

# THE CHIPPENDALE SOCIETY

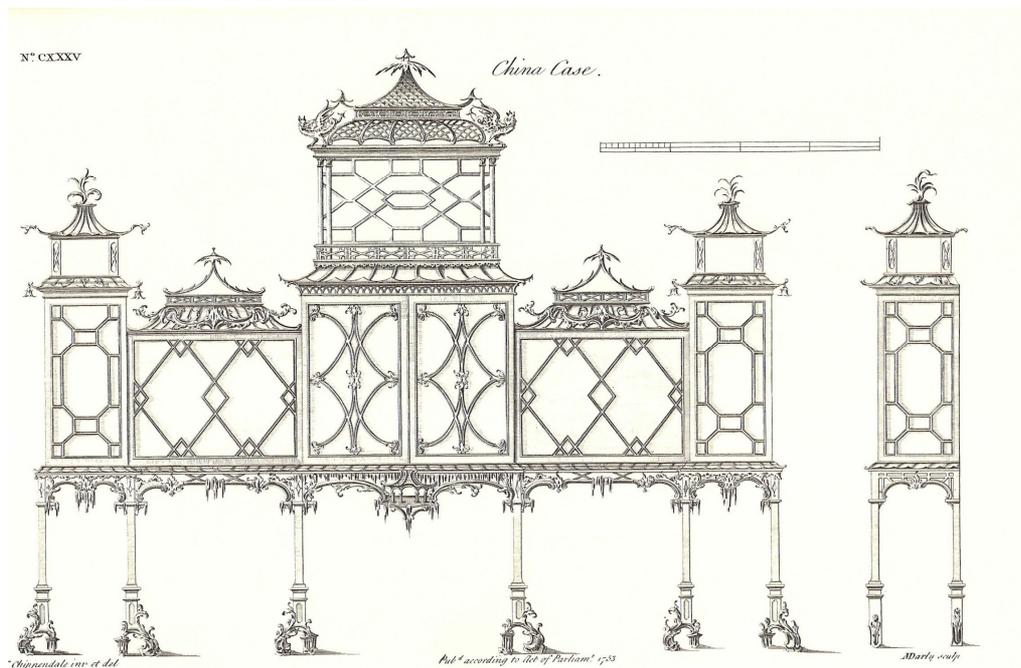


President: the Lord St Oswald

NEWSLETTER No. 137

[www.thechippendalesociety.co.uk](http://www.thechippendalesociety.co.uk)

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Caption: Plate CXXXV from the 1762 edition of Chippendale's *Gentleman and Cabinet Maker's Director*, 'A large China-Case, with Glass in the Doors and Ends. The top Part is intended to be open in Front. The profile is on the Right, and a Scale. The Ornaments on the Feet may be left out, and a Plinth put in their Stead. This piece of Work may be made of soft Wood, and Japanned, or painted and partly gilt.'

## USE OF EMAIL

Please help us to keep costs to a minimum by requesting that the Newsletter be sent to you by email in future. Please contact [dib.chippoc@enterprise.net](mailto:dib.chippoc@enterprise.net)

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions were due on 1st January. If you have not already paid, please send to the Membership Secretary, Dr David Bower, at 2 Welburn Avenue, Leeds LS16 5HJ, as soon as possible. Subscriptions remain £14 single, £21 joint.

## News – Chippendale Tercentenary 2018

The Society has entered into partnership with Leeds Museums and Galleries to curate a major exhibition at Leeds Museum from 9<sup>th</sup> February to 10<sup>th</sup> June 2018 to mark the tercentenary of the birth of Thomas Chippendale senior. The aim is to bring a new audience to enjoy and learn about Chippendale as a furniture maker and a designer and to display a range of his work including some of his masterpieces. The main themes to be explored will be his career; his use and understanding of fashionable styles; his workshop and techniques; his relationship with his clients and their commissions; and the legacy of the 'Chippendale brand' up to the present day. This ambitious show which

will have a full supporting programme of interpretation and learning events, and for which admission will be free, has been made possible by generous grants, notably from the Monument Trust, and further sponsors are being sought.

In addition, a consortium of country houses and other interested organisations has been formed. Known provisionally as Chippendale 300 they will be organising numerous special events, conferences and exhibitions during 2018. The Society has agreed to host a website which will act as a portal for information about these activities and for marketing the Tercentenary across the country. Further sponsorship for this is also still being sought.

## FUTURE EVENTS

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND ANNUAL DINNER

#### AGM Monday 8th May at Temple Newsam House

Please note Temple Newsam House is closed to visitors on Mondays. Doors will open at 11.00 when coffee will be available for members wishing to attend the AGM. The meeting begins at 11.30 and is open to all members. A pre-booked seated buffet lunch with wine is available from 12.30 and the lecture will begin at 2.00. There will be a chance to visit selected parts of the house after the lecture.

The lecture will be by Judith Goodison on *Thomas*

*Chippendale Junior*, the subject of her forthcoming book which will be published in the Autumn 2017.

**Applications for lunch must be received by 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017. Tickets for the Lecture can be pre-booked with the lunch but will also be available for the Lecture only at the door**

#### Annual Dinner

This will take place on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June at Otley Golf Club. Details will be sent in the next Newsletter.

## One and two-day visits in May and July

### BURTON CONSTABLE AND WESSAND HALL Thursday 11th May

After a gap of over 12 years the Society is returning to Burton Constable, the great Elizabethan house of the Constable family in Holderness. Its treasures are varied and rich and include the Ballroom or Drawing Room, one of the most complete Chippendale interiors with all its original furnishings. There is much else to enjoy and admire, from the great series of family portraits, William Constable's museum of curiosities, a glamorous Regency Chinese drawing room and the Capability Brown parkland. We will be given a privileged tour led by the Curator, Kelly Wainwright, and Adam Bowett. Wessand Hall is a comfortable Regency country house, home to another branch of the Constable family, with fine paintings and furnishings. Morning coffee will be served on arrival at Burton Constable and tea and cream scones at Wessand. Lunch is not included (available in the Café at Burton Constable or as a picnic in the park).

