

ANGLO-NETHERLANDS SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

c/o Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, 38 Hyde Park Gate, London SW7 5DP

Tel: 07401 660 615 (Wednesdays 11 – 3 pm)

administrator@anglo-netherlands.org.uk Autumn 2016

Vice-President: The Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

President: Sir Michael Perry GBE

Vice-President: the Hon. Sir Clive Bosson Bt

Hon. Newsletter Editor: Mr Hans Neher

Chairman: Mr Dick van den Broek

Administrator: Mrs Carine Williams



© photo : Quentin Reid

Art Deco sculpture 'Architectural Aspiration', by Edward Bainbridge Copnall -c. 1934- above the 66 Portland Place entrance to the Royal Institute of British Architects ; we will visit the building before the AGM on 8 December.

Forthcoming Events

Adriaen van de Velde: Dutch Landscapes
Now fully booked
Dulwich Picture Gallery, Saturday 15 October, noon

Members' Dinner at the Reform Club
Friday 18 November at 7 for 7.45pm

pre-AGM visit RIBA + AGM
Thursday 8 December at 3pm (tour) / 5pm (AGM)

Linley Sambourne House
Thursday 19 January at 11am

New "Europe 1600-1815" Galleries, V&A
Tuesday 14 February at 11am

Save these Dates :
details and application forms in the Winter News

Unilever Lecture
'Learning a hard lesson : the Dutch in the Medway 1667'. Professor Andrew Lambert, Laughton Professor of Naval History, Department of War Studies at King's College.
Tuesday 21 March at 6.30 for 7pm

Obsession, Toneelgroep Amsterdam, Barbican
Sunday 30 April at 3pm,

Westminster Abbey : Purcell Club :
Historical / Musical Tour
Saturday 20 May at 6.45pm

New Members

We welcome:

- Mr Jeroen B and
- Mrs Angelique B
- Mr John G and
- Ms Claire M
- Mr Robin J (Student, UCL)
- Mr Wout K and
- Mrs Clare K
- Mr Oliver M
- Ms Anna O (Student, UCL)

SIGNPOSTS

Double Bass Masterclass with Rick Stotijn

Friday 21 October at 2pm, Corelli Room, Royal College of Music

Dutch bass player Rick Stotijn is currently Principal Double Bassist with the Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra, and double bass professor at the Robert Schumann Hochschule, Dusseldorf, Rick shares his knowledge and expertise with some of the RCM's best double bass players in this afternoon masterclass. Free, tickets not required; www.ram.ac.uk/whats-on/event/double-bass-masterclass-2

"The Constantijn Huygens Jr Diary", Lecture by Rudolf Dekker

Tuesday 25 October | 6.30pm | UCL Gustave Tuck lecture theatre, 2nd Floor, South Junction, Wilkins Building, Gower Street, WC1E 6BT

A fascinating talk on "The Diary of Constantijn Huygens Jr (1628-1697), Secretary to King William of Orange: Life in London and The Hague seen through the eyes of a Dutch Pepys". Register for free tickets via www.ucl.ac.uk/centre-for-low-countries-studies/events

"Louis Raemaekers : armed with pen and pencil"

Talk, with Ariane de Ranitz | Thursday 3 November at 7pm, Dutch Centre, 7 Austin Friars, London EC2N 2HA www.dutchcentre.com

An interesting talk about how the Dutch Cartoonist Louis Raemaekers became world famous during the First World War.

Film 'The Curious World of Hieronymus Bosch', from 3 November

Following the successful exhibition 'Hieronymus Bosch – Visions of Genius' earlier this year, this film mixes images from the exhibition with interviews; at cinemas across the UK and Ireland. www.exhibitiononscreen.com

"Real Rancour" : Hans Teeuwen, 3-26 November

Leicester Square Theatre London, www.leicestersquaretheatre.com

Dutch comedian Hans Teeuwen will return to the UK with his brand new show, "Real Rancour"; information : www.hansteewen.com/

