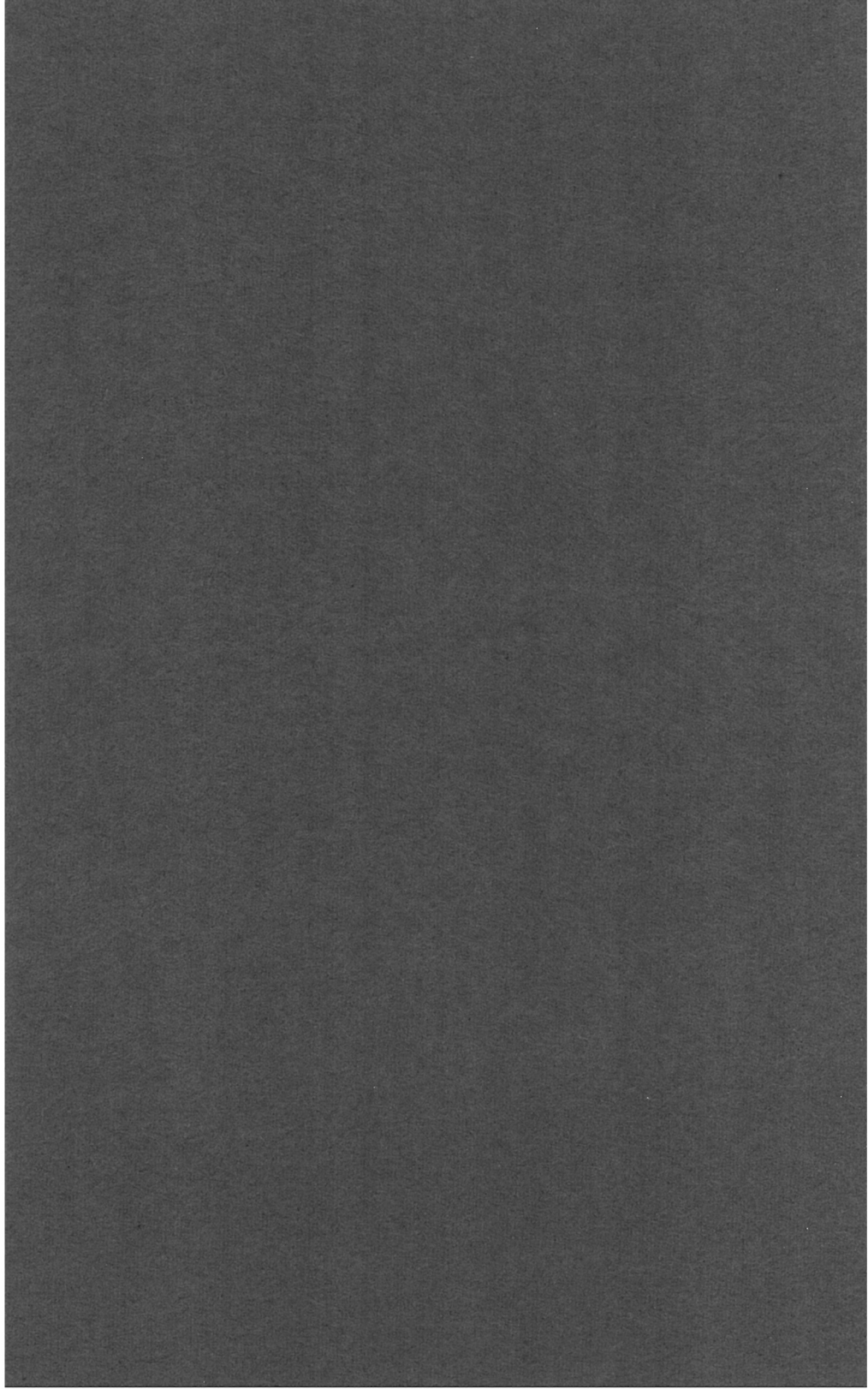


THE CHELSEA SOCIETY

THE ANNUAL REPORT 1966





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Price Seven Shillings and Sixpence



Chelsea Old Town Hall: the front on Chelsea Manor Gardens

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THE CHELSEA SOCIETY

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

President

Vice-Presidents

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA
GENERAL SIR HARRY KNOX, K.C.B., D.S.O.

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Hon. Auditor

R. G. EDWARDS, ESQ., A.C.A.

THE CHELSEA SOCIETY
MRS. ORDE, 1 DURHAM PLACE, S.W.3

CONSTITUTION

1. (1) The Chelsea Society shall be regulated by the Rules contained in this Constitution.
- (2) These Rules shall come into force when the Society has adopted this constitution at a General Meeting.
- (3) In these Rules the expression "existing" means existing before the Rules come into force.

OBJECTS

2. The Objects of the Society shall be to preserve and improve the amenities of Chelsea by all available means, and particularly-
 - (a) by stimulating interest in the history, character and traditions of Chelsea;
 - (b) by encouraging good architecture, town planning and civic design, the planting and care of trees, and the conservation and proper maintenance of open spaces;
 - (c) by seeking the abatement of nuisances;
 - (d) by promoting the interests of residents and practitioners of the fine arts, especially in regard to their enjoyment of their homes, studios and surroundings; and
 - (e) by 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 other persons to be members of the Council.
- (4) The Officers to be appointed under Rule 5 shall also be members of the Council.
- (5) In the choice of persons for membership of the Council, regard 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 an 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.
Provided that the first nine members to retire after these Rules come into force shall be chosen by agreement or, in default of agreement, by lot.
- (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. The Council shall appoint the following Officers of the Society, namely
 - (a) a Chairman of the Council,
 - (b) an Hon. Secretary or Joint Hon. Secretaries,
 - (c) an Hon. Treasurer, and
 - (d) persons to fill such other posts as may be established by the Council.

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) Until otherwise prescribed under this Rule, the annual subscription and the amount payable for life membership shall continue to be payable at the existing rates*.
- (4) Members are invited to pay more than the prescribed minimum, if possible.
- (5) Members who pay annual subscriptions are requested to pay by banker's order, unless they are unwilling to give banker's orders.

GENERAL MEETINGS

8. (1) In these Rules "General Meeting" means a meeting of the Society which all members of the Society may attend.
- (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 the Council may think fit.
- (3) General Meetings shall take place at such times and places as the Council may arrange.
- (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 as Acting President.
- (5) Any election to the Council shall be held at a General Meeting.
- (6) No person shall be eligible for 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 two weeks 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, after having given at least a week's notice in writing to the Hon. Secretary, raise any matter not mentioned in the report, if it is within the Objects of the Society.
- (10) The President or Acting President may limit the duration of speeches.
- (11) During a speech on any question any member of the Society may move that the question be now put, without making a speech, and any other member may second that motion, without making a speech, and if the motion is carried, the President or Acting President shall put the question forthwith.
- (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.

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

9. (1) The existing Council shall continue to act for the Society until a Council is formed under Rule 4.
- (2) Within five months of the adoption of the constitution the existing council shall arrange an Annual or a Special General Meeting at which the first election to the Council shall be held.
- (3) The existing Officers of the Society shall continue to serve until Officers are appointed under Rule 5.

AMENDMENTS

10. (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 two weeks before the General Meeting.
- (2) The Hon. Secretary shall send notices of any such amendment to the members of the Society before the General Meeting.

WINDING-UP

11. In the event of a winding-up of the Society, the disposal of the funds shall be decided by a majority vote at a General Meeting.

