

Brougham Hall Annual Report 2016

BHCT LOOSES ITS FOUNDER It is with great sadness that this year Brougham says farewell to its founder Christopher Terry. His passion and effort into the preservation of Brougham Hall is the sole reason that it is thriving so well today. Christopher's work at Brougham will be continued by his family and the Trustees. (See *obituary*)

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2016

EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA March 27th saw the 14th consecutive Eden Animal Rescue dog day. Despite adverse weather conditions dog lovers from all over the county braved the rain to show their support.

MILITARY WEEKEND On May 6th, 7th and 8th Brougham Hall was host to the South Cumbria and North Lancashire Military Vehicles Trust. The Hall stepped back in time with fantastic displays of WWII vehicles, weaponry and militaria. To top it all off there was wartime food in Bettyann's tea parlour, 1940's music ringing through the air and some wonderful wartime attire.

REFORM CLUB BROUGHAM EXHIBITION The 28th of June marked the start of the Brougham exhibition at the Reform Club. The BHCT loaned various documents and papers of importance to the Reform Club, who's exhibition is still on display until mid-December. During the opening of the exhibition Christopher Terry gave a well-received speech. He stood and spoke for over an hour with notes that he held but made no reference to. He delivered a passionate insight into the man that was Henry Brougham, the child genius, politician, chancellor and defender of Queen Caroline. Lord Broughams most important mark on history was his involvement with the anti-slavery bill. Christopher spoke to the Thackery Society six weeks before his death and only those that knew him well could tell that he drew great courage and resistance against his pain to stand and speak for that long. After his applause, many stood in standing ovation.

BROUGHAM HALL ARTISANS FESTIVAL Brougham Hall played host to 12 local artists in a street style market. The festival also included local music from plug and play and a display by local falconer Silverband. This was a fantastic pilot for the festival and hopefully the start and the first of many more to come.

BROUGHAM HALL REMOVED FROM BUILDING AT RISK REGISTER In October of this year Historic England announced that Brougham Hall had been removed from the Buildings at Risk Register. This came sadly only two months after the death of Broughams saviour Christopher Terry, although some comfort can be taken from the fact he knew it was in the process of being removed from the list. This acts as a recognition of the huge amount of work that has been achieved at Brougham and solidifies its future as a proud Cumbrian Landmark.

HONORARY FELLOWSHIP AWARD On the 22nd of November Cumbria University hosted its annual Graduation Service at Carlisle Cathedral. At the end of proceedings, after many successful students were awarded their degrees, Brougham Halls own Christopher Terry received a posthumous Honorary Fellowship from the University for his dedication to heritage restoration, with Brougham as the focus.

PLANS FOR 2017

2017 promises to be a productive year for Brougham. Plans are already in place for a hall wide facelift including the addition of more lighting, extra safety features and better presented signage. A maintenance schedule for the hall is already underway and will include the damp proofing of all current units, a courtyard renovation and potential plans for an expanded carpark. Clearance and stabilisation work will continue throughout the Pele tower and mansion house with a hope to restore the WW2 air raid shelter, formally the wine cellar, under the mansion house.

THANKYOU's to:-

Aimee Hollingsworth – Parallel Worldz Ltd

Andrew Tate – Creative Crafts

Lisa Tedstill - UK Ghost Nights

Penny Cunningham

Peter Kampton

Deirdre Redfern Orton

JF Eilbeck Chemist Charitable Trust

Due to a management handover this year some people may be missing from this list, if this is the case we sincerely apologise.

If you would like to make a donation, cheques should be made payable to the Brougham Hall Charitable Trust, Brougham Hall, Penrith, Cumbria CA10 2DE. If you are a UK Tax Payer, and would be kind enough to include a note to that effect, we can reclaim 25% of the tax from the Inland Revenue, under the Government's Gift Aid Scheme. For those giving through their Self Assessment returns, our unique code is UAD20QG. Alternatively, you may care to visit our website and donate on-line. (Click on the donate button, on the "Donate" page, you will be directed to PayPal. Don't worry if you don't have a PayPal account you can still make a donation; follow the instructions under the heading "Don't have a PayPal account? by clicking on "continue").

All donations are always acknowledged by return. We would also like to encourage people to consider remembering us in their Will. Most bequests of this nature are free of Inheritance Tax.

OBITUARY

Christopher Terry was born in 1938 in Alverstoke, Hampshire, and was eldest of four boys. After the outbreak of World War II, the family moved to Gosport, near Portsmouth, where his paternal grandfather was a naval admiral.

Christopher did not meet his father until he was six years old, on V.E. Day in May, 1945, because he had been on active service throughout the war — he later lost his father when he was fourteen years old.

After the war the family lived in Somerset before settling in Witley, Surrey. Christopher attended St. George's Catholic School, Weybridge, before going to study architecture at University College London in the late-1950s.

