

NEWSLETTER

September 2019

THE ARTS SOCIETY CRANLEIGH



Your Chairman writes ...

Dear Members.

During the August break Mike and I explored Derbyshire. On the drive there we visited Calke Abbey, which is in the itinerary of the 2020 TASC holiday to Northumberland.

Such a fascinating 'un-stately home' very different to others cared for by the N Trust. Time has quite literally stood still, you will see the building, objects and interiors that are now structurally sound but look as they did when first found. The conservation methods used to arrest the decaying process but maintain the appearance, have subsequently been used at Uppark House, West Sussex.

Through generations the Harpur family were avid collectors of the natural world, case upon case of shells and fossils all meticulously arranged. There are numerous stuffed birds and woodland creatures. I seem to remember being told that one of the Victorian hobbies was taxidermy!

The most extraordinary discovery is the State Bed, found in 1983 wrapped in tissue paper in wooden boxes. It had never been erected before so it survived in almost pristine condition, it is magnificent. Before you leave, I hope you have time to walk along the underground tunnel where beer barrels from the Brewhouse were moved over 300 yards into the cellars. A Dickensian film location just waiting for its moment of fame!

By the time you read this Barbara Naylor, our Area Church Recording Representative will have given a talk to the members of St Nicolas Mother's Union. Church Recording is an area many find confusing and wonder what is it about. Jim Paul, one of our members and a fellow Church Recorder has created a power point presentation which Barbara will use to explain exactly what is entailed. I hope to receive permission from the PCC to show this presentation to our members at some time in the future. This will be via the loop before a monthly lecture. When we started, we were advised the average length of time to complete is three years. I can I remember one of our group Annie Brookes saying "Well, this will only take a couple of weeks won't it" She came when she felt well enough but sadly, dear Annie died in August, so will not see the finished record.

God Bless Annie and thank you from your fellow recorders.

Pat Butler

Young Arts

Aren't we fortunate to live in or near Cranleigh? It has so much to offer; not least its wonderful sense of community. It's not just adults, who value its benefits. From our visits to local schools, we've seen that children gain from it as well.

With that in mind, we devised a competition for all the Year 5s in our three primary schools; one that would give them the chance to demonstrate what they really think of the Village. It was a challenge that required not only imagination, language skills and artistic ability, but also incorporated a very modern medium - information technology.

So their task was to create a website in praise of Cranleigh. Quite specific guidelines were laid down, but it was wonderful to see how the children interpreted those in a variety of ways. Each school selected its ten best entries and from those we chose three winners, one from each school. You'll soon be able to view all three "websites", by following the Young Arts link on our own TASC website.

Many of you will have enjoyed seeing the Park Mead winner receive her gift token prize after our June



lecture. Unfortunately those from the other two schools were unable to attend that afternoon, as they were on class outings. Instead the Young Arts Team members Heather Head and Pat Morgan presented Cranleigh Primary's winner with her token in front of her very enthusiastic and chatty classmates. Later, St Cuthbert Mayne's winner accepted her prize from our Chairman Pat Butler, to the rapturous applause of the whole school at its end of term assembly.

TASC's Young Arts Team seeks to offer inspiring, innovative activities for local schoolchildren and we've just received high praise from the new National Head of Young Arts, who wrote that our "long-standing, inclusive projects are gold standard and the envy of many other societies". So thank you, TASC members, for supporting our activities.

Pat Morgan and Felicity Kemp

Forthcoming lectures

Wednesday 23rd October 2019

**Decorative Art- the History of Wallpaper. 16th-20th C.
by Joanna Banham**

We are all very conscious of colour and design when we choose wallpapers for our home but it is the most ephemeral and least precious of decorations produced for the home. However we know when we have to live with wallpaper which is not appropriate. This talk will explore the history of wallpaper and its development from earliest times to the present day.

Saturday 16th November 2019

A three part day focusing on ceramics with an opportunity in the afternoon to bring some of your own valued ceramics – by Lars Tharp who many of us will know as a well- established member of the Antiques Road Show.

Wednesday 27th November 2019

The Magic of Pantomime - by Ian Gledhill

This talk will trace the origins of pantomime to its present day form. Ian has stories from pantomime and the 19thC music hall, we are guaranteed pre-Christmas fun and history of one of our family traditions.

Wednesday 22nd January 2020

**Franz Schubert – the Piano and the Power of Friends
by Dr Graham Griffiths**

Schubert was writing his music at a time when the arts were flourishing and creative. He was surrounded by friends who were artists, poets and musicians. Graham will perform some of Schubert's beautiful music and talk about the environment in which he was working.

Wednesday 26th February 2020

The Great Exhibition by Dr Prasannajit de Silva

It is amazing that after over 150 years we still quote the importance of the Great Exhibition. There are no buildings to remind us but its influence remains part of British history. Dr de Silva will look at the history and consider why it was such a success and if its aims succeeded.

Liz Trickett – Programme Secretary

Outings

This year many of us have enjoyed the range of interest levels from The Newlyn School of paintings at Champs Hill Coldwaltham, to the historical architecture of the City of London. We also went to reveal the history of the hidden gem of the City of Rochester including lots of Dickens related stories and Restoration House!! We ended the season at the Historic Chatham dockyard – not really just about boats – but a history of our sea faring nation!

We now look forward to celebrate, not only Christmas, but our 25th Anniversary of our Society! So do join us at a two course **Christmas lunch at Waverley Abbey House on Wednesday 11 December.** Bookings begin in September when you must also **select your menu as you pay.** If you want to sit with others let us know when buying your ticket.

2020

On **Wednesday 4 March** we are fully booked for our visit to the last **exhibition of King Tutankhamun** ever to be staged anywhere other than in Cairo. Please put your name on the waiting list if you are interested.

On **Wednesday 29 April** we are booked again for a Private viewing at **Champs Hill** Coldwaltham where the theme is “Sussex Connections”.

On **Friday 29 May** we have a guided walking tour of the newly restored **Leonardslee Gardens** with the Head Gardener. It is a local “Must see” again and the Head Gardener's knowledge and stories are awesome!

Holidays We have two excellent ones for 2020. Our first is **“Northumberland Highlights” 6-11 June** travelling by coach from Cranleigh for 6 days. Half Board is £689 for a shared room and the single supplement is £74. The other is **“The Italian Lakes and Milan” 5-11 October** staying in one hotel at Stressa (on Lake Maggiore) and including daily visits. Half Board is £999 for a shared room; single supplement is £89. Please note that single rooms are limited in number for both holidays. **Members have precedence to book for these holidays until 31 October. After that anyone can book. If you are a member and your partner is not – this is NOT a problem!**

THE FULL DETAILS OF BOTH OF THESE HOLIDAYS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE UNDER “Visits” – including the booking forms and instructions as to how to book! Or printed details are at our meetings.

Gwen Wright – Outings Secretary