



THE ARTS SCHOLAR

Issue No 20 Spring 2015

St Petersburg see page 9



THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF ARTS SCHOLARS

FURNITURE MAKERS' HALL, 12 AUSTIN FRIARS, EC2N 2HE

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NEWS

Making best use of our charitable funds

Charity has always been at the heart of all Livery Companies and the Arts Scholars is no exception. Our charity policy primarily revolves around education and training in the decorative arts, particularly where we can make a real difference and have a significant impact for the beneficiary.

Other areas we support include causes promoted by the incumbent Lord Mayor of the City of London; adopted units in Her Majesty's armed services; and recommendations by the Company Almoner for the support of needy Liverymen or Freemen of the Company, their widows and dependants. The Charity Committee submits its recommendations for grants for the approval of the Trustees with one Trustee, currently David Needham, represented on the Committee.

Grants tend to take two forms, either a one-off donation or an ongoing grant which may be renewed on an annual basis. Since the munificent Eva Weininger bequest last year the Committee has more substantial funds to give out, though the Trustees wisely limit the distribution in any given year to 70% of the Charity's income in the preceding year.

Recent grants have varied between £250 and £7,500 and some of the beneficiaries have been as follows:

- Charterhouse Project: Assisting in the development of a new museum and education centre at this Charity in EC1.
- The Mary Rose: For the education and outreach programme of this outstanding museum in Portsmouth. (see page 8)

- ARTiculation: Thirty 6th form students' participation in a public speaking competition on 'my favourite work of art' with the final at Clare College Cambridge overseen by the Director of the Tate.

- The University of London Officers Training Corps: A display of large mounted photographs in the Drill Hall.
- The Museum of Garden History for the Tradesant Gallery.

Ongoing annual grants include: West Dean College; the Lord Mayor's Appeal; St Peter ad Vincula Church at the Tower of London; the Arts Scholars' Research Award (see page 4) and the Master's own choice of charity.

In addition there are three self-funding awards generously given by members of the Company, namely: the Geoffrey Bond Travel Award (see page 4), the new Mark and Sian Dalrymple Award which funds an internship at the V&A (see below) and the annual *Ways of Seeing* conference at the British Museum, where the financial support given by Tom Christopherson and Toby Parker has enabled students from state schools to attend free of charge. Toby Parker has also put in a lot of hard work on the London Curriculum project (see page 4)

I hope the above gives an indication of the scope of the charity involvement of the Arts Scholars. Because of our financial limitations and our charity policy not all applications are successful but the Committee is always happy to consider suggestions.

Paul Viney

Chairman Charity Committee

The Mark and Sian Dalrymple Award

Through the generosity of Mark and Sian Dalrymple, we are delighted to announce that our Company has linked up with the V&A to provide a bursary to support a postgraduate student studying on the V&A/RCA History of Design MA Programme, commencing in the forthcoming (2015-16) academic year.

Each bursary will be for £3,000 a year for two years, to support the living expenses for a British student with a background in the manufacture or restoration in the decorative arts, who wishes to use

their practical experience as the basis for more academic research and further study in their chosen field, through the V&A/RCA postgraduate programme.

Further information about the bursary can be found on the Company's website www.artsscholars.org/about-the-company/company-awards.php.

Applications for the programme are processed by the V&A through January and February; please pass this notice to anyone you know who might be interested in taking up this excellent opportunity.

NEWS



An Arts Scholars Brains Trust gathered for the inaugural Skills Day on April 16. **Left to right:** Arthur MacGregor, Colin Sheaf, Wynard Wilkinson, Gerry Alabone, Hadrien Rambach and Raymond Sancroft-Baker.

Skills day showed off our expertise to good advantage

Promoted as *An Anthology of Skills*, the inaugural event staged by the Education Committee at the Museum of London on April 16 was designed to demonstrate the huge depth and range of expertise in the Company of Arts Scholars and to provoke wider discussion among the audience of members.

Subtitled *A Cabinet of Curiosities*, the format required a panel of seven members each to bring an object of their choice and to speak for no more than ten minutes on its history and significance.

Dr Arthur MacGregor was invited to set the scene by speaking at rather greater length on the background to the Cabinet of Curiosities or *Kunstkammer*, which became a popular means of displaying wealth and taste in the European courts from the Renaissance onwards.

Colin Sheaf opened the show and tell session with a 15th century Imperial Chinese yellow porcelain saucer dish, referring to the particular importance of yellow in the life of the Imperial Chinese Court and porcelain production.