'Dutch Market' on Monday 14 November, 12-2pm

Social Hall, Dutch Church, 7 Austin Friars, London

Looking for those particular Dutch Sinterklaas, Kerst and Oudejaars delicacies, in the heart of the City of London? www.neerlandia.org

"Dutch Art and Urban Culture", Wednesday 16 November, 7pm

Dutch Centre, 7 Austin Friars, London EC2N2HA www.dutchcentre.com

Elisabeth de Bièvre challenges the view that Dutch art is a coherent phenomenon. Arguing that the Dutch Golden Age was far from unified, de Bièvre shows how distinct geographical circumstances and histories shaped each urban development and, in turn, fundamentally informed the art and visual culture of individual cities. She joins us to discuss her book "Dutch art and urban cultures".

Sinterklaasfeest by Neerlandia at the Dutch Church, London

Saturday 26 November, 7 Austin Friars. www.neerlandia.org or sinterklaas@neerlandia.org

Sinterklaasfeest organised by the Nederlands Comité Surrey

Dutch families with children can register via www.nederlandscomitesurrey.co.uk or email: surreycomite@hotmail.com

(paid advertisement)

Dutch Care At Home

Dutch Care At Home would like to offer Dutch senior citizens in and around London company and day-to-day support. This could be practical help around the house (e.g. organising, cooking, shopping) or the sharing of social activities (e.g. conversation, museum or restaurant visit). The support, at a reasonable hourly rate, can be on an occasional or on a regular basis. For information - and to arrange a free introductory visit - please contact Juliette Bogaers.

Telephone: 020-7435 3200 Mobile: 07968 129 490
www.dutchcareathome.com info@dutchcareathome.com

David Glassman

co-opted to join the Society's Council



I am delighted to announce that another member has recently been appointed to the Society's Council. David Glassman practices as a coach - see his text below. We welcome him on board and look forward to benefiting from his many experiences and contacts. It is planned that at the forthcoming AGM he will take over my (double) role of Honorary Treasurer.

Dick van den Broek (Chairman and Hon. Treasurer)

"David practices as a coach and mentor, helping entrepreneurs and chief executives in organisations undergoing rapid change. His experience includes roles as a director of quoted and private groups, an independent director appointed by investors and an investor himself in varied industry sectors at home and overseas, notably in the Netherlands. For many years he enjoyed a visiting post at a UK business school and is about to publish a business book he has co-authored."

Subscriptions 2017

Council has decided to keep Subscription rates for 2017 unchanged, for the tenth year running. Our subscription year is based on a calendar year and we would be most grateful for early payments in 2017 by those members not paying by standing order. The latter is our preferred method of payment and can easily be set up through your bank account. The account number of the Anglo-Netherlands Society with NatWest is 05409845, sort code 50-41-02.

Although we have had a nett increase in membership numbers in recent years, Council has the feeling there is room for more. Family members and friends with interest in Anglo-Dutch matters who can find themselves in the Aims and Objects of the Society (see back page) are most welcome. Just provide the Administrator with names (and addresses) and we will send them a sample copy of our newsletter.

Subscription rates for 2017:

	Greater London area*	Country*
Joint membership**	£30	£25
Single membership	£23	£20

*A Country rebate is available for members whose address is outside a radius of 50 miles from Hyde Park Corner.

** Two members at a single address, receiving one copy of each mailing.

Dick van den Broek

Chairman & Hon. Treasurer

Members' Page

www.anglo-netherlands.org.uk

username: xxx xxx

password: xxx xxx

Members can download duplicate application forms and various other papers via links on the Members' Page. Alternatively, please request a paper copy from the Administrator.

Royal Institute of British Architects

Thursday 8 December at 3pm; 66 Portland Place, London W1
visit to precede the Society's Annual General Meeting (at 5pm)

In 1834 the Institute of British Architects (RIBA) was founded by a small group of young men concerned by the lack of training within the profession. Its Royal Charter was granted by William IV in 1837 and in 1934 it moved into this handsome Art Deco building which was officially opened by George V and Queen Mary. A competition to design the new headquarters was won by the architect George Grey Wornum (1888-1957), who also worked on the interiors of the Cunard liner RMS Queen Elizabeth and the redesign of Parliament Square, London.

