

# The Chippendale Society

Chairperson: Pat Lofthouse



Registered Charity No. 501046

## NEWSLETTER No 84

April 1999

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Hon. Treasurer: John B. Holdsworth, 74 Riverside Park, Otley, LS21 2RW. Tel: 01943 465711  
Hon. Membership Secretary: Tony Lumb, 2 Montpellier Gardens, Harrogate HG1 2TF. Tel: 01423 503776

## Andrew Firth

We were greatly saddened to hear of the unexpected death of Andrew Firth, a founder member of the Society and Chairman for sixteen years from 1972. He had only recently agreed to become our next President from the forthcoming AGM. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Nora and his family.

Andrew had recently written a highly personal account of the early history of the Chippendale Society. It was intended to be an introduction to the forthcoming published Catalogue of our collections. We intend to publish it in the next Newsletter.

## Report on the Spring Event

On 8 April the Society was entertained at Temple Newsam with a choral concert featuring the ensemble *Ovation* which was preceded by a Private View of the exhibition *Heritage Regained: Silver from the Gilbert Collection*. The Hon Curator gave a presentation about the Nostell Priory Music Desk explaining its subtleties and its importance as a potential item for the collection. The young singers gave a spirited and moving performance which was followed by supper in the Great Hall. Some 90 members and guests were present.

## Catalogue of the Society's Collections

The Society hopes to publish an all-colour illustrated catalogue of its collections during the autumn of this year, depending on the support of funding bodies. The text will include details of the construction, provenance and the context within which the various pieces were made, using the extensive notes prepared by our late Hon Curator Christopher Gilbert. The price will be in the region of £8, but a pre-publication discount will be available for members. A further announcement will be made in due course.

## Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held on **10 May 1999** at **8.00 pm** in the Parlour at the **Methodist Church, Boroughgate, Otley**. All members of the Society are welcome.

## Annual Dinner

The Annual Dinner will be held at **Otley Golf Club** on **Tuesday 8 June** at **7.15 for 7.45**. The speaker will be **Mr Daru Rooke**, Senior Curator at Leeds Museums and Galleries, who is about to become a TV 'celeb' as the presenter and researcher of a forthcoming series *The 1900 House*. He will give us an insight into this fascinating subject and tell us something of the pains and pleasures of 'behind the scenes' at a TV antiques programme.

No tickets will be issued but applications, indicating any seating preferences, should be made by completing the reservation form below and returning it with your cheque for £14.00 per head. Please indicate if any vegetarian meals are required. The Club House is located on the outskirts of the town in West Busk Lane, off Bradford Road, Otley. Guests and potential new members are very welcome.

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### Reservation

Please reserve ..... tickets at £14.00 for the Annual Dinner on Tuesday 8 June 1999. Tickets will not be issued.

Name and address

.....  
.....

Please tick if vegetarian meal required

I wish to be seated with:

Please make cheques payable to *The Chippendale Society* and return to John Holdsworth, 74 Riverside Park, Otley, West Yorkshire LS21 2RW