

The Chippendale Society

President: Lord St Oswald

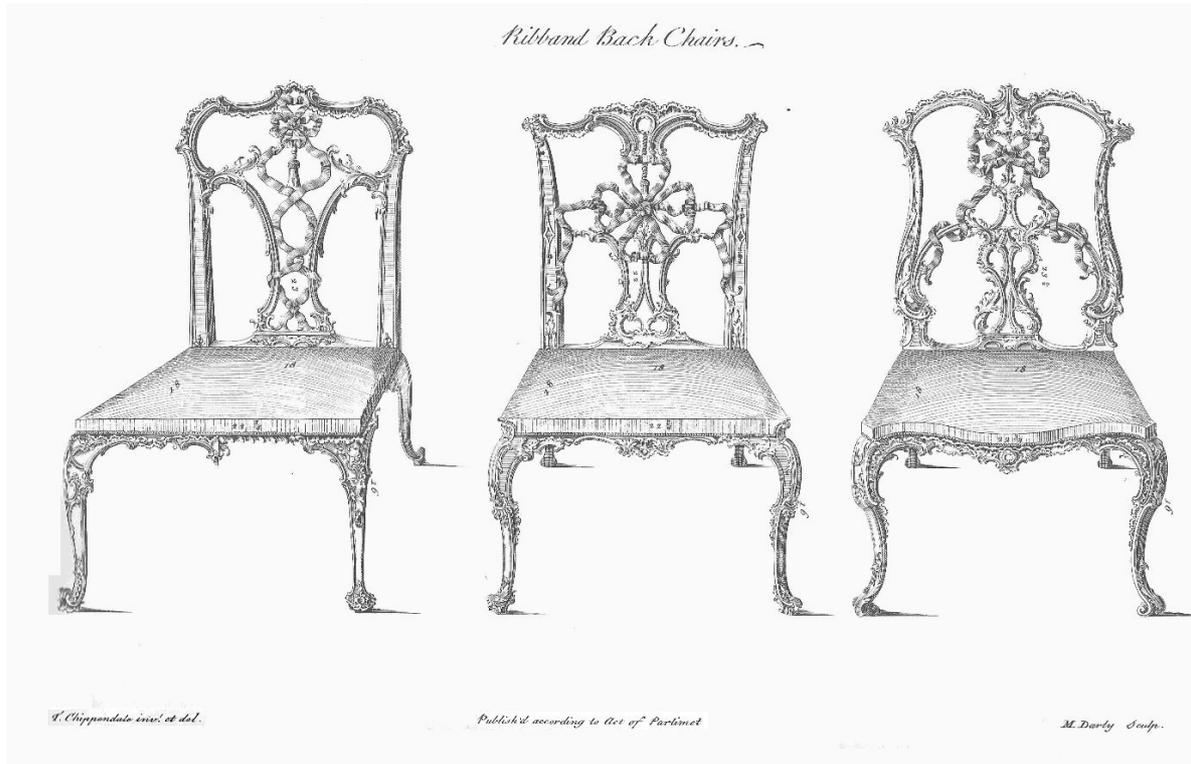
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www.thechippendalesociety.co.uk



'Ribband Back Chairs' from plate 15 of *The Gentleman and Cabinet Maker's Director* (1762)

'Three Designs of Chairs with Ribband-Backs. Several Sets have been made, which have given entire Satisfaction. If any of the small Ornaments should be thought superfluous, they may be left out, without spoiling the Design. If the Seats are covered in red Morocco, they will have a fine Effect.'

Use of email

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Visit to workshops of T.L. Phelps Fine Furniture Restoration 9th April

Some 30 members and guests attended a visit to the workshops of Tim Phelps, a Chippendale Society member, and one of the leading furniture restorers and conservators in the north. He and his team went to great trouble to make us welcome and prepare the impressive workshops for our visit. We divided into two: half of us in the morning, half in the afternoon; and then sub-divided into smaller groups for close inspection and discussion.

There were many fascinating items we were able to look at and handle, each posing separate questions as to their condition and possible options for restoration. One of the earliest was the joined chest dated 1613 and elaborately painted with the arms of Sir Henry Savile of Methley Hall on the underside of the lid. The present owner clearly enjoyed its romantically distressed condition but wondered how far its potential restoration should extend to make it either sellable or exhibitable: there was a consensus that the minimum cleaning and making good of the structure was all that should be attempted without ruining its antiquarian appeal.

Our hosts had created a charming and fascinating display of four spinning wheels; three of which were impressed or labelled with their maker's names and from Yorkshire, with one un-named example. One was by Jameson of York, another by Doughty of York and a third by John Planta from the

Moravian community of Fulneck. The fourth was a most impressive turned example, either late 18th or early 19th century.

Nearby was a selection of brass hardware: handles, hinges, locks, casters, part of a vast collection from which there was a strong possibility that anything could be matched, given time ! Similarly a fine array of samples of different timbers enabled us to identify the colours and figure of commonly encountered woods and veneers.

Other interesting pieces included a large bombe shaped cylinder bureau with some inlay, attributed to James Moore of Dublin (others felt the unusual shape might have betrayed a Francophile northern European source). A charming Sheraton chevret with a good provenance had been found with a label stating 'Duke's room', indicating it had been intended for a room to be used by the Duke of Clarence (the future William IV).

In addition, the members were able to discuss matters concerning their own problems of cleaning and first aid for their own furniture which our hosts were able to answer

The Annual General Meeting will be held on 11 May at Otley Methodist Church Hall at 7.30 pm. All are welcome

Details of the late summer / early autumn visits and of the Christmas event will appear in the next Newsletter.



Spinning wheels. Left to right, by Jameson of York, by Doughty of York, by Planta of Fulneck.

The 53rd Annual Dinner

The dinner will take place at Otley Golf Club on Tuesday 2nd June 2013 at 7 pm for 7.30 pm

Our speaker this year is Dr Adam Bowett, the new Chairman of the Chippendale Society

No tickets will be issued but applications, including any seating preference, should be made by completing the enclosed reservation form and returning it by **16th May** together with your cheque made out to *The Chippendale Society* to

Miss Anne Ambler, Clifton Cottage, Clifton, Otley LS21 2HE

The Golf Club caterer, who provided a most enjoyable meal last year, continues to give excellent service and by pre selecting prior to the event we have been able to retain the price at £22 per head. Again there are choices for each course. Please indicate your preference on the application form (Keep a note of your choices)

The Golf Club is approached from West Busk Lane and if coming from Otley this is off Bradford Road, second turn right after Kineholme Garage, and admission to the Dining Room is via the Function Room Entrance to the left of the main door as you face the Club House.



A group being shown the joined chest of 1613