

## THE CHIPPENDALE SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER No. 36

AUGUST 1982

### Summer Outing, Saturday 25th September, 1982

Private visit to Aske Hall, near Richmond, the home of the Marchioness of Zetland.

Following the enthusiastic response to the personal invitation at the Annual Dinner, when some 46 members and friends indicated that they would support this Outing, we have now booked a 53 seater coach. This will depart from OTLEY POST OFFICE at 11 a.m. and it is planned to have a picnic lunch en route arriving at Aske Hall at 2 p.m. where we shall be met by the Marchioness and shown over the House. It is not planned to have any formal catering and we therefore anticipate being back in Otley between 6 and 7 p.m. Members are asked to provide their own refreshments.

As there has been considerable interest shown in this event, early application for seats on the coach is strongly recommended, as we can only deal on a first come first booked basis. However preference will be given to members who indicated their support at the Annual Dinner.

The cost per head will be £2.50 for those travelling by coach, and it is known that some members will be travelling by car.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE SLIP AT THE END OF THIS LETTER AND RETURN AS SOON AS AS POSSIBLE TO THE TREASURER, BARCLAYS BANK, OTLEY.

### Twentieth Annual Dinner, 4th June, 1982

This was held at Kirklands, Menston on a lovely summer evening, when over a hundred members and friends enjoyed an excellent meal presided over by Lady Stoddart-Scott. We were very pleased to have our Vice-Presidents, Doctor and Mrs. J.R. Nuttall on the top table, and they send their regards to members who were unable to be present.

Our Chief Guest speaker was the Marchioness of Zetland, who issued a personal invitation to our President and members to make a private visit to Aske Hall, and then proceeded to give some interesting facts about the rebuilding of the Hall which has taken place since they took up residence in 1962. The library which is new now contains a Chippendale table found in the cow barn, along with other valuables which had been stored during the last war when the Hall was occupied by the Army.

Our President in thanking the Speaker reminded those present that the Society and its members are custodians of some lovely and valuable items of Chippendalia to be passed on to future generations, and more young and active members are needed to take over some of the administrative duties.

### Annual Meeting on 10th May, 1982

This meeting followed an Executive Committee meeting, when reports were given by the Treasurer also as Acting Secretary, Librarian and Curator, all of which were accepted. The President welcomed Jack Rhodes back as secretary after an absence of eighteen months due to illness, and all the officers were re-elected with the exception of Chris Hutchinson who had submitted his resignation as newsletter editor and photographic consultant. Members were very sorry to hear this as Chris has been such a willing and active member in many ways for a number of years, and the Chairman agreed to write a suitable letter of thanks.

### Subscriptions

Approval was given to a recommendation from the Executive Committee that subscriptions would have to be increased from the 1st January 1983 due to increased administration costs of postages and printing of the newsletter, and the new rates are as follows:-

Life Membership increased to £15 from £10  
Yearly membership from £2 to £3  
Husband and Wife membership from £3 to £5  
Societies from £1 to £2.

## Autumn Lecture

Arrangements for this are being dealt with by our President and Officers, and details will be publicised later.

## Items of Interest

Work is proceeding on the restoration of the pole firescreen purchased sometime ago.

A manuscript notebook belonging to the late James Calthorpe (1699-1784) has been purchased. He was a landowner in Suffolk and Norfolk, and the book covers a two year period 1758-9 when he was having alterations made to his London house in Pall Mall and contemplating rebuilding his country seat at Ampton Hall, Suffolk. There are extensive notes on proposed furnishing schemes, with sketch plans showing how his pictures and looking glasses were to be hung, architectural designs and various memoranda. A pencil note made in March 1758 states 'Mr. Chippendale is to be with me Tuesday evening at 9 - presumably to advise Calthorpe about furniture.' The small octave notebook, 30ff. of text with sketches and plans in pen and ink was purchased from B. Weinreb Ltd. in May for £325, half the cost being contributed by the Victoria and Albert Museum. It is just the kind of archive material which could very easily go astray unless our Society provided a secure future.

Lord Harewood has kindly donated three bed cornices covered in exotic chintz found in the old laundry at Harewood House, designed by Thomas Chippendale for the Chinese bedroom in 1769, to the Society.

These are to be restored by the Student Design Centre in London as part of a project by students in 1983.

## New Books about Thomas Chippendale

Members may have noticed recent press advertisements for Rosalind Laker's latest work entitled 'Gilded Splendour' (Doubleday) described as a romantic novel based on the life of Thomas Chippendale. We are told he had two dreams - to create the most beautiful furniture and to love the most beautiful women of his turbulent and tempestuous century. If any member feels we should acquire a copy of this tale about a poor Yorkshire carpentry assistant's search for the one woman who could match his own sensual passions, we would suggest they contact our Hon. Librarian - Mary Gilbert.

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## Application for Aske Hall Outing on Saturday 25th September, 1982.

To: J.B. Holdsworth,  
Hon. Treasurer,  
Barclays Bank PLC,  
2 Manor Square,  
Otley.

Please reserve ..... places, at a price of £2.50 per person. I enclose a cheque for £..... (made payable to The Chippendale Society)

OR

I shall be travelling by car and there will be ..... people in my party.

Name .....

ADDRESS .....  
.....

TEL. NO. .... DATE .....

Please complete if intending to make own way to Aske Hall but do not include any remittance.