

This is the first newsletter since the summer recess and all members will be interested to hear of the various events which have taken place during the last four months.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING followed a meeting of the Executive Committee in May, and as many members will already know, Jack Rhodes retired from the position of Secretary, a post he had filled so very ably virtually since the inception of the Society. We are pleased to report that we are not losing his valuable services completely as he is continuing to serve on the Executive Committee. His successor is Peter B. Hillas who is the local Branch Manager of the Bradford & Bingley Building Society in Kirkgate, and who resides in the town. His address is :

77 Riverside Park, Otley, LS21 2RW and telephone numbers are :

Home - 463627 Business - 461630.

Mrs. M. Padgett and Miss M. Wells also retired from the Executive Committee and we thank them for all the work they have undertaken over the years, particularly with the social events. Both are of course continuing as members of the Society and we shall look forward to seeing them at future functions.

THE EVENING AT CRESKELD HALL - 21st May

This was a most enjoyable and successful social occasion which took the form of a Wine & Cheese party, with Tombola, Bring & Buy Stall and other attractions. An amount of £278 was raised for the Society's funds and we are most grateful to our President, Lady Stoddart-Scott, who despite a painful arm fracture sustained just before the event, acted as host and so kindly invited members and friends to enjoy the delights of the house and gardens on such a pleasant evening. Our thanks to all those who helped to make the evening such a resounding success.

THE ANNUAL DINNER - 17th June

Some 80 members and friends attended the Dinner at Kirklands, Menston when our principal speaker was Mr. David M. Learmont, the Curator of the National Trust for Scotland and a member of the Furniture History Society. He gave a most interesting and amusing account of his work, and we are most grateful to him for stepping into the breach at almost the last minute. Lady Stoddart-Scott responded to the toast to the Society and Mr. Andrew Firth, our Chairman, acted as Toastmaster and kept members abreast of current happenings.

The top table guests included the Otley Town Mayor and Mayoress, and our honorary Auditor, Mr. Leslie Bray and Mrs. Bray.

A most enjoyable occasion but next year it is hoped to arrange an alternative venue.

THE SUMMER OUTING TO CASTLE HOWARD

There was once again a somewhat disappointing response from members and it may well be that we shall have to look more closely at the date of this event which did coincide with the main holiday period. However 32 members and friends greatly enjoyed the trip, with excellent weather, and were able to look round the house and gardens. Our thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Bagguley who looked after the arrangements.

THE LATE MR. THOMAS PICKLES

Members will be most interested to hear that we received £40.60 for the Purchase Appeal Fund from Mrs. G. Middlemiss which she raised from the sale of further copies of her late father's original books on Thomas Chippendale. We understand that there are still some copies available if any member would like to acquire one.

The Society has very recently acquired the base of a magnificent pole fire screen made by Thomas Chippendale for the salon at Harewood House in circa 1771. This is very richly styled and retains traces of the original blue and gold finish beneath later Victorian gilding. It will be possible to attract grants for restoration. The companion pole screen is displayed in the old library at Harewood, and it is also missing the original stand and screen.

This outstanding acquisition was made possible by a very generous donation of £1,000 from the Sam Chippindale Foundation and a Grant of £1,000 from the Victoria and Albert Museum, making up the full purchase price.

Various items from our collection are to be loaned to a major Rococo exhibition to be held at the Victoria and Albert Museum from the 16th May to the 30th September, 1984. There is also a possibility that the exhibition will travel on to Boston in the United States and is entitled 'Rococo Art & Design in Hogarth's England'. It is most gratifying that some of the Society's collection of books, manuscripts and other small items will be on show at this important exhibition.

FUTURE EVENTS

WINE & NIBBLES EVENING

SATURDAY 22nd OCTOBER 1983

Members and friends are kindly invited to the home of Mr. & Mrs. N. Bagguley at
9 GREAT PASTURE, BURLEY IN WHARFEDALE between 7.30 and 9.30 p.m.

ADMISSION at the door - £2 each to include the first glass of wine.

Members are however advised that space is limited as the premises are not large, but a 'floating' population on the night will be viable. It is hoped that members will support this social event.

Directions to the house are as follows:

Entering Burley from Otley, or Menston, proceed along the Main Street.

Just before the Pelican Crossing turn right down the side of Annes Dress Shop - Iron Row.

Continue to the entrance to Greenholme Mills and bear left, to reach Great Pasture. The house is the 'near' end of the last house on the left, with stone gateposts.

SPRING LECTURE 1984

Full details will be given in the next Newsletter.

ORGANISATION

The direction of the Society has been in familiar hands for many years. It is vital that new ideas and new faces should play their part in shaping the future of the Society.

IF YOU ARE PREPARED to undertake any duty or make some other contribution, please complete the tear off slip at the end of this letter and return to the Secretary.

_____ detach here

I should be pleased to assist the Chippendale Society in the following capacity:

- (a) Helping with the Newsletter _____
- (b) Stimulating an increase in membership _____
- (c) Helping at Social Functions and/or at Lectures _____
- (d) Suggesting Speakers _____
- (e) Helping on the Executive Committee _____
- (f) Assisting the Treasurer or Secretary _____
- (g) Please make any other suggestion here _____

(Please place a 'X' next to the item with which you would like to help.)

NAME _____ (Block letters)

ADDRESS _____

POST CODE _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____