

West Yorkshire Group of the Victorian Society

2012 Programme: January- July

Tuesday, 24th January: Vic Soc AGM and talk on ' Passionate Lives: Effie, Ruskin and Millais'

The AGM will begin at 7pm and will be followed by a talk by Dr Suzanne Fagence-Cooper entitled, 'The Model Wife: Effie, Ruskin and Millais'. Dr Fagence-Cooper is a writer and lecturer who works for the V&A and Buckingham New University, and her talk will be based on her recent book, 'The Model Wife: the passionate Lives of Effie Gray, Ruskin and Millais' published by Duckworth in 2010 and about to appear in a paperback edition.

Venue: The Leeds Club, Albion Place, the bar will be open from 6.30pm

Saturday, 17th March: Adel's Victorian Villas: a walk Janet Douglas

George Corson told the Leeds Architectural Society that when he first came to Leeds in 1849, 'to think about building a house at Weetwood or Adel was sheer insanity'. Twenty years after his arrival, in search of an unspoilt environment and greater social exclusivity, a number of wealthy families moved from Headingley to build new homes amongst the fields, farms and woods of Adel. The pioneers of this northern migration were the Eddison family, in 1838 Edwin Eddison of Headingley Hill opened a model farm and though he never moved to Adel, many members of his large family did. Along Adel Lane and Long Causeway, a number of High Victorian villas were erected set in large grounds and with accompanying lodges and gardener's cottages.

An optional extra for this tour, is a visit by cars to the recently-listed Adel Reformatory where our guide will be Ann Lightman, the secretary of the Adel Historical Society

Meeting place: Isabella Ford's bench close to the junction of Adel Lane and Long Causeway, 2pm. Cost: £5

21st and 22nd April: Stanhope Country, day school and tour

An event occasioned by Hoylandswaine Arts' project to restore John Roddam Spencer Stanhope's mural paintings in their local church. The paintings on the theme of 'The Ascendancy of Christ', once covered the walls of the east end of St John's Church but were painted over when the church was refurbished in 1961. Roddam Spencer Stanhope (hence forward 'Roddy') was the younger son of John Spencer Stanhope of Cannon Hall. People with Roddy's background rarely became artists and although he never had any formal training, he became a member of a circle of younger artists associated with the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood. As well as being a friend of artists such as Burne Jones, Roddy was also close to the architect, G.F. Bodley.

Saturday Day School

A series of talks on the artist, Spencer Stanhope and his circle including, Edward Burne Jones and GF Bodley, Pre-Raphaelite Stained Glass, and the work of the architect W.H. Crossland. Speakers to be announced later. Appropriately, the day school will be held in Cannon Hall, Roddy's childhood home. The house was built at the beginning of the 18th century probably by John Etty of York, and enlarged between 1764-7 by John Carr. A fine house in its own right, it also houses a few of Roddy's paintings and ceramics collection of the work of William De Morgan and Moorcroft. De Morgan was married to Roddy's niece, Evelyn who also became a painter taught in part by her uncle. More on Evelyn De Morgan later.

The day school is scheduled from 10am-4pm with a break for lunch. There is a café at Cannon Hall.

Cost for the day school: free (financed by East Pennine Arts), but please book places with Stephen Walker.

Getting there:

By car: M1 to junction 38, then A637 towards Barnsley and before the town centre, take A635 (the Huddersfield Road) to Cawthorne and Cannon Hall is a little further to the west of Cawthorne. My map also shows a minor road at junction 38 which leads to High Hoyland and then on to Cannon Hall. There is plenty of parking at Cannon Hall, cost £3

By train/bus. Train to Barnsley and then 236 bus from Barnsley to Huddersfield. The bus doesn't actually go to Cannon Hall, so then there would be a walk. If there is demand, we will organise a minibus from Wakefield so please contact Janet Douglas at janetdouglas21@hotmail.co.uk

Sunday Tour

Our tour begins at Hill House, Cawthorne (Roddy's home in later life), courtesy of the present owners, Ann and Richard Flowerday who will welcome us with coffee at 11am. From there we will be visiting the Jubilee Museum, Cawthorne and All Saints Church. If you haven't visited the museum before - it's a cracker - a totally eccentric cornucopia! All Saints was extensively restored and decorated by Bodley between 1875-1880. A restoration paid for by Roddy and his brother in memory of their parents. Painted panels in the pulpit by Roddy who also designed a memorial window to his daughter in the Lady Chapel, and the west window. Two painted panels Evelyn de Morgan.

We will be staying in Cawthorne for lunch and food is available at the Spencer Arms.

