

THE CHELSEA SOCIETY  
REPORT

2007



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*The wood engraving of Chelsea Old Church on the title page  
is by Hugh Krall*

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**THE CHELSEA SOCIETY**

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

*[www.chelseasociety.org.uk](http://www.chelseasociety.org.uk)*

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5 Thurloe Street, London SW7 2SS

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# Annual General Meeting of The Chelsea Society

held at  
Cadogan Hall, 1a Chelsea Manor Street, Chelsea,  
London SW3  
on Monday 26 November 2007

The President of the Society, the Most Hon. The Marquess of Salisbury took the chair at 6.34 p.m. and welcomed the members and guests of the Society, particularly the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea, Councillor Andrew Dalton as well as John Robb, the Chairman of the Fulham Society, and Councillor Terence Buxton, the chairman of the Royal Borough's Planning Committee. The President apologised to the meeting for the last minute change of venue and reassured those members of the Society who did not share the political views of the proprietors of the Cadogan Hall that the building had been 'thoroughly fumigated of any Toryism' before the meeting. On a more sombre note, the President said he was sorry to give the sad news of the death of Joan Hayes, a former joint secretary of the Society. The President then introduced the Chairman of the Council of the Society, David Le Lay, the Honorary Secretary, Stephen Kingsley, the Honorary Treasurer, Christy Austin, and the other members of the Council of the Society.

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Society held on Tuesday 28 November 2006 were approved and the President signed those Minutes as a true record.

The President then announced that there were three vacancies on the Council, for which there was only one nomination. The candidate, Martyn Baker, having been proposed and seconded, was elected unanimously.

The President informed the meeting that the Honorary Secretary reported that no resolutions had been received.

The Honorary Treasurer, Christy Austin, presented her Report and the Accounts for the financial year ended 30 June 2007. The Honorary Treasurer then asked the meeting if there were any

questions on the accounts; there were none. The meeting then approved the accounts.

The Chairman of the Council of the Society, David Le Lay, delivered the Council's Annual Report to Members. The Chairman then invited questions from the floor.

Janet Copland asked whether anything could be done about the hoardings around Crosby Hall, which were unsightly and had been *in situ* for a considerable period. The Chairman acknowledged that many people are irritated by this hoarding but said that it was on private land and that although the external works to the building had been completed there were on-going internal works which, because they are of high quality using traditional materials and craftsmanship, were taking a considerable period to complete. The issue had been raised with the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea, which took the view that for so long as building works were in progress the owner was entitled to retain such a hoarding. James Thompson raised the issue of the apparent disregard of the views of a substantial number of members of the Society with regard to the proposed Sloane Square improvements as evidenced by an article in the last issue of the Society's *Newsletter* which Dr Thompson felt to be biased in favour of the radical scheme to replace the present gyratory system with a crossroad. Dr Thompson said that the *Newsletter* should have given a more balanced and broader view. The Chairman said that the *Newsletter* was intended to be controversial and that, in any event, the article in question was a commentary focusing on the issue following completion of the consultation process and thus could not be said to have influenced the outcome of that exercise. The Chairman accepted that as the Society had decided it should be neutral on the issue it might have been appropriate if the *Newsletter* had also contained an article giving the opposing view, for the preservation of the *status quo*. Indeed, the Society had now invited the 'Save Sloane Square' group to contribute such an article for inclusion in the next edition of the *Newsletter*.

Diana Morant asked whether anything could be done about the traffic bollards on Albert Bridge, which marred the appearance of a beautiful structure. The Chairman pointed out that the Society had objected to various works carried out to the bridge since the original proposal to strengthen the bridge in the mid-1970s and that the Society had repeatedly argued that the bridge should be for pedestrian use only. Nevertheless the authorities had always ignored these representations and, indeed, the Royal Borough has

recently commissioned a study to ascertain whether the bridge could be strengthened so as to permit its use by larger and heavier vehicles. From the floor, Vera Quin reminded the meeting that in the inquiry in the 1970s one of the arguments raised against the closure of the bridge to vehicles was the fact that the bridge was allegedly required in order to permit the passage of ambulances from Battersea to [the then] St Stephen's Hospital.

There being no further questions, the President asked if any member wished to raise any other business. Lady Roskill requested that, if there were to be any future visit to the Government Art Collection, better directions could be supplied as she had spent considerable time trying to find the location of the collection. The Chairman expressed regret at the problems she had encountered but said it was unlikely that the visit would be repeated in the near future. The Mayor asked the President for leave to mention that the Mayor's Charity this year was to provide an endowment for the proposed Academy in Lots Road and asked for the support of members to the Chelsea Academy Foundation.

There being no other business the President closed the meeting at 7.26 pm, having thanked the Chairman and the Honorary Treasurer for their reports and having also thanked the officers and other members of the Council for their endeavours, which they give on an entirely voluntary and unremunerated basis.

Following the meeting, which was attended by some 102 members, wine and light refreshments were served.

## Chairman's Report

### *The Council*

During the course of the year we appointed Carolyn Starren as Honorary Editor of the Society's *Annual Report*. As they were willing to help the Society with the Jamahiriya School public inquiry, we co-opted Princess Alicia di Sirignano and Gina Warre as members of the Council.

Marianne Kingham has ceased to be a member of the Council.

### *Membership*

The membership of the Society is 1,187. We continue to be strict in removing people from our database who have not paid their subscription.

We want to be able to communicate directly with members by email and ask all members who have an email address to let us have it as soon as possible.

### *Publications*

The Report for 2006 was the last to be edited by Jane Dorrell. It was another full and interesting Report and the first to be entirely in colour. Under Jane's editorship our Reports have become larger, more lavish and more scholarly. We thank her for all she has done over her eight years as Honorary Editor. We look forward to the 2007 Report which will be the first under Carolyn Starren's editorship.

Our Newsletters continue to stimulate interest and discussion amongst members and we know that many read them from cover to cover. We are indebted to Michael Bach for editing the *Newsletter*, which he has now done for no less than 14 years. We have now changed the publication of the *Newsletter* to April and October rather than, as previously, January and June; this is so that it does not coincide with the publication of the Report which traditionally occurs in January. This means an additional mailing during the course of the year, but we think this a good thing.

During the course of the year we produced a new, more colourful and less formal membership leaflet, for which we employed a

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professional designer. We are grateful to Christy Austin and Jane Dorrell who helped instruct the designer. We also took this opportunity to change the Society's typeface and letter-heading so as to give ourselves a more 'up-to-date' image.

We have published a new card for this Christmas, which features Albert Bridge with, inside the card, a brief history of the bridge. We are again grateful to Hugh Krall for allowing us to use his splendid watercolour drawing.

### *Activities*

#### **Lectures**

Our twenty-eighth season of winter lectures was organised by Serena Davidson, to whom we are very grateful.

We had four lectures this year. On 15th January, the writer, Artemis Cooper lectured on 'Elizabeth David, the cookery writer who lived in Halsey Street and revolutionised cooking in Britain. On 12 February Rosie Atkins, spoke on 'Chelsea's Healing Garden' in which she gave us her own thoughts about Chelsea Physic Garden, of which she is the Curator. On 26 February I gave a lecture on 'Whistler's Chelsea' which was about the various houses in Chelsea in which Whistler lived. Lastly, on 12 March Graham Stirk, of Rogers, Stirk Harbour, the architectural practice of Lord Rogers of Riverside, gave us an insight into his approach to design; this was especially relevant as it is he who is the designer of both no.1 Knightsbridge being built on the site of Bowater House and also the proposals for the redevelopment of Chelsea Barracks; two projects which although in Westminster, are adjacent to its boundary with Chelsea.

#### **Conservation Conference**

On 15th May the Society staged a major initiative in organising a half-day conference in Chelsea Town Hall with the sub-title 'Saving Energy and Saving our Townscape – Are they in Conflict?' We formed a special sub-committee of the Council to organise this event and we employed a professional organiser. In addition to invited speakers, there were exhibition stands showing energy-saving products and services. About 100 people attended and it was especially good to see a cross-section of members of all ages making a contribution to the debate. The Conference was followed by lunch.

We were especially grateful to Sir Malcolm Rifkind who chaired the Conference, to all the speakers, to the Leader of the Council, Merrick Cockell who summed-up at the end, to the Royal Borough for all the

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

help and encouragement they gave us and to Pemberton Greenish who generously sponsored this highly successful event.

### **Visits**

We are very grateful to Valerie Hamami-Thomas, our Hon. Events Secretary, who has again organised visits to places of interest. There is inevitably a limit on numbers to these visits and we are sorry when we have to return unsuccessful applications for tickets but I can assure you that these are dealt with in strict order of receipt. Members who want to go on our visits should bear this in mind and respond as early as they are able.

On 19 May we visited the gardens of Thenford House, the country home of Rt. Hon. The Lord Heseltine. This involved arranging coach travel and lunch on what was in effect a 'day-out' for members. On 19 September, by courtesy of Heather Ewart, we visited no. 48 Glebe Place, where I gave an illustrated lecture on Charles Rennie Mackintosh and his association with this part of Chelsea, including the studio house which we were visiting. On 14 November, due to popular demand there was another visit to see the Government Art Collection at its secret location in Westminster.

### **Doggett's Coat and Badge Race**

On 16 July we again organised a welcome for the winner of Doggett's Coat and Badge Race. Members met at Cadogan Pier, together with the Mayor of the Royal Borough, Councillor Andrew Dalton, to watch the end of the race. We are grateful to Arnold Stevenson for helping with the arrangements for this event and to Fullers of Chiswick who again gave us a crate of beer.

### **Summer Meeting**

Our Summer Meeting this year was held on 19 July in the Moravian Burial Ground. Our special guests were the Deputy Mayor of the Royal Borough, Councillor Judith Blakeman and the Reverend David Newman, the Minister of the Fetter Lane Congregation of the Moravian Church who regularly worship at their small chapel within the Burial Ground. A buffet supper was served in a specially erected marquee and we are again grateful to Valerie Hamami-Thomas for all of the arrangements.

### **Public Meeting**

On 6 November we organised a public meeting, chaired by the Society, at Chelsea Old Town Hall which was an opportunity for people to 'Meet the Leader' of the Royal Borough, Councillor Merrick



*The winner of the 2007 Doggett's Coat and Badge Race, Jude McGrane, a previous winner of the Race, dressed in the scarlet coat and silver badge and the Mayor of the Royal Borough, Councillor Andrew Dalton. To the right of the winner, lower down and holding a glass, is Arnold Stevenson who helps the Chelsea Society in organising the event.*

Cockell. The Town Clerk and Chief Executive, Derek Myers, was also present to support the Leader. After the Leader had shared with us the problems of planning for a vision that is relevant to the future, there were many varied and lively questions from the floor. The meeting was followed by refreshments provided by the Society. We are grateful to the Royal Borough for the help we received in arranging this meeting.

### *Planning*

The Society's Planning Committee presently comprises Martin Andrews, Michael Bach, Patricia Burr, Serena Davidson, Jane Dorrell, Nigel Stenhouse and Gina Warre, with Terence Bendixson as chairman. The work carried out by this committee is at the core of what the Society is about and we are very grateful to Terence and his committee for all that they do on our behalf. Some of the more significant applications on which the Society has played a part over the past year have been:

### **Jamahiriya School Inquiry**

The Society decided to apply for what is known as Rule 6(6) status at this public inquiry into the refusal by the Royal Borough to grant planning consent for the demolition of the Jamahiriya School in Glebe Place and Inner Court in Old Church Street, to grant change of use for this land and to give consent for a residential development designed by Foster and Partners. Having been granted Rule 6(6) status, this entitled us to receive all the information produced by all the parties, it allowed us to introduce our case, to call our own witnesses, to cross-examine the witnesses called by the appellants and to sum up our case at the end of the inquiry. I presented the case for the Society and called a total of five witnesses, including myself. The amount of work involved for the Society and for our witnesses was very extensive and very time-consuming, especially as nowadays there is a prodigious quantity of information produced by all parties, particularly the appellants, all of which has to be read and absorbed if one is going properly to conduct a case.

Our case only partly coincided with that of the Royal Borough; we agreed with them that neither the school nor Inner Court should be demolished, that change of use should not be granted and that the proposed new residential scheme was unacceptable. But, in addition, we produced evidence to show that to demolish the existing buildings was not justified from a sustainability standpoint, that there was a need for educational buildings in Chelsea for private education and that, in any event, the proposals failed to maximize the potential of the site to provide new housing.

The Inspector rejected the appeal and in her decision notice agreed with all the arguments put forward by the Society, including those not advanced by the Royal Borough. The robust dismissal of this appeal has not been contested in court.

The Society's view as to the future of the site is that Inner Court should remain in its present form and mixed use and that the school site should continue to be used for education, probably as a private secondary school, for which there is a demand and which is likely to be the most economically viable educational use.

### **Chelsea Academy**

Full planning permission has now been granted for the Chelsea Academy to be built on the site of the former Ashburnham School in Lots Road. The Chelsea Society has always fully supported the Royal Borough's desire to establish a new secondary school in the

south-west of the Borough. We especially support their wish to establish an academy specialising in science and their selected partner of the Church of England. The chosen site is however far from ideal, though we understand it to be the only one that is viable and that the more suitable site in Hortensia Road is not a possible alternative as a large part of that site is in the ownership of Kensington and Chelsea College.

We have reservations about the detailed design of the proposed building and hope that when approval of materials is considered by the Planning Committee they will insist that the building is faced in brick rather than, as is presently proposed, concrete panels. The Lots Road area is dominated by brick buildings and it seems to us highly perverse not to follow this tradition.

The establishing of a new state secondary school in Chelsea is an exciting project and we wish it every success.

#### **Public Houses**

It is now over two years since the Society held its exhibition of Chelsea pubs which drew attention to this fast disappearing feature of London life. The closure of pubs continues unabated and over the past year, three more have closed: the Phené Arms, the Wellesley Arms and The Surprise. A planning application was submitted to convert the Phené Arms into a single large house, to which we objected, and the application was withdrawn. The future of this pub, together with that of the Wellesley Arms and The Surprise remains uncertain. It is important to realise that whilst the Royal Borough now has a planning policy of not allowing change of use from pubs to residential, it cannot prevent pubs becoming restaurants, as both are in the same Use Class.

#### **Underground rooms**

Another phenomenon that continues unabated is the desire for underground rooms, both under houses and under gardens. The Royal Borough is in most cases unable reasonably to object to such applications but it has recently commissioned a report from Ove Arup and Partners, the engineers, into the possible consequences of such underground rooms; if this report were to find that there is legitimate technical concern about such excavations, it is assumed that this would form the basis of new Supplementary Planning Guidance.

The Society is however of the view that the Royal Borough could

and should object to any underground rooms under listed buildings or within their curtilage. Such drastic interference with the structure of a building or its grounds is unacceptable in terms of the integrity and setting of a listed building and is in our view contrary to the Borough's existing planning policies that seek to preserve listed buildings. An example of this is no.40 Chelsea Square, an important 1930s house designed by Oliver Hill where consent was granted for underground works under both house and garden and also an application, fortunately withdrawn, for a new underground floor to the eighteenth-century Sloane House in Old Church Street.

