

Your Newsletter for July 2021

Dear Members,



Timothy Walker entertained us on 20 July with a very appropriate talk for the time of year: colours in the garden and, linked to this, colours in painting from cave art to works from painters like Pollock and Rothko. He showed us how colours change depending on the light, how nature uses colour from birds to flowers to attract or hide and how difficult it can be to describe colours (think of one of Farrow & Ball's descriptions: *Dead Salmon*!) An entertaining, humorous and thought-provoking lecture. I hope you didn't miss it.

AGM - 19 October 2021

Our AGM will be held at Woodlands this year. You will receive the paperwork in September, including minutes, Chair and Treasurer's report. Please note that if anyone has an Agenda item for the AGM, it must be received by the end of August 21. You can send us your Agenda item via email (arun@theartsociety.org).

Membership Renewal - £40

The Renewal forms and letters will accompany the AGM papers. We hope that, despite a year of lockdowns, Zoom meetings and cancelled trips, you have found much to be enjoyed in your Arts Society's membership. Many members joined us on Zoom and loved the detail of the pictures shown, while at the same time staying safe and in touch. We have been able to go on walks while putting our feet up, look at far flung galleries and access a variety of arts and talks on the Art Society's website, all arranged by the hard-working staff from Guilford House. Some of you, I am sure, will even miss just logging on rather than drive or walk to Woodlands. Stay with us for another year of entertainment and friendly meetings. It will not be the same without you. We have set the fee for 2022, after much consideration, at £40. That is only £1 up from the period 2019-21. We gave you an extra 3 months free last year, despite Lecturer's fees not changing much, and ended our financial year with a loss. Your committee is constantly looking for ways to save money and still give you value for the fee you pay.

The Arts Society will no longer issue membership cards. In our Arts Society your programme will in future double up as your membership card.

CANCELLED

Visit to **Leeds Castle** on 2 September 21 due to lack of interest. I feel that it may still be too early for coach travel and it was not possible to arrange interesting tours and talks at Leeds Castle as staff did not want to commit themselves.

Tour of Lewes - 21st July





We could not have wished for a sunnier day. Frances Farrer-Brown met us at the White Hart Hotel and wisely started on Lewes's history in the cool lobby of the hotel. During our walk she took care to keep us in the shade while explaining the stories behind the old, or fake old, buildings, and pointing out interesting features. I had not realised what a fascinating place it was and will go back to visit the castle. We will do a different walk with Frances next year. Look out for the new programme.

Firle Place, 5 October 21, self-drive visit - £13

The booking form is on the website including information about the visit. We had been allocated 20 places which are nearly filled. However, Firle Place has allowed us an extra 10 places. We will start our morning visit with a coffee and biscuit and a chance to chat. Our group will be subdivided for the tour. It will be possible to order a simple lunch in advance (inc. seating, details to follow nearer the time) or, if the restaurant area is not fully occupied, you can order there and then.

The Arts Society website

Via **Connected** you can access a range of interesting articles such as 'Become an instant expert on ...' – i.e. Great British Piers. Worthing Pier is one of them. One of the latest additions is **80 Days.** You can subscribe for free for the time being and follow in the footsteps of Phileas Fogg in The Arts Society's virtual journey around the world in 80 days, visiting the same places as Phileas.

Woodlands Hall, 21 September 21

We are, almost, going back to the good old days. Queuing up, names ticked off, being greeted by a committee member, finding a suitable seat, looking for familiar faces and getting a coffee (still only 50p). We will be relying on volunteers to check names and support us in the kitchen. We will not be able, unfortunately, to sell tickets for Firle Place as we have no spare committee members.

But we do have an interesting lecture for you:

The Silver Thread: Silver Filigree and Traditional Arts in Kosovo by Elizabeth Gowing. The use of silver thread in the designs of boxes, buttons, jewellery, religious ornamentation and the talismans of superstition provide a narrative of Kosovo's history and traditions.

We can't wait to welcome you back. I can't wait to leave my laptop behind and not worry about the WiFi or unexpected updates on the laptop! We'll raise a coffee to the good health of our Society and plan the next party. Until then, have a lovely summer. See you in September.

Miek Bell Chair