

Dear Member

From your President:

This year we were privileged to hold our **53rd Summer Exhibition** at the treasured 200 year old **Barn** at **Battlers Green Farm** for four days, very kindly welcomed by **Paul & Gillian Howarth**

It was a great success and a delightful venue. Our Committee and their helpers planned and worked extremely hard setting it up. Our many thanks to them and the Artists and Crafts-People who contributed to it. Encouraging news, more people visited than last year and more works were sold.



During the year, many of us have enjoyed the excellent, high quality lectures at the **Radlett Centre** and well planned visits by coach to interesting historical Houses and Galleries and a group also enjoyed our holiday visit to the West Country.

Our well-attended **Painters' Workshop** continues, also the occasional whole-day studies with visiting artist teachers. Our Society provides wide interest and learning for all who desire it!

We owe many thanks to Margaret Follett who still continues to compose and print our newsletters for us which is a big task. We appreciate all the work she does for us, also including the many informative lecture flyers.

To all our members with many differing interests - but **ART** an important one - we wish you a very happy Christmas and a prosperous trouble free New Year, both for our Art Society and for you all at home. See you next year! **Carmen Beal**

CHRISTMAS LUNCH WEDNESDAY 11TH DECEMBER £30pp

Includes Wine - Main Course - Dessert - Coffee Tea and Mints

At PORTERS PARK GOLF CLUB 12.00 for 12.30

Apply: Gayna Lawton T 01923 855813 email: gayna.lawton@gmail.com

MENU Main Course: (please choose one)

Panfried **Chicken** on a Dauphinoise Potato Cake, a Red Onion Tatin with a Thyme Jus Poached Fillet of **Seabass** on Lemon Crushed New Potatoes, Cherry Tomato Compote and Crispy Capers.

SEASONAL VEGETABLES served with both dishes

Dessert:

(please choose one)

Vanilla Panacotta with Fresh Rasberries and Shortbread
Dark Chocolate Mousse with Almond Biscotti
Fresh Fruit Salad

Coffee, Tea and Mints

FUTURE LECTURES at the RADLETT CENTRE in 2020

Thursday 6th February 7.30 for 8pm - Members Free - Non-Members £10 EVERYTHING IS ART: EVERYTHING IS POLITICS: THE ART of AI WEIWEI

Lecturer: Frank Woodgate BA MBCS ACIB

Al Weiwei is one of the leading cultural figures of his generation. Throughout his career, he has never shied away from difficult truths and always resolutely fought for freedom of expression.

This lecture will examine the provocative and often often beautiful work of **Ai Weiwei** in the context of dissident art in China, Europe and South America.



Tuesday 10th March 12 noon for 1pm

Free to all

'THE STUNNERS' PRE-RAPHAELITES, their WOMEN and their ART

Lecturer: Anita Greene, BA, MA Tate Guide
The Pre-Raphaelites occupied a unique position
in 19th century art, representing a major turning
point in Victorian culture. They were a precocious
brotherhood of artists, but with a success largely
due to the powerful beauty of their female models
and muses or 'Pre-Raphaelite Stunners' as they
were known at the time. The significance of their
inspiration is the theme of today's fascinating lecture.



IMPORTANT - ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION - 2020

Due to rising annual costs of lectures and hall hire, with great reluctance our annual subscription has been increased to £35. With eight first class lectures during the year offered at less than £4 each time, our annual fee represents an unparalled service that we hope all our members will continue to support.

PAST LECTURES

Thursday 12th September - Val Woodgate lectured on SICKERT AND THE CAMDEN TOWN GROUP

Walter Sickert (1860-1942) was a leader of the Camden Town Group, which included Spencer Gore, Harold Gilman, Spencer Frederick Gore, Lucien Pissarro, Wyndham Lewis, Walter Bayes, J. B. Manson, Robert Bevan, Augustus John, Henry Lamb, Charles Ginner, and John Doman Turner. It lasted for only two years (1911-1913) and was later absorbed into the London Group and then the New English Art Club. Val explained their project was to show their contemporary, local world. They were the avant-garde of British artists, who rejected Victorian taste, for instance, painting realistic naked women, not perfect nudes. Some of Sickert's work, particularly, the group entitled The Camden Town Murders, were pictures of prostitutes, lying naked in squalid conditions, painted in sombre tones. In contrast, works by other members, showing of music halls, theatres, modern transport (Mornington Crescent tube station) and street scenes were lively and bright.

This was a really interesting lecture, highlighting a group of artists whose work went out of fashion for many years, but is becoming more highly regarded now. The large audience was very enthusiastic with its applause!

Muriel Beaver

Thursday 4th October - Sarah Stopford lectured on THE ART OF JOHN EVERETT MILLAIS

Sarah gave us a memorable talk about the life and works of Millais (1829-96). His career is an illustration of the progress of art during the Victorian era, from the moralistic, academic and stilted to a more naturalistic and human style. He was a child prodigy and the youngest student to enter the Royal Academy Schools at the age of 11. With Rossetti and Hunt, he founded the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, whose intricate works did not immediately meet with approval. Sarah explained that he would meticulously paint his complex outdoor scenes and add the portrait of Ophelia or John Ruskin afterwards. After his marriage to Ruskin's ex-wife, Effie, he became a successful society portrait painter, as their large family required a good income. By now, his works were freer, less elaborate and more varied. He was very much admired and was awarded a baronetcy by Queen Victoria and became President of the Royal Academy.

Muriel Beaver

FUTURE VISITS

King Tutankhamun Treasures of the Golden Pharaoh

Our initial batch of tickets has been sold out but we will try to get some more and will also be running a waiting list.

contact Gary Harding Tel: 07049 141214 if you are interested in this trip.

PAST VISITS

Sunday 22nd September - Penshurst Place

After a couple of late cancellations on 22nd September 18 of us went to **Penshurst Place in Kent.** We started with a guided tour of this manor house that was built in 1341 and had royal connections going back to Henry IV's son. There were many interesting paintings, including one of **Elizabeth I** and one showing **Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother** visiting the grand Baron's Hall, described by some as one of the grandest rooms in the world. Despite the occasional shower we were also able to visit its wonderful garden of rooms, each with different arrangements and the small toy museum with a collection dating back to the 19th and early 20th century.

Sunday 24th October - Dulwich Picture Gallery

One of our most popular trips this year as 43 people went for a guided tour of the gallery and more especially its **current exhibition Rembrandt's Light.** This collection of 35 of his works were shown in an innovative way to illustrate the way he used light to convey emotion, drama and mood. There were several of his paintings that have not been seen in the UK. A good day was had by all despite some delays on the coach journey due to traffic and other problems.

WORKSHOP/STUDY DAY SUNDAY 8TH MARCH RADLETT VILLAGE INSTITUTE 10am to 4pm DEMONSTRATOR & TUTOR: JAN MUNRO Cost: £50

THURSDAY WORKSHOP

During October, our Workshop Painters exhibited 60 interesting paintings at the Radlett Centre, showing a wide variety of ideas and starting points, and growing skill. I especially thank the team who patiently gave time and energy to hanging our work, Carol Bielfeld, Christine Hathaway, Frances and Tim Besant, Adam Lewis and Trevor Humphreys. Our grateful thanks to them, without their help we could not have mounted the Exