

THE EAST INDIA COMPANY AT HOME, 1757-1857 JUNE 2012 NEWSLETTER

On 6 June, Margot and Kate attended the opening of *Gold: Power and Allure*, an exhibition at The Goldsmith's Company which has been curated by Helen, our project's Senior Research Fellow. This wonderful exhibition explores a large collection of diverse objects, illustrating 4500 years of gold in Britain. Helen's association with the East India Company project inspired her to make global connections one of the major themes of the exhibition. Several of the exhibits have Company and India connections, like the Welshpool gold chalice commissioned in 1662 from Guinea gold by a Company employee and a whole chapel set made of gold from Mysore in 1923. The exhibition is free of charge and runs until 28 July 2012. For more information visit The Goldsmith's Company website www.thegoldsmiths.co.uk.



Kate, Helen and Margot at the opening of *Gold: Power and Allure*

On 13 June, Kate gave a talk at **Valentines Mansion and Gardens** as part of their 'East India Company Study Day'. Kate discussed the different ways in which the East India Company changed British domestic spaces in the eighteenth century and focused on Englefield House, Berkshire as her primary example. Project Associate and local historian Georgina Green and National Maritime Museum Curator John McAleer also gave talks. The day revealed the extent to which the East India Company men and their families inhabited the houses and spaces of Essex and London in the eighteenth century. For more information on Valentines Mansion and Gardens visit their website - <http://www.valentinesmansion.com/>.



Stephen, Ellen, Kate and Margot by the Chinese House in Shugborough Grounds

Valentines Mansion has featured in other ways this month. In late June we circulated the Valentines Mansion case study among Project Associates. Georgina Green (see item above) researched and wrote the case study. It is an informative and engaging read—capitalising on research methodologies that range from archival investigations to scuba-diving. Please send us any comments and suggestions you might have about the case study. We hope to make it publicly available on our website in July.

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On 22 June, Margot, Kate, Ellen and their colleague Stephen McDowall (who researches Early Modern China) visited the Shugborough Estate, Stafford (<http://www.shugborough.org.uk/>). Stephen is currently writing a case study for the project about the **Shugborough Estate** and its relationship to Admiral George Anson. The estate's significance for the project is well illustrated by its extraordinary collection of Chinese armorial porcelain. (Armorial porcelain also figures in Georgina Green's case study of Valentines Mansion). Many thanks to Conservation Officer Liesl Barber for facilitating our visit. On the same day we also visited **Sezincote House and Garden**, near Moreton-in-Marsh (<http://www.sezincote.co.uk/>) and marvelled at the architecture designed by Samuel Cockerell. Sezincote is arguably the archetypal Georgian nabob's house, and provided a model for the Regent's 'Oriental' mansion at Brighton.



Stephen, Kate and Margot outside the
Tent Room at Sezincote House

This month we uploaded a **new bibliography** onto the project website as part of our Resources collection. An annotated guide to readings on Nabobs and Empire at Home and a full bibliography is available online and in Word and PDF formats. Go to <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/history/ghcc/research/eicah/resources/> for details.

From 1 July, The East India Company at Home, 1757-1857 project will be based at **University College London**. During the summer we will continue to use the Warwick website to post new materials. We will update you when there is any change to the URL. Our Warwick email addresses will continue to be active, so please feel free to contact us through those for the time being. If you need to contact us via UCL Kate's new email address from 1 July is kate.smith@ucl.ac.uk.