



# DUCHY of LANCASTER

Tenant Newsletter- SouthernSurvey

Welcome to the third newsletter for the Southern Survey. It has been a great pleasure for me to spend time with many of you over the course of the last year and to hear about your plans for the future. As you know, I am fully committed to working with you to improve our land holdings across the Survey and would like to congratulate those who continue to grow and sustain their businesses despite a challenging and ever-changing political and economic environment. Thank you too to all those who take pride in the properties they rent from the Duchy and for treating these land and property assets with due care and attention. We all have our part to play in looking after this ancient inheritance so that it can be enjoyed by future generations.

## New Team Member for the Southern Survey



Since the Duchy of Lancaster realigned its Rural Surveys and brought the management of its Southern Survey in-house in 2015, the Survey has expanded by 50 per cent. This has prompted the need to recruit a new Rural Surveyor to fulfil the role of Property Manager for the South as well as leading on some exciting Duchy-wide rural initiatives. Jonathan Sellick MRICS FFAV joins the Duchy from estate management company Burhill Developments and was previously with Strutt & Parker as part of its Land Management team. Prior to that, Jonathan spent four and half years with Smiths Gore in Winchester managing estates for a number of institutional clients. A graduate of Birmingham University, Jonathan completed his MSc in Rural Estate Management at The Royal Agricultural College in 2008.



I hope that you will join me in welcoming Jonathan to the team. We have a lot to do with further potential growth identified in Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire and a varied portfolio of high quality tenants and estates to manage. Many of you will already have met Jonathan as he travels around the Survey to introduce himself and listen to the issues and concerns of interest to tenants.

## New Partnership with Northants FA

We are delighted to confirm the signing of a lease to the Northamptonshire Football Association on an 11-acre site on the outskirts of Higham Ferrers, Northamptonshire. The Northamptonshire FA are in the process of preparing a planning application to be submitted to East Northamptonshire Council for development which will include the construction of a new clubhouse with event/function space and a full sized 3G artificial pitch as well as top class grass pitches which, if successful, will bring major investment to the site. The site is also in close proximity to the home of Higham Town Colts Junior Football Club. Also a tenant of the Duchy since 2005, the Club is the only junior football club in Higham Ferrers and currently has 14 different teams from Under 7's up to and including Under 18's as well as a girls team and a young feeder group of Under 5's. With both Clubs on the site and potential future investment in facilities we hope to create a real hub for football and wider sporting/leisure activities in the region.



## Tooling Up For Quality



Lincolnshire Field Products (LFP) who rent both Wykes and Quadring Fen Farms in Donington have been tremendously pleased with their latest investment - which is already paying dividends. The new self-propelled Dewulf 4-row harvester is a very impressive machine which with its 11-tonne hopper is already achieving output levels which would have been unheard of even a decade ago.

Robin Hancox, owner of LFP, had this to say: "Efficient and effective harvesting is essential to ensure that our products are kept in the very best condition as they pass from field to store and ultimately to the customer. This sort of investment in state-of-the-art technology is the key to maintaining the output we need to satisfy demand while delivering the quality of product our customers have a right to expect."

## Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund

Just a quick reminder that the Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund exists to support local good causes and community projects linked to the Duchy and its estates. Applications from tenants and individuals from outside the County Palatine should be addressed to the Duchy's London office. For further information on how to make an application please speak to Property Manager Jon Sellick.





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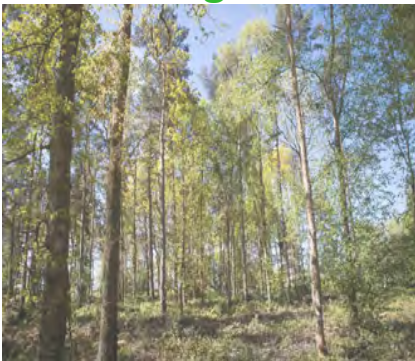
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## Southerndown Golf Club

One of the finest championship golf courses in Wales was recognised in 2017 when it was awarded the honour of hosting a Senior Open Qualifying tournament. Southerndown Golf Club on the Ogmore Estate in the Vale of Glamorgan has a long association with the Duchy of Lancaster having been established on common land on the Ogmore Estate in 1905. Positioned on an elevated site high above the Ogmore River Valley, the links style course enjoys fantastic views over the Bristol Channel and even as far as Exmoor on a clear day. Its natural contours and the prevailing south westerly wind combine to provide fast greens, pot bunkers, and gorse and bracken lined fairways. An ongoing programme of off-season improvement works this year will continue to add to the challenge and enjoyment of a round of golf at Southerndown. There is also a welcoming clubhouse complete with two bars, dining room, snooker room and a terrace with spectacular views over the Ogmore river estuary and the Bristol Channel. Director of Golf John Peters would be delighted to welcome Duchy tenants from any of the Estates across the Southern Survey and beyond to Southerndown. For more information, please visit [www.southerndowngolfclub.com](http://www.southerndowngolfclub.com).



## Soil Management



Following the bio-diversity audit carried out across all our estates last year, the Duchy is keen to promote other cross-Survey initiatives that will improve and protect our core natural assets. Soil management, including appropriate drainage, is an integral part of responsible land management. It helps us all to make best use of our land, as well as increasing its productivity and long-term sustainability. We were therefore keen to improve our understanding of common practices employed across the estates. Thank you to the large number of tenants (72%) who responded to our recent Survey questionnaire and helped to inform our thinking. As a next step, we are now planning a series of workshops for those who have shown a particular interest. It is hoped that these workshops will bring our tenants from each of the Surveys together to share knowledge and best practice. Details will follow shortly.

## Chichele College, Higham Ferrers

Chichele College in the centre of Higham Ferrers is a rare surviving example of a chantry college, a type of institution common in England in the 14th and 15th centuries. It was founded by Henry Chichele, Archbishop of Canterbury in 1422 as a college for secular canons. The term 'college' was then used to describe a community of priests who shared a communal life that was less strictly controlled than that within a monastery. Henry Chichele, who was born in Higham Ferrers, also founded St. John's College and All Souls' College in Oxford. The then village of Higham Ferrers was held

by the Earl of Derby until Robert Ferrers rebelled against Henry III in the Barons' Revolt of 1265. The King then confiscated the Earl of Derby's possessions and gave them to his own son, Edmund, Earl of Lancaster. It was one of the original estates creating the inheritance which later became Duchy of Lancaster. The building has been much altered since, so that many of the original features have disappeared. Parts of the south and east ranges were adapted to form a smaller building, which in the 18th century served as an inn. By the early 20th century it was reduced to a single farm cottage with an attached granary. The remains of Chichele College today are a series of structures and building foundations representing the four ranges around the College's quadrangle. The ruins are under the guardianship of English Heritage [www.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk).

A medieval style garden funded and maintained by volunteers allows visitors to enjoy the cloister garth (garden) and provides easy access for both wheelchairs and pushchairs. The garden continues to be a 'work in progress' but has become a place for quiet contemplation, recreation and education for the local community, as well visitors to the College.



If you have any news, views or stories you would like to see featured in next year's tenant newsletter, please email [dgaritty@duchyoflancaster.co.uk](mailto:dgaritty@duchyoflancaster.co.uk). We look forward to hearing from you!