

THE CHELSEA SOCIETY
REPORT

1999



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CONTENTS

THE COUNCIL OF THE CHELSEA SOCIETY ...	7
THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	9
THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT	11
MEETING OF THE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATIONS	20
THE ROYAL COURT THEATRE	21
THE ROYAL MILITARY ASYLUM	24
SANDOE'S	35
ILLUSTRATIONS	37
CHELSEA RECLAIMED... ..	45
CHELSEA CHINA	48
A LOCAL HERO	52
AN ANONYMOUS LADY FROM CHELSEA ...	54
OBITUARIES... ..	56
BOOKS PUBLISHED	58
TREASURER'S REPORT... ..	60
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES	61
THE CONSTITUTION	65
LIST OF MEMBERS	67

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THE CHELSEA SOCIETY

*founded by Reginald Blunt in 1927
to protect and foster the amenities of Chelsea*

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The Annual General Meeting of the Chelsea Society

was held at the
Hall of Remembrance, Flood Street, Chelsea, SW3
on Thursday 18 November 1999

Sir Simon Hornby, President of the Society, took the Chair at 6.30pm.

Sir Simon welcomed everyone to the meeting particularly the Mayor, Councillor Mrs Ian Frazer; Councillor David Campion, Chairman of the Planning Committee of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and Mr. Michael French, Executive Director of Planning and Conservation.

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 18 November 1998 were agreed to be a correct record and were signed by the President.

There were two vacancies on the Council of the Society for which there had been two applicants. Terence Bendixson and Samantha Wyndham (the latter having already been co-opted onto the Council), having been proposed and seconded, were elected unanimously.

Mr Ian Frazer, the Society's Honorary Treasurer, presented his report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 1998. These were received without comment and the President thanked Mr Frazer for all his excellent work.

No resolutions had been received and Mr David Le Lay, Chairman of the Society, delivered the Council's Annual Report.

The President then invited questions from Members.

Referring to aircraft noise Mrs Laura Day said she thought helicopter noise was the most serious and asked if anything could be done. The Chairman said that the Society was satisfied that there had been no increase in helicopter movements at Battersea Heliport but that there were many organisations, including emergency services, government agencies, the Royal Family and the Ministry of Defence, who were exempt from any restrictions. Mrs Diana Murray

asked if enforcement action could be taken against developers building without planning permission. Mr French said that the Borough could take enforcement action. Andrew Hamilton said that the impression was that retrospective planning applications were generally granted. Mr French replied that the Borough would like it to be a criminal offence to start work without permission but this was not the law at present. Professor Ralph Turvey queried the Society's objections to coffee bars to which Andrew Hamilton replied that there was a fine line between coffee shops, which were a retail use, and coffee bars, which easily became restaurants. Councillor David Campion said that the Borough was striving to obtain a separate use class but other boroughs did not have the same problem and were unwilling to give support. Mr Brian Wardle expressed concern about the Duke of York's development and asked why there had been changes so soon after the application had been submitted. Mr Stuart Corbyn, Chief Executive of Cadogan Estates, said that changes had been the result of strong representations from English Heritage. Mrs Gemma Piquerez-Cunningham asked if Flood Street could be made one-way. The Chairman replied that one-way streets encouraged high speeds as in Old Church Street. Mrs Elizabeth Turner asked what consultation there had been about the choice of sculptor to which the Chairman replied that Professor Sir Eduardo Paolozzi was internationally famous and, although he lived in Chelsea, had no representative sculpture there. It had been he who had chosen Oscar Wilde as his subject. The cost was in the foundry work and not Sir Eduardo's fees which he had waived. The President warned that unanimous approval could never be obtained for works of art. Dr Mary Remnant disapproved of Fulham Road shops and the colour schemes of the bars. She also said that no-one seemed to know the border between Chelsea and Kensington. The Chairman replied that the Chelsea Society was the only body that retained the old Chelsea Borough boundary, mostly down the centre of the Fulham Road, but even the Ward boundaries, which at present respected the old Borough boundary, were about to be changed. Professor Ralph Turvey, to general amusement, asked if there were grants for the demolition of unsightly buildings. The President thought that everyone would have their favourite suggestions but did not disclose his own.

There being no other business, Sir Simon drew the meeting to a close at 7.40pm, thanking the Chairman, officers and members of the Council of the Society for the work they had done throughout the year. About 130 members attended the meeting.

Chairman's Report

Vice-Presidents

We were very sad to hear of the death of Alan Clark, a Vice-President of the Society. Although our Member of Parliament for a comparatively short time, he had very much endeared himself to all those with whom he had come in contact.

Membership

The current membership of the Society is 1,174.

The Council

Samantha Wyndham was co-opted as a member of the Council.

Jane Dorrell was appointed Hon. Editor in succession to Tom Pocock.

The Planning sub-committee of the Society for the year, under the chairmanship of Andrew Hamilton, comprised Michael Bach, Mark Dorman, Jane Dorrell, Eileen Harris, Hugh Krall and Nigel Stenhouse.

Affiliations

The Society is a member of the Civic Trust, the London Society, the London Forum of Civic and Amenity Societies, the River Thames Society, the Heathrow Association for the Control of Aircraft Noise and the West London River Group. The Society is a participating member of the Royal Borough's Visitor Management Strategy.

Publications

The 1998 Annual Report of the Society was the sixteenth and last to be produced under the editorship of Tom Pocock. It was well up to the high standard that Tom has established throughout his tenure in producing a report that is full of interest for all who love Chelsea.

The Society produced two Newsletters in 1999, one in January and another in June. These were edited by Michael Bach and, as usual, provoked a great deal of interest amongst members and also Councillors of the Royal Borough, to whom it is usually sent.

The Society has produced a new Christmas card for 1999 which brings together the two halves of the view of Chelsea from the Thames painted by Canaletto in 1747. It has proved so popular that it is already sold out.

We have also worked on producing a new "Join Now" leaflet which should soon be available.

Activities

1. Winter Lectures

Our twentieth season of lectures was held in the Small Hall of Chelsea Old Town Hall.

On 10 February, Sally Kevill-Davies gave a lecture on Chelsea China. This acted as a 'taster' for the exhibition later in the year for which Sally was our professional adviser. Sally is a former porcelain specialist at Sotheby's and is presently re-cataloguing the collection of English porcelain at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge.

On 2 March, Judy Faraday, official archivist of the John Lewis Partnership, gave us a lecture called 'Peter Jones-Cradle of the John Lewis Partnership'. This was a history of Chelsea's favourite shop, both before and after it became the store where John Spedan Lewis put into practice his revolutionary ideas of a business being organised as a workers' co-operative.

On 1 April, Peter Osgood gave us a fascinating talk on the Chelsea Houseboats, tracing the history of how a boat repair yard became a 'picturesque offshore village'. It was interesting to learn that many of the boats were originally barges or 're-cycled' military or small naval craft.

All the lectures were well attended.

2. Visits

The Society organised 4 visits during the course of the year:

On 17 March, a visit was organised to the London Sketch Club to see their Spring Exhibition and at the same time, a visit, across the road, to the Tite Street studio of famous Chelsea artist, Julian Barrow.

On 19 May there was a visit to 100 Cheyne Walk, which is a part of Lindsey House, to see the rear garden designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, one of the few Chelsea gardens to be 'listed'. A brief talk on the history of the house and its garden was given by the Chairman of the Society.

On 20 October a visit was made to the Pimlico showrooms of David Linley, maker of fine furniture and accessories in wood.

On 3 November a second visit was made to the London Sketch Club, to see their Autumn Exhibition and to hear a brief talk on the history of the Club given by its archivist, Christopher Lumgair. There was also another opportunity to meet Julian Barrow in his studio.

Wine was served at all the visits.

These visits, which are expertly organised by Jenifer Miller and Valerie Thomas, are tremendously popular, being over-booked, sometimes by two or three times. Members should therefore book well in advance and under no circumstances can they be admitted without having done so.

3. Chelsea Residents' Associations Meeting

The meeting this year was held in the Hall of Remembrance on 20 May. Councillor David Campion, Chairman of the Royal Borough's Planning and Conservation Committee, was present to answer questions with the help of his Executive Director, Mr. Michael French. There was, as always, a lively and forthright exchange of views.

4. 'Chelsea China from private collections' exhibition

This exhibition, which formed one of the main attractions of this year's Chelsea Festival, was held in the Main Hall of Chelsea Old Town Hall from 20 to 26 June. It was by far the most ambitious exhibition that the Society has organised in recent years. There were over 150 pieces on display. Items were loaned by H.M. the Queen, H.M. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, the Earl Cadogan and several other private owners who wished to remain anonymous.

The display material traced the history of the factory and its Chelsea context and the influences on the design of the porcelain. In addition, there was a re-creation of an English mid-eighteenth century dessert table.

The exhibition was organised by a sub-committee of the Council of the Society in association with Sally Kevill-Davies who was responsible for the expert advice upon which the whole success of the exhibition depended. Sally also wrote the splendid fully illustrated catalogue, the cost of which was borne by an anonymous donor, with all the proceeds from its sale, some £5,000, being given to the Chelsea Homelessness Project.

The exhibition itself was free with the considerable costs being met by its sponsors, Ernst & Young and Cadogan Estates Limited. Donations towards the costs were however invited and these amounted to almost £1,000.

The sponsors also generously paid for a reception and private view of the exhibition on the evening of 21 June. The Mayor of the Royal Borough, Councillor Mrs. Ian Frazer, was our principal guest and she kindly addressed the gathering.

Guided tours for specialist groups were organised during the course of the week. We estimate that some 2,500 visited the exhibition.

5. Summer Meeting

This year's meeting was held on 21 July and took place at Cremorne Gardens, by courtesy of the Royal Borough Parks department. Our guests of honour were the Mayor of the Royal Borough, Councillor Mrs. Ian Frazer and Mr. Ian Frazer. Members were able to enjoy this delightful small public garden and to gaze over to the Battersea bank which is now dominated by Lord Rogers' 'Montevetro' block of flats. A buffet supper with wine was served in a marquee specially erected for the occasion. Some 120 members and their guests were present.

Council's Activities

Our representative this year on the panel of assessors for the Royal Borough's Environment Awards was Jenifer Miller. She reported that there was a certain dearth of entries and made a plea that more people consider nominating suitable entries in future years.

On 4 October the Council were invited to see no. 61A Cadogan Square, a fascinating artist's studio house that has frontages to both Cadogan Square and Cadogan Gardens.

During the year, both the Planning Secretary and the Chairman chaired a series of meetings of the South Planning Forum. These were organised by the Royal Borough in order to review proposed amendments to the Unitary Development Plan. The Society argued that the UDP should afford more protection for the amenities of residents, especially in curbing the increase in restaurant uses.

On 19 May the Chairman attended a half-day seminar organised by the West London River Group and chaired by the Minister for London, Nick Raynsford M.P. This was to discuss 'The Thames Strategy - Kew to Chelsea' which is intended as a sequel to a similar, highly successful Strategy issued in 1994 and covering the Thames from Hampton to Kew. The success of any such strategic plan requires whole-hearted support from the local authorities so it is vital that they participate in its preparation. It was therefore most regrettable that, in spite of a personal note from Nick Raynsford to the Leaders of the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea and Wandsworth, both of these Councils refused to be represented at the seminar. In spite of this, the seminar was highly successful in that it achieved its aim of establishing a Steering Committee, under the chairmanship of English Heritage, to take the idea further.

Planning Applications

The Planning Sub-Committee of the Council looks at practically all planning applications made for development in Chelsea, with written representations being made in about 20% of cases. During the

past year 145 representations were submitted; of these, 14 were letters sent to the Planning Inspectorate during the course of an appeal against the Local Planning Authority's refusal to grant planning consent; in all of these cases we supported the Local Authority.

Significant applications have included the following:-

1. Probably the most important application during the year has been the proposal to re-develop part of the Duke of York's Headquarters in the King's Road. We felt that these proposals were for the most part sympathetic and we favoured the mix of uses proposed, rather than the site becoming yet another private high-class residential enclave.

We were however disappointed when the application was amended to include the demolition of the brick building, known as Mercury House, fronting King's Road. We did not consider the proposed new building to be a worthy replacement and preferred the original intention, which was to convert Mercury House (though we disliked the architectural treatment then proposed for its western elevation). We also disliked the design of the Cheltenham Terrace elevations of Queripel House, just to the south of the former chapel.

We also felt that the glass-sided cafe on the new piazza should be scaled down.

2. Three major applications were submitted during the year for the Riverside which, although outside the Royal Borough, were considered to impact greatly upon Chelsea. Of these, the most important was Albion Wharf where the Society lobbied extensively to have the re-development proposals scaled down. The original scheme, rising to 20 storeys, was first reduced to 16 storeys at which point the Secretary of State intervened and served an Article 14 Direction. The applicants then subsequently withdrew their application and submitted a scheme with 11 storeys. Whilst there has been a welcome reduction in the number of proposed flats, from 318 to 235, the Society remains concerned about the impact of this enormous monolith on the Riverside and especially the impact on the views from Chelsea Old Church.

Further upstream, we opposed both the Imperial Wharf Development in Fulham and the Gargoyle Wharf proposals in Battersea on the grounds that their tower blocks would dominate the Riverside and that improvements in public transport should be a prerequisite for re-development of both sites.

3. A continuing concern, reflected in many representations, is the gradual erosion of character and quality of life in Chelsea due to

the pervasive extension of restaurant use. This has been exacerbated by the local planning authority's inability to prevent change of use from retail to coffee shop, which would seem to us to fall more precisely into the same use category as restaurants. This matter is now being taken up with the Local Government Association.

During the year we opposed the extension of restaurant use at 250 Kings Road (The Old Register Office). We also opposed a retrospective application to extend restaurant use and replace a fine traditional shop front at 312 & 314 Kings Road (Cafe Milan).

