



The Arts Society, Devizes

Newsletter

April 2022

Dear friends,

As we spring on towards May and head for more warmth, it is so pleasing to have the additional welcome of friends at our meetings. Our Study Day was very well attended and such a treat. Jonathan Foyle spoke with enthusiasm and knowledge through all three fascinating talks and we all had some lovely chat time over the lunch. **Thanks to Alice for setting up and running this.**

Richard Whincop intrigued us with his lecture on **Nicholas Poussin; Rebel Philosopher.**

Our time with him was filled with new understandings and detailed explanations of his life, ideas and paintings, with their meticulous compositional messages in the narrative, through character positioning, colour and sequencing.

Sadly, there were some serious technical problems for those on Zoom, ones that Mike and Conor strove bravely to find and fix to no avail. The lecture's sound was recorded from about 20 slides in and will be combined with the full set of slides and shown at a later date. **Thanks to Mike for finding out what the problem was in the days following and knowing what to do if it occurs again.**

REMEMBER. New lectures continue to arrive from London and Wessex to treat us and are available on our wonderful website: www.theartsocietydevizes.org

. New & Waiting List Members

We are continuing the decision to encourage new members by offering them a **Zoom only access** to our lectures **but** an equal opportunity to go on visits/attend study days.

Please let your friends and neighbours know about this.

. Young Arts/ Volunteering

The project at **Rowde Church of England Primary School** has already completed its first phase with local author and illustrator, **Eileen Browne** working with **Reception, Year One and Two Children**, reading them a selection from her books. Eileen also talked about the process of getting them published, plus Diversity and Gender in the origin of the books.

The Second Project is in June and will involve the **Senior Children**, managed by the arts organisation, '**No Added Sugar**', led by two professional artists who work in partnership with schools and other like environments, inspiring and tapping into artistic talent within children in many different ways. **Each child** will be provided with a wooden circle, which they are to design a decoration for, assembling them as a large exterior installation symbolising the theme, '**We Are Rowde**', an ongoing theme within the school in the aftermath of Lockdown, celebrating being individuals, living and working together as a whole school within the community.

Thanks to Angela for her continued work with young people in the arts.

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. Visits

Quenington Sculpture Park 14th June 2022 Members £30 Guests £33

We will arrive by coach in the early afternoon and start our visit with a guided tour of the sculptures; ranging from traditional to cutting-edge modern. After this there is time to visit the extensive gardens; vast lawns, joined by a bridge over the river Coln; hidden walkways through tree-lined areas, pergolas and around tennis courts, all the time accompanied by beautiful flower beds, vegetable plots and large, impressive greenhouses. Afternoon refreshments, at your own expense, can be enjoyed from a tent in the grounds. There is also a shop, where you can browse or buy gifts from a range of delightful, hand-made crafts. **Book in April for the last of the 25 places.**

Braemore House

In **August** we will be visiting this delightful Elizabethan house in Hampshire, where we will be given a guided tour. In addition to the house there is a museum, grounds to explore and an Anglo Saxon church to visit. **Full details to follow in May**

Continued thanks to Linda for the work she is doing getting these ready for us all.

. Treasurer's Request:

Please pay membership/other payments by free Bank Transfer to our new bank account.

. Volunteering on Heritage, Church Recording, Discovery Trails.

Please see/contact **Sue Tovey** if you would like to join one of our groups in these worthwhile community works:

Heritage work for The Wiltshire Museum on some Iron Age costumes for school parties.

Discovery Trail at St Mary's, Devizes. (Training session on 27th April at 4.30pm).

Sue is our link person, e-mail her at theartssocietydevizes@gmail.com

. May Lecture

Lucia Gahlin's talk is entitled, 'Wonderful Things! Tutankhamun's Tomb and Treasures'.

Her lecture celebrates the discovery 100 years ago of this tomb by Howard Carter in 1922, arguably the greatest archaeological find of the 20th Century. The name of this boy-king conjures up wonderful imagery and mysterious tales of the Pharaohs.

Lucia's lecture will explore this unusual tomb and its iconic treasures; examine the design and decoration of one of the most famous tombs in the valley of The Kings. Discussing Carter's discovery of the tomb, and explores what happened to the amazing wealth of funerary goods found inside; from Tutankhamun's golden shrines to his ornate board games.

Lucia is an Egyptologist who works mainly in museums and on excavations in Egypt, but mostly lectures, having taught Egyptology at several UK universities. She is an Honorary Research Associate of the University College London's Institute of Archaeology. Lucia works at the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology in London and leads tours to Egypt.

Wednesday 18th May 2022 at 10.30am as a Hybrid Lecture (Town Hall and Zoom).

Whether with a mask in the Town Hall or unmasked at home, we hope to see you there. Seats are still restricted in the Town Hall so please watch out for the email asking if you would like to be entered for the ballot for a seat.