Autumn – Winter 2014

Events Programme Flyer

***EXHIBITION: Head to Toe: Accessorising the Georgians***

**28 MARCH TO 2 NOVEMBER 2014**

From shoes to bonnets, corsets to gloves, buttons to fans, ***Head to Toe*** celebrates the visual splendour of Georgian Britain and reveals the beautiful accessories that accompanied, ornamented, adorned and sometimes underpinned the attire of fashionable 18th-century and Regency society.

**FRIDAY 19 SEPTEMBER, 9.00AM TO 5.00PM**

***SYMPOSIUM: FASHION, FUNCTION AND ORNAMENT***

***Accessorising the long eighteenth century***

The period from the late 17th to the early 18th century saw a flourishing of the fashion accessory. Items such as gloves, reticules, fans and shoes achieved new status as fashion statements, expressions of wealth and taste and objects of desire. Featuring contributions from leading experts in the field, this one-day symposium will bring together historians, curators and all those with an interest in fashion and culture to explore the history of the fashion accessory.

*Keynote speaker: Nigel Arch* (Historic Royal Palaces, Kensington Palace)

*A great deal of finery – accessorising the Georgian courtier*

**Full-day symposium *including lunch, refreshments, wine reception and private exhibition view at Fairfax House*:**

Full delegate: £50.00 (Early bird) or £60.00 (Full)

Student delegate: £25.00 (Early bird) or £30.00 (Full)

Members & Friends: £50.00

Half-day delegates rates include either morning or afternoon tea but not lunch

£30.00 Full, £25 M&F or £15.00 Student

*The symposium will take place at the York Hilton Hotel and is held in association with the exhibition ‘Head to Toe: Accessorising the Georgians’.*

**SATURDAY 27 SEPTEMBER, 10.00AM-4.00PM**

***TASTING & DEMONSTRATION:* TEA & TITTLE-TATTLE**

***FOOD FESTIVAL EVENT*: *Quaff and Scoff through York***

By the mid-eighteenth century, tea had become one of the most fashionable, but also one of the most expensive items purchased for consumption within the Georgian household. Meet the Fairfaxes’ cook, Martha Brown in the kitchen to find out more (gossip included) whilst she demonstrates the ingenuity of the Georgian cook with some of the most popular eighteenth-century recipes.

Included in normal admission to Fairfax House

**WEDNESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER AT 7.00PM**

**LECTURE: THE TALE OF THE ‘TEA TUB’ AND OTHER STORIES**

**Castlegate in the eighteenth century**

Have you ever walked down a street in York and wondered what lies behind the doors or who lived there in the past? In this fascinating lecture, Dr. Matthew Jenkins (University of York)explores Georgian Castlegate, delving behind blank façades to reveal the shops and homes of the street’s inhabitants during the eighteenth century. His lecture will offer a virtual exploration of the surrounding landscape: from the cramped medieval buildings of the Water Lanes to the private gardens of Castlegate Postern Lane – the perfect place to stop for tea on the way to the New Walk.

**Tickets:** £14.00 / M&F 12.00 includes wine & soft drinks

**WEDNESDAY 1 OCTOBER at 7.00pm**

***TASTING SERIES:* EXPLORING LORD FAIRFAX’S CELLAR**

**“Do you know the Bishop of Norwich?”**

***A history of Port and the traditions and customs surrounding its service and consumption***

This talk will not only look at what the Bishop of Norwich and the world’s greatest fortified wine have in common but it will also explore how Port became such a firm favourite – especially in the grand houses of England. Over the past 200 years, many customs and traditions have become an essential part of the enjoyment of Port and some of these will also be discussed as well as how Port should be kept and served. Port comes in a variety of styles and the evening will be enlivened with a tasting of 6 of the different types.

**Tickets:** £22.00 / M&F £20.00 includes 6 wine tastings & nibbles

**FRIDAY 10 OCTOBER at 7.00PM**

***LECTURE & TASTING:* CUCKOLD'S DELIGHT AND MOTHER'S RUIN**

**A history of gin in England**

Gin: a seventeenth century pick-me-up; an eighteenth century drug craze, resulting in mayhem, malaise and murder. Scourge of the masses, and ruin of the rich, gin has been loved and hated in equal measure. In this talk, which includes tastings of gin through history and historic edible accompaniments, Dr Annie Gray, resident food historian on Radio 4's *The Kitchen Cabinet* and broadcaster (*The Great British Bake Off*, *James Martin's* *Home Comforts* and *Heston's Great British Food*), guides you through four centuries of a spirit to - literally - die for.

**Tickets:** £20.00 / M&F £18.00 includes gin tastings and nibbles

**THURSDAY 16 OCTOBER AT 5.00PM**

***DEMONSTRATION:* TURNING BACK TIME**

Join horologist and clocks conservator David Barker for a special talk and demonstration as he reveals the inner workings and movements of the Edward East longcase clock from the nationally significant Noel Terry collection of clocks. This event offers a special opportunity to see this remarkable timepiece in close detail as it is returned and unpacked following conservation treatment and cleaning.