Another application we opposed was the proposal to build a new 475 sq.m. restaurant over the Antiquarius Antique Market, accessed from 15 Flood Street. The applicants have now submitted a revised application substituting retail space for restaurant use.

We opposed a large number of applications for change of use to restaurants or increase in number of covers, or operating hours during the year, but in certain cases such as the Bluebird Restaurant it is noticeable that A3 use is being extended without Planning Consent.

In a similar vein we requested that the Council look into the proliferation of restaurants at the Chelsea Farmers' Market in Sydney Street – many of which appear not to have planning consent, nor to have any restriction on hours of operation.

4. Last year, it was reported that we had opposed an application to replace some early 19th century cottages at 66/70 Park Walk with a particularly dismal new block of flats. A modified application has recently been submitted which we still felt to be inappropriate. We were pleased that the Planning Committee deferred a decision in spite of their Officer's recommendation to grant consent.

Our hope remains that the developers can be persuaded to adopt a more sympathetic scheme.

5. Two applications were considered in respect of Harrods – one for the bizarre proposal that helicopters should land on the roof, which we referred to last year and a second concerning the extension of existing restaurants on the roof. We opposed both applications.

6. We were concerned at proposals to extend the number of temporary buildings in Battersea Park for large exhibitions, with attendant car parking, which we felt eroded the amenity of this popular public open space.

Night flying restrictions at Heathrow

We responded to the 'Second Stage Consultation' issued by the Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions, reiterating our view that there should be a ban on flying at Heathrow from 11pm. to 7am. Unfortunately, the Government has decided to continue with the completely unacceptable existing restrictions for a further 5 years.

King's Road

Work has proceeded throughout the year in the physical improvements being carried out by the Royal Borough to the 'public realm' of the King's Road. The Society generally welcomes and supports all that is being done. One feature of the alterations with which we do not agree is the introduction of staggered crossings for pedestrians at traffic lights. One of the main aims of the improvements is to provide a more pedestrian friendly environment; pedestrians want to cross the street as close as possible to their desired line of travel and to be able to cross in 'one go', not via a staggered crossing with a central reservation. Such crossings have in recent years been removed from both Sloane Square and Kensington High Street and their introduction in the King's Road can only be regarded as a retrograde step. On a practical note, some of the guarded central reservations provided are absurdly constrained, barely allowing two pedestrians to pass each other, let alone push-chairs and wheelchairs.

The King's Road Working Party set up by the Society has met regularly during the year. The Working Party has gathered information as to owners of buildings and occupiers of shops and has commissioned a survey of King's Road users. This survey is being jointly funded by the Royal Borough, the Cadogan Estate and the Sloane Stanley Estate, all of whom are represented on the Working Party. We hope soon to have a clear picture of who owns the King's Road, who presently uses it, and why. This will enable us to formulate policies as to what changes we want to encourage within the constraint that these must be likely to be achievable with co-operation of the majority of owners.

The Chelsea Museum

The Society's Museum Sub-Committee has also met regularly and has discussed and made representations for a Chelsea Museum. What we have in mind is not a room full of show cases with a collection of dusty objects; but rather a lively and interactive resource facility for all that are interested in the history of this part of London. The core material would be the Royal Borough's extensive archive

but this would be interpreted using the latest computer technology. Such a project is ambitious and will involve substantial investment. The Royal Borough, whose history and urban fabric is of world-wide importance, has a duty properly to conserve and disseminate the material at its disposal for the better education of all.

We believe that if such a venture were to be established it should be run by a specially formed Trust, independent of the Borough, though with Borough representatives being amongst the Trustees. In this way one could ensure that the 'dead hand' of local authority bureaucracy was kept at bay and also, such a Trust would be more likely to attract private funding.

Two tentative proposals have been before us during the year. One is for part of the former library in Manresa Road, which soon reverts to the Borough, being used for this purpose. This is presently being looked into by a Working Party of councillors. The Manresa Road building is of ample size and sound construction, and was originally given for use as a Public Library.

The other proposal forms part of the Cadogan Estate's proposals for redevelopment of the Duke of York's Headquarters. Although the location, just off King's Road and near Sloane Square is better than Manresa Road, the space allocated would not allow for expansion, and these proposals would also rely upon support and funding from the Borough.

The Millennium

Last year I reported that we had plans to promote a major piece of public sculpture at the junction of the King's Road and Park Walk. We have felt for a long time that this space at the bend in the King's Road, which already has a large paved area, deserved a strong feature on the axis of the King's Road. Our view was reflected in the Borough's own 'King's Road Character Study' of November 1995 which recommended "a new piece of public art" in this space. A substantial piece of sculpture could also celebrate the Millennium.

We have approached Sir Eduardo Paolozzi, who has lived and worked in Chelsea for the past 40 years and is a world-famous sculptor. He agreed to be involved with this project and has, most generously waived any fee. Sir Eduardo would like to celebrate Oscar Wilde in a bronze sculpture.

However we need to raise approaching £100,000 for the foundry costs.

We believe this to be a wonderful opportunity for Chelsea to acquire a new major piece of public art by a great contemporary artist to add to those by Epstein and Henry Moore.

We also plan to hold another one-day 'Millennium Conference' in 2000, similar to that which we held in 1998. The date has been fixed for Wednesday 4 October.

The Last Decade

As we approach the year 2000, it might perhaps be permissible to reflect on the achievements of The Chelsea Society over the last decade.

Above all, the Society is now more active than ever in all the areas of its activity. Some of the innovations introduced include visits to places of interest, exhibitions and guided walks organised as part of the Chelsea Festival and our one-day conference. We now have a proper sub-committee commenting on planning applications. Amongst our successful campaigns one would have to include the restoration of the Chelsea Embankment, improvements in street furniture and paving, especially in the King's Road, and success in preventing damaging major road plans. But we have had failures too: we have not succeeded in reducing aircraft noise, in preventing damaging developments on the Battersea riverside nor in our opposing the construction of the Chelsea & Westminster Hospital, which, no matter how fine and splendid a medical institution it may be, will always, in environmental terms, be a blot on the landscape of Chelsea.

It seems to me that the lesson to be drawn from this brief résumé is that the Society is most successful when it is being proactive and positive and less so when in the usual stance of an amenity group – in opposition. Perhaps this should act as a pointer to our future direction. We must of course never fail to voice our opposition when we consider it to be necessary, but if we always oppose change, we will be ignored.

Mr. President, this is the report of the Council of The Chelsea Society in its seventy second year; if there are any questions, I shall be pleased to answer them.

David Le Lay

Meeting of the Residents' Associations

The Annual Chelsea Society meeting for representatives of Residents' Associations was held on 20 May 1999. David Le Lay was in the chair and questions were fielded by Cllr David Campion, Chairman of the Planning Committee, and Michael French, Executive Director of Planning and Conservation. Several local councillors were present in the audience and they too were able to comment on some of the wide-ranging points which were raised. These included:-

§ The Lots Road Power Station redevelopment. There is a planning brief but no decision will be made until July 2000. Height will conform to London river rules.

§ The Council no longer has any responsibility for holes in the road excavated by public utilities and not filled in.

§ A Planning Brief had been prepared for the Duke of York's Headquarters. Many of the buildings were listed and the open space was safeguarded. The Council had supported the local residents' application to have the whole site listed on historical grounds.

§ Harrod's bid for the use of the roof as a helicopter landing pad had been turned down and there has been no appeal – so far.

§ The King's College site in Manresa Road is being vacated. The Chelsea Society would like the Library and Lightfoot Hall to be included in the Planning Brief. A working party is looking at possible uses for the former.

§ The redevelopment of the Ellesmere EPH will be funded by the Council disposing of the valuable Fulham Road frontage.

§ Glass reinforced plastic is now being considered for the plinth of Sir Hans Sloane's statue in the square which bears his name.

§ Westminster Council has approved residential development at Chelsea Barracks.

§ The Council was criticised for setting high rents in the Cremorne Estate which are forcing out small food shops. The rebuttal to this was that rents are fixed by the District Valuer.

§ Concerns were raised about the number of restaurants in the King's Road and about A1 uses (retailing) changing to A3 (restaurants) by stealth – for instance, selling coffee led to serving coffee which then led to the sale of hot food.

§ Lack of progress in providing pedestrian crossings at the dangerous Sydney Street/King's Road junction was criticised.

There was a bizarre end to the meeting. When the Chairman said he'd like to close the proceedings an unknown man in the audience (not a member of the Society) said: 'I bet you would – with a Walther 'PPK'. The nonchalant denizens of Chelsea, however, ignored this comment and made for the wine which, as always, ended the evening on a convivial note.

J.D.

The Royal Court Theatre – Into the Next Millennium

By Vikki Heywood

The English Stage Company moved into the Royal Court Theatre in the mid 1950s and under the artistic directorship of the great George Devine devoted itself to developing the work of contemporary playwrights. John Osborne's *Look Back in Anger* gave us the first naturalistic play in the postwar Fifties. Joe Orton's *Loot* and Edward Bond's *Saved* outraged in the swinging Sixties; *The Rocky Horror Show* exhilarated in the Seventies; Caryl Churchill's *Serious Money* caught the booming Eighties. The defining play of the Nineties might be the anarchic and shocking *Blasted* by Sarah Kane or the Irish ghost story *The Weir* by 26-year-old Conor McPherson currently running in the West End, and simultaneously on Broadway.

The Royal Court Theatre typifies the balance that must be achieved by arts organisations moving into the new millennium. The theatre looks to Chelsea and to London to provide a base for its operations, but it also looks to the wider world, both nationally and internationally, for its inspiration and its audience. It therefore provides a facility for local residents and forms part of the national and international identity of Chelsea.

Our shop front (as it were) is widely known and thankfully very popular with audiences. However, what is seen on the stage is very much the tip of the iceberg. The company, which is the British flag-ship theatre for new writing, has fifty writers on commission and is the largest commissioning theatre in the world. In addition it runs a year round programme of play development with young people. School should not be the only way that children are introduced to the arts and we invest considerable time in finding ways to meet young people, encouraging them to think of writing for the theatre as well as acting. We run a biennial Young Writers' Festival, a Playwriting in Schools Festival and a weekly young writers' group. We have a similar programme working with young writers in Palestine, Israel, Uganda, Germany, Spain and the US.

Running and financing a theatre for new writing is a complicated management feat. Nothing in new writing is a certainty. Great art is often only recognised in retrospect, so our duty as a contemporary theatre is to continue to fish in the ocean of new work. This can be an intensive, money and time-wasting process, but it has to be accepted

that great painting, music, poetry and plays come by inspiration, hard graft and talent, not always when or where you expect. Great playwrights are developed by having their plays produced – *Look Back in Anger* played to 40% capacity audiences when it was first produced at the Royal Court.

The Royal Court, like Britain and America, cannot survive in isolation and I believe that any healthy forward looking arts organisation has to be able to work co-operatively with other arts partners. This is especially true in the future as funding becomes more precious. But it is not simply for reasons of money that this is vital – it opens horizons and enhances the work. In the past two years we have co-produced with: Druid Theatre Company from Galway in Ireland; Clean Break Company which specialises in working in prisons; Tamasha Theatre Company who create work by Asian artists; the Abbey Theatre in Dublin; Graeae, a disabled performance group and Fiction Factory based in Wales – as well as other companies specialising in new writing or new methods of performance such as Paines Plough, Shared Experience and Out of Joint. Locally, the Youth Theatre works closely with many organisations including the Chelsea Centre and the Tabernacle.

What will the Royal Court be like when the houselights go down at our first public preview on 7 January 2000? A little bit different to the one George Devine found in 1955 and allegedly said “what a dump – it’s perfect – we’ll take it”. Thanks to the National Lottery, it will be a very different theatre to the one Walter Emden designed in 1888. We can be very grateful for that window of opportunity because what we have is one of the most successful and loved performance spaces in the country.

There was no point, if we were to create a theatre that would last for at least the next hundred years, in just making minor alterations. We had to address all the problems faced by modern audiences and artists in a Victorian theatre and rectify them with the best professional help available. That is why it has taken £19 million of lottery money – plus £7 million raised by the company to move out for three years and get it right. What we will have is one of the very few remaining playhouse theatres which has totally modern facilities within it. If we have got it right we won’t have thrown the baby out with the bath-water and will have preserved the essence of the Royal Court that people have a huge nostalgia for – and rightly so.

The whole original concept of the Court was based on audience separation: a profusion of inner staircases was built in order that the stalls never met the circle and the circle never met the upper circle. It had been bomb damaged in the war and very messed about when George Devine took it over in the Fifties. It was never built for producing its own productions but only for receiving existing plays. In

the last four years it has been producing as much work as the Royal National Theatre. Offices, technical equipment and dressing rooms were Dickensian (described by one famous actress as the worst slums in London). Facilities were not much better front of house – modern audiences don’t expect to have to hold their noses to enter a loo they have just queued for twenty minutes to get into. The flying system was condemned, the back wall disintegrating and the facilities for getting the sets in and out so restricted that our local residents were regularly disturbed in the early hours. If the Royal Court was to remain a national theatre for new writing and a venue that Chelsea could be rightly proud of, something had to be done.

The building will be accessible on all levels by lift. The seats, and views from the seats in both auditoria, will be dramatically improved. The front of house area will have increased in size and there will be much more access to light and fresh air. Air conditioning will enable audiences to concentrate on the play – not passing out. It may even be possible to have a drink and talk to your friends all in one interval!

Under the road an entirely new area has been created with natural light from pavement glass. There will be a medium-sized restaurant, bar and bookshop open all day to be used by our patrons and the local community. Because of proper soundproofing the rehearsal room can be used day and night and not disturb the audience. So for the first time our facilities will be available for other groups and our young writers to use in the evenings. We will be able to change over shows more efficiently and more quietly and allow us to continue to live and work cheek by jowl with our neighbours.

