



The Arts Society, Devizes

Newsletter

December 2021

Dear friends,

Sadly, with the Omicron variant now washing over us, we have had to make the decision not to hold meetings in the Town Hall until further notice, to safeguard members. Zoom meetings, like those we had before October this year, will be the only way to see the lectures.

If you are wary of this technology, we can give you individual help. Just sent an email to: theartsocietydevizes@gmail.com

On more positive notes:

Although a third unusual Christmas approaches, we have had some comfort from an amazingly beautiful Autumn and three superb lectures back in The Town Hall/Zoom. Our last lecture of the year, by Scott Anderson, introducing us to Dale Chihuly and The American Studio Glass Movement, gave us plenty of history, including Tiffany and Lalique's roles in inspiring Cahuly. Thorough out the lecture we were shown examples with sumptuous colours and a myriad of fascinating forms of glass and settings. It was a real delight! Thanks to Alice for bringing it to us. Christmas Party

Twenty Four members had the most delightful time in the Town Hall. Entertained, as we came in and then dined on our delicious meal, by the piano music of Tim Charity, followed by the joyfully robust singing of some of The Devize's Good Afternoon Choir, who led us in a number of carols and completed the entertainment with a beautiful song, 'Christmas Grace' from their concert. Our thanks to Linda Cassidy for arranging it, Mo for wine and decorations, Kim for the entertainment booked and Jenny Wright for the table wreaths.

So passes the year and all the excellent lectures on Zoom and at the Town Hall; a visit to Roche Court and our Christmas Party. We trust that you have a happy and safe family time over Christmas and early New Year. Looking forward to seeing you on the 19th January.

New lectures continue to arrive from London and Wessex to uplift our artistic desires and are available on our superb website: www.theartsocietydevizes.org

. New Waiting List Members

The decision has been made by the committee, to encourage new members by offering them, on payment of the yearly fee, a Zoom only access to our lectures and equal opportunity to go on visits and attend study days, until we can all fill the Town hall room again when allowed.

Please let your friends know about this.

. Young Arts/ Volunteering

With the Christmas and New Year Holidays upon us, the projects will be held over until early 2022. After that we will be able to update you on the Roche Court Visit funded visit and Sight Devizes. We also hope to have ideas for projects to fund from members.... **Hang on....That's you!** Please send your ideas to our email address: theartsocietydevizes@gmail.com

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. Queens Platinum Jubilee Year Study Day and Lunch 23rd March 2022

Places are still available for the three lectures on this date by **Jonathan Foyle** to help us celebrate this historic occasion at The Conservative Club, Devizes:

Creating Windsor Castle, a Step by Step Guide

Tudor Hampton Court

Henry VII and Elizabeth of York's Marriage Bed.

Cost is £ 35. **See our website for booking details.**

. Possible Visits in 2022:

Bodleian Complex – Chawton House - Holburne Museum – Breamore House.

. Treasurer's Plea

As the bank is now taking 40p per member's cheque we pay in, could everyone possible please pay membership and other payments by Bank Transfer, which is free.

. New Assistant Treasurer

It is a very happy Mike Page who, as was announced at our last lecture, now has **Matt Bastone** to join him in this important role. Thank you for stepping up Matt.

. Starting Back Volunteering

Although the next few months are traditionally the Winter Break for these groups, we still need members to see **Sue Tovey**, so we can enter the Spring with a group ready to start with our Pewsey Vale friends, in the following areas of our valuable community works :

Heritage, Church Recording and Discovery Trails.

Please consider becoming involved with one of these.

Sue Tovey, is our link person, please see or e-mail her on theartssocietydevizes@gmail.com

. January Lecture on Zoom by Matthew Denney:

'The Market For Antiques – Why Now No-one Wants To Buy Your Wardrobe.'

Antique markets come and go, rise and fall...and sometimes disappear altogether.

Today, we are in a world full of downsizing, decluttering and minimalism. Gone are the days of high demand with eager buyers furnishing many home with antiques and dealers filling container load after container load from around the world.

Matthew's talk will examine the changes in this market in recent times and explain why 'no one wants your wardrobe'. Why our ancestors' prized possessions, items that they cherished and valued, are now so unloved by this current generation.

His background, in a lifetime of working with the fine and decorative arts, as well as auctioneer and valuer(currently Senior valuer and Head of Department at Lawrences in Crewkerne), gives him a uniquely qualified position.

Wednesday 19th January 2022 at 10.30am online only.