

Annual Review 2024/5



WADDESDON



Front cover: Manor and Parterre at Waddesdon;
Above: detail of Sevres porcelain manufactory, *Fan-shaped flower pot and stand*, 1759

Annual Review 2024/5

March 2024 - February 2025



WADDES DON





Contents

Reflecting on 2024/5	4
2024/5 in numbers	8
Collections	10
Stewardship	24
Gardens	33
People	40
Commercial Enterprise	66
Committee Lists	70
Staff List	71

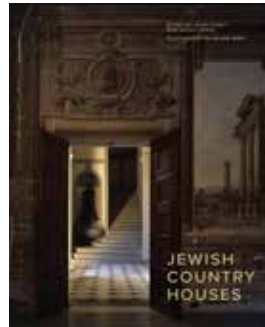
Reflecting on 2024/5

As the new Waddesdon year began, staff and volunteers were still coming to terms with the loss of the late Lord Rothschild in February. A celebration of his life took place on 13 June, and planning started for an exhibition to celebrate his patronage and love of collecting: an opportunity too to explore a lesser-known passion for contemporary art and to display works never before seen in public. In October nearly 500 staff and volunteers, past and present, came together for their own celebration of Lord Rothschild's life: a wonderful gathering of familiar faces and shared memories.



Family continuity remains constant, though, as his eldest daughter, Dame Hannah Rothschild, DBE, CBE, took over as Chair of the Rothschild Foundation and the responsibility for managing Waddesdon. A filmmaker, author and philanthropist, recognised for her commitment to arts, culture and community, she now leads Waddesdon into its next phase.

Despite the sadness, Waddesdon had much to look forward to as it embarked on the new season. It opened with a major new exhibition, *Guercino at Waddesdon: King David and the Wise Women*, bringing together the painting of King David with two pendant Sibyls for the first time, joined by the painting of *Moses*, the last major acquisition by the late Lord Rothschild for the Rothschild Foundation. May saw the opening of *Flights of Fancy: Birds at Waddesdon* with birds taking over the Manor, Grounds and Aviary, on porcelain, paper, objects, carpet bedding and in real life. The response to both exhibitions was excellent: 63,011 people visited *Guernico*. Paper artist Andy Singleton's installations, *Escape from the Aviary*, were seen by 47,969 House visitors.



November saw the launch of the *Jewish Country Houses* book, a culmination of the major research project with Oxford University, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC).

Two major conferences marked the closing stages of the project, one partly hosted at Waddesdon and one at the V&A.



Guercino, Moses, 1618-19



This year's Christmas theme was inspired by the Bakst paintings of *Sleeping Beauty*. Contemporary elements were contributed by theatre designer Tom Piper, and by Andy Singleton with his impressive paper dragon sculpture. Working with 15,500 schoolchildren, the Education and Learning team created a magical installation in the Coach House. Unfortunately, enforced closure due to high winds on three weekend days in late November and early December adversely affected visitor numbers, and profits, but the season still finished on 165,000 visitors making a total for the year to February of 292,000.

The Education and Learning programme continued to go from strength to strength, with a range of Rothschild Foundation-funded initiatives to improve access and engagement. The Gardens team made excellent progress catching up on any remaining post-pandemic backlog, beginning a programme of tree planting and installing a spectacular display of tulips in the Spring, followed by two carpet bedding schemes, one for *Flights of Fancy* and one commemorating the late Lord Rothschild. Progress was made too on a range of

staff and visitor initiatives including Equality, Diversity and Inclusion programming and a Community Engagement pilot project. A new Conservation Hub was created in the Gardens to communicate Waddesdon's ambitions for sustainability, in line with the evolving Rothschild Foundation Sustainability and Biodiversity Strategy.

All events and activities were supported by our Marketing and Communications team, who also created a new brand awareness campaign in August.

Following extensive refurbishment, the village pub opposite the Dairy entrance re-opened on 5 October, renamed The Bow. Now owned by the Rothschild Foundation, it is managed alongside the Five Arrows Hotel.

Last but by no means least, in October we were delighted to welcome Sir Roger Wright as the new CEO of the Rothschild Foundation, bringing with him immense experience in the cultural sector and in leading complex institutions.



2024/5 in numbers

VISITORS

165,000

Grounds visitors in the summer season

87,000 House visitors in the summer season

9,000 Conservation Hub visitors

Chilli Fest attendance 11,000

127,000

Grounds visitors in the Christmas season

56,000 House visitors in the Christmas season

COLLECTIONS

63,011 visitors to the *Guercino* exhibition

47,969 House visitors to *Escape from the Aviary*

STEWARDSHIP

49 birds from 18 species reared to independence in the Aviary

12,500 objects inventoried

204 new object records created

644 new digital photography records created

FAMILY, EDUCATION & SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

1,234 school visits (July to December)

15,500 children participated in *Once upon a Christmastime* in the Coach House

STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

425 volunteers contributed 44,189.5 hours

8,929 hours contributed by House hosts

2,942 hours given by Grounds host volunteers (June to November)

60 new volunteers recruited

DIGITAL REACH

107,288

e-newsletter subscribers

2,116,511

 website sessions

57,800 Facebook followers

50,200 Instagram followers

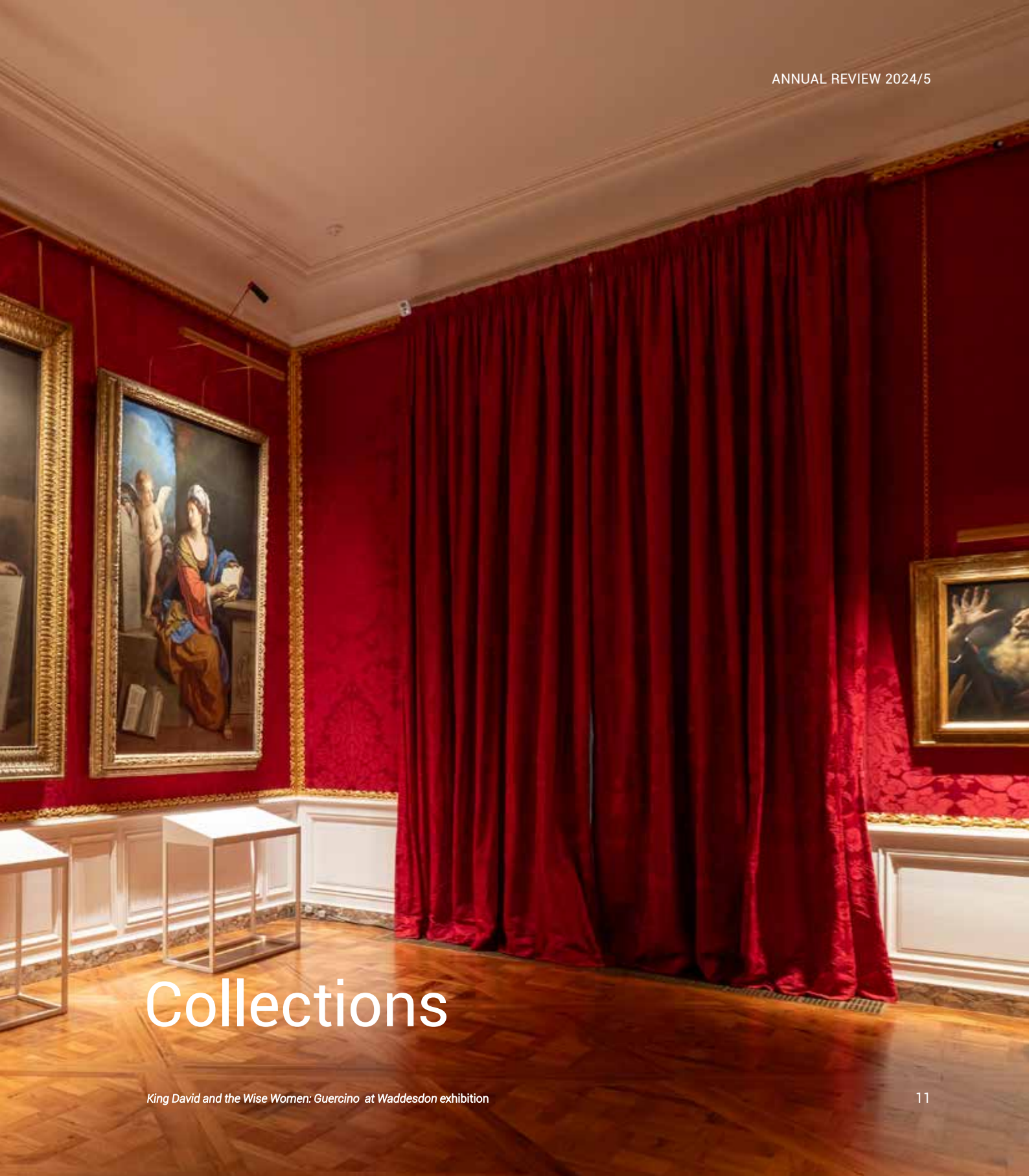
215,500 YouTube views

19,00 TikTok followers

177,767 Collections, House, and Gardens page views







Collections

EXHIBITIONS & DISPLAYS

Our exhibitions programmes are key to Waddesdon's mission to share the wealth of its collections and research activity with everyone.

Our two major exhibitions for 2024 were Guercino at Waddesdon and Flights of Fancy, both of which ran to the end of the main summer season.

***King David and the Wise Women: Guercino at Waddesdon* – 20 March to 27 October**

This exhibition united Guercino's *King David* with major loans *Cumaeen Sibyl* and *Samian Sibyl* from the National Gallery and *The Libyan Sibyl* from the Royal Collection Trust. The exhibition also featured Guercino's painting of *Moses*, newly acquired by the Rothschild Foundation. There was an accompanying publication, written by Juliet Carey, published by Paul Holbeton, and a short film for web use, as well as a promotional leaflet in Italian for circulation by the Italian Embassy

***Flights of Fancy: Birds at Waddesdon* – 22 May to 27 October**

This exhibition showcased the work of Sèvres bird painter, Louis-Denis Armand l'Ainé, also exploring the Rothschilds' love of birds. Waddesdon has one of the world's best collections of Armand's work, and this was the first ever exhibition devoted to him. The *Musée de Céramique* at Sèvres and several private lenders in the UK and Europe kindly lent





FLIGHTS OF FANCY
A celebration of birds at Waddesdon
Exotic birds in art

Waddesdon Hall has long been a home for birds. The collection of birds and taxidermy specimens in the hall is one of the finest in the world. The collection is a testament to the passion and expertise of the Waddesdon family, who have been collecting birds since the 18th century.

The collection is a mix of species from all over the world, including rare and endangered birds. The collection is a testament to the passion and expertise of the Waddesdon family, who have been collecting birds since the 18th century.

The collection is a mix of species from all over the world, including rare and endangered birds. The collection is a testament to the passion and expertise of the Waddesdon family, who have been collecting birds since the 18th century.

The collection is a mix of species from all over the world, including rare and endangered birds. The collection is a testament to the passion and expertise of the Waddesdon family, who have been collecting birds since the 18th century.

Small informational text on the right wall, partially obscured.





pieces for the exhibition. Many of the works, including an extraordinary set of drawings by Armand, complete with annotations, were on public display for the first time. Input from the Aviary and Sustainability teams further broadened the exhibition's appeal.