Wynard Wilkinson shared his excitement at discovering what turned out to be an Indian copy of an Elkington reproduction of a Roman silver cup originally found during the excavations at Pompeii. He showed how he used the carefully disciplined approach of a professional valuer to arrive at the true identity of an item

with a highly complex genesis.

Hadrien Rambach drew on his experience as a New York art adviser specialising in coins and cameos to draw out the special problems surrounding the identification and dating of onyx cameos, with the many excellent examples in imitation of Roman originals made in the Renaissance and to satisfy Grand Tour collectors.

Raymond Sancroft-Baker used a particularly strongly-coloured 1930s Art Deco ruby and diamond ring as the springboard for a remarkably succinct summary of the nature and history of rubies. Starting with their formation deep in the earth, where only the presence of chromium gives them their red hue and differentiates them from sapphires, he went on to explore the main sources of the stones and their importance in the jewellery trade.

As a professional picture frame restorer **Gerry Alabone** centred his talk around three mid-19th century boxwood moulds which he had purchased from a retired frame maker. He explained how these immediately came into his mind when viewing an exhibition and how he proved to his own satisfaction that they were the ones which had been used to form the composition mouldings for the frames designed by Ruskin for J.M.W. Turner's watercolours.

Having heard from such a distinguished array of experts, all of whom kept exactly to



The seventh member of the expert panel was our Clerk **Georgina Gough** whose introduction to her collection of Boscobel Oak boxes revealed that the passions of their original owners in the late 17th century are still alive today. Whether all these boxes were actually made from the tree in which Charles II hid during his flight from the Battle of Worcester in 1651 (and whether that mattered) provided a lively topic of discussion for the open forum later in the day.

time, chairman **Tom Christopherson** then called on four representatives of other facets of the Company's membership – **Clive Stewart-Lockhart** (auctioneer), **Sarah-Percy Davis** (fairs organiser), **Mark Bridge** (journalist), **Robert Korzinek** (insurer), to widen the discussion.

The ensuing debate was lively and varied, ranging from the difficulties facing anyone attempting to fill a 21st century cabinet of curiosities in the face of ever stricter controls on ivory and other animal parts, to the philosophy of collecting and the relative importance of absolute authenticity.

At the end of an enjoyable afternoon all agreed that something similar should take place next year and a date is already in the diary.

Our award winners



At the annual dinner on January 26, The Arts Scholars' Research Award was presented by Alderman Nicholas Anstee to Oliver Fearon, whose thesis will examine a collection of heraldic stained glass windows now in the Burrell Collection in Glasgow. This glass was commissioned in the 16th century by Sir Edmund Knightley and his wife Ursula de Vere for their Northamptonshire great house.

The research will involve travel to examine the glass in the Burrell Collection and visits to Fawsley Hall and other remaining examples of the Knightleys' commissions, such as their funerary brass in the adjacent parish church.

Oliver will also need to study primary documents at the Bodleian and British Libraries and plans to visit the V&A in London and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York to study other examples of late medieval glass and their associated glazing techniques.



The Geoffrey Bond Travel Award was presented to Sophie Littlewood, whose PhD thesis, *Elizabethan Armour and the Fashioning of British Masculinity*, examines the role of armour in a period which witnessed an increased self-consciousness of human identity and the uniqueness of the individual.

Sophie will use the award to visit the Department of Arms and Armour at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. The MET's collection includes many relevant items, particularly the armour of George Clifford, Earl of Cumberland and the portrait of Walter Devereux (1539–1576), Earl of Essex, both of which will form case studies within her thesis. "There are over 300 other items in the MET's collection dating to the period I am researching and the opportunity to access, engage with and experience the physicality of these artefacts will be invaluable for my research," said Sophie.

Parker's packs extend the national curriculum

Through the efforts of Toby Parker, the Arts Scholars are the only Livery Company to be a "Culture and Heritage Partner" for the Mayor of London and the GLA's "London Curriculum" for secondary schools in London's 33 boroughs.

The London Curriculum is a programme to provide additional teaching resources in English, History, Geography, Art and Design and Music for London schools, to supplement and support the national curriculum at "Key Stage 3" (the vital three years before GCSEs and when Art and Design is compulsory in schools) with a particular focus on the cultural and intellectual life of London.