#### **Housing trends**

The Royal Borough's Unitary Development Plan rightly places emphasis upon its overriding aim of maintaining the Borough as a predominantly high quality residential area. When this policy was initially formulated it was at a time when the Borough was threatened by commercial development which was then more profitable than residential development. That is no longer the case in that, virtually throughout the Borough, residential use is now the most profitable land use and developers are able to use the priority given to residential use in the UDP to their advantage. To some extent, the purpose of planning controls is to act as a check upon what the property market wants and our UDP is now failing to do this. That is why we are losing, at an alarming rate, pubs, educational buildings, hospitals, shops and offices. Yet a desirable residential locality is one where there is a balanced mix of uses and we are in real danger of losing that balance.

Another major change is the trend for residential developments to provide accommodation for the super rich, of which the conversion of the former Chelsea College in Manresa Road and the proposals for the Jamahiriya School, are typical. The appellants at the Jamahiriya public inquiry made it clear that such housing, priced in the £10-35m range, is intended for 'individuals of high net worth who require privacy, security and anonymity'. The Royal Borough cannot, of course, discriminate against the very wealthy but it can ensure that it only gives planning consent for residential units of a reasonably modest size that is likely to satisfy the needs of relatively 'ordinary' people who are more likely to play a part in the community.

In the past, developers wanted to get the maximum number of units on any given development but now, their desire seems to be only for units with very large amounts of floor space, even if this results



## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

in a small number of such units. That is not making good use of developable land and buildings, which are a scarce resource.

These housing trends, which the planning system could easily address, could turn Chelsea into an area that is largely the preserve of the super-rich and this is now the most serious threat to its character.

### Expansion of Heathrow

The Government announced last week that it supports the building of a third runway at Heathrow which will almost double the airport's capacity and lead to greater nuisance from aircraft noise in West London. The Chelsea Society has been concerned about aircraft noise since at least 1960 when the nuisance was then described as having become 'intolerable'. Over the last 47 years we have fought every expansion of Heathrow and we have generally lost every battle; that will not deter us from fighting this new threat. We are members of the Heathrow Association for the Control of Aircraft Noise (HACAN) and will be directing our efforts principally via this splendid organisation.

### Sloane Square

Earlier this year the Royal Borough conducted a further public consultation exercise on its plans to restore the crossroads layout of Sloane Square that existed until the 1930s. The accompanying material included an alternative proposal prepared by the Save Sloane Square Group which essentially maintained the existing gyratory layout. The two proposals were fairly represented in this material and there was active campaigning by both the Council and the Save Sloane Square Group for their respective schemes. The Council of the Society decided that, as there were such strongly held views on both sides of the argument, it would not itself take a stand in this matter but would leave members individually to cast their votes as they thought fit, in the official questionnaire. The result was a substantial majority in favour of the status quo and the Royal Borough officially abandoned its plans to change the Square.

### *Councillor Daniel Moylan*

The Deputy Leader of the Royal Borough, Councillor Daniel Moylan has been elected an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects. This is a privilege that is very sparingly conferred by the Institute and the reason for his being honoured in this way is that as Cabinet Member responsible for Planning Policy, Housing Policy and Transportation he has consistently striven for the highest

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

standards of design and materials in all aspects of the public realm, which includes paving and pavements, street lighting, street furniture and public sculpture. This is something about which the Society has been concerned for many years and in Councillor Moylan we have found a kindred spirit, even though we do not always agree with him on all matters. We applaud the RIBA in its recognition that the design of the public realm is as important to the appearance of our cities as is the design of individual buildings and we congratulate Councillor Moylan on this honour.

### *Praise for recently completed projects*

A splendid job has been done in converting a former shop on the corner of Flood Street and Robinson Street, near to the new Christchurch School 'piazza', into a new house. The quality of materials and detailing of the new ground floor is, if anything, even finer than that of the adjacent late Victorian houses, which it emulates.

Another project we would like to commend is the striking new buildings that make up the new boating club recently erected at Cremorne Gardens for the Royal Borough. The complex was

*Conversion of a former shop into a new house at the junction of Flood Street and Robinson Street. Shame about the roof terrace.*





*The striking new boating club at Cremorne Gardens designed by Sarah Wigglesworth Architects*

designed by Sarah Wigglesworth Architects, famous for their 'straw bale' house in Islington. It is good to see the Royal Borough employing firms of architects such as this who are at the 'cutting edge' of architectural design.

### *Conclusion*

The Society has now been going for exactly 80 years and I have been Chairman for the past 20 years; that is symptomatic of a well-established institution with tremendous continuity; but what we aim to be is ever vibrant and responsive to the changing world around us. The membership of the Council of the Society has changed, particularly in recent years and this has helped to ensure we do not become staid or complacent. We remain conscious of the need for us to modernize and to campaign more effectively and that is just what the Council of the Society is intent upon doing.

My Lord President, this is the Report of the Council of The Chelsea Society for 2007. I am happy to answer any questions.

David Le Lay

## *A A Milne*

### *1882-1956*

by Malcolm Burr

His family and friends called him Alan. To readers of *Punch* he was simply A. A. M. The rest of the world knew him as A A Milne, now chiefly remembered for his four *Winnie The Pooh* books. His wider achievements included eight novels and nineteen plays. If he had written one word for 'Profession' in his passport, it would probably have been playwright.

It is easy to imagine that his life was composed of nothing but happiness, riches, success and fame. But no life is without its triumphs and failures and Alan Milne's was no exception. In the course of his life he knew closeness and estrangement from both his wife and his only son as well as adulation and criticism of his work. His father ran a successful prep school in London. Alan, like his two brothers, went to school at Westminster where he was a scholar,

*A A Milne at home at 13 Mallord Street*



and then to Trinity College, Cambridge, where he received a Third Class Honours degree. He was Editor of *Granta*, the university magazine, in his last year.

Having developed a skill in writing whimsical pieces and light verse he returned to London in 1903 'very hopeful as one is at 21' and managed to place articles in several publications including *Vanity Fair* and *Punch*. With some modest fees coming in he hoped to make his way as a freelance writer. Fate and particularly *Punch* had other ideas. He was enjoying the young bachelor life, with rooms in Temple Chambers, country house parties at weekends and playing cricket and golf when he was offered a permanent position at *Punch*. He was promoted to Assistant Editor in February 1906, when he was only twenty-four. For the next eight years, until the outbreak of war, he not only continued in this role but also contributed a weekly column simply signed 'A. A. M'. It made his name or at least his initials and later many of his *Punch* pieces were gathered into book form, the first of which, *The Day's Play*, was published in 1910. Two more followed before 1914. Useful as his proximity to Fleet Street was, he thought Chelsea more appropriate for a writer. He soon moved to what became his 'beloved Chelsea' and took rooms at 8 Wellington Square, for ten shillings per week. This was the first of his three Chelsea residences.

In 1913 Milne married Dorothy de Sélincourt, usually called Daphne or Daff. She was dark, vivacious and fashion-conscious. They were an odd mix. She was very social. He was not. He loved games such as cricket and golf. She hated them. But, as Milne said later, 'she laughed at my jokes'. The de Sélincourts were well-off and Alan and Daff were married in due splendour at St. Margaret's, Westminster on 4 June 1913. They took a flat at 15 Embankment Gardens and Alan continued at *Punch* until 1914. 'Everyone loves A.A.M' wrote *The Observer*. *The Times Literary Supplement* called him 'one of the foremost English humorists' and he was already featured in *Who's Who*. His ambition was to become Editor of *Punch*.

In 1914 he joined the Royal Warwickshire Regiment into which he was commissioned in February 1915. He attended signals courses in England before being sent to France in July 1916. After four months he developed 'trench fever', his temperature rose to a dangerous 105°F and he was invalided home to hospital in Oxford and then to Osborne House, where another convalescent was Robert Graves. For the next two years he was a training officer and, in his spare time, tried his hand at writing plays. The first had the strange title

of *Wurzel-Flummery*, which he sent to J M Barrie for whose cricket team he had frequently played.

In 1917 he had good news from Barrie. If he could reduce his play to two acts it could be presented with two one-act plays of Barrie's with Nigel Playfair in the lead at the New Theatre (now the Noël Coward). The plays ran for two months from April to June. His next play *Make-Believe* was produced only in New York but his third *Belinda* was put on in London in April 1918 with Irene Vanbrugh, and in New York the following month with Ethel Barrymore. George Bernard Shaw liked it and W A Darlington, soon to be the long-serving drama critic of the *Daily Telegraph*, compared it to *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

For Milne, 1919 was a very eventful year. He was released from the Army, joined the Garrick Club and Daff became pregnant. The couple looked for a house in Chelsea and settled on 11 Mallord Street, later renumbered 13. The problem was employment. Although he was offered his old job at *Punch*, which he accepted, it was made clear he would never be appointed Editor. Eventually he decided to become a freelance writer and left the magazine. He signed with the literary agency Curtis Brown.

Alan Milne thought Mallord Street 'the prettiest little house in London'. It had been built just before the war and Daff decorated it in dramatic colours with black carpets and bright cushions, influenced by designs from the Ballets Russes. There would be a nursery on the top floor, room for a nanny, and Alan, now working entirely at home, had a study at the back of the house.

He worked at speed. Four books, including his most successful piece of adult fiction *The Red House Mystery* were produced between 1919 and 1922. In the same period he wrote four of his most successful plays. *Mr Pim Passes By*, with Irene Vanbrugh again and the young Leslie Howard ran for 246 performances in London and then went to New York. It was also the first London production seen by a young Croydon schoolgirl called Peggy Ashcroft. This was followed, at yearly intervals, by *The Romantic Age*, *The Truth About Blayds* and *The Dover Road* (1922). Now he was well known by his name, not just by his initials. This was the high point of his career as a playwright. None of his next three plays were successful despite good casts including Gerald du Maurier in *To Have The Honour*, though in 1922 he had five plays running; three in New York, one in London and one in Liverpool. Still the critics liked him and compared him



The Blue Plaque on Milne's house at  
13 Mallord Street

favourably to William Congreve and William Wycherley.

In 1920, when Alan was thirty-eight and Daff thirty, their only child Christopher Robin Milne was born, and it would not be long before their whole world changed. They hired a nanny. She was not called Alice, but Olive Rand, and she stayed with the Milne family for ten years, putting off her own marriage (though not to a soldier) until she was past child-bearing age. With Alan hard at work and Daff continually 'social', Christopher's world centred on Nanny Olive. He adored her - and Alan was a bit jealous. Alan

was uneasy with children of nursery age. He was the bystander, the detached observer, and the stories which followed were not for Christopher but about him and his toy animals.

In January 1924 *Punch* ran three of his poems under the title *When We Were Very Young* with wonderful illustrations by E H Shepard. They struck gold, Alan Milne was going to be a rich man. *When We Were Very Young* in the full version was published by Methuen in November 1924. In two months it sold nearly 44,000 copies in the UK. Later that month it was published in New York where within two years sales exceeded 250,000 copies. And this was only a beginning. The *Winnie The Pooh* stories were published in 1926. *Now We Are Six* (poetry) came out in 1927 and *The House at Pooh Corner* (stories) in 1928, so the whole canon was completed in four years, when Christopher was between four and eight years old, by which time 'it was time to leave the forest, where a boy and his bear will always be playing'.

By Christmas 1927 British sales alone were 169,000 for *When We Were Very Young*, 80,000 for *Winnie The Pooh* and 94,000 for *Now We Are Six*. American sales were much greater and it was not long before translations of the books into many languages produced sales, in the millions. All wonderful news for the Milne family - or was it?

In 1925 the Milnes bought a small house in the country for weekends and summer holidays called Cotchford Farm near Hartfield, East Sussex, in the Ashdown Forest. It is, of course, the setting for many of the Pooh stories. The trees, the woods and Poohsticks Bridge are real. Pooh, Piglet, Eeyore, Kanga and Tigger were inspired by Christopher's toy cupboard. Milne invented Owl and Rabbit. Christopher could play, Alan could write in peace and Daff, who loved gardens, created a very beautiful one at Cotchford Farm.

In the beginning Christopher rather enjoyed the attention and adulation which came to him as the real Christopher Robin. He was listed as one of the five most famous children in the world. But as he grew up he came to loathe Christopher Robin and spent the rest of his life trying to distance himself from his fictional childhood. When he went to prep school at Boxgrove he wanted football boots and cricket bats. Later at Stowe, he was mercilessly teased. Other boys would play the record of *Vespers* (Christopher Robin is saying his prayers) over and over again until at last Christopher broke the record into a hundred pieces. Later he wrote in his autobiography *The Enchanted Places*, 'my father had got to where he was by climbing upon my infant shoulders, he had filched my good name and left me with nothing but the empty fame of being his son'. The poems were not difficult to parody. J B Morton (Beachcomber, columnist in *The Daily Telegraph* 1924-1975) wrote:

*Hush, hush nobody cares  
Christopher Robin has fallen downstairs*

Dorothy Parker wrote a weekly book review for *The New Yorker* as 'Constant Reader'. Although she admired Milne's work, she found *The House at Pooh Corner* unbearably sweet, concluding her piece 'Tonstant Weader fwoed up'. But the public would not be put off and by the early 1930s there was a whole *Pooh* industry starting with calendars and cards, then toys, jigsaw puzzles and games.

The problem for Milne was that he was becoming known as a writer of children's books, which was not what he intended. He was even asked to write advertising material for Pear's Soap and Wolsey children's underwear. He declined both. In 1930 he was invited to dramatise Kenneth Grahame's *Wind in the Willows* which he did as *Toad of Toad Hall*, and this tended to confirm Milne as a writer for children.

In the late 1920s Milne wrote three plays with mixed success. *Ariadne*

failed, but *The Ivory Door* and *The Fourth Wall* did better. He also sold film rights, as talkies arrived in 1929, for three plays. In 1931 Alan and Daff made their first visit to New York for the opening of his play *They Don't Mean Any Harm*. The visit was a mixed success. The play lasted only 15 performances, but they were lionised because of the *Poolh* stories. Daff loved it all and would return frequently. Alan hated it. 'Meeting people is not Mr Milne's long suit' noted the *New York Herald Tribune* after a reception for 400 guests given for them at the Waldorf Astoria which Eleanor Roosevelt attended.

For the next ten years Milne and Daff led rather separate lives. Daff travelled around Europe and especially America where she formed a close friendship with the playwright Elmer Rice. Alan stayed at home working, grew closer to Christopher in his teens and was particularly proud when he won a scholarship to Stowe. It was the best time for father and son. They watched cricket together, did algebraic puzzles and *The Times* crossword. As consolation for his wife's long absences Alan was often seen around London with the actress Leonora Corbett. None of his last three plays were successful and he recognised he was now out of fashion as the public flocked to witty comedies like Terence Rattigan's *French Without Tears*.

From the mid 1930s Alan became increasingly alarmed at the advance of fascism in Germany, Italy and Spain and the activities of Sir Oswald Mosley's Black Shirts in England. Since the First World War he had been a Liberal and a pacifist and was 'absolutely certain that another European war would mean the complete collapse of civilisation'. Milne's *Peace with Honour* which sold 12,000 copies in three months explored his feelings. He also wrote anti-war pamphlets such as *Five Minutes of Your Time* for the League of Nations.

At the outbreak of war Milne was 57 and Christopher was 19 and a scholar at Trinity, Cambridge. Christopher left in 1940 to join the Royal Engineers in which he served throughout the war, mostly in the Middle East, North Africa and then Italy where he was wounded. The Milnes lent Mallord Street to friends and moved to Cotchford where Daff struck an odd figure with her dyed hair and theatrical rather than fashionable dress. Milne supported the war, despite his pacifism. 'War is a lesser evil than Hitlerism', he wrote, 'I believe that Hitlerism must be killed before war can be killed'. All his writing was for the war effort. He wrote no more plays and his next novel would not appear until 1946. But he and Daff were on easier terms and had reached a form of contentment. They saw out the war together, though sometimes felt in greater danger in East Sussex

than in London as bombers from both sides constantly flew overhead.

