



# The Arts Society, Devizes

## Newsletter

### January 2022

Dear friends,

Greeting this New Year with positivity is not easy with Omicron around us, yet, our uplifting lectures continue on Zoom ( with help for members who need it through a call or email ). Some 50 members enjoyed Matthew Denney's talk on, 'The Market For Antiques in The UK Today'. This could easily be re-titled, 'Nostalgia Ain't What It Used To Be!' His talk was informative, entertaining and...very disappointing concerning our treasured family hand-me-downs. Light and cheerful wood furniture is in and dark is out! Wish I'd kept that G-Plan teak wall unit now. Some bargains are still to be had/good deals to be made; the trick is finding which haystack these needles are in. A very enjoyable talk.

As you read this, we are part of lengthening days of possible sunshine and, perhaps, the afterglow of Christmas with family or friends still lingering. Our resilience says that difficulties are overcome by determination and are then replaced by new beginnings.

**Keep safe, well and looking up.**

**New lectures continue to arrive from London and Wessex to uplift our artistic desires and are available on our superb website: [www.theartsocietydevizes.org](http://www.theartsocietydevizes.org)**

#### . New Waiting List Members

The decision to encourage new members by offering them a Zoom only access to our lectures and equal opportunity to go on visits/attend study days, until we can all fill the Town Hall again.

**Please let your friends and neighbours know about this.**

#### . Young Arts/ Volunteering

Projects are being held over until early 2022:

The part-funded Roche Court Visit by Devizes Secondary School pupils

Our work with Sight Devizes ( Young people with sight problems ).

As well as directing local schools to the Wessex led Yr 9 Art students exhibit in Digital Exhibitions.

**We also hope to have your ideas for projects to fund from members.**

Please send your ideas to our email address: [theartsocietydevizes@gmail.com](mailto:theartsocietydevizes@gmail.com)

#### . Queens Platinum Jubilee Year Study Day and Lunch 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022

Places 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.**

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**. Possible Visits in 2022:**

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

**. Treasurer's Continued Plea**

**Could everyone possibly please pay membership/other payments by free Bank Transfer.**

**. Starting Back Volunteering**

As the Winter Break for these groups approaches its end, we really need members to see/contact **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 : our thanks to **Roseanne Russell** for being the first to come forward to answer this.

**Heritage, Church Recording and Discovery Trails.**

**Please consider becoming involved with one of these.**

**Sue Tovey**, is our link person, e-mail her at [theartssocietydevizes@gmail.com](mailto:theartssocietydevizes@gmail.com)

**. February Lecture on Zoom – Grant Ford talk on how, ‘Every Picture Tells a Story’.**

An Independent Fine Art Advisor, Private Curator and Representative based in Marlborough, Grant is Senior Paintings Specialist for the BBC's Antiques Roadshow. He is particularly well-known in the field of Victorian, Pre-Raphaelite, Irish, Scottish, Sporting and European Art. Grant also spent 30 years at Sothebys and now represents a number of prestigious family collections.

His lecture will discuss some of the great pictures he has handled during his extensive career in the art world: from incredible masterpieces by Pre-Raphaelites to Lord Leighton and Modern British works. Along the way, Grant will explain why certain works fall out of fashion, only to spring back, setting world records many decades later.

His talk will be focussed on the international art market, but will specifically look at some of our great British artists and their work within the global art market.

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 10.30am online only.**