

# THE CHIPPENDALE SOCIETY



President: the Lord St Oswald

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

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Cisterns, ink and wash, 1760. Preparatory drawing for Plate CLI of the 1762 Director. *'Four Cisterns. The Ornaments should be Brass. The Cistern at Bottom should be made of Wood, or Marble, and cut out of the solid. The others may be made in Parts, and joined with the Brass Work'*. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. (Rogers Fund 1920)

## 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.

## The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and the ANNUAL DINNER

*These will be held separately this year.*

**The Annual General Meeting** of the Society will be held on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May at 11.30 in the Seminar Room, the Henry Moore Institute, The Headrow, Leeds (adjacent to the Art Gallery, on the Lower Ground floor). All members are welcome. There will be no special lecture this year on account of the many other activities being organised, but the Chairman and Hon Curator will give informal guided tours of the exhibition at the Museum after lunch.

**The Annual Dinner** will be held at Otley Golf Club, with its incomparable views towards Wharfedale, on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 7.00 for 7.30.

This will be the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary to the day of Thomas Chippendale's baptism at Otley Parish Church.

Our Guest of Honour is **Anthony Coleridge**, formerly of Christie's, the pioneering scholar whose early researches and discoveries paved the way for much of our present understanding of Chippendale's work.

Please see separate application form



*A view from Otley Golf Clubhouse*

## STUDY TOUR TO NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND ESSEX, visiting ALTHORP, WIMPOLE HALL, ANGLESEY ABBEY AND AUDLEY END

September 4<sup>th</sup>—6<sup>th</sup> 2018

Our first visit will be an afternoon tour of **Althorp**, home to the Spencer family for over 500 years, principally a Restoration house but radically altered from 1788 by the architect, Henry Holland, with superbly restrained and elegant interiors. The house is famous for its great paintings by British and Old Masters and the furnishings, many originally at Spencer House, including pieces designed by Athenian Stuart and John Vardy and made by William and John Gordon, Ince and Mayhew, Seddon's, and French makers (some living in London), and unique collections of ceramics and silver.

On our second day we first visit **Wimpole Hall**, one of the most interesting and complex country houses in East Anglia. Built in the mid C17 by the Chicheley family, bought by the Duke of Newcastle, given to his son-in-law Edward Harley, Earl of Oxford, sold to Philip Yorke, Earl of Hardwicke, and finally bought in 1938 by Elsie Bainbridge, daughter of Rudyard Kipling. Architects and artists associated with its history include James Gibbs and James Thornhill (chapel) Henry Flitcroft and John Soane, Charles Bridgeman, Capability Brown and Humphrey Repton. Despite sales and depredations there are a remarkable number of indigenous works of art remaining in the house, augmented by the Bainbridge's own fine, sometimes quirky collections.



Wimpole Hall



Princess of Wales' Bedroom, Althorp

In the afternoon we make our way to **Anglesey Abbey**. Originally an Augustinian priory, it was bought by Huttleston and Henry Broughton in 1926, sons of Urban Broughton, who had made his fortune in mining and railways in America. Huttleston Broughton became the first Lord Fairhaven and used his wealth to indulge his interests in history, art, and garden design and to lead an eighteenth century lifestyle at his house. The collection is an eclectic mix including a Roentgen writing desk made for Tsar Paul I, Chippendale's dressing table for David Garrick, a Congreve clock, Bruges and Mortlake tapestries and Ming porcelain. Silver was a particular interest and there are two enormous silver chandeliers made to the designs of William Kent for George II's use at Hanover by Balthasar Friedrich Behrens. The 23 acres of gardens are some of the most beautiful in East Anglia and our visit will coincide with the flowering of the extensive dahlia collection.

On our third day we visit **Audley End**, the gleaming Prodigy House built by Thomas Howard, between 1605 and 1614 as a palace suitable to entertain the king. Reputedly costing over £200,000, the monarch visited once after which Howard fell from grace, burdened with debt. A reprieve came in 1666 when Charles II bought it to be near the racing at Newmarket. Soon reverting back to the Howards,



Roentgen writing desk, Anglesey Abbey

still burdened with debt, the house was reduced in size by Sir John Vanbrugh. A later owner, Sir John Griffin Griffin, (later Lord Howard de Walden) used Capability Brown to redesign the grounds and Robert Adam to design a new suite of rooms in the south wing. The house contains the superb Howard/Braybrooke collection of pictures, plate and natural history. Among the highlights of the furniture is the superb state bed made for Queen Charlotte in 1786 at the immense cost of nearly £400 exclusive of upholstery, a series of Chinese Chippendale armchairs, Gothick furniture for the Chapel, a wildly rococo 'English' bombé commode. Audley End is an eccentric and often confusing mix of Jacobean, Georgian and Victorian architecture and decor and nothing is more shocking than walking from the exquisite Adam interiors to the Jacobean Great Hall clothed in early Victorian antiquarianism. The gar-

dens are delightful with Robert Adam designing the neo-Classical bridge, the Temple of Victory, and the Tea House. A light lunch is included in our visit.

The cost is £380 per person [£430 per person for sole use bedroom] to include Britannia Coach travel, all entrances and tours as described, 2 nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast at the comfortable **Down Hall Hotel at Hatfield Heath** (where we stayed in 2016), and one lunch. Participants from the South who prefer not to join in Yorkshire can meet the coach at Althorp by going by train to Northampton and taking a taxi to Althorp, less than ten miles. A deposit of £75 is required by Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April to secure a place and the balance is due by Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July.

Please use the application form enclosed/attached.



Queen Charlotte's bed, Audley End,

## NEWS: THE CHIPPENDALE 300 EXHIBITION

At the time of going to press there had been 12,000 visitors to the exhibition six weeks after it opened, suggesting it has struck a chord with the general public in Leeds. A report will appear as a blog on the Society's website after the exhibition closes on 9<sup>th</sup> June.

For forthcoming Chippendale 300 Events please see <http://chippendale300.co.uk/>