He was a keen cricketer and was a member of the Marylebone Cricket Club [MCC] for more than 50 years. As a swing-bowler, he captained his beloved Sydenhurst

Ramblers for many years and toured with the club, both in the United Kingdom and abroad.

He also worked for Imperial Tobacco Company, was chief executive officer of Reliance Security Services and ran Motcombs champagne and oyster bar in Knightsbridge, London, which was the place for celebrities to be seen during the 1970's. Christopher married his first wife, Janet, in 1968, and the couple had two children, Katy and Charlie. It was during their honeymoon in the Lake District that they first saw Brougham Hall which, even then, was threatened with demolition, and they resolved to make sure this would not happen.

Their time in Cumbria was also memorable because, after forgetting to put on the hand brake of their Ford Zodiac, when they returned from a walk they had to enlist the help of a local farmer to tow their car out of Ennerdale. During the drive, back home there was still water swilling around the inside of the vehicle.

The couple divorced in 1977 and, in 1985, Christopher acquired Brougham Hall when he bought Beacon Builders, the company which owned the site and had planned to redevelop it as housing. The planned homes were eventually moved outside the walls. A year later the Brougham Hall Charitable Trust was formed. It was dedicated to restoring the Fourteenth-Century Hall to its former glory and has gone on to become one of the largest country house restoration projects in England.

Christopher was also a champion of disadvantaged youngsters and it is thought that up to 250 young people started their training, in trades such as stonemasonry, by working on the project.

He married his second wife, Alison, in 1989 and the couple had two children, Jonathan and Jim, before they were divorced in 1996. It was also during the late 1980s that he acquired his home at High Head Castle, Ivegill, near Carlisle, which was ravaged by fire in December 1956, and had later been threatened with demolition.

Both High Head and Brougham Hall are now classified as Grade II listed buildings.

Originally, Brougham Hall got into the condition in which Christopher found it because the fourth Lord Brougham went spectacularly bankrupt in the 1930's., but it is now the home of fifteen small businesses, which employ an average of 62 full- and part-time individuals, and it attracts between 60,000 and 100,000 visitors a year. Christopher was fascinated with history, especially the Roman period and, during the early-1990's, he enlisted the help of the Royal Artillery to restore Parson's Lodge gun battery in Gibraltar. As an amateur archaeologist, he worked on digs in Turkey and Greece.

In 2014, he achieved one of his lifetime ambitions when he flew with the R.A.F. to Ascension Island, before catching the postal ferry to St. Helena, where he spent three weeks studying the rich history of that island.

He had wanted to make the journey because, almost 100 years earlier, his grandfather had visited the place where Napoleon was famously exiled. In late June this year, in what he described as the "pinnacle" of his career, he gave a speech to the Thackeray Society, at London's Reform Club in Pall Mall, about Henry Brougham, who was known as the "great reformer" and was Lord Chancellor of England from 1830 to 1835.

Katy said: "He spoke for an hour without notes. He was at one of his weakest points in his health and yet completed his speech verbatim in front of an important audience. It was remarkable, when I told those around me that he was ill they were amazed because he recited such an excellent and compelling speech.

"Dad really knew the ancestors and history of this place, as he did the architecture."

She said that, since his diagnosis and subsequent treatment, Christopher had fought a "strong and brave fight". Katy said her father was "stubborn" and "a maverick" but was also a thoughtful, unique person and a "romantic with rose-tinted glasses. He really adored those closest to him. He had a very big heart," she said.

Jim said his father was "definitely the last of a kind". Diane Butcher, Christopher's partner of four years, described him as a "quintessential Englishman".

As well as his partner and four children, Christopher leaves five grandchildren — Edward (10), Henry (seven), Alice (five), Florence (three) and one-year-old Lawrence.

Audrey Dunn (nee Moffat) had many interests and abilities, including being a founder member of the South Lakeland Decorative and Fine Arts Society Heritage Volunteer Group. It was as a member of this conservation group that Audrey first arrived at Brougham Hall, in June 2010, to clean and repair the 17th century Flemish Screen. She enjoyed her work so much that she went on to clean and partially paint the Brougham Carriage, stabilise crumbly pieces of fresco from the Norman Room and cleaned and repaired various items in Brougham Chapel, eventually leaving Brougham Hall in March 2014.

Born 28th September, 1936, Audrey died peacefully on 2nd May, 2016, aged 79. She is survived by 2 children, 8 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren and many friends. Our lives were enriched by Audrey's company and she is greatly missed. *Vickie Robinson*

BROUGHAM HALL NEWSLETTER The BHCT would like to congratulate our very own excellent archivist Alistair Aynscough, as this year Brougham Hall News passed its 800th edition! It was marked by the release of a special edition of Brougham Hall News, this and any following newsletters can be obtained by furnishing your email to enquiries@broughamhall.co.uk

For any forthcoming events and updates regarding Brougham please see our website

www.broughamhall.co.uk