The Razumovsky Service, with its bird decoration, was displayed on the Dining Room table, also for the first time, and paper artist Andy Singleton was commissioned to create an installation, *Escape from the Aviary*, comprising paper bird sculptures flying through the House. At the Aviary, a fascinating interactive installation, *Tell it to the Birds*, created by environmental artist Jenny Kendler, used custom software to translate human words into birdsong.

In the Family Room archival documents and photographs traced the history of Rothschild family aviaries and bird-keeping right up to the present day, including current projects on the Estate, such as the new Eythrope Wetland, to preserve and enhance habitats. Illustrator Madeleine Floyd designed a new collection of bird-inspired product for sale in the Waddesdon shop.







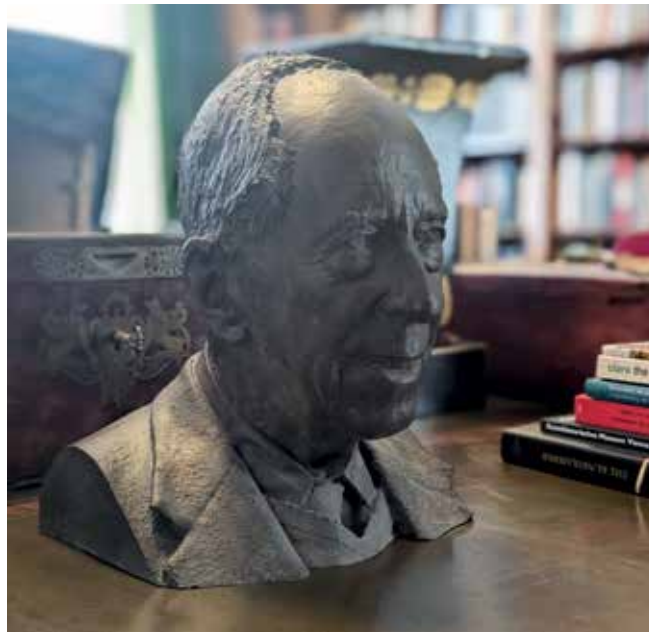
Paper sculpture by Andy Singleton for *Escape from the Aviary*

ACQUISITIONS & LOANS

Acquisitions are an important expression of Waddesdon's vitality and are made in the Rothschild spirit. The Rothschild Foundation acquires works for Waddesdon which complement the collections or relate to the Manor and the Rothschild family.

Acquisitions

Factum Arte Desarrollos Digitales: Bust of Lord Rothschild, 2024 A bronze bust cast from a 3D scan of the late Lord Rothschild, taken during the Veronica Scanner exhibition in collaboration with the Royal Academy in 2018, was kindly given to the Rothschild Foundation by Adam Lowe and Factum Arte for display at the Manor.



Loans

Loans-in for Exhibition

Three paintings by Guercino were placed on loan for the *King David and the Wise Women* exhibition. *The Cumaean Sibyl with a Putto* and *The Samian Sibyl with a Putto* were lent by the National Gallery, London; and *The Libyan Sibyl* by His Majesty the King via the Royal Collection Trust.

As part of the *Flights of Fancy* exhibition, 33 drawings and 46 Vincennes and Sèvres porcelain objects (some consisting of larger sets) came on loan, from the *Musée Nationale de Céramique at Sèvres*, and a number of private collections, for the duration of the exhibition.

Outward Loans

Guercino, *Moses* oil on canvas, 1618-1619, for *Guercino e i Ludovisi a Roma at Scuderie del Quirinale*, Rome, 30 October 2024 - 26 January 2025.

French School: *Trompe L'Oeil with Writing Implements, a Print by Jacques Callot and Spectacles, and Trompe L'Oeil with Writing Implements, a Print by Jacques Callot and Scissors* (both oil on canvas, 1780-1800) for *Trompe L'Oeil; 1520 to the present day at the Musée Marmottan Monet*, Paris, 17 October.

George Romney: *Emma Hart, Lady Hamilton as Circe*, oil on canvas, 1782 for *William Hamilton: A Protagonist of the Enlightenment in Naples at the Gallerie d'Italia, Naples*, 24 October 2024 - 2 March 2025.

New Requests to Borrow

Thomas Gainsborough, *Gainsborough Dupont*, oil on canvas, 1773 for *Gainsborough 300* (working title) at *Gainsborough House Museum, Sudbury, Suffolk*, 14 May – 31 October 2027.



Guercino, *The Cumaean Sibyl with a Putto*, 1651 © The National Gallery, London; Guercino, *The Samian Sibyl with a Putto*, 1651 © The National Gallery, London; Guercino, *The Libyan Sibyl*, 1651 © Royal Collection Trust/ His Majesty King Charles III, 2025



ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

Members of the Collections department host and take part in a wide range of academic activities both at Waddesdon and elsewhere. They speak at conferences, carry out research and develop specialist collaborations and partnerships with many institutions.

Collaborations & partnerships

Jewish Country House Project

This major Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) funded research project with partners Oxford and Durham Universities and the National Trust concluded in September. The publication of *Jewish Country Houses*, edited by Juliet Carey and Oxford's Abigail Green, was marked by a launch party on 7 November at Daunt Books, Marylebone, followed by a series of associated events including a talk by Juliet and Abigail at Waterstones, Hampstead on 18 November, a roundtable event at the V&A on 25 November, with H  l  ne Binet, Natalie Livingstone and Oliver Cox, and a talk at the Hampstead Garden Suburb Synagogue on 5 December. Other presentations were given by Juliet and Abigail at Jewish Book Week 2025, the Oxford Book Festival, and a series of lectures in Boston, Yale and New York. The book received many excellent reviews including in *The Spectator*, *The i Newspaper*, *Culture Calling*, *Jewish News* and *Country Life* magazine.

A major conference on Jewish philanthropy: *Solidarity, Antisemitism and Cultural Heritage* was held in Oxford, Upton and Waddesdon from 24 to 26 June with an international cohort of speakers.

Historic Houses Archivists Group

The Historic Houses Archivists Group, chaired by Waddesdon's Catherine Taylor, exists to promote good practice and offer support and advice to those caring for archives within a historic house setting. Waddesdon archivists took part in online training sessions, sharing experiences of supporting the estate and business through the archives, and attended the Group's AGM, at Inverary Castle and Mount Stuart.

Cataloguing

A total of 336 objects were catalogued in the database and on the web including family portraits, paintings and miniatures, metalwork and textiles. A holding image for stolen or damaged miniatures was created for the website to inform visitors about their condition. Curatorial team cataloguing work included Mia Jackson's preparation for the S  vres birds exhibition in 2024 and Michael Shrive's historic sales catalogues and sculpture cataloguing.



Community Engagement Project

The Rothschild Foundation funded Community Engagement Programme continued to develop its work to extend access to hard-to-reach audiences, the local community and those with disabilities or neurodivergence. Workshops were held with two potential programme participants: Waddesdon village's Wednesday Club for older people and the Aylesbury Deaf Coffee Club. These workshops featured an introductory session about the project with a visit to the Manor, outreach consultations and feedback sessions, a Deaf-Led Review Trip to Waddesdon, craft activity with the Learning Department, and a visit to Christmas at Waddesdon. Feedback was very positive and constructive, informing ideas on increasing access and enhancing participants' experience:

"It was lovely and magical, just being able to do something like that... I used to paint but haven't painted for 20 years, seeing those Reynolds and Gainsborough's, wow!"

"Been a wonderful trip, thank you for making it accessible to us."

Cataloguing

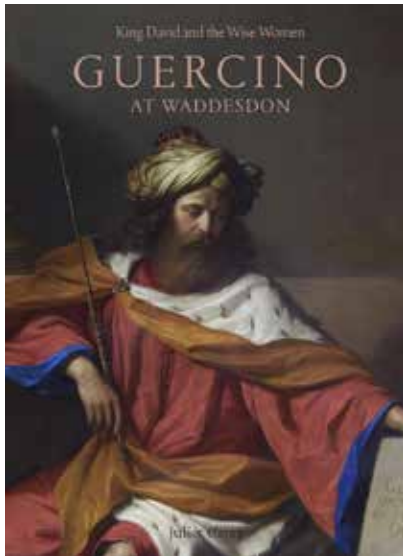
During the year over 130 records were edited, including textiles, sculpture and ceramics. Mia Jackson worked with Oxford intern Shaima Begum on labels for 92 objects, serving as a basis for their corresponding Vernon records, and with the Aviary's Llŷr Davis on definitive bird identification for each object in the Razumovsky service, for inclusion on the database.

Rachel Jacobs resumed part-time curatorial and cataloguing work for Waddesdon, writing a survey of the books in the collection, including a work plan for cataloguing and potential areas for research, and completing the online records for the highlights from the books collection.

In June 2024, Marie Giraud, an AHRC-funded PhD student from Queen Mary University of London, began cataloguing some 500 crayon manner prints primarily, but not exclusively, by the Liège-born, French artist Gilles Demarteau (1722-1776). Undertaken as a six-month, part-time placement in partnership with Queen Mary University of London, London Arts and Humanities Partnership, and Waddesdon Manor, Marie created close to 250 records, also linking existing record photographs to each object in the Vernon database. She worked under the guidance of curators, collection managers, and in consultation with Antony Griffiths, previous Keeper of Prints and Drawings at the British Museum, to identify printmaking techniques. The records created and research undertaken on this placement will help to inform a future exhibition on chalk matter scheduled for 2027.

Higher Education & Specialist Teaching

Specialist groups and teaching included groups from: Keble College, Oxford; the History of Art Department, Oxford; the Sarah Lawrence Exchange Programme at Wadham College, Oxford; Buckingham University MA in Decorative Arts and Historic Interiors; Warwick University Art History BAs, and Sotheby's Institute of Art MA in Fine and Decorative Art and Design.



Publications

Although the stand-out publishing highlight of the year was undoubtedly the Jewish Country Houses book, there were others too, including Mia Jackson's article, *Madame de Pompadour's Porcelain Menagerie*, published in Dutch and English for the publication *Porcelain Fever: The Wondrous Origins of European Porcelain* edited by Denise Campbell and Laura Smeets of the *Keramiekmuseum Princessehof* for their exhibition. Mia also returned to her thesis topic and wrote an article on André Charles Boulle and his collecting of drawings for the Boulle retrospective at the Château de Chantilly. *Guercino at Waddesdon: King David and the Wise Women*, written by Juliet Carey and published by Paul Holberton accompanied the Guercino exhibition.

Lectures & Conferences

In addition to the final conference of the *Jewish*

Country Houses research project, Waddesdon also hosted a day of the European Association for the Preservation and Promotion of Jewish Culture and Heritage's (AEPJ) Incubator Conference held jointly with Oxford University, attended by a group of managers, tour leaders and visitor services staff from centres of Jewish heritage.

Specialist Visitors & Groups

Visiting groups included: the French Porcelain Society; the *Amis de Flaubert et de Maupassant*; the Patrons of the London Library; families of the Cedar Boys; patrons of Dulwich Picture Gallery and of the National Gallery; reader groups from the *Jewish Chronicle* and the *Burlington Magazine*; the Oxford Ceramics Circle and Australians Studying Abroad (ASA), Cultural Tour of great libraries in historic houses in England. Amongst individual visitors were: Wolf Burchard, Metropolitan Museum, New York; Eric Knowles of *Antiques Roadshow* fame; Emannuelle Federspiel, *Mobilier National*, Paris; Brian Ayres, Butrint Foundation; Meredith Chilton, Gardiner Museum, Toronto; Colin Jones, Queen Mary, University of London; Anthony Griffiths, formerly British Museum; Prof Katie Scott, Courtauld Institute of Art; book collectors Tal and Helen Sunderland Cohen; Patrick Marnham to see Faure's *Napoleon*; celebrity naturalist Hamza Yassin; Oriana Beaufiles, Director of Villa Ephrussi Rothschild, and Calvin Winner, Director of the Gainsborough House Museum.