### HOLKER HALL, Cumbria and LEIGHTON HALL, Lancashire

#### Tuesday – Wednesday 18th – 19th July

Holker Hall is the distinguished Victorian house inherited by a cadet branch of the Cavendish family, Dukes of Devonshire. It was rebuilt in the Elizabethan style after a fire in 1871, replacing earlier houses on the same site. It is superbly situated between the mountains and the sea and overlooking Morecambe Bay and with formal and woodland gardens. The interiors have a wealth of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century English and French furnishings, paintings and works of art. Our visit is on a day when the public are not admitted. Lunch is included.

After an overnight stay at the four star Grange Hotel in Grange - over - Sands we travel to Leighton Hall, a charming Regency Gothic house, home of the famous furniture makers, the Gillow family. The house has particularly interesting furniture from the family firm as well as good pictures and interiors. We will have a private tour starting before the house opens followed by lunch here before returning to Yorkshire.

**Applications must be received by 10<sup>th</sup> February for both of these events**

**Please note that a separate cheque is required for each event.**

**We regret that refunds are not given unless your place(s) can be filled from a waiting list.**

**For all events please let us know of any special dietary or mobility requirements**

Please use the application form sent with the Newsletter to apply for all events

For visits to Scotland and to St Petersburg see separate flyers

## NEW CATEGORY OF MEMBERSHIP

The committee of the Society has decided to introduce a new category of membership, called '**Corporate Membership**'. This will be available to a wide variety of businesses and institutions involved in dealing with or caring for eighteenth century furniture, such as antique dealers, furniture restorers, auctioneers, museums and country houses. Corporate Members will be entitled to flexibility in how they take part in events as well as receiving extra hard copies of the Newsletter and having their names appear on the Society's website if they wish. On taking up this type of membership they will receive a copy of the catalogue of the Society's collection.

## Chippendale Society visit to Hertfordshire 27 – 28 September 2016

### Gorhambury and Hatfield Houses

#### Gorhambury



After a convivial lunch in St Alban's we drove the short distance to **Gorhambury**, the home of the Earl of Verulam, through its well tended and extensive parkland. Our extremely informative privileged tour of the house, built for the third Viscount Grimston by Sir Robert Taylor 1777-84, began in the hall where we were introduced to the first of numerous displays of portraits of the Grimston family and their predecessors, the Bacons (notably Sir Francis and Sir Nicholas) dating from 1446 to the present day, and surely one of the best and most complete in any house. Facing the chimney was one of the real show stoppers in the house: the enormous English-made pile carpet in the Oriental style dated 1570 with the arms of Queen Elizabeth. The magnificent lantern and two side tables are by George Bullock, one with a specimen marble top, the other with a scagliola top decorated with Etruscan vases after Sir William Hamilton's publication. A series of English enamelled glass panels came from the earlier Tudor house. In the Dining Room there was a fine suite of walnut chairs made from timber felled on the estate, a series of Grand Tour bronzes by Zoffoli, candelabra by Thomire and contemporary and rococo silver. The Ballroom had a suite of 1750s needlework armchairs in the style of James Gordon, while the Yellow Drawing Room contains the original organ by Robert Gray, together with another fine suite of chairs and sofas from the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century. There were fine japanned cabinets surmounted by gilt and powder blue Chinese vases, an exceptional early 18<sup>th</sup> century gilt gesso table and a good pair of chinoiserie galleried tea tables. Here and in the adjoining Library were chimneys derived from Piranesi, one incorporating ancient reliefs, the other with figures carved in sardonyx. The Library also had a remarkable pair of folding card tables with chinoiserie blind fret legs, and a magnificent gothic-style inkstand by Rundell, Bridge and Rundell, a gift of George IV to the Archbishop of Canterbury for crowning him in 1821.

#### Hatfield



Next day, after a comfortable overnight stay at a nearby country house hotel, we arrived at **Hatfield House**, the celebrated house of James I's chief minister, completed in 1611 and almost untouched thereafter. Hatfield is too rich to summarise but, quite apart from the great paintings and splendid decorations from the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, our attention was drawn to a host of fine furniture. In the Great Hall, the forms and trestle tables from the early 17<sup>th</sup> century (comparable to those seen at Sizeragh last year), a magnificent Flemish or French late 16<sup>th</sup> century architectural cabinet of the most elaborate Mannerist design; a long suite of seat furniture in the King James Drawing Room and Library supplied by the royal furniture makers Beckwith and France in the early 1780s; two enormous early 18<sup>th</sup> century pier glasses; the suite of Queen Anne arm and side chairs by Thomas How, and the Queen's famous Coronation chair. Somewhat obscured from view were some early 17<sup>th</sup> century luxury pieces such as a pietra dure table, the mother of pearl encrusted and ebony centre table, and a magnificent marquetry cabinet on chest in the Gerrit Jensen style. Elsewhere there were lacquer and japanned cabinet on stands, suites of side chairs including an apparently early 19<sup>th</sup> century group in the early Georgian style in the Winter Dining Room. To our surprise and delight it was good to learn that the collection still grows: the King James Drawing Room contains the witty and virtuoso marquetry writing table by Rupert Brown, completed in 2007, and showing a boar hunt as it might have appeared in about 1610 at the family's seat at Cranborne, Dorset.