By 1946 Alan seemed a rather dejected figure. At 64 he wondered whether he had written himself out. Rupert Hart-Davis described him as 'gloomy and aloof'. Basil Boothroyd saw him as 'an austere, rather tetchy figure'. P G Wodehouse wrote: 'odd chap, Milne. There was a curious, jealous streak in him which doesn't come out in his writing. I love his writing, but never liked him much.' Alan was apprehensive when *Chloe Marr* was published in 1946, but much relieved to read 'the old enchanter has done it again'. It sold well in the UK and in the USA. A major collection of some of his previous titles was planned by his US publishers with a print run of 600,000. This was then cut to 300,000, and 200,000 had to be remaindered. His time as a writer was up though his final work in 1952 *Year In, Year Out* was 'delightfully surprising' according to *The New York Times*.

Meanwhile Christopher had returned to Cambridge, got a poor degree and found it difficult to get, let alone keep, a job. In 1948 he met and married, to the Milnes' distress, his first cousin Lesley de Sélincourt, the daughter of Daff's estranged brother. In 1951 they decided to leave London for Dartmouth, where they set up the Harbour Bookshop. Daff who, according to Christopher, 'had the knack of hitting the nail on the head no matter whose fingers were in the way', thought it a very strange decision. 'I thought you hated business', she said.

On 14 October 1952 Alan suffered a severe stroke and was not expected to survive. He was moved from East Grinstead to the Middlesex Hospital in London. In December it was decided to risk a dangerous operation which left him paralysed and wheelchair-bound, though he could still write and speak. His personality was changed. He became 'sour, sad, bitter and bored to tears', and the last years of his life were utterly miserable. Round the clock nursing was required, and he never left the house. He could only look back longingly to happy days in Chelsea, to Mallord Street, which he would never see again, to Christopher as a boy with Nanny Olive and the now famous toy animals lined up in the nursery.

Alan Milne died in 1956. Christopher visited him only twice in those last three years and never saw his mother again after Alan's memorial service, although she lived for another fifteen years. For all the wonder and enjoyment that his *Poolh* books had given to others, the Milne family had paid an awful price.

## Modernism in Chelsea

Chelsea's rich heritage of Georgian and Victorian buildings is well known but possibly less familiar is the area's enriching examples of twentieth-century architecture. To redress the balance, in 2001 the Twentieth Century Society organised a walk highlighting some of the best examples along the King's Road and the streets to its north.

The following is an extract from the notes used to accompany the walk, focusing on the buildings of the 1930s. The notes were compiled by Simon Wartnaby and Mark Price and updated by Carolyn Starren. The full text, covering buildings from 1899 to 1980s, with illustrations is available from the Twentieth Century Society, 70 Cowcross Street, London EC1M 6EJ, website address [www.c20society.org.uk](http://www.c20society.org.uk).

The starting point of the walk led by Mark Price and Carolyn Starren was of course Sloane Square and the best known of Chelsea's 1930s buildings, Peter Jones.

### Peter Jones, Sloane Square (Grade II\*) Slater Moberley and C H Reilly, 1936 & 1939

The modernisation of Peter Jones was started by the innovatory Spedan Lewis when he inherited the store from his father in 1929. Lewis chose William Crabtree (1905-1991) to carry out research for a new store in 1930. Crabtree was recommended by Charles Reilly (architect to the John Lewis Partnership), who had been one of his students at Liverpool University. He then worked for Joseph Emberton, the architect of Simpsons, Piccadilly 1935-6. In 1930 Crabtree and Moberly toured Germany and Holland to look at the work of Erich Mendelsohn who had designed the Schoken department stores in Nuremberg, Stuttgart, and Chemenitz. Crabtree said that all the design work was his, and Slater and Moberly were brought in to complete the working drawings and supervise the contract.

Peter Jones was one of the first curtain wall buildings in England, and erected in four phases. The first phase in Cadogan Gardens was experimental (1932-33), the second phase on Sloane Square (1933-36), the third phase at the centre (1936-39), the last in 1964 in the south-west corner. The store has seven storeys, with a concrete encased steel frame and a lightweight skin. The vertical mullions are hollow pressed steel sections with outer metallic bronze finish, since repainted. Crabtree worked closely with Pilkington's on the



The Peter Jones building, viewed from Sloane Square, 2007. (Photo: David Nolan)

glazing, and steel-framed windows were supplied by Henry Hope & Sons of Birmingham. In front of the concrete floors the glazed panels are painted on the inside. The building has one of the first permanent canopies, to reduce the reflection on the display windows.

*Editor's note: The store was completely renovated between 2000 and 2004 at a cost of £100m.*

### Sloane Avenue

In 1909 the *Daily Chronicle* told of 20,000 people being driven out, small traders swept away, and artisan dwellings being levelled from the area between the King's Road and the Fulham Road. Despite the clearance and the laying out of Sloane Avenue and Draycott Avenue, only a few large houses and flats were built. The area was to stay in limbo for over twenty years.

## MODERNISM IN CHELSEA

In the 1930s large-scale building, primarily aimed at the professional and upper middle classes, at last began. By the end of the 1930s the area had been radically transformed. Despite vocal and at times violent opposition, the small nineteenth-century terraced houses were replaced by large blocks of flats with underground garages and 'modern conveniences', and a few streets of modern Tudor-style houses.

The first art deco block to go up was Avenue Court in 1928, followed in 1933 by Sloane Avenue Mansions, a ten-storey block faced in concrete. On the corner of Whitelands Grove and Sloane Avenue the nine-storey Cranmer Court was constructed in 1934-35, which, until recently, was one of the largest blocks of flats in London. A row of shops was included along Sloane Avenue.

Nell Gwynn House, faced in red concrete and with a spacious open courtyard, was finished in 1937. The ten-storey block was occupied by the late 1930s with tenants paying inclusive rents of £75 per annum. As only the wealthy could now employ servants a key feature

*Advertisement for Nell Gwynn House. (Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Library Service)*

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## MODERNISM IN CHELSEA

of the flats were modern conveniences 'to reduce housework to a minimum'. The prospectus stated, 'Nell Gwynn has been specially planned to meet the demand for modern luxury flats in the West End at economical inclusive rents'. Features included, 'a special system installed for the disposal of dust and garbage', 'a radio and electric clock in every flat' and 'central heating, constant hot water and electric fires'. There was a Modern Luxurious Restaurant where meals can be obtained at moderate prices'; this was also open to non-residents.

The ten-storey blocks of Chelsea Cloisters were constructed in 1937-38 and occupied almost the whole island site between Sloane Avenue, Ixworth Street and Makin and Elystan Streets. This controversial development generated protests for over a decade in the post war years.

### The Gateways, Whiteheads Grove (Grade II) Wills & Kaula, 1934

H W Wills (1864-1937) practised in South Wales and London, and was editor of *The Builder* (1913-1918) and *The Architect* (1918-1926). In 1913 he went into partnership with William Kaula (c.1871-1953) and together they had a thriving practice designing town and country houses, flats and factories.

The Gateways consists of Tudor-Gothic revival blocks centred around two courtyards with flats and houses for renting and were described by Harold Clunn in *London Marches On* (1947) as 'not unlike ancient almshouses'. They did however have compact, well equipped modern kitchens each with an Ascot water heater.

Chelsea Square (formerly Trafalgar Square)  
Houses south and east sides  
Braddell and Deane, 1931-1938  
The rebuilding scheme for the whole square, in early Georgian style, was the work of Darcy Braddell (1884-1970) and Humphrey Deane who had a

*Gateways kitchen. (From Bernard Friedman ed. Flats: Municipal and Private Enterprise, 1938)*





*The west side of Chelsea Square, 2007*

fashionable traditional country practice. Their earlier commissions included Woodfalls for Baron Melchett (1928-30). The three-storied houses with garages were built of pinkish stock brick, with bright red dressings and green-glazed tiles. In 1931 six houses on the south side were completed, fronting on to the central garden, with a further six on the east. The four centre houses were grouped in linked pairs, along one side of a mews with flats over the garages.

The houses in the Square are described by *Country Life* in 1932. 'Smaller houses are the order of the day ... for modern needs ... the old Victorian houses were non-descript houses. No-one will regret their disappearance'. The new houses 'have the right flavour in the midst of Chelsea's old Georgian houses ... convenience in place of inconvenience ... no basements, no badly lit rooms ...' They were supplied with modern conveniences such as central heating, service lifts and self-contained servants' quarters.

Number 33 is described in *Country Life* in 1937. 'The portico is well proportioned and displays that refinement in detail which is the outcome of scholarship. It has the dignity of good architecture; breeding, planning, extremely compact ...'

In the south-west corner of Trafalgar Square, renamed Chelsea Square in 1936, Catharine Lodge was demolished despite strong local

objections. Four houses, two facing Chelsea Square and two facing Old Church Street were erected on the site.

*Editor's note: Please see the article by David Le Lay on page 56 for further information on the history of Catharine Lodge and Chelsea Square.*

#### 40 Chelsea Square, Vernon House (Grade II\*)

*Oliver Hill, 1930*

The two adjoining houses on the eastern part of the Catharine Lodge site were designed by the same architect, Oliver Hill (1887-1968), for clients with different needs but externally forming a pleasing unity. Lord Vernon commissioned Hill to construct a small 'family mansion' in the neo-Georgian style outside but modern within. It is faced with whitewashed stucco and has a pantile roof (roofing tiles with an S-shape, laid so the curves overlap) with two tall brick chimney stacks and a copper-coloured verdigris front door. The modern interior remains largely intact. The hall is paved in honey-coloured marble with off-white walls and plain ash doors. The sitting room overlooks the garden with a Portland stone chimney with green African marble inserts. The dining room has a marble floor with green inserts, off-white walls and a polished Portland stone chimney with a recess for vases. Originally it was furnished with late Georgian stripped and waxed furniture and ivory satin curtains.

*Editor's note: The house is currently undergoing conversion and restoration.*

#### 41 Chelsea Square (Grade II)

*Oliver Hill, 1934*

Lady Forres also commissioned Oliver Hill but she required a house suitable to contain her collection of antiques, a studio and a separate cottage. The house is asymmetrical in late Regency style and designed to face south over looking the garden with the main entrance on the east via a flight of stairs with decorative railings. Lady Forres' studio was on the west side with a large north window. The floors were wooden ply squares and the sitting room was lined with strips of walnut veneer on canvas so that it could be bent round the shallow niches either side of the fireplace. The main and subsidiary houses are linked by an internal court.

#### 66/68 Old Church Street (Grade II)

*Gropius & Fry 1936*

The two houses on the western side of the Catharine Lodge site facing Old Church Street were built in continental modernist style. The philosopher and playwright Ben Levy and his wife the actress





41 Chelsea Square, 2007

66 Old Church Street, 2007



Constance Cummings commissioned Walter Gropius and Maxwell Fry to build a house for them on their return from America in the mid 1930s. Built originally in concrete with a flat roof the house faces south and its neighbour's garden. The main block of three storeys with a curved roof terrace has now been clad in slate and balcony filled. A porch and bay have also been added. The single storey white concrete section with its terrace over an iron balustrade and single continuous windows remains largely unaltered.

**64 Old Church Street (Grade II\*)**

*Mendelsohn & Chermayeff, 1935-36 with Conservatory by Norman Foster 1993*

Dennis Cohen, founder of the Cresset Press, commissioned Erich Mendelsohn (1887-1953) and Serge Chermayeff (1990-1996) to design his home. The limitations and restrictions of the site coupled with Cohen's requirement for a squash court caused Mendelsohn problems. The latter was solved by sinking the court partially into the ground. The final plan had service rooms on the road side and living rooms and bedrooms overlooking the garden. The drawing room has a dramatic bay similar to the De La Warr Pavillion.

Built of brick with 'Carbo' render, with internal steel stanchions, the floors and roof are steel framed with hollow tile filling. A terrace runs along the garden front echoing the bay and then returning to the narrow south elevation. The small conservatory was replaced by a larger one by Sir Norman Foster in 1993 but the remainder of the house remains largely unaltered.

The internal decoration is of a very high standard and was overseen by Chermayeff. The dining room is panelled in sycamore and pearwood and opens onto the squash court, the original swivelling dining table and sideboard remain. The library has similar panelling and an original fitted desk and the rooms can be closed off by large sliding doors. On the first floor the bedrooms have built-in cupboards, wardrobes and dressing tables in deal and birch lined with sycamore and mahogany.

Arnold Whittick in *Eric Mendelsohn* (Leonard Hill, 1956) says that the two houses harmonised with the small type of stucco Georgian houses in Old Church Street, with their rendered walls, flat roofs, the good proportions and window spacing. He says that it has a 'feeling of openness, glass, sunlight, air, and, all the frankness and openness so characteristic of some phases of modern life'.

# Chelsea Memories

by Oliver Palmer

Sadly I wasn't born in Chelsea. In 1923 my parents married and set up home at 25 Royal Avenue but in 1927, my impending arrival confirmed, they moved to Welwyn Garden City. Something to do with country air, they believed. Clearly and thankfully it didn't suit them. In 1931 they came back to Chelsea and bought and modernised a small terrace house, no. 35 Godfrey Street. Notable features were its Cambridge blue shutters with star-shaped openings cut at the top, my hand print over the front door and the floor plans inlaid in full colour in the bathroom linoleum. It had a tiny back yard too.

At the time Godfrey Street was a socially mixed community just beginning to move up-market. Front door keys hung on strings behind letter boxes, the corner shop sold candles and smelt of paraffin and the neighbours' children played in the street. The girls rolled hoops and played hopscotch. The boys swung on ropes from lamp posts and drove soap boxes on pram wheels. On summer evenings mothers set their chairs outside their front doors and held court. Once a year the street emptied as the children, dressed in their 'best', were handed up onto an open lorry with school benches for seats for the Annual Outing to the seaside. I wonder where they went; Margate?

In 1933 my parents bought, demolished and rebuilt Nos. 31 and 33 (ours) in Elystan Place (at that time College Place). We didn't move far – just round the corner – but our new house was certainly one of a very different colour. Designed by my architect father and unreservedly modern – all-electric and with two roof gardens, it would be widely featured not only in Britain but as far away as Japan. Elystan Place too was different from Godfrey Street. It was dominated by Peabody Buildings, where our 'char' Mrs Salmon lived, the 'Tudor' Gateways private housing across the road and large blocks of flats going up in Sloane Avenue.

I was now going to school at Gibbs at the bottom of Sloane Street passing Peter Jones ('PJs') then under construction. We Gibbs boys had red caps, our Gladstone rivals green and the boys came from many countries. Among them Bobby Kennedy, Peter Ustinov ('Usty

Busty'), an Indian prince, complete with turban, and refugees from Hitler. Chelsea rumour had it that the only clothes they had were those they stood up in and they were certainly strangers to queuing in Bathgates, the greengrocers. From his base in the Duke of York's Headquarters Sir Oswald Mosley conducted his marches, shadowed from adjoining streets by the police carrying tightly rolled dual-purpose capes – for shelter if it rained or as weapons anyway.

Harrods played an important part in our Chelsea life. It was where you bought your school uniforms and had your hair cut (Eton style). More importantly account holders could have orders placed before nine o'clock delivered in time for lunch (my parents maintained that I said 'Harrods' before 'mummy' and 'daddy'). Once a week we went in red buses to Harrods Sports Ground and again once a year for the School Sports. Yes, there was a chauffeurs' race.

Life was very comfortable. Taxis were on call from the rank at the end of the road where there had been a duck pond; our fathers drank beer, smoked pipes and wore Harris Tweed jackets and pork pie hats. Our mothers drank gin and 'It', smoked Balkan Sobranie cigarettes in holders and wore gloves and cloche hats. My parents, dressed for the evening, would come into my bedroom to say 'goodnight' before going out to the theatre or a dinner.

The postman delivered several times a day and the lamp lighter did his rounds twice a day. Every morning the milkman called and once a week the rag-and-bone man and the coal-man came by and Gatti's delivered blocks of ice when my parents had a party; all horse-drawn except the Wall's ice cream man who peddled from his tricycle. My favourites were a triangular penny water ice ('orange flavour please') with a two-penny bar of Cadbury's milk chocolate once a week (my 'treat') and sometimes after school, when my sixpence pocket money allowed, penny bars from the machine at Sloane Square underground (mind your fingers!).

Boys gave up their seats on buses to their elders and cranes were called derricks (was it really true that this was after Thomas Derrick, the English Elizabethan executioner?). On Christmas Days we had lunch at the Royal Court Hotel and sat in the American bar to listen to the King's broadcast. In the summer holidays Chelsea was deserted – we divided our time between the seaside and Yorkshire to stay with my grandmother. We travelled on the Ten O'clock from King's Cross with earphones to listen to Mr Growler and Stephen King Hall on *Children's Hour*.

Little changed except our telephone number SLOane 1066 to FLAXman or was it the other way round? You could choose your number then and my father had read Sellars and Yeatman's 1066. College Place was renamed Elystan Place by the LCC and in 1938 Rose, our live-in maid, left to marry a trooper in the Household Cavalry. She was replaced by a German girl, Irma, who I learned years later had been reporting my father's conversations to the German Legation. This he exploited to maintain a steady flow of disinformation. Suffice it to say she was arrested the week before the war broke out and, instead of my taking up my place at Westminster, we left abruptly to stay with relatives in the country, refugees in our own country.



33 Elystan Place, then known as College Place, in 1934. The house was designed by Oliver Palmer's father as a family home.

By the end of the year we were in Eastbourne only to leave shortly after Dunkirk to join my father back in Chelsea, in time to experience the Blitz. As the house was being rented we took a flat in Elm Park Mansions. On 7 September I stood on the roof and watched the East End burning until at six o'clock when it was time to go down to the surface shelter to be counted in. This was destroyed two weeks after we left to join my father in Liverpool to face our second Blitz. We would not live in Chelsea again; a chapter had closed.

\*\*\*\*

Postscript – My final contact with Chelsea was in January 1945 when I stayed overnight with friends in Godfrey Street before my aircrew medical. As we breakfasted on 3 January the kitchen filled with a pink light, and we were under the table when the bang came. The V2 had hit the Royal Hospital, injuring an old school friend. Happily he recovered but his father, a Captain of Invalids, and his mother were killed in their house.

I seldom visit Chelsea now but as you can see, my memories, some sad but many happy, remain.

## The Millar Obelisk – Why Chelsea?

by Carolyn Starren

For some 250 years Millar's obelisk has dominated the open piece of land on the north side of the King's Road today known as Dovehouse Green. Originally this parcel of land was presented to the Parish in 1727 by Sir Hans Sloane to provide a new burial ground, as the small churchyard of All Saints, today Chelsea Old Church, was full. Consecrated in 1736 it was enlarged in 1790 by the 1st Earl of Cadogan. It ceased to be a burial ground in 1824 when St Luke's burial ground came into use. Damaged during the Blitz, in 1947 it was laid out as a garden and opened to the public. Over time it became very neglected and untidy. In 1977 to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II and the Golden Jubilee of the Chelsea Society, the Society decided that improving the garden to provide a place to be enjoyed by all would be a suitable tribute to mark both occasions. Throughout all these changes and tribulations the obelisk has stood proud and relatively unscathed.

Parish records offer an interesting insight as to how permission to raise the obelisk was obtained. On a list of church goods made in 1752 under the heading 'In the Church Porch and Yard' the following entry appears: '1750 A small fire engine and leather pipes (gift of Mr Andrew Millar a London Bookseller) to the Parish in consideration of being admitted to erect a Burial Vault in the New Burial Ground'. In 1751 the light cream stone obelisk, surmounted by an urn standing on a pedestal with moulded cap and base was erected. Inscriptions, today severely abraded and unreadable, were on the lower part of the pyramid and on three sides of the pedestal. Millar's coat of arms (argent a millrind cross gules) and motto *pelicam reddid religio* can still just be made out on the fourth and eastern side of the pedestal. Until very recently the part name Mrs Marg Johnst could just be seen on the east face of the obelisk.

These bare facts posed a series of questions. Who was Andrew Millar? How did he acquire his fortune? What relationship did Mrs Johnston have to Millar? Why did he erect the obelisk in Chelsea and what was inscribed on it? Andrew Millar was one of the most



But what of his personal life and his association with Chelsea? I am deeply indebted to Dr Adam Budd, Lecturer in History at the University of Edinburgh, whose book on Andrew Millar is forthcoming from Oxford University Press, and who provided much of the information below. On 23 April 1730 Millar married Jane Johnston (1710-1788), daughter of Andrew Johnston, a Westminster print seller, at Chelsea Parish Church, who brought with her a dowry of £500.

In the mid-18th century, Chelsea was a particularly fashionable neighbourhood, especially with Scottish merchants and literary figures. Tobias Smollett and other London-based Scots lived there, as did various Scottish physicians. Although the exact location of the Millars' residence in Chelsea is not known, their three children were born in the Parish between 1735 and 1745. Millar became a prominent member of the community, always modest in appearance but a generous philanthropist. Very much a Scot - he spoke like one, cultivated the acquaintance of London-based Scots, and created something of a London literary network for Scottish authors. Contemporary accounts also suggest a degree of meanness, though not to his authors, and a fondness for drink, comments which perhaps shed more light on how long stereotyping of the Scots has existed rather than an insight into Millar's character.

From all accounts this was a happy marriage, though James Beattie in his *London Diary* writes in 1753, 'Millar durst not contradict his wife in anything' suggesting that she was the dominant party in their marriage. Jane also had a sister Margaret. Here lies the answer to the identity of Mrs Johnston and her relationship to the Millars. Margaret Johnston was Jane's unmarried sister. In the eighteenth century the term 'Mrs' denoted respectability rather than marriage. Margaret lived with the Millars for much of her adult life, and participated in numerous literary discussions. She was well liked and respected by a number of Millar's authors. Following her death on 30 July 1757 her name was added to the obelisk.

Sadly their life was clouded by tragedy. In the summer 1750 the Millar household travelled to the spa at Scarborough, where on July 30 their five year old son, Andrew, died of an unidentified illness. This left Millar deeply distraught, all the more so as Andrew was the last of his children. Robert had died in 1736 and Elizabeth in 1740, both at the age of one. Andrew's body was brought back to Chelsea and interred in the New Burial Ground (now Dovehouse Green) and in 1751 the memorial obelisk was built over his grave.



*Dovehouse Green 2007 (Photo David Nolan)*

We do not know when the Millars left Chelsea, but by December 1766 they had moved into 25 Pall Mall, a four-storey house designed for them by fellow Scot, the eminent architect Robert Adam. Sadly the house has been demolished but the drawings survive at Sir John Soane's Museum. They also had a villa at Kew.

Professionally Millar's business thrived both in the quality of the materials published and financially. In addition to publishing new works, he also produced definitive editions of the works of earlier writers including Milton and Francis Bacon. By 1766 he handed

## THE MILLAR OBELISK

over the business to his successor and former apprentice, Thomas Cadell. Cadell and his son, building on Millar's legacy, were to transform publishing in Great Britain into a large-scale enterprise, with books by Scottish authors at its core.

Following a long illness Andrew Millar died on 8 June 1768, leaving a £60,000 estate, today worth around £3.8 million. Bequests were made to his fellow countrymen and work associates, including Hume, Henry Fielding's sons and his three godsons (sons of former apprentices Spavan and Becket and the printer William Strahan). Millar was buried in Chelsea. His widow, Jane, who married Sir Archibald Grant of Monymusk in 1770 and died in 1788, was buried beside him. Thus the family was re-united in Chelsea.

And so to the final question about what was inscribed on the obelisk. During my research I found a watercolour of the obelisk in the Chelsea Library Print Room. This shows the full text and positioning of the inscriptions. It reveals the very poignant history of the Millar family, in particular the tragic death of their three children and is transcribed below.

### On South side of the pyramid:

Here lieth the Remains of  
ANDREW MILLAR Esq.  
Who departed this Life  
June the 8<sup>th</sup> 1768,  
Aged 61 years

### On the pedestal:

Robert Millar aged one year died in 1736,  
Interred not far from hence;  
Elizabeth Millar of the same age died in 1740,  
Buried in the Churchyard of St Clement Danes  
Innocent in their short lives,  
and therefore,  
Happy in their deaths;  
Though lost to their human,  
They live,  
To their Eternal Parent.

### On the pedestal on the North side:

Sacred to the Remembrance  
of  
ANDREW MILLAR,  
The fleeting joy, the lasting Grief,  
of those  
Who dedicate this Monument,  
Having thown much goodness in his frail Life  
has attracted the Love of All;

## THE MILLAR OBELISK

He was taken to a Better  
At Scarborough July 30 1750  
Aged five years and six months  
Interred here August 28<sup>th</sup> following.  
Reader! 'If Pity ever touched thy heart,  
Let these sad lines a tender thought impart,  
Think with what sorrow we inscribed this Stone,  
That speaks us Parents, and that speaks us NONE.

### On the west side of the pyramid:

Dame JANE GRANT  
Widow of  
Sir ARCHIBALD GRANT Bart,  
Who died October 25<sup>th</sup> 1788  
Aged 81 years.  
Her remains are  
Deposited here, near those  
of her first husband  
ANDREW MILLAR Esq.

### On the Pedestal:

Mindfull!  
Of Death and Life  
ANDREW MILLAR  
of the Strand London Bookseller,  
Erected this  
near the dormitory  
Intended  
For Himself and his beloved wife  
JANE MILLAR,  
When it shall please divine Providence  
To call them hence;  
As a place of the like repose,  
for other near relations  
and  
in memory of  
the deceased Pledges of their mutual Love,  
M.D.C.C.L.I.

### On East side of the pyramid:

Here lie the remains of  
Mrs MARG. JOHNSTONE  
Who departed this life  
July 30<sup>th</sup> 1757

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# Catharine Lodge

by David Le Lay

Catharine Lodge was situated in the south-west corner of what is now Chelsea Square. It was the home of the first Chairman of The Chelsea Society, Sir Albert Gray, KCB, KC, JP (1850-1928). It was a building about which there are many legends, usually involving illicit activities such as smuggling and gambling. The main house was a simple, handsomely proportioned building of two-storeys, constructed of brick with stone dressings and with a private garden of about an acre. When, shortly after the death of Sir Albert Gray, it was proposed that the house be demolished and its garden divided up into building plots, there was an outcry, including from the Society, at the loss of what *The Queen* magazine had earlier called 'a relic of Old Chelsea'.

Chelsea Square was originally planned in about 1811 as a typical London square, on a fairly grand scale; yet for some reason this plan never materialised, which is odd; for the time after Waterloo was a period of enormous growth and expansion in residential property development. Plans of the intended square appear on various maps in which it is called Alexander Square and then Wellington Square. It was not until 1831 that the first three terraced houses at the north end of the east side appeared and the Square was called Trafalgar Square, a name it retained for over 100 years. This terrace in the north-east corner gradually increased to ten houses by 1836 with, for many years, the whole of the remainder of the Square remaining undeveloped.

As can be seen from the first edition Ordnance Survey map, the approach to Catharine Lodge, and to another large house on the south side of the Square, was via gates at the north-west and south-east corners. Once through these gates one was in a large, wholly private, wooded landscape; it is interesting to note that the southern end of the Square included an avenue of trees aligned onto Catharine Lodge, emphasising that the undeveloped Square was part of its setting. In the late nineteenth century a terrace of nineteen houses was erected on the west side of Trafalgar Square and the east side, south of the original ten houses, became a mason's yard. It was not until the 1930s that the original concept of a residential garden square was finally realised.



*The first edition of Ordnance Survey, 1865*

The architectural history of Catharine Lodge is difficult to fathom. Originally called Bath Lodge, it first appears on a map of 1827, but it does not appear by name in the rate books of the time. Miss Constance Hall, the owner of Catharine Lodge School for Young Ladies, suggested a date of 1800 and the authors of the Survey of London were happy to agree with this. However, an article about the house in *The Queen* magazine suggested a date of about 1720 with 'traces of a much earlier, probably Elizabethan, building having occupied the site'.

From the limited information available, particularly in respect of the external appearance of the house, it is clear that the original



*Catharine Lodge, Trafalgar Square, watercolour by W E Fox, 1923  
(Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Library Service)*

house was a simple brick box, 13m wide by 15m deep (42 ft. x 50 ft.), with floor to ceiling heights of around 3.7m (12 ft.) All the main windows were exceptionally wide, and they also extended down to floor level. Externally, the ground floor windows had architraves and camber-arched heads, the front elevation facing the Square was finished in stucco with a moulded stone or stucco cornice dividing it from the first floor. The first floor was of brick with another stone or stucco cornice at parapet level, behind which was a flat roof which incorporated a skylight to give light to the main staircase in the middle of the house. In about 1840 a fine loggia was added to the garden (west) front. Somewhat unusually, the entrance to the house was to the side, via an entrance porch 'tacked on' to the south elevation.

In arriving at a date for this house, one of the legends surrounding it is useful. Miss Constance Hall, the source of most of these legends, states that the main staircase came from Bath House in Piccadilly 'in discharge of a gambling debt'; hence the original name of Bath



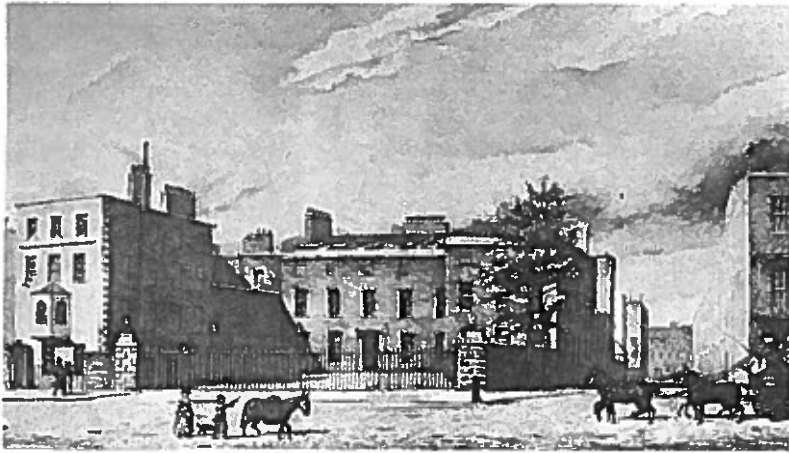
*Catharine Lodge School for Young Ladies, from a prospectus, 1855  
(Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Library Service)*

Lodge. The staircase was indeed an extremely fine one, being a typical eighteenth century cantilever stone stair, just over 1m wide (4 ft), with shallow risers, deep treads, a spacious half-landing and an ironwork balustrade. In the eighteenth century, such a staircase might indeed have been found in an aristocratic Mayfair mansion but not in Chelsea. Additionally, a cantilever stone staircase is an intrinsic part of the structure of the building in which it is located and can only be incorporated at the time of building.