Following the celebration of the life of the late Lord Rothschild in June, a number of VIP guests visited the Manor, including the President and First Lady of Israel, Baron Eric de Rothschild, Gabrieli Finaldi and John Booth (Chair of Trustees of the National Gallery).

Stewardship

Caring for our collections,
house and gardens,
now and forever





CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

After many delays and setbacks, the North Fountain conservation project was completed to magnificent effect, incorporating an enhanced dynamic water feature, designed by Mark Oliver from Water and Light Ltd.

Ahead of the Flights of Fancy exhibition, Jim Diamond conserved *Flamingos*, the large painting possibly by the late 19th-century bird painter Henry Stacy Marks, and cleaning trials were carried out on a Portrait of an Unknown Woman, previously identified as Anne, Queen of Denmark. Conservator Alan Derbyshire completed the second phase of his survey of the miniatures collection, giving detailed treatment recommendations for high priority objects. For the exhibition at *Musée Marmottan Monet*, Paris, Naomi Richards organised the conservation and box-framing of the two *Trompe L'Oeils*.

Katerina Powell, of Library and Archive Conservation, began stabilising, cleaning and binding consolidation on the album of watercolours compiled by Charlotte de Rothschild, on loan from the late Lord Rothschild's Estate at Windmill Hill.

Following recommendations from specialists at the Museum Speelklok in Utrecht, furniture conservator Paul Tear was tasked to help with the dismantling of the Orpheus organ clock, under the direction of the Museum, before its transportation to the Netherlands for repair.

Paul Tear was also enlisted, assisted by Michael Shrive, to carry out a comprehensive furniture survey programme to record the condition and

stability of all historic furniture (on and off display), flag up display issues, note keys and parts where relevant and photograph details. New team members benefited from training in the rudiments of furniture conservation from Campbell Norman-Smith of Granary Conservation.

Clock conservator Thomas Ellis Reese visited to work on the Cartel Clock in the South Corridor as well as repairing the Manor Restaurant clock and servicing the Red Drawing Room clock.

Frost damage to the Coade Stone Campana Vase was repaired by Cliveden and the structure strengthened to help prevent any further recurrence.

The perennial rolling programme of general maintenance included lighting, blinds and door upgrades. Curved glass panes in the Conservatory and on the East Staircase were replaced in January. Victoria Geddes, our Assistant Steward responsible for managing the exterior sculpture, undertook the annual biocide clean with the team, with an extra coat against algae where necessary. During the summer, the team cleaned and waxed the bronze sculpture of Copenhagen at the Stables. All sculpture covers were repaired over the summer and put on along with the new covers for South Fountain statues by the beginning of November. As usual we covered the most vulnerable pieces, Apollo and Meleager both at the Aviary as soon as frost was forecast.

Planned book cleaning concentrated on the north wall in the Morning Room. Amy Coe, Conservation Assistant Supervisor, helped train the new

Conservation Assistants on how to handle and clean the books. All other areas containing books were checked regularly. Zenzie Tinker visited in September to continue several conversations about textile conservation. Cleaning and repair of the Morning Room Wall silks began in January with the removal of a section of silk from the South West Wall as a trial.

Conservation Hub

A Conservation Hub was created in the Gardens (on the site of the former Woodland Café).



Designed to highlight environmental issues, the Hub explores the conservation and biodiversity work underway at Waddesdon for wildlife, habitats, soils and water both in the Gardens and on the wider Estate. Opened at the beginning of June by photographer, naturalist, broadcaster and Strictly Come Dancing winner Hamza Yassin, the Hub proved a resounding success, attracting around 9,000 visitors, including 883 on just one day, 36% of the total footfall on site. In October the Hub was transformed into a Skull Shack, with NHM Tring lending several skulls for Halloween display.

Sustainability

Dickon Leigh-Wood and Chris Leach led the drive for greater sustainability, with everyone at Waddesdon encouraged to think sustainably and to incorporate green targets into their planning and budgeting.

The Gardens team introduced a number of measures to improve sustainability (such as no-dig soil improvement and new composting arrangements) and biodiversity (habitat management, wildflower areas and pest management), with tangible results. For example, a large population of voles and field mice thrived in the unmown long grass on either side of the walking path from the Welcome Pavilion, in turn providing a good food source for a family of Kestrels.

Elsewhere, work on Waddesdon's Sustainability Strategy focussed on better data collection to inform progress. Installation of smart meters at every location helped our understanding of energy usage and allowed a move away from estimated values. Travel surveys were designed to collect detailed information on our own fleet, staff and volunteer travel and our visitors, and new systems investigated to enhance accuracy of emission calculations. Visitor travel accounts for 49% of our footprint and is recognised by most historic houses as the hardest problem to solve to reach net zero. Water testing continued across 14 sites (four on National Trust land) to detect and reduce pollutants. Bird and bat data were collected several times a month to create a baseline of the biodiversity, with some excellent finds including the endangered grey long-eared bat. Reptile and small mammal monitoring also continued to build our data set.

MANAGING OUR COLLECTIONS



Inventory & Documentation

Around 12,700 objects were inventoried in display rooms, stores and domestic areas. Over 250 new object records were created for previously undocumented or uncatalogued items.

Members of the Collections team accompanied visits by both Sotheby's and Coram James to view around 2,000 items to be assessed for the late Lord Rothschild's probate.

Image & Book Library

More than 4,000 digital records were created on the Collections database in the ongoing work to ensure that all object records contain at least one digital record image. Photograph records were also updated to improve and streamline catalogue and rights information. The Image Library supplies images in-house for press and editorial purposes. It provides captions and sources images for all copy, including leaflets, posters, labels, interpretation panels, as well as acquiring copyright clearance for all in-copyright works that appear in these publications. 64 titles were added to the Research Libraries.

ARCHIVES & RECORDS MANAGEMENT

Resolving enquiries contributes to our knowledge and understanding of the archives and the history of Waddesdon.

There were 25 research visits to Waddesdon's archives at Windmill Hill during the year, from researchers studying a wide range of topics including painting provenance, the life of Edmond de Rothschild, George Frederick Johnson, Rothschild Savonnerie carpets, and Rothschild birds. Archive and research enquiries were also answered on subjects such as property ownership and house history on the Estate, family history, country house lifts, the Waddesdon stud, James de Rothschild's Rolls Royce and the Rothschild racing colours.



Many enquiries and research visits were received for the archives we store and care for on behalf of the Colnaghi and Butrint Foundations. Discussions continued between Butrint Foundation staff and Trustees with the Albanian Government and the Anglo-American Development Fund on a new integrated management plan for the long-term future of the archive. A visit to Butrint by Catherine Taylor, Pippa Shirley, and Ellie Stout with Brian Ayres and his colleagues in Albania proved enlightening.

The Archive hosted five corporate events and numerous staff meetings over the year.

As part of the ongoing work to improve the archive catalogue data on the Collections database, 170 new records were created and over 11,000 entries edited or created on the Vernon database, bringing the total number to almost 23,000.

Volunteers continued to add greatly to our understanding of the collections: Carol Hardy transcribed and researched Visitors' Book entries for the period after 1922, and Liz Whetton's created new descriptions for Dorothy's diaries, together revealing a fascinating picture of the way James and Dorothy used Waddesdon. Alan Myers finished his project on catalogue descriptions for a group of PICA files, and Gary Blackwood completed the task of copying electronic Butrint files from removable media onto our system so they can be added to the electronic archive. Bobby Wainman continued his work cataloguing the Ivor Burnell local history collection. Lorna Winfield, one of last year's Pathways Interns stayed on as a volunteer improving our knowledge of some early National Trust papers and listing centenary restoration drawings. Helen Ward returned in October, creating person records and transcriptions for the Autograph exhibition in 2025.

Inventorying records as part of the late Lord Rothschild's probate process proved useful in increasing our understanding of the collections and identifying areas for additional indexing or other catalogue improvement.

Records Management

The team answered nearly 300 records management enquiries, many related to SharePoint permissions and build requirements, as well as retrieving and accessing files and information from the archive stores for a variety of stakeholders.

The Records team worked with staff to review the Corporate Records Retention and Disposal schedule, designed to ensure Waddesdon's information security and data protection compliance. All of the work to rationalise record-keeping, retaining only what is needed for day-to-day business or the archive, contributes to sustainability goals, reducing our carbon footprint. Under strict observance of retention periods, any non-archival records held at Windmill Hill past their review date were either transferred to archive or destroyed confidentially,

Catherine Taylor continued her work to improve data protection registers and procedures, recommending data sharing agreements and standard clauses in suppliers' contracts where required. She also developed a GDPR refresher training session for staff.





GARDENS

The summer of 2024 was the UK's coolest since 2015, with short periods of heat followed by prolonged spells of heavy rain. Despite the uncertain weather, Waddesdon welcomed 1 63,000 visitors to the grounds between March and October.

Gardening highlights included: a major project to reduce and re-form the shrubbery around the Bachelors' Wing, revealing more of its architecture; the Rose Garden re-planting and rejuvenation; work to restore the shelter belt and tree populations (planting nearly 400 saplings and whips), and the Eythrope Gardens team winning first prize for their display of homegrown plants and produce in the Master Gardener category at the Royal Windsor Horticultural Show in June.

The Spring displays on the Parterre were plagued by the wet weather and wildlife (the local deer population enjoyed the pansies) so that they were late to come into full bloom. Schemes on the North Front, at the Aviary and at Windmill Hill, however, fared much better, as did the summer carpet beddings, one commemorating the late Lord Rothschild and the other featuring a beautiful design based the *Flights of Fancy* exhibition. The vibrant colours of the Parterre were matched at the Stables, and the display extended down to the Welcome Pavilion in pots created by Jen Thompson, Nursery Manager. Both 3D birds were on display from the beginning of July. This year the Robin was resplendent with his ruffled collar; the Pheasant with a brightly coloured Mohican, all in honour of the *Flights of Fancy* Exhibition.



Staff from The Tree Register visited both Waddesdon and Eythrope Gardens to review the tree population and confirm Champion Tree status (determined by scale and rarity). During the visit, the first in over 20 years, the health was checked of Champion Trees recorded as far back as 1972, and 13 confirmed here at Waddesdon.

David Alderman, Director of The Tree Register led the visiting group and provided information about a few of the most significant trees. He confirmed that the *Fagus sylvatica f. purpurea* 'Riversii' 'River's Purple' Beech is the British champion and potentially from the original stock tree at River's Nursery, Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire. In 1984, before visiting Waddesdon to carry out a survey, Alan Mitchell, founder of The Tree Register, had seen the original stock tree at the nursery and must have been confident that the trees at Waddesdon were identical. The earliest known date that this cultivar was in production is 1880 so it is certainly compelling that the Rothschilds would have selected this new and supposedly finest of all purple beech at that time. Despite losing the two largest and tallest *Acer platanoides* (Purple Sycamore), the best survivor within the group was recorded in Tulip Patch, becoming the new Champion. The multi-stemmed *Ligustrum lucidum* (Chinese privet) at Waddesdon is the fifth largest in Britain and is therefore a significant and worthy County Champion

The first phase in the replacement of dead tree ferns along Tree Fern Walk was completed, with the addition of eight trees ranging from 7ft to a bendy 3.5ft.