Wornum worked with a range of artists and craftsmen such as Edward Bainbridge Copnall, James Woodford, Jan Juta, Denis Dunlop and Raymond McGrath to create the decoration in the interiors and on the façade. Many of these details carry symbolic significance, for example, on the fourth floor are six glass panels representing the great periods of architecture, whilst the main entrance is flanked by two bronze doors depicting 'London's river and its buildings'. Wornum also worked with his wife Miriam on the design of some of the interiors, such as the Reading Room of the Library. Through its interior decoration and the origins of the material used, there are references to the British Empire, reflecting the idea that in 1934 the RIBA was a focal point for architecture in the empire. www.architecture.com/RIBA



The New Europe Galleries 1600-1815

Victoria and Albert Museum, visit Tuesday 14 February at 11am

In December 2015, the V&A opened their new Europe 1600-1815 Galleries. A mix of small and large galleries tells the story of changing European styles from 1600 to the fall of Napoleon in 1815. This was the period in which Europe really started to engage with the wider world, adopting and adapting the styles and materials of its burgeoning colonies and rival empires. A more open world meant, likewise, the expansion of fashions and luxuries to a broader sector of the population, with the middle class both producing and consuming a new wealth of goods.

The new galleries tell these interlocking tales through four long chronological spaces. 'Europe and the World', 'The Rise of France', 'City and Commerce', and 'Luxury, Liberty and Power'.

Between each of these sweeping galleries, a small room gives you pause to focus on three phenomena that animated these changing object landscapes. The 'Cabinet' introduces the impulses and practices of collecting and classifying the world. The 'Salon' considers the thinkers, debates and publications that came together to question and guide a changing Europe. The 'Masquerade', lastly, evokes the ribald, risqué amusements that flourished alongside consumer culture.

Three historic interiors serve to give a more immersive sense of how life was lived with these objects and also set up domestic and palatial relationships. The objects sensitively tell the complex political, economic and social history of Europe in the period, leaving the visitor replete with the richness of early modern European history. We will have a private tour of the new galleries at 11am with special emphasis given to objects from the Netherlands, and have an option to take lunch nearby after the tour.



Members' Dinner

Reform Club, Friday 18 November at 7 for 7.45pm

As already mentioned in the Summer newsletter this popular dinner will continue this year, in the beautifully restored Library at the Reform Club. Well over half of the available places have already been reserved and those interested should send their application form (enclosed) as soon as possible to our new postal address at the Netherlands Embassy, or via e-mail to: dinner2016@anglo-netherlands.org.uk; Cost : £70.00 per person, all-in. Members Only!



Linley Sambourne House

A private guided tour on Thursday 19 January at 11am

This late-Victorian townhouse remains just as its owner left it on his death in 1910.

Edward Linley Sambourne, a political cartoonist for the satirical magazine Punch, lived here with his family from 1874 and the visitor has the sense of trespassing on their private domain while they, perhaps, have just popped out for a stroll in Holland Park. It is as if the clock had stopped 100 years ago and time stood still. The cluttered interior is scarcely changed, complete with books, ornaments, velvet drapes, William Morris wallpaper and a Victorian lavatory. The walls are hung with framed original Sambourne cartoons and photographs. Perhaps a love of photography was passed down in the genes. Edward's great-grandson is Lord Snowdon, one-time husband of the late Princess Margaret.



Anglo-Netherlands Society

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

on Thursday 8 December 2016 at 5pm

The Agenda for this meeting as well as the Minutes of the 2015 AGM plus the Accounts for the year 2015/16 will be available on our website as from 1 November, or will be sent by post upon request.

The meeting will be held at the offices of Heineken UK, who have kindly agreed to host the AGM, followed by a drinks reception.
Elsley Court, 20-22 Great Titchfield St, London W1W 8BE

preceded at 3pm by an optional visit to the
Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)
66 Portland Place, Marylebone, London W1B 1AD

Visit to Lords Cricket Ground

Report by Denis Doble, Honorary Cricket Correspondent



A dozen members of the Society visited Lords on 22 August, joining one of their popular tours with an experienced guide.

