

Glorious Green Knowe!

April 10 – optional day excursion from London

Most of us know the stories of Namia.

The stories of Green Knowe by Carnegie winner, Lucy Boston, are less well known despite their arising out of her clairvoyance. These enchanting, haunting stories have become modern classics, beautifully evoking all the magic and wonder of childhood. Rima's friend, Diana Boston, the daughter-in-law of the author, is a treasure herself, still lives in the house and can tell many amazing stories. We would visit her and hear about the house from the woman who keeps it alive.

Green Knowe is not a great country house or a castle. Built 900 years ago as a home for minor gentry, it is the oldest continuously occupied residence in England. But perhaps its most lovely era of history was ushered in in 1939 when the artist Lucy Boston bought the house and began to return it to its medieval condition with the help of her son. She fell in love with the house, with its mood and history, and it became her life's work and canvas. Here she planted gardens, made the most beautiful patchwork quilts and had wild birds that ate out of her hand. And then she wove her life there, and the history of the house into some of the classic children's books of the twentieth century. The Green Knowe books, starting with *The Children of Green Knowe*, are magic, and in this house, one can step into their pages. One may not be able to visit Namia, but Green Knowe exists, and one should see it now before it's amazing caretaker gets too old to give tours.

The Children of Green Knowe and *River at Green Knowe* are available in one edition. In *Children of Green Knowe*, Tolly's great grandmother isn't a witch, but both she and her old house, Green Knowe, are full of a very special kind of magic. There are other children in the house - children who were happy there, centuries before. Running around Green Knowe's moat, gardens and mysterious rooms, Tolly slowly discovers them, their toys and animals, and their wonderful stories.

Join us as we explore this magical house and grounds.