Toby has written two extensive teaching packs for use in schools, one introducing children to art works and collecting inspired by the river Thames, and the other looking at London's history through portraiture over the ages.

Through these packs, school children are introduced to London life from Mudlarks to Monet, and from Holbein and Hogarth to Gyeong Yoon An and Sonia Boyce, via gallery visits, classroom projects and detailed guidance notes for teachers. The packs are currently being used in just over 200 schools and Toby is hard at work on a third.

The Spring Lecture

The Arts Scholars' Spring Lecture – *CHYNA in London: English collectors of oriental objects before 1614* – opened a new window on the early history of collecting in Britain.

Though there is plenty of evidence of Chinese porcelain reaching the courts of mainland Europe via the Silk Route in the 16th century, the appearance of oriental ceramics in England has been less well documented. At the Museum of London on April 16 our Liveryman Dr Susan Bracken FSA demonstrated, via her research into unpublished early 17th century inventories, that there were English connoisseurs long before The East India Company held the first public auction of a cargo from the Far East in 1614.



Dr Susan Bracken, whose intensity, enthusiasm and scholarship produced a memorable Spring Lecture.

INSIGHT

Magna Carta: just one debt we owe to Sir Robert Cotton

When walking into the cavernous entrance of London's British Library, it is easy to miss a bust of Sir Robert Cotton set high in a red brick wall on the left hand side. Yet it was his magnificent collection of manuscripts and coins which became a key part of the foundation of the British Museum and then the British Library.

Sir Robert Bruce Cotton (1571-1631) was an avid collector from his youth and studied under William Camden. Indeed, when still a pupil of Camden, he was one of the founder members of the original Society of Antiquaries in about 1586.

Of the four original engrossments of the Magna Carta dating from 1215 AD, two were part of Sir Robert Cotton's incredible collection of manuscripts. These have become known as Ci and Cii. The other two engrossments are part of the cathedral archives in Salisbury and Lincoln.

The Magna Carta known as Cii was apparently acquired by Cotton in 1629 from a barrister called Humphrey Wyems. This version survives in a reasonable condition. Reputedly, Wyems found the document in a tailor's shop.

The Ci manuscript has quite a different history. As David Carpenter records in his recently issued Penguin book on the Magna Carta, the lieutenant of Dover Castle, Sir Edward Dering, wrote to Cotton in 1630 as follows:

"I have here ye Charter of K. John dat. Att Running Meade; by ye first safe and sure messenger itt is yours. So are ye Saxon charters, as fast as I can copy them: but in ye mean time I will close K. John in a boxe and send him." This document was sadly damaged by fire in 1731.

The Cotton collection was being stored in Ashburnham House and a quarter of the manuscripts were destroyed or damaged by a disastrous fire which swept through the house. Ci is the only copy of the Magna Carta with King John's seal still attached. The fire reduced it to a featureless lump of wax but previous drawings give us a picture of its original splendour.

In Sotheby's New York auction of 2007, a Magna Carta dating from 1297 AD fetched \$21,321,000. This puts in some sort of perspective the value of the original documents from 1215 AD which, in terms of their importance to history, can be seen as priceless.

So, next time you are visiting the British Library, spare a second or two to glance at one of the country's great collectors, Sir Robert Cotton. Without him, the British Library would be nowhere near as great a collection as it is today.

Graham Barker

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

2015

Tuesday May 19th	Court meeting
Tuesday May 19th	Installation of new Master & Wardens
Wednesday June 3rd	Finance meeting
Monday June 22nd	Events meeting
Wednesday June 24th	Election of Sheriffs
Thursday June 25th	Education meeting
Wednesday July 1st	Finance meeting
Wednesday July 8th	Charity meeting
Thursday July 9th	Common Hall followed by Livery lunch at Charterhouse
Wednesday July 22nd	Court meeting – Guildhall
Tuesday August 11th	Southwark Walk with Deborah Charles
Wednesday September 2nd	Membership meeting
Monday September 7th	Events meeting
Thursday September 10th	Education meeting
Thursday September 10th	Lunch Middle Temple followed by tour of 2 Temple Place
Tuesday September 29th	Election of Lord Mayor
Wednesday October 21st	Finance meeting
Wednesday October 21st	Court meeting
Tuesday October 27th	9th Mithras Lecture at Goldsmiths' Hall
Wednesday November 4th	Finance meeting
Wednesday November 4th	Charity meeting
Thursday November 5th	Behind the scenes at the National Theatre
Monday November 9th	Events meeting
Thursday November 12th	Education meeting
Saturday November 14th	Lord Mayor's Show
Wednesday November 25th	Membership meeting
Sunday November 29th	Advent Service – St Peter ad Vincula
Wednesday December 2nd	Past Masters' meeting
Wednesday December 2nd	Court meeting
Wednesday December 9th	An Evening with Joss Graham
Wednesday December 16th	Carol Service St Bartholomew the Great