In April, the Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity returned to Waddesdon for what has become an

annual event. The Rose Garden housed a display of metal roses commemorating loved ones, which were subsequently sold to raise money for the charity.

The award-winning team at Eythrope welcomed 374 tour visitors, delighting them with plant and colour combinations. The experimental Mexican-themed entrance borders were showstoppers – a homage to the Mexican Garden introduced by Alice de Rothschild. A major project to replace pipework in the Vinery and connected greenhouses continued, the first time that the pipework had been fully renewed since 1901. Another first was the flowering in the Spring of *Puya x berteroniana* ("Bertero's Puya"), a natural hybrid found in the Andes in Chile which can take 8-10 years to reach flowering size. It produced a large flower spike around 5ft tall, and vivid blue flowers, bright orange anthers and a delicate vanilla scent, filled with plenty of rich nectar.



Space was made available at the Venlo for The Fresh Water Habitat Trust charity's GroWet initiative, to grow rare wetland plants for local people and wetland plantings. The charity, grant supported by the Rothschild Foundation creates, restores, and protects all freshwaters.



AVIARY

The Aviary had its most successful breeding season since 2011, with a total of 49 birds from 18 species reared to independence. Nearly two-thirds of the species reared were of conservation concern. Notable achievements included the hand rearing of two Socorro doves *Zenaida graysoni*, a first for Waddesdon. Sadly, this species is extinct in the wild and has a population of just 194 individuals spread in zoos over three continents. Assistant Curator Gavin Harrison consequently gave input into the new EAZA best practice guideline for Socorro doves.

Another first for Waddesdon was the breeding of the endangered Collared Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron yersini* from a pair donated to Waddesdon in 2021. Discussions continued with EAZA and IUCN songbird trade specialist group on the future of a programme for this endangered species.

A third first for Waddesdon was the breeding of the White-naped Pheasant Pigeon *Otidiphaps aruensis*. This vulnerable species from New Guinea was originally described by Walter Rothschild in 1928. Continued breeding successes with Rothschild's Myna *Leucopsar rothschildi*, Sumatran Laughingthrush *Garrulax bicolor*, Blue-crowned Laughingthrush *Pterorhinus courtoisi*, Asian Fairy bluebird *Irena puella*, and Hill Myna *Gracula religiosa* concluded a very successful breeding season.

With the lifting of Bird Flu restrictions, transfers were possible once again. Waddesdon received a Rothschild's Myna from Birdworld in Surrey;

a Blue-crowned Laughingthrush, Red-tailed Laughingthrush, Asian Fairy-bluebird, Silver-eared Mesia and Sumatran Laughingthrush from Chester Zoo; an Asian Fairy-bluebird, Pagoda Myna, Pink headed Fruit Dove and two Pekin Robins from Newquay Zoo and a Red-tailed Laughingthrush from Marwell Zoo. Waddesdon sent two Asian Fairy-bluebirds and two collared Hill-partridges to Chester Zoo; a Hill Myna and Pagoda Myna to Newquay Zoo, and a Chestnut-backed Thrush to a private collection.

The Aviary continued to work closely with European zoos through its membership of EAZA (European Association of Zoos and Aquaria). Thanks to its role in Regional (European) planning, Waddesdon helped ensure the inclusion and management of threatened species in zoos across Europe, including the Rothschild Peacock Pheasant *Polyplectron inopinatum*, Chestnut-backed Thrush *Geokichla dohertyi*, Sumatran Laughingthrush *Garrulax bicolor*, and White-necklaced Partridge *Arborophila gingica*.

In May Gavin Harrison attended the EAZA Joint TAG Chairs' meeting in Edinburgh, and in October, he went to the EAZA conference held at Leipzig Zoo, Germany. Amongst the topics discussed was the growing threat from Usutu virus (USUV) a mosquito-borne virus particularly lethal to songbirds. Found throughout Europe and now endemic within the UK, the virus is thought to be associated with climate change.



Curator of Birds, Ian Edmans, worked on the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria's (EAZA) Long Term Management Plan (LTMP) for the Asian Fairy-bluebird with population biologist Nora Hausen. Ian also published an article on the management of Asian Fairy-bluebirds at Waddesdon in the *Avicultural Magazine*, a precursor to formal EAZA Best Practice Guidelines.

Through grants from the Rothschild Foundation, the Aviary again supported the Critically Endangered Banggai Crow *Corvus unicolor* from Sulawesi, Indonesia, offering protection from persecution. This species was first described by Walter Rothschild and Ernst Hartert in 1900.

Also made possible by Waddesdon (funded completely through visitor donations collected from the Aviary's fountain) was a community-led conservation project for the Critically Endangered Maleo on Sulawesi, a species threatened primarily from overharvesting of eggs, predation from domestic species and habitat loss. The study was led by Dr Ritabulan from Universitas (groundbreakingly for the region, a woman).

Waddesdon's Senior Aviculturist, Llŷr Davies and Curator of Decorative Arts collaborated closely with Collections' Mia Jackson, for the *Flights of Fancy* exhibition, exploring all things avian at Waddesdon.

MAJOR PROJECTS

Capital Projects come out of our long-term strategy to maintain and develop Waddesdon for the future.

A Quinquennial Survey covers the state of the historic buildings and garden structures in Waddesdon's care and forms the basis of annual programmes for their repair, maintenance and conservation. This year's major projects included completion of making-good works on the walking path from the Welcome Pavilion to the House. A feasibility study was conducted to assess options for the replacement of ageing gas fire boilers, and a survey undertaken on major works needed to the repair of North and South Pediments. A three-year phased plan to upgrade the Manor perimeter fencing was also drawn up.

The Wine Cellars Redisplay Project, initiated by the late Lord Rothschild with design by Charles Marsden Smedley was completed. The project encompassed new lighting, a redisplay of the historic bottles and photographs, new graphics and repositioning and relighting the two wonderful Netherlandish marble reliefs in the Round Room made for the Antwerp Guild of Coopers with the tools of their trade. Another new inhabitant was the sculpture of *Napoleon on Saint Helena* by Faure, now to be found in front of the vaults on a mobile plinth.





People

Through its exhibitions programme, educational and special events, Waddesdon strives to engage, inspire and inform



VISITOR NUMBERS

In total we welcomed 292,000 visitors to Waddesdon during the year. Numbers were adversely affected from September onwards by road closures and traffic management necessitated by the nearby HS2 works. Summer re-scheduling of four weekend consecutive A41 closures avoided our key Chilli Fest and Music at the Manor weekends, but visitor numbers were nonetheless significantly affected.



A new optimised visitor booking system implemented just before Easter streamlined the booking process, improving the visitor experience.

National Trust membership recruitment between June and November was up on last year, with 357 new memberships (733 new members).







EVENTS

As ever, a wide variety of family events, talks and tours ran throughout June to October in both the House and Gardens, at the *Wedding Cake* and at Eythrope, as well as a greater number of Relaxed Openings for visitors with sensory, disabled or neurodivergent access requirements. Working with Heritage Interpreters, the team successfully delivered the first bespoke British Sign Language tours, receiving wonderful feedback from attendees.

A full week of events for the May half-term, themed around birds, proved very popular. For the second May Bank Holiday weekend, we hosted *Celestial Sound Cloud*, a light and sound interactive sound sculpture, in the Coach House. At the end of May, 1,450 visitors attended three days of outdoor cinema, this year provided by Adventure Cinema.

June was Open Furniture Month in the House, this time with objects selected by volunteers and House Hosts rather than curators. Talks and tours included special interest groups, House Highlights, Treasury and exhibition tour, the reintroduction of the Behind the Scenes ground floor tour, and winding of the Elephant Automaton.

The beginning of June saw photographer and naturalist Hamza Yassin opening the new Conservation Hub, designed to highlight environmental and conservation issues and act as an introduction to the habitats and biodiversity at Waddesdon. The Hub proved consistently popular both for drop-in visits and for a series of trails and activities. Other June activities included the annual Living History Weekend, coordinated by the Education and Learning Team, and Colourscape,

grant-funded by the Rothschild Foundation, focussing on school workshops for three days from 16 to 19 June.

In July, Music at the Manor, four evenings of tribute bands from the 60s, 70s, 80s and 90s on the North Front, attracted an audience of around 3,000 people, despite poor weather and the Sunday concert coinciding with England's appearance in the football World Cup final.



With the start of summer holidays, Waddesdon participated in the National Trusts's *Summer of Play*, with a variety of outdoor games available on the North Front for visitors to borrow and a number of other events for families including outdoor theatre. Our summer offering was rounded off by Chilli Fest running for three days from 30 August to 1 September.

October saw our Halloween Zoolab Trail and the transformation of the Conservation Hub into a *House of Skulls* which was overwhelmingly well-received by our younger visitors.

CHRISTMAS

Leon Bakst's paintings of *Sleeping Beauty* were the inspiration for this year's Christmas theme. Commissioned by James and Dorothy de Rothschild in 1913, Bakst used Rothschild family members, friends and staff as models for characters in the paintings. Displays through the House (created by our long-term partner, Jane le Bon), the projection on its façade (designed by Jamie Shiels) and elements of the light trail (created by our regular partners Luminism) all told different parts of the *Sleeping Beauty* story. Theatre designer Tom Piper, known for *Blood Swept Lands* and *Seas of Red* (the Tower Poppies), and the recent Taylor Swift exhibition at the V&A, was commissioned to create a response to a Bakst painting in the White Drawing Room. Tom worked with students from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama on the accompanying soundscape, a welcome renewal of our relationship with the School. Paper artist Andy Singleton contributed a magnificent sculpture of a dragon for the Smoking Room. In the Coach House, *Once upon a Christmastime*, inspired by fairy tales and nursery rhymes, was delivered with great humour, charm and panache by the Education and Learning team and their 15,500 school collaborators. The projection, light trail, displays in the House and the ever-popular Christmas Fair, were very well received by visitors, 165,000 of whom came in the seven weeks of the Christmas season.









LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT

The Learning team welcomed 1,234 school visitors between the end of July and the end of December 2024 for regular schools' workshops. The most popular session, *Life during WW2: Our Evacuee Story*, looked at evacuees living at *Waddesdon during the Second World War*, with topics covered including rationing, Dig for Victory, and the *Kindertransport*. Other popular sessions were orienteering and, of particular interest to the increasing number of secondary school pupils, Careers, offering a CV clinic, mock interviews and information about roles at Waddesdon.

In-Tentz, our annual camp for Scouts and Guides held in July was sold out. More than 100 young people camped in the Manor grounds for two nights, participating in a variety of activities including archery, yoga, orienteering and axe skills.



A new Learning Officer, Geraldine Turner, joined the team in the summer, bringing the number of full-time members of staff up to three. We also welcomed Alexis Jones, our intern through the Pathways scheme, in September.

Schools Access Fund

Through the Schools Access Fund more and more pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds were able to benefit from our Learning and Education team's programme. Without this Rothschild Foundation supported grant scheme, many teachers told us a visit to Waddesdon would be impossible for their pupils, the rising cost of transport being the biggest barrier to a visit. In the six months to December, 28 schools received a grant to cover the cost of school trips to Waddesdon.

'The fact that Waddesdon Manor is a local heritage site is very relevant to pupils in terms of where they live and their community. The trip often leaves children wanting more and they go home to tell parents that they want to visit again.'

