



Irish
Georgian
Society

LONDON CHAPTER EVENTS – AUTUMN & WINTER 2016

THE CONSERVATION GRANTS SCHEME

Dear London Chapter Members,

We are delighted to announce the third successful year of the Conservation Grants Scheme, which helps owners of historic Irish structures to fund necessary works. We would like to thank all our London Chapter Members who have made this scheme possible through funds raised from activities and members' generous bequests.

The distribution of the limited funding was very challenging this year as it was clear that numerous projects would really benefit from the Society's help. This year, therefore, the funding will be spread between fourteen successful applicants.

The wide range of buildings benefitting from this year's grants scheme includes castles, residential buildings, civic structures and churches. Several Georgian buildings will benefit from the scheme including: the underpinning of the early-18th-century carriage entrance at Kildrought House, Co. Kildare; a condition report of the mid-18th-century Ledwithstown House, Co. Longford; and roof repairs of the late-Georgian Ballynager House, Co. Galway, designed by Richard Morrison (1767-1849).

We are also pleased to support a local community group with a c. 1820 chapel, Tea Lane Graveyard, Kildare; The Royal Society of Antiquaries Ireland with 63 Merrion Square, Dublin; and the Dublin Civic Trust with 18 Upper Ormond Quay, Dublin.

Other successful applicants have included: Stradbally Hall (late 18th century; remodelled in 1868), Co. Laois; Birr Castle (c. 1170), Co. Offaly; Boyle Courthouse (c.1830), Co. Roscommon; Scots Church (1818), Co. Carlow; Ross House (1822), Co. Clare; St Michael's Church, Castlepollard, Co. Westmeath; Collon Parish Church (c.1815), Co. Louth; and Albert's House (c.1825), Waterford.

Thank you to all our London Chapter Members for making this scheme possible. We are very much looking forward to receiving applications in 2017 for the scheme's final year.

*Ashleigh Murray,
Member of the Conservation Grants Committee
Chairperson of the London Chapter of the Irish Georgian Society*

CALL FOR EMAIL ADDRESSES

As we announced at our last Saint Patrick's Day Party, one of the aims for this coming year is to become more 'tech savvy'. Over the past year, we have begun to remind you about upcoming events via email, about a month before each event. This has proved very successful as we have found that additional people do sign up when reminded closer to the time.

We would like to continue this form of communication as it also allows us to easily inform you of any event changes and, in the future, it could enable us to notify you of any events organised within short notice that have not been included in the events listing.

If you have not been receiving email communication from the London Chapter, please could you email info@igs.ie with the subject line: '**London Chapter Email Address Update**' and include your **full name** in the message so that we can identify you.

YIG VISIT TO CHARLTON HOUSE

SATURDAY 8 OCTOBER

Our forthcoming YIG visit is to Charlton House, an early-17th-century house in Greenwich. YIG events are usually reserved for members up to 40 years of age but it is possible to take a limited number of regular members, should places be available.

We are delighted to announce that we will have a special tour provided by Aimée Felton, Associate at the conservation architectural practice Donald Insall Associates. Aimée is currently leading a conservation project at the house and, so far, has managed the production of a full condition survey, providing lectures on the findings to the stakeholders and local community.

Charlton House is believed to have been constructed in 1607-1612. In 1657 Sir William Ducie bought the house and made certain decorative changes. In 1777, the house came by marriage to Sir Thomas Spencer Wilson; the house remained with his descendants until 1925. Several phases of restoration and rebuilding occurred during the ownership of the Maryon Wilson family, including the extension of the grounds in c.1823 to absorb Charlton Green; 1830s internal remodelling; and from c.1871 to 1893 major re-building with a billiard-room extension to the south, by Richard Norman Shaw.

During the First World War, Charlton House operated as an army hospital and in 1925 it was bought by Greenwich Borough Council. In 2014, the building was taken over by the Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust, who own several other buildings in the area. Their aim is 'to ensure the future of the Royal Borough's rich heritage whilst bringing that heritage to life for everyone, through exhibitions, tours, walks and activities.'

