



Hans Christian Andersen: more than just fairy tales

A talk by Jane Pigney

**26th March 2019 10 -12 noon William Elder Building, 56 -58 Castlegate,
Berwick TD15 1JT**

The Danish author, Hans Christian Andersen, 1805-1875 is best remembered in this country for his fairy tales. However, he is a much more versatile and complicated writer and he wrote both fiction and non-fiction and for adults as well as children. This talk will look at his life and times and at his most unique and eccentric personality as reflected in his works and in some of the incidents of his life.

PTO

The Danish author, Hans Christian Andersen, 1805-1875 is thought of in this country as a cosy avuncular type who told charming fairy tales. However, some of his fairy tales can be quite dark and scary to children. His reputation as a serious writer has certainly not been enhanced by the numerous Disney adaptations of his stories and who can forget Danny Kaye in the famous film about his life? The real Hans Christian Andersen was so much more: he was an intrepid traveller and wrote detailed and vivid accounts of his travels both in Denmark and abroad, he wrote novels and stories for adults, and he was an artist and maker of imaginative and intricate paper cut designs as well as being exceedingly modern for his times. In this talk we will look at his life and times as well as at his most unique and eccentric personality. Always the outsider, he felt he was underappreciated in his native Denmark and took much offense at criticism, especially as he regarded his talent as a gift from God. The Royal Danish Library in Copenhagen and the Hans Christian Andersen centre in Odense have made a wealth of material available on line, unfortunately much of it only in Danish, and as recently as a few years ago new material by him has been found. Among other things, we will hear about his falling out with Dickens, his brief encounter with Berwick, and what a certain symbol in his diaries really meant.

The cost of the lecture is £6 including refreshments. All are welcome and no previous knowledge is assumed.

If you supply us with your personal data (name, address or email), we will hold this in accordance with our privacy policy, available [here](#) or by request to BEA, 7 Ravensdowne, Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 1HX. If you have any queries, please email berwickea@gmail.com or phone Cian McHugh on 01289 303254

To book online, [please click here](#) To book by mail, please fill in the booking form below, and mail to BEA, 7 Ravensdowne, Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 1HX along with a cheque in favour of BEA.

Name

Address

Tel No

Email

Cheque enclosed £

(*HC Andersen*)