It is also planned that we create, behind the building on the other side of the alleyway, a young writers’ centre in a disused soil testing laboratory owned by London Underground. We fancifully call this ‘The Site’ where we will be creating a national and international centre – similar to the National Theatre Studio – but focusing on developing the skills of young playwrights while maintaining our principle to commit ourselves to the potential of many and the excellence of a few.

So why should Chelsea see the arts as vital to it as it looks forward to the new Millennium? I believe when you look at the Royal Court you see the answer. It is the very essence of Chelsea – that strange mixture of people that sees the young punk taking his mother to lunch at Peter Jones, or the anarchic young writer’s play performed in a Victorian playhouse theatre. The Royal Court is the wilful teenager in an enforced state of never growing up, living in the heart of the establishment rubbing up against the grown-ups. It is something that Chelsea has come to love and hate and ultimately – and wonderfully – accept.

Vikki Heywood is the Executive Director of the Royal Court Theatre

The Royal Military Asylum and The Grand Old Duke of York

By William Unthank

Introduction

Above the great Tuscan tetrastyle portico of the Duke of York's Headquarters in Chelsea there was once written in stone:

THE ROYAL MILITARY ASYLUM FOR THE CHILDREN OF
SOLDIERS OF THE REGULAR ARMY

The Asylum was conceived 200 years ago when, in 1799, Parliament ratified a bill put before the Commons by William Windham, Secretary at War, for building and maintaining a boarding school for the orphans of British soldiers. The proposed site was close to the Royal Hospital so that, 'both ends of a soldier's life would meet,' said Windham, 'in the one they would find asylum in their infancy, and in the other a retreat in their old age'. He asked for £25,000 but by 1801, when the foundation stone was laid by the Duke of York, Parliament had agreed to pay the full cost of the building and granted £24,000 a year to run it.

The patron of the Royal Military Asylum was the 'Grand Old Duke of York'. Memories of him have faded with the years leaving his lonely figure standing on an austere pre-Nelsonian column above his flight of steps in Waterloo Place, gazing across at his old stamping ground, the Horse Guards' Parade. The lightning conductor which rises from his laurel wreath, was said at the time of his elevation to be the spike on which the mountain of his unpaid bills would be skewered. Probably for most people he is familiar only as the comic hero of a lampoon, written anonymously after the failure of his campaigns in Holland against the French in 1793-4:

The noble Duke of York,
He had ten thousand men,
He marched them up to the top of the hill,
And he marched them down again, etc.

But he deserves better than that.



Sketches at the Royal Military Asylum
from The Graphic, 16 May, 1880

Frederick, Duke of York

Frederick was born in 1763, George III's second, and favourite son. His rise to high office was meteoric. While still in his cot he was elected Bishop of Osnabrück, a tiny principality in the gift of the Elector of Hanover which was really a sinecure carrying no episcopal duties but providing a nice little income of £20,000 a year. At the age of 4 he became a Knight of the Bath to which was added the Garter four years later. At 17 his ambition turned towards soldiering and he was commissioned colonel of the Grenadier Guards and two years later promoted to major-general.

The singular conjunction of ecclesiastical and military titles led Cruikshank to depict him in a cartoon, *Half Seas Over*, dressed as half bishop, half general with the bishop wielding the sword and the general grasping the crook.

At the age of 17 he was packed off to Hanover to polish up his French and German and to learn the military art in which the Germans then excelled. He met his hero Frederick the Great and developed a taste for gambling which ensured that his income would never again equal his debts. Upon his return to England, aged 23, he joined the Prince of Wales and his friends at Carlton House where they had established a rival court to the King's. Here life had become one of extravagant dissipation and for a time Frederick entered into the mindless roistering in which so many of the Hanoverian boys engaged.

Seven years later the Duke was given the chance that he had been longing for; on 1 February 1793 France declared war on England and Holland and he could at last put his military training into practice. He was appointed commander of the British expeditionary force and he fought two campaigns in Holland in 1793 and 1794, neither of which was successful, and for that he largely took the blame. On his return the lampoon *The Noble Duke of York* was circulated and historians have been unkind to the Duke's military skills. Col. Alfred Burne has argued against this view in his account of these campaigns, 'putting much of the blame on the Stadholder, the Prince of Orange, whom Fortescue, the great military historian, described as 'a man of almost inhuman dullness, apathy and stupidity'.²

Burne went to some pains to discover the source of the lampoon which has so unkindly preserved the name of the Duke of York in the popular memory. He failed but he found that, just as the song 'Marlbrouck s'en va-t-en guerre' was composed long before the birth of John Churchill, so there was in existence a nursery rhyme going back to at least 1594 which ran:

The King of France went up the hill
With twenty thousand men;
The King of France came down the hill
And never went up again.

Burne points out that there are no hills anywhere near the Duke's campaigns; as Noel Coward might have said, 'very flat, Holland'.

Returning from these campaigns the Duke was appointed Commander-in-Chief with his base at the Horse Guards where he began work on what was to be the major achievement of his career, that of reforming army administration. During the first years of the Napoleonic Wars he transformed the army into a relatively professional force without which Wellington's campaigns might have had a very different outcome. Burnes quotes Fortescue: 'In 1795 he took over a number of undisciplined and disorganised regiments, filled for the most part with the worst stamps of man and officer, and in less than seven years he converted these unpromising elements into an army'.³ In 1809 Wellesley gave 'HRH' a glowing testimonial of the success of his army reforms too long to quote.

The other achievement to which the Duke's name is attached is, of course, the founding of the Royal Military Asylum whose importance in the history of British education has only recently been recognised. According to historians the state funding of education began with the factory schools in the middle of the nineteenth century but Dr Patricia Lin, in her unpublished doctoral thesis, *Extending her Arms*,⁴ has shown that the military schools founded half a century earlier were the real beginning of state education. Indeed the Royal Military Asylum was Britain's first co-educational, state-funded, state-administered school. Dr Lin argues that the reason Parliament was prepared to finance the military schools was the necessity of encouraging recruitment during the Napoleonic Wars. Unlike France and Prussia, where conscription maintained large standing armies, Parliament, wised up by James II's attempts to use the army against parliament in the 1680s, remained stubbornly opposed to conscription. A soldier therefore had to be cajoled into the army by improving his pay and conditions and offering him some security not only for himself but for his family. This was the task that the Duke took on when he became commander-in-chief and a military orphanage fitted in well with these reforms at a time when Napoleon's lengthening shadow across the channel was turning the country's attention towards the defence of the realm.

The Royal Military Asylum

The Royal Military Asylum was designed to take 700 boys and 300 girls. The Duke of York laid the foundation stone in 1801 and its doors opened to the first 200 pupils in 1803. The Duke was an active patron who was popular with the children and he remained a frequent visitor for the rest of his life.

The Asylum is built of London stock brick and Portland stone in a plain Georgian style with a grand tetrastyle portico of the Tuscan order. As Pevsner observes, 'The combination of austerity and dignity is wholly successful'.⁵ The building, which is listed Grade II*, was designed by John Sanders (1768-1826), the first of Sir John Soane's pupils who, over the next 20 years went on to build over 200 barracks and make his fortune. The cost of buildings and land was £104,187 4s 2d. The land was originally leased for 78 years from Lord Cadogan, whose seat had once been here, but the Asylum governors were later able to buy the freehold. Behind the central building was a laundry and in 1810 an infirmary was built beside it which was attended by some distinguished physicians including, at the time of an outbreak of ophthalmia, the King's oculist. The Asylum workshops were originally built along the King's Road but in 1865 these were demolished to make way for shops and were replaced by the present building behind the north wing.

In 1835 a chapel was built in the north-west corner of the grounds and, in 1855, a normal school for training army teachers was added in Turk's Row – the building now known as Cavalry House. Both these are listed, the last as recently as 1998. In the second half of the nineteenth century the Asylum boys, in the summer months, put on displays of gymnastics on the surrounding lawns which became a popular spectacle in Chelsea and in 1901 a fine new gymnasium was built for them, now renamed Cadogan Hall. Later a running track was laid out round these lawns which became famous as the practice ground used by Roger Bannister and Christopher Chataway when they were training for the four minute mile.

In 1856 there was a proposal to close the Asylum and turn it into a barracks; a protest meeting was called and a year or two later the idea was dropped. The Asylum continued as a military boarding school until 1909 when the boys were moved to new buildings in Dover where the school continues to flourish. The Asylum buildings then became the London headquarters of the Territorial Army. In 1928 the government threatened to sell the site and there was talk of building on the lawns and even of demolishing the Headquarters itself. Protest was vigorous and questions asked in the House and after nearly 3 years of anxious uncertainty the proposal was shelved. This time in 1999 the government has finally accomplished its aim,



A Gymnastic Display

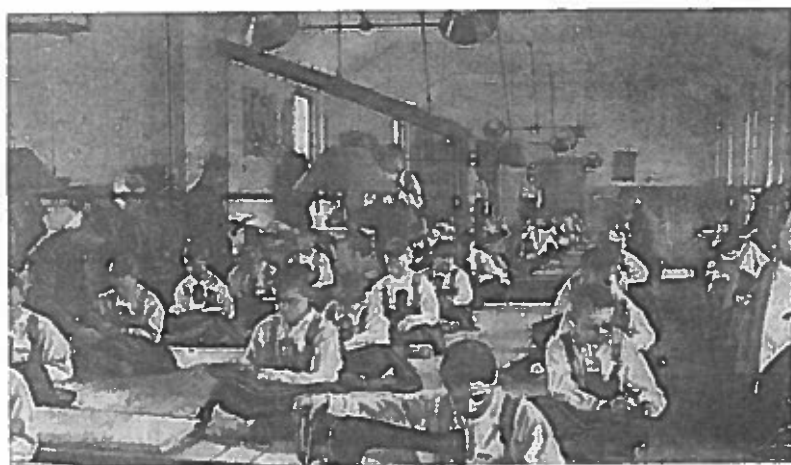
though it has been rather more sensitive in matters of architectural heritage, and might even be said to have shown a nostalgic sense of history in choosing to negotiate exclusively with the Cadogan Estate to whom the site will now return after 200 years.

The Education of the Poor and the Role of State-funded Schools

Before 1870 local Parish schools, Church schools, both elementary and grammar, Chantry schools and Charity schools educated the poor, not the state. During the 18th century there was continual dispute about education for the poor. The opposition included Samuel Richardson and Bernard de Mandeville who held that it would make the poor discontented with their station in life. The French Revolution increased many such people's fears of the consequences of educating the masses. Those in favour of education included Adam Smith, Thomas Malthus and Samuel Whitbread who believed that an enlightened peasantry would become 'acquainted with the true view of frugality, sobriety, industry and order'.⁶ During the 19th century bills calling for compulsory state education came before Parliament repeatedly from 1824 until the Compulsory Primary Education bill was finally passed in 1870. The exception to this stubborn rejection of the state's responsibility for educating the poor was the establishment of the military schools, the first and foremost of which was the Royal Military Asylum, but the motive for this, as has been explained, was altogether different.

The education at the RMA was based on the contemporary régime at Christ's Hospital. It consisted of reading, writing, and simple arithmetic interspersed with lessons in trade and crafts, and later on physical training was added. The sexes were well segregated with the boys in the south wing and the girls in the north. In 1816 many of the girls were transferred to Southampton where a school had been opened for them. In 1827 the rest followed. A report in the School Chronicle of 1899 referred to the 1827 exodus as 'owing to the naughty, not to say giddy conduct of the fair sex, who were exiled to Southampton to the apparent and subsequent peace of the authorities at Chelsea'.

Teaching took place in one of the four great rooms leading off the main entrance hall. These rose to the height of two storeys with the windows of the second storey forming a clerestory. The boys were divided into classes each of which sat round its own instructor with the head taking his position nearest the fire. Work was set and during the class the boys came up individually to be tested on it. That was the tradition in the grammar schools from the 15th century, when great halls were built to accommodate up to two to three hundred children, and it continued to be the norm in charity schools throughout the first half of the 19th century.⁷ The RMA had a library and in 1808 £20 was spent on books for the boys. Equipment for games was provided, together with toys and musical instruments for the band; clowns and entertainers were regularly brought in and expeditions made to the Isle of Wight to partake of the health-giving



The Tailors' Workshop

properties of sea bathing. On the other hand discipline was rigorous and punishment harsh, as it was at its model, Christ's Hospital.

Children were admitted from 5 till 14 when they were discharged either to trade or the army, a choice they had to make at 12. Dr Lin found that between 1803 and 1812, 43% of the boys went into trade, 29% into the army, 16% were withdrawn by parents, 6% were illegally detained by parents and 5% died.