Bath House in Piccadilly was situated on the west corner of Bolton Street, overlooking Green Park. The site had been purchased in 1664, together with other property in the area, by the distinguished Pulteney family and they had built a house there sometime in the seventeenth century. In 1740, William Pulteney (1684-1764) later 1st and last Earl of Bath, built a new mansion on the site, a view of which was drawn in 1820, just before it was demolished. The view shows a grand but very plain eighteenth century mansion but, as the Earl of Bath was an exceedingly rich man, we can be certain that the interior of the house was much more elaborate. It could easily have had a main staircase such as that at Catharine Lodge. It seems likely that the stone staircase from Bath House was incorporated into what became called 'Bath Lodge' in Chelsea in 1820; and indeed, from the general architectural character of the building, a date of 1820 seems right. (The story of a 'gambling debt' is almost certainly a complete fantasy on the part of Miss Hall.)



## CATHARINE LODGE



*Bath House, Piccadilly in 1820*

There is however some evidence for Catharine Lodge having been built on earlier foundations, for the ground floor was about 60cm (2 ft.) below the level of the street outside, which is always an indication of previous building. If the builders had been erecting the house on a virgin site they would have raised the building to be above street level, possibly incorporating a basement floor, as was provided for the servants' quarters to the north.

The earliest view of Catharine Lodge, which is of the garden front in 1855, shows a tall blank wall on the south side of the house. It seems likely that this was one of a pair of wing walls that framed the east front, with the service quarters being located behind the northern wing wall. These service quarters underwent many modifications over the years; the view of 1855 shows them to have been partly four-storeys high while later photographs and a watercolour of the 1920s show that this accommodation had grown to such an extent that it overpowered the original house.

It is not known for whom Bath Lodge was built but we do know that in 1852 it became the Catharine Lodge School for Young Ladies (sometimes spelt Katharine Lodge). This was established by a Mrs. Field and Miss Loman. They were proud that the boarding school was 'in a healthy locality', and also 'airy and commodious, stands quite alone and has a large garden'.

A full account of the history of the school was given in 1891 by Miss

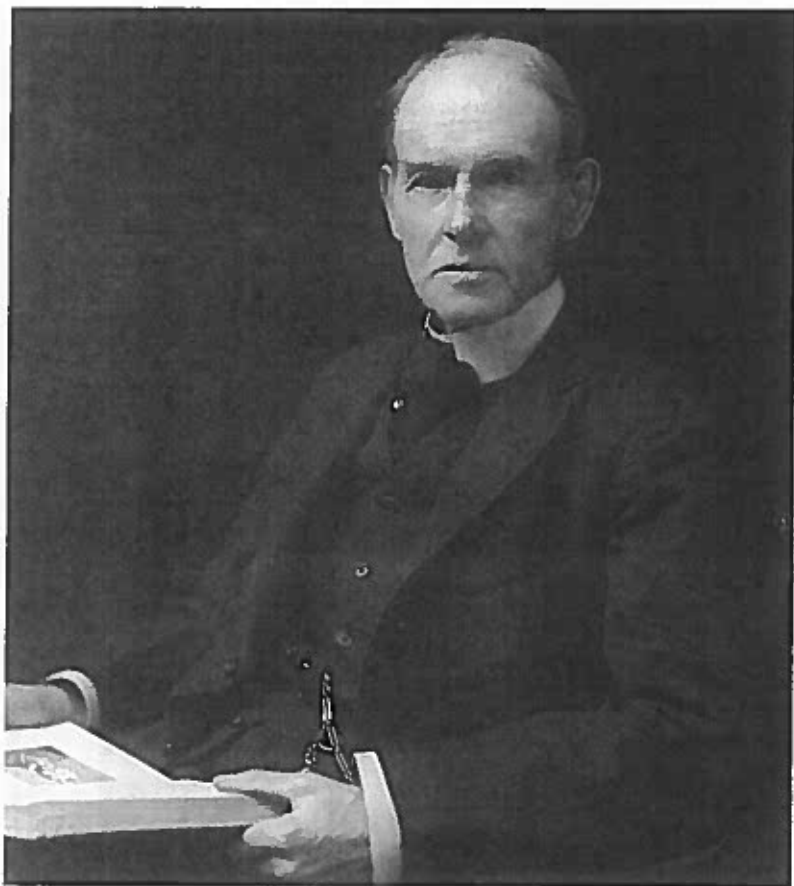
## CATHARINE LODGE

Constance Hall in the first edition of a school magazine called '*The Katharine Wheel*'. The piece has much useful information, but there is also a lot about gambling dens and pirates which one suspects are the product of the over-active imagination of a spinster school teacher. When Constance Hall died in 1895, at the comparatively young age of 41, the school closed down. (There is a beautiful arts and crafts style memorial tablet to Constance Hall in St. Luke's Church.) Catharine Lodge then became the clubhouse of a cycling club, a fashionable pastime of the well-to-do; but this was a short-lived use of the house, for in 1898, it was bought by Albert Gray.

Albert Gray, later Sir Albert Gray, was of Scottish origin. He was the younger brother of Effie Gray who, famously, was married,

*The main staircase that came from Bath House, Piccadilly  
(The Queen magazine)*





*Sir Albert Gray, photograph, Walter Stoneman, 1919*  
© National Portrait Gallery

firstly, to John Ruskin and then to Sir John Everett Millais. In fact Sir Albert was responsible for concealing certain potentially scandalous papers relating to the annulment of Effie's marriage to Ruskin in order to protect her reputation. Sir Albert spent his working life as a senior civil servant in Ceylon. He was for some time President of the Hakluyt Society, founded in 1846. Sir Albert was Mayor of Chelsea in 1924-5. Sir Albert and Lady Gray often allowed local charities to make use of the large garden of Catharine Lodge for gatherings and tea parties. When The Chelsea Society was formed, on 1 April 1927, Sir Albert was elected as Chairman and the first meetings of the Council of the Society were held at Catharine Lodge.



*The Entrance Hall showing the marble statue of Leda and the Swan*  
*(The Queen Magazine)*

Sir Albert was responsible for drafting the Society's first Constitution and Rules.

Before moving into Catharine Lodge, Sir Albert employed the Scottish architect Sir Robert Stodard Lorimer to carry out extensive repairs and alterations to the house. These included adding a new vestibule to the entrance, extending and altering the servants' wing, in which all of the bedrooms and two new bathrooms were located (the original core of the house being entirely given over to living and formal entertaining rooms), and the installation of central

## CATHARINE LODGE

heating and electric lighting throughout which, in 1898, was at the 'cutting edge' of domestic building technology.

The house became a bit of a show-piece and was featured in *The Queen* magazine in 1926; the article included photographs of all the principal rooms which were lavishly furnished with Georgian furniture, old master paintings and an extensive collection of fine porcelain. Among the works of art was a classical marble sculpture of *Leda and the Swan*, previously owned by Millais, which is now in the Victoria and Albert Museum.

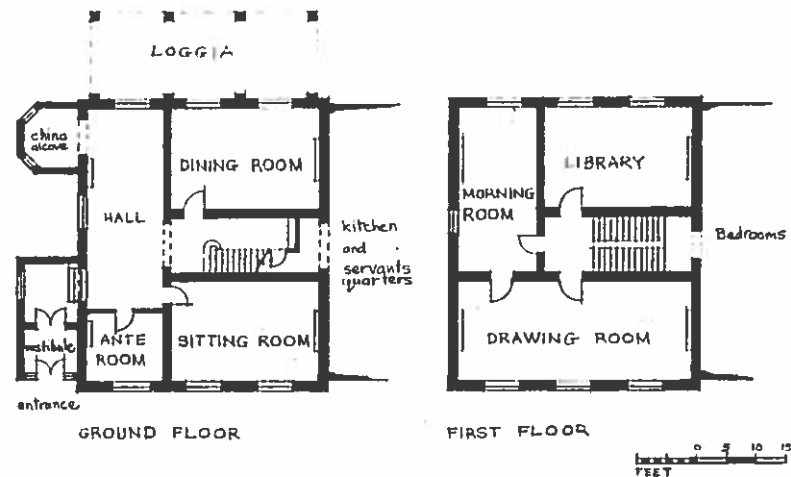
Edna Wheway, who from 1922 to 1925 was employed as a kitchen maid at Catharine Lodge, has published her memories of life 'below stairs' there. Other live-in staff included a butler, footman, housekeeper, two housemaids and a personal maid to Lady Gray. Sir Albert and Lady Gray are described as being kindly and caring employers.

She provides first-hand evidence relating to another legend surrounding Catharine Lodge - a secret underground passage leading from the house directly to the Thames. Miss Hall believed it was used by smugglers, though she never found it! Edna Wheway did find it, for she describes how, together with the under-housemaid and the butler, she set out one day to explore this passage. The entrance was in the coal cellar under the pavement near the front door. She describes how the passage was brick-lined, at least 2.4m (8ft) high and that they walked a 'fair way' but there was a considerable through-draught that kept putting out their candles so they turned back.

Four watercolour drawings by Mrs Jane Rush, painted in about 1810 and now part of the Kensington and Chelsea Local Studies Collection, show a series of large, inter-communicating underground chambers and passages, which appear to be constructed of Tudor brickwork. These were probably part of a system of chambers and conduits, constructed to convey drinking water from Kensington to the Manor House erected by Henry VIII on Cheyne Walk. Perhaps the passage was part of this water installation?

The death of Sir Albert Gray in 1928 coincided with all the leases of Trafalgar Square, including that of Catharine Lodge, reverting to the ground landlord, the Cadogan Estate. The Estate decided to redevelop the whole Square, and construction of new brick-faced

## CATHARINE LODGE



*Floor plans of main house after alterations carried out for Sir Albert Gray in 1898 by Sir Robert Stodard Lorimer*

houses, in Georgian style, commenced in 1931. The site of Catharine Lodge could have been similarly developed but, instead, was treated differently, possibly due to it including some houses fronting Old Church Street, which had been erected in the garden circa 1835. This site was split into four roughly equal plots, two having access from the Square and two from Old Church Street. The plots were sold to individuals for the erection of houses to their own design.

The result was a reflection of the architectural turmoil that existed at the time. The features that tied the four houses together were that they were all faced in white render and that the two northern houses (41 Trafalgar Square and 66/68 Old Church Street) were designed to be perpendicular to their respective streets so as to each have a south-facing garden and they extended, at least in part, to three-storeys; whilst the two southern houses (40 Trafalgar Square and 64 Old Church Street) were of two-storeys only, planned in the conventional way, facing the street with their gardens at the rear.

The Trafalgar Square houses, both for members of the gentry, were designed by Oliver Hill in classical style; the more conventional no. 40 for Lord Vernon, which with its wing walls and camber-arched windows was perhaps intended to be a reminder of Catharine

Lodge, and no. 41 for Freda, Lady Forbes, which employs a more innovative classicism. Numbers 64 & 66/68 Old Church Street were designed for the publisher, Denis Cohen and playwright, Benjamin Levy respectively; they were friends and so decided to combine their gardens into a single larger garden. However, they each chose their own architects, though both firms they appointed were famous for being exponents of what was known as the 'international style'; the Levys employed Walter Gropius and Maxwell Fry whilst the Cohens employed Eric Mendelsohn and Serge Chermayeff.

There is no doubt that these four houses are worthy successors to Catharine Lodge and that if their demolition were proposed there would be a national outcry that would drown even that of 1928.

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## *Christ Church Chelsea – Guardian of a Great Musical Tradition*

by Fleur de Villiers

In 2008 Chelsea will celebrate its actors and musicians at the Chelsea Society's annual exhibition during the Chelsea Festival. It is a little known fact, however, that for the last 60 years some of the world's finest musicians have played, sung, conducted and recorded in one small Chelsea parish church.

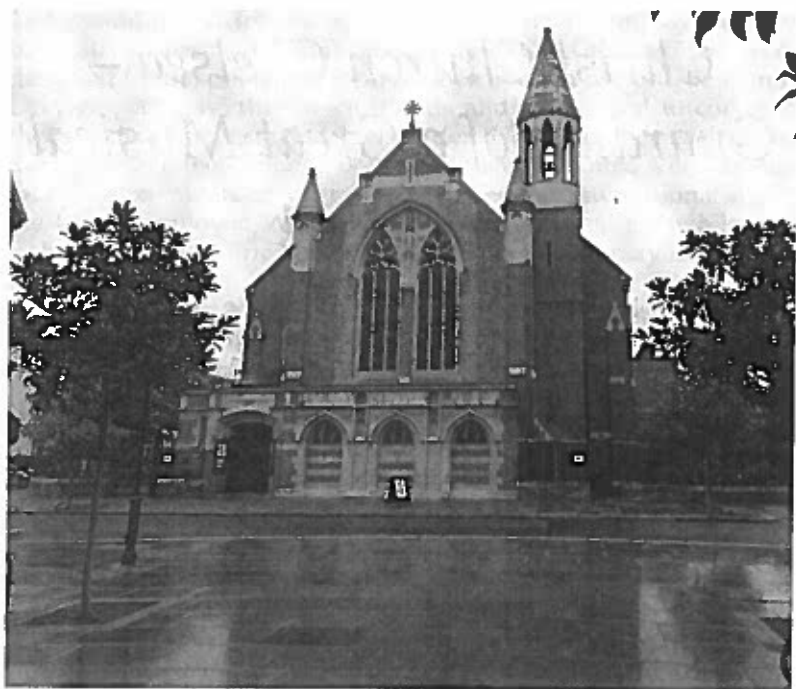
It is unlikely that any other nation has such a tradition of church music as ours; today we associate it largely with cathedral, college and school choirs but England's musical heritage was also nurtured in many parish churches throughout the country. They were the hundreds of tributaries which over the centuries fed into the country's musical stream, producing organists, singers, composers and teachers who enriched this heritage and passed it on to future generations.

Today only a dwindling number of parish churches can afford to keep this great tradition alive. For much of the past century, however, Christ Church, Chelsea has proved a triumphant exception to this rule. Many renowned organists, choirs and composers have been drawn by its 18th-century organ to perform and record there and to enrich the spiritual experience of congregations through the decades.

The roll call of famous names who have sung, played or recorded in Christ Church would be the envy of many a great cathedral. They have included the world renowned Swiss organists Guy Bovet, the great British mezzo-soprano Dame Janet Baker, the Columbian harpsichordist Rafael Puyana, conductor Sir Neville Marriner, countertenor Paul Esswood and flautist Sir James Galway.

This tradition received a major boost in 1965 when a young man who was to become one of the country's most distinguished

## CHRIST CHURCH, CHELSEA



*Christ Church, Chelsea in 2007*

organists, Richard Townend, took over as Musical Director. Townend was a pioneer of early English music. He studied in Switzerland with the great Bach exponent Lionel Rogg, and the equally famous organ teacher Marie Claire Alain. Townend made Christ Church a home for recitals and recordings by some of the greats of his day. With a professional choir of six men as well as sixteen trebles from his father's school Hill House, singing a repertoire of largely Renaissance music, he also attracted large Sunday congregations who delighted in the cathedral-style music in a parish setting.