Our tour costs £15 (£25 for standard members) and includes tea/coffee and a guided tour of the house. We will meet for tea/coffee at 10.15am before our visit to the house at 11am and we would expect to finish around 1pm.

If you would like to attend, please send your completed application form & cheque with an email address or SAE to Lucy O'Connor, 10 Clifford Gardens, London, NW10 5JD (Email: Lucy.OConnor@insall-architects.co.uk). Full details will be sent to those attending closer to the event.

TOUR OF FISHMONGERS' HALL

MONDAY 24 OCTOBER

Fishmongers' Hall is described in Pevsner's London Guide as 'one of the only two City Companies buildings designed in the grand manner' - the other being its contemporary, Goldsmiths' Hall. The Fishmongers' Company has an unbroken existence of over 700 years and, since mediaeval times, has occupied a riverside site, alongside Old London Bridge.

In 1823 a new London Bridge was constructed that ran at a heightened level above the old riverside buildings. In response to this, the Fishmongers' Company announced a competition in 1831 to build a new Hall; the winning design was by Henry Roberts (1803-76), who trained in the office of Robert Smirke. Roberts's Greek Revival style Fishmongers' Hall (1832-35) is imbued with the elegance and precision of Smirke's manner. Fishmongers' Hall also has an opulent interior, restored in 1929 by H.S. Goodhart-Rendel. After suffering extensive bomb damage in September 1940, the interior was skilfully reinstated. Fishmongers' Hall also has important contents, most notably Pietro Annigoni's famous 1954 portrait of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II.

Our group will meet at 1.45pm at the main entrance to the Hall and the guided tour starts at 2.00pm, lasting just under two hours. Tickets are £17 per person and include tea/coffee and biscuits.

If you would like to attend, please send your completed application form and cheque, before **Friday 7th October**, together with an email address or SAE, to Nick Sheaff, 4 Framfield Road, Highbury Fields, London N5 1UU (Tel: 07515496987; Email: nicksheaff@virginmedia.com). Full details will be sent to those attending closer to the event

LECTURE – LIFE IN THE COUNTRY HOUSE IN GEORGIAN IRELAND

THURSDAY 17 NOVEMBER

Our Autumn lecture will be given by Patricia McCarthy, author of the recently published book 'Life in the Country House in Georgian Ireland' (Yale University Press). Patricia McCarthy is an independent architectural historian based in Dublin whose research interests include 18th- and 19th-century Irish architecture, material culture and social history. Based on new research, this new publication provides a vivid and engaging look at the various ways families tailored their homes to suit their personal needs and preferences and also how they demonstrated a distinction between public and private spaces.

Courtesy of the conservation architectural practice Donald Insall Associates, the lecture will be held in their Central London office, 12 Devonshire Street, London, W1G 7AB. Doors open at 6.30pm, with wine served on the first floor. The lecture starts at 7.00pm and will last approximately one hour, with a further 20 minutes for questions.

The lecture costs £15 per person (YIGs £10). If you would like to attend, please send your completed application form and cheque, together with an email address or SAE, to Ashleigh Murray, 12 Fairline Court, 2 Oakwood Avenue, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 6PJ (Tel: 07837766974; Email: ashleigh_mur@hotmail.com).

DINNER AT THE EAST INDIA CLUB

FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER

The pre-Christmas Club dinner has become a firm fixture in the London Chapter's annual calendar and this year's will be our twelfth. Previous dinners have been held at Clubs such as the Reform, Cavalry & Guards, Garrick, Boodles, Brooks's, Oriental, Travellers, Carlton, the In & Out and the Turf - each one has been a sell-out. This year we will be dining at the East India Club, 16 St James's Square, in the heart of Clubland.

Founded in the middle of the 19th century, the club's original members were The East India Company's servants but within the first two decades of the club's foundation The East India Company started to lose its Indian possessions, winding up entirely by 1874. As a result, the club could no longer look to The East India Company as its main source of members. The Club has, therefore, developed over its 160-year life, from its early days as an oasis for colonial professionals and soldiers, through fortuitous amalgamation with a number of other clubs, all of whom add something of their own personality.