**The existing rates are (i) for persons (other than life members) who became members before 1st July, 1961, ten shillings annually, and (ii) for persons who became members after 30th June, 1961, £1 annually payable on the 1st February or a lump sum of £10 10s. for life membership.*

Editorial

The Society has suffered a grievous blow in the death of its chairman, Vice-Admiral Durnford, of whom an appreciation appears on page 28. May his successor be allowed to say that the admirable energy and imagination given to the office by such men as John Durnford and Basil Marsden-Smedley, make them most difficult men to succeed?

We also have to deplore the resignation of the Hon. Mrs. James Knowles from the post of Joint Hon. Secretary, which, for nearly five years she has filled with tireless enthusiasm and efficiency. Her place has been taken by Mrs. Cuthbert Orde.



Chelsea Old Town Hall: the Building of 1860

The illustrations in this number relate to Carlyle Square and to the Chelsea Old Town Hall. The crisis of Nos. 27 and 28 Carlyle Square is not yet quite resolved. It appears, however, that the exterior of this pair of houses will, in the main, survive, in spite of the reconstruction that takes place inside, and in spite of the disgraceful dereliction into which the property has been allowed to fall. The Victorian harmony

of the square will thus be preserved, thanks in large measure to the vigorous action of the residents, which had the support of the Chelsea Society. The contemplated tenancy of the houses when rebuilt, viz. 6 one bedroom flats and 5 two bedroom flats, is, however, far from being generally welcomed in the square.

The editor is well aware that the illustrations of the Town Hall on the King's Road, and of the houses in Carlyle Square, taken as they are from a level at which pedestrians view buildings, are not in fact illustrations of buildings so much as of traffic, and traffic signs, with buildings behind them. He hopes, against reasonable hope, that some later generation, looking at these photographs, will ask, "How on earth did they put up with it?"

The Annual General Meeting

of the Chelsea Society was held at the
Chelsea College of Science of Technology
on 22nd October, 1966,
by kind permission of the Principal

The President, Lord Normanbrook, took the chair. He welcomed a large gathering of members to the meeting and extended a warm welcome to Lord Ilford, President of the Hampstead Society, as well as to the Principal of the Chelsea School of Art, Mr. Frederick Brill.

The President thanked Mr. Gavin who was unfortunately unable to be present, for allowing members to make use of the Lightfoot Hall, and for the excellent tea provided by his staff. The President also thanked Mr. Brill for allowing members to view the Chelsea School of Art, and for showing them round, prior to the Annual General Meeting.

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, held on 9th October, 1965, were duly approved and signed by the President.

In announcing with regret the resignation of Captain Richard Edwards, the President said that there was now an additional vacancy on the Council which meant that there were three vacancies in all to be filled. The following members had been proposed and seconded:

Mr. John Ehrman, proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. Hancock.

Mr. Francis Crowdy, proposed by Sir Anthony Wagner and seconded by Mr. Knowles.

Mr. David Lidderdale, proposed by Dr. Graham Kerr and seconded by the Rev. Leighton Thomson.

The names were put to the body of the hall and unanimously elected.

The Chairman's Report and Hon. Treasurer's Statement were then read and adopted, and were followed, after some general discussion, by an address by Mr. Brill.

Chairman's Report

1. Membership

Since my last report, 24 members have joined the Society, making a total of 612. 191 are Life Members. This welcome increase may well be symptomatic of individual fears of what the future may have in store in respect of the onward march of developers in the Borough and, to use a phrase borrowed from one of our members, its ultimate Mayfairisation.

Any member who becomes aware of any project in development contrary to amenity, or the objects of the Society, is requested to communicate with the Hon. Secretary (Mrs. Orde, 1 Durham Place, S.W.3).

Letters to the local press calling attention to any matter which is obviously contrary to the objects of the Society may often also serve a useful purpose.

2. Summer Meeting

This took place on 19th June at Crosby Hall, and was well attended. 1966 was, appropriately, the 500th Anniversary of the original erection of the Hall by Sir John Crosby in the City of London. The redecoration of the Hall, and regilding of the splendid Hammer Beam roof had just been completed and it was an appropriate setting for readings from Adrian Brookholding-Jones' "A Masque of Chelsea" and Shakespeare's "King Henry VIII", with a musical interlude between the two parts. The thanks of the Society are due to Mrs. Slessor and Mr. Clinton-Baddeley for compèring the entertainment, Miss Marie Ney and Mr. Paul Daneman as principal readers and Mr. Brookholding-Jones for permission to make use of scenes from his masque. Of the above, Mrs. Slessor, Miss Ney and Mr. Brookholding-Jones are members of the Society.

3. Royal Avenue Artists' Exhibition

It was stated in the 1965 Report that the prospect of having a weekly exhibition for the work of Chelsea Artists in Royal Avenue had had to be abandoned. Fortunately this has not

been the case and thanks to the perseverance of Mr. Francis Marsden and his Committee this admirable scheme has been in operation throughout the summer and has proved a great success.

4. *Cadogan Place, North, Garden and Car Park*

This was referred to briefly in the 1965 Report. Members will have noted that it is now nearing completion.

5. *Chief Architect*

The Chelsea Society has pressed consistently for the appointment of a Chief Architect, with his own department, as head of the planning and architectural authority of the new borough. The most recent letter on this subject is contained in the Annual Report for 1965. This was clearly the intention of Sir Keith Joseph, former Minister of Housing and Local Government, on account of the greater architectural responsibilities which would devolve on London Boroughs when the Greater London Council took over from the L.C.C. The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea has now complied with the instruction by promoting the head of its architectural section from the designation "architect" to that of "Borough Architect", but has not given him the status, staff or autonomy which the Minister considered essential. He will remain in the Borough Engineer's department and that officer will continue to be at the head of all planning matters. In view of the enormous development which is now taking place in Chelsea, and is likely to continue until the end of the century, the Chelsea Society is extremely critical of this decision which, in their opinion, is fundamentally wrong in principle.

6. *Areas of special architectural control*

A report on special areas of architectural control is printed in the 1965 annual report. The Council are most grateful to a Sub-Committee composed of Sir Anthony Wagner, Chairman, Mr. T. H. Hancock, Mr. James Knowles and Mr. Francis Baden-Powell, members, with Miss Iris Medlicott as Secretary, for undertaking this investigation. The report stems from a request by the Borough Engineer and Surveyor for information about areas of intimate residential development which should be treated with the greatest care in the context of related development schemes.

This report could be a most important contribution towards the general good of Chelsea. Since 1934 when the Chelsea

Society advocated certain measures which might ensure that residents could enjoy their heritage in Chelsea in reasonable peace and tranquillity, much has gone owing to various development schemes and a high increase in traffic.

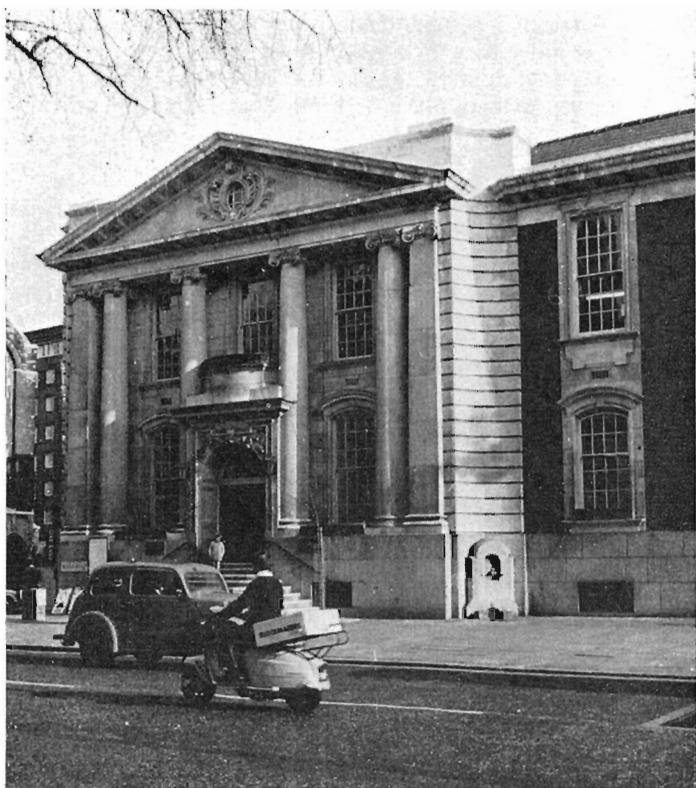
In this connection, attention of members is called to a Town Planning Exhibition, which is to be held at Chelsea Town Hall from 27th October to 5th November, of projects now under way or under consideration in the Borough.