Fortunately, this remarkable tradition of fine music making did not die when Townend left in 1990. In 1997 John Streeing, a noted music teacher and composer, who before his vocation to the ministry had served as Director of Music at St John's Wood church, was appointed Associate Vicar in the parish of St Luke's and Christ Church. Such was his reputation in the world of church music that he was shortly joined, as Director of Music at Christ Church, by Jeremy Summerly, Head of Undergraduate Studies at the Royal Academy of Music

## CHRIST CHURCH, CHELSEA

(RAM). Streeing and Summerly had met at Oxford where Summerly – who was to become a noted broadcaster and one of the country's leading exponents of early chamber choral music – directed the Scola Cantorum, Oxford's largest chamber choir.

Once again, with a choir drawn from students at the Royal Academy of Music and King's College, London, Christ Church's reputation as a centre for the best in the English church music tradition began to grow. Under Summerly, the choir not only performed the classics, but also pioneered new works, while careful, as Streeing says, 'to keep the liturgical music always accessible to the congregation and within the scale of the service'.

The strong links between choir and the congregation were evident when Summerly and the choir with noted tenor John Mark Ainsley performed the *Mass of the Quiet Hour*, by George Oldroyd. His daughter, Linet Thomas, was a well-known member of the congregation. Christ Church's reputation as a centre for new works was further enhanced when – thanks to the generosity of Earl Cadogan – a compact disc of Streeing's compositions, featuring soloists, the Christ Church choir and a former organ scholar at Westminster Cathedral, Charles Cole, was produced and sold for church funds.

In 2002 Summerly was succeeded as Musical Director by a colleague at the Royal Academy of Music, Gareth Wilson, now a member of the Music Department at King's College, London. Wilson was later joined by organist Joe McHardy, at that time a postgraduate harpsichordist at the RAM, and together they began to write an exciting new chapter in the illustrious musical history of Christ Church.

Today the choir at Christ Church includes both professional and semi-professional singers. Many come from the Royal Academy of Music or are current students in the Music Department of King's College. Once again Christ Church is nurturing talented young singers, some of whom are already beginning to make their name on the opera stages of Europe.

At Christ Church, we continue to hear a wonderful repertoire covering a 1000 years of music. The choir has performed an impressive repertoire of 40 new works specially commissioned for Christ Church. Written by members of the choir and students at leading musical institutions they include motets, mass settings and carol arrangements. As Wilson puts it, 'Our eventual aim is to have

## CHRIST CHURCH, CHELSEA

motets suitable for all the major feasts of the church year. We have also made important contributions to the repertoire with new editions of pieces by Victoria, Palestrina, Charpentier, Lully, Beethoven and Barnby'.

All Mozart's completed masses have been heard at Christ Church during the last four years and there is an ongoing project to sing all 104 of Palestrina's Masses (to date, more than 40 have been performed). This is in addition to the choir's commitment to perform contemporary church music by established (and less established) composers, including Arvo Part and Matthew Martin. 'It is my hope,' says Wilson, 'that whenever someone attends Christ Church, they will hear something they could not hear anywhere else.'

Wilson's dream – and Christ Church's continuing role as a centre of musical excellence – is today imperilled by the state of the instrument which first attracted leading musicians to Christ Church – its 225-year-old organ. Originally a classical instrument built by England and Russell in 1779, successive re-builds and repairs since its removal from St Michael, Queenhithe, to Christ Church in 1876 have led to a steady loss of sound quality, tonal integrity and historic value. Today, like a patient who has suffered too many grafts, implants and transplants, little remains of the original. It can barely cope with the demands of Christ Church's vigorous musical tradition. It is rapidly nearing the end of its life.

The people of Christ Church, guardians of its role as one of the few remaining parish centres of excellence in the English Church Music

*Plaque detailing the history of the organ in the Church*



## CHRIST CHURCH, CHELSEA



*The present organ at Christ Church*

tradition, are determined to keep that tradition alive. A new organ will, they believe, transform Christ Church into a regular concert venue as well as a place of worship.

They also hope that a new organ will enable Christ Church to become a dynamic community centre for religious musical education and provide a much-needed practice and teaching facility for organists and students. This ambition has won enthusiastic support from the Royal College of Organists, St Giles International Organ School, the Royal School of Church Music, the Royal College of Music and the Music Department of King's College, London.

It is a vision which blends respect for the rich heritage of the past with an exciting ambition for the future: the belief that a new organ of 18th-century design, built into the original 18th-century case, will do more than simply preserve a valuable parish tradition. The hope is that it will also inspire generations of church musicians, conductors and composers and also ensure that Christ Church and indeed Chelsea continues to make a unique and invaluable musical contribution.

# Street Tree Planting and Pruning

by Martin Andrews

Go down Kingsway in Central London from Holborn and as you reach the Aldwych, you will see prominent temporary notices pinned to plane trees saying "LOW TREES"! The problem is that there is insufficient space between the kerb and the eight-story office building. The pavement is not wide enough for trees. Why should this only occur here and not further up Kingsway? This is because the two 'problem' plane trees catch the prevailing wind coming up the Aldwych approach from the Strand. Indeed, does such a formal piece of civic design, undertaken by the London County Council (LCC) in the 1900s, merit trees or were they introduced to give a degree of civic unity while the vacant Kingsway sites were infilled, to be removed later?

Once trees, and indeed shrubs, are planted, one must accept that a degree of pruning (let us say management) will be required. My pocket dictionary describes 'Prune' as "rid of dead or overgrown parts....reduce the luxuriant of". However, for a most comprehensive description, look no further than the excellent *Trees for Town and Country* by Brenda Colvin. Published in 1947, it owes its inception to a group known as The Association for Planning and Regional Reconstruction which looked forward to a renaissance of tree-planting in post-war Britain.

Miss Colvin states that 'the use of trees too large for their position or unsuitable by reason of their spread or density of shade has led in the past to a custom of lopping town trees – often in an unsightly and ill-judged fashion. Cutting back the branches to a gaunt stub ruins the natural grace of the tree and makes it produce dense mops of foliage from a point below the cut which often defeats the purpose of the topping'. She follows with illustrations of trees as guidance to those concerned with the 'outward appearance of town and country' – definitely a book for all enthusiasts to keep by their side. Don't forget too, the back up from the garden square committees, a good tree surgeon, a sympathetic and knowledgeable Council arboriculturalist and a leisurely consultation with specialist

## STREET TREE PLANTING AND PRUNING



*Above, damage caused to and by trees in Flood Street*

*Below is a successful proximity of trees and houses in Royal Avenue*





*A tree planting by College House, King's Road, an impossible situation for both building and tree*

bookshops such as RIBA in Portland Place W1B 1AD and The Building Centre in Store Street, WC1E 7BT.

Interestingly it was a Chelsea resident Dr John Samuel Phené, FRIBA, who correctly believed that trees on town streets would help to purify the air. In 1851 he planted trees on both sides of Oakley Street and in his new development Margarita Terrace. These are believed to be the first tree lined streets in London. Today in Chelsea, as elsewhere, their situations can range from the strictly urban such as Flood Street, semi-enclosed such as Duke of York Square and Sloane Square to the spaciousness of Royal Avenue and the approach to the Royal Hospital. If you go along to the recently completed planting and paving in front of Christ Church you will see how successful planting can look.

Ref: Colvin, Brenda *Trees for Town and Country*. Lund Humphries 1947

## *The Blunt Bequest*

by Jane Dorrell

Ranelagh

*There, night by night, the priests in mystic round,  
With weary footsteps paint the hallowed ground;  
All ranks revolving in their several spheres,  
King, nobles, commoners, and Irish peers.*

When Reginald Blunt died in 1945 he left his papers and books about Chelsea to the Chelsea Public Library together with a special bequest of £50 which was to be spent on something with a Chelsea theme. Although the library set up a trust the money was never spent. Nearly 60 years later it was found the bequest was worth £1,500. Splendid, thought the Borough's Councillors, this will enable us to buy the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* on-line. Not so splendid, thought our Chairman, David Le Lay, remembering the terms of the bequest. Diplomatically not mentioning the fact that when the bequest was made, Chelsea was a separate borough, he instigated a campaign to have the money made over to the Chelsea Society. He consulted the Charity Commissioners about the possible misuse of the money and encouraged our members to write in support of it being used as Blunt had intended. His campaign was successful. The Council graciously conceded defeat and the Society had an unexpected £1,500 to spend. But what on?

Four red leather bound folio scrapbooks were brought to the Chairman's attention. Two, compiled by Henry Beaufoy, were filled with 18th-century newspaper cuttings about Chelsea and Pimlico, and two were devoted to Ranelagh Gardens. What could be more redolent of Chelsea's history? It seemed the ideal solution to the question, and they were duly purchased. Costing rather more than the £1,500, the shortfall was met, generously, by the Borough Council.

There is no indication of who assembled the Ranelagh books but there is a tiny bindery label which gives the name of Myers and Co, 102 New Bond Street. A little detective work revealed they were in business at that address from 1925 to 1947 so we have some idea of when they were put together. Beautifully mounted on heavy – almost





*Chevalier D'Eon duelling in drag*  
 (Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Library Service)

cardboard-like – paper, the first volume contains cuttings of all the contemporaneous accounts of Ranelagh. (It also includes the hilarious story of Henry VIII's attempt to build a rotunda. Not quite so successful as Ranelagh's – it was blown away by a great storm the very night it opened.) And there are some wonderful caricatures and satiric drawings including the one shown here of the Chevalier d'Eon fighting a duel in full drag – bonnet and all - in front of the Prince of Wales. The second volume will be of special interest to musicologists in that most of it is devoted to sheet music and songs.

The scrap books are a wonderful record of Ranelagh but – and there always is a but – they are not easily accessible. They are kept in the basement store of the Central Library and you need to ring ahead to ask for them to be brought up to the Local Studies section – not always open. They are very heavy and need to be handled with care. The spine of volume two certainly needs attention.

One day perhaps the Society's pictures, books, letters and records – the minute books of the Council's meetings go back to 1928 – will be on public view and not hidden away in library basements. That will be the day when the long wished for Chelsea Museum opens its doors, a prospect which, you will remember, made a few appearances and then faded away leaving not a trace.

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#### Access to the Blunt Bequest

*These valuable and rare items are stored in temperature controlled conditions to preserve them for the enjoyment of future generations. The days when every user respected the property of the Library are now sadly long gone so we have to take some precautions with antiquarian works. The Chevalier D'Eon would not forgive us if some malefactor cut the print of his duelling demonstration out and put it on e-Bay. Visitors to Local Studies sign our visitor's book on arrival. If they have phoned ahead the volumes are waiting for them. If they arrive unannounced there will only be a brief delay while the books are brought up from the store. Local Studies staff always welcome visits from Chelsea Society members.*

David Walker, Local Studies and Archives Manager

### *Denis Broodbank*

Denis Broodbank was a member of the Council of The Chelsea Society from 1976-81. He was no doubt persuaded to join the Council by his neighbour and fellow architect Frances Baden-Powell. He lived in St. Luke's Street and remained a member of the Society until his death on 7 November. In the 1960s Denis was a tutor at the School of Architecture of The Polytechnic, Regent Street, now the University of Westminster, when I was a student there and I remember him well as being an urbane and easy-going tutor. In more recent times I always enjoyed a cordial chat with Denis when our paths met, invariably in Waitrose.

David Le Lay

### *Stephen Gardiner*

Stephen Gardiner (1924-2007) was born in Chelsea and for most of his life, he lived in a delightful studio house, tucked away in its own garden, just off the King's Road, down a passageway opposite Dovehouse Green. It was only when redevelopment of this particular part of the King's Road was begun a few years ago that he had to move to Tunbridge Wells.

Stephen qualified as an architect at the Architectural Association and for most of his life had his own practice; Stephen was a passionate believer in contemporary architecture and probably his most successful building, designed in partnership with Christopher Knight, was a modern house that incorporated a ruined Doric portico at Stratton Park, a famous neo-classical mansion in Hampshire.

In the mid 1980s he became involved with the proposed conversion of Chelsea Rectory into a single house for an Iranian millionaire. Stephen proposed the removal of subsidiary buildings and the erection of substantial new wings, in a modern style, on either side of the main house. Planning consent was refused by the Royal Borough but was granted on appeal. With the overthrow of the Shah of Iran, the site was sold and it was not until 1991 that the project was realised; but although Stephen's overall concept was adhered to, the detailed design and materials were changed to much more traditional ones.

It was however as the architectural correspondent of the *Observer* newspaper that Stephen really made his name. It was a post that he held for many years and one that he filled with distinction; he was a brilliant writer and critic. I knew Stephen quite well and always

found him entertaining and amusing company, but he would invariably betray his frustration at a world that he saw to be full of philistines and that invariably failed to recognise his talents.

David Le Lay

### *Joan Hayes*

Joan Hayes died in November 2007, aged 97. When in 1975 Joan married Edwin Hayes they lived at 23 Sydney Street and Joan wholeheartedly joined in Edwin's support for the work of The Chelsea Society, to which he had belonged since 1961. She took up the cause with great enthusiasm and was soon on the Council of the Society serving in 1975-76, together with Lesley Lewis, as Joint Hon. Secretary. When Lesley Lewis became Chairman in 1980, Joan was back on the Council, of which she remained a loyal member until 2002. After Edwin died, in 2000, Joan moved from Sydney Street to Cranmer Court and about a year ago, she moved to the same nursing home on Kingston Hill where her old friend Lesley Lewis now lives.

Joan was a redoubtable campaigner, especially for the interests of Sydney Street which for many years she protected virtually single-handedly. This street is an historic one, being lined with listed terraces and it is the setting for St Luke's, the parish church of Chelsea. It is also a major thoroughfare that is in danger from creeping commercialisation at each end and the development ambitions of major institutions such as the Oratory School and the Brompton and Marsden hospitals. Joan fought valiantly and tenaciously to protect the residential character and amenities of this important street.

In the mid 1980s Joan became Chairman of the Sydney Street and District Residents' Association, which had been founded in 1959 by Edwin Hayes and James Kinross, continuing in this post until 2002. She believed in doing things properly, so the Association had a President, an AGM, accounts and a committee which she consulted regularly. She believed in working with the establishment, not against it and she was always prepared to take a pragmatic view; she realised that when the Brompton Hospital decided to build a new hospital opposite St Luke's church which involved demolishing a terrace of listed houses, it was pointless to object as they enjoyed Crown immunity; instead, she concentrated on making the new building as acceptable as possible.

Joan gave long and loyal service on the Council of The Chelsea Society and in the latter years of her involvement it relied upon her for detailed and accurate information as to all that was going on in the Sydney Street area.

David Le Lay

### *Lord Kelvedon*

Lord Kelvedon (1935-2007), formerly Rt. Hon. Paul Channon MP, died in January of this year. He had been a member of the The Chelsea Society since 1981 and from 2000 to 2003 he was President of the Society. He was also a member of the Cheyne Walk Trust being lucky enough to live in one of Cheyne Walk's finest houses. It is likely that he quietly used his influence with government to put an end to the planned 'Western Environmental Improvement Route' that would have been so devastating for all of south-west Chelsea.

He was always generous to Chelsea causes and made a handsome donation towards the cost of erecting a statue of Whistler near Battersea Bridge. He allowed the Society to organise a visit to his home, something which few are prepared to do, and members were thus able to see his matchless collection of paintings and drawings by Henry and Walter Greaves. In addition to his Chelsea home, he owned a very beautiful Georgian house at Kelvedon in Essex and an equally idyllic villa in Mustique.

Paul's father was Sir Henry 'Chips' Channon and his mother Lady Honor Guinness. He went to Eton, did his national service in the Royal Horse Guards and then went to Oxford University. Aged 23 he became Conservative MP for Southend West and in a long political career rose to be a member of Margaret Thatcher's Cabinet. He was highly intelligent and public-spirited and had that very special strain of wit and worldliness.

The Society was privileged to have such an accomplished and distinguished person as its President. He took a keen interest in the work of the Society and as President could be relied upon for wise counsel.

David Le Lay

### *Iris Medlicott*

Iris Medlicott (1928-2007) who died on 2 November, aged 79, was one of the major pillars of The Chelsea Society for nearly 50 years. She was a life member, had served on the Society's Council, was its joint Honorary Secretary from 1962 to 1971 and its joint Planning

Secretary together with Lesley Lewis. The important task of following up details of planning applications at the Town Hall was co-ordinated by them together with Noel Blakiston, Chairman of the Society at the time and the panel of architects and other advisors. She left Royal Avenue in 1971 and moved first to Redburn Street and then to Hertfordshire. She kept a pied-a-terre in Moore Street and remained a loyal member of the Society regularly attending the AGM and the Summer Meeting.

Iris was the networker par excellence and could invariably identify those important contacts among her many friends and acquaintances that would be able to assist the Society on some cause taking priority at the time. She had great elegance, and enormous charm. She always seemed content and was never unkind. Her calls were always answered by, among many others, her army of MPs, councillors, local authority and government officials. Edward Goldring, a Director of Engineering at the Royal Borough, once referred to her in an article in 1976 as 'among the most indomitable residents of Chelsea and the queen of Royal Avenue' – quite appropriate too!

Among her many contributions she was a key player in co-ordinating the Society's campaign challenging the Government proposals for the West Cross Route, then destined to demolish the houseboats by Cheyne Walk and disgorge heavy traffic onto the Embankment. The Society's aims for an alternative which incorporated a new bridge over the Thames had to be co-ordinated with other objectors. Lawyers, including Leading Counsel, had to be briefed and funds raised to present the challenge at the Public Inquiry. Her work helped to ensure that the scheme was abandoned, a most satisfactory outcome.

Iris was scheduled to have a heart operation but just before this was due, she fell, broke her hip and had to postpone the operation. This postponement sadly proved fatal.

Stefan Tietz

### *Marjorie Parr*

Marjorie Parr (1906-2007) died peacefully at the Meadbank Nursing Centre, Battersea on 17 May 2007. She had celebrated her 100th birthday on 21 December 2006, and had been a Life Member of The Chelsea Society since 1971. Marjorie moved to Elm Park Gardens in July 1966 and lived there until May 1996, not long before her 90th

birthday, when she moved to Meadbank.

In 1963 Marjorie bought 285 King's Road, after giving up her stall in the Portobello Market. The ground floor of these premises had been a cobbler's shop and some friends can still remember the original mud floor! In a small booklet published in 1967 entitled *Antique Collecting with BP* the following reference is made: 'one of the gayest, friendliest shops in the King's Road, Chelsea, is run by Marjorie Parr...'

But it is as the owner of Marjorie Parr Gallery that she will be best remembered. In 1964 she started showing, in the basement, the paintings of John Hitchens (having known his father Ivon, and his grandfather, Alfred, for many years), and the sculpture of Margaret Lovell and Peter Thursby, both from the West Country. Later she showed, with much success, the sculpture of Enzo Plazzota, then living in Upper Cheyne Row.

Marjorie loved giving parties for clients, friends and artists, often in her flat, but also, after private views, at well-loved local bistros such as 235 or Le Bistingo in the King's Road. She enjoyed living and working in Chelsea and welcomed young and old into the gallery, accepting with enthusiasm the liberal ideas of the 'flower generation' in the 1960s. From 1967-1971 Marjorie owned a second gallery in St Ives. In 1974 she sold her King's Road gallery to David Gilbert.

In her retirement she continued to work for other people and started the Chelsea branch of the Arthritis Research Campaign for which she worked enthusiastically to raise funds. One of the many ways she did this was to ask her friends to show their appreciation for her generous hospitality by putting money in the giant whisky bottle she kept in her hall! She also attended St Luke's church, as an active member of both the congregation and the Women's Fellowship. It was appropriate, therefore, that a Thanksgiving Service for her life and work was held there on Friday 1st June.

Mary Lambert

### *Tom Pocock*

Tom (1925-2007) was a member of The Chelsea Society for nearly thirty years. He was on the Council for twenty-six years and Editor of our *Report* for sixteen years. We were incredibly fortunate that this eminent journalist – later to become the recognised authority on Nelson – gave so much time and energy to the Society. I am sure you will have seen the many obituaries in the national press gave

comprehensive accounts of his professional career, so this is just a brief personal memoir. I met Tom (at a Liar Dice party) in the early 1950s when he was the *Times* naval correspondent. I have a vivid memory of coming across him in Harrods' piano department, of all the unlikely places. He told me that it was the first place he went to when he got back from a particularly distressing assignment. If Harrods was still selling pianos he knew that all was right with the world. Tom was a true friend; I have always thought of him as a kind of *genius loci*, not only because he loved Chelsea but because he stood for values which are rare today. He really was the quintessential Englishman – genial, scholarly, modest, uproarious, generous and much more which I don't have words for. Another old friend, Shirley Gee (who gave that distant party), remembers this story about a time when Tom was young, before he met his wife Penny:

'It's Christmas morning long ago, in Tom's little cottage in Norfolk. Tom has invited a relative to share his festive lunch. Just the two of them. The relative is elderly. And clerical. The floors are stone; it's bonecold. They talk a bit. Winds shake the windows. A bit more talk. Tom fetches a bottle of wine. It glows. "We'll have a glass", he says, "before we go in." "Better not, Tom," says the relative, "I find wine is inclined to induce rotten talk." Ahead the turkey awaits, the unlit pudding, a trudge to the frozen edge of the sea, back for the Queen's speech ....'

And she adds: 'Dear Tom. All his Fleet Street friends, the pick of the King's Road dolly birds, and with his sweet heart he chose to share the day with a lonely relative.'

Jane Dorrell

### *Rusheen, Lady Wynne-Jones*

I vividly remember the first time I met Rusheen Wynne-Jones. She had just come from the House of Lords, for the State Opening of Parliament. She was in her finery, meticulously made-up; she not only looked stunning but she brimmed with an infectious self-confidence and breeziness. Here was a lady who relished being a 'Lady' and all the prestige that went with it.

It was at about this time, the mid 1970s, that she formed an amenity group called 'The Friends of Chelsea'. Its notepaper was dominated by a very long list of what was called the 'Advisory Committee', which read like Burke's Peerage. Rusheen herself was the Honorary Secretary but she was in fact the prime, actually, the only, 'mover'

in the organisation, which did not have a constitution, nor any committee, advisory or otherwise. Yet, for a decade, The Friends of Chelsea was feared by many a property developer and very much a force to be reckoned with.

Rusheen was a master of publicity. She always had a slogan that could grab the headlines and never allowed the facts to spoil a good story. The press loved her but, not surprisingly, she did have one or two 'narrow scrapes' when her outrageous accusations almost landed her in court. She concerned herself with any development in Chelsea that she considered was bad or retrograde; inevitably, this often overlapped with the concerns of The Chelsea Society and there is no doubt that her fire, enthusiasm and publicity-seeking ways were instrumental in keeping the Society 'on its toes' at that time.

She was passionate about what was happening to all aspects of our civilisation. One of her major concerns was the impact of tall buildings on the character of the Thames. Rusheen had a romantic vision of the Thames as it was at the time of Thomas More and she saw that being destroyed. So The Friends of Chelsea went outside Chelsea to fight for the Thames. One of her most celebrated cases was what she dubbed the 'Green Giant' – a tall building proposed at Vauxhall (it was actually brown, but 'brown giant' would not have had the same ring about it). She won that public inquiry, virtually single-handed. She also won another inquiry into a whole series of tall buildings planned for the Southwark bank, between London and Tower bridges. Such was her enthusiasm and charisma that she managed to persuade busy town planners and architects to give evidence, for no fee, on her behalf, with her acting as barrister for what was virtually the only opposition to the application. Unfortunately her brave triumphs did not, in the end, save the Thames; for tall buildings now exist on both of the sites for which she fought.

Rusheen claimed to have trained as a barrister; she was an amateur painter; she loved horses, and she was personally acquainted with members of the Royal family. It was certainly the late Queen Mother's personal intervention as Chancellor of London University, prompted by Rusheen, that persuaded Margaret Thatcher in 1979 that the former College of St. Mark and St. John should remain in educational use and be sold by the GLC to Chelsea College for well below its value as a residential development site, for which it had consent. In recognition of these efforts, King's College London, the successor to

Chelsea College, conferred a Fellowship upon Rusheen, of which she was justly proud.

Correspondence that has only come to light since her death, shows that Rusheen was also influential in stimulating an interest in architecture and planning in the Prince of Wales and that the famous phrase, about plans for an extension to the National Gallery, with which the Prince launched himself as an architectural critic in 1984: that it 'was like a monstrous carbuncle on the face of a well-loved friend', was actually coined for him by Rusheen – it is a phrase which certainly has her stamp.

Lady Wynne-Jones was born Rusheen Preston and was brought up as a Christian Scientist. In 1972 she became the second wife of Lord Wynne-Jones, a Labour Life Peer, who had been a Professor of Chemistry at Newcastle University. Kendrick Wynne-Jones was an extremely genial man about whom it could be said 'tolerated' Rusheen's high-profile exploits; they certainly provided him with diverting entertainment in his retirement. He was however a source of advice and caution to her wilder excesses and when he died in 1982, she lost her practical and wise confidant. She felt his loss keenly, and she was quite changed. She moved from their spacious and elegant flat on Chelsea Embankment to a small house in Elystan Place, she became somewhat reclusive, she neglected her appearance and The Friends of Chelsea came to an end. She transformed her new home into a haven for birds and other wild life, with what can only be described as a 'vertical garden' covering the whole façade of the building, to which the Borough planning department turned a 'blind eye'.

But Rusheen lost none of her zeal, she was an assiduous correspondent in the local press where she would expound, at length, her own idiosyncratic philosophy of life and culture. And only last year, she made a rare appearance at a public meeting on planning organised by The Chelsea Society when she asked an awkward question – it was almost like the old Rusheen again.

She was not ever bitter; on the contrary, she remained full of optimism and quiet confidence that her high ideals would win through in the end. On 24 July 2007, her sister Diana Malcolmson organised a celebration for the life of Rusheen in Chelsea Physic Garden, when she was remembered with love and gratitude.

David Le Lay

## *The Treasurer's Report*

This is now my second year of serving as Hon. Treasurer of The Chelsea Society. Whilst we had a healthy surplus last year, this year's surplus has been more modest. This reflects the fact that the Society has been more active this year and this reduced surplus is therefore to be welcomed.

I want to thank David Le Lay for his kindness and encouragement and also Kathy Roll who constantly helps me keep the records and balance the books. If there are any questions on the accounts, please ask, and I will do my best to answer them.

Christy Austin

## THE CHELSEA SOCIETY

*Registered Charity Number 276264*

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 30 June 2007.

#### **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)  
Stephen Kingsley MA (Hon. Secretary)  
Christy Austin (Hon. Treasurer)  
Patricia Burr (Hon. Assistant Secretary)  
Patricia Sargent (Hon. Secretary, Membership)  
Terence Bendixson (Hon. Secretary, Planning)  
Valerie Hamami-Thomas (Hon. Secretary, Events)  
Carolyn Starren (Hon. Editor)

#### **Other Members of the Council**

Martin Andrews  
Michael Bach BSc, MSc, MS  
Richard Melville Ballerand BSc  
Dr Serena Davidson  
Jane Dorrell  
Leonard Holdsworth  
Marianne Kingham  
David Sagar  
Alicia di Sirignano  
Andrew Thompson  
Gina Warre  
Jonathan Wheeler MA, BSc, FRICS

#### **Review of the year's activities and achievements**

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

#### **Review of the Accounts**

At 30 June 2007, the Society has total funds of £48,972, comprising £35,587 on the General Fund and £13,385 on the Life Membership Fund. These are considered available and adequate to fulfil the obligations of the Society. The reserve of funds is held to meet a need to fund any particular action required to protect the Society's objects, as thought appropriate by the Council of the Society.

Approved by the Council of the Chelsea Society on 19 November 2007.

**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 30 June 2007, which are set out on pages 89 and 90.

#### 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.

Angela Ktistakis  
GMAK  
Chartered Accountants  
5/7 Vernon Yard, Portobello Road  
London W11 2DX  
19 November 2007

## THE CHELSEA SOCIETY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

	2007	2006
<b>Income and Expenditure</b>		
<b>Incoming resources</b>		
Annual membership subscriptions	14,314	14,237
Donations received	130	327
Advertising revenue from annual report	1,945	2,475
Interest received on General Funds	817	665
Interest received on Life Membership Fund	438	438
Income from lectures, meetings and visits	17,016	7,249
Income from sale of Christmas cards and postcards	4,633	5,844
Mailing inserts	540	450
Income for sale of <i>Here is Chelsea</i> book	108	95
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>39,971</b>	<b>31,780</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Resources expended</b>		
<b>Direct charitable expenditure:</b>		
Cost of annual report	6,850	5,379
Cost of newsletters	4,243	3,019
Cost of lectures, meetings and visits	13,514	5,117
Cost of Christmas cards and postcards	2,806	3,857
Subscriptions to other organisations	223	334
Cost of maintaining the website	—	10
Cost of Schools' local history competition	—	(29)
Contribution to Lots Road Challenge	—	750
Printing, postage and miscellaneous expenses	7,277	3,802
Insurance	635	663
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>35,548</b>	<b>22,902</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Other expenditure:</b>		
<b>Governance:</b>		
Cost of annual general meeting	386	372
Bank Service Charge	247	221
Independent examiner's fee	813	663
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,446	1,256
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>36,994</b>	<b>24,158</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources for the year</b>	<b>2,977</b>	<b>7,622</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balances brought forward at 1 July 2006	45,995	38,373
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Balances carried forward at 30 June 2006</b>	<b>£48,972</b>	<b>£45,995</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>

**THE CHELSEA SOCIETY**  
BALANCESHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2007

	2007	2006
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Debtors	715	2,250
Balance in National Savings Bank account	13,385	12,947
Balance on bank current and deposit accounts	42,499	39,454
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	56,599	54,651
<b>Less Liabilities: amounts falling due within one year</b>	(7,627)	(8,656)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>£48,972</b>	<b>£45,995</b>
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<b>Funds:</b>		
General Funds	35,587	33,048
Life Membership Fund	13,385	12,947
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>£48,972</b>	<b>£45,995</b>
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Approved on behalf of the Council of The Chelsea Society on  
19th November 2007.

D. R. Le Lay, *Chairman*

Christy Austin, *Honorary Treasurer*

**ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of Accounting**

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost basis of accounting, and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting & Reporting by Charities, and applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

**Incoming Resources**

Membership subscriptions, advertising revenue, and income from events and the sale of Christmas cards are time-apportioned and credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in respect of which they are receivable

Donations are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they are received, unless they relate to specific future projects.