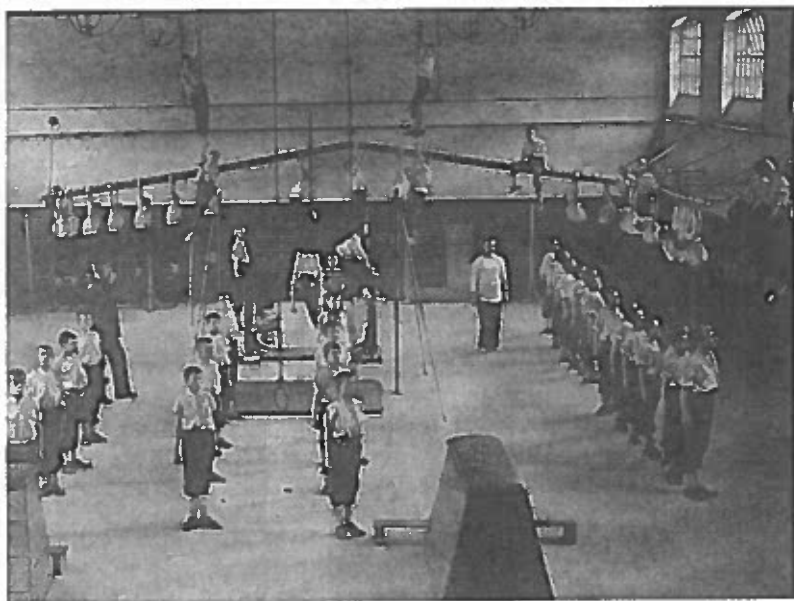
The number of masters and ushers was very limited in most grammar schools in the 16th and 17th centuries; often there was no more than one master and an usher. In the 19th century even the sententious Dr Arnold at Rugby, a school which catered for children of the well-to-do, was making a virtue of necessity by running the school through the unruly older boys whose tyranny he licensed in exchange for some semblance of order in the rest of the school. At the RMA, which did not have to rely on the uncertainties of voluntary contributions, there were still comparatively few teachers and so the Reverend Dr Andrew Bell's monitor system, in which older and brighter boys taught the younger ones, was introduced. So successful was this at the RMA that army schools in England and army outposts all over the world asked for monitors to come and give them short courses in the method. Then in 1812 training courses for sergeant-schoolmasters were started at the RMA. They came from nearly every regiment in the country and within two years nearly 130 had been through the course. By 1812 the government was educating over 14,000 boys and girls in military schools at a cost of more than £81,000 a year.⁸

Physical Education

The cult of athleticism in the public schools began among the boys at the beginning of the 19th century and was later taken up by their masters who persuaded themselves that team games provided unrivalled training for the leadership and endurance required by officers on the battlefield and in the Empire.

By contrast physical training, athletics and gymnastics, ignored in most public schools until the end of the 19th century,⁹ were introduced to the RMA from Germany by PH Clais in 1823. In *An Elementary Course of Gymnastic Exercises* he describes walking, jumping, running and balancing exercises and he introduced a new style in swimming – the breaststroke.

Plainly it was thought that children at the military schools needed gymnastics for strong, healthy bodies to make them good private soldiers and NCOs, whereas children at the public schools needed team games for 'strength of character' and 'leadership' to make them good officers and Captains of Empire.



The New Gymnasium

The Decline of Standards

After the Duke of York's death in 1827 the standards of education evidently went into a steep decline. By 1846 we find Henry Moseley, a school inspector, writing a confidential report for the Privy Council in which he stated that 'in the whole of my experience, now extensive in the inspection of secondary schools, I have visited none so little deserving of commendation'.¹⁰

The numbers of boys had fallen from 1200 in 1823 to 330. The task of secular instruction was in the hands of six school-sergeants and a sergeant major of instruction. The inspector remarks: 'I have no other means of forming an opinion [of their qualifications] than that which is supplied me by the gross ignorance of the boys'. The school-sergeants 'carry canes and are permitted to use them for minor offences. Graver offences are punished by flogging, by confinement in a cage or a black hole, by carrying a log chained to the person or by the drill'. In one month there were 10 floggings of 12 stripes and 2 of 24 stripes and in the preceding month 17 of 12 stripes. The inspector found that 'as many floggings were inflicted on 350 boys at Chelsea in 6 weeks as upon 400 boys at Greenwich in a twelvemonth'. Twice as many boys were sick in the infirmary at

Chelsea than at Greenwich and six had died the year before compared with one at Greenwich. At Chelsea there was no apparatus of instruction – no blackboards, easels, maps or globes but they did have a lending library of 263 volumes. It is not too clear who used it as the inspector goes on to criticise the boys' reading, spelling and arithmetic. 'In reading they make a measured pause after every word ... In their manner of reading no reference whatever to the connection of the words is apparent or to the sense. No ray of intelligence lights up their faces as they read'. In his summary he expresses his 'sense of the injustice which has been done to these children in debarring them, almost from their infancy, from every element of instruction proper to the growth of their intellectual life'.

Mr Moseley's report had its effect. A vote of censure was carried against the Commissioners, the Commandant, the Chaplain, the Doctor and everyone responsible for the management at Chelsea. Reform quickly followed. The Asylum was remodelled and a new training school for regimental schoolmasters was set up, though initially with some resistance from the Horse Guards who expressed alarm at the idea of so much book-learning for prospective soldiers. But by 1850 the children, after learning 'the rudiments', were being taught the following subjects: Scripture; History of England, the Colonies, India, Greece, Rome and France; Arithmetic, slate and mental; Geography; Natural History; Grammar, Dictation and Composition; Object Lessons and Writing. More advanced boys went on to study Algebra, Mensuration and Fortification.

The Horse Guards: *Vale atque Ave*

By the time the Duke of York opened the Royal Military Asylum in 1803 he was no longer the constant companion of the Prince of Wales. He had begun to lead a somewhat more settled life, albeit not with his Duchess, who lived in the country with 40 dogs for company, but with his new mistress, Mary Anne Clarke. This affair ended, however, in scandal. Mrs Clarke admitted to selling promotions to army officers and Col. Wardle, MP for Okehampton, accused the Duke of complicity calling, in 1809, for an inquiry before the full House of Commons.¹¹ Although his name was cleared the Duke resigned as C-in-C while Mrs Clarke became, for a few intoxicating months, the most notorious woman in England.

However the Duke was not out of office for long. In February 1811 the King went mad again, General Dundas, the temporary commander-in-chief who was in his dotage, resigned and the Prince of Wales, on becoming regent, reappointed his brother, Frederick, as C-in-C allowing him to return to his old seat in the Horse Guards where he remained for the rest of his life. Under his guidance the

army continued to grow in efficiency and the Napoleonic Wars came to a satisfactory conclusion. In his later years the Duke's keen pursuit of the sporting life remained unconfined, his racing stables were second to none and his prowess with the gun reached its zenith in one day's shoot when he brought down 98 pheasants with his own gun *besides other game*. Three years later, in 1827 aged 64, 'the Soldier's Friend' died of the dropsy but after seven years in limbo he rose again by public acclamation to stand, crowned by the laurel, upon his simple Tuscan column.

I am particularly indebted to Dr Patricia Lin for her kindness in loaning her unpublished thesis in which she shows, for the first time, that the origins of state education lie in the military schools.

¹ Burne, Lt Col Alfred H. *The Noble Duke of York*. Staples Press, London, 1949.

² Fortescue, Sir John. *History of the British Army*. 13 Vols, London, 1899-1930.

³ *Idem*. Vol IV, p 929, London 1913.

⁴ Lin, Patricia. *Extending Her Arms: Military Families & the Transformation of the British State 1793-1815*. Berkeley 1997. Unpublished.

⁵ Pevsner, Nikolaus. *The Buildings of England: London*, Vol II. Penguin, London 1952.

⁶ Lin, Patricia. *Ibid*.

⁷ Seaborne, Malcolm. *The English School*. Vol I, London, 1971.

⁸ Lin, Patricia. *Ibid*.

⁹ McIntosh, P. C. *Physical Education in England from 1800*. London, 1851.

¹⁰ Cockerill, A. W. *Sons of the Free (Appendix A)*. Leo Cooper/Secker & Warburg, London, 1984.

¹¹ Clarke, Mary Anne. *The Rival Princes, or a Faithful Narrative of Facts &c, &c, &c*, 2vols, 2nd edn, London, 1810.

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Sandoe's, Survival of the Fittest

By Johnny de Falbe

"I didn't believe shops like this existed any more!" ... "How wonderful you're still here!" ... "You never change!" (with an indulgent smile) ... From the number of times I've heard people express surprise that John Sandoe (Books) Ltd still exists, or ever existed, I might begin to suspect that I live in a timewarp, or fallen victim to chronic Cartesian doubt. But though Sandoe's is often perceived as an anachronism, the fact is that it flourishes – and has changed more than appears.

The business was started in 1957 by John Sandoe, who learned the trade at Bumpus in Oxford Street. The premises were allegedly found by Felicité Gwynne when she brought her dog to be seen by Mr O'Neill, the vet at No 8 Blacklands Terrace. Mr O'Neill is still there, but what Felicité saw along the street was slightly different from what is to be seen now. Hard to believe, but our famously cramped shop housed three separate businesses then. No 10, after a spell as a poodle parlour, was a dress shop – the mirror is still there in our basement stockroom. The ground floor and basement of No 12 was a secondhand bookshop run by Tom and Ros Chatto (she has remained a loyal customer); upstairs was a secretarial business.

When John began he also sold Christmas cards and, since the premises held a tobacconist's licence dating from the 1920s, he also sold cigarettes. In due course the books displaced the rest, and upstairs and next door were taken over. The number of books goes on increasing and, with books piled high up the stairs and on every surface other than the computer keyboard itself, it is beginning to become a challenge to find new space.

From the outset the shop has been staffed by people who love books. This remains as true now as it ever was and it is this, above all, which imposes a character on the shop: people tend to be struck – I think it is fair to say – by its bibliographic, rather than commercial, aspects. If a disproportionate number of writers and actors are regular clients, it may be because they sense this. Or it may simply be that they live nearby and have to buy their books somewhere.

Having regular customers with interesting literary tastes affects

the character of the shop subtly. Seeing unusual books, people sometimes ask if we specialise in any way. We don't – other than by trying to keep bad books out. But if you know that Mr A and Ms B are particularly interested in Byzantine history, then you can buy a new book on their subject and leave it lying around. You can be fairly confident that they will buy it if nobody else does, but if a new face picks up that book with excitement then you have won a new customer. Thus our customers' tastes influence the shop enormously: if the shop has interesting books, it is because there are regular customers to buy them. What is more surprising is our international reach. We send out huge numbers of books all over the world and – despite Amazon.com – this aspect of the business has been growing fast in the last couple of years.

The remarkable constancy (torpor?) of staff at Sandoe's is partly responsible for the shop's impression of continuity: in 42 years, seven people have worked there for more than ten years. It is true too that the outward aspect of the shop has not changed much, but there is no need for it to do so because it works – and if it ain't broke, etc. Whatever happens, the shop has to be full of books. If we moved premises we would soon just be retailing managers, hiring cashiers, cataloguers and shelf-stackers; we would cease to be booksellers.

Yet in certain respects we are not just doing the same things that we have always done. If we seem to be the same shop as we were 10/20/30/40 years ago, it is partly because we have made use of technological developments as they have suited us. We have been ordering on-line for years now, both in the UK and the USA, and we are about to launch our website. If someone says how nice it is that we haven't gone all modern it's rather pleasing because it shows that they feel comfortable: but it isn't strictly true. And if we had not "gone all modern" then we could not be efficient nowadays, which would offend even the most aggressive Luddite who wanted a book.



Scenes at the Chelsea Organic Market in 1999





The Royal Court Theatre under wraps, 1999



*The refurbished Royal Court will open in January 2000
(see p21)*



*Cheyne Walk and Cadogan Pier before the construction of the
Embankment*



An eighteenth-century dessert table designed for the Chelsea China exhibition



Above, Ranelagh Masqueraders, and below Nine Cupids, on show at the Chelsea China exhibition



A showcase at the exhibition



The Mayor, Councillor Mrs Ian Fraxer, at the opening of the Chelsea China Exhibition.

(see pp48-51)



These pictures of Chelsea China are by Henry Wilson and are reprinted with his kind permission.



Sir Hans Sloane showing a haughty disdain for the traffic in his eponymous square.



Two scenes of the memorial service to Tony Smith G.C. On the left are standard bearers, and on the right the Last Salute. (see pp52-53)



The summer meeting of the Society at Cremorne Gardens, with Montevetro in the background, dwarfing St Mary's church, Battersea.



The neo-Tudor façade of Crosby Hall nears completion....



...embellished by an imposing heraldic device.

(see pp54-55)

Chelsea Reclaimed

By Peter Thorold

I have a first memory of Chelsea which is awkward in its naivety. Soon after the war, a boy and relatively unfamiliar with London, I set off from my parents' house in Pelham Place – ('don't you find it inconvenient, living so far out?' someone asked my father in the thirties) – to the King's Road, a venture into bohemian London. If not exactly apprehensive, I was a touch wary. As if perhaps I was off to Soho. In fact, Chelsea in the forties, except for the occasional party and the odd pub like the Queen's Elm, was hardly Bohemia. But ten or twelve years before it had been, or at least was considered as such. In 1934, Patrick Balfour (Lord Kinross) wrote in his lively *Society Racket* that 'Chelsea still connotes to the older generation the epitome of all that is abandoned in London life'. He gave the example of an elderly gentleman who enquired about a set of people involved in publicity over a murder case. 'What sort of world do they belong to?', was the question. 'Very much the underworld', replied Balfour. 'I understand. Chelsea', said the elderly gentleman. Even for those somewhat younger, Chelsea was raffish. A *Punch* cartoon of 1924 shows a middle-aged couple sitting on the floor; the husband is pleading, 'I say, Monica, do let's leave Chelsea and sit on chairs again'.

Chelsea, in terms of fashion, money, respectability, in most things apart from artistic achievement, had been in eclipse since the middle of the nineteenth century. Around 1870, the eminent French philosopher and critic, Hippolyte Taine, visited Chelsea twice in three days and each time he saw men lying in the gutter dead-drunk, a sight that clearly he regarded as unusual. Other visitors' impressions were no more favourable. As one would expect, photographs are revealing. A very striking pair, both of Sloane Square in 1895, are to be found in Benny Green's *The Streets of London*. One shows the station corner, with a dispensary for sick animals in the process of collapse and the underground station itself, so desolate that it is hard to believe that the trains ever stopped there. (Perhaps, like the old Brompton Road station by the Oratory, they usually gave it a miss). The other is of the south-west corner of the square with a row of shabby buildings dominated by 'Sir Thos. Dodd & Co.' selling glass shades, and in huge letters, the warning "No Tick".

