Alastair and Lavinia Robinson have kindly invited us to visit Ousden House (CB8 8TN) on Saturday 2 June. Ousden House is a beautifully restored Georgian building with a remarkable 8 acre garden. The visit will also include a talk in Ousden Church by Anthony Foreman on the history and architecture of the church. Ousden Church is of considerable importance as it is a Norman tripartite church (nave, central tower and chancel) which has survived in its original plan.

Alastair and Lavinia acquired Ousden House almost twenty years ago. The house was formerly the garage and stable block of Ousden Hall which was demolished in 1955. They have created a large and varied garden which commands spectacular views over the surrounding landscape. The former yard is now a sheltered planted courtyard garden while in front of the house are two herbaceous borders with many unusual plants, and a rose garden under-planted with irises, astrantias, gaura, alchemilla and sage. A salvia border, a lavender bed and a planted alcove are close by, and the surviving Victoria clock tower stands looking down a fine long double crinkle-crinkle yew hedge. Further from the house the Summerhouse garden, leading to the ornamental woodland garden with spring shrubs and woodland plants, which in turn leads on to a beech wood with a lake and an encircling path. A hidden surprise is the Moat Garden which is formed from a section of 18th Century canal. The Moat Garden is sheltered for its entire length by a long mound topped with ancient yews shaped into a cloud hedge.

The programme for the day is;

10.30am: Meet at Ousden House for tea/coffee.

11.15am: Talk by Anthony Foreman in Ousden Church. The church is only a short walk from Ousden House.

12.30pm: Two course lunch with wine/soft drinks served in the Courtyard if weather permits, otherwise in the Dining Room.

After lunch, Alastair and Lavinia Robinson will give a guided tour of the garden.

The cost is £27 per person. Please complete the enclosed Invitation Form and post with your cheque to David Smith, SCS Treasurer/Secretary at the address on the Form.

If you are not on email, please enclose a s.a.e with your completed invitation form and cheque.

www.suffolkcamsoc.co.uk
OUSEND, near NEWMARKET  
SATURDAY 2nd JUNE 2018

Cost is £27pp - cheque to be made payable to ‘Suffolk Cambridge Society’

I wish to book................ places : cheque enclosed for £..............................

NAME:.............................................................................................................................

ADDRESS: ..........................................................................................................................

Email:......................................................... Phone: ..................................................

Guest name(s): ....................................................................................................................

Any special dietary requirements..........................................................................................

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Please complete and post with your cheque made payable to ‘Suffolk Cambridge Society’ to;

David Smith,  
Church Farm,  
Church Road,  
Buisyard,  
Saxmundham IP17 2EF.

Please enclose a s.a.e. if you do not have an email address.