2016

Wednesday January 6th	Membership meeting
Monday January 11th	Events meeting
Monday January 25th	11th Annual dinner Clothworkers' Hall
Thursday February 4th	An Anthology of Skills
Wednesday February 10th	Finance meeting
Wednesday February 10th	Charity meeting
Thursday February 11th	Education meeting
Thursday February 18th	Private tour of Elgin marbles in the British Museum
Wednesday March 2nd	Election Court meeting
Wednesday March 2nd	Admissions ceremony and Court dinner
Friday March 11th	United Guilds Service and lunch
Monday March 14th	Lunch at Ironmongers' Hall
Wednesday April 6th	Membership meeting
Thursday April 14th	The Eva Weininger Spring Lecture
Thursday May 12th	Education meeting
Thursday May 19th	Court meeting
Thursday May 19th	Installation of new Master & Wardens

Colour coding:

Company Events [Committee meetings](#) [Court meetings](#) [City Events](#)

COMPANY NEWS

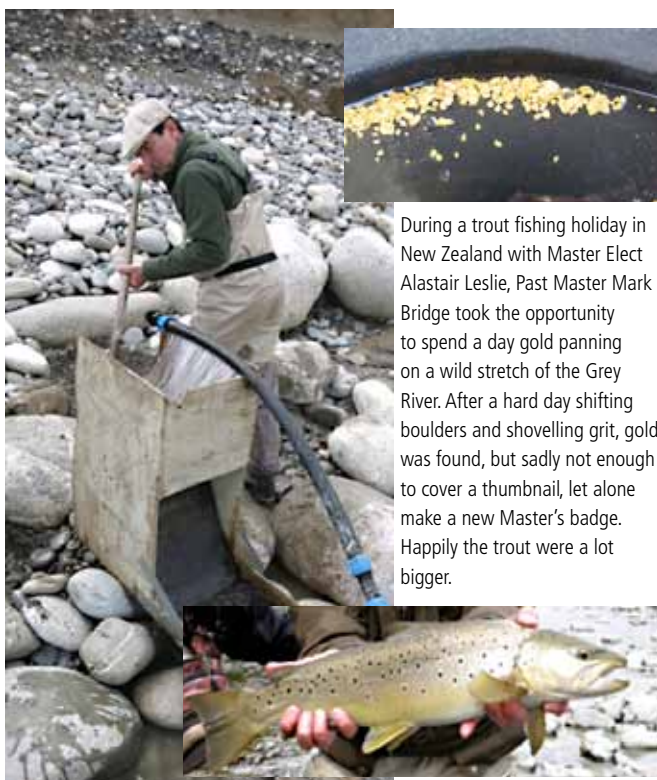
If you have news or pictures of interest to fellow Arts Scholars, please send them to the editor – markbridge@atgmedia.com – for inclusion in a future newsletter.

A Past Master of hounds



On one of her frequent trips to visit her mother in the family home in Lincolnshire last winter Past Master Philippa Glanville found herself hosting the meet of the local hunt and sent us these atmospheric reminders that Olde England is alive and well in the provinces. Clearly the hounds were as appreciative of her hospitality as were the hunt and its followers.

Going for gold in NZ



During a trout fishing holiday in New Zealand with Master Elect Alastair Leslie, Past Master Mark Bridge took the opportunity to spend a day gold panning on a wild stretch of the Grey River. After a hard day shifting boulders and shovelling grit, gold was found, but sadly not enough to cover a thumbnail, let alone make a new Master's badge. Happily the trout were a lot bigger.



Congratulations to Liveryman Hadrien Rambach and his wife Arianna who were married in a wintry New York in January .

On Senior Service



During the last London open house day Mark Dennis, **above left**, found himself seconded to duty outside the College of Optometrists alongside Neil Handley, a Liveryman of the Spectacle Makers. Both were dressed in costume appropriate to the beginning of the First World War, but Mark (wearing service issue spectacles of 1915 pattern) took a typically well-researched approach to playing Lt Nelligan. "He was a real character," explained Mark. "He ran the Naval charity and I've shown him as a training lieutenant in the reserves, a job he was to be recommended for. He was dismissed the service for poor eyesight. He had been on large ships but when they gave him a torpedo boat to command he promptly ran it over another boat!"

