

Afternoon Visit to Columbine Hall, Stowupland

Tuesday 24 June 2025, 2.30 pm.



The tour will start at 2.30 pm and will last for 2 - 2.5 hours.

The mediaeval manor house rises straight from a spectacular moat. It sits in an acre of formal gardens inside the moat (designed by Chelsea Gold Medal Winner George Carter). Another 28 acres of orchards, kitchen garden, woods, parkland and bog gardens are outside the moat.

Hew Stevenson and his late wife Leslie Geddes-Brown bought the manor house in 1993, when it had been empty for seven years and then, along with Melvyn Smith, they transformed the interior. They have filled the house with an eclectic collection including ancestral portraits and an estate map of 1741.



Columbine Hall has appeared in many articles and books. Pevsner's *Guide to West Suffolk* describes it as 'enchanted'. Both Leslie and Hew worked in magazines and newspapers and so Columbine Hall has had its share of the limelight. The interiors have been in the *World of Interiors*, *Country Life* and the *Perfect English House Book* by Ros Byam Shaw.

The gardens have featured in *Country Living*, *Gardens Illustrated*, *The English Garden* and *The Kitchen Garden*. They also appear in Leslie's books: *The Walled Garden* and the *Water Garden*.

Tea and cakes are included in the price.

BOOKING FORM

Afternoon Visit to Columbine Hall, Gipping Road, Stowupland, Stowmarket, IP14 4AT

Tuesday 24 June 2025, 2.30 p.m.

Name(s)

Telephone Mobile

Email.....

Emergency Contact Number

I require places at £22 each.

The price includes entry to the house, gardens and afternoon refreshments. This is a self-drive visit, so please consider car-sharing. Details including location and directions will be given after booking.

Please return your booking form and cheque* to: **Sara Muldoon, 3A The Entry, Diss, IP22 4NT, by Monday 26 May.**

*Alternatively, you can pay by BACS to: **The Arts Society Diss.**

Sort Code: 40-19-18. Account Number: 81080237. Please give your surname as a reference. Please send the booking form to the address above, posted or scanned and emailed to: **sara.muldoon@icloud.com**. For further information: 01379 651259.

Your booking is not secure until the form is received and payment made. Places are limited to 30. **Final date for booking: Monday 26 May.** If you wish to cancel after this date, a refund may only be given in exceptional circumstances. In the event of the visit being cancelled by us, your payment will be refunded.

Insurance disclaimer:

Arts Society Diss cannot be held responsible for any personal accident, loss, damage or theft of members' personal property. Members and their guests are covered against proven liability to Third Parties whilst participating in the Society's activities.

Charity No. 1107043