Simon Mullen, Assistant Head and SENDCo Monks Risborough CE Primary School .

'The children had a wonderful time. They loved being able to go inside the house (an expensive option for parents normally). Many of our children had never been even though it is a local venue. The booklet creates a climate of learning for the children.'

Haddenham Junior School, March 2024

Action4Youth

Waddesdon continued its participation in Action4Youth's Inspiration Programme, with students from 11 secondary schools visiting Windmill Hill and the Manor to look at contemporary and classical art collections, before making their own presentations. Many of these students would otherwise be unlikely to have the opportunity of visiting Waddesdon



Art History Link Up

Our partnership with Art History Link-Up to develop a programme of art history teaching for local secondary schools began to bear fruit, with the finalisation of an Art History Higher Project Qualification (HPQ) course, equivalent to a GCSE, due to start in March 2025 for students at Waddesdon Church of England School.



Waddesdon Church of England School Partnership

Recruitment of a Waddesdon School Partnership Manager consolidated collaboration with the school, including the creation of a blueprint for projects to support Sixth Form students. Initial initiatives included an English project for Year 8 based on the *Guercino* exhibition, an art project on *Flights of Fancy* and an A-level history project on antisemitism. Our relationship with the school was further strengthened by the Rothschild Foundation's support for a new Sixth Form Centre for the school, named The Jacob Rothschild Sixth Form Building.





CHRISTMAS PROJECT

The Learning team worked with 85 schools, and a total of 15,471 children and adults from schools and community groups to create their fairytale and nursery rhymes Christmas engagement project *Once Upon a Christmastime* in the Coach House.

With the help of six talented artists (Michelle Dufaur, Jane Charles, Olivia Davies, Jo Coles, Paul Render and Sandrine Case) it was possible this year to deliver art workshops in schools, rather than online. Pupils ranging in age from 2 to 18 created a wide variety of artworks, from mermaid tails to Grandma Wolf, Brussel sprouts to gingerbread men.



The team also attended Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Squirrels, Beavers and Cubs evening meetings to create artwork with them there. The Waddesdon Wednesday Club was involved too, coming to the Education Room and working with artist Michelle Dufaur to create willow cloud lanterns for our Jack and the Beanstalk display. Feedback from teachers was overwhelmingly positive, a rare creative opportunity in a crowded curriculum.



MARKETING & PR

The Marketing team continued to focus on digitally-led campaigns, allowing them to react quickly to re-evaluate and adjust paid marketing activity where necessary.

Brand Campaign

A brand campaign in the summer featured hero images of House, Parterre, Dining Room, Sarah Lucas's *Perceval*, *Wedding Cake* and Wine Cellars. Key to the campaign were 168 x 4-sheet posters within a two-hour drive of Waddesdon and 2 x 12 sheet posters at Euston and Marylebone, plus paid social ads to drive followers on Instagram, and 250,000 new leaflets distributed across Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire. The campaign was successful in raising awareness of Waddesdon and boosting visitor numbers over the summer, against the trend at others similar attractions. Prolonged dismal weather, however, reinforced the trend for late bookings.



Families

Over the summer, Marketing activity supported Waddesdon's participation in the National Trust's *Summer of Play* campaign, targeting local families with multi-channel marketing campaigns across social (paid and organic) media, press ads, e-news, print distribution, press and local family influencers.

Events

The campaign for Music at the Manor included digital advertising, paid and organic social, email, print distribution, promotions, PR and influencers, achieving a marketing reach of 27 million and 38,839 page views of the What's On website page. An integrated campaign for Chilli Fest in partnership with influencer Muddy Stiletto helped generate nearly 1,000 more visitors than last year, totalling 10,775 people.

Christmas

This year's Christmas campaign was launched in July with a digital trailer, email, press release and organic social media activity. The campaign also included radio advertising across Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire, outdoor posters at Marylebone, Euston and Oxford railway stations and the distribution of over 45,000 leaflets within a one-hour drive time of Waddesdon.



PRESS & PR

Exhibitions Coverage

With its 'missing masterpiece' Moses as well as loans from The Royal Collection and National Gallery, the Guercino exhibition really caught the imagination of the Press. Juliet Carey led several private tours, most notably a partnership with the *Jewish Chronicle* and the *Burlington Magazine* for reader events and last chance to see the exhibition before closing. Significant coverage included features in *The Daily Telegraph*, and a four-star review in the *Mail on Sunday*. Another key highlight was Jonathan Jones' inclusion of *Guercino* in his weekly guide to entertainment in *The Guardian*. The acquisition of Moses continued to prove newsworthy, and, in October was shortlisted for Acquisition of the Year in the Apollo Magazine Awards 2024.

An integrated campaign for the *Guercino* exhibition included press ads in *Art Quarterly* and the *Royal Academy Magazine*, a digital display campaign across *Guardian Arts and Culture*, coverage in the *Guardian Arts Weekly Newsletter* and a 'last chance to see' ad in *The Burlington*. The *Flights of Fancy* campaign incorporated 118 National Rail 4-sheets across London, the Midlands, South and South East, East and West of England, running for two weeks from the beginning of July. A highlights leaflet accompanied this exhibition, as well as a leaflet in Italian distributed to distributed through the Italian Embassy.

Journalists, lenders and local tourism partners attended a Press preview on 21 May for the *Flights of Fancy* exhibition. Amongst them was Hamza Yassin, photographer, naturalist, broadcaster and *Strictly Come Dancing* winner who opened the



Conservation Hub and mingled with visitors for autographs and book signing. Coverage for this exhibition included *The Spectator*. It also featured in *Artists and Illustrators* magazine, *Period Living* and *The English Home*, as well as coverage across key local media titles including *Oxford Mail*, *Bicester Advertiser*, *Bucks Free Press*, *Bucks Herald* and *This is Oxfordshire*.

Advance coverage of the *Jewish Country Houses* exhibition, scheduled to open in 2025, was generated in key titles including *The Spectator*, *The i Newspaper*, *Culture Calling*, *Jewish News* and *Country Life* magazine.

The end of April saw both the Manor and the Wedding Cake featured in the May issue of *Tatler Wedding Guide 2024*. The *Wedding Cake* featured on the cover and both the Manor and the Cake featured were part of the accompanying 12-page editorial fashion shoot.

A 10-page spread in the April issue of *The Rake* focused on the Rothschild family's winemaking.

After the *Wedding Cake* appeared in an episode of *George Clarke's Amazing Spaces* Channel 4 TV show on 3 July, google search queries about it soared to 840 (up from only one in July 2023).

The *Wedding Cake* webpage became the third most visited webpage, with 2,067 clicks, second only to the home and booking pages, and there were 150 bookings for the contemporary sculpture tour that month.

July saw the launch of the Christmas PR campaign. Coverage highlights included articles in *The Telegraph*, *Yahoo!*, *MSN*, *Country Living*, *The Arts Shelf*, *Artists and Illustrators Magazine*, as well as local media outlets.

In September *Waddesdon* featured in a round-up of the UK's most beautiful stately homes on *Microsoft Start*. There was also a 4-page feature in the September issue of *Country Life* about the introduction of lifts in country houses.

A localised PR campaign supported the opening of *The Bow* pub in Waddesdon in October, with local media outreach resulting in coverage across *Oxford Mail*, *Bucks Herald*, *Bicester Advertiser*, *Bucks Free Press*, *Bicester Advertiser*, *This is Oxfordshire* and *Round and About Magazine*.



Photo shoots & filming

In May, Waddesdon hosted *Arcadia* magazine, a luxury travel, style and culture magazine with a global circulation of 540,000, for an editorial fashion shoot in the grounds, published in the July issue. *MojeH*, a glossy Middle East publication with a circulation of 25,000 across G.C.C. Emirates airlines, lounges and private jet lounges shot a cover and fashion shoot at the Aviary and in the Grounds in July.

Social media influencers

Optimisation of Instagram influencers to raise profile and build audiences, generated 23 visits during May-October, with the resulting content reaching a combined audience of over 564,000. It generated almost 35,000 Reel plays, and around 13,000 likes.

For Music at the Manor, a bespoke influencer campaign, created in partnership with a social media marketing agency, generated 30 influencer visits and a total follower count of over 1,000,000, with more than 100 Instagram story mentions.

Partnerships

Amongst the many productive collaborations throughout the year were partnerships with Bicester Village, Milk Cars (a Chinese chauffeur business), *Jewish Chronicle* and *The Burlington* (reader events), *National History Museum Tring*, *Whipsnade Zoo* and *Aylesbury Waterside Theatre*.



Pub 'reborn' and has a fresh name

Historic pub now back in business

Charlotte Gates

After a year of being closed, the historic pub has reopened with a new name and a fresh look. The pub, which was founded in 1850, has been owned by the same family for over 150 years. The new name is 'The Old Man' and the pub has been completely refurbished. The new look includes a new bar, new seating, and new decor. The pub is now open from 11am to 11pm, seven days a week. The new name is a nod to the pub's long history and its location in the heart of the village. The pub is a popular meeting place for the local community and is a great place to enjoy a drink and a chat. The new look is a testament to the pub's enduring popularity and the care and attention given to its restoration.

Waddesdon Manor

Music at the Manor

4 LIVE outdoor music events this July at the magnificent Waddesdon Manor.

MUSIC AT THE MANOR

11TH - 14TH JULY 2024

waddesdon.org.uk

Book now

355 likes, 80 comments, 31 shares

Going out Staying in

Art

Waddesdon Manor, nr Aylesbury, to 27 October

The 17th-century religious artist Guercino was such a fervent Catholic that when asked to visit the court of Charles I he refused to go near that "heretic" land, Protestant Britain. Here his monumental style, calculated to awe the congregation in vast baroque churches, is explored, including his King David.

Last Guercino masterpiece to go on display in Britain 200 years after it vanished

The 17th-century religious artist Guercino was such a fervent Catholic that when asked to visit the court of Charles I he refused to go near that "heretic" land, Protestant Britain. Here his monumental style, calculated to awe the congregation in vast baroque churches, is explored, including his King David.



How to see the best Christmas light shows around Britain

T. Winker Light Trail, Waddesdon Manor, Buckinghamshire

Waddesdon Manor is a beautiful place to see the best Christmas light shows around Britain. The light trail is a wonderful display of light and color, and it is a great way to enjoy the festive season. The light trail is a wonderful display of light and color, and it is a great way to enjoy the festive season. The light trail is a wonderful display of light and color, and it is a great way to enjoy the festive season.

Bicester Advertiser

Celebrity photographer opens conservation hub

The Bicester Advertiser has reported that a celebrity photographer has opened a conservation hub. The hub is a wonderful place to see the best Christmas light shows around Britain. The hub is a wonderful place to see the best Christmas light shows around Britain. The hub is a wonderful place to see the best Christmas light shows around Britain.

SPECTATOR

The Spectator magazine has featured a wonderful article about the best Christmas light shows around Britain. The article is a wonderful display of light and color, and it is a great way to enjoy the festive season. The article is a wonderful display of light and color, and it is a great way to enjoy the festive season.

Artists & Illustrators

Holiday Inspiration

WPN! £1000

Easter 2024 Influencer Campaign

Key deliverables - audience engagement

24k, 3.8k, 286

Instagram post showing a large, ornate building with a sign that says '1790-2024'.

Instagram post showing a large, ornate building with a sign that says '1790-2024'.

Instagram post showing a large, ornate building with a sign that says '1790-2024'.