Speaking of Fabergé dressing up

If you happen to find yourself watching the film version of Susan Hill's *The Woman in Black*, look out for the train guard on the station platform, who turns out to be none other than Liveryman Derek Stimpson.

Having been spotted in this role he reveals that he had another part as an extra in that film alone.

Please inform us of any further sightings.

As well as completing his mammoth work on British silver (see page 10), John Andrew tells us that he has been busy with Fabergé in St Petersburg:

"In October, I arranged the Russian premiere of the documentary *Fabergé: A Life of its Own in St Petersburg* as part of the Fabergé Symposium.

After a private screening in London I was approached by Tessa Murdoch of the V&A asking if I would help with rescuing an Art Nouveau style Fabergé mansion on the outskirts of St Petersburg. I arranged funding for research and learnt in March that the mansion will be saved and turned into a museum for minerals."



The Master, Wardens and guests of honour



Tony Sharp – Clerk Guildable Manor of Southwark, Nicholas Bence-Trower – Master Draper

Drapers' Hall

The Arts Scholars' first annual dinner since becoming a full Livery Company took place in the appropriately magnificent surroundings of The Drapers' Hall.

With Alderman Nicholas Anstee standing in for the Lord Mayor to present the prizes, and Black Rod as principal speaker, the evening proved to be as convivial as it was grand.



Lord Mayor Locum Tenens – Alderman Nicholas Anstee, Major General Jeff Mason – Clerk to the Butchers' Company and Lt General David Leakey – Black Rod



Colonel Billy King-Harman, Judith King-Harman, Wendy Parmley and Richard Agutter



Alexander Cuchet, Melanie Cuchet, Lucy Morton and Timothy Schroder



Graham Mather, Genevieve Mather, Ellen de Leuw, John de Leuw



Michael Godbee – Master Tax Adviser, Caroline Godbee – Mistress Tax Adviser, Alderman & Sheriff Andrew Parmley

EVENTS

Risen from a watery grave, *Mary Rose* is given a new lease of life

A privileged group of Arts Scholars spent last Halloween in the company of 500 Tudor ghosts of the sea as we were given a full day to appreciate the newly-displayed *Mary Rose*.

Ushered into the new museum complex in Portsmouth, we were engaged by a talk given by Rear Admiral John Lippiett CB MBE on the history and recovery of Henry VIII's warship.

This was followed by a behind-the-scenes visit to see some of the artefacts from the ship which are not currently on display. Holding a longbow, perfectly crafted and preserved, takes one beyond ghostly presences to the real people of the ship. This museum is dedicated to the 500 sailors who lost their lives on 19th July 1545 when the *Mary Rose* sank so suddenly, just half a mile off the coast in front of Southsea castle.

In 1965, diver Alexander McKee rediscovered the wreck. In 1982 she was hauled out of her sea grave, and into an 1802 dry dock. The conservation technique is fascinating, she is preserved now for our lifetimes and way beyond. So are 27,000 objects from the site, including carpenters' tools, surgeons' and musical instruments, cloth, personalised items, plates, cannons, nit combs, skeletons and chests, not to mention the ship's cooking range!

The actual ship, now far more visible than before and being dried out, is opposite exactly placed replica decks in muted colour, possibly evoking the wreck under water, with items such as ropes and cannon in their proper places, uncluttered by numbers or captioning.

The very clearly interpreted artefacts in the gallery at the end of each deck display combine with this to make a powerful statement. The varied



A highlight of the Arts Scholars' *Mary Rose* day was a visit to the reserve stores, allowing us to examine one of the famous longbows from the ship and view other items only now being transferred onto the site for specialist study.

and entertaining digital interactives were all functioning, and the staff clearly full of enthusiasm and commitment for the museum. In 2016 the walls around the ship will be removed and the museum will be complete.

The ship and items on display are directly linked to the history of many of our Livery Companies: Shipwrights, Pewterers, Cutlers, Haberdashers, Bowyers, Armourers and Brasiers, Gunmakers, Turners, Leathersellers, Musicians, Skinners and many more. It would be wonderful if The City could collectively follow the Arts Scholars' lead and provide ongoing support to this project.

