

The Chippendale Society

President: Lord St Oswald

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www.chippendale-society.org.uk

A Sofa

Nº XXXI.



J. Chippendale inv. et delin.

Published according to Act of Parliament 1760.

B. Clowes Sculp.

The Gentleman and Cabinet Maker's Director (1762), pl XXXI 'A Design of a Sofa for a grand Apartment, and will require great Care in the Execution, to make the several Parts come in such a Manner, that all the Ornaments join without the least Fault: and if the Embossments all along are rightly managed, and gilt with burnished Gold, the whole will have a noble Appearance. The Carving at the Top is the Emblem of Watchfulness, Assiduity, and Rest. The Pillows and Cushions must not be omitted, though they are not in the Design. The Dimensions are nine Feet long, without the Scrolls; the broadest Part of the Seat, from Front to Back, two Feet, six inches; the Height of the Back from the Seat, three Feet, six Inches; and the Height of the Seat one foot, two Inches, without Casters. I would advise the Workman to make a Model of it at large, before he begins to execute it'.

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FUTURE EVENTS

April 9th 10.30 – 12.30 Visit to T.L. Phelps Fine Furniture Restoration Workshops, Nidd Valley Business Park, Market Flat Lane, Scotton, Knaresborough, HG5 9JA

Chippendale Society member Tim Phelps has kindly offered to show his workshops to a group from the Society and to discuss a number of ongoing projects. This will also include identifying different kinds of timbers, discussing cleaning processes and other restoration and conservation practices.

Numbers are limited and in the event of over-subscription Mr Phelps has agreed to take a second group in the afternoon.

April 25th 10.30 – 4.00 Study Day at Temple Newsam House

Buying and Selling Luxury and Art through Three Centuries.

We will explore the fascinating ways in which works of art and antiques were bought and sold in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. **Vanessa Brett** recently published her book on Luxury Retailing in Bath 1685-1765 which will be the subject of her lecture. **Mark Westgarth** has pioneered the study of the antiques trade in 19th century Britain and how it developed from a market for 'curiosities' to high-end works of art. **James Lomax** will lead a tour of Temple Newsam exploring the relationship between dealers and curators in assembling one of the greatest collections of English decorative art in the second half of the 20th century.

May 7th Visit to Levens Hall and Sizergh Castle, Cumbria.

Led by Adam Bowett and Susan Stuart

These two houses, so close to each other, provide a fascinating contrast particularly for everyone interested in interiors and furniture. Both are essentially late medieval pele towers with extensive additions and alterations, with panelled interiors and a wealth of oak furniture. Both have royal and court connections which lift their collections out of the ordinary. At Levens this is found in the exceptional late 17th century walnut furniture, and the gardens with their spectacular topiary laid out in 1690 by William Beaumont. At Sizergh the oak and later furniture is supplemented by relics of the Jacobites and culminates in the great Inlaid Room of 1591 whose spectacular inlaid panelling and stained glass returned to the Castle in 1999 after over 100 years at the V&A Museum.

11th May Annual General Meeting 7.30 at Otley Methodist Church Hall. Details in the next Newsletter

2nd June Annual Dinner. Details and application form in the next Newsletter **July 14th – 16th**

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Three day visit to Oxfordshire and Warwickshire

Our three day visit will be based at the comfortable Charingworth Manor Hotel, near Chipping Campden. Starting from Yorkshire, we will stop at **Ragley Hall**, the seat of the Marquess of Hertford, built by Robert Hooke in the late 17th century, but greatly embellished by James Gibbs with plasterwork by Artari, and by James Wyatt and later. It is a treasure house of fine furniture, pictures and works of art, some of which are associated with George IV's confidante Lady Hertford of Temple Newsam. Next day we intend to visit **Ditchley** (subject to confirmation), the great Palladian house built by James Gibbs with its fine architectural interiors by William Kent and Henry Flitcroft and furniture by Matthias Locke and Bradshaw. In the afternoon we will go to **Rousham**, where William Kent transformed the Jacobean manor house in the late 1730s and laid out one of his first naturalistic gardens. On our way home we will visit **Honington Hall**, a late Restoration house, substantially altered in the late 1740s and 50s by Sanderson Miller and William Smith of Warwick with a wealth of exuberant rococo plasterwork, carving, decoration and fine furniture.