PRINT

Although marketing focus continued primarily on digital campaigns, with their inherent flexibility, targeting and tracking, some print was also created to target visitors, particularly those within a one and a half hour's drive of Waddesdon. Leaflets were produced for Music at The Manor, Highlights for Summer and Autumn, Christmas at Waddesdon as well as a new generic leaflet in line with the brand campaign. Use of QR and discount codes allowed these campaigns to be tracked more successfully than in the past.



WADDESDON

Visit Waddesdon
What's on 2024
A Rothschild House & Gardens

Exhibitions, tours & events

Queens at Waddesdon, King David & the Wise Women
20 Mar - 27 Oct, Wed - Sun
Over 150 years since they were painted, five paintings by renowned Baroque painter Guercino are displayed together for the first time.

Flights of Fancy
22 May - 27 Oct, Wed - Sun
A collection of birds at Waddesdon. Discover the work of Louis-Denis Almond, a painter at the Rothschild Game portland manufactory, and the legacy of birds today in the Aviary.

Healing Cakes
Summer 2024
Visit this creative art installation in the form of a giant, 12 metre tall wedding cake created by celebrated artist Joana Vasconcelos.

Music at the Manor
11-14 Jul, The Sun
Celebrate the night away at Waddesdon this summer with four concerts. Put on your dancing shoes and grab your friends for a night of music.

Chilli Fest
30 Aug - 1 Sept, Fri - Sun
Turn up the heat at our annual Chilli Festival taking place in the Manor grounds and against the backdrop of the North Front of the Manor.

Christmas at Waddesdon
Fri 15 Nov - Sun 5 Jan
Enjoy the magic of Christmas. Beauty this year as the famous Fairytale comes to life in light and art in the Manor.

Waddesdon Manor, Near Aylesbury
Buckinghamshire HP18 0LN
www.waddesdon.org.uk

National Trust

To find out more about our events and prices please visit
waddesdon.org.uk

CHRISTMAS
AT WADDESDON
15 NOV - 5 JAN

BOOK NOW
Waddesdon.org.uk

WADDESDON

What's On 2024 - Autumn Highlights

Queens at Waddesdon
Until 20 Oct, Wed - Sun

Flights of Fancy
Until 27 Oct, Wed - Sun

Queasy Critters Zoolab
18, 20, 26 & 27 Oct

Spooky Afternoon Tea
26 & 27 Oct

A Celebration of Bordeaux
Sat 14 Sept

Festive Feast
29 Nov, 6, 14 & 20 Dec

Waddesdon Manor, Near Aylesbury
Buckinghamshire HP18 0LN
www.waddesdon.org.uk

National Trust

To find out more about our events and prices please visit
waddesdon.org.uk



Explore a French chateau

Waddesdon, a French Renaissance-style chateau, was built in the 1870s by Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild to entertain the fashionable world and to house his impressive art collection. Explore the grand interiors displaying old masters including Gainsborough, Reynolds and Boucher alongside exquisite 18th-century decorative art.

Stroll around beautiful grounds

Take time out to explore the grounds which feature some of England's finest formal gardens including a Parterre with colourful carpet beds, 30 birds and an ornate Rococo Aviary; an important conservation centre for endangered exotic birds.



Discover amazing art

Today Waddesdon is a destination for art lovers with its world-class art collection, which continues to be added to by the family. From the 17th-century Old Dutch School to the House art and contemp Lucian Freud.

Taste vintage wines

With connections to the great Rothschild vineyards in Bordeaux, wine is a key feature of a visit to Waddesdon.

Visit Information

Open February - March
Grounds only (includes Gardens, Aviary, woodland playground, shop, restaurant and Stables gallery and cafe)

March - October Wed to Sun & Bank holidays
Grounds: 10am-5pm (last admission 4pm)
House: 11am-4pm (last admission 3.30pm)

Christmas (Nov - Jan)
For dates and prices see website.

Admission Prices
For up-to-date admission prices see website for details. Free to National Trust, Art Fund and Historic Houses members. NHS members get free admission to the grounds only.

Exhibitions and Events
We have a range of exhibitions and events for all the family throughout the year. See website for information. To keep up-to-date with the latest information, news and offers, sign up to our newsletter at waddesdon.org.uk

Eating and drinking
There are variety of food options to choose from. Breakfast, lunch and afternoon tea using Waddesdon and local produce, are available daily, advance booking is advised.

Shopping
Find fine wines, great gifts and unique pieces inspired by Waddesdon's collection and grounds.

Access
For full accessibility details please visit our website for a downloadable guide.

Dogs
Well-behaved dogs on short leads are welcome in most outdoor areas.

Group bookings
Special rates apply to groups of 15 or more. See website for more details or to reserve email groups@waddesdon.org.uk or call 01295 802000

How to find us
Waddesdon Manor, Near Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP18 0LN
01295 802000
Waddesdon.org.uk

There is free car parking onsite and a shuttle bus regularly runs from the Welcome Pavilion.

Waddesdon Manor
Waddesdon Manor, HP18 0LN
Waddesdon Manor

© Waddesdon Manor 2024
All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced without the prior written permission of Waddesdon Manor.

Explore our French chateau
Discover our amazing art
Stroll around our beautiful grounds
Taste our vintage wines

WADDESDON
National Trust

Waddesdon

(only an hour from London or Oxford)



HIGHLIGHTS 2025

JANUARY Winter Walks
Grounds open at weekends, free entry for all

FEBRUARY Spring Tours
Experience nature at its best with Spring Bubble Tours at Eythrope and Waddesdon

MARCH The Manor Re-opens
Features a new exhibition (Discovering Jewish Country Houses: Photographs by Helene Dinet)

APRIL Easter Adventures
Enjoy the popular National Trust Easter trail with a treat at the end

MAY Art in Nature
A celebration of our unique Grounds with leading land and nature-based artists

JUNE Garden Party at The Manor
Enjoy a summer weekend of art, performance, music and delicious food

Visit our website for details and to book tickets
waddesdon.org.uk/whats-on

DIGITAL & WEBSITE

Continuing concentration on digital marketing saw a wide range of content shared across all social channels, using both images and film, to create engaging results. Digital access to the Collections remained an essential channel for production and content.

Regular e-campaigns to over 99,000 subscribers drove over 2 million people to the website. More paid social media marketing campaigns on Meta (Facebook/Instagram) increased reach, with our Chilli Fest advertisements reaching 628,200 accounts and the Music at the Manor advertisements reaching 237,300 accounts respectively. Facebook continued to be our most popular social media platform (57,800 followers), reaching over 2.1 million, up 43% on the previous year, whilst our Instagram profile (50,200 followers). Greater reach resulted in a 116% increase in clicks through to the website.

The best performing paid posts during this period/over the summer were for Music at The Manor (65,743 page engagements), Christmas at Waddesdon Trailer (47,726) and the brand campaign (24,252), whilst the best performing organic posts were the carpet bedding in memory of the late Lord Rothschild (1,359 interactions), Christmas trailer (836) and Eythrope Autumn (824).

For exhibitions, highlights were the films produced for *Flights of Fancy* exhibition and a series of popular bird themed posts. The *Flights of Fancy* trailer ran across Instagram and Facebook with a reach of over 5,000 people, 144 engagements and 314 minutes of watch time. #SpottedatWaddesdon and #BirdoftheMonth ran once a month on

Facebook and Instagram. The *Flights of Fancy* exhibition opening post reached 8,200 people across Facebook and Instagram, whilst the 3D bird installation on Facebook One was one of the most popular posts, reaching 29,839 people and an engagement of 240.

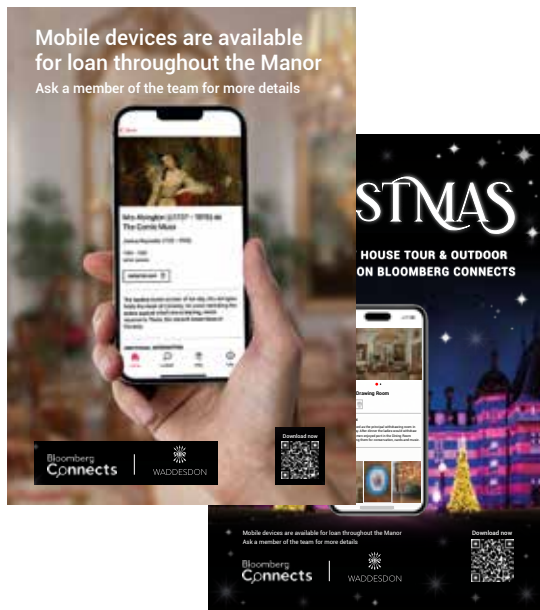
The introduction of Collections-based content proved popular on TikTok: a 'hidden treasures' post had 53,400 views, 5,461 engagement and 954 saves. Other posts included *A Rothschild Treasury*, *18th Century Art and Spend the Morning with the Aviary Keeper*. X (formerly Twitter) also continued to host Collections content, either on the main Waddesdon account, or through the specific Waddesdon Curators feed, which now has 1,367 followers. House, Gardens, and exhibition content performed well on our Pinterest account.

Some 177,767 page views of the Collections, House, Grounds and Gardens content were accessed. Most popular digital tours were Contemporary Sculpture, Eythrope Walled Garden and Behind the Scenes were the most popular.

Volumes of Ferdinand's writings, catalogues and personal documents, including the Waddesdon Visitors' Book, were published online using ISSUU page-turning software, accompanied by a short introduction about the *Jewish Country Houses* project. Technical and editorial work continued to develop a more bespoke platform to host Digital Ferdinand, funded by grants from Jewish Country House, Rothschild Foundation and AHRC.

Our Bloomberg Connects app guide, offering specific object information and tours for download on or off site, expanded in scope, with the addition of special exhibitions (*Guercino* and *Flights of Fancy*), content tours and a bespoke audio tour, enhancing accessibility. Onsite signage and QR codes helped to raise awareness of the app, and visitors were able to borrow mobile devices if needed. Digital and Collections Project Manager, Heather Dawson-Mains worked closely with the Visitor Services, Learning and Marketing teams to encourage downloads and further improve the guide. The on-line house guide was downloaded over 12,000 times and had over 3,000 unique users. With 625 participating cultural institutions, the app's user base grew to 3.9 million.

The Smartify platform remained active with dedicated tours for the Treasury, Reynolds and the outdoor sculpture and a new audio tour added to complement the Bloomberg offering.



Films on Waddesdon's YouTube channel hosted 105,845 views and were watched for 3,100 hours. Amongst the most popular films were *The Rothschild Family and Waddesdon* with 31,228 views and *The Gardens at Waddesdon Manor* with 13,553 views.

There was a 10% increase in main website sessions, with *What's One/Christmas*, *Welcome to Waddesdon* and *Chilli Fest* the most popular webpages. The *Flights of Fancy* exhibition achieved 8,000 sessions and *Guercino* 3,900.

User-reviews contributions continued to grow on Facebook, TripAdvisor and Google, totalling 8,251 reviews and maintaining our 4.6 out of 5 stars Google rating.

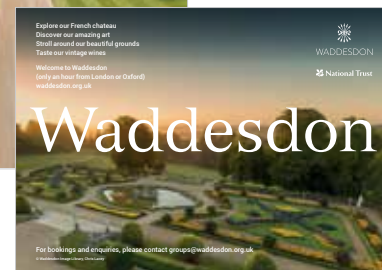
'We visited Blenheim Palace... and to me this house out beats it from the friendly staff at ticket office, on the shuttle bus, to staff inside... the house was amazing, it was as though the people had just gone out and we entered plenty of history. I really enjoyed it'

TripAdvisor review

GROUPS & TRAVEL TRADE

Over the summer the Marketing team attended six travel trade events, a mix of domestic and international exhibitions and sales missions. These events targeted tour and coach operators and group travel organisers, offering the opportunity to engage with existing customers and make new contacts.

