit, vegetable and flower planting available to borrow from the Kitchen Garden.
- Please see the attached map of the estate for more information.

## Contact details for more information

T: 01460 241938

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**Map** - attached to the back of the statement



Six seater transfer vehicle -  
outside reception



Entrance to the  
garden via bridge  
over moat -  
unfenced water



Moat on north side of Court House  
- unfenced water





Uneven brick path in gardens



Stone path on south front



Pond in Kitchen Garden - unfenced water



Pond in Lily Garden – unfenced water



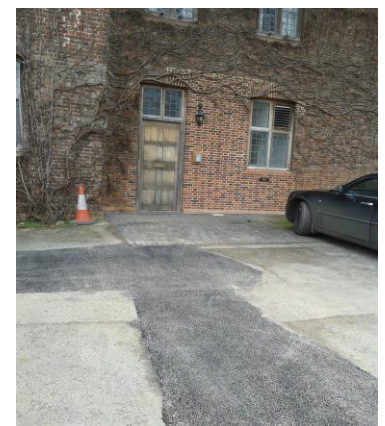
Ha-ha on south lawn – fenced ditch



Accessible entrance to the Court House via east door



Entrance to Strode House – south lawn



Entrance to Strode House via holiday/residents entrance