

WELCOME TO THE LONG WALK

HISTORY

In 1905 Baroness Grace von Eckhardstein, a wealthy heiress, was drawn to Woodhall Spa searching for a country retreat away from a painful divorce. She found the perfect spot “pet wood” and, using the money her father had bequeathed her, she set about building her home.

In 1910, the now remarried Lady Grace Weigall engaged the services of Harold Peto to create some splendid gardens in the grounds of the house. These glorious gardens were featured in Country Life articles and were a fabulous local attraction. In 1933, Lady Weigall oversaw the transition of her home to a hotel and relocated to Englemere in Ascot, taking some parts of the garden with her, such as statues and terracing.

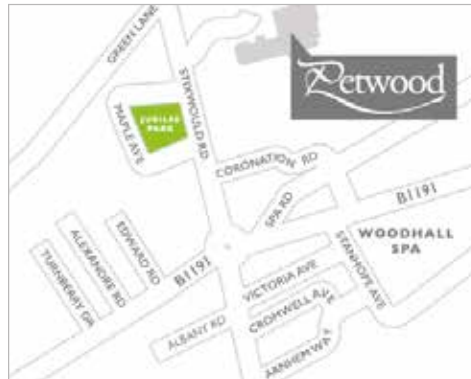
The hotel was requisitioned by the RAF in 1942 and became an Officers' Mess for 97, 619 and latterly 617 “Dambusters” Squadron. The Officers enjoyed their surroundings and were photographed snowball fighting in the gardens in Winter and relaxing with drinks on the terrace in Summer. There are some anecdotes of garden statues being used for target practice!



LOCATION

Set in the charming village of Woodhall Spa, the Petwood is ideally located for visiting historic Lincoln (19 miles), The Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Visitor Centre (6 miles) and the scenic Lincolnshire Wolds.

HOW TO FIND US



THE PETWOOD HOTEL

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Registered in England 3258579

Petwood



THE LONG WALK

PLANTING GUIDE

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RESTORATION

In 2011, Park Hood Landscape Architects were commissioned to design the Peto garden restoration.

The team researched at great length Peto's Petwood scheme and used this to create a restoration design true to Peto's original whilst still keeping in focus the Petwood's role today as a hotel.

The restoration was undertaken by Whiting Landscape and included extensive soft and hard landscaping works. The 'Long Walk', designed by seven-time Chelsea Gold Winner Julie Toll, is designed to provide colour from March to November.

The roses growing up the horley festoons offer beautiful bays of colour – and perfect photograph opportunities for wedding colour scheme coordination. This leaflet identifies the varieties used in Julie's planting scheme.

We were delighted in 2017 when Historic England announced the Grade II listing of the Petwood Peto Gardens, cementing the legacy of Lady Weigall's gardens for future generations. In 2018 the project was also the recipient of a prestigious BALI award.



WE DO HOPE YOU ENJOY YOUR VISIT.

Group bookings are welcome and garden tours can be arranged by contacting the Events Team on 01526 352411 or email events@petwood.co.uk