7. Civic Amenities

A private Member's Bill, which should be of great assistance in the work of local authorities and Amenity Societies throughout the country, has been introduced in the House of Commons. Its aims are concerned with preserving areas as well as buildings and trees and coping seriously with the disposal of abandoned cars and rubbish. It is hoped that it will make it no longer profitable for owners to let buildings deteriorate in order to get a clear site for some new development. In the words of one of the sponsors, Mr. John Smith, M.P. for Westminster, "preservation and amenity are part of the object and true aim of all politics and one of the true end products of all industry, the making of England a more agreeable place to be in". Mr. Smith also points out that the Bill will enable areas to be cared for where no building is first class, but where all or most of them are good, such as many villages, minor high streets and squares all over the country which possess a unity which is badly needed in the present age of disintegration. The Chelsea Society warmly welcomes the Bill.

8. Aircraft Noise

The Society is concerned with the increasing nuisance from aircraft noise which particularly affects people living in otherwise reasonably quiet areas in Chelsea. Unlike ground noises against which it is easier to protest in particular cases, this is a national matter and can clearly only be dealt with on a national basis in response to strong expressions of public opinion. It is beyond the scope of the Society to take action other than support the protests of bodies who are representative of public opinion generally, one of which with headquarters at 30 Mallord Street is organising a petition. The Society commends its activities, directed by Miss Eates, and has been represented at a meeting of this group. It is not too much to say that the lives of great numbers of people in this country



Chelsea Old Town Hall: The east porch on King's Road

suffer loss of tranquillity and amenity, from the jet aircraft which carry an infinitely fewer number of persons. Any member who has strong feelings on this subject can sign a petition in support of a private member's Bill which has been introduced into the House of Commons by Mr. Hugh Jenkins, M.P. for Putney.

9. *Nos. 27 and 28 Carlyle Square*

A strong threat to demolish this detached unit of two houses at the north-west corner of the square and erect a modern block of flats totally out of keeping with the early Victorian character of the remainder of the houses, met with strong

resistance from the residents. The Society also objected. The development would detract greatly from the character of this very pleasant nineteenth century square. As Carlyle Square is listed in the Society's report on architectural control as an area deserving of special respect and treatment, any redevelopment should be in harmony with the general characteristics of the square. The proposal has not been proceeded with. In the meantime, it seems likely that these two houses, like No. 37 Cheyne Walk, will continue to deteriorate owing to un-occupation.

10. *No. 25 St. Leonards Terrace*

A preservation order has now been put on this house, one of the complete Georgian Terrace listed as Grade 2 in the register of buildings of historic interest, which has been in continuous occupation for 150 years. A proposal to rebuild was objected to by the Society and subsequently refused by the Borough Council. The owner has appealed and it is expected that there will be a Public Enquiry.

11. *Pier Hotel Site*

Members of the Society, particularly those who live in the vicinity and were active in protesting against the development, will know that the fate of what is known as the Pier Hotel site has now been decided by the Minister. The views of the Chelsea Society on the matter were given in the Annual Report, 1962, and these were pressed at the Public Enquiry held in 1965. Briefly they were to the effect that the development of the site should accord with the 18th Century quadrant on the eastern side and harmonise with the other buildings which form such a striking picture of Chelsea from Albert Bridge. The Society also pressed for the retention of No. 37 Cheyne Walk, the easternmost of a group of three C. R. Ashbee houses. The Ministry of Housing Inspector accepted the contention that No. 37 should be retained and preserved and recommended that the height of the block of flats should be reduced from 7 to 6 storeys with the 6th storey set back to the line of the proposed 7th. This compromise solution as to the flats has been accepted by the Minister; but the latter did not agree to the retention of No. 37 Cheyne Walk. So will pass a much loved corner of Chelsea, of no special architectural merit but of character and charm beloved by authors, Chelseans and generations of artists. A casualty in this development will be Margrie's Forge, forced out of Dovehouse Street by the

L.C.C. developments and now once again compelled to seek some other site after all too short occupation of the forge in Thurston's Yard. Unless something unexpected happens it would seem that this well known name, like the Blue Cockatoo, will disappear from the scene on account of the onward march of the developers.

12. *Traffic*

Among the many authorities who have varying responsibilities for traffic problems it is sometimes difficult to distinguish whether the Borough, Greater London Council or Ministry of Transport is the leader in some project which is certain to affect the daily lives of citizens of Chelsea. One thing, however, is certain. The Society are as averse, as they always have been, to residential areas becoming highways in order to avoid mounting traffic difficulties, and protest against the intrusion of heavy traffic into squares, terraces and similar residential areas.

Under active consideration at the present time is a proposed ban on a right hand turn by north going traffic at the junction of Battersea Bridge and Cheyne Walk. Such traffic would continue to King's Road and then turn right, adding to the congestion at the King's Road-Beaufort Street junction. For traffic which wishes to find its way along the Embankment it may be that Paultons Square and Old Church Street will be threatened and those people who rely on the present 49 and 39 bus services between Battersea Bridge and Oakley Street may be in for a shock. Some residents who have long experience of this junction consider that the ban on a right hand turn into Beaufort Street by vehicles going west has solved this particular problem, and that the further suggested ban is totally unnecessary. A more comprehensive proposal to overcome traffic difficulties in Knightsbridge at times of special congestion has emanated from the Ministry of Transport. This would bring heavy traffic right through the north-eastern residential part of the borough, Lowndes Square, Pont Street, Walton Street and so to Cromwell Road via Pelham Street. The Chelsea Society support the residents in their protests and find it hard to believe that such an example of bad planning and interference with the use of the citizen could for one moment be seriously considered. This view has been communicated to the Borough authorities. What is in store for the Chelsea Embankment as a feeder road for the West Cross route has not yet been divulged.

13. *Royal Avenue*

Following up Professor Colin Buchanan's advice on Environmental Management in his well known report on "Traffic in Towns", the residents of Royal Avenue have proposed to the Borough Engineer and Surveyor that Royal Avenue should be made into a small precinct or "square" by blocking off the two King's Road entrances and linking the two sides by a small loop road adjacent to the paved area at that end. This would improve the amenities of the Avenue by eliminating through traffic thus making it a safer and quieter area.

The Commissioners of the Royal Hospital have approved the suggestion. The Chelsea Society commend this initiative, recommend it to other residents' associations who are confronted with a similar intolerable traffic nuisance and would like to see a thoroughgoing study of Environmental Management in Chelsea undertaken by the Borough Council.

