

Curatorial Column

EXHIBITIONS 2005

This College or Castle like House

8th Jan – 23rd Feb

Original watercolours and drawings of Towneley Hall for a recently published book on the architecture of Towneley Hall by John & Kit Smith

Archibald Thorburn

26 Feb – 3 April

Paintings of British birds by this celebrated Victorian artist.

The Shock of the New

1st - 17th March

Controversial Paintings by contemporary artists.

Burnley Photographic Society

20th March – 17th April

Recent works by members

Northern Exposures

23rd April – 29th May

Colour Landscape photography by Malcolm C. Mentha L.R.P.S.

Nature Illustrated

4th June – 7th August

Natural History illustrations complemented by specimens from the collections.

Continued over

(continued)

Hall EXHIBITIONS 2005

The Celebrated Connoisseur

Charles Townley 1737-1805

18th June – 4th September

Celebrating the Bi-centenary of the purchase of Charles Townley's celebrated collection of classical statues by the British Museum.

Furniture by Burnley College

20th June – 16th July

New work by this year's students.

Padiham Photographic Society

1st - 30th October

Recent work by members

The Sea

1st October – 31st December

Paintings of the sea to celebrate 200 years since the Battle of Trafalgar on 21st October.



THE TOWNELEY HALL

January 2005 Newsletter

Patron

Sir Simon Towneley, KCVO, JP, MA, D.Phil.

*The Towneley Hall Society is a Registered Charity
(No. 515939)*

Dear Member

40th Anniversary Celebration

The 40th anniversary of the founding of the Towneley Hall Society falls in March this year and to mark the occasion, we are delighted to announce that Lady Lucinda Lambton will be giving an illustrated lecture in the Lecture Theatre to be followed by a 3-course Dinner with coffee in the Regency Room on Saturday evening, the 12th of March. Arrival drinks will be available from 6.30pm with the Lecture commencing at 7p.m. Numbers are strictly limited to 80 and places are being held for Society members until the 20th of February. Thereafter tickets will be on general sale. The cost is £30 per guest and a booking form is enclosed.

Spring Event

In our Anniversary year it seems fitting to have a look back at the Sixties and we are taking this as our theme for the Spring Event on Monday, March 21st. Tony Mitchell will be presenting a slide show of Burnley as it was then, there will be evocative music, and other items to stir the memory. If you dare, come in Sixties dress, or bring with you "a blast from the past" which could be an item of fashion wear, an artefact or just something from that time that you look at with affection. Supper will be potato pie, or an alternative of cheese and onion (please indicate this on the booking form). To bring back memories we hope to offer you a slice of black forest gâteau (WOW, was that exotic at the time?) A glass of wine (Blue Nun perhaps!) or fruit juice will be offered to wash this down with coffee/tea to follow. Who says that nostalgia isn't what it used to be? The cost for the evening is £8.50. Our super raffle will be even better if you bring along a prize on the night.

Afternoon Tea at Towneley

January's meeting took place again in the Art Gallery where John & Kit Smith, authors of the recent publication "An Architectural History of Towneley Hall" were on hand to talk about the original watercolours and drawings for the book which were on display. Sadly, Edmund Charlesworth was ill and unable to deliver the planned presentation "At Home and Abroad".

Towneley Trivia Quiz Sheets

To date the Quiz has raised around £90 and we do have a winner – John Stubbs who is looking forward to a VIP Tour of the Hall. With a score of 27 correct answers out of thirty, John says he thoroughly enjoyed the research and learned quite a bit in the process. If you have any Quiz sheet money to pay in please bring or send to the next meeting.

Manchester Jewish Museum

Our tour is now booked for Tuesday evening, May 10th which I hope is a favourable date for you. The Museum is housed in the oldest purpose-built synagogue in the city and was opened in 1874. We shall be car-sharing and I am willing to organise this. I anticipate the cost to be around £8 per person including transport. This will allow the car driver's expenses to be reimbursed. A booking form is enclosed.

School Building

To reflect our members concerns, and after discussion at the last Committee Meeting, a letter has been sent to Burnley Borough Council with regard to plans for a school building on lower Towneley Playing Fields.

Clock

In 2000 Alan Smith made a reconstruction of the clock designed by Richard Towneley for Greenwich in the late 17th century. Alan proposes to give this to Towneley Hall to be set up in the Great Hall, but would like to replace the paper face with an engraved brass one. Your Committee agreed to fund this with a donation of around £600. We look forward to seeing this interesting addition to Towneley in the near future.

Towneley Hall Shop

The Shop has an extensive range of merchandise at prices to suit all pockets. Feel free to have a browse before or after Society meetings.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Craft Fairs: March 27th, May 2nd May 30th

Bringing History Alive: March 28th and May 29th, with costumed re-enactors.

Their Past Your Future: May 8th

12-4 p.m. Following on from last year's event on the First World War we are inviting people to bring along their possessions, photographs and memories from the Second World War. We would like to hear *your* story. From the Home Front or overseas in the war.

Escafold Medieval Society Day May 30th

Authentic 13th Century tournament which includes Knights fighting on foot and an insight into medieval life.