In September, a group of UK inbound tour operators paid a familiarisation visit, organised in conjunction with Bicester Village, one of several organised in conjunction with them.



How to find us

Waddesdon Manor is just off the A41 between Banbury and Abingdon in Buckinghamshire. For Sat Nav use the postcode **MK18 2LQ**. The main visitor entrance is via the Old Gate.

Waddesdon Manor, 100 Marlborough Road, Banbury, Oxfordshire MK18 2LQ. 01295 252514. waddesdon.org.uk

Waddesdon

Explore our French chateau. Discover our amazing art. Stroll around our beautiful grounds. Taste our vintage wines. Only access from London or Oxford.

Groups Guide 2025

Waddesdon

Explore our French chateau. Discover our amazing art. Stroll around our beautiful grounds. Taste our vintage wines. Only access from London or Oxford.

Groups Guide 2025

Welcome to Waddesdon

Escape to the country parks and spend a perfect day out at Waddesdon. Refreshed country house.

Waddesdon Manor is a French Renaissance style chateau in the heart of Buckinghamshire. It is a 2000 year estate, was built in the 1870s by Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild and has been restored and extended by the 5th Baron de Rothschild. It is a collection of English gardens, Dutch still life and French decorative art are arranged in the world of their maker with the decorative elements arranged in a unique way.

The gardens at Waddesdon are an exceptional example of 19th century horticulture, including formal gardens, trees and walks, water features, a pleasure house, a formal lake, a large collection of Chinese, Latin American, and Japanese plants, and a variety of plants to see and walk through the grounds, there is an option of a group, depending on Waddesdon Village, you can hire The Blue Arrow bus. The Blue pub.

Groups Information

Our group rates apply to groups of 15 or more. As a National Trust property entry to the grounds and chateau is included as part of National Trust membership (not applicable to members of other trusts).

2025 Pricing Field and 2 Mile 2025	
Group Adult Daytime Admission	£11.50
Group Adult Evening & Weekend Admission	£22.50
Group Child/Student Admission	£7.50
Group Children & Young Adults Admission	£11.45
Group Family	£22.50

Children free. Double admission and 2100 refreshment voucher for the driver at least 16 years old. There is a 30 min drop-off option available.

To guarantee your group rate of entry must be booked in advance. You must on the day, pay the full amount of your National Trust membership.

Opening Information

Season: March - September, opening guidelines for groups of 15 or more.

Hours: 10am - 5pm.

Notes: To guarantee your group rate of entry must be booked in advance. You must on the day, pay the full amount of your National Trust membership.

Plan your visit

Waddesdon Manor is located in Buckinghamshire, only an hour from London and Oxford. There is parking for private cars and a large coach park.

Open: April to September (open 10am to 5pm).

Open: March and April (open 10am to 5pm).

Open: From the start of the Manor (open 10am to 5pm).

Open: Lunch at the Garden Café or Food for thought.

Open: From the garden.

Accessibility

We are committed to providing an accessible experience for all to ensure that everyone can enjoy us with us. Accompanying Guide service free entry.

We are not accessible to your car. For full accessibility information visit waddesdon.org.uk.

We are not accessible to your car. For full accessibility information visit waddesdon.org.uk.

Arriving by coach

Waddesdon Manor is a National Trust property. We are not accessible to your car. For full accessibility information visit waddesdon.org.uk.

Dining options

Lunch

Option 1 - Waddesdon Picnic Lunch
A choice of picnic options in the garden.
£12.50 per person.

Option 2 - Waddesdon Light Lunch
Choice of light lunch in the Garden Café.
£12.50 per person.

Option 3 - Waddesdon Set Lunch
Waddesdon Set Lunch (3 courses)
£22.50 per person.
£22.50 per person.
£22.50 per person.

Evening Tea

Evening Tea in the Garden Café (3 courses)
£12.50 per person.

Afternoon Tea

Afternoon Tea in the Garden Café (3 courses)
£12.50 per person.

Christmas Tea

Christmas Tea in the Garden Café (3 courses)
£12.50 per person.

Waddesdon

Wine Experiences at Waddesdon

The wine cellar at Waddesdon Manor is a historical collection of fine wine bottles, the most extensive collection of Chateau de Waddesdon, after the chateau of Versailles. It is a collection of fine wine bottles, the most extensive collection of Chateau de Waddesdon, after the chateau of Versailles. It is a collection of fine wine bottles, the most extensive collection of Chateau de Waddesdon, after the chateau of Versailles.

Wine Experiences at Waddesdon

The wine cellar at Waddesdon Manor is a historical collection of fine wine bottles, the most extensive collection of Chateau de Waddesdon, after the chateau of Versailles. It is a collection of fine wine bottles, the most extensive collection of Chateau de Waddesdon, after the chateau of Versailles.

Christmas at Waddesdon

The Manor and grounds come alive for Christmas with new displays and decorations to inspire and delight your Christmas at Waddesdon 2024 on 20th Dec to 4 Jan 2025. See our website for more information.

Highlights of Christmas at Waddesdon include:

- Christmas in the House (9.30am - 5pm)
- Light Show
- Christmas Lunch at the Five Arrows (subject to availability)

The Five Arrows

The Five Arrows, located at the gates of Waddesdon Manor is a 16th century Tudor house with 14 rooms, a garden and a tower. It is a 16th century Tudor house with 14 rooms, a garden and a tower. It is a 16th century Tudor house with 14 rooms, a garden and a tower.

How to book

Our group rates apply to groups of 15 or more. If applicable, each member of your group must arrive and be ready to enter the grounds of the site at the start of the day. All group bookings must be confirmed and paid for in full at least 14 days in advance with our group team.

To guarantee your group rate of entry must be booked in advance. You must on the day, pay the full amount of your National Trust membership.

Email: groups@waddesdon.org.uk Phone: 01295 252514

STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

Staff

Following the departure of Ben Avigdor, Special Advisor at Waddesdon since 2021, the Rothschild Foundation announced the appointment in October of Sir Roger Wright CBE as CEO of the Rothschild Foundation.

In Security we said farewell to two senior members of the team: Donna Allen after 10 years at Waddesdon and Dawn Kinglsey after 19 years.

Gemma Coton, formerly a FutureTalent@Waddesdon intern in the 2018 cohort, left her position as Visitor Operations Manager for a position in local government.

Sarah Armond was appointed as Head of Marketing and Ulrika Ericson was appointed Travel Trade Lead, both key roles for the business. Sarah joined us from Bletchley Park and V&A. Ulrika came to us from Blenheim Palace and Experience Oxfordshire on a consultancy basis to work alongside partners TravelBeat tasked with growing the travel trade sector.

Charlotte Tarrant settled in well as a new full time Conservation Assistant, and Steward Eve Roberts rose to the challenge of looking after the *Wedding Cake*. George McDonald and Ellen Gilmour joined the Stewards team in mid-November, replacing Sarah Tucker and Laura Holbrook.

In October we welcome Bonnie Bennett back to the Manor as EA to Pippa Shirley, Katie Hicks also returned following her maternity leave, re-joining

the department in late November. Heather Dawson-Mains' maternity leave began in June, with Richard Nicolls covering her position as Digital and Collections Project Manager. Sadly, Chris Stoker left us in August to return to teaching, and we also said farewell to Louise Joly, following her short stint as Image Library Coordinator.

Pippa Shirley continued to serve on the Reviewing Committee for the Export of Works of Art. Michael Shrive was appointed Events Secretary of the Furniture History Society, and Mia Jackson elected joint Chair of the French Porcelain Society.

In September, Will Evans joined as Collections department's next Oxford Intern, working on a range of projects including transcribing documents for the Autographs exhibition, supporting Christmas interpretation and compiling object files.

The Gardens team said farewell to retiree Helen Bass. Her role was filled by Antonio Corben. Eythrope welcomed back Jonathan Shefford after an absence of 13 years.

The second cohort in the Waddesdon Pathway scheme for young people joined the Rothschild Foundation in September, with seven new students (chosen from 183 applications) embarking on their internship in Heritage Operations, Collection and Education, Wine, Sustainability, Aviary, Marketing and Events and Conservation at Waddesdon. Grant funded by the Rothschild Foundation and supported by Cultural Associates Oxford, Waddesdon.





Pathway aims to create an inclusive training programme for the development of careers in the management of museums, historic houses and heritage attractions. Pathways Intern Will Oliver secured full-time employment at Marwell Zoo following completion of his year at the Aviary in August. A series of workshops was held for staff on a wide range of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) topics including neurodiversity, sexuality and gender, anti-racism, disability awareness and British Sign Language. Heads of Departments and Managers undertook leadership training under the Future, Engage, Deliver model. An EDI Staff and Volunteers Committee was established and a Steering Group convened, both to meet bi-monthly. The staff and volunteers EDI survey was relaunched with a revised scope in November, to include feedback on events, training and support.

The Foundation continued its support of a two-year Community Engagement post, designed to explore and develop new audiences and links with hard-to-reach communities. Successful engagement with older audiences was established through organisations such as the local Wednesday Club, a feasibility study for a community bus project, neurodiversity support and work on British Sign Language tours.

Staff benefited from a total of 240 hours of individual counselling hours through the CareCoins scheme. Support was also provided through the Headspace mindfulness app, and flu jabs offered for both staff and volunteers. Eight members of staff were trained as mental health first aiders.

Volunteers

Between March 2024 and February 2025, volunteers made a huge impact at Waddesdon, contributing an incredible 44,189.5 hours across a wide range of roles and departments. House Hosts led the way, accounting for 37% of all volunteer

time, followed by Waddesdon's Gardens Volunteers (13%) and Grounds Hosts (11%).

Volunteer recruitment stayed strong throughout the year. We welcomed 69 new regular volunteers, thanks to increased visibility on the National Trust website, targeted social media campaigns, and successful Volunteer Open Days. These new team members joined departments like Marketing, F&B, Visitor Experience, Retail, and Eythrope. We also introduced exciting new roles in the Conservation Hub and with the Gardens Team, including seasonal gardening and visitor engagement.

We continued to grow our flexible and one-off volunteering opportunities. Highlights included a Community Litter Pick that brought together volunteers and local residents (with a follow-up planned for May 2025), family volunteering sessions, corporate volunteering days, and Duke of Edinburgh placements for young people aged 14–17.

Celebrating our volunteers remained a top priority. In June 2024, we honoured 45 volunteers at the Long Service Awards, including two who reached 20 years of service. This year saw a series of community events—from coffee mornings and house visits to trips to Spencer House and the annual Eythrope picnic. Based on volunteer feedback, we also introduced guest speakers at our six-weekly coffee mornings in 2025.

Looking ahead, we're planning for the future. We're exploring a new Volunteer Management System that meets GDPR and National Trust standards, and we've started collecting data on how far volunteers travel to help shape our sustainability plans. Updates to our travel expense policy are also in the works, with full rollout expected by 2027. This past year has been one of growth, innovation, and deeper community connection—highlighting just how vital volunteers are to Waddesdon's mission around Community, Sustainability, and the Arts.