14. *Army Museum, Royal Hospital Road*

The National Army Museum Council asked for planning permission to erect an Army Museum on the vacant site in the grounds at the west end of the Royal Hospital, between Soane's Stables and the Victoria Hospital for Children, Tite Street. The proposed building has been designed to reflect the traditional features of the Royal Hospital adjoining it and would be of the same ridge height. It would, however, tend to appear larger when viewed from the street. The Society considered that the existing scheme would not do justice to the Royal Hospital and would, in fact, much detract from the importance of Wren's great building though this would be lessened if the building were to be placed well back from the frontage of the Royal Hospital Road. The general effect would be to put an oversized building on an undersized site as well as prejudicing buildings in Tite Street and adding to the already overburdened traffic problem in Chelsea. In the view of the Council a much better result could be obtained if Sir John Soane's very fine early 19th century stables could be incorporated in the scheme.

The application was refused by the Borough on account of insufficient car parking space and infringement of daylighting standards.

15. *Tedworth Square area development*

Throughout the year the Council have given most earnest and protracted thought to this project and have not arrived lightly at their conclusions.

When this most important development was outlined to the Society at the last annual general meeting it was indicated that though the idea of a mixed development was welcomed, the erection of two very high tower blocks in this area would be most inappropriate, and would destroy the village character of the neighbourhood. There were then, as it seemed, no dissidents to the proposal that 31 storey tower blocks, rising to a height of 320-330 feet, should be resisted and that the Society should press for some alternative solution which would dispense with very high towers while overcoming the decanting difficulty of rehousing, on the same site, persons displaced by the development. The Council have since then been actively engaged in consideration of this matter and, though not unanimous, have affirmed what they believe to be the opinion of the majority of members of the Society. These can be summarised briefly as follows:—

- (a) They will be the two highest blocks of flats in London, comparable in height to the London Hilton Hotel and Portland House, Stag Lane. Neither of these are flats and at present the highest block of flats is a 26 storey block near the Royal Victoria Dock.
- (b) They would set a most dangerous precedent for the future and so change Chelsea out of all recognition.
- (c) Although aiming at a mixed development, the scheme will in fact bring an invidious social distinction between those persons occupying the new and expensive houses on the site and those who will be rehoused at low rents in the tower blocks.
- (d) On planning grounds, the increase of density from about 112 persons to the acre to about 150 would perpetuate overcrowding, introduce more buildings and bring further acute traffic problems.
- (e) They do not believe that a scheme which seeks to overcome a temporary rehousing difficulty should over-ride other considerations of planning and the effect on future generations.

Finally, before a decision is taken they think that the whole matter should be the subject of a Public Enquiry at which the views of the Society, endorsed at this Annual General Meeting can be expressed.

After the adoption of the Report and Accounts, the President opened the meeting for General Discussion.

Tedworth Square Redevelopment

The Chairman said that the members of the Council of the Society were anxious to have the full support of members regarding the Council's demand to the Minister for a Public Enquiry.

MR. REGINALD SMITH, secretary to the Christchurch Residents' Association, read out a resolution adopted by his Association at a recent meeting strongly opposing the proposed redevelopment.

The substance of what he said was as follows:—

“As the Secretary of the Christchurch and District Tenants and Leaseholders Association, I would like to speak, not just as one who opposes the Cadogan Towers on aesthetic grounds, but as one who lives in the area in question, looking on this plan as a serious threat to our continued existence in Chelsea.

With the first publication of the plans, we saw that on the site of the house in which we live, there was a proposal to build a 300 ft. skyscraper block of flats. The terrible feeling of bewilderment about our future, with all the problems and uncertainties involved, prompted me to approach a local paper which published an article voicing my opposition. I was amazed by the many people who contacted me, offering support. I then decided to form an association to regiment the voices of the many people who felt that for a multitude of reasons, the Cadogan Plan was unacceptable, especially the many old folk who did not wish to give up their familiar surroundings to start a way of life that was completely alien to them.

The main consensus of opinion was, that the area merited preservation not only from the architectural aspect, but because of the unique community as it exists, representing a complete cross-section of people.

The bad properties in Redburn Street did not justify the complete demolition of the whole area.

I wish to express my thanks to the Chelsea Society for its efforts to save the locality, and to Lord Ilford for his helpful advice."

Mr. Smith's resolution was warmly welcomed by MR. THOUVENIR RIDGE.

MR. LIDDERDALE expressed deep regret at the proposed scheme and said that although he was not personally affected by it, he could well appreciate the feelings of local residents, having been in part of a recent redevelopment scheme himself.

MRS. MARSDEN-SMEDLEY, in seconding the vote of confidence given by members to their Council, said she felt that not enough thought had been given to people, as opposed to places, in the area.

MR. JOHN YEOMAN spoke in favour of the redevelopment scheme and felt that a Public Enquiry would do more harm than good.

MR. JAMES ELLIS said that although he was personally very much in favour of the entire scheme, he would not oppose the Council in asking for a Public Enquiry. He added that he thought the Chelsea Society should be a forward looking society and cease to be merely a preservationist society as it appeared to be at the moment to him and many people he knew.

MR. SCARLETT spoke very warmly in favour of the Society's action and said that the scheme appalled him as an architect. By an overwhelming vote it was agreed to support the Council's action in calling for a Public Enquiry.

After several matters of minor importance had been discussed, the President called upon Mr. Frederick Brill to address the Meeting.

Mr. Brill after referring to the fact that he was not a Chelsea man himself, having been born over the border, gave the members a most entertaining and instructive talk about the work and achievements of his College.

Letters

THE EDITOR,
'THE CHELSEA NEWS',
123 KING'S ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W.3.

4th July, 1966

Chief Architect

Sir,

On 4th July *The Times* architectural correspondent drew attention to the "Architect issue in Kensington". The report of the Kensington and Chelsea Council's meeting reported in this week's issue of the 'Chelsea News' is a great disappointment to the Chelsea Society which, in March 1965, advocated strongly that the Kensington and Chelsea Council should lose no time in appointing a Chief Borough Architect and so equip itself with the full complement of officers needed to maintain and enlarge its inherited advantages. They felt that the appointment of a far-sighted and highly qualified architect-planner, with the necessary knowledge and technical and aesthetic judgment, was essential in order to co-ordinate the work of private architects, ensure the maintenance of high architectural standards, and relate all building schemes to the development of the Borough as a whole. This could only be achieved satisfactorily by an architect trained in the wider field of town planning as the head of a team engaged on the task of planning ahead for future public buildings and open spaces.

Since then the pros and cons of the matter have been stated by the Council in a circular to ratepayers. They are:-

In favour of an Architect's Department:

1. A Borough Architect with a qualified staff provides a professionally trained team to advise on all architectural proposals.
2. Civil and private design would be better safeguarded against mediocrity.
3. On planning matters like is talking to like and an architectural rather than engineering view is likely to prevail.
4. A highly qualified architect is not likely to be recruited if he does not hold Chief Officer status.

Against such an appointment at the present time:

1. In developing a new organisation it is better to start with a

small number of departments and hive off specialised work later when the position is clearer. Amalgamation of departments once established is difficult.

2. The existing policy of both boroughs of retaining the services of nationally eminent private architects brings fresh minds and variety to civic design.
3. Planning is not merely a question of aesthetics but involves problems of traffic engineering in which the Borough Surveyor is vitally concerned.
4. The new Borough Surveyor is a qualified Town Planner and the Council have appointed a highly qualified architect to take charge of the architectural section of his department.

This statement concluded with the comment that the Council were keeping the matter under continuous review and would be guided by experience as to their final decision, although the Chairman of the Establishment Committee, when pressed in Council, had already stated that the appointment of a Chief Architect for Kensington and Chelsea would be "an almost irresponsible spending of ratepayers' money".