In 1861–2 the Club bought the freehold of 16 St James's Square and in 1863 also bought the adjacent No. 17. In 1865 the club had the two houses rebuilt as a clubhouse by George Myers and Sons, under the direction of the surveyor or architect, Charles Lee of Golden Square. The plan and the arrangement of the window openings suggest that part of the fabric of the more northerly house (No. 16) was retained. In 1939 the Club amalgamated with the Sports Club; two storeys were added and 'much improved provision was made for lady guests, with a separate entrance in Duke Street'.

Each year we have a distinguished speaker and this year will be no exception with the attendance of Irish Ambassador Daniel Mulhall. Born in Waterford, Ireland, Mulhall pursued an extensive academic career, first studying at University College Cork (UCC) and continuing his studies at Murdoch University in Western Australia.

In 1978 he joined the Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland and in 1994 he began a year-long position as a member of the Secretariat of Ireland's Forum for Peace and Reconciliation. Across his career, Dr. Daniel Mulhall has had diplomatic postings in New Delhi, Vienna, Brussels (EU), Edinburgh (as Consul General of Ireland in Scotland) and Kuala Lumpur, where he was Ireland's Ambassador to Malaysia, Thailand, Laos and Vietnam from between 2001 and 2005. August 2005 saw him appointed as Director-General of the European Union and OECD Division in the Department of Foreign Affairs based in Dublin. In 2013 he was appointed as Irish Ambassador to Great Britain, as post he has held ever since.

Dinner (black tie) will be at 7.00pm for 7.30pm with carriages from 10.30pm. Tickets for the evening cost £96. The cost will include a seasonal aperitif, a three-course dinner with coffee, wine and port afterwards. Please send the application form to Tim Bacon, Ramsden Farm, Stone-cum-Ebony, Nr Tenterden, Kent, TN30 7JB (Tel: 01797 270300; email: streakybacon@ramsdenfarm.co.uk). Guests are welcome but priority will be given to members. If you would like to sit near another member then please complete the space on the application form and we will try to arrange the seating plan accordingly, but cannot guarantee being able to meet everyone's requirements.

As usual numbers are limited - and so places may well be at a premium. You are therefore recommended to apply early.

LECTURE - LONDON COUNTRY HOUSES

THURSDAY 26 JANUARY

Our Winter lecture will be provided by Carline Knight, an architectural historian specialising in British Architecture of the 16th-18th centuries. The lecture will focus on Knight's noteworthy publication: 'London Country Houses' (2009). Many of the prosperous upper and middle classes of London built much-loved second homes in the suburbs; some on riverside sites, others on high ground with extensive views. Lavishly illustrated and beautifully presented, this book is the first to address the history of these houses. Knight will also touch on Rainham Hall which we will visit in February (see next entry).

This lecture will be held at Lettsom House, 11 Chandos Street W.1. Doors open at 6.30pm, with wine served on the first floor. The lecture starts at 7.00pm and will last approximately one hour, with a further 20 minutes for questions.

The lecture costs £15 per person (YIGs £10). If you would like to attend, please send your completed application form and cheque, together with an email address or SAE, to Ashleigh Murray, 12 Fairline Court, 2 Oakwood Avenue, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 6PJ (Tel: 07837766974; Email: ashleigh_mur@hotmail.com).

DAY VISIT TO THE HOUSE MILL AND RAINHAM HALL

SATURDAY 25 FEBRUARY

We have arranged a private visit to the Grade I-listed House Mill, 3 Mill Lane, London, E3, a late-18th-century tidal mill on the River Lea in Bromley by Bow, dating back to the Domesday Book. The present mill, which we will see, was rebuilt in 1776 by Daniel Bison and is a hidden gem in East London. Our visit to the Mill House will commence at 11.00am with a talk by one of the Mill experts, followed by a tour. A buffet lunch will then be served, including wine and juices.

At approximately 1.00pm we will travel to Rainham Hall, Essex, a Grade II*-listed Queen Anne style early-18th-century merchant's house that belongs to the National Trust. Although the house transferred to the National Trust in 1949, it only fully opened to the public for the first time in October 2015 after a £2.5 million conservation project. On arrival tea and coffee will be served, followed by a talk in the Hayloft and entry into the building.

