

THE CHIPPENDALE SOCIETY



President: the Lord St Oswald

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Everingham Park
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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

After more than a year of Covid lockdowns and restrictions, the Society is at last back in business with a full programme of events. We began on 1st June with the annual dinner, quickly followed on the 11th by a day visit to Everingham Park, near York. In July we had a full four-day tour in the Welsh borders and Shropshire, based near Oswestry, and further events are planned for the autumn. It has been a real pleasure to be able to meet fellow Chippendale Society members once again and enjoy visiting an extraordinary variety of English and Welsh houses and their collections.

This has not been achieved without effort, for even in the relatively relaxed conditions in force after 21 June, it has still proved difficult to negotiate all the different regimes imposed by individual hotels, private houses, National Trust and other properties, each with its own rules, while marshalling groups of 20+ people and keeping to a

tight timetable. The success of this summer's schedule is due entirely to the hard work of our Events Organiser, Cathy Lambert, and I take this opportunity to thank her on the Society's behalf.

Other Chippendale Society work continues in the background. This year's most important initiative is to place the Society's entire collection online, fully catalogued and with good quality images. We are fortunate in being able to share Leeds Museums' platform on the Google Arts and Culture website. Work is still in progress but our aim is to have the whole collection uploaded and online by the end of 2021. We will advise all members when the collection goes live.

Adam Bowett

REPORTS

Annual Dinner

1st June 2021

With Covid-security measures firmly in place, the Annual Dinner took place on 1 June 2021. More than thirty members and friends gathered together at Otley Golf Club where the Society's president, Lord St Oswald, welcomed this year's speaker, Simon McCormack,

Everingham Park

Study Day, 10th June 2021

Nineteen members of the Society spent a very interesting day at Everingham Park, near Pocklington, south of York. It is a private house, owned by Helen and Phillip Guest who ensured we had a well informed day with an excellent lunch.

Phillip Guest acted as our guide for the day and commenced outside, at what is now the front door, but was originally the back. Like many houses successive additions and improvements have created a layered architecture. He explained that this grand red brick Palladian Mansion was built around 1760 by John Carr of York when William Constable-Maxwell, the owner at that time, married an heiress and came into money. He was influenced by Lord Burlington, from local Londesborough Hall, to build in the fashionable neo-classical style. He also used Thomas Knowlton from Londesborough to advise him on the landscape of his park and still to this day are remnants of the deer park. A pretty watercolour illustrates the later Victorian extensions to the original Georgian house, built by William, Lord Herries who had 16 children! The extra wings to the house were subsequently removed in the 1960s when Lady Ann Herries, eldest daughter of the Duke of Norfolk inherited and came to Everingham to live. Francis Johnson was employed as architect to restore the house to its Georgian proportions and the late Dick Reid restored the woodwork. When Lady Ann returned to live near Arundel, the seat of the Dukes of Norfolk, in the 1980s, the house and contents were sold and local farmer Alfred Bottomley bought the house and 140 acres, eventually leaving it in his will to his god-daughter Helen Guest.

The house needed much restoration which is ongoing and inside most of the original features are in the fixtures and fittings such as the fireplaces in the dining room and south drawing room both by Henry Cheere or the elaborate plasterwork in the neo-classical style. An interesting painting is hung on the first floor, of Charles 1st (1633) depicted as the supreme monarch, from the school of Sir Anthony Van Dyck (1599-1641). The original is in the Royal Collection and several copies were made. Ownership would perhaps allude to the Constable-Maxwell family's Catholic sympathies. The interiors today give the feel of a family home. For some of our party, the real highlight was the visit to the

Transform Nostell Project Curator. After reflecting on what had been a difficult year at Nostell, where the launch after conservation of the much-loved eighteenth-century doll's house once attributed to Thomas Chippendale was curtailed by the pandemic, Simon closed with a happier prognosis for 2021-22 and an invitation to the Society to visit the house. Details of this special event will be available in the next newsletter.

adjoining chapel of St. Mary and St. Everilda. So named after St. Everilda, daughter of 7th century King Cyneglis of the West Saxons, who fled home to practice Christianity in seclusion and was allowed to start a convent in Everingham. However, no trace of it has been found.

The previous owners of Everingham, the Lords Herries were Catholics and between 1836 -1839, 10 years after the passing of the Catholic Emancipation Act making it legal for Roman Catholics to build churches and chapels, Lord Herries commenced building his own new chapel close to his home. Modelled on the 'Maison Dieu' in Nimes, South of France, it was originally thought that Agostino Giorgioli of Rome was the sole architect but accounts and plans prove that John Harper of York had a great input. A very plain exterior belies the opulence of the white and gold interior. Corinthian columns down the nave, Corinthian pilasters in the apse, 18 full length plaster statues of the apostles and saints by Luigi Bozzoni, imported from Italy, in niches, highly gilded pictures of the stations of the cross and gilt bronze alter candle-sticks create a chapel of great presence. Fortunately a recent Government grant has enabled this very special Grade 1 listed chapel to be renovated for posterity.

Cathy Lambert



Philip Guest speaks to Chippendale Society members at Everingham Park

EVENTS

Study Day to Belvoir Castle

28th September 2021

We are delighted to offer a study day at Belvoir Castle near Grantham, home to the Duke and Duchess of Rutland. The Castle has been rebuilt many times over the centuries but the current one is probably the grandest and most picturesque of them all dating mainly from the Regency period. It is the work of three people - James Wyatt, the Reverend Sir John Thoroton (the 5th Duke's Chaplain) and Elizabeth the 5th Duke's Duchess who was a gifted amateur architect. Our guided tour will include the extravagant State Rooms hung with paintings by Hoppner and Reynolds,

Gobelin tapestries and furniture by Gillow. It will include the charming Chinese Room hung with hand-painted 18th century Chinese silk. Our tour will also include several rooms not normally open to the public.

The cost of £85 includes coach transport from Leeds, admission, guided tour and lunch. For members wishing to travel in their own cars the cost is £65. Alternatively, Grantham rail station is 15 minutes away by taxi. Applications with a cheque made payable to 'The Chippendale Society' must be received by 31 August (see separate application form). The limit for coach places is 22 people although Belvoir can accommodate up to 30 in the house.