

## THE CHIPPENDALE SOCIETY

NEWS LETTER NO. 30

JULY 1980

We are pleased to announce the following forthcoming major events for your diary:

### An Evening at HAZLEWOOD CASTLE with the CHIPPENDALE SOCIETY

Wednesday, 10th September 1980. Sherry Reception 7.30 for 8.00 pm. Supper 8.15 pm. followed by Music.

Hazlewood Castle is a well known setting for concerts and an interesting venue for a happy evening. The Castle, originally built in the 12th and 13th centuries, was extensively restored in the 18th century and is now a beautiful early Georgian house. The Main Hall, probably designed by Carr of York, has recently been re-decorated. Adjacent is the unique Flemish Hall with its carved wooden panelling which originally belonged to the Carmelite House in Ghent. In 1972 the Carmelite Friars took over Hazlewood Castle as a Retreat Centre.

Supper will be followed by a varied musical programme presented by the St. Peter's Singers of Leeds. There will be bar facilities available.

Tickets £6.00 (including sherry and supper). Please complete the Application Form at the end of this News Letter. Directions on how to get to Hazlewood Castle are enclosed.

Autumn Lecture THE GOLDEN AGE OF SILVER Robert Rowe, CBE, MA, FMA, Director of Leeds Art Galleries.

Friday 10th October 1980. 8.00 pm Lecture Hall, Methodist Church, Boroughgate, Otley. Robert Rowe is a distinguished authority on English silver and well known as a highly entertaining speaker. The talk will be illustrated with slides.

Please support both these events by bringing your friends.

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### Chippendale Society news and reports on Spring and Summer functions

Spring Lecture. Friday 14th March 'Chippendale's Harewood Commission'.

Miss Mary Mauchline enthralled a large audience with a most amusing slide talk on Harewood House, its owners and servants - a subject she has made very much her own. Members were particularly interested to hear about a newly discovered letter written by Edwin Lascelles in March 1773 informing Popplewell, his steward, that he was settling accounts with Chippendale and asking him to check various points before the large bill was finally paid. This was definitely the 'fact of the evening'. Miss Mauchline also discussed the architects and decorators involved in creating Harewood House, Capability Brown's schemes for landscaping the park, backstairs life, estate management and many other facets of this remarkable country house. It was a memorable evening.

Annual General Meeting Friday 9th May. The following officers were elected:-

President: Lady Stoddart-Scott; Chairman: Mr A Firth; Vice-Chairmen: Mr S H Chippindale and Mr H Tweed; Secretary: Mr J Rhodes; Treasurer: Mr J B Holdsworth;

Hon. Solicitor: Mr R Ingham; Hon. Auditor: Mr L Bray; Hon. Curator: Mr C Gilbert; Hon. Librarian: Mrs C Gilbert; Membership Secretary: Mrs A Lumb; Public Relations Consultant: Mr S H Chippindale; News Letter Editor: Mr C Hutchinson.

After the formal part of the Meeting, Christopher Gilbert gave a short but fascinating talk on the unfortunate recent fire at Nostell Priory. Thanks to heavy mahogany doors the fire was confined mainly to the Breakfast Room. The major Chippendale masterpieces survived although several picture frames were destroyed and one hall chair badly charred.

18th Annual Dinner Friday 6th June. This was again held at Prince Henry's Grammar School, Otley and was well attended by members and their friends. Dr Patrick Nuttgens was the Guest Speaker and he entertained his audience with wit and humour. He spoke on his, and his family's, involvement with the Arts and his work as Director of Leeds Polytechnic. Many people tend to criticise Art Students for their avant-garde ideas and the element of fantasy that frequently exists in their work, but, as Patrick Nuttgens pointed out, these characteristics were often exemplified in the work of Thomas Chippendale!

Members attending the Dinner were delighted to hear that Dr and Mrs J R Nuttall have agreed to accept the office of Vice-Presidency of the Chippendale Society.