By the appointment at their meeting on 21st June of a Borough Architect as a member of the Borough Engineer's Department, it is clear that the Chairman of the Establishment Committee still holds to his previously expressed opinion and was unmoved by Councillor Stead's view that a borough architect was not only somebody who produced architectural plans, but who controlled town planning and environmental planning.

It is relevant to add that, in April 1964, the Chelsea Society was in correspondence with the Member for Parliament who ascertained from the then Ministry of Housing and Local Government that it was intended to make quite clear that the purpose of Section 74 of the London Government Act was to ensure that the Borough Engineer, who the Council had been obliged to appoint by 1st April, should be a chief officer. A copy of this correspondence was sent to the Town Clerk of Chelsea, and to the Town Clerk of Kensington.

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government's circular was issued to local authorities in June 1964, and stated unequivocally:

"The Ministry expects all London Borough Councils,

therefore, to appoint borough architects with the status of chief officers."

It would appear, therefore, that Councillor Douglas-Mann's contention, in Council, that the Council were going to disregard the Act, disregard the express recommendations of the Minister and disregard the feelings of many residents, is incontrovertible.

It is much to be hoped that the Council will reconsider the matter and come to the conclusion that, without any denigration of the heavy responsibilities of the Borough Surveyor and Engineer, both in that capacity and as a member of the planning team, the long term interests of the borough will best be observed by the speedy appointment of a Chief Architect as head of the planning team.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN W. DURNFORD,
Chairman, The Chelsea Society.

RT. HON. ANTHONY GREENWOOD, P.C., M.P.
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
WHITEHALL, LONDON, S.W.1.

10th September, 1966

Tedworth Square Development

Dear Sir,

In a letter dated 18th May, 1966, to the Town Clerk, The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, the Chelsea Society, founded in 1927 to foster and protect the amenities of Chelsea, reported their objections to the Cadogan Estate plan for redevelopment of a 9½ acre area in Chelsea lying broadly between Flood Street and Burton's Court.

In so doing they called attention to the 1934 Report of the Chelsea Society, endorsed by the Chelsea Borough Council of that time, that new buildings in the area of the Chelsea Embankment should be restricted as to height and plan so that buildings of outstanding architectural and historic interest should not be put out of countenance by high buildings at close range, or even in the middle distance. They maintained that with the introduction of two very high 31 storey tower blocks into this particular area, comparable in height to the London Hilton Hotel or Portland House, Stag Lane, this



Chelsea Old Town Hall: the façade on King's Road

was just what would happen. Although suitable in other parts of London their siting in an area of Chelsea composed predominantly of buildings of residential character of modest height would completely disrupt the neighbourhood and dominate the area for miles around.

In this connection they would observe that the highest block of flats, as opposed to hotels or offices, so far erected in London, is a 26 storey Scissors block in the vicinity of the Royal Victoria Dock.

It must, however, be stated that the Council of the Chelsea Council are not unanimous about the visual aspect of the two 330 feet towers and, opinions are divided as to whether they will destroy the 'village' character of the neighbourhood or enhance the landscape by the introduction of contrast, dimension and space.

It is, however, generally agreed that if erected the arguments which appeared to justify them at the time will soon be forgotten, and they will be used as a most dangerous precedent

to justify the building of other similar high blocks and so change the character of Chelsea out of all recognition.

The Chelsea Society naturally commends any scheme which seeks to rehouse residents in the area in which they have chosen to live and welcomes the idea of a mixed development catering for all classes. But they think that the scheme, as they understand it, is based on a false sociological premise, namely that in aiming at a mixed community it will destroy the essential fundamental relationship to attain that end.

The scheme seeks to provide as many town houses as possible on the site. These will subsidise the tower blocks. The houses will clearly be expensive and probably be occupied by newcomers to Chelsea. People now living in the areas concerned are in fact living mainly in small houses, some of which have a principal occupation by a family with a lodger and some of which are divided between more than one family. This appears to be a pattern of living which is popular and achieves a balanced social fabric. It works well because it is of their own choice.

Under the proposed scheme it would seem that an invidious social distinction would be introduced between families owning expensive houses and those paying low rents in the tower blocks. Furthermore it is probable that many of those who would have to move to the tower blocks would be old people or parents with young children. Experience elsewhere suggests that these would prefer to be on or near ground level. In short, the Chelsea Society does not believe that the scheme would be in the social interest of the present inhabitants of this area, and of Chelsea, and is strongly of the opinion that it is therefore of doubtful social validity.

In commenting on the general planning aspect of the scheme they regret that they had no alternative plan with which to compare it. However, it is understood that the number of people at present living on the site will be increased from about 1,230 to 1,840, an increase of density from about 112 persons to the acre to about 150. This would perpetuate present overcrowding, introduce more buildings and bring further acute traffic problems, all of which are in the opinion of the Chelsea Society contrary to good planning and should invalidate the scheme as it stands.

It would seem that an integrated scheme with full pedestrian and vehicular segregation such as is now proposed by the former Chelsea Borough Council for the West Chelsea Development area would remove many of the objections and sociological difficulties postulated herein, without necessitating very high or very bulky buildings.

Whatever may be the Chelsea Society's opinion on tower blocks—or skyscrapers—in this area, they realise that their introduction has been dictated by the Cadogan Estates brief that all persons dispossessed by the development should be rehoused on the site, for which the two tower blocks are said to be vital, together with an increase in population on account of the occupation of the town houses by new persons in the scheme as a whole. This, in fact, is the hub of the matter.

Although the plan to rehouse all dispossessed persons on the same site is certainly well intended, it is clearly gravely complicated by the addition of 610 new persons. The Chelsea Society do not consider that any scheme which seeks to overcome a very temporary difficulty should over-ride other considerations of planning and the effect on future generations. They suggest that perhaps such difficulties could be avoided by phasing the re-housing programme with other sites under Cadogan Estate Control, or by arrangement with the Borough Council or Greater London Council. It has been stated that the population of Chelsea turns over by 20 per cent every year. If this is so a large proportion of the prospective inhabitants of the redeveloped area would have moved elsewhere over five years. This may well negate the basic premise on which the scheme is founded and it would seem that this aspect should be the subject of careful research.

For the reasons given in this letter the Chelsea Society consider that in a matter of such importance a Public Enquiry, at which they could give their views, should be held before approval is given to a scheme which will have such far reaching effects on Chelsea for a long time to come.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN W. DURNFORD,

Chairman, The Chelsea Society.

THE TOWN CLERK,
THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA,
TOWN HALL, LONDON, W.8.

28th September, 1966

Walton Street Traffic

Dear Sir,

The Chelsea Society's attention has been drawn to a particularly unrealistic suggestion that, in periods of high congestion, west-going traffic should be diverted through Lowndes Square, Pont Street, Walton Street and Pelham Street in order to reach the main west-going stream in the Cromwell Road.

Most of this route would lie within the former Borough of Chelsea. It has always been, and remains, a cardinal principle of the Society that residents should be allowed to enjoy as much peace and quiet as is possible in the squares, streets and terraces in which they have elected to live. This suggestion, of course, is the complete negation of that principle and the Chelsea Society trust that the Borough will take steps to see that no such scheme ever comes into force. They are at one with the protests of residents about this matter.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN W. DURNFORD,
Chairman, The Chelsea Society.

Obituaries

Vice-Admiral John Durnford, C.B.

It was sad news for his many friends to learn of the death of Vice-Admiral John Durnford, our Chairman from 1964, and a Member of the Council for the past ten years. We in the Chelsea Society have suffered a grievous loss. In addition to his love for Chelsea and staunch protection of her interests, the duties of Chairman of the Society require special qualities of leadership and a capacity for exacting hard work; all of these, John Durnford possessed to a remarkable degree combined with an objectivity and patience in all personal dealings. He also had one more great quality which made him so uniquely suitable for his service to the Society, that of humanity. It was these qualities which, allied to his unfailingly high personal standards, made him the man we knew, admired and loved. His conduct as Chairman had the consistency that flows from complete integrity.