In the afternoon, we will visit the churches at Flockton, Upper Denby and Hoylandswaine, all of which have Stanhope and Pre-raphaelite connections. St James the Great, Flockton is by W.H. Crossland and was opened in 1869. It has a pulpit with painted panels by Roddy and a Morris and Co. window designed by Burne Jones and Ford Madox Brown. The large east window of 1937 was designed by Eleanor Fortesque Brickdale. Upper Denby's church, St John the Evangelist again has a pulpit with painted panels by Roddy, and a screen probably by Bodley. Saving perhaps the best to the last and the *raison d'être* for the whole weekend: St John's at Hoylandswaine. Designed by W.H. Crossland entirely at the expense of the Stanhope family, the church had a stunning window designed by Burne Jones. Roddy's murals once covered the chancel walls and it is these that the Hoylandswaine Arts Group intends to restore. Any profits made from this weekend, will be donated to their restoration fund.

If you are travelling by car, the cost of the Sunday tour will be £7.50 per person. There will also be a minibus from Leeds leaving from Lloyds Bank, Park Row at 10am. Numbers limited to 24. Cost: £18.

It would be possible to hire a coach if there was sufficient demand so can you please let Stephen know as soon as possible if you intend to come on this tour so I can make the appropriate arrangements.

26th May: Victorian Architecture in the Yorkshire countryside

In the morning we will visit the planned village of Baldersby St James designed by William Butterfield for Viscount Downe in the 1850s. Apart from cottages, a school and schoolhouse, vicarage, lynchgate, all by Butterfield, its centrepiece is one of the architect's finest churches (1855-7) with a soaring broach spire. A splendid polychromatic interior with fittings by Butterfield and striking floor tiles manufactured by Minton's.

Lunch: The Lamb Inn at Rainton

In the afternoon, in what will be a first for the West Yorkshire Group, a visit to Myton model farm and stud farm built by Henry Miles Stapylton of nearby Myton Hall. The buildings have recently been carefully restored by Nick and Nigel Ramsden who will be showing us around the two adjoining farm buildings. Model farm plans had been exhibited at the Great Exhibition of 1851 with the aim of increasing food production by the adoption of scientific methods. Amongst the buildings at Myton are a steam engine house, water tower, narrow gauge railway as well as cow byres, pig sties, stables and a large granary. After the completion of the model farm, Major Stapylton built a stud farm for the breeding of trotting and racing ponies importing a famous stallion, 'Shepherd' from Maine. The stud farm comprises two inter-linked courtyards each surrounded by thirty-two individual stables plus a covered exercise yard.

Travel by minibus (24 places) from Lloyds Bank, Park Row leaving at 10am and arriving back at approximately 5pm

Cost £20

17th June: Selby's Hidden Heritage

Selby's most significant attraction for visitors is its Abbey but this visit will also explore other aspects of the history of the town particularly those which relating to its emergence as a transport hub in the 19th century. Much of the wealth of the town was based on its position on the banks of the tidal River Ouse and following the construction of the Selby Canal (1778) which links the Ouse and the Aire, not only did shippage massively increase but industries particularly the processing of agricultural produce, were attracted to the town. Surprisingly there was also a significant shipbuilding industry in Selby. The arrival of the railway

in 1834 further boosted the town's importance and this in turn financed a number of handsome public buildings and fine residential streets. We can't of course, overlook the Abbey which was restored by Gilbert Scott between 1871-3, and again by his son, John Olrid Scott 1889-90 and 1908.

It is appropriate that we travel to Selby by train as the Leeds and Selby Railway was one of Britain's first main lines and the first to be built in Yorkshire. The station dates from 1840.

Meet at Leeds Station to catch the 10.24 to Hull (this time is based on the current timetable but we will need to check nearer the date). We will spend the rest of the morning looking the area around the Station and the Canal Basin, have lunch in the Market Place and in the afternoon visit the Abbey and hopefully Selby Town Hall which was built as a Primitive Methodist Chapel in 1862.

Cost: £6 (not including train tickets)

Guide: Janet Douglas

Saturday, 7th July: [More West Yorkshire Train Stations](#)

Those of you who enjoyed Richard Tinker's railway jaunt in July 2011 asked if he might lead another trip and this he has kindly agreed to do, this time visiting Ilkley, Shipley, Skipton, Keighley, possibly Haworth, and then Bingley.

Cost: £5 (not including rail tickets)

Meet outside the visit Yorkshire Tourist Office at Leeds at 9.45am, to catch the 10.02 Metrotrain to Ilkley arriving at 10.30am. Those who live closer to Ilkley than Leeds, may join the group there. Skipton will be the third station to be visited and there will be a lunch break there. Richard expects to be back in Leeds by 5pm.

The timings are based on the current train timetable but these will be confirmed nearer the time.

Bookings for events: Stephen Walker at
Stephen.walker34@btopenworld.com

Tel: 01274 58605

Other forthcoming events of interest

WEA Course on The Architecture of Dissent (Alan Petford)

Starts 19th January 2012 10am at Shipley Library. Ten sessions

17th March, Colloquium at Trinity and All Saints College on Victorian Spiritualities. See college website for details

19th Sept: The Chapel Society's visit to Harrogate