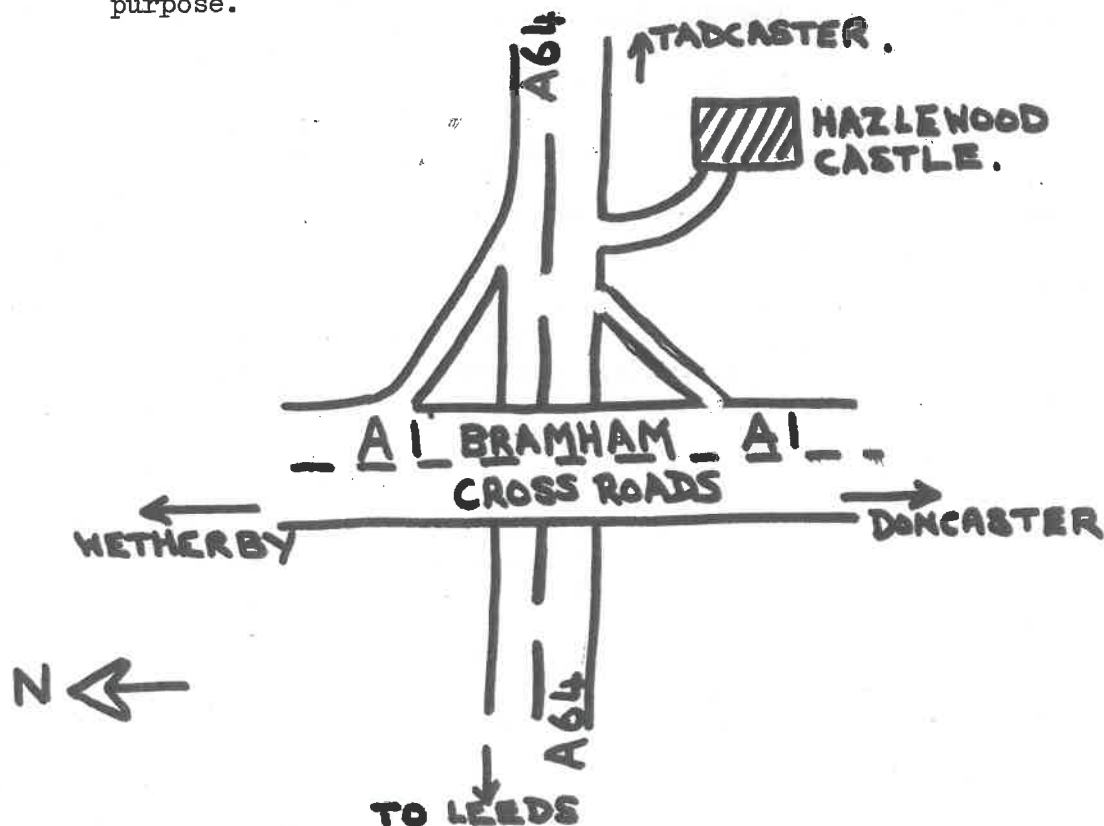
Open-Garden Sunday 8th June. The Society is most grateful to Mrs Frank Marshall for kindly allowing members to visit Briery Wood, Hebers Ghyll Drive, Ilkley, and so generously donating the proceeds to the Chippendale Society. About 70 members attended on a beautiful Sunday afternoon and were able to admire a fine display of rhododendrons and azalias. Our thanks are also due to Mrs Marshall for providing tea and organising and furnishing a bring-and-buy stall.

Annual Excursion Saturday 21st June. This again proved to be a popular function and a full coach departed on a bright but windy day for Rokeby Park. We had sufficient time to negotiate the tricky entrance to Rokeby and members were then able to enjoy the very homely atmosphere of this delightful Georgian house or wander in the beautiful gardens. This house, started by Sir Thomas Robinson during the first half of the 18th century, has a fairly complicated history which was explained to us in a most lucid manner by the owners of Rokeby, Mr and Mrs R A Morritt, and also by Miss Sarah Medlam. Perhaps the high-lights of this visit were the splendid embroidery panels, the lavishly decorated saloon and, by contrast, the low entrance hall and a selection of high-style and provincially designed pieces of furniture. From Rokeby we travelled to the Bowes Museum for a picnic lunch and then an interesting talk by the curator Miss Sarah Medlam, on the Bowes Museum and the formation of its enormous and comprehensive collection. Members here had really to concentrate on their own particular interests and our three hour visit was scarcely long enough.

After the scale of the Bowes Museum, the minuteness of the Georgian Theatre, Richmond, came as rather a shock. We were informed by the Manager, Mr MacGregor, that at 55 we were probably the largest group of 'actors' ever to have been supported by the theatre's stage! It was a strange sight to see the Chippendale Society 'crocodile' winding its way through the building with some members at the 'head' in the gallery and boxes whilst the 'tail' was still on stage and others investigating the lighting, dressing rooms and mechanisms below stage. The Society is grateful to Mr and Mrs Morritt, Miss Sarah Medlam and Mr MacGregor for making this such a successful day.

New Acquisition The Chippendale Society has recently added a pole screen to its small but distinguished collection of accredited furniture. It is the sole survivor of a repertoire of blockbase fire screens which Thomas Chippendale supplied to Edwin Lascelles of Harewood House in 1769-71 (before the surviving portion of his bill opens). The square base features the distinctive angular scroll of which Chippendale was so fond and illustrates his unrivalled ability to achieve rich yet restrained effects: it is a minor masterpiece of early

neo-classical design. The stand is carved from limewood and retains its original ivory japanned and gilt finish, the pole is of mahogany. The oval screen panel (depicted in an early 18th century watercolour view of the Gallery at Harewood) has not survived so will need to be replaced; the size and enrichment of this missing feature can be exactly copied from a closely similar intact pole screen which Chippendale made for the salon at Burton Constable, also in the 1770s. The Society succeeded in attracting a government grant of £1,000 and a contribution of £500 from the National Art Collections Fund towards the purchase price of £2,000. A programme of restoration is now in hand and the Chippendale Society was very grateful to receive an anonymous donation of £100 in May which is to be used for this purpose.



Travellers on the A1 leave at the junction to A64 Leeds/York Road. Follow the signs to York. Hazlewood Castle is situated only 100 yards or so from the junction on the right-hand side of the dual carriageway A64.

Travellers from Leeds leave by the York Road.

#### How to get to Hazlewood Castle

#### APPLICATION FORM

To: Mr J B Holdsworth, Chippendale Society, c/o Barclays Bank Ltd., 2 Manor Square, Otley, Yorkshire.

Please send me ..... tickets for An Evening at Hazlewood Castle with the Chippendale Society on Wednesday 10th September 1980. Tickets £6.00 per person.

I enclose cheque for ..... (Cheques payable to the Chippendale Society)

I enclose a stamped and addressed envelope.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Date .....

Tel. No. ....