



Cover illustration:

Walter Charles Horsley (1855-1934): Old-Time Tuition at Dulwich College, on loan to Dulwich College. This painting, undated but probably painted in the 1890s, depicts an incident that took place in 1828. The artist illustrates one of his father's childhood memories, of being taught at Dulwich College by a Mr Lindsay, who solved his difficulties in rising early by summoning his pupils to his bedside for early lessons. RFS members will naturally focus on the Windsor chair. This hoop-backed, cabriole-legged form was made in the Thames Valley from the 1750s. Its typically curved front stretcher is lost in the shadow, but the splat, with Chippendale-derived piercing, is clearly shown. Walter Charles Horsley is best known for his orientalist paintings but this was apparently created as a matter of family piety. His father, John Callcott Horsley (1817-1903), was an early member of the Cranbrook Colony, whose members painted rustic interiors which have often provided illustrations for RFS publications. The young Horsley was brought up in Cranbrook and this painting reflects his roots in a community of painters who depicted individual pieces of vernacular furniture with great faithfulness, even when their depictions of cottage interiors were clearly manipulated to increase their romantic and picturesque appearance. By permission of the Trustees of Dulwich Picture Gallery.