Our first stop was the Museum, mainly to see the original Ashes urn, which is minute and dates from 1882. It remains at Lords, which the Australians rather resent, but there is a handsome glass trophy which can be moved. We also saw the original Cricket World Cup,



presented by the winners India in 1983.

The high point of the visit was a tour of the Members' Pavilion, dating from 1890. In the Long Room, the most famous cricket room in the world, we heard about the origin of the MCC (the Marylebone Cricket Club), and how to become a member--



luckily I am a Life Member. This room holds many dinners and receptions throughout the year for all kinds of societies. We were allowed to enter the two dressing rooms above with their honours boards of century makers and wicket takers, and the Committee Room where the Queen sits when she makes her annual visit.

From the other end of the ground we had a splendid view from the Communications Centre, high above, built in 1999 and described as one of the 50 best buildings in Britain. A Dutch company, Centralstaal, was involved in its construction. It has room for 140 journalists for the major matches.

We ended our enjoyable tour with a visit to the well stocked Lords Shop, and then shared a tasty lunch in the Tavern restaurant by the main Grace gates.

Trip to Cornwall :Thursday 8 - Monday 12 September

Reports by John Boldero (Eden), Mike Burchell (Truro etc.), Ann McMellan (Heligan) and Patrick Acheson-Gray (Caerhays)

Thursday 8 September : dinner with our guest Sir Tim Smit

The Anglo-Netherlands Society returned this summer to Cornwall after a period of 18 years, for a splendid tour organised and led by Marianne Denney, with close support from Alan and with two original participants, Patrick Acheson-Gray, the previous tour organiser and Jean Tammenoms Bakker present again.



Activities began on a high note on the first evening when we gathered for dinner at the Tremarne Hotel in Mevagissey. The guest speaker, Sir Tim Smit, accompanied by ANS members Jan and Gina Smit, gave us some fascinating insights into his approach to the development of projects

such as Heligan and Eden. The latter had, he said, helped contribute some £1.8 billion to the Cornish economy and plans were in hand to introduce the concept into other countries.

It was essential, he felt, to move out of one's personal comfort zones when conducting business, to recognise the merits of ideas put forward from a wide variety of sources, such as science fiction writers like Gene Roddenberry, the creator of Star Trek and to believe that the present is a great time to be alive.



Friday 9 September : Eden Project and Charlestown

We set off by coach from Mevagissey for the Eden Project, a controlled-environment location and one of Cornwall's star attractions. After 20 minutes hard driving we came to a sign-post showing "Mevagissey 1 mile", which had less to do with different laws of physics in Cornwall than the fact that Mevagissey has very

challenging, very narrow two-way streets, best avoided by taking roundabout routes out of it. Along the way we passed through villages with enchanting names like "Grampond" and "London Apprentice".



At the site we met our excellent guide, Carla Wentink, the second Dutch-speaker we had encountered so far, the other being Fran, co-owner of the Tremarne Hotel.

Carla gave us an introduction into how the Eden Project started. Tim Smit and Jonathan Ball, having already worked together on the Heligan gardens, of which more later, obtained National Lottery funding of £83 million to develop a horticultural project in an old quarry; they looked for one with south-facing slopes and found Eden. Their aim was to develop an enterprise which featured positive activities and products, rather than one which portrayed only 'end of world' scenarios.

The site features a vast range of plants and trees from around the world, housed in the Rainforest and the Mediterranean Biomes, while plans exist to develop three of the four habitats found in Cornwall, excluding seascapes. It is also intended to create a warmer temperate climate zone, to show some of the likely effects of global warming, and an area showing allotment activities in different locations and times, including the war-time 'Dig for Victory' concept. Also featured on site are various specialist areas, for tea development for which the coolish moist climate of Cornwall is very suitable, for festivals of food and for rock concerts, to reflect Tim Smit's early Rock and Roll career.

