

THE CHIPPENDALE SOCIETY

NEWS LETTER NO. 25

FEBRUARY 1979

SPRING LECTURE Friday 9th March 1979. Lecture Hall, Methodist Church
Boroughgate, Otley. At 8.00 pm.
SPEAKER: DAVID BARKER
SUBJECT: 'FOUR IMPORTANT CLOCKS'

David Barker is a self taught professional restorer and clockmaker. His life long interest in clocks has made him a leading authority on the subject. Mr. Barker's illustrated talk will examine the intriguing process of restoring three Yorkshire clocks and one London example.

Please support this important occasion by bringing your friends.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Wednesday 9th May 1979. Lecture Hall, Methodist
Church, Boroughgate, Otley. At 8.00 pm.

Election of Officers and the Executive Committee.

Refreshments will be available.

A Selection of other 1979 events

Saturday May 26th. Bring and Buy Stall, Butter Cross, Otley.
Scavengers, horders, 'magpies' - this is your opportunity! Please start putting your jumble on one side for this enjoyable Saturday morning.

Friday June 8th. Annual Dinner 7.30 pm for 8.00 pm. Prince Henry Grammar School, Farnley Lane, Otley.

Saturday June 30th. Annual Excursion to Bolsover Castle and Hardwick Hall.

*** Further details and application forms for these events will be included in the next Newsletter.

9th - 11th November 1979. Chippendale Society Conference The Post House, Bramhope, Leeds. Application forms included with this Newsletter. To avoid disappointment, please book early.

Report on Top Table Talk - held in the Civic Hall, Otley, 6th December 1978. This was a popular and outstanding success shared by many members and their friends. It was the first opportunity for the Chippendale Society to see

the fabulous marquetry pier table purchased by the Society in 1976 and now fully restored and back in Yorkshire. Christopher Gilbert traced its early and somewhat chequered history. It was designed and constructed for the Circular Dressing Room at Harewood House but was removed to a store and then to the joiner's shop when Barry remodelled the interior of Harewood in 1844-5. Simon Redburn described the painstaking process of restoring the pine frame and choosing the most appropriate type of stripper to remove the Victorian coat of brown paint. (This paint evidently helped preserve the subtle and original colours.) David Hawkins completed the fascinating discussion by explaining the very different problems posed during the restoration of the marquetry top. It was first necessary to locate a veneer with identical flecking in the grain to the original harewood ground. Many sections of the intricate marquetry pattern were missing when the table was purchased but, because of the symmetrical nature of the design, new pieces could eventually be cut and their colour blended to that of the old veneer.

The Chippendale Society is particularly indebted to Christopher Gilbert, Simon Redburn and David Hawkins for their magnificent team effort in first making the agonising decision that determined whether or not the table was beyond repair, and then so skillfully and patiently rebuilding it to its original and superbly beautiful condition. It is now on display at Temple Newsam House.

The more light hearted side shows, at this most enjoyable evening, were extremely well supported and between them the Tom-Bola, Raffle and stalls made nearly £300 for the Purchase Fund.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

These are now due and should be paid to the Membership Secretary:

Mrs A Lumb,
Charles Lumb & Sons Ltd.,
Montpellier Parade,
HARROGATE,
North Yorkshire.