



The Arts Society, Devizes Newsletter

April 2023

Dear friends,

Although our weather can't yet make up its mind, numbers of you have come to enjoy the topics and the warmth of friends at our meetings.

We also trust you are ready for the spectacle and pageantry in The Coronation of our new monarch.

Well into our 2022/23 programme now and what a host of thoroughly enjoyable lectures we have been given! Louise Schofield's was yet another brilliant talk, using her own experiences in the field digging up historic treasures. Louise had a style that was infectious, a wide knowledge and enthusiasm; the images of ancient architecture, artefacts and the stories from the diggings both entertaining and amazing! Especially the way she and her team raced rising dam waters to find exquisite mosaics and wall paintings in a Roman city covered by a huge landslide thousands of years ago. All the best for the Coronation and see you in May.

Please see the corrected dates below for our AGM. Apologies for error !

See Our website for more lectures: www.theartsocietydevizes.org

. Heritage Volunteering at The Museum

Linda reports excellent success in the completion of 60% of the Iron Age costumes and accessories and will have, 'Made by Devizes Arts Society' sewn into them.

In May, at a meeting of the museum's Young Archeologists, they plan to see how they fit and look. Our thanks to lead Linda, Jenny, Judy, Anna and Jeannie and the rest of the team!

. Trails of Discovery

Meeting in early May to resume and complete the work there.

. Young Arts/ Volunteering

Angela tells us that the two sessions by Emma Jelf went very well and really helped the young people through the practical medium of art. Images of the work completed that day can be seen on our website. **Thanks to Angela for arranging this on our behalf.**

. VISITS

Chawton House was a superb day and thoroughly enjoyed by all!

Thanks, again, to Linda for organising this and Winchester below.

Next up is Winchester on the 28th June.

Maximum of 25 for a 2hr tour around three places of interest including the cathedral and hall, after this, time to wander and find a spot to eat your brought lunch. Cost is £48 pp

Details will soon be on our website: www.theartsocietydevizes.org

. Treasurer's Request: Membership/other payments by free Bank Transfer please.

. Public Relations Advertising:

**Please keep telling friends and family about us and how enjoyable it is.
Bookmarks, leaflets, posters and coins to share as a reminder are all available at our meetings.
Just for interest, we are part of a membership of 65,477 in 360 individual groups world wide..**

. AGM 19th July 2023 (Note this is the correct date !)

As usual, this will be a short slot before the lecture. Details will be sent out to you in June and here you can voice your ideas and nominate other members for the committee to represent you.

Special Interest Days:

**November 27th - The Silk Road Cities. At the Conservative Club.
Details soon.**

March 2024 - The Layers of Rome, Eternal City.

**OUR NEXT MEETING ON THE 17th MAY THE LECTURE IS:
Dr James Barry 1789 – 1895: ‘The Story of Margaret Buckley.’
By
Felicity Herring**

Dr James Barry was an Irish painter. Following his death, his niece Margaret disguised herself as a man, took on the name of James Barry and went to Edinburgh University to train as a doctor. Qualifying, she joined the army and served as a doctor in South Africa for 12 years. Other postings followed to the West Indies, Malta, Corfu, Canada and the Crimea, where she met Florence Nightingale.

In South Africa, Dr Barry performed the first Caesarian in the British Empire in which both the mother and baby survived. Maintaining the disguise all her life, her true identity was only revealed after her death as her body was being prepared for burial!

Felicity Herring has an MA in Fine Art Valuation and a BA in History and Economics. She is an experienced National Trust and Cruise lecturer, who also extends her services to Rotary, Sixth Forms, U3A, ProBus and Yacht Clubs.

Felicity is a member of the Nelson Society and the 1805 Club. Formerly the Programme Secretary for Blackmore Vale Arts Society for four years and a committee member of Wimborne Arts Society.

At the Town Hall on the 17th May, 10.30am for 11am.

Bring a friend to enjoy it too.