On every issue which confronted the Society he took infinite pains to ascertain the views of every Member of the Council, and to achieve a synthesis which reflected fairly the consensus of opinion. At meetings of the Council he made effective use of open discussion which he never sought to dominate and seldom even checked, but which, in practice, led to an unforced acceptance of conclusions that seldom ran contrary to his own judgment. In his love for Chelsea he combined a natural interest in detail with a sense of proportion, sturdy commonsense, and a foresight that obviated haste.

Shortly after becoming Chairman he was much concerned because our expenditure was substantially greater than our income. He knew that the best solution was an increase in membership and he personally wrote about two hundred and fifty letters to people in Chelsea whom he knew, or who were suggested by other Members of the Council. In the event we gained about eighty new members, and transformed our financial position.

During a distinguished career in the Royal Navy he saw service at the Battle of Jutland, in Russian and Chinese waters, in Malta as Chief Staff Officer and commanded the cruiser *Suffolk*, and the battleship *Resolution* in the last war.

As a Rear Admiral his appointment as Director of Naval Training at the Admiralty in 1945-47 set the tone of the post-war Navy.

In 1945, John Durnford made his home in More's Garden. He retired in 1948 from his Naval career and devoted his retirement to public service, and subsequently to representing Cheyne Ward as a Borough Councillor from 1957 until the amalgamation with the Royal Borough of Kensington. His popular term of office as Mayor of Chelsea in 1962-63, wonderfully matched and supported by his wife Marie, will long be remembered. In addition to his devoted service to our Society he was a steadfast parishioner of Chelsea Old Church, where he served as Secretary to the Parochial Church Council from 1952-56, and Churchwarden from 1956-59. During this latter period he served as Vicar's Warden when the Church was reconsecrated in the presence of H.M. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother on 13th May, 1958.

John Durnford was a staunch upholder of Chelsea's interests and as a Governor of several hospitals, and of the Star and Garter Home, his voluntary work extended into many fields to the great benefit of the community. As Vice-Chairman of the Sir Thomas More Commemorative Statue Appeal Committee no one could have worked harder in discharging his duties; and those of us who worked with him could not but be impressed by his qualities of quiet tolerance, combined with firmness, his humility combined with commonsense, and his gentle sense of humour.

At his Memorial Service on 28th February, 1967, Chelsea Old Church was packed to the doors by people from all walks of life who had come to pay tribute to a great friend of Chelsea who commanded general respect and affection.

T.H.H.

Katherine Acland, O.B.E.

Enid Moberly Bell, M.A.

The national and local press paid deserved tribute to these two women, members of the Chelsea Society, who died during this last twelvemonth. They meant something to the world and much to Chelsea and more to their friends and colleagues.

Katherine Acland was Mayor of Chelsea from 1959 till 1961, and stood out among the Borough's distinguished First Citizens for her devotion to duty, at times in face of criticism, and in spite of physical handicap and for the intense personal interest she took in every detail of her office without ever losing that warm personal charm which delighted. Katherine, who had been in the A.T.S. in war years knew discipline, and without discipline could never have done what she did, crippled with arthritis and often in pain. A fellow Mayor said of her that she was so alert and gay that she made the free movements of ordinary people seem slow and dull compared with hers on two sticks.

One could make a long list of what she did and all well. She will be specially remembered in the Chelsea Library (she was Chairman of its Committee for several years and an active member for longer). She loved reading and knew about books and also about their readers. She had a keen, though kind, critical faculty. The Children's Library was as dear to her (and helped by her) as the rest. Katherine loved Chelsea's history, and especially that of the Old Church and its vivid present. For she lived through the spirit and so enjoyed the more the happiness of everyday—and could and did inspire that way of life in others.

The Old Church was among the great interests of **Enid Moberly Bell**, and she brought to its magazine and other publications the scholarly phrase and clear thought of her ancestry and training. She was an educationalist in the fullest sense, and was generous yet unassuming with her store of knowledge. Those taught by her when young remember the joy of learning; those who were privileged to hear her read or talk in later life learnt much from that. She was for years Headmistress of St. Margaret's, Fulham, and had been on the staff of Whitelands College when it was in Chelsea. She was educated at the Francis Holland School and wrote a delightful history of it, read and treasured by its pupils today.

She wrote many other books. She wrote of Octavia Hill, of Josephine Butler, of the history of Hospital Almoners. They are very readable, but above all, what she wrote helped bridge the gap between the educational methods of one age and the demands of the next; between the great pioneers of service and the welfare state. And there is humour and humanity on every page as there was in all she did.

H.M-S.

Chelsea Old Town Hall

There is smoke without fire. Councillors and officials of the Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, who have been approached, know of no threat to the Chelsea Old Town Hall, when the new Town Hall shall be built in Kensington. The future of the Hall, when that shall take place, has not even been discussed by the Council, which, for some years at least, intends to continue its present use. While rejoicing that sinister rumours are without foundation, let us affirm our esteem for the building and our hope that, when the time comes, fit uses will be found for it.

That the building, or rather buildings, which go by the name of the Chelsea Old Town Hall, deserve to be preserved for their architectural distinction, is an opinion that is widely held. Moreover, one cannot talk to Chelsea residents about the subject without discovering how many of them positively love their Old Town Hall. They find it as inviting as so many public buildings are forbidding. For it achieves a decent municipal dignity, without a show of bulk. It is in fact lower than many a Victorian family house in the borough. How much more dignity it has, and grace, than some of the structures not so far away that are two or three times higher!

The predecessor of the Town Hall was a Vestry Hall, intended for the transaction of the parochial and municipal business of Chelsea, which was built in 1860 on land presented by Lord Cadogan. The architect was William Willmer Pocock. The site of this building was on the King's Road at the western end of the present Town Hall, nearly opposite Robert (now Sydney) Street.

This small Vestry Hall soon became insufficient for its purposes and in 1886 a fine new hall, with a council chamber and committee rooms off it, was built to the south of the Vestry Hall, in a neo-Wren style, by the architect J. M. Brydon. This new Vestry Hall—as on its southern façade it is still described—was intended to supplement rather than replace the old Vestry Hall, which indeed had another twenty years of life ahead of it. One of our illustrations shows the old Vestry Hall, with an edge of Brydon's new Hall visible behind it. As the old Vestry Hall is here entitled "Chelsea Town Hall", the photograph can presumably be dated in the first years of

this century, that is to say between 1900 when Chelsea became a Metropolitan Borough and 1907 or thereabouts when the old Vestry Hall was demolished.

Brydon's elegant building has no front on the King's Road. Its façade at the back, however, incongruously giving onto the diminutive *cul-de-sac* of Chelsea Manor Gardens, is imposing. It appears that, at the time of the building, a broad thoroughfare parallel with the King's Road was projected here.

John McKean Brydon (1840-1901) was a Scot. His architectural training and early practice were in Glasgow and Edinburgh. Coming south, he was for a while in the London offices of Nesfield and Norman Shaw. He did a good deal of municipal work in Bath, and various buildings to his design are to be seen in London. Among the latter the Chelsea Public Library is, in its way, as stylish as the Town Hall. Forty years ago, the art critic of *The Times*, for whom the Town Hall was "an extremely friendly building, discreet and well mannered", described the Library as "one of the most perfect small buildings in London". "As an invitation to the pleasures of reading", he went on, "the Chelsea Public Library is irresistible."¹

Even with Brydon's addition, the Town Hall buildings were soon found to be inadequate. In 1908, on a site obtained by the demolition of the 1860 Vestry Hall and the removal of the public baths to a point further south, the present frontage of the Town Hall was built along the King's Road. The purpose of the building was to provide better accommodation for the Council and its officers and to afford further facilities to persons hiring the Town Hall. The work was put out to a competition that was won by Leonard Stokes, F.R.I.B.A., a resident in Chelsea (3 Mulberry Walk) and a member of the Chelsea Arts Club.