Other focuses are on the development of bee culture, featuring in particular the black bee, native to North Europe and hence hardier. Subsoil and topsoil are produced on site, as the quarries had no suitable organic material, with an ideal composition of 10% clay, 40%

sand and the rest composites of various types.

The biomes are presently largely warmed by sunlight but there are plans for the use of geothermal heat. Temperature is maintained by vents and humidity by misters. The roof plastic, known as ETEP, was developed in Germany and is expected to exceed its life expectancy of 25 years.

Among the types of plants developed are rice, of which there are more than 140,000 varieties in the world, with a particular focus on dry rice, to combat problems in areas of water shortage. Other unusual and promising developments include baobabs, which provide a superb fruit drink, tree types for erosion control and nitrogen retention and, of particular interest to many, the growing of chocolate.

Humans are the only creatures in the world to eat chocolate beans; more than 700 chemicals in the beans give chocolate its many positive properties, which include assisting in blood thinning and improving resistance to tooth decay, while perhaps, most important, the smell of the beans, pleasant enough in any case, triggers activity in the brain similar to that caused by chemicals found in the brains of

people in love!

Finally, animals are not ignored, with varieties of birds such as roul rouls (left, near those figs) helping to keep insect life under control. One omission though: there are no snakes in this Garden of Eden!

Our thanks in particular to Carla for

her tremendous know-ledge and enthusiasm and for volunteering to look after us when she saw that an Anglo-Dutch group was scheduled to visit!

We then travelled to the nearby port of Charlestown, a wonderfully-preserved late Georgian port on the south coast, which had recently played host to a period vessel and the cast of Poldark, hard at work on an episode for the third series. From there, we travelled back to our hotel for bitterballen in the bar before another excellent dinner.



Saturday 10 September :Truro Cathedral and City Centre walk, Ferry to St Mawes, Lamorran Garden and St Just in Roseland

The coach dropped us all off at the "square" in front of Truro Cathedral. We were told later that this used to be the main centre of entertainment in Truro (Bear Baiting), the stocks and the communal dung heap. Across from the Cathedral are the 1740 Assembly Rooms and still a beautiful building. Then into the Church where we met our Guide.

The See (or Diocese) of Truro was established in 1876, and its first bishop, Edward White Benson, was consecrated in 1877. Truro was the first cathedral to be built on a new site in England since Salisbury Cathedral in 1220.

Construction began in 1880 to a design by the leading Gothic Revival architect John Loughborough Pearson. It was built on the site of the 16th-century parish church of St Mary the Virgin, which was retained to serve as the parish church. By October 1887 the choir and transepts were complete and the service of consecration took place on 3 November.

The central tower and spire stands 250 feet (76 m) tall, while the western towers reach to 200 feet (61 m). The Cathedral also boasts two foundation stones, one for its planned opening by William IV - who died before its official opening - and a second one for Queen Victoria. It and its supporting pillar were allowed to weather outside. The original south aisle of St Mary's Church survives, incorporated into the



cathedral and known as St Mary's Aisle. As a result there is now a "kink" in the Cathedral to avoid knocking down several houses so that it "fitted in"!



The ceiling is a barrel style selected because the carpenters were ship builders and built the ceiling as a ship's hull but upside down! It still functions as the city centre's parish church.

When we

arrived in the Cathedral the organist was rehearsing and the sound was magnificent. The organ is the Father Willis Organ of 1887 and is widely regarded as one of the finest instruments in the country.

We left the Cathedral and met our Blue Badge Guide for a short tour of the centre of Truro.

Truro aspired to be known as the Bath of Cornwall and Lemon Street, named after the rich Tin Mine owning family, is a beautiful road very much modelled on Bath. One of the Family's houses was the 1739 "Prince's House". The Coinage Hall was where a "corner" was clipped off a coin to verify its quality but is now a Pizza Express! The Mansion House and Town Hall are in Boscawen Street, named after the Commander of HMS Dreadnought. The old grammar school was known as the "Eton of the West". I wonder if people a few hundred years ago were fatter as we all passed easily through Otway Alley also known as "Squeeze Gut Alley"! Truro suffered from the exodus of the miners as the tin mines became worked out and the miners departed for the Empire and America to start mining there.



