



## **The Arts Society Leatherhead May 2018 newsletter**

Dear member

We are looking forward to Wednesday's lecture. Interestingly it will be Leslie Primo's fourth talk on the same subject in May to arts societies!

### **Highlights**

We have an 11<sup>th</sup> June trip to Royal Holloway College. The Arts Society Bookham went there recently and the feedback we heard was very positive.

On 16<sup>th</sup> July there are still some places for our trip to the South coast to see a grade one listed house with lovely gardens, and visit Lancing College.

We have a draft itinerary for our 2019(!) September tour, "Highlights of Western Sicily" as group bookings to the best places go quickly. If enough of you register interest we will book it.

There are a handful of tickets available for The Arts Society's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration at Westminster Abbey, before the AGM. You need to apply on-line.

For details please see below. Copies of the booking forms are available at the next meeting or from me.

All my best wishes  
Huw Jenkins, Secretary

### **This month's Talk 7.30pm Wednesday 11 April Foreigners in London 1520-1677 by Leslie Primo**

The English aristocracy of the period preferred foreign painters to English painters. This lecture will explore the reasons behind this and examine the impact of these numerous foreign artists (including Holbein, Van Dyck and Rubens) on English art and assess their legacy.



### **Visit to Royal Holloway College Egham on Monday 11 June**

This little-known gem is part of London University. Its flamboyant architecture makes it one of the most impressive university buildings in the world. A sandwich lunch and fruit platter will be provided in the famous Picture Gallery preceded by a tour and followed by a talk and chance to see the Victorian art collection. Sarah Sheridan will be taking bookings at the May lecture.



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

In May Gilly Coombes will take bookings for 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. We apologise that last month the link to the booking form did not work.



### **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.



### **College of Arms visit report: a step back in time**

We had a knowledgeable, informative and light-hearted talk and tour by one of the Heralds, the 'Rouge Croix Persuivant,' John Petrie. If you have a university degree you may apply for a unique coat of arms which comes complete with a framed description. The basic price is about £6,000 which is much less than certain personalised car number plates. Most of the Heralds income is derived from designing new coats of arms and we were shown several of these. They rarely use computers. When required to be in ceremonial dress the Herald may buy black tights from the ladies wear department at John Lewis rather than Ede & Ravenscroft.

We spent over an hour before supper in The Records room, which was awe inspiring with fabulous registers and notebooks. We were shown original heraldic records of Queen Elizabeth I's funeral, Lord Nelson's signature and a magnificent gold-leafed book

commissioned by George III which he refused to pay for, thus allowing the College to retain it. (Written by Chris Heath)

### **Second evening tour to College of Arms on Thursday 14 June**

Fully booked but tell Gilly Coombes if you are interested as it would be good to have a couple of reserves.

### **Isle of Wight Holiday Monday 14 to 18 May 2018**

We hope the group going on holiday in May to the Isle of Wight have a great time.

### **Data Protection (GDPR)**

On 25 May 2018 the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will come 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. At this time we do not consider that we need your specific consent to send you newsletters but we will write to you further when we renew memberships in November. If you have any questions please ask Huw Jenkins.

### **Church recording**

We still need a few more people to help on the church recording project. They meet monthly at St Mary's Church Fetcham, KT22 9AZ and would welcome new faces. If you are curious on what they are doing, their next regular session is at the church on Wednesday 23 May (2 to 4 pm).

### **Review of April talk: Benin Bronzes by Claire Walsh**

Sixty one of you gave feedback. Claire Walsh gave us an excellent lecture. Thank you for voting! Many of you commented on the interesting bronzes that a couple of visitors, including a member of the royal family, brought with them, and members could examine.



### **Filming in Fetcham**

Film fans may like to know that filming of 'The Good Liar' starring Ian McKellen and Helen Mirren has commenced in Badingham Drive.

### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration at Westminster Abbey on 16 May**

We wish our President June Robinson well in her final AGM as National Chairman of The Arts Society on 16 May. There are a few tickets available on line for the commemorative service at Westminster Abbey before the AGM. You can also book one of the special events organised around the Society's AGM.

### **The Arts Society Golden Anniversary lunch at Epsom Grandstand**

About 30 of our members were among a sell-out audience of 400 for a Golden Jubilee lunch at Epsom Grandstand. We enjoyed glorious sunshine on one of those few hot days we had recently. There were speeches from our President and the National Chairman of The Arts Society June Robinson and by Dr Lloyd Grossman, President of The Arts Society. The Patricia Fay memorial fund (which helps young arts and other things) will benefit by over £8,000.

### **Surrey Artists Open Studios (2, 3, 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.

### **Investec International Surrey Hills May Music Festival**

This classical music festival takes place over two weeks; Friday 4 May, Friday 11 May and Saturday 12 May. The IIMF website has full details [www.iimf.co.uk](http://www.iimf.co.uk)

### **Leatherhead Theatre**

I have heard good feedback on the Leatherhead Rep season which ends on Saturday. **Communicating Doors** by Alan Ayckbourn at 7.30pm on Friday 4 May and 2.30pm and 7.30pm on Saturday 5 May

The **Leatherhead Drama Festival** is on from 7-19 May

Other Art theatre includes:

**An Ideal Husband** on Tuesday 5 June at 7.15pm

**The Barber of Seville** on Saturday 9 June at 7.30pm

### **Next month's Talk (Wednesday 13 June)**

**Thomas Heatherwick: the Leonardo de Vinchi of our Times by Anthea Streeter**

Heatherwick's work received world-wide coverage in 2012 when he designed the Olympic Cauldron at the London Olympics. Heatherwick's innovative approach is now in demand all over the world, and the lecture will highlight the broad range of his designs. We

welcome back Anthea Streeter, who was one of the two lecturers at The Arts Society AGM.



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