Sir Thos. Dodd & Co. was swept away with much of eastern Chelsea in the energetic rebuilding programme launched in Hans Town by Lord Cadogan in the 1870s when many of the existing leases expired. It was this redevelopment over approximately twenty years which prepared the way for Chelsea's revival. It was immediately successful not only

because it provided substantial town houses suitable for prosperous buyers, but for the novelty and the attraction of the architectural style, later named 'Pont Street Dutch'. At the other end of Chelsea, respectability was reasserted by the closure of the disruptive Cremorne Gardens and, as a result, the disappearance of the prostitutes.

Rehabilitation was steady but slow. At first, there even appeared to be a regression. At the start of the twentieth century William Morris's daughter could describe Chelsea as a 'gilded desert to those who knew it in the seventies'. The term she uses is significant, for it is not one which would fit an actual slum. And there is a distinct anomaly about this down-at-heel Chelsea. The 1901 census gives it a ration of 55.2 servants per 100 families, lower than Hampstead, Kensington or Westminster but higher than Marylebone or Paddington. But when the statistics concentrate on the select category of indoor male servants, Chelsea comes right up behind Westminster. A core of wealthy residents remained. There was of course Lord Cadogan at Chelsea House on the site of Cadogan Place, and they were very evident on the riverside, the heart of old Chelsea, where some substantial modern houses were constructed. Swan House, destroyed in the Blitz, was one, and another was Monkswell, at the end of the 1870s. Fronting the embankment, it backed on to Dilke Street, and was provided with stables, a tennis court and some eighteen indoor servants.

To Collier's daughter-in-law the riverside seems to have existed almost independently of Chelsea as a whole. She compared its approaches favourably to the 'rows of mean shops and dull houses' of Pimlico which had confronted her on the way to her previous home. Nevertheless, a contemporary newspaper article, while admitting that Pimlico (which it called 'South Belgravia') could not be compared in terms of fashion to Belgravia proper or to the Queens Gate area, stated that it was 'a cut above Chelsea, which is only commercial'.

To Patrick Balfour in 1934, Chelsea was on the way up. He is laughing at the old fogies. Harold Clunn in 1927, in his *London Rebuilt 1897-1927*, is cautious. Chelsea is now 'a fairly handsome quarter of London'. Clunn applauds the rebuilding of Hans Town, but that was after all in the nineteenth century, and he seems disappointed by the absence of anything much since. The King's Road, Clunn says, has never enjoyed anything like the same popularity as a shopping centre as most of the other principal London streets. But the most thorough examination of the demography of Chelsea at the time is the *New Survey of London Life and Labour*, published in 1934 on the basis of data collected between 1929 and 1931. Broadly speaking, the proportion of better-off – an imprecise word but the statistics allow nothing else – as shown in the *New Survey* is in west London much the same as it was thirty years before as set out in its famous predecessor, Charles Booth's 1902 survey. In Fulham and Hammersmith the proportion had declined, in Kensington and Westminster it is significantly higher, while for Chelsea there is a noticeable

if lesser improvement. However, pretty well everywhere, the proportion of the population living in poverty has fallen. From the accompanying maps it is evident that Chelsea contained virtually no outright slums. There are patches of poor – usually in the housing estates such as Sutton Dwellings, and in Flood Street and the Lots Road area and along the west side of Arthur Street (now Dovehouse Street) next to Trafalgar Square, which in the thirties was to be lavishly rebuilt and renamed Chelsea Square. What stands out is the still unreclaimed central zone running east/west from Sloane Avenue to St Luke's, and north/south from the Fulham Road nearly to the river. The streets here are coloured almost entirely pink to denote what are characteristically working-class cottages and middle-class lodgings. The survey substantiates Clunn who refers to the 'gaping and half-demolished slums, leading out of Sloane Avenue, which appear to have resisted all attempts to dislodge them'. And – from other evidence – it is clear that even Hans Town had some way to go. Despite the fact that Pont Street is only a few minutes walk from Belgrave Square it was not well considered by the fashionable. Loelia Ponsonby, later Duchess of Westminster, recalled that in the early twenties when 'dancing was more than a craze, it had become a sort of mystical religion' she and her friends sometimes attended 'what we scornfully called a "gramapont" – that is, a gramophone dance in Pont Street, a district we despised'.

Harold Clunn revisited Chelsea in print twice more. His *Face of London* of 1932, its tone more upbeat, notes numerous changes. You now, for example, had to drive round Sloane Square rather than across it. Large apartment blocks like Swan Court were making their appearance. As to the 'pink' central area though, progress was disappointingly slow; how astonishing, Clunn thought, that it remained out of favour with Londoners. In his 1947 *London Marches On* (an inept title given the slowness of rebuilding after the war) one recognises the almost fully rehabilitated Chelsea although it was surely anachronistic for Peter Jones to be referred to as a 'drapery store'. The fine town houses of Cadogan Square are selling rapidly, and around Sloane Avenue a 'handsome new quarter is growing up'.

So Chelsea was rich again. What about the dispossessed, the poor and the artists? Many of the poor had been expelled in Lord Cadogan's wholesale redevelopment, others dispersed gradually, leaving by the early fifties a strong presence still in South Stanley ward, and unhappy remnants in the smarter areas. As to the heirs of Whistler, Sargent, Sickert and John, we can refer once more to Patrick Balfour. High rents paid by newcomers devoted to studios if not necessarily to art, pushed them out. First they went to Montparnasse and, when fashion caught up with them there, on 'to places like Cassis and Cagnes'. So that could have been worse.

Peter Thorold is the author of 'The London Rich' published by Viking at £25

Chelsea China

"... that fine and distinguish'd Manufactory"

By Sally Kevill Davies

Because England enjoyed none of the advantages of royal patronage, from which the great eighteenth-century porcelain factories of Germany and France so palpably benefited, all the English factories were set up as commercial enterprises which were forced to pay their way from the start. Indeed, the history of these early factories is punctuated with the stories of fortunes, lives and reputations ruined by the obsessive quest for the secret of 'true' or hard-paste porcelain, as made in China, Japan and Germany. Chelsea is the first English factory recorded as having made porcelain, but it was an 'artificial' or 'soft-paste' porcelain similar to that made in France at Vincennes and later Sèvres, where a body more akin to glass than porcelain was used. Confirmation that success had been achieved was publicised in the *Daily Advertiser*, 5 March, 1745. 'We hear that China made at Chelsea is arriv'd to such Perfection, as to equal if not surpass the finest old Japan, allow'd so by the most approv'd Judges here; and that the same is in so high Esteem of the Nobility and the Demand so great, that a sufficient Quantity can hardly be made to answer the Call for it'.

The factory was set up in a number of converted dwelling-houses in the riverside village of Chelsea, under the artistic aegis of Nicholas Sprimont, a young Huguenot silversmith from Liège. Chelsea was a pleasant spot noted, in the middle of the eighteenth century, for its good air and market gardens, and the country home of Sir Hans Sloane, the celebrated physician, scientist and collector. The proximity of Ranelagh Gardens, and Vauxhall a short wherry ride away on the opposite bank, attracted the *beau-monde*, while Don Saltero's Coffee House was a convivial meeting place where literary and artistic matters could be discussed by the likes of Tobias Smollett and Louis-François Roubiliac.

Chelsea's Ranelagh was considered the most exclusive of London's eighteenth century pleasure gardens. The *beau-monde* gathered there during the summer months for ballooning, fireworks and 'spectacles', for concerts, gaming, dancing and dining, but, most

importantly, to see and to be seen. As Horace Walpole succinctly remarked in 1742, the year in which the Rotunda was opened, 'Nobody goes anywhere else, everybody goes there'.

Ranelagh was the scene of numerous *masques* and entertainments, where a black *domino* pulled across the face, obliterated the identity of revellers and performers alike, adding to the air of delicious mystery. The night of 24 May 1759 saw one such masque, held to celebrate the birthday of Frederick, Prince of Wales. Chelsea figures were traditionally held to portray characters from that masque, though none corresponds exactly with the figures in the prints made to commemorate the occasion, by Bowles after Maurer.

The early Chelsea wares, made between 1745 and 1749, at a time when Sprimont was still continuing with his work as a silversmith, were mainly left in the white or sparsely decorated in enamels, but all show an individualistic treatment of the French Rococo style, used by Sprimont and other contemporary Huguenot silversmiths. They bear the triangle mark incised, the triangle being the alchemist's sign for Fire. During this period Sprimont is known to have received financial assistance from Sir Everard Fawkener, the brother of the Governor of the Bank of England, and Secretary to the Duke of Cumberland.

For about a year, between 1749 and 1750, Sprimont closed down his rapidly expanding business, during which time he moved to larger, purpose-built premises facing onto Lawrence Street. When he re-opened for business he proclaimed that his wares were 'in a Taste entirely new' and for the next decade the Chelsea factory prospered. At first, the mark used was an anchor in relief on a small pad of clay. It has been suggested that this may be a rebus of Sprimont's name, the 'Spri', or 'Spre' as it is sometimes misspelt represented by the anchor of Hope (the Latin for 'I Hope' is 'Spero'), and the 'mont' represented by the small 'mount', or pad of clay on which the anchor is set. In 1752, the mark changed to a less cumbersome anchor painted in red enamel.

With the move to Lawrence Street, the formula of the paste and glaze was modified to produce a clear white, slightly opaque, surface on which to paint. Nicholas Sprimont employed a young Irishman, Jefferyes Hamett O'Neale, to paint fable scenes, as well as classical figures among Italianate ruins, Meissen-style harbour scenes and 'landskips' in the soft palette of Vincennes. In addition to O'Neale, other Chelsea artists included William Duvivier and Jean Lefèvre. In the 1750s about 100 workers were employed at Chelsea including a 'nursery of 30 lads taken from the parishes and charity schools and bred to designing and painting'. Favourite subjects of the raised and red anchor period include Japanese-inspired subjects

in the manner of the Kakiemon family of Arita, flowered in the Meissen and Vincennes style, and the outrageously flamboyant 'Hans Sloane' plants, inspired by the botanical engravings of specimens in the Chelsea Physic Garden by G. D. Ehret.

In June, 1751, Sir Everard Fawkener, a patron of the factory, wrote to his friend, Sir Charles Hanbury Williams, British Envoy in Dresden, asking him to purchase and send to London Meissen porcelain to the value of 'over fifty or threescore pounds' worth ... in order to furnish the Undertakers (of the Chelsea factory) with good designs'. Instead, as a less costly alternative, Sir Charles magnanimously offered the Chelsea workmen access to the two Meissen services presented to him by Augustus III in 1748, which were being stored, pending his return to England, at Holland House.

It is probable that the service now in the Collection of the Duke of Northumberland at Alnwick Castle was one of Sir Charles's Meissen services, pieces of which were copied at Chelsea.

The Rococo style originated in France during the early 18th century, and found a ready market in mid-eighteenth century England. Nervous, playful and full of asymmetrical curves and scrolls which suggested natural elements such as flames, rocks, shells and water, the style was particularly successful when applied to the decorative arts, furniture, silver and, above all, porcelain. The burgeoning middle-classes, anxious to display their new-found wealth, indulged in a bout of rampant consumerism, and English craftsmen and designers, eager to dispel the myth that, in the arts, France was in the ascendant, strove to supply the demand for luxury goods.

Like Nicholas Sprimont, many of the artists and craftsmen were Huguenots who, forced to flee after the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, brought to England a French sophistication and dedication to high standards of workmanship.

At Chelsea during the gold anchor period, the influence of Sèvres, with its sumptuous colour grounds and lavish gilding, was particularly strong, since production at Meissen had all but ceased during the Seven Years' War (1757-63). The Rococo *brio* engendered and enjoyed by 'the whipped cream of Europe' as Voltaire described his country, was *de rigueur* where taste and money talked.

For figure models, Sprimont employed Joseph Willems, who was born in Brussels in 1715, and worked at Tournai until his arrival in Chelsea in c.1749. Whether they are copies of sophisticated Meissen pieces, or models adapted from engravings and larger pieces of sculpture, his figures show men and women of sturdy build, with the placid, amiable features of the Low Countries. Willems was probably responsible for all the modelling at Chelsea until his return to Tournai in 1766.

Known as 'toys', small, costly and impeccably fashioned objects were popular with the members of London's *beau* and *demi-monde* throughout the latter half of the 1750s and the 1760s. Often mounted in gold, they were just the sort of fashionable luxuries which would have appealed to the customers whom Nicholas Sprimont was striving to attract, 'the Quality' and 'the Nobility'. Known in Germany as *Galanteriewaren*, in France as *objets de vertu* and at Chelsea as 'toys', they represented the kind of exquisite trifles which a gentleman would have presented to his affianced, his wife or his mistress. *Bonbonnières*, for *cachous* flavoured with violets to sweeten the breath, thimble-cases and *étuis*, or 'twees' as they were described in the catalogues and advertisements, to hold a lady's needles, scent bottles to contain fragrances to perfume the wearer when personal hygiene was inclined to be basic, and seals to dangle from a *châtelaine*, to ensure the privacy of a *billet doux*. Many bore witty French mottoes (often charmingly misspelt), to add to the *frisson* of a *double-entendre*, or just a certain Gallic '*je ne sais quoi*'.

The catalogue of the exhibition is still on sale at the Chelsea Library for £5. Proceeds go to the Kensington and Chelsea Churches Homeless Concern.



A 'sunflower' dish.



A waterbowl painted with moths, caterpillars and butterflies.

A Local Hero

Tony Smith, G.C.

By Tom Pocock

No contrast could have been more extreme than between the events of 23 February 1944 and 22 May 1999. The first was a scene of fire and flood in winter darkness, of danger, pain and heroism. The second was of flowers and flags in spring sunshine, bugle calls and pride. Anthony Smith, George Cross, Chelsea's hero of the Second World War, was at last being given his due.