We were scheduled to leave Truro by Ferry to St Mawes but low water levels in the river meant going by double-decker bus to Malpas on the River Fal. For a double-decker bus the lane seemed pretty tight and the tree branches took a lot of punishment! Then road block! The road through Malpas to the ferry was reduced to a single track as people were lurching on the river terrace but their cars lined the road alongside the Pub. So we walked : it was pretty - and pretty short.

The journey down the Fal to St Mawes was wonderful and the sun shone and shone. Yachts galore: both moored and sailing. Then through the largest deep water sheltered bay in the world and into



the Harbour of St Mawes. Then a long long walk uphill to Lamorran House and garden.



The owner and creator of the garden, Robert Dudley-Cooke, welcomed us and gave a talk on the concept, construction and design of the garden which was planted on a wonderful acid loamy soil. Trees were planted to protect it from the 100 mph winds

roaring up the Channel from the Atlantic, which worked, as the density of exotic shrubs and trees showed.

We followed the zigzag pathways to the bottom of the garden from where we had a good view of the sea.

The bus was waiting for us and off we went to St Just in Roseland to arrive just as the newlywed couple and their guests roared off to their party. Fortunately the Vicar did not go and gave us a tour and talk about this old and very charming Church.

St Just in Roseland is famous for its 13th-century church set in riverside gardens luxuriantly planted with semitropical shrubs and trees, many of which are species rare in England. The church perches on the edge of a tidal creek beside the Carrick Roads on the Fal Estuary just outside the main village. Unfortunately we were there when the tide was out! So a rather muddy view which, we were told, was due to the tailings from the old tin mines and China Clay workings up on the moors. The path from the road to the church is lined with granite blocks carved with quotations and verses taken from the Bible.



Sunday 11 September : Heligan

With their echo of F.H. Burnett's 19thC story of "The Secret Garden", The Lost Gardens of Heligan have struck an emotional chord since accounts of re-discovery began circulating from February 1990. After the filming of John Willis and Tim Smit's Herculean undertaking to cut back the vegetation which had engulfed the original grounds, volunteers were inspired to aid the lumberjack labour and experience the thrill of unveiling so many unexpected plants and garden features. Grateful beneficiaries of all this toil, the ANS members were keen to tour the site for its 18thC historical links to

Truro's wealthy Lemon Family and pay tribute to those remembered at the Living War Memorial for the 16 garden staff who did not return to Heligan from WW1.

Whilst the Tremayne family had owned Heligan since the 16thC, it was William of Orange and his wife Mary who enhanced the family status in 1689 by appointing John Tremayne a Knight of the Realm. Though improvements were continually being undertaken, major works were initiated by Henry Hawkins Tremayne and his son John Hearle Tremayne. The former, inspired by visits to Blenheim and Stowe, planned the Georgian Ride to route carriages through 'fashionable shrubberies' to the front door and the latter oversaw the well-publicised propagation of *cornus capitata* from Nepal and acquired material from Hooker's expedition to Sikkim.

The 1839 Tithe Map of St Ewe included the Kitchen Garden and the Melon Yard but not the trapezoid Flower Garden, essential for supplying beautiful blooms and disguising Victorian body odour. Following the Great Exhibition the Paxton House appeared in the 1860s and though not clear when the Peach House was added to the other glasshouses in the Flower Garden, its glazing style is that of the 1880s. All the glory of that garden gradually disappeared whilst warfare laid waste land and lives.

On arrival at Heligan the ANS group was joined on Flora's Green by Gina and Jan Smit (and grandson Alex en route to work on site). Official guide Allan imparted information to attentive ears as we moved via areas such as the Kitchen Garden with Diggory the scarecrow and the Melon Yard to the Thunderbox Room. It was on the wall of this outdoor lavatory that the gardeners had signed their names and the date before departing to the Front and it was this stark reminder which powered the determination to restore the Lost Gardens in their memory.