**Tickets:** £14.00 / £12.00 includes wine & soft drinks

**WEDNESDAY 29 & THURSDAY 30 OCTOBER AND SATURDAY 1 NOVEMBER at 7.30pm**

***PERFORMANCE:* FAIRFAX HOUSE AFTER DARK**

As part of the Illuminating York Festival Fairfax House is opening its doors after dark for a highly unusual and illuminating candlelit performance by the mansion’s ‘original Georgian inhabitants’. Electric lighting will be strictly taboo! You will be taken through the House by Lord Fairfax and members of his household staff by candlelight and given an unvarnished insight into 18th-century life.

**Tickets:** £14.00 / M&F 12.00 / Child £7.00 includes refreshments

**THURSDAY 6 NOVEMBER AT 7.00PM**

***LECTURE: ASSEMBLING POLITE SOCIETY WITH DR MOIRA GOFF***

**Dancing, Balls and Assemblies in Georgian England**

‘To dance well, is absolutely necessary’ wrote that arbiter of politeness Lord Chesterfield. From royalty to the aspiring middle classes, the Georgians loved and learnt to dance. They displayed their skills at balls and assemblies throughout England and also York. This talk explores the world of 18th century genteel dancing: what these occasions were like and how Georgians danced. Dr. Moira Goff researches, reconstructs, performs and writes about the dancing of the eighteenth century. Her book *The Incomparable Hester Santlow: a Dancer-Actress on the Georgian Stage* was published in 2007. Until recently, Moira was a curator of rare books at the British Library, London, and lead curator for the recent exhibition *Georgians Revealed*.

**Tickets:** £14.00 / £12.00 includes wine & soft drinks

**FRIDAY 14 NOVEMBER AT 7.00PM**

**LECTURE: INTRIGUES, AFFAIRS AND ARGUMENTS**

***GEORGIAN ROYAL SECRETS***

To mark the 300th anniversary of George I’s accession to the British throne, we take a peek behind the ermine with Kensington Palace curator, Deirdre Murphy to explore the secrets of the eighteenth-century court. Discover how palaces and their collections keep secrets for hundreds of years. Clues about the people who lived in these impressive buildings still lie behind palace walls, under floorboards and in loft spaces that have remained virtually untouched for three centuries. Find out how eighteenth-century court gossips and private correspondence between friends shape our understanding of the everyday lives of the royal family, whose frequent affairs and arguments offered plenty for courtiers to talk about.

**Tickets:** £14.00 / £12.00 includes wine & soft drinks

**TUESDAY 18 NOVEMBER – FRIDAY 2 JANUARY**

***EXHIBITION:* THE KEEPING OF CHRISTMAS**

Visit Fairfax House this Christmas and see the elegant decorations, extravagant dining room displays with sugar temples and the Georgians’ love of the natural world as they decorated their homes for the festive season.

Normal admission prices apply

**THURSDAY 20 & WEDNESDAY 26 NOVEMBER at 7.00pm**

***CHRISTMAS TWILIGHT TOUR***

To celebrate the opening of the annual Christmas display, take a special twilight tour of Fairfax House and hear about the merrymaking, decorations, feasting and activities that surrounded this festival in the Georgian era.

**Tickets:** £12.00 / M&F £10.00 includes mulled wine and mince pies

**FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER AT 7.30PM**

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT: *CHRISTMAS IS COMING***

A pot-pourri of music old and new together with readings for the Festive Season from *Ad Hoc*. The versatile quartet, Sue Lindley, Frances Brock, David Howard and John Gill, return for another concert in celebration of Christmas. We hope that you will join them in our beautiful, intimate saloon for an evening of seasonal cheer. Festive refreshments will be served at the interval.

**Tickets:** £14.00 / M&F £12.00 include mulled wine

**SATURDAY 20 & SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER at 5.00pm**

**CHRISTMAS FAMILY EVENT: THE MUMMERS’ PLAY AND MERRIMENT**

Christmas is a time for traditions and the ‘Gorgeous Georgians’ certainly knew how to make merry! Just what is in a Yorkshire Pie and why is plum porridge really a soup? Come with us around the house us to find out. Swap your family traditions over a warm cup of mulled wine or cocoa, then welcome in The Christmas Players! Under the direction of drama practitioner, Jenna Drury, children will be invited to take part in an 800 year old Christmas ritual, The Mummers’ Play. Who wants to play St. George? The Turkish Knight? Quack Doctor, Robin Hood or even a new superhero? The Mummers’ plays are for anyone who likes to play the fool!

Bring the whole family for some timeless tomfoolery – and keep our heritage alive! Suitable for children 5+

**Tickets:** £15.00 Family Ticket (2 Adults and 2 Children)

Adult £7.00, Child £5.00 (spaces limited so please book early)

Refreshments included

**SILVER SCREEN FESTIVAL: FEBRUARY 2015**

***FROM HOLLYWOOD TO PINEWOOD:*****THE GEORGIANS ON SILVER SCREEN**

Join us for some rollicking adventures, intrigue and poignant romance in our biennial Silver Screen event commemorating St. George’s cinema, the popular picture house based in Fairfax House from 1921 to the 60s. The 2015 film festival focuses on the dashing heroes, rakish villains and feisty heroines (real and fictional) of the Georgian age seen through the cinematic lens. Many of these original features, starring cinematic icons such as Leslie Howard, Laurence Olivier, Vivien Leigh and Merle Oberon, were screened at St. George’s cinema and our schedule of screen treats will include: *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, *That Hamilton Woman* and *Pride and Prejudice*.