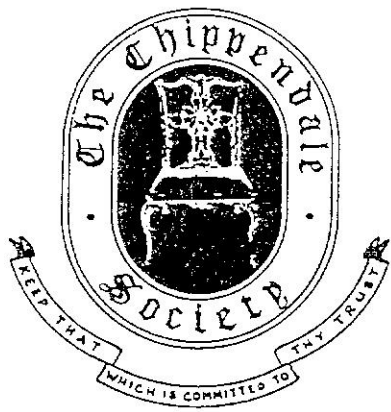


The Chippendale Society



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Chairperson: Pat Lofthouse

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John B. Holdsworth,
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NEWSLETTER NO 76 (Oct. 1996)

AUTUMN LECTURE - MOONLIGHT MAN: THE SECRET WORLD OF ATKINSON GRIMSHAW by ALEXANDER ROBERTSON, MA OF LEEDS CITY ART GALLERY. At the CIVIC CENTRE, OTLEY ON WEDNESDAY 20 NOVEMBER 1996 AT 7.45 PM.

We are most fortunate that Alex Robertson, author of a best selling book on Grimshaw, the most famous of all Leeds born Victorian artists, has agreed to give the Society an illustrated talk on his life and work. It is certain to be a popular lecture and would be an ideal occasion to introduce potential new members. The price of admission is £2 at the door, which includes tea or coffee and biscuits afterwards. Members of the public will also be welcome.

REPORT ON ANNUAL DINNER

Some seventy members and guests attended this most enjoyable traditional event which was held at Otley Golf Club on Midsummer Day. Mrs Mary Sheepshanks of Leathley gave an inspiring and entertaining talk and proposed a toast to the Society. The President responded.

PROPOSED PURCHASE OF CHIPPENDALE TABLES FROM DENTON

Our most recent purchase was in 1992 when we bought the last two original manuscript designs in private hands for plates in Chippendale's *Director* at a cost of £18,000. They were our most expensive acquisition to date. The Society now has an exceptional opportunity to buy a superb pair of half-round inlaid satinwood pier tables which Chippendale supplied for the Best Dressing Room at Denton Hall about 1778. This was the only house in the old Parish of Otley which he furnished. Since 1973 the Society has owned the document recording that he was paid £151 by Sir James Ibbetson 'for furniture for the new house at Denton'. Only three items from this commission have been identified, a marquetry commode, now at the Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh and this pair of tables sold, unrecognised, at Sotheby's New York in January 1996. They have been offered to the Society for a very reasonable £75,000. An application has been made to the Heritage Lottery Fund for £50,000; accordingly we need to raise £25,000 by November 1st. The National Art Collections Fund has promised £10,000; The Pilgrim Trust £3,000; we can find £5,000 from our own resources and generous gifts from various well-wishers has now brought the total to over £20,000 but there is still a shortfall so the committee would be immensely grateful to any members who wished to send an immediate donation to John Holdsworth, Hon Treasurer, 74 Riverside Park, Otley, W. Yorkshire LS21 2RW. Cheques please to: 'The Chippendale Society'. Donations will be returned should our lottery bid prove unsuccessful.