In the afternoon most people chose to explore the Lost Valley and scan the Jungle from the unstable Burma Rope Bridge (unsuitable for children under five). After this excitement it was calming to stare at installations such as the Giant's Head, the Mud Maid and the Grey Lady, tour an art exhibition and buy Heligan products before returning to Mevagsissey.

Last Night Gala Dinner

Our last night's 'Gala Dinner' back in the Tremarne Hotel was celebrated with a Dutch theme; organised by Fran, the owner who speaks Dutch from living many years in Amsterdam. Pre-dinner drinks included *oranjebitter*, served with *bitterballen* and Dutch cheese. The dining room was decorated with Dutch flags, orange bunting, runners and balloons. The excellent meal, prepared by the hotel's award-winning chef Adam Gerrish was served with great charm by Sharon and Fitz. Toasts of appreciation were given to Marianne for her excellent organisation and to all the staff of the hotel who had served us so well and made our stay very special.



Monday 12 September : Caerhays Castle

The story of Caerhays (pronounced 'Currays') began in the early Middle Ages. By the 14th century, the manor had passed to the



Trevanion family. On the death of William Trevanion in 1767, the estate passed to his sister's son, John Bettesworth-Trevanion. This man had the present Castle, essentially a large castellated manor house in medieval style with outbuildings, constructed to designs by John Nash in the period 1807-10. The cost ruined him financially and later, pursued by creditors, he decamped to Paris.

The creditors endeavoured to recover their money by selling the estate but the building remained empty for 14 years. Finally, the Williams family, prominent owners of mines and smelting works in the Cornish industrial revolution, bought the Castle in 1854, having previously occupied the neighbouring Burncoose manor, which became a dower house. We were welcomed at the Castle's carriage porch by the present owner, Charles Williams. Marianne Denney had been able to arrange an out-of-season opening specially for us.

After a brief look at the grounds and exterior, we were shown round the public rooms by two guides, Robin and Sarah. The interior is a time capsule of late Victorian decoration on a grand scale. Particularly notable for us were some pictures by Melchior d'Hondecoeter (1636-95) and a splendid large circular sitting room with views towards the sea. (The sea was not originally visible from the castle, but cutting away some of the intervening hill by hand provided winter work for Victorian estate workers.)

Lunch had been prepared for us in the dining room, where owner, Anglo-Netherlands visitors, the two guides and our bus driver

Danny all sat down together. At the end of the meal the owner, Charles Williams explained how the estate worked. Cornish mines and smelting works disappeared a century ago, but the estate had developed a variety of successful businesses to replace them. Building on the family's pioneering 'williamsii' hybrid camellias, Burncoose Nurseries is now an international business in plant supply and consultancy. Shooting (pheasants and partridges) takes place on some 70 days a year. Holiday letting and tourism is another significant business. In all, the estate employs about a hundred people.

Charles Williams urged us to come back one year in the spring, when rhododendrons, azaleas and camellias are at their best. Grateful for the very courteous reception we had received, and aware that there was much more to be seen at Caerhays, we left him in no doubt that we would be keen to do so!

Editor's note: Caerhays Castle was a location for "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children", a feature film directed by Tim Burton, to be released in December 2016.



2016 ANS Award at UCL : the prize-giving at Rabobank

Prize winner Robin Jacobs' essay on : "What does late 16th and early 17th Century Dutch literature concerning beached whales reveal about the early-modern Netherlandish mindset?" is to be published in the Winter 2016-17 Newsletter.

Following the ANS Award in Sheffield in May, covered in the Summer Newsletter, Council and Advisory Committee Members attended an equivalent event generously hosted by Rabobank on 29 September at their premises in the City of London. We were privileged that Brechje Schwachöfer, the recently arrived Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and Counsellor Jannet Duijndam were both also able to attend.

Professor Jane Fenhoulhet, Professor of Dutch Studies at UCL, her colleagues and around a dozen UCL students represented the Faculty. Following an introduction by our Chairman, and representing the Society as Chairman of the Panel of Judges, I was happy to commend the Faculty and the students for an outstanding set of essays submitted across a range of themes from multiculturalism and identity; the assassinations of Johan and Cornelis de Witt; comparative analysis of Harry Mulisch's *De Aanslag* and its English translation; and 16th and 17th Century Dutch literature on beached whales and the early-modern Netherlandish mindset.