Deborah Charles and Mark Dennis

A day at Ham House

The autumn visit to the lovely Ham House on the banks of the Thames gave members the chance to examine the whole property, starting with the interior in the morning (when the house was closed to the public) and exploring the gardens after lunch.

Inside the house we were privileged to be guided by National Trust furniture curator Christopher Rowell, who was formerly the curator in charge at Ham House. He is also chairman of the Furniture History Society and the editor of the recently published book on the house and collection, *Ham House: 400 Years of Collecting and Patronage*.



EVENTS

St Petersburg should be a blueprint for our future overseas visits

The Arts Scholars' most ambitious trip to date, a five-day winter visit to St Petersburg, was also its most meticulously planned. For the organisation we were indebted to the long experience of Tanya Illingworth, whose guidance proved invaluable.

It was she who sent out the exhaustive reading lists, arranged visas, advised on our wardrobes and put us in the hands of Julia Korn, a truly excellent guide. It was Tanya who pin-pointed February as the optimum time to visit and her advice was much appreciated when we found ourselves almost alone in front of the two Leonardos, 25 Rembrandts and countless other treasures of the city.

The prospect of winter in the far north might have proved off-putting, but by the time we assembled at Heathrow there were 25 of us to be greeted by Victoria Wolcough and Georgina Gough who shepherded us throughout our trip. The first thrill was the issue of Arts Scholars tote bags printed with the Company coat of arms which are now the envy of all who have seen them.

Once on the ground in St Petersburg, we were introduced to Julia who guided us through a sequence of palaces and museums interspersed with memorable lunches and dinners. Apart from the formidable Hermitage (where several of us contrived to get lost) and the delights of Tsarskoe Selo and Pavlovsk outside the city, scheduled highlights included a visit to the Yusupov Palace (still haunted by Rasputin) and an evening at the ballet, where the audience proved every bit as interesting as the dance. Unscheduled forays to the underground stations and a Russian Orthodox Mass at St Nicholas Cathedral were added to the mix and greatly facilitated by Victoria's unflinching enthusiasm – not to mention her fluent Russian and local savoir faire.

With such a range of experiences packed into a few days, everyone will have carried away their own memories, but I think there was an overwhelming wonder at the way in which St Petersburg, a Communist city besieged and bombarded for 900 days in the 1940s, had been preserved, and in many cases rebuilt, to a standard that the capitalist West would find hard to match.

Above all we had great fun. When is our next overseas trip?

Mark Bridge



After many hours of museums and palaces, a troika ride through the trees was just what was needed to bring out the latent spirit of Dr Zhivago in us all.



St Isaac's Cathedral beckoned us from our hotel windows, night and day.



The frozen River Neva afforded prospects of the Hermitage unseen by summer visitors and most Arts Scholars eventually ventured onto the ice, despite dire warnings that it was too thin. We had to admit that the cracks were alarming, **right**.



The first stop on the first morning was to buy fur hats in a park with the glorious spire of the Admiralty in the background.

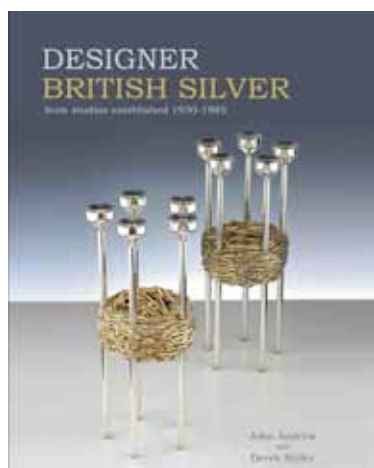


Catherine the Great's former boathouse at Tsarskoe Selo



MEMBERS' PUBLICATIONS

The best of British silver designers brought to book



Designer British Silver from studios established 1930-1985

by John Andrew and Derek Styles, Antique Collectors' Club
ISBN 978-1-85149-780-5.

At 562 -pages, a third of a million words and four kilos, this is a massive work that breaks new ground. John Andrew, with help from Derek Styles, has created the standard work on the leading British silversmiths of the second half of the 20th century.

At the heart of the book (and at over 400 pages it is a very big heart) there are 50 chapters, each devoted to the life and work of a different designer-silversmith. As a life-long collector of silver and curator of the Pearson Silver Collection, John Andrew is intimately acquainted with both the artists and their works. The works are brilliantly illustrated throughout and their creators are introduced to us personally by someone who knows them well.

