

Dear Members,

Happy New Year to all of you.

Will this be the year in which life can return to normal apart from the odd facemask here and there? I have optimistically booked my flights to Australia to visit my family. I am sure many of you are dreaming of relaxed holidays.

Meeting on Tuesday 18 January 2022 – 10.30 hrs

Zoom – Unfortunately, this meeting will once again be via zoom. Get your laptop, I-pad or computer up and running, find your almost forgotten zoom app and log on from 10 am for a start at 1030 am. Your lecture will be totally covid free and the pictures shown will be clear and enlightening. As usual, you will be muted during the lecture but can ask questions at the end. The details for the zoom connection will be sent to you a few days prior to the meeting.

Depending on the circumstances regarding Covid -19, the committee will decide on a monthly basis how to proceed with that month's lecture. We also need to take into consideration the lecturer's preferred approach.



January's Lecture: *Dead Sharks and Oligarchs* by Tom Flynn

The international art market now sees breathtaking prices paid for works of art. How do these crazy prices come about and who is buying? Are there 'behind the scenes' deals and is money laundering involved? Are these prices encouraging fakes and forgeries?

Tom Flynn, who is an Art Historian and a specialist in the professional practices of the international art market, has some answers for you.

A new Committee Member

I am pleased to welcome Denise Arthur as a new member to the Committee. I will introduce Denise to you at our zoom meeting.

Membership Renewals

Several of our members have not renewed their membership. I fully understand that, during this pandemic, The Arts Society is not high on your list. Many people are reluctant to attend a live lecture at the moment, whereas others do not like use zoom. For the time being we are using a mixture of the two, but we are hopeful of a return to normal meetings at Woodlands in the foreseeable future. We are also making a determined effort to continue our self-drive visits. The Arts Society's main website is offering short lectures and the Artvent offerings during December were a real pleasure. Do consider finding your mislaid renewal form and stay with us. We've got used to having you at our meetings and trips and will miss seeing you. Lost your form? Send us an email and we will get a replacement to you: (arun@theartsociety.org) Julie Dawe, who sends out our mailchimps, will update her members' list this month to reflect the membership. We would hate you to lose out on any information we send out.

Events to come

2022 – Self-Drive visits

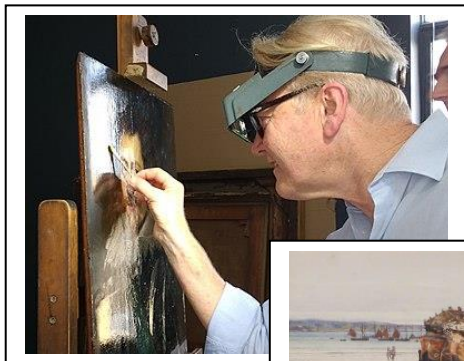
An Exclusive Art Lecture: Simon Gillespie, Distinguished Art Restorer - £15.50

‘Revitalising Breadwinners’

3.00 pm lecture followed by tea and coffee at Champs Hill, Waltham Park Rd, Pulborough RH20 1LY

On 27th January 22 we have our first visit to Champs Hill. We started selling tickets for this event at our meeting in November. There are still tickets available for this event. The booking form is available on the website. You can send a cheque to me (Miek Bell, details on the form) or pay by transfer and let me know you have done so.

Simon will introduce The Bowerman Charitable Trust’s major new acquisition – *Breadwinners* by Walter Langley, last exhibited in 1996. (Watercolour on paper) Simon Gillespie is a fine art conservator whose studio has a global reputation for its work treating some of the finest works of art in private and public collections. You may recognise Simon from the well-loved BBC4 programme ‘Britain’s Lost Masterpieces’. Simon worked with David Bowerman from his very early days of collecting and is delighted to be able to talk about the bringing back to life of this magnificent new acquisition.



A tour of Christ’s Hospital, one of the oldest boarding schools in England. (A school like no other.)

Thursday 24 March 2022 at 12.45 – 4.30 pm Cost £25

This is also a self-drive visit. (Christ’s Hospital, Horsham, RH13 0LJ)

You can find a link on the website to their brochure. The school offers a full programme: The School Band will perform, followed by a guided tour of the school and afternoon tea in the magnificent Dining Hall. Then another tour and talk at the on-site museum where you will learn more about the history of the school. Warning: wear comfortable shoes as this visit involves much walking.

The booking form for this visit will be on the website by 18 January 22. Places are limited so make sure you book in time.



I hope to see many of you on Tuesday 18 January. Keep safe and warm.

Miek Bell
Chair