All the essays were well argued and presented and a delight to read. The Judges' decision was that the winner was Robin Jacobs, who wrote about beached whales. His essay will be carried in the next Newsletter. Following the Award, the Deputy Head of Mission kindly wound up the ceremony with the most encouraging words reflecting the welcome liveliness of Dutch Studies at UCL and the Society's support for them. Long may they thrive.

I warmly thank again for their time and wisdom my fellow judges, without whom this exercise would not have been possible:

Heleen Mendl-Schrama, Abbey Wright and Rob van Mesdag. And our particular thanks to Eefje van Vorstenbosch and her colleagues at Rabobank for their hospitality and support.

This is an opportunity for me to record our deep appreciation to Professor Jane Fenhoulhet for her support from the start of the ANS Awards and especially for her enthusiastic guidance to both the students and the Society throughout the Awards process. We shall miss her much on her retirement in June 2017, wish her well and trust that she will maintain regular contact with us.

Paul Dimond CMG Chairman, Panel of Judges, ANS Awards



Southside House, Wimbledon

Report by Ann McMellan on our visit on Saturday 24 September

Prior to Saturday, 24th September, I had never heard of Hilda Pennington-Mellor, the beautiful daughter of a cotton millionaire and a well-connected divorcee. Side-lined by society, the Pennington-Mellor parents built a palatial home in Biarritz where they lavishly entertained guests including Edward, Prince of Wales, and Elizabeth, Empress of Austria. Though the youthful Hilda received many offers of marriage she fell in love with the brilliant Swedish therapist, Axel Munthe. Imagining that the parental horror arose from Axel's age (50) and his near blindness, Hilda insisted on marrying him. When Hilda learnt her husband was a serial adulterer, she terminated the marriage and brought their two sons to Southside House in Wimbledon.

Whilst the garden, as conceived by Hilda, is a series of "architectural units" whether wilderness or woodland etcetera, the house is crammed full of treasures brought together by Hilda's younger son, Malcolm. Unlike Peter, his artistic brother, Malcolm had been moving on from his LSE degree in Politics to a political career when WW2 broke out. Following service in Scandinavia with SOE and traumatic experiences and injuries at Anzio, Major Munthe felt the need to gather together in the four family homes art and items of beauty to ensure their preservation in appropriate surroundings in spite of any future destructive world events.

Though still a family home, Southside houses the wonderful art collection donated by Lord Wharton, a childless relative. ANS members were particularly impressed by the detailed Van Dyck portraits, especially those in the dining room, as these are not studio portraits but are signed as wholly his own work since Lord Wharton was Van Dyck's aristocratic patron. In addition to Reynold's and Gainsborough's artwork, attention at Southside House was drawn to furniture, crystal chandeliers, sculptures, Turkish carpets and



painted theatre sets from the time of Handel. Interest was also generated as the tale was recounted of the discovery beneath the dining room fireplace of ammunition, military weapons and sticks of dynamite which Major Munthe, MC and Croix de Guerre, had cached lest the country should again be threatened by invasion.

After lunch at the Crooked Billet some ANS members returned for further viewing and a tour of the garden. Visiting Southside House was a memorable experience and gratitude was warmly conveyed to Marietta Freeman for organising the visit.

Anglo-Netherlands Society

Established 1920, incorporated 2002

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AIMS and OBJECTS

The Anglo-Netherlands Society exists to promote the social, artistic, literary, educational, scientific, and other non party-political interests in common to the United Kingdom and the Netherlands. Apart from publishing this Newsletter, the Society reaches its members by organising social functions (including dinners, lectures and recitals) and by arranging visits to exhibitions, concerts, and places of interest. The Society relies on voluntary workers.

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Any person or organisation desirous of promoting the objects of the Society is eligible to apply for membership, subject to acceptance by the Society's Council. More information is available from the Administrator.

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