The result is lively, well-informed and very readable, but it is also scholarly. In an age when publishers are often tempted to cut costs by skimping on the index, this book has a very full one, as well as a glossary, a good bibliography and a substantial section with briefer biographies of all the relevant designers and makers that the authors have encountered – over 200 in all.

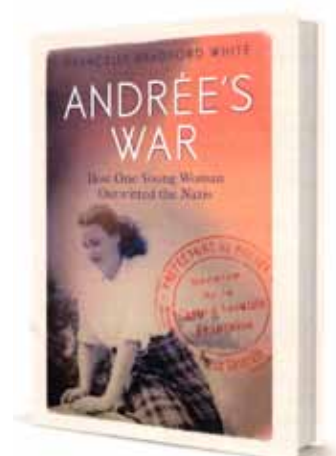
Two other useful features are a chapter on the best places to go and see modern British silver – from the Aberdeen Art Gallery to the V&A – and sections at the end of each chapter giving brief details of the availability of the work of each maker on the open market. Not only will this help collectors and would-be collectors to gauge the market and adjust their expectations, it will also encourage dealers and auctioneers to promote the work of designers whose importance has sometimes gone unrecognised for want of accessible reference material.

Livery Companies have been important patrons of our leading modern silversmiths, not least the Arts Scholars. Rod Kelly from whom Past Master Philippa Glanville commissioned the Horne Cup, Malcolm Appleby from whom Toby Parker commissioned the Master's water beaker, Lexi Dick who created our Mithras pins and Jocelyn Burton who has made our new Master's badge are all given extended biographies.

Though she is too young to make the 1985 cut-off selected for the book, Ndidi Ekubia, the silversmith who created our gift to the Lord Mayor in 2008, also merits two honourable mentions, as do many more who continue the proud tradition of British designer silver into the 21st century.

Mark Bridge

How one young woman outwitted the Nazis



Andrée's War by Francelle White, Elliott & Thompson
ISBN 978-1-78396-024-8.

In the days of the Grosvenor House Fair, Gander & White had a stand at the bottom of the stairs in the Great Room. Quite often it was manned by a rather formidable looking woman and I have to confess I felt a bit intimidated by her at times. This was Andrée.

Francelle, her daughter, is a good friend of mine but I never had an opportunity of getting to know Andrée and, having read Francelle's exciting tale, I am sorry that chance has now gone.

Francelle opens the introduction of her book as follows: "When my mother Andrée, began to show the initial signs of the disease known as Alzheimer's, I was not sure how to cope with my emotions. At some stage in the past I had been told that when you are upset it can help to express your feelings on paper, so I decided to write about her. Andrée has done many interesting, wonderful things throughout her lifetime but it was what she did during the Second World War that had always caught my imagination".

In 1995, fifty years after the war had ended, Andrée received the Légion d'Honneur from her brother Alain Griotteray, member of the French Parliament, who had also taken an active part in the conflict: both of them had been in the Resistance.

Andrée was working in an antiques shop in Paris in 1938 but in 1939 she took a position at Police Headquarters which would prove to be most advantageous. When Paris was occupied by the Nazis, Andrée was printing and distributing an underground paper and stealing blank ID cards to help those attempting to escape occupied France.

She was arrested in Bordeaux in 1944 and interrogated by the Gestapo but, by keeping her wits about her, she managed to bluff her way out of it and continued her work for the Resistance. When Paris was liberated in 1944, she was only 24 years old and would receive the Croix de Guerre from de Gaulle as well as the Médaille de la Résistance the following year.

Francelle, who has never written a book before, conjures up life in occupied France, those heart-stopping moments as well as the usual anxieties experienced by teenagers in any era. Do read it – it is fascinating to discover that behind each façade a different person exists.

All royalties from the sale of her book are being donated to the Andrée Griotteray White Charitable Trust to fund research into Alzheimer's and Dementia.

Georgina Gough

THE CLERK'S COLUMN

Hitting the heights at Guildhall

It seemed very apposite that one of the first pieces of sculpture that we saw in the Hermitage Museum was a Roman depiction of Mithras slaying the Bull, beautifully carved from marble. We certainly had a feast of treasures during our few days in St Petersburg: from the beautiful Lod mosaic that has been on exhibition around the world, to the little Leonardo da Vinci *Virgin and Child*, the vast malachite vases and the recently reconstituted Amber Room at the Summer Palace. There was even an Address of Welcome box made in London in 1874, showing the Lord Mayor and the City Recorder with the Tsar.