Tony Smith was a chimney-sweep, as his forefathers had been since Dickensian times, and he had been wounded fighting in Gallipoli and France during the First World War. In 1944, he was a member of the Chelsea Heavy Rescue squad during what came to be known as the Little Blitz, when the Germans launched a dozen heavy bombing attacks on London.

At 10.35 on the night of 23 February, a German bomber, caught in searchlights, dropped flares over Lots Road power station, then turned to make its bombing run. Watching from a rooftop, I myself saw this and the eruption of red flame and smoke when the bombs burst, just north of his target, on the King's Road, the Guinness Trust flats and Edith Grove. Few saw what happened next for that was when Tony Smith and the Heavy Rescue team, led by Albert Littlejohn, began to drag survivors from blazing buildings and flooded basements.

Tony was awarded the George Cross, the highest civilian award for gallantry, equal to the Victoria Cross won by another Chelsea man, Lord de L'Isle, fighting in Italy. Tony Smith returned to sweeping chimneys, tall, stooping and sooty-faced, familiar, riding his bicycle about the streets. He never married, his family had left London and he was so hard up that to save heating costs in winter, he would, as he said, "Put more clobber on and get on the bed and read." His health was not good – as he said, he suffered from ulcers, "the gastric" – for which he would take an occasional pint of bitter.

He would talk about the war only if asked and then would say that it was Albert Littlejohn who should have been given the George Cross instead of his British Empire Medal.

Tony Smith died in 1964, aged 70, and was buried in an unmarked grave in North Sheen Cemetery. There he might have been forgot-



Tony Smith - local hero

ten but for the efforts of local historians and his old comrades of the Royal Marines Association to commemorate him. When the former told the latter about him, they said, "Once a Royal Marine, always a Royal Marine" and the first move was made. An initial approach to the Royal Borough was rebuffed by an official, who said that there was no money to spend on such things and that all enquiries regarding cemeteries should be addressed to the Director of Waste Management and Leisure. Then a member of the Chelsea Society suggested that a direct approach be made to the Mayor. This was done and the response was immediate, generous and resulted in the ceremony of 21 May 1999, the 45th anniversary of the award of the George Cross.

Tony's family was traced and travelled to London. Civic dignitaries led by the Deputy Mayor and the Leader of the Council, and uniformed Royal Marines from generals to rank and file, war veterans, Chelsea people, amongst them a Chelsea pensioner, gathered in the sunshine around a handsome gravestone, newly set up by the Council; it was carved with the name and distinction of Tony Smith, the George Cross and the crests of the Royal Marines and the Royal Borough and the badge of ARP (Air Raid Precautions). The Rev. Prebendary Leighton Thomson, the former vicar of Chelsea Old Church, conducted a service of dedication, standard-bearers saluted, a Royal Marine bugler sounded the Last Post, then Reveille, and Tony Smith was remembered.

An Anonymous Lady From Chelsea

By Pamela M Holder

It was the end of an era, when, in 1992, the British Federation of University Women, now known as the British Federation of Women Graduates, left Crosby Hall which they had occupied for the greater part of a century. As a hall of residence for women graduates from all over the world Crosby Hall had been a contributor to international friendship for many years.

How did the Federation founded in 1907 in Manchester to promote the interests of women in academic and in public life, come to purchase the leasehold of Crosby Hall and the site on which it had been rebuilt? Sir Patrick Geddes, the educationalist and town planner, believed strongly in the value of the association of students living together and had established a residence for students in Edinburgh. By chance, a lady from Chelsea, who has remained forever anonymous, attended a vacation study school there. She suggested to Sir Patrick that he might do the same thing in London and offered a gift of £5000 if he would initiate such a project in Chelsea.

So he came to London and together with friends and important people in public life he founded the University and City Association of London. Inspired by the 'lady from Chelsea' the Association acquired from the LCC a vacant site on the Chelsea Embankment which had been the site of the garden of Sir Thomas More's house. The Association was granted a 500-year lease on this site on condition the Crosby Hall should be re-erected on it. It was the architect, Walter Godfrey, who supervised the removal of the Hall from Bishopsgate, who first interested Professor Caroline Spurgeon (the first woman to be awarded a chair by the University of London) in the Hall, and she interested the Federation.

The Hall and site were offered to BFUW for £10,000 but for all its historic associations the Hall by itself was of little value to the Federation. Professor Spurgeon and a small group of BFUW members dreamed of transforming the site into an international hall of residence for graduate women, the practical and visible expression of the ideals of the International Federation of University Women which she had helped to found in 1919 after talking to an American academic about the war. "We should have", she said, "an international federation of university women, so that we at least shall have done all we can to prevent another such catastrophe".

Miss Sybil Campbell, who, in 1945, was appointed the first woman Metropolitan Magistrate, related how exhilarating the idea of this residence seemed as it was unfolded to her one evening in Chelsea by Pro-

fessor Winifred Cullis, a distinguished physiologist who was to become the first woman Professor at the London School of Medicine for Women. She told how her excitement mounted as she heard of the unique opportunity of acquiring for the purpose Crosby Hall and the adjoining site. The story goes that her practical mind was bothered by one detail. "Who", she asked, "will do the work?" "You", came the response and indeed she was Chair of the Committee of Appeal for Crosby Hall for several years.

At its AGM in 1922 the Federation agreed to accept the offer of the lease and formally adopted the ambitious project of providing a residence for some forty post-graduate women students. The aim was to raise £25,000, a very large sum for so small a body. Without the help of others, like the City Companies and later, the nascent Chelsea Society, it would have been impossible, but the British Federation built up Crosby Hall to be a place where women scholars and professional workers from all over the world could live and work together.

Unfortunately, when the freehold of Crosby Hall passed from the GLC to the London Residuary Body the Federation did not have the resources to purchase it and there was concern as to the fulfilling of its repairing liabilities under the terms of the lease. It was decided, with great regret, that there was no alternative to selling the lease.

With the agreement of the Charity Commissioners the Federation now administers grants with the income derived from the sale. The Charity is called the BFWG Charitable Foundation with its administrative headquarters in Great James Street. The grants are offered to help women graduates with their living expenses while registered at an approved institution of higher education in Great Britain. The many applicants come from all five continents to study a great variety of subjects. The loss of the Hall was regretted also by the International Federation and it was agreed that the BFGW Charitable Foundation should fund the British Federation Crosby Hall Fellowship to mark the 75th anniversary of the founding of IFUW and to commemorate Crosby Hall. This Fellowship is held by a woman doctoral or post-doctoral student. The Sybil Campbell Library has now been re-established in the new premises and was declared open in October 1998, exactly seventy years after its foundation. It has a good collection of material on the history of Chelsea. It is hoped that the Library will soon become well known as a resource on the history and development of women's contribution to intellectual and academic life. BFGW Associations give books, often in memory of former members, and gifts of suitable volumes are always welcome.

From its new office and headquarters in Battersea the Federation continues to promote women's opportunities in education and public life. It is part of an international organisation to improve the lives of women and girls and fosters local, national and international friendship. It is proud that it helped preserve such a wonderful historic building as Crosby Hall and that so many women academics and scholars remember with affection and gratitude their stay there.

Obituaries

Alan Clark

Soon after Alan Clark was elected MP for Chelsea I wrote to him, on behalf of the Council of the Society, inviting him to become a Vice-President of the Society. I received a reply, virtually by return of post, which was at once friendly and charming. His charm was legendary, but what was remarkable was that it was genuine and it was bestowed on friend and foe alike; a point touchingly made in the tribute by Peter Bradshaw, author of the spoof 'Alan Clark Diaries' that occasioned a successful libel action against the *Evening Standard*.

My own encounter with Alan was in April 1998, at the Chelsea Society's Millennium Conference. There was a definite aura about him; the way in which he would glide into the room, the superb cut of his suit and the charm, which on an occasion such as this, was in full flow. As always, journalists wanted a quote from him and I tried to protect him from these intrusions; but I was wrong to do so; there was nothing he loved more than to talk to the press. Above all, he was enormous fun to be with, his love of life and his excitement of the present moment was infectious.

We had asked him to speak on the arts in Chelsea, thinking it might be safest to keep him off politics. Our plan was completely thwarted; as the first speaker after lunch he felt compelled to comment on some of the things said by other speakers during the morning session. Someone had said 'the last thing we want is an independent republic of Chelsea'; but Alan thought that was the *first* thing we wanted! Chelsea was a beautiful place, full of talent and human resources and we should not be shy of using these to the full. He could not resist a chance to comment on affordable housing, which had been mentioned several times in the morning; he was opposed to all forms of subsidised housing because it discriminated against those people who bought or rented their own homes with their own money. He went on to tell us how when Lord Archer had addressed the local Conservative Association (in his endeavours to become the Party's candidate as Mayor for London) he said he would try to remove all forms of 'Nimbyism'; Alan had advised him this would hardly go down well in Chelsea where people had 'some of the nicest back yards imaginable'.

Most people will have regarded his views as somewhat extremist

but could not but admire the integrity of his position in the political spectrum and his honesty and candour in never flinching from expressing his beliefs. In that respect, his ability to use the English language in an incisive and elegant way, be it in public speaking, in ordinary conversation or in his writings, was truly enviable.

Alan Clark's day at the Chelsea Society's Millennium Conference, and 'his' reactions to it, was featured in the spoof Alan Clark Diaries. If his real diary entry for April 20th 1998 is ever published, I for one will be curious to find out what he really thought about it all.

David Le Lay

Barbara Denny

Barbara Denny, the local historian, died just before Christmas 1998, aged 78. She had spent nearly forty years working at the *Kensington and Chelsea News*, and she was still writing articles up to the week before her death. But it will be for her books that she will be remembered – among them *Chelsea Past* which was published in 1996. As Nikolaus Pevsner is today referred to by his surname alone, so those engaged in local research often refer to 'Denny'. May her books remain in print for a long time to come.

J.D.

Books on Chelsea Published This Year

Chelsea, 'Images of England' by Patrick Loobey
Tempus Publishing Ltd £9.99

Patrick Loobey has acquired a collection of glass-plate negatives made by Mr R T Johns during the early years of the century. Many of them have never been published before and supplemented with the author's own collection this is a valuable companion to John Bignell's book of old Chelsea photographs. The earliest date from 1905, the most recent was taken in 1933 so they do not, as the blurb states, show 'welcome new developments and the effects of the blitz', but they are each accompanied by a succinct and informative history. Just the book to take on a Sunday stroll round the 'ancient settlement of Chelchehith'.

World's End for Sir Oswald by Alf Goldberg,
with a Foreword by Tony Benn
The Book Guild Ltd £10.95

Born to a Jewish immigrant family after the first world war Alf Goldberg grew up in the then impoverished World's End – at that time aptly named. He left school at 14 to become a motor-mechanic to the 'moneyed classes of pre-war London'. In this short and evocative book he remembers the day in 1933 when Oswald Mosley and his blackshirts arrived in town. He writes vividly of Mosley's tub-thumping at the junction of World's End and the King's Road, his occupation of what is now Whitelands House, and of violent anti-fascist rallies. Later chapters paint vignettes of more agreeable local characters – among them 'Old Nuisance', the local vicar, and there is a memorable description of the author buying a driving licence for 7/6d at the Post Office (this was before the days of tests) and taking five friends for a day's outing. It was the first time he had driven on a public road.

A memoir which manages to be both sombre and entertaining.

Of rather more esoteric interest is Tim Hitchcock's and John Black's edition of *The Chelsea Settlement & Bastardy Examinations 1733-1766* which details the working of the Elizabethan Poor Law in 466 cases.

The indigent population was dependent upon this law for relief and these examples paint a vivid picture of both the strategies of the poor which could influence the outcome of their interviews and of the sometimes doubtful reputation of the magistrates. In 1780 the latter were described by Edmund Burke thus: 'The justices of Middlesex were generally the scum of the earth – carpenters, brick makers and shoemakers, some of whom were notoriously men of such infamous character that they were unworthy of any employ whatever, and others so ignorant that they could not write their own names.' This could not be said of Henry Fielding, one of the most famous of the Chelsea justices, but even he was suspected of taking bribes. By the 1730s, the authors say, the parish had come to resemble what might be described as a welfare state in miniature. And it could be added that the pains that were taken to make absent fathers responsible for their offspring presages the work of the CSA today.

Published by the London Record Society in 1999 at £20 (+£3.50 p&p). Available from the Institute of Historical Research, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU.

J.D.



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The Treasurer's Report

This year the accounts show a deficit of £300 compared with a surplus of £1,683 for the year ended 31 December 1997. This switch in our financial fortunes exemplifies the operation of a good charity generally and your Society in particular where we endeavour to use our funds very effectively. For example, 1998 was the year in which we held the Chelsea Society Conference – enjoyed by those who attended and generally commended and it was subsidised by the Society to the extent of £3,916. Our subscription income increased by £572 and we were very fortunate to have donations in that year amounting to £2,835.

The cost of the Annual Report was less but the cost of our Newsletters doubled. The net income from lectures and meetings fell, although visits to places of special interest remained extremely popular. We paid the second instalment of the cost of indexing the Annual Reports, all of which has been written-off. These indices are available for £10 per set and are really worth the money if you have any number of back issues. The increase in stationery, postage and miscellaneous is mainly due to replacing the stock of envelopes, increased bank charges and increased mailing costs.

The Balance sheet at 31 December 1998 shows a capital of £28,757 (1997 – £29,057), we had £36,078 in the bank but there was £8,318 owing for the cost of the Annual Report, postage, photocopying and a donation carried forward towards the cost of the Paolozzi Sculpture. From time to time I am asked if a capital of just under £29,000 is not too much for an Amenity Society? Obviously the perfect amount is a subjective view, but my own feeling is that it is just about right, enough to weather most storms and still leave us able, if we chose, to pay for professional help in support of an appeal against a planning decision that is absolutely disastrous for Chelsea.

