# Orts: The George MacDonald Society Newsletter

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The George MacDonald Society

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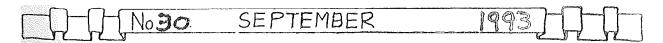
## The George MacDonald Society Newsletter No. 30, September 1993

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM will take place on Monday **November 8th** at 7.15 p.m. The meeting will be held at St. Martins in the Fields, Trafalgar Square. We hope to have an outside speaker to address the Meeting which is, of course, open to all (although only paid-up members can vote).

#### CHARITABLE STATUS

The George MacDonald Society at last has charitable status as the new constitution was unanimously accepted, at the EGM on July 5th. The changes required by the Charity Commissioners were only minor clarifications of details, which in no way affect the aims or operation of the society. Our number is **1024021**.



#### **CHRISTMAS CARDS**

There are still a few Christmas cards available, from last year. The cards came out too late last year for us to be able to notify overseas members. The design was given to us by a MacDonald enthusiast from a mission near Bulawayo. In traditional African style it depicts a Madonna and Child over MacDonald's verse "They were all looking for a king. To slay their foes and lift them high. Thou cam'st a little baby thing. That made a woman cry." The greeting inside is "Christmas Greetings". All profits from sale of the card will go to The Oxford Committee for Famine Relief. The size is 6" x 4½". UK members may order from the Secretary. N. American members (also friends, of course) should order within the next week from J.J. Flynn, PO Box 3855 South Pasadena, CA 91031, U.S.A. Cards will be dispatched direct from England but 8 weeks should be allowed for delivery. The cost is £1.70 for 10 or £5.70 for 40 post free with envelopes in the UK and 2 dollars for 10 or 6.50 for 40 post free without envelopes in N. America.

#### THE ROSSETTI SOCIETY OF BIRCHINGTON

Although Dante Gabriel Rossetti only spent the last two months of his life in Birchington, he is buried in the churchyard of All Saints Church, and it is the initial aim of the Rossetti Society Birchington to keep this famous memorial in good order and repair.

Further aims of the Society are to study and promote interest in the life and works of

Rossetti and the lives and works of his fellow Pre-Raphaelite Brothers.

The Society's aims, whilst being primarily related to Rossetti, will embrace all aspects of the Pre-Raphaelite era: its art, literature, music, science, educational and social evolutions.

All facets of the life and cultural development that surrounded Rossetti and The Pre-Raphaelite will be the concern of the lecture programme of the RSB.

A journal of the Society will be published four times yearly containing the minutes of society meetings, papers on relevant subjects, and wherever possible, abstracts of the lectures. The Journal will also have space for correspondence. Intercommunication among members and societies worldwide is a further objective of the RSB. The Journal will publish notification of conferences and meetings, and inform members of related scholastic publications.

**For further details please contact:** The Secretary, Cynthia Campbell, Rossetti Society of Birchington, St. Austell, Wilkie Road, Birchington, Kent CT7 9HE, England.

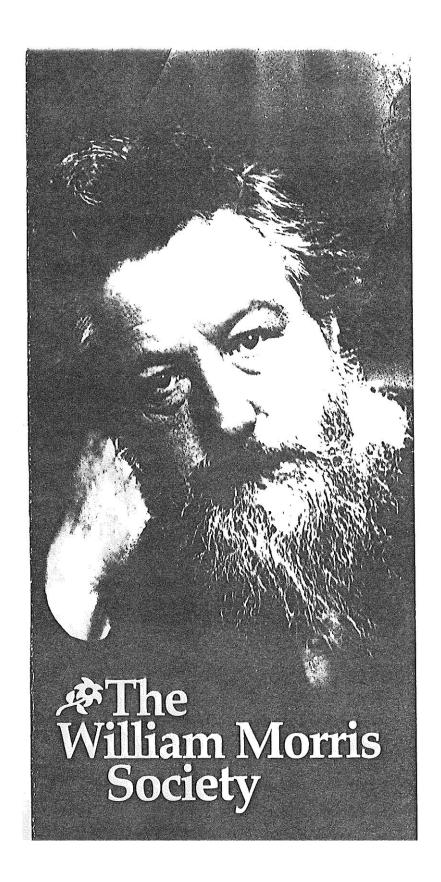


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#### THE WILLIAM MORRIS SOCIETY

The life, work and ideas of William Morris are as important today as they were in his lifetime. The William Morris Society exists to make them as widely known as possible.