However, the object that I treasure the most is the bright pink soldier's hat presented to me by my fellow Arts Scholars on the last night of our stay! I shall wear it to the next Court meeting!?

I could have done with it when we took part in the Lord Mayor's Show as part of the Modern Companies' float. It was great to see a number of you waving flags and cheering as we walked past and perhaps we should think about another Arts Scholars' float within the next few years.

One of the best decisions we made when setting up the Arts Scholars was to create the four categories of membership. It has created such a diverse and interesting group which is increasing annually. I very much enjoyed our Skills Day on April 16th. The idea behind this came from our Middle Warden, Tom Christopherson, to demonstrate to our members the wide range of expertise and knowledge that we have within the Company. As reported in this newsletter, it was held at the Museum of London and provoked a good deal of discussion.

We have decided to admit new Liverymen and Freemen at the same time as we do the Master and Wardens and this year's ceremony will be held at the Armourers' Hall on May 19th. I am much looking forward to the coming year – we have a number of fascinating events lined up.

I am pleased that a good number of Freemen are now also applying

for the Freedom of the City. Having registered with the Chamberlain's Office and been approved by the Court of Aldermen, you will take part in one of the oldest ceremonies and officially become a Citizen of London. On April 20th, I took another group of our Freemen to register for the City Freedom and will take more in the future, so let me know if you wish to be included.

I would encourage those of you who have not yet done so to attend a City Livery Briefing. These are aimed particularly at new Liverymen and Freemen; partners are also welcome, as are Court Assistants and Liverymen of longer standing, who have not previously been to a Briefing.

They give a short introduction to the work of the Corporation, especially the relationship with the livery companies. The presentation is given by an Assistant Town Clerk and a member of the Livery Committee. There is opportunity to ask questions of the speakers and the Briefing is followed by a light finger buffet, which provides the chance to mix with other Liverymen and Freemen. It costs £15 and bookings can be made by e-mailing livery.committee@cityoflondon.gov.uk.



Our shield for the Guildhall

All Livery Companies are required to display their crest on the ceiling of the Guildhall and we have ours waiting to be installed with that of the Educators (we are sharing the costs of the cherry picker!). An enormous and heavy wooden crate recently arrived at home with endless

Phillips screws to secure the top. It took me ages to open it all and then of course mountains of shredded paper littered the drawing room floor while I checked that all was OK.

I am not quite sure when it will be installed but it should be fairly soon. It can then be admired by those Liverymen attending the election of the Sheriffs at the Guildhall on June 24th.



NEW MEMBERS

Bernadine Brocker: CEO of Vastari, a website connecting museums with works in private hands.

Lady Poppy Cooksey OBE DL: Picture restorer with her own business near Banbury. Charity fund raiser and former Olympic fencer.

Charles Dawson: Ceramics consultant and lecturer. Editor of *Transactions*, the journal of the English Ceramic Circle.

Peter Donovan: Independent art historian with an interest in 20th century British artists, designers and craft practitioners. A member of

the Association of Art Historians and a senior member of Wolfson College, Cambridge.

Prof Christian Heath: Lecturer at King's College, London. Author of *The Dynamics of Auction: Social Interaction and the Sale of Fine Art and Antiques*.

Jonathan Hindle: collector of contemporary art and artefacts. A former Master of the Furniture Makers and a Chartered Designer by profession.

Jessica Hindle: Collector of Zulu antiquities, truncheons and tipstaves and contemporary art.

Dr Samuel Moorhead: National adviser for ancient coins for the Portable Antiquities

Scheme at the British Museum.

George Stewart-Lockhart: Student at the Courtauld Institute. Also runs Scraffer which deals in street art.

Dr Simon Underdown: Archaeologist/cultural anthropologist. Lecturer at Oxford Brookes.

Patrick van der Vorst: Managing Director of valuemystuff.com and auctionmystuff.com Formerly at Sotheby's.

Graham Walpole: Dealer in furniture and works of art with an eclectic mix. Member of BADA and the Antique Metalware Society.

Sonya Zuckerman: Collector of Japanese woodblocks and miniature bronzes.

Order online now!



An order form for all Company accessories (cufflinks, lady's brooch, lapel pin, Freeman's and Liveryman's ties and bow ties) can now be found in the members' area of the Company website.

Go to www.artsscholars.org