Mr President, I beg to present my report and the accounts for the year ended 31 December 1998.

I W Frazer
Hon. Treasurer

18 November 1999

THE CHELSEA SOCIETY

Registered Charity Number 276264

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 1998.

Constitution and Objects

The Chelsea Society was founded by Reginald Blunt in 1927. The Society's objects are to protect and foster the amenities of Chelsea particularly by:

- * stimulating interest in the history, character and traditions of Chelsea;
- * encouraging good architecture, town planning and civic design, the planting and care of trees, and the conservation and proper maintenance of open spaces;
- * seeking the abatement of nuisances;
- * making representations to the proper authorities on these subjects.

The full Constitution and Rules of the Society, together with the Annual Accounts, are printed in the Annual Report, published in January each year, a copy of which is sent to every member.

Trustees

The Trustees of the Society are the Council constituted under the Society's Rules, which is responsible for the day-to-day work of the Society. The Council appoints Officers for certain posts. The current Officers and other Members of the Council are:

Officers

David Le Lay RIBA, FRSA (Chairman)
Nigel Stenhouse (Vice-Chairman)
Hugh Krall (Hon. Secretary)
Ian Frazer FCA (Hon. Treasurer)
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Review of the year's activities and achievements

The Chairman's Report, published in the Society's 1998 Annual Report, contains a full description of the activities and achievements of the Society during the year.

Review of the Accounts

At 31 December 1998, the Society has total funds of £28,757, comprising £18,693 on the General Fund and £10,064 on the Life Membership Fund. These are considered available and adequate to fulfil the obligations of the Society.

Approved by the Council of the Chelsea Society on 20 September 1999.

D.R. Le Lay
Chairman

THE CHELSEA SOCIETY

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE CHELSEA SOCIETY

I report on the accounts of The Chelsea Society for the year ended 31 December 1998, which are set out on pages 63 and 64.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 43 (7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(i) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

* to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the Act; and

* to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

(ii) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Guy Mayers
Chartered Accountant
5/7 Vernon Yard
Portobello Road
London W11 2DX

15 November 1999

THE CHELSEA SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1998

	1998 Total Funds	1997 Total Funds
Income and Expenditure		
Incoming resources		
Annual membership subscriptions	8,471	7,899
Donations received	2,835	100
Income tax recoverable on covenants	131	284
Advertising revenue from annual report	863	725
Interest received on General Funds	1,275	1,027
Interest received on Life Membership Fund	550	483
Income from the Chelsea Society Conference	3,260	---
Income from lectures, meetings and visits	5,117	4,702
Income from sale of Christmas cards and postcards	654	148
Total incoming resources	23,156	15,368
Resources expended		
Direct charitable expenditure:		
Cost of annual report	3,673	4,245
Cost of newsletters	2,987	1,410
Cost of lectures, meetings and visits	4,759	3,659
Subscriptions to other organisations	136	78
Cost of the Chelsea Society Conference	7,176	---
Cost of indexing the annual reports	1,150	1,728
	19,881	11,120
Other expenditure		
Management and administration of the charity:		
Stationery, postage and miscellaneous expenses	2,040	1,028
Cost of annual general meeting	363	333
Insurance	672	704
Independent Examiner's fee	500	500
	3,575	2,565
Total resources expended	23,456	13,685
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources for the year	(300)	1,683
Balances brought forward at 1 January 1998	29,857	27,374
Balances carried forward at 31 December 1998	£28,757	£29,057

THE CHELSEA SOCIETY
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1998

	1998	1997
Current Assets		
Debtors	997	1,159
Balance in National Savings Bank account	10,064	9,514
Balance on bank current and deposit accounts	26,014	25,669
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	37,075	36,342
Less Liabilities: amounts falling due within one year	<hr/>	<hr/>
	8,318	7,285
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net Assets	<u><u>£28,757</u></u>	<u><u>£29,057</u></u>
Funds:		
General Funds	18,693	19,543
Life Membership Fund	10,064	9,514
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u><u>£28,757</u></u>	<u><u>£29,057</u></u>

Approved by the Council of The Chelsea Society on 20 September 1999.

D.R. Le Lay, *Chairman*
I.W. Frazer, *Honorary Treasurer*

CONSTITUTION AND RULES

1. The Chelsea Society shall be regulated by the Rules contained in this Constitution.

OBJECTS

2. The Objects of the Society shall be to preserve and improve the amenities of Chelsea particularly by:-
- (a) stimulating interest in the history, character and traditions of Chelsea;
 - (b) encouraging good architecture, town planning and civic design, the planting and care of trees, and the conservation and proper maintenance of open spaces;
 - (c) seeking the abatement of nuisances;
 - (d) making representations to the proper authorities on these subjects.

MEMBERSHIP

3. Subject to the provisions of Rule 7, membership of the Society shall be open to all who are interested in furthering the Objects of the Society.

THE COUNCIL

4. (1) There shall be a Council of the Society which shall be constituted in accordance with these Rules.
 (2) The Society shall elect not more than twelve members of the Society to be members of the Council.
 (3) The members of the Council so elected may co-opt not more than four further persons to be members of the Council.
 (4) The Officers to be appointed under Rule 5 shall in addition be members of the Council.
 (5) In the choice of persons for membership of the Council, regards shall be had, amongst other things, to the importance of including persons known to have expert knowledge and experience of matters relevant to the Objects of the Society.
 (6) The Council shall be responsible for the day-to-day work of the Society, and shall have power to take any action on behalf of the Society which the Council thinks fit to take for the purpose of furthering the Objects of the Society and shall make and publish every year a Report of the activities of the Society during the previous year.
 (7) The Council shall meet at least four times in each calendar year.
 (8) A member of the Council who is absent from two successive meetings of the Council without explanation which the Council approves shall cease to be a member of the Council.
 (9) Three of the elected members of the Council shall retire every second year, but may offer themselves for re-election by the Society.
 (10) Retirement under the last preceding paragraph shall be in rotation according to seniority of election.
 (11) Casual vacancies among the elected members may be filled as soon as practicable by election by the Society.
 (12) One of the co-opted members shall retire every second year, but may be again co-opted.

OFFICERS

5. (1) The Council shall appoint the following officers of the Society, namely:-
 (a) a Chairman of the Council,
 (b) a Vice-Chairman of the Council,
 (c) an Honorary Secretary or Joint Honorary Secretaries,
 (d) an Honorary Treasurer, and
 (e) persons to fill such other posts as may be established by the Council.
 (2) The terms of office of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be three years and those of the other Officers five years from the date of appointment respectively. Provided nevertheless that the appointment of the Chairman shall be deemed to terminate immediately after the third Annual General Meeting after his appointment.
 (3) The Officers shall be eligible for re-appointment to their respective offices.
 (4) Nothing herein contained shall detract from the Officers' right to resign during their current term.
 (5) By Resolution of a majority of its members the Council may rescind the appointment of an Officer during the term of office for reasons deemed substantial.

PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENTS

6. (1) The Council may appoint a member of the Society to be President of the Society for a term of three years, and may re-appoint him for a further term of three years.
 (2) The Council may appoint persons, who need not be members of the Society, to be Vice-Presidents.

SUBSCRIPTIONS*

7. (1) The Council shall prescribe the amount of the subscriptions to be paid by members of the Society and the date on which they are due, and the period in respect of which they are payable.
 (2) Membership of the Society shall lapse if the member's subscription is unpaid for six months after it is due, but may be restored by the Council.
 (3) Members may pay more than the prescribed minimum, if they wish.
 (4) Members may pay annual subscription by banker's order or by Direct Debit.
 (5) The Society may participate in the direct debiting scheme as an originator for the purpose of collecting

subscriptions for any class of membership and/or any other amounts due to the Society. In furtherance of this objective, the Society may enter into an indemnity required by the Banks upon whom direct debits are to be originated. Such an indemnity may be executed on behalf of the Society by officials nominated in an appropriate resolution.

GENERAL MEETINGS

8. (1) In these Rules 'General Meeting' means a meeting of the Society open to all its members.
- (2) The Council shall arrange at least one General Meeting every year, to be called the Annual General Meeting, and may arrange as many other General Meetings, in these Rules referred to as Special General Meetings, as it may think fit. Notice of the date of such meetings shall be given not less than 35 days ahead.
- (3) General Meetings, the agenda for which shall be circulated not less than 21 days in advance of the meeting, shall take place at such times and places as the Council shall specify.
- (4) The President shall preside at any General Meeting at which he is present, and if he is not present the Chairman of the Council or some person nominated by the Chairman of the Council shall preside.
- (5) Any election to the Council shall be held at a General Meeting.
- (6) No person shall be eligible of the Council unless:-
 - (i) he or she has been proposed and seconded by other members of the Society, and has consented to serve, and,
 - (ii) the names of the three persons concerned and the fact of the consent have reached the Hon. Secretary in writing at least 28 days before the General Meeting.
- (7) If the Hon. Secretary duly receives more names for election than there are vacancies, he shall prepare voting papers for use at the General Meeting, and those persons who receive most votes shall be declared elected.
- (8) The agenda for the Annual General Meeting shall include:-
 - (a) receiving the Annual Report, and
 - (b) receiving the Annual Accounts.
- (9) At the Annual General Meeting any member of the Society may comment on any matter mentioned in the Report or Accounts, and may raise any matters not mentioned in the Report, if it is within the Objects of the Society.
- (10) The President or Chairman of the meeting may limit the duration of speeches.
- (11) Resolutions by members may be made only at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special Meeting as permitted under sub-section (12) of this Section of the Constitution. Any member who wishes to make a Resolution shall give notice of such Resolution by sending it to the Society to reach the Honorary Secretary at least 28 days before the date of the meeting. The Resolution, if seconded at the meeting by another member, will be put to the vote.
- (12) If any 20 members of the Society apply to the Council in writing for a Special Meeting of the Society, the Council shall consider the application, and may make it a condition of granting it that the expense should be defrayed by the applicants.

AMENDMENTS

9. (1) These Rules may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting at an Annual or Special General Meeting, if a notice in writing of the proposed amendment has reached the Hon. Secretary at least 28 days before such a Meeting. Provided that nothing herein contained shall authorise any amendment the effect of which would be to cause the Society at any time to cease to be a Charity in Law.
- (2) The Hon. Secretary shall send notices of any such amendment to the members of the Society 21 days before the General Meeting.

WINDING-UP

10. (1) The winding-up of the Society shall be subject to a Resolution proposed by the Council and approved by a two-thirds majority present at a Special General Meeting.
- (2) In the event of the winding-up of the Society the available funds of the Society shall be transferred in such one or more charitable institutions having objects reasonably similar to those herein before declared as shall be chosen by the Council of the Society and approved by the Meeting of the Society at which the decision to dissolve the Society is confirmed.

* The current rate is £10 annually payable on the 1st January. The annual husband-and-wife rate is £15.

List of Members

An asterisk denotes a life member. The Hon. Membership Secretary should be informed of correction or changes in name, address or title.

*MRS. A. ABELES
MISS J. ABEL SMITH
PAUL V. AITKENHEAD
S. G. ALDER
ROY ALDERSON
MISS A. D. ALDERTON
R. ALEXANDER
MRS. R. ALEXANDER
*LT-COL. J. H. ALLASON
MRS. ELIZABETH AMATI
*ANTHONY AMBLER
MISS SOPHIE C. M. ANDREAE
*THE MARQUESS OF ANGLESEY
MICHAEL ANGUS B.A.
MRS. C. ANNUS
JOHN ANTCLIFFE
MISS MARY APPELBEY, C.B.E.
P. ARBON
MRS. P. ARBON
J. N. ARCHER
MRS. ROBERT ARMITAGE
MISS J. ARMSTRONG
*DAVID ASCHAN
*MRS. M. G. ASCHAN
*MRS. D. ASHCROFT
M. ASHE
MRS. M. ASHE
THE HON. NICHOLAS ASSHETON
*MRS. PHILIP ASTLEY, O.B.E.
DR. STEPHEN ASTLEY
MISS KATE ATTIA

LADY JEAN BABINGTON-SMITH
MICHAEL BACH
LADY BAILLIE
MRS. LESLEY BAIRSTOW
MISS P. CLAIRE BAKER
MARTYN BAKER
MRS. MARTYN BAKER
M. T. BALLISAT
MRS. M. T. BALLISAT
D. BARKER
MRS. D. BARKER
MICHAEL BARKER
MRS. MICHAEL BARKER
DR. R. BARKER
MRS. VALERIE BARKER
*D. H. BARLOW
J.C. BARNARD
SIR JOHN BARRAN, BT.
LADY BARRAN
JULIAN BARROW
MRS. JULIAN BARROW
SIMON BARROW

ADRIAN BARR-SMITH
MRS. ADRIAN BARR-SMITH
*MRS. DEREK BARTON
MRS. ROGER BASSETT
PATRICK BATY
MISS F. V. BAUMGART
SIR PETER BAXENDELL
LADY BAXENDELL
*E. V. BEATON
MRS. A. E. BEAUMONT-DODD
*J. BECKER
MRS. P. M. BECKER
ROBERT BECKETT
MRS. ROBERT BECKETT
MRS. M. K. BEDDOW
MRS. PATRICIA BEHR, M.V.O., M.B.E.
*WILLIAM BELL
SIMON BENDALL
T. J. BENDALL
TERENCE BENDIXSON
MRS. ANNE TREGO BENNETT
D. R. BENNETT-JONES
MRS. R. A. C. BERKELEY
L. BERNARD
MRS. L. BERNARD
MISS ANN BERNE
MICHAEL BERNSTEIN
MRS. MICHAEL BERNSTEIN
*MISS ANNE BERRIMAN
MRS. RITA BERRY
MRS. DELIA BETTISON
REAR-ADMIRAL C. BEVAN, C.B.
MRS. C. BEVAN
MISS CELIA BIGHAM
MISS BIRGIT BIIHLER
MISS SUSAN BILGER
MRS. BARBARA BINDLEY
MISS PAMELA BIRLEY
*E. W. BISSETT
MISS SUSAN BLACKWELL
T. F. BLOOD
DEREK BLOOM
MRS. L. BLUNT
MARTIN BOASE
MRS. J. B. FLOCKHART BOOTH
MICHAEL BOREHAM
MRS. MICHAEL BOREHAM
MISS JUDITH BORROW
W. BOSHER
MRS. W. BOSHER
*TIMOTHY BOULTON
DAVID BOWEN
MRS. CICELY PAGET BOWMAN
M. BOXFORD

MRS. M. BOXFORD
 PROFESSOR E. BOYLAND
 MRS. A. BOYLE
 SEAN BOYLE
 ROGER BRABAN
 R. M. A. BRAINE
 MRS. R. M. A. BRAINE
 J. C. BRASS
 MRS. J. C. BRASS
 MRS. S. M. BRAYBROOK
 MRS. L. D. BRIETT
 R. BRIDGE
 MRS. R. BRIDGE
 DR. HELEN BRIGHT
 MISS E. M. E. BRIGHTEN
 *SIR NIGEL BROACKES
 DENIS BROODBANK
 SIR HENRY BROOKE
 LADY BROOKE
 N.F.G. BROWN
 MRS. N.F.G. BROWN
 *W. M. G. BROWN
 COMMANDER N. WALDEMAR BROWN R.N.
 MICHAEL BRYAN
 MRS. MICHAEL BRYAN
 A. A. G. S. BUCHANAN
 MRS. E. J. BUCHANAN
 MISS M. BUCKLEY
 MRS. M. P. BUDD
 P. J. BULL
 J. H. S. BURGESS
 P. BURGESS
 MRS. P. BURGESS
 *RICHARD BURGESS
 MRS. KATRIN BURKE-SMITH
 RUSSELL BURLINGHAM
 REAR-ADMIRAL R. H. BURN, C.B., A.F.C.
 MRS. R. H. BURN
 *A. I. J. BURNS
 MALCOLM BURR
 MRS. MALCOLM BURR
 R. M. BURTON
 MRS. R. M. BURTON
 MRS. D. E. BURTT
 F. A. BUSBY
 MRS. JOHN BUSS
 *MRS. JAMES BUXTON
 *THE HON. JULIAN F. BYNG
 R. W. BYNG
 P. J. BYRNE
 MRS. P. J. BYRNE
 RICHARD BYRON

THE EARL CADOGAN, D.L.
 *R. A. W. CAINE
 MRS. PATRICIA CAMERON
 DONALD CAMPBELL
 MISS JUDY CAMPBELL
 MRS. JOY CAMPBELL KEMP
 MRS. A. CAMPBELL JOHNSON
 DAME FRANCES CAMPBELL-PRESTON

GRAHAM CANNON
 J. CARLETON PAGET
 MRS. J. CARLETON PAGET
 MISS CHRISTINE CARRUTHERS
 *MRS. DONALD CARTER
 *BRYAN CARVALHO, M.B.E.
 *MRS. BRYAN CARVALHO
 MISS J. V. P. CARVILL
 *REV. JOHN CARVOSSO
 N. R. CASHIN
 MRS. N. R. CASHIN
 W. W. CASSELS
 MRS. W. W. CASSELS
 JOHN CASSON, O.B.E.
 S. CASTELLO
 MRS. S. CASTELLO
 DR. MARY CATTERALL
 CAPT. M. K. CAVENAGH-MAINWARING, D.S.O.,
 R.N.
 *THE RT. HON. LORD CHALFONT, P.C., O.B.E.,
 M.C.
 LADY CHALFONT
 MISS JULIA CHALKLEY
 M. E. CHAMBERLAYNE
 MRS. L. CHAMPAGNE
 DR. V. E. CHANCELLOR
 ROY CHAPMAN
 MISS CHERRY CHAPPELL
 PETER T. CHARLTON
 LORD CHELMSFORD
 LADY CHELMSFORD
 CHELSEA METHODIST CHURCH
 CHELSEA YACHT & BOAT CO. LTD
 MRS. CYNTHIA CHEVREAU
 MRS. J. M. CHEYNE
 A. H. CHIGNELL
 MRS. A. H. CHIGNELL
 MISS EMILY CHONG
 *THE CHURCH COMMISSIONERS
 MISS A. M. CLARKE
 R. D. CLARKE, F.I.A.
 *R. S. CLARKE
 MRS. V. CLAVER
 *MISS EDITH M. CLAY, F.S.A.
 MISS L. N. CLAYSON
 MRS. JOY CLEMENTS
 LADY B. M. CLIEVE-ROBERTS
 A.G. CLOSE SMITH
 *MRS. M. R. COAD
 MRS. VICTORIA COBB
 JOHN COBBETT-MADDY
 M. R. COCKELL
 J. BRUNEL COHEN, O.B.E., D.L.
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 MRS. F. C. COLCORD
 MISS IDA COLE
 *W. N. COLES
 DAVID B. COLLENETTE, M.C.
 RICHARD COMPTON MILLER
 MRS. MAIGHREAD CONDON
 MRS. Z. CONNOLLY

MRS. JOYCE CONWY EVANS
 MISS E. B. COOK
 MRS. H. H. COPE
 MRS. D. H. COPLE-CHAMBERLAIN
 JOHN CORBET-SINGLETON C.B.E.
 MRS. JOHN CORBET-SINGLETON
 STUART CORBYN
 B.C. CORRIGAN
 *MRS. P. J. COWIN, B.E.M.
 MISS ROSEMARY COWLER
 MRS. E. COX
 *DR. DAVID CRAIG
 MISS ROSEMARY CRAIG
 *SIR MICHAEL CRAIG-COOPER, C.B.E., T.D., L.L.
 MISS P. CRAXFORD
 MISS ELIZABETH CRICHTON
 ALAN CROSS
 MRS. ALAN CROSS
 T. L. CROSTHWAIT
 MRS. T. L. CROSTHWAIT
 MARTIN CULLEN
 MRS. MARTIN CULLEN
 IAN CURROR
 MRS. IAN CURROR

MRS. ELMA DANGERFIELD, O.B.E.
 A. E. DANGOOR
 MRS. A. E. DANGOOR
 MISS SYLVIA DARLEY, O.B.E.
 NIGEL DARLINGTON
 *MRS. MADELINE DAUBENY
 *MRS. OLGA DAVENPORT
 DR. SERENA DAVIDSON
 A. M. DAVIES
 MRS. A. M. DAVIES
 *ALBAN DAVIES
 MRS. C. DAVIES
 MRS. J. A. DAVIES
 MISS P. JANE DAVIES
 PETER DAVIES
 PETER J. DAVIES
 MRS. SUE DAVIES
 PAUL DAVIS
 DR. MICHAEL DAVYS, V.R.D.
 MRS. SUSIE DAWSON
 *DAVID DAY
 MRS. LUCIENNE DAY
 MRS. LAURA KATHLEEN DAY
 *DR. JOAN S. DEANS
 *ROBIN DE BEAUMONT
 MRS. WENDY DE BEER
 MRS. ERIC DE BELLAIGUE
 DAVID DE CARLE
 MRS. DAVID DE CARLE
 N. E. DE GRUCHY
 MISS JOCELYN DE HORNE-VAIZEY
 DAMON DE LASZLO
 MRS. DAMON DE LASZLO
 MRS. VICTORIA DE LURIA PRESS
 JEREMY DE SOUZA
 MRS. JEREMY DE SOUZA

LUDOVIC DE WALDEN
 MRS. LUDOVIC DE WALDEN
 SIR ROY DENMAN
 LADY DENMAN
 THE EARL OF DERBY
 *DONALD D. DERRICK
 DR. N. W. DESMIT
 MRS. N. W. DESMIT
 P.G. DEW
 MRS. P.G. DEW
 MISS C. DEWAR DURIE
 LEWIS DEYONG
 MRS. LEWIS DEYONG
 *CHRISTOPHER DICKMAN
 W. F. DINSMORE
 MRS. W. F. DINSMORE
 P. DIXON
 MRS. P. DIXON
 *HIS HONOUR JUDGE DOBRY
 MISS I. J. DODGSON
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 IAN DONALDSON
 MISS SHEILA DONALDSON-WALTERS, F.C.S.D.,
 F.R.S.A.
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 MRS. JANE DORRELL
 MRS. NOREEN DOYLE
 MRS. BETSY DRAKE
 *MRS. P. DRYSDALE
 *THE LADY DUNBOYNE
 MRS. P. A. DUNKERLY

MISS ANN EDWARDS
 *Q. MORGAN EDWARDS, M.A.
 *MRS. Q. MORGAN EDWARDS
 *JOHN EHRLMAN, F.B.A., F.S.A., F.R. HIST.S.
 D. ELCOCK
 MRS. D. ELCOCK
 *JAMES ELLIS, A.R.I.B.A.
 MISS ADELE ENDERL
 *DAVID ENDERS
 *PHILIP ENGLISH
 GRAHAM ETCHELL
 MISS EDITH EVANS
 MRS. C. EVERITT
 MISS HEATHER EWART
 MISS LENE EWART

G.P. FAHY
 *MRS. IAN FAIRBAIRN
 MISS A. FAIRBANKS-SMITH
 P. W. FANE
 CECIL FARTHING, O.B.E., F.S.A.
 MISS ANN FEATHERSTONE
 J. F. Q. FENWICK
 MRS. J. F. Q. FENWICK
 MAJOR FENWICK
 MISS MARGARET FERGUSON
 DR. ERNA FETISSOVA
 J. W. FIGG
 *CAPT. E. J. FINNEGAN

DR. J. M. FISHER
D. FITZGERALD
MRS. D. FITZGERALD
MRS. JOAN L. FITZWILLIAMS
ROBERT L. FLEMING
MRS. W. W. FLEXNER
D. S. FOORD
MRS. D. S. FOORD
*SIR HAMISH FORBES, BT., M.B.E., M.C.
PROFESSOR SIR HUGH FORD
MRS. JOY FORREST
MRS. PAMELA FOSTER-BROWN
J. M. P. FOX-ANDREWS
MRS. HEATHER FRANCIS
MISS F. J. FRASER, M.B.E.
*IAN W. FRAZER, F.C.A.
MRS. IAN W. FRAZER
*MRS. P. FREMANTLE
MRS. R. FREMANTLE
MISS CHARLOTTE FRIEZE
MRS. HARVEY FREY
*JEFFREY FROST
P. J. FRY
MRS. P. J. FRY
MRS. D. M. FURNISS

W. GARDINER
MRS. W. GARDINER
MRS. SUSAN GASKELL
MARK GAVIN
MRS. MARK GAVIN
DR. JOHN GAYNER
MRS. JOHN GAYNER
JACQUES GELARDIN
DOUGLAS W. GENT
MRS. DOUGLAS W. GENT
MISS FARNAZ GHAZINOURI
D. F. GIBBS
MRS. D. F. GIBBS
GORDON GIBBONS, C.A.
*LADY GIBSON
THE LORD GIBSON
DR. D. G. GIBSON
DENNIS GILBERT
MRS. S. GINSBERG
SIR PAUL GIROLAMI
LADY GIROLAMI
THE LADY GLENKINGLAS
MRS. CATHERINE GLIKSTEN
*MISS ELIZABETH GODFREY
MRS. ISOBEL M. T. GOETZ
P. GOFF
F. J. GOLDSCHMITT
MRS. F. J. GOLDSCHMITT
*R. W. GOLLANCE
CHRISTOPHER GOODGER
MISS DIANA GORDON
D. C. GRANT I.I. Biol.
MISS JANET S. GRANT
PETER GRANT
MRS. PETER GRANT

*N. J. GRANTHAM
MRS. P. J. GRAY
MRS. ANN L. GREEN
MARTIN GREEN
MRS. MARTIN GREEN
*MISS MARGARET GREENTREE
MISS MAUREEN GREENWOOD
J. S. GREIG
MRS. J. S. GREIG
STEPHEN GRIFFITHS
*A. G. GRIMWADE, F.S.A.
DAVID GROSE
WILLIAM GUBELMANN
MRS. WILLIAM GUBELMANN
THE HON. C. J. G. GUEST
THE HON. MRS. C. J. G. GUEST
LADY GUNNING

MISS J. M. HADDON
SIMON HALL
MRS. VERONICA GLEDHILL HALL
MISS MARGARET HALLENDORFF
JAMES HALLING
MRS. JAMES HALLING
*W. R. C. HALPIN
G. R. HAMBER
MRS. G. R. HAMBER
D. I. A. HAMBLIN, C.B., O.B.E.
ANDREW HAMILTON
MRS. ANDREW HAMILTON
HAMILTON, THE DUCHESS OF
PHILIP HAMILTON
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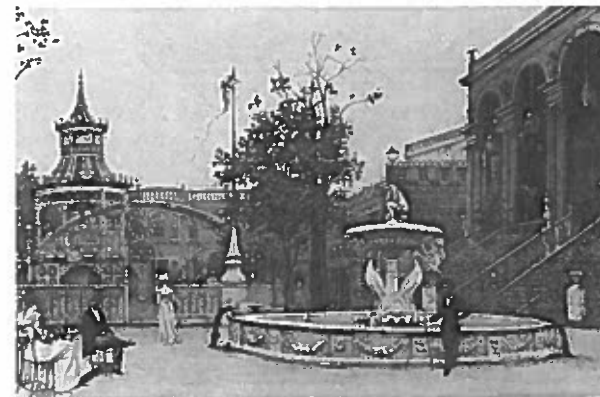
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