The many-sidedness of Morris and the variety of his activities bring together in the Society those who are interested in him as designer, craftsman, poet, socialist, or who admire his robust and generous personality, his creative energy and his courage. Morris wanted all to enjoy the potential richness of life. His thoughts on how we live and how we might live, on creative work leisure and machinery, on ecology and conservation, on the place of the arts in our lives and their relation to politics, as on much else, remains as challenging now as it was a century ago.

The Society provides information on topics of interest to its members and arranges lectures, visit, exhibitions and other events through its Committee. It also encourages the republication of Morris's works and the continued manufacture of his textile and wallpaper designs. It publishes commentaries on particular aspects of his work and on his achievements in general, and a Journal which is free to members.

The Society's headquarters are in the basement and coach house of Kelmscott House, Hammersmith, Morris's London home for the last eighteen years of his life.

The Society's quarterly Newsletter gives details of its programme, new publications and other matters of interest concerning Morris and his circle.

Regular events include a wide range of talks, an annual Kelmscott Lecture, a birthday party held in March, and visits to exhibitions and to such places as the William Morris Gallery, Red House, Kelmscott Manor, Standen and Wightwick Manor.

For **further details write to:** The William Morris Society, Kelmscott House, 26 Upper Mall, Hammersmith, London W6 9TA.

## LILITH WORKSHOP

The Society hopes to conference/workshop in the U.S. (North East) in 1995 on the psychological insights embodied in MacDonald's figure of Lilith, and in his other archetypal images, where participants will be able to explore the enormous value of these images for coping with life today. More information will be given as

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the project develops.

#### **SEVEN**

We are delighted to report that **Seven**, one of the two principal literary journals routinely publishing papers on MacDonald, is resuming publication after a three year break.



#### **NEW ROOM FOR LIBRARY**

A new room at Kings College has been allocated to the Society, directly above the previous one. It will provide adequate space and easier access to the collection.

## **NEW EDITOR FOR ORTS REQUIRED**

Due to an increasing number of activities and interests which I have developed since I moved to Eastbourne I find that I now have little time to devote to the production of **ORTS.** I would be grateful if any other member would be willing to take over responsibility for the newsletter. Anyone interested in helping the society in this way, or wondering what exactly the production of **ORTS** involves should contact myself or the Secretary. (Please note my new address)

#### ANTHONY AND MAGGIE BARKER

It is with deepest sorrow we learn that Anthony and Maggie Barker were killed together on their tandem bicycle on 30 August in the Lake District.



They were founding and most generous members of the society. Anthony compiled the book of Memorial Donors in his beautiful script. The book is to be placed in Drumblade Church.

There will be an obituary tribute to this remarkable couple in the next issue of **North Wind.** 

**Deadline for next issue:** December 24th

#### **CONTACTS**



**ORTS Editor:** Nick Bolton, Basement Flat, 38 Cavendish Place, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN21 3HY

The Secretary: John Docherty, 9 Medway. Drive, Forest Row, East Sussex RH18 5N

## LATE NEWS

Copies of George MacDonald by Bill Raeper (Lion) can be obtained from the secretary at £2 – inclusive of pop. (U.K members only) Special Christmas offer – 5 copies posted anywhere in the

U.K, with accompanying Society Christmas cards, for £8. Names, addresses, and any messages to be sent to the secretary.

Members present at the AGM will be addressed by Dr Cowan – an expert on Arthur Hughes.