Commercial Enterprise

All profits help care for Waddesdon Manor and, through the Rothschild Foundation, fund work in the arts, local communities and the environment





OOH LA LA!

A single trading entity since the re-integration of Waddesdon Events Ltd in December 2023, Rothschild Waddesdon Ltd, encompassing Catering, Retail, Wine, major Public Events, Private Events, Weddings and the Five Arrows Hotel, saw some positive signs of growth, with an excellent start to the year for weddings at the hotel in particular. A series of wine dinners, themed for Italy (tying in with the *Guercino* exhibition), France and Portugal (for *Wedding Cake*) was well received, and a bespoke product line by designer Madeleine Floyd inspired by *Flights of Fancy* was introduced in the shop. Following the merger of Waddesdon Wines Ltd with Goedhuis to form a new wine company,



À LA MODE

Goedhuis Waddesdon Ltd, Waddesdon on-line wine sales were re-introduced. A high point of the autumn for RWL was the opening of The Bow pub in the village on 5 October, now owned by the Rothschild Foundation and managed alongside the Five Arrows Hotel.

Christmas is another high point for the Trading Company which this year included a large chalet and food outlet in the Christmas Fair. The Festive Afternoon Tea offering in the Manor Restaurant also proved extremely popular, as did Christmas events at the Five Arrows and The Bow.



COMMITTEES

Waddesdon Management Committee

Paul Cook

(Assistant Director Operations,
London and SE Region,
National Trust)
(from October 2024)

Graham Deans

(Assistant Director Operations,
London and SE Region,
National Trust)
(to October 2024)

Suzie Hanson

(Head of Gardens)

Sophie Hedley

(Director of Marketing
& Communications)

Victoria Lovatt-Smith

(Director of People)

Rosalind Mearns

(General Manager)

Pippa Shirley

(Director of Waddesdon)

Dave Silvester

(Chief Financial Officer)

Sir Roger Wright CBE

(Chief Executive)

(from October 2024)

Academic Committee

Alastair Laing

(to June 2024)

Christopher Rowell

Dame Rosalind Savill DBE

FSA FBA

(to December 2024)

Pippa Shirley

Professor Deborah Swallow CBE

Peter Troughton CVO CBE

Sir Roger Wright CBE

(from October 2024)

Gardens Committee

Beth Rothschild

Jinny Blom

Mike Calnan

(former Head of Gardens, NT)

Suzie Hanson

Peter Inskip

Pippa Shirley

Sir Roger Wright CBE

(from October 2024)

SUBSIDIARIES (Directors)

RWL (Rothschild Waddesdon Ltd) Board

Victoria Lovatt-Smith

Dave Silvester

Pippa Shirley

Sir Roger Wright CBE

(from January 2025)

STAFF LIST 1 March 2024 to 29 February 2025

First Name	Last Name	Department			
Roger	Wright	CEO Foundation	Louise	Joly	Collections
Pippa	Shirley	Director of Waddesdon	Vicky	Wilson	Collections (Spencer House)
Dave	Silvester	Chief Financial Officer	Amy	Coe	Conservation
Victoria	Lovatt-Morris	Director of People	Victoria	Geddes	Conservation
Ellie	Stout	Director of Grants	Ellen	Gilmour	COnservation
Sophie	Headley	Director of Marketing & Communications	George	McDonald	Conservation
Dominic	Stead	Director of Property	Eve	Roberts	Conservation
Holly	Saunders	Director of Hospitality	Charlotte	Tarrant	Conservation
Rosalind	Mearns	General Manager	Sarah	Tucker	Conservation
Scott	Evry	Accounts	Laura	Holbrooke	Conservation
Barry	Dunbar	Accounts	Andrea	Routledge	Conservation
Kayleigh	Mott	Accounts	Matthew	Waters	Conservation
Hassan	Mukhtar	Accounts	Jane	Finch	Conservation
Samantha	Jarvis	Accounts	Christopher	Campbell-Kelly	EA to CEO of the Rothschild Foundation
Susan	Rapley	Accounts	Katie	Bullenthorpe	EA to Transport & Security
Debbie	Payne	Accounts	Sarah	Bateman	EA to Gardens/Aviary
Karen	Liddle	Accounts	Bonnie	Bennett	EA to Director of Waddesdon
Kay	Richards	Accounts	Jacquie	Horrocks	EA to Collections
Laura	Noble	Archives & Records	Sarah	Dewberry	Education
Ellen	Higgs	Archives & Records	Sophie	Wolstencroft	Education
Catherine	Taylor	Archives & Records	Geraldine	Turner	Education
Gavin	Harrison	Aviary	Suzie	Hanson	Eythrope/Gardens
Llyr	Davies	Aviary	Daniel	Jones	Eythrope
Ian	Edmans	Aviary	Sophie	Dixon	Eythrope
Anna	Szilagy	Collections	Thomas	Baird	Eythrope
Heather	Dawson-Mains	Collections	David	Meads	Eythrope
Richard	Nicholls	Collections	Barry	Clarke	Eythrope
Michael	Shrive	Collections	Paul	Callingham	Eythrope
Mia	Jackson	Collections	Laura	Quinlan	Eythrope
Katie	Hicks	Collections	Tom	Tyler	Facilities
Juliet	Carey	Collections	Alan	Bates	Facilities
Colette	Warbrick	Collections	Adam	Cook	Facilities
Christopher	Stoker	Collections	Nicholas	Featherstone	Facilities
			Stuart	Howard	Facilities

WADDESDON MANOR

Gary	Hatchman	Facilities	Hayley	Featherstone	HR
John	Iapino	Facilities	Emilia	Stanton	HR
Ian	Smith	Facilities	Sheena	Cox	HR
Martin	Hill	Gardens	Callum	O'Connell	IT
Nicola	Claiden	Gardens	Jesse	Duncan	IT
Antonio	Corben	Gardens	Andrew	Jackson	IT
Isabella	Mooney	Gardens	Tony	Conway	IT
Hannah	Lucas	Gardens	Sarah	Armond	Marketing
Jennifer	Thompson	Gardens	Kitty	McLoughlin	Marketing
Ian	White	Gardens	Louella	Teasdale	Marketing
James	Thomson	Gardens	Lydia	Brennan	Marketing
Simon	Lewis	Gardens	Megan	Long	Marketing
Andrew	Batten	Gardens	Imogen	Plumridge	Marketing
Peter	Thorp	Gardens	Regan	Murphy	Marketing
Chloe	Roberts	Gardens	Daisy	Austin	Property Management
Helen	Bass	Gardens	Terry	Allen	Property Management
Karen	Nicoll	Grants	Billy	Powell	Property Management
Natalie	Richards	Grants	Jake	Lester	Property Management
Dave	Terrace	Grants	Luke	Sasso	Property Management
Monique	Rickets	Grants	Michelle	Foreman	Property Management
Rowena	Mitchell	Grants	Salvatore	Palombo	Property Management
Jamie	Perry	Grants	Ian	Blake	Property Management
Leona	Forsyth	Grants	Keith	Stallwood	Property Management
Penny	Makwana	Marketing	Sandy	Henderson	Property Management
Eloize	Ridgeway	Health & Safety	Ieuan	Evans	Property Management
Arminda	Andrade	Housekeeping	Charyss	Hedgecock	Public Events
Charlotte	Ayres	Housekeeping	Marie	Stewart	Public Events
Elaine	Fallon	Housekeeping	Angus	Smith	RWL/Bow
Samantha	Duffett	Housekeeping	Anthony	Skeats	RWL/Bow
Sally	Parker	Housekeeping	Jack	Cannon	RWL/Bow
Lauren	Quinn	Housekeeping	Ellie	Walsh	RWL/Bow
Pauline	Turnbull	Housekeeping	James	Boothaway	RWL/Catering
Julie	Sandle	Housekeeping	Craig	Clark	RWL/Catering
Deborah	Tearle	Housekeeping	Georgina	Hardy	RWL/Catering
Michelle	Knight	Housekeeping	Ibrahim	Oguirhil	RWL/Catering
Julie	Quinn	Housekeeping	James	Whelpton	RWL/Catering
Katie	Smith	HR	Molly	Saunders	RWL/Catering

Tom	Campbell	RWL/Catering	Luke	Durrant	Visitor Experience
Amie	Sadler	RWL/Catering	Kelvin	Guest	Visitor Experience
Sally	Skinner	RWL/Catering	Stephen	Herbert	Visitor Experience
Ben	Thurkettle	RWL/Catering	Carol	Hylands	Visitor Experience
Elinor	Lewis	RWL/Catering	Susan	Jones	Visitor Experience
Charlotte	Buton	RWL Catering Apprentice	Paul	Molloy	Visitor Experience
Holly	Webster	RWL Catering Apprentice	James	Kellett	Visitor Experience
Stewart	Davies	RWL Catering & Retail	Kyle	Nicoll	Visitor Experience
David	Barrios Castillo	RWL/FAH	Jamsine	O'Reilly	Visitor Experience
Sandra	Bullivant	RWL/FAH	Hannah	Oxley	Visitor Experience
Matthew	Butcher	RWL/FAH	Derek	Washington	Visitor Experience
Konstantin	Shamaro	RWL/FAH	Peter	Greenway	Visitor Experience
Julie	Chalmers	RWL/FAH	Luke	Shaw	Visitor Experience
Alastair	Dudley	RWL/FAH	William	Smith	Visitor Experience
Michele	Foster	RWL/FAH	Rachel	Wilkins	Visitor Experience
Kate	Jarvis	RWL/FAH	John	Wilson	Visitor Experience
Isaac	Nayar	RWL/FAH	Julie	Witcher	Visitor Experience
Jamie	Brooke	RWL/FAH	Gemma	Coton	Visitor Experience
Ben	Rosco	RWL/FAH	Francesca	Page-Smith	Visitor Experience
Adam	Parsons	RWL/FAH	Joel	Fox	Visitor Experience
Karl	Tearle	RWL/FAH	Megan	Fletcher	Volunteering
Margaret	Wright	RWL/FAH	Janneke	Korbee	Volunteering
Courtney	Scott	RWL/FAH	Bryony	Smallman	Pathways Intern 2023/2024
Sophie	Harris	RWL/Private Events	Emily	Belcher	Pathways Intern 2023/2024
Claire	Holland	RWL/Private Events	Libby	Blissett	Pathways Intern 2023/2024
Vishali	Nareshkumar	RWL/Private Events	Lily	Salter	Pathways Intern 2023/2024
Nicola	Mertens	RWL/Retail	Lorna	Winfield	Pathways Intern 2023/2024
Nerys	Cheesebrough	RWL/Retail	William	Oliver	Pathways Intern 2023/2024
Oliver	Waddon	RWL/Retail	Alexis	Jones	Pathways Intern 2024/2025
Donna	Allen	Security	Emily	Bennett	Pathways Intern 2024/2025
Dawn	Kingsley	Security	Gracie	Pepper	Pathways Intern 2024/2025
Paul	Worsley	Security & Transport	Jessica	Harris	Pathways Intern 2024/2025
Chris	Leach	Sustainability	Mark	Ritson	Pathways Intern 2024/2025
Dickon	Leigh-Wood	Sustainability	Scarlett	Dodd	Pathways Intern 2024/2025
Alison	Bates	Visitor Experience	Tamara	Korol	Pathways Intern 2024/2025
Tamsyn	Rangel	Visitor Experience			
Dave	Dunning	Visitor Experience			





GLORIOSA
DICTA SVNT
DE TE CIVITAS
DEL

PSALM. 86