The most prominent features of Stokes' graceful elevation, which consists of red brick with Portland stone dressings over a base of granite, are the two stone porticoes. The appearance of the building is not, however, exactly as the architect intended, for in his drawing the pavilion at each end of the façade was to have been surmounted by a low

¹Charles Marriott: *Modern English Architecture* (1924) p. 121. As irresistible within as without. The writer of these notes (a regular user of the excellent services of the Library) is most grateful to the Librarian for his help in their preparation.

concrete dome. *The Builder* (Nov. 13th, 1909) reproduces an elevation of the eastern end with such a dome. Unfortunately the dome was not carried out, as, for some unaccountable reason, the authorities would not allow it to be put up.

The public baths then were rebuilt, down Chelsea Manor Street, by the architects Wills and Anderson, in a style that harmonised with the buildings of Stokes and Brydon.

In the years before the first World War, Brydon's Hall was decorated with four large mural panels celebrating Chelsea's contribution to history and culture. The Mayor offered £200 for each panel and a competition was held under the auspices of the Chelsea Arts Club. Sargent, Steer and Rickards were appointed judges. The subjects of the pictures, together with the winning artists, were: *Art*, Frank O. Salisbury; *History*, Charles Sims; *Literature*, George Woolway; *Religion, Science and Music*, Mrs. Sargent Florence. It is somewhat surprising to find that Oscar Wilde, so soon after the scandal, was admitted as a Chelsea celebrity in Woolway's painting. Indeed, when the Borough Council realised what had happened, it determined by a big majority, after a heated debate, to remove the panel on *Literature*. This decision took place in May 1914, but was not acted upon. Thanks, no doubt, to the war, Wilde was left in peace.

The murals were not acclaimed as masterpieces even in their own time. Sir Claude Phillips, an art critic who had been Director of the Wallace Collection, gave them a most unenthusiastic notice in *The Daily Telegraph* of 15th Dec., 1915. They must, however, for half a century have given pleasure to the wandering eye of many a concert-goer or back-bencher at a meeting. Long may they continue to do so.

N.B.



Houses on the west side of Carlyle Square, nos. 27 and 28 jutting out at the end

Town Planning Exhibition

The Town Planning Committee of the Borough Council held an Exhibition in the Chelsea Old Town Hall in November 1966, to stimulate public interest in current planning and development proposals within the Borough, and to give some indication of proposals for the future.

The Exhibition was divided into several sections, of which the first traced the growth of the Borough since the late seventeenth century, with contemporary maps and prints from the Borough's archives.

Further sections then described the allocation of planning powers between the Greater London Council and the Borough. The Greater London Development Plan is to be submitted to the Minister by the end of 1968, and should plan the overall strategy for the provision of homes, work and transport. The Borough Council is responsible for producing the local development plan after 1968, and is beginning to put together

proposals from Local Associations, including the Chelsea Society, and to plan for the control of traffic movement and parking.

Other sections were devoted to new building proposals including the World's End housing scheme, the Tedworth Square redevelopment scheme, and several individual buildings.

This exhibition was timely and important. It made clear that the Borough is looking to local residents and associations to provide ideas and proposals for the Borough to include in its development plan. The Chelsea Society is glad to see that its work in defining areas of architectural value (Annual Report 1965, pp. 34-44) has been incorporated in the plan. Can it be that the Borough has neither the resources nor the staff to do this kind of fundamental work itself?

The exhibition was also invaluable in drawing public attention to the forms of new development. Too often new buildings are erected before they have been fully presented to local residents, and their designs understood.

It is to be hoped that this kind of exhibition will become an annual event, particularly during the formative period of the next few years when the local Development Plan is being produced.

F.B.-P.

THE CHELSEA SOCIETY

Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1966

LIABILITIES			ASSETS		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
General Fund at 31.12.65 ...	535	11 8	Investments:-		
Less Deficit for 1966 in Income and Expenditure Account	2	12 6	£500 3½ % War Stock at cost (Market Value £260 0 0)	409	0 6
General Fund at 31.12.66 ...	532	19 2	Balance in Post Office Account	280	1 9
Life Membership Fund at 31.12.66 ...	346	15 0	Balance at Bank ...	200	19 5
Sundry creditor ...	10	10 0	Cash in hand ...	2	6
				£890	4 2

General Fund: Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December, 1966

INCOME			EXPENDITURE		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Annual subscriptions ...	299	12 0	Annual Report ...	236	0 0
Transfer from Life Membership Fund	38	10 7	Printing, stationery, postage, etc. ...	112	15 1
Donations ...	5	15 0	Cost of Summer Meeting (less amount collected at meeting) ...	6	0 0
Sales of Annual Report ...	15	0	Cost of Annual General Meeting (less amount collected at meeting) ...	5	0 0
Interest on 3½ % War Stock ...	17	10 0	Donation to Royal Avenue Open-Air Art Exhibition ...	5	0 0
Deficit for year carried to Balance Sheet	2	12 6			
				£364	15 1

Life Membership Fund Account for the year ended December, 1966

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Life Membership Fund 31.12.65	294 9 1	Transferred to General Fund towards	38 10 7
Life Membership Fees in 1966	84 0 0	current year's expenses	346 15 0
Interest on Post Office Account	6 16 6	Life Membership Fund 31.12.66	...
			...
	<u>£385 5 7</u>		<u>£385 5 7</u>

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I have examined the above Balance Sheet and Accounts and I certify them to be in accordance with the books and vouchers of the Society.

R. D. CLARKE,
Hon. Treasurer.

R. G. EDWARDS, A.C.A.
Hon. Auditor.

NOTE—The certificates for £500 3½% War Stock in the name of the Chelsea Society are deposited with Messrs. Barclays Bank Limited, 348 King's Road, S.W.3.

List of Membership

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

FREDERICK ADAM, ESQ., C.M.G.
 *MISS J. F. ADBURGHAM,
 L.R.I.B.A., M.T.P.I., F.I.L.A.
 *MISS HELEN ALFORD
 *MRS. M. ALFORD
 *LT.-COL. J. H. ALLASON, M.P.
 THE LADY ALLEN OF HURTWOOD, F.I.L.A.
 MISS IRENE ALLEN
 *MRS. RUPERT ALLHUSEN
 R. A. ALTSON, ESQ.
 MRS. L. E. ALTSON
 *J. A. W. AMBLER, ESQ.
 *DOUGLAS H. ANDREW, ESQ.
 *MISS G. P. A. ANDREWS
 MISS E. ARBUTHNOT
 *MRS. JOHN ARMSTRONG
 *MRS. C. W. ASCHAN
 MRS. OSCAR ASHCROFT
 MISS BRIGHT-ASHFORD
 *MRS. B. E. ASSHETON
 *R. J. V. ASTELL, ESQ.
 *MRS. R. J. V. ASTELL
 MRS. PHILIP ASTLEY, O.B.E.
 *HON. M. L. ASTOR
 MRS. H. G. AUBRUN

