



Spy portrait of Sir Henry Royce

SPY WAS the pseudonym of the noted artist Sir Leslie Ward (1851–1922). He drew more than 1,300 caricatures of personalities of the late 19th and early 20th centuries which were published in the society magazine, *Vanity Fair*. Prints of these are frequently seen in antique shops and galleries, and are highly collectable.

Among the numerous people in the public eye depicted by Ward – statesmen, actors, sportsmen, musicians, etc – were Charles Rolls and Claude Johnson. Prints of these two caricatures may be seen in The Hunt House.

In later life, Ward moved from caricatures to a more conventional style of portrait, and his painting of Sir Henry Royce is an example of this. It was published in *Mayfair* magazine in January 1919 in a special supplement featuring Rolls-Royce.

This painting by Ward is one of five known portraits of Royce. The other four, as listed by Tom Clarke, are:

■ Arthur Rackham dating from c1930. This painting hangs in the Royce Room at The Hunt House and will be familiar to many visitors.

■ Albert Starling dating from 1923. This was originally hung in the offices of Rolls-Royce of America Inc. Tom Clarke was able to purchase this and bring it back to the UK. It is now in Derby, owned by the Rolls-Royce Heritage Trust.

■ John Pisani, a caricature dating from 1927.

■ Francis Roy Berry, a portrait of Royce standing by his garden gate at Elmstead in West Wittering. This is thought to have been painted after Royce's death.

Sir Leslie Ward's painting was purchased at auction last year by the 20-Ghost Club, who have most generously placed it on loan to the Foundation. It will hang in the 20-Ghost Club Room at The Hunt House when the refurbishment of this room is complete.

Philip Hall

New boilers installed in The Hunt House and window replacement a top priority

IN EARLY March (the coldest on record) the central heating boiler in the main building broke down (it was more than 30 years old). Contractors were brought in to quote and the successful company installed two new boilers and flue and carried out ancillary work.

Work in progress

- Renewal of flat roof in the C S Rolls Wing/Lecture Theatre.
- Replacement of all rotten wood to outside of windows, doors and glazing in the conservatory.
- Replacement of all windows in the passageway alongside the club shop with hardwood surrounds and double glazing to Grade II listed regulations.

Work to follow

- Kitchen to be refurbished to full H&S standard with new ceiling, wall tiles, electrics, flooring, cabinets and cooking facilities.
- Decorating of offices at The Hunt House as required.
- Courtyard to be resurfaced using shingle or other suitable material.

Monthly maintenance inspections have been put in place so that any repairs can be undertaken before problems escalate. In addition, a yearly inspection of all roofs will be done, including removal of debris from gutters and the replacement of any tiles found to be broken at the time.

Chris Ball



The windows in the passage outside the club shop will be replaced with hardwood surrounds and double glazing that meets Grade II regulations

FOUNDATION NEWS



Squadron Leader Rod Dean enthralled his audience at The Hunt House with an informative, comprehensive, humorous and often irreverent lecture

Rod Dean enthralled audience with Spitfire development lecture

BRITISH FIGHTER PILOTS are focused, analytical, competent and patriotic. Paradoxically, they are also cunning, deft, full of “derring-do” and, yes, they are flippant too.

At the first session of the SHRMF 2018 lecture season, Squadron Leader Rod Dean RAF (Ret) demonstrated all of those essential attributes as he delivered an informative, comprehensive, humorous and often irreverent lecture to a totally captivated audience of SHRMF members and guests at The Hunt House.

Rod joined the RAF in 1962 and amassed more than 7,000 flying hours in 59 different aircraft. Among others, he has mastered Chipmunk, Meteor, Jet Provost, Hunter, Gnat and Jaguar in operational postings worldwide. He has also spent many hours in a wide range of World War Two piston-engined aircraft, including

numerous marks of both Merlin- and Griffon-powered Spitfires.

In his enthralling and absorbing lecture the squadron leader described how the continuous development and evolution of the Spitfire provided challenges to designers, maintenance teams and flight crew. The torsion-box concept of the wing leading edge was both elegant and problematic but provided the fundamental core of the airframe structure. In the six years of WW2, Royce increased engine power by 100 per cent and to cope with the increased stresses, the airframe weight was increased by 40 per cent.

These changes provided fundamental challenges to all operational systems and Rod was able to describe from first-hand

knowledge how the challenges were overcome – often with very simple upgrades, for example the ‘Beatrice Shilling Orifice’.

Now retired, Rod’s legacy continues through his son Duncan who is currently defending UK airspace in RAF fast jets. Our nation owes them both a great debt.

The Foundation is most grateful to Rod for sharing his passion and his *joie de vivre* in what was a relevant, instructive and most enjoyable session.

ROD DEAN
AMASSED 7,000
FLYING HOURS IN
59 DIFFERENT
AIRCRAFT

FOUNDATION LECTURE LIST

Thursday 4 October

■ The Golden Age of British Airships
Alastair Lawson

Saturday 17 to Sunday 18 November

■ Heritage Weekend and SHRMF AGM

The Sir Henry Royce Memorial Foundation

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