Tickets for this day trip cost £65 per person, which covers coach travel to/from London, entry to the buildings, talks, tour, lunch, wine and tea/coffee. The coach will leave from a location in Central London at 10.15am promptly, returning to London around 6.00pm.

If you would like to attend, please complete the attached application form and return with your cheque and an email address or SAE to John Barber, The Barn, 5 Chambers Manor Mews, Epping Road, Epping Upland, Essex, CM16 6NZ (Tel 07956 609777; Email: johnbarber@lmkendon.co.uk). Only 40 places are available and in the event of over subscription a ballot may have to be applied. Guests may also be permitted if there is space. Full details will be sent to those attending closer to the event.

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY PARTY & EVENTS REVIEW

THURSDAY 16 MARCH

Our Saint Patrick's Day Party and Annual Events Review will take place on Thursday 16th of March at Lettsom House. Our evening will commence with an update on the Society's work in Ireland and the third-year projects funded by the London Chapter through the Small Grants Scheme. We will also have an overview of the London Chapter's year's events. Fabulous Feasts will then serve a two-course buffet supper.

This will be held at Lettsom House, 11 Chandos Street W.1. Doors open at 6.30pm, with wine served on the first floor. The lectures will start at 7pm. The evening costs £45 per person and guests are welcome.

If you would like to attend, please send your completed application form and cheque, together with an email address or SAE, to Robert Jennings, 28 Elmfield Road, London SW17 8AL (Email: robertbjennings@btinternet.com). Full details will be sent to those attending closer to the event.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR BOOKING EVENTS

1. For any membership enquiries, please contact Roisin Lambe using the following details. Postal address: The Irish Georgian Society, City Assembly House, 58 South William Street, Dublin 2 Ireland. Telephone number: 00 353 (0)1 679 8675. Email: roisin.lambe@igs.ie. The Society's website is www.igs.ie (www.igs.ie/about/london-chapter)
2. Please provide a separate application form and cheque for each event. A single cheque covering several events will not be accepted. Please ensure that application forms are fully completed and email addresses and telephone numbers clearly written. We have a preference for communication through email and request that members provide an email address rather than an SAE if possible. Please note that payment by cash is no longer acceptable, cheque only please.
3. Details of events will be sent to members about a week before the event. If you apply for an event which is fully booked, we will advise you as soon as we can after receiving your application, so you can make alternative arrangements.
4. Once we acknowledge your application we will have provided our venue with final numbers and any cancellations after this time will only receive a refund if we can replace you.
5. Please remember if you cancel your booking for an event, your place will be given away if there is a waiting list and we will be unable to re-offer you a place should you circumstances change. Unless requested to be returned to you at the time of cancelling, we will treat your cheque as a donation to the Society.

YIG VIST TO CHARLTON HOUSE

SATURDAY 8 OCTOBER

Please reserve place(s) at £15 each (YIG members) £25 (standard members).

Name of member(s):

Name of guest(s):

Email/Telephone No.

I enclose a cheque payable to the IGS London Chapter Ltd. for £

Please return with your cheque and an email address or SAE to Lucy O'Connor, 10 Clifford Gardens, London, NW10 5JD

(Email: Lucy.OConnor@insall-architects.co.uk)

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DINNER AT THE SAVILE CLUB

FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER

Please reserve place(s) at £96 each.

Name of member(s):

Name of guest(s):

Postal address:

Email address or telephone No.

Special dietary Requirements:

I/we would like to be seated near:

I enclose a cheque payable to the IGS London Chapter Ltd. for £ (£96 per person)

Please return with your cheque and an email address or SAE to Tim Bacon, Ramsden Farm,
Stone-cum-Ebony, Kent TN30 7JB

(Tel: 01797 270 300; Email: streakybacon@ramsdenfarm.co.uk)

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(Tel 07956 609777; Email: johnbarber@lmkendon.co.uk)

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(Email: robertbjennings@btinternet.com)