 F. R. BADEN-POWELL, ESQ.
 LADY BAILEY
 J. C. BARNARD, ESQ.
 MISS UNITY BARNES
 MISS RAIE BARNETT
 A. F. C. BARRINGTON, ESQ.
 MRS. R. GRAHAM BARROW
 *DEREK BARTON, ESQ.
 *MRS. DEREK BARTON
 MRS. IRENE BARTON
 MISS G. E. BARWELL
 MRS. ROGER BASSETT
 EDWARD BATESON, ESQ.
 DR. J. H. BEAL
 W. H. BEALE, ESQ.
 *MISS VIVIEN BEAMISH
 *MISS A. M. G. BEATON
 *MISS J. F. BEATON
 MRS. J. R. BEAZLEY
 ROBERT BECKETT, ESQ.
 MRS. ROBERT BECKETT
 M. G. BENDON, ESQ.
 MRS. M. BENDON

E. GLANVILL BENN, ESQ.
 MRS. GLANVILL BENN, M.B.E.
 LADY BENNETT, O.B.E.
 MRS. KENNETH BENTON
 ANTHONY BERRY, ESQ.
 MISS E. M. V. BERRY, A.R.R.C.
 GILES BEST, ESQ.
 *MISS W. L. BILBIE
 VERE, LADY BIRDWOOD, M.V.O.
 VICE-ADMIRAL, SIR GEOFFREY BLAKE,
 K.C.B., D.S.O.

 *MRS. G. BLAKISTON
 *NOEL BLAKISTON, ESQ., O.B.E.
 *MRS. G. K. BLANDY
 *MISS MURIEL BOND
 *MISS NANCY BOOL
 *MISS S. K. BOORD
 MRS. JOHN BOTTERELL
 *MRS. JAMES BOTTOMLEY
 MISS JANE C. BOULENGER
 P. BOURDON SMITH, ESQ.
 R. T. BOUTALL, ESQ., F.R.I.B.A.
 MRS. TAUNTON BOUTALL
 MRS. BOWIE-MENZLER
 MISS GLADYS BOYD
 *MISS M. D. BOYD
 MRS. E. M. BRAMALL
 *THE HON. VIRGINIA BRETHERTON
 *MRS. M. BRIDGES
 A. H. BROOKHOLDING JONES, ESQ.
 J. ELLIOTT BROOKS, ESQ.
 *JOHN BROOME, ESQ., A.R.I.B.A.
 *MISS ANTHONY BROWN
 FRANCIS BROWN, ESQ., M.S.I.A., F.R.S.A.
 *RICHARD BROWN, ESQ.
 MRS. BARBARA BRUCE
 MRS. E. J. BUCHANAN
 J. BUCKLEY, ESQ.
 *MISS HILDA BUCKMASTER
 *MISS JACINTHE BUDDICOM
 A. C. BUGLEAR, ESQ.
 *MRS. P. H. BURGESS
 *MRS. W. A. BUTTON
 MRS. A. G. BUXTON
 W. GUY BYFORD, ESQ.

 *THE EARL CADOGAN, M.C.
 *R. A. W. CAINE, ESQ.
 MRS. GLADYS CALTHROP

*MRS. HUGH CAMPBELL
 MISS SYBIL CAMPBELL, O.B.E.
 MRS. HENRY CARR
 SAMUEL CARR, ESQ.
 MRS. D. CARSON-ROBERTS
 JOHN CARTER, ESQ., C.B.E.
 MRS. E. M. CARTER, O.B.E.
 DR. A. P. CARTER
 MRS. M. S. CARTER
 *MRS. DONALD CARTER
 *BRYAN CARVALHO, ESQ.
 *MRS. BRYAN CARVALHO
 MRS. J. M. K. CARVER, M.A.
 VICTOR CAVENDISH BENTINCK, ESQ., C.M.G.
 MRS. HELEN CHAMBERLAIN
 I. O. CHANCE, ESQ.
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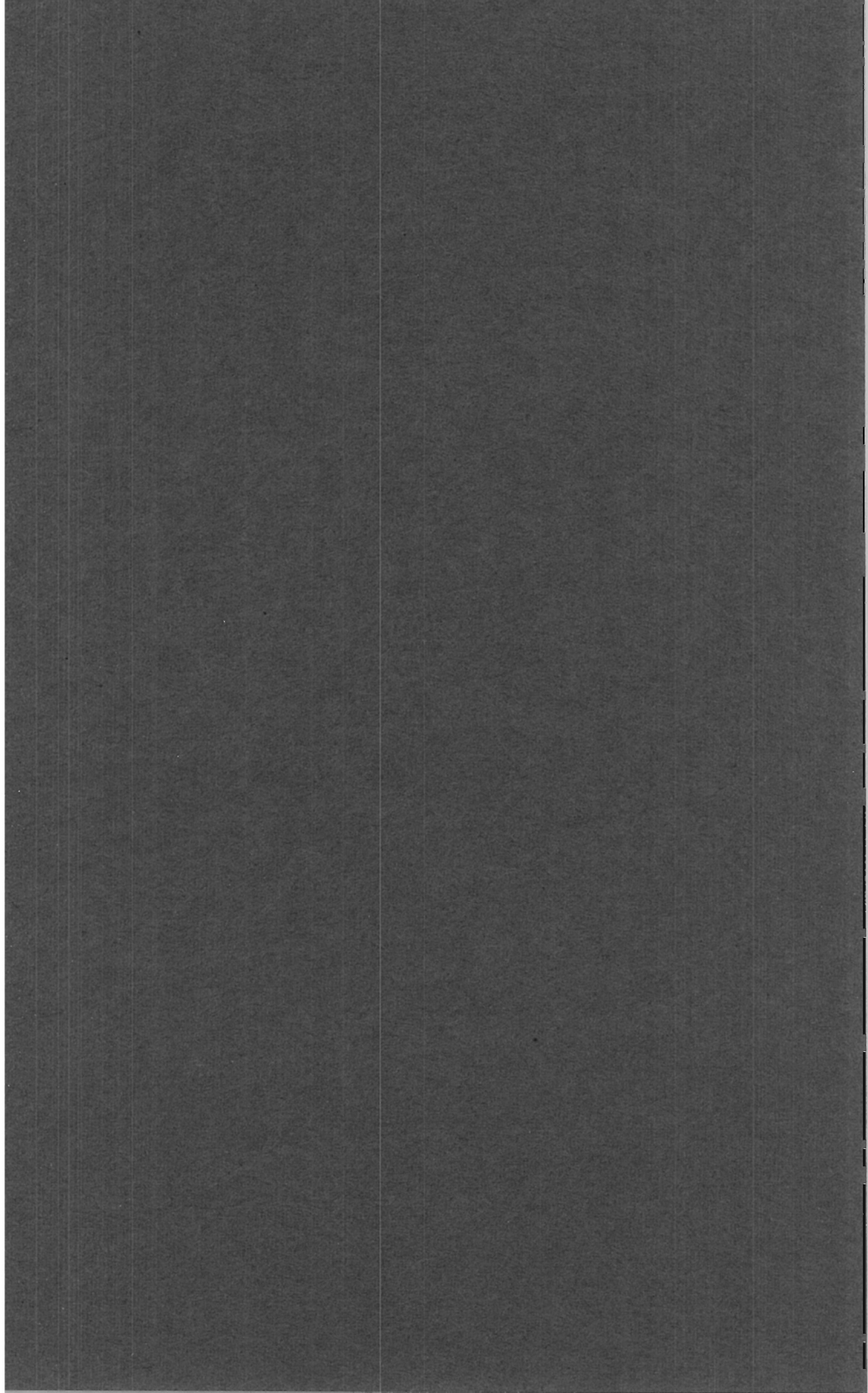
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