**Resources Expended**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

**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:-
- 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.

**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 to 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 £15 annually payable on the 1st January. The annual husband-and-wife rate is £20.

## 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             | SIMON BARROW                       |
| MISS J. ABEL SMITH          | ADRIAN BARR-SMITH                  |
| IAN AGNEW                   | MRS. ADRIAN BARR-SMITH             |
| MISS INESSA AIREY           | MRS ANNE BARTLETT                  |
| PAUL V. AITKENHEAD          | *MRS. DEREK BARTON                 |
| MRS. MADELEINE ALATAS       | MRS. COLLEEN BASSETT               |
| FRANCIS ALEXANDER           | G. N. BATTMAN                      |
| JAMES ALEXANDER             | MRS. G. N. BATTMAN                 |
| R. ALEXANDER                | PATRICK BATY                       |
| MRS. R. ALEXANDER           | SIR PETER BAXENDELL                |
| MRS. ROSEMARY ALEXANDER     | LADY BAXENDELL                     |
| C. ALLAN                    | GERALD BEALE                       |
| MRS. C. ALLAN               | ROBERT BEALE                       |
| *LT-COL. J. H. ALLASON      | MRS. ROBERT BEALE                  |
| MISS GLEN ALLEN             | *E. V. BEATON                      |
| MRS MARGARET ALLEN          | K. L. S. BEAUCHAMP-KERR            |
| MRS. ELIZABETH AMATI        | MRS. A. E. BEAUMONT-DODD           |
| *ANTHONY AMBLER             | MRS. P. M. BECKER                  |
| C. C. ANDREAE               | HUGO BEDFORD                       |
| MISS SOPHIE C. M. ANDREAE   | MRS. HUGO BEDFORD                  |
| STEWART ANDREW              | MRS. PATRICIA BEIR, M.V.O., M.B.E. |
| MRS. STEWART ANDREW         | SIMON BENDALL                      |
| MARTIN ANDREWS              | T. J. BENDALL                      |
| *THE MARQUESS OF ANGLESEY   | TERENCE BENDIXSON                  |
| MISS MARY APPLEBEY, C.B.E.  | MISS ANDREA BENNETT                |
| J. N. ARCHER                | MRS. R. A. C. BERKELEY             |
| JOHN ARMITAGE               | ROBIN BERKELEY                     |
| MRS. JOHN ARMITAGE          | MISS ANN BERNIE                    |
| MISS J. ARMSTRONG           | *MISS ANNE BERRIMAN                |
| *DAVID ASCHAN               | MRS RITA BERRIMAN                  |
| M. ASHE                     | MRS DELIA BETTISON                 |
| MRS. M. ASHE                | REAR-ADMIRAL C. BEVAN, C.B.        |
| MISS C. ASSHETON            | MRS. C. BEVAN                      |
| THE HON. NICHOLAS ASSHETON  | CARL BIGGS                         |
| MRS. ROMA ASHWORTH BRIGGS   | MISS SUSAN BILGER                  |
| *MRS. PHILIP ASTLEY, O.B.E. | MISS PAMELA BIRLEY                 |
| MRS. LISA ATKINS            | MRS. ELIZABETH BLACKMAN            |
| J. ROBERT ATKINSON          | MRS. C. BLACKWELL                  |
| MISS CHRISTY AUSTIN         | MISS SUZANNE BLAKEY                |
|                             | DEREK BLOOM                        |
| MICHAEL BACH                | MARTIN BOASE                       |
| DR. B. M. BAIRD             | JONATHAN BOLTON-DIGNAM             |
| MRS. B. M. BAIRD            | MRS. J. B. FLOCKHART BOOTH         |
| MARTYN BAKER                | MICHAEL BOREHAM                    |
| MRS. MARTYN BAKER           | MRS. MICHAEL BOREHAM               |
| RICHARD BALLERAND           | MISS JUDITH BORROW                 |
| MRS. RICHARD BALLERAND      | *TIMOTHY BOUTON                    |
| MRS. MICHAEL BARKER         | MISS JUDITH BOWDEN                 |
| DR. R. BARKER               | DAVID BOWEN                        |
| ROGER BARKER                | MISS CLARE BOWRING                 |
| MRS. VALERIE BARKER         | M. BOXFORD                         |
| *D. H. BARLOW               | MRS. M. BOXFORD                    |
| SIR JOHN BARRAN, BT.        | HERVÉ BOYER                        |
| LADY BARRAN                 | MRS. HERVÉ BOYER                   |
| JULIAN BARROW               | MISS P. BRABY                      |
| MRS. JULIAN BARROW          | DAVID BRADY                        |
| MRS. M. C. BARROW           | MRS. DAVID BRADY                   |

H. R. BRADY  
 MRS H. R. BRADY  
 R. M. A. BRAINE  
 MRS. R. M. A. BRAINE  
 WALTER BRANDHUBER  
 MRS. WALTER BRANDHUBER  
 MRS. J. C. BRASS  
 MISS E. M. E. BRIGITEN  
 A. W. BRITTAIN  
 MRS. A. W. BRITTAIN  
 T. BROAD  
 MRS. T. BROAD  
 CANON MICHAEL BROCKIE  
 THOMAS BROLLY  
 DENIS BROODBANK  
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 LADY BROOKE  
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 A. A. G. S. BUCHANAN  
 MRS. E. J. BUCHANAN  
 MISS M. BUCKLEY  
 P. J. BULL  
 J. H. S. BURGESS  
 K. BURGESS  
 \*RICHARD BURGESS  
 RUSSELL BURLINGHAM  
 MISS ELIZABETH BURMAN  
 REAR-ADMIRAL R. H. BURN, C.B., A.F.C.  
 MRS. R. H. BURN  
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 MRS. MALCOLM BURR  
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 MRS. D. E. BURTT  
 F. A. BUSBY  
 \*MRS. JAMES BUXTON  
 TERENCE BUXTON  
 \*THE HON. JULIAN F. BYNG

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 MRS. VERONICA CALVERT  
 MRS. PATRICIA CAMERON  
 DONALD CAMPBELL  
 MRS JOY CAMPBELL KEMP  
 MRS. A. CAMPBELL JOHNSON  
 DAME FRANCES CAMPBELL-PRESTON  
 GRAHAM CANNON  
 J. CARLETON PAGET  
 MRS. J. CARLETON PAGET  
 A. CARO  
 MRS. A. CARO  
 RUSS CARR  
 MRS RUSS CARR  
 MISS S. P. CARR  
 PHILLIP CARRARO

MRS. PHILLIP CARRARO  
 MISS BARBARA CARSE  
 \*MRS. DONALD CARTER  
 MRS KATHARINE CATOR  
 \*REV. JOHN CARVOSSO  
 S. CASTELLO  
 MRS S. CASTELLO  
 DR MARY CATTERALL  
 JAMES CECIL  
 MRS. J. CHADWICK  
 MISS JULIA CHALKLEY  
 DR. SABRI CHALLAH  
 M. E. CHAMBERLAYNE  
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 MRS. DAVID CHARTERS  
 THE DOWAGER LADY CHELMSFORD  
 LORD CHELSEA  
 LADY CHELSEA  
 CHELSEA METHODIST CHURCH  
 MRS. CYNTHIA CHAUVEAU  
 MRS. J. M. CHEYNE  
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 MRS. A. H. CHIGNELL  
 MRS. E. CHOWDHARAY-BEST  
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 MRS. RICHARD CLARE  
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 MRS BEVERLEY CLARKE  
 \*R. S. CLARKE  
 MISS L. N. CLAYSON  
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 MRS ADAM CLEAL  
 MRS PAT CLEARY  
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 MRS. STUART CORBYN  
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 MRS. MICHAEL CORKERY  
 NICHOLAS CORKERY  
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 JEREMY COUSINS

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 MISS ROSEMARY CRAIG  
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 MISS DIANA CRAWSHAW  
 MISS P. CRAXFORD  
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 TIM CROISDALE  
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 MRS. ALAN CROSS  
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 MRS. BARBARA CROWELL  
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 MRS. MARTIN CULLEN  
 JAMES CUNNINGHAM  
 IAN CURROR  
 MRS. IAN CURROR

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 MRS SUE DAVIES  
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 MRS DAVID DE CARLE  
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 MISS CELIA DENTON  
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 MRS. LEWIS DEYONG  
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 \*MRS. Q. MORGAN EDWARDS  
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 MRS. D. ELCOCK  
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 MRS. P. ELVY  
 GRAHAM ETCHELL  
 SAMUEL EVANS  
 MRS. SAMUEL EVANS  
 TREVOR EVE  
 MRS. TREVOR EVE  
 JOHN EVERETT  
 MRS. JOHN EVERETT  
 MICHAEL EVERIST  
 MRS. MICHAEL EVERIST  
 MRS. C. EVERITT  
 MRS. HEATHER EWART

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 \*MRS. IAN FAIRBAIRN  
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 MRS. P. W. FANE

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 MRS. P. W. FAWCETT  
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 DR. T. J. FYTCHE  
 MRS. T. J. FYTCHE  
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 MRS. B. A. FISHER  
 DAVID FISHER  
 MRS. DAVID FISHER  
 DR. J. M. FISHER  
 MRS. S. FISHER  
 MARTIN FLASH  
 MRS. B. K. FLEMING  
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 PROFESSOR SIR HUGH FORD  
 LADY FORD  
 L. FORSYTH  
 MRS. L. FORSYTH  
 MRS. PAMELA FOSTER-BROWN  
 J. M. P. FOX-ANDREWS  
 MRS. HEATHER FRANCIS  
 JOHN FRANCIS  
 MARK FRANKLIN  
 MRS. MARK FRANKLIN  
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 LAURENCE FRIEDMAN  
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 JONATHAN FRY  
 MRS. JONATHAN FRY  
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 THADDEUS R. FULFORD-JONES  
 MISS SHEELAGH FULLERTON

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 MRS. ROBERT GARDINER  
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 MISS JENNIFER F. GARRETT  
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 MRS. MARK GAVIN  
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 GORDON GIBBONS, C.A.  
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 DR. D. G. GIBSON  
 LIONEL GIBSON  
 DENNIS GILBERT  
 MRS. DENNIS GILBERT  
 BARRY GILBERTSON  
 MRS. BARRY GILBERTSON  
 SIR PATRICK GILLAM  
 LADY DIANA GILLAM  
 SIR PAUL GIROLAMI  
 LADY GIROLAMI  
 MRS. GISELA GLEDHILL  
 F. J. GOLDSCHMITT  
 MRS. F. J. GOLDSCHMITT  
 \*R. W. GOLLANCE  
 MRS. B. GONZALEZ  
 JONATHAN GOULD  
 MRS. JONATHAN GOULD  
 PETER GOVETT  
 MRS. PETER GOVETT  
 MISS ANGELA GRAHAM  
 DUGALD GRAHAM-CAMPBELL  
 MRS. DUGALD GRAHAM-CAMPBELL  
 DAVID GRANT  
 MRS. DAVID GRANT  
 MISS JANET S. GRANT  
 PETER GRANT  
 MRS. PETER GRANT  
 \*N. J. GRANTHAM  
 MRS. P. J. GRAY  
 MARTIN GREEN  
 MRS. MARTIN GREEN  
 TOBY GREENBURY  
 MRS. TOBY GREENBURY  
 DR. CAROLYN GREENWOOD  
 MISS MAUREEN GREENWOOD  
 NIGEL GREENWOOD  
 MRS. ANN L. GREER  
 J. S. GREIG  
 MRS. J. S. GREIG  
 STEPHEN GRIFFITHS  
 ANDREW GROSSMAN  
 MRS. GRACE GROSSMAN  
 WILLIAM GUBELMANN  
 MRS. WILLIAM GUBELMANN  
 ROBERT GUERRINI  
 MRS. ROBERT GUERRINI  
 MISS MARSHA GULA  
 MISS HEATHER GUMBRELL  
 LADY GUNNING

MISS J. M. HADDON  
 MISS MAUREEN HAGAN  
 MRS. C. HALFORD-THOMPSON  
 MRS. VERONICA GLEDHILL HALL  
 MISS MARGARET HALLENDORFF  
 JAMES HALLING

MRS. JAMES HALLING  
 MRS. V. HAMAMI-THOMAS  
 ANDREW HAMILTON  
 MRS. ANDREW HAMILTON  
 MRS. PEGGY HAMMOND, M.A., F.R.S.A.  
 PETER HAMPTON  
 MRS. PETER HAMPTON  
 K. B. HAMPTON  
 MRS. K. B. HAMPTON  
 MRS. MARION HANDSCOMBE  
 MISS VICKY HANDS  
 MISS JUDITH HANRATTY  
 MRS. CHARLES HANSARD  
 M. R. HARDING  
 MRS. M. R. HARDING  
 SIR DAVID HARDY  
 LADY HARDY  
 MISS HAZEL HARDY  
 D. L. HARLAND  
 MISS ROSIE HARPER  
 MISS V. HARPER  
 MISS INGRID HARRIS  
 \*JOHN HARRIS, O.B.E., F.S.A., HON. F.R.I.B.A.  
 \*MRS. JOHN HARRIS, M.A., Ph.D.  
 JOHN HARRISON  
 MRS. JOHN HARRISON  
 SIR MICHAEL HARRISON, Bt.  
 DAVID HARVEY  
 MRS. DAVID HARVEY  
 MRS. STEFANIE HARWOOD  
 N. D. HATHERELL  
 MRS. N. D. HATHERELL  
 HARRY HAVEMEYER  
 MRS. H. HAVEMEYER  
 L. C. HAWKES  
 MRS. L. C. HAWKES  
 MRS. E. HAWKINS  
 W. S. HAYNES  
 MRS. W. S. HAYNES  
 MISS ELIZABETH M. HEATHER  
 DAVID HELYAR  
 H. N. HENSHAW  
 MRS. H. N. HENSHAW  
 MISS CELIA HENSMAN  
 P. HIGGINS  
 MRS. P. HIGGINS  
 JOHN HIGHFIELD  
 MISS LEONIE HIGHTON  
 MISS MARGOLD HOARE  
 CAROLINE, LADY HOBART  
 DAVID HODGES  
 MAJOR I. S. HODGSON  
 A. F. HOHLER  
 MRS. A. F. HOHLER  
 LEONARD HOLDSWORTH  
 MRS. LEONARD HOLDSWORTH  
 CLLR. TONY HOLT  
 STANLEY HONEYMAN  
 MRS. STANLEY HONEYMAN  
 \*THE VISCOUNTESS HOOD, C.V.O.  
 GAVIN HOOPER  
 MISS A. ST. CLAIR HOPKIN

SIR SIMON HORNBY  
 DR. SUSAN HORSEWOOD-LEE, M.R.C.G.P.  
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 MRS. DENIS HOWARD  
 \*MALCOLM S. HOWE  
 \*D. R. HOWISON  
 GEOFFREY HUGALL  
 DAVID HUGHES  
 G. B. HUGHES  
 MRS. S. HUGHES-ONSLOW  
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 PETER HUNTINGTON  
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 MRS. SUZIE HYMAN  
 MISS PEGGY E. HYNÉ

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 MISS RACHIEL INWOOD  
 MIRANDA, COUNTESS OF IVEAGH

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 MRS. CHERRY JACKSON  
 MRS. SARAH JACKSON  
 J. JACOBSEN  
 PAUL JENNINGS  
 MISS CLYTTIE JESSOP  
 MISS VIRGINIA JOHNSTONE  
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