



The Arts Society Leatherhead June 2018 newsletter

Dear Member

Anthea Streeter will make a welcome return next Wednesday with another talk on modern architecture; about Thomas Heatherwick.

We have 2 places available left on our July visit to **St Mary's House, Bramber and Lancing College Sussex.**

We now have 2 spaces available on the **Romania 2018 visit** (16th to 22nd September): contact Gilly Coombes. See below for details.

The highlight of our visits programme in 2018 is the **Musical and Historic Tour of Westminster Abbey including supper at the Abbey** on Saturday 17 November in the evening (see below); booking now.

We have also arranged three extra trips that are not on the programme card:

Wednesday 5 September: **Woman's Place in Parliament Exhibition**; booking now.

Thursday 18 October: **A chance to see Bamber Gascoigne's West Horsley Place**; booking in July.

Thursday 25 October: **Ismaili Centre and the V&A**; booking in July.

We have had a good response to the proposed Sicily holiday in September 2019. Please send your registration of interest to Gilly Coombes as a few spaces are still available.

With a number of retiring Committee members we need a couple more Committee members (eg a Secretary and someone with IT/website expertise, eg to help with the newsletter). Its good fun! Ask me if you want to know more.

All my best wishes

Huw Jenkins, Secretary

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This month's Talk 7.30pm Wednesday 13 June

Thomas Heatherwick: The Leonardo da Vinci of our times by Anthea Streeter.

It is quite a bold claim to compare Thomas Heatherwick with Leonardo da Vinci. But Heatherwick's work received world-wide coverage in 2012 when his studio team designed the iconic Olympic Cauldron at the opening ceremony of the London Olympics. The lecture will detail how this memorable sight of was achieved and will highlight the broad range of his designs.



Visit to Royal Holloway College Egham on Monday 11 June

We hope the visit to Royal Holloway College Egham on Monday is a good day.

Second evening tour to College of Arms on Thursday 14 June

This trip is fully booked.

St Mary's House, Bramber and Lancing College on Monday 16 July



We have an exclusive visit to the enchanting historic 15th century grade 1 listed timber-framed house, with five acres of magnificent gardens, in the picturesque award-winning downland village of Bramber, West Sussex. Following lunch we have a guided tour of Lancing College which is an architectural masterpiece. Only two places are now available. **Voice and Vote exhibition at Westminster Hall on Wednesday 5 September.**



VOICE & VOTE
Women's Place in Parliament Exhibition

VOTE100

1918

1928

1958

2018

2018 marks 100 years since Parliament passed a law which allowed some women, and all men, to vote for the first time. A major exhibition, Voice & Vote: Women's Place in Parliament is being staged in Westminster Hall in the Houses of Parliament, which features a range of interactive features. Booking forms are now available and Gilly Coombes will be taking bookings on Wednesday. The trip will be led by our President June Robinson.

Musical and historic tour of Westminster Abbey Saturday 17 November

The music during our very special **evening tour** of the Abbey is provided by members of the Purcell Club (Henry Purcell was the organist 1679-1695). Former Abbey choristers will sing and narrate their way around the Abbey (including St Edward the Confessor's Shrine, Henry VII Chapel, Poets' Corner and the Unknown Warriors grave). They will sing anthems and other pieces ranging from the 16th to 21st centuries. This is a unique way to be in the Abbey at night. We have 52 places (of 78 in total that evening) and our group will have the Abbey to ourselves. We will all travel by coach from Leatherhead and have booked a two course supper before the tour in the Cellarium Café at the Abbey. We last did this tour in 2011 and only 12 groups do the tour each year. Sarah Sheridan will be available to take bookings on Wednesday.

Reminder of programme change re Crossness Pumping Station October trip

Crossness Pumping Station has cancelled all trips for 2018.

Treasures of Romania holiday in September 2018: Two spare places

Join us on a fascinating tour and enjoy the rich culture with its world class painted monasteries and history, together with stunning scenery and forested areas of Transylvania. This tour offers something new and unique before the tourists take over. Tell Gilly Coombes if you are interested in going on this holiday.

Highlights of Western Sicily 15 -22 September 2019

Western Sicily is still unspoilt by mass tourism. We stay in one hotel for 7 nights and see the historic Arab and Norman influence on Sicily and also Ancient Greek sites. To register your interest, please contact Gilly Coombes.

Holiday to Isle of Wight – May 2018

There were gasps of admiration when we arrived at The New Holmwood Hotel in Cowes with its stunning views over the Solent – the weather helped too with non-stop sunshine. Our guides at Osborne, Brading Roman Villa and Quarr Abbey were first class and the tour of the Classic Boat Museum at West Cowes - not yet open to the public- was both interesting and special. Nunwell Hall where we were shown round their family home by the owners was a treat – with absolutely delicious cakes for tea! It was described by our Chairman as "a wonderful trip."

Review of May talk: Foreigners in London by Leslie Primo

Thank you for voting. We had an excellent talk which many of you said was easy to listen to, informative and amusing.

Data Protection (GDPR)

As noted last month, on 25 May the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) came into operation. Members' details are processed fairly and lawfully in order to ensure that you receive the latest news and information about upcoming events, and can participate on what The Arts Society Leatherhead ("The Society") does. We do not consider that we need your specific consent to send you newsletters which inform you of what we are doing.

50th Anniversary celebration at Westminster Abbey

A number of you went to the Arts Society 50th anniversary celebration. It was an enjoyable and impressive event and a great day for our President, June Robinson, to finish her three excellent years as National Chairman of the Arts Society.

Mole Valley Heritage Open days 13-16 September

One highlight will be the launch talk on Mrs Greville, the extraordinary hostess of Polesden Lacey, on the evening of Friday 14th at the Leatherhead Theatre (tickets are free but prior booking with the Theatre will be needed). A date for your diary!

Leatherhead Museum

The battle for women's voting rights - involving prominent local activists - and the extraordinary story of Ashted Pottery are the two main exhibitions this year (Thursday and Friday 1-4pm and Saturday 10am to 4pm).

Surrey Artists Open Studios (9, 10, 16, and 17 June)

Four very different artists (including two members, Gill Cann and Jill Goodchild), who use multimedia styles, including painting, printmaking, calligraphy and drawing, will have open studios (demonstrations, workshops and art for sale) 11am to 5pm, based in The Studio, 41 Highlands Road, Leatherhead. KT228NQ.

Leatherhead Theatre

Arts highlights include:

An Ideal Husband on Tuesday 5 June at 7.15pm

The Barber of Seville on Saturday 9 June at 7.30pm

ROH **Swan Lake** on Thursday 14 June at 7.15pm

Next month's Talk (Wednesday 11 July)

Lawrence of Arabia: Excavating the Legend by Dr Neil Faulkner



On the basis of sensational new evidence from archaeological fieldwork, Neil will contrast the legend of Lawrence of Arabia with the true story of what happened in the famous desert war of 1916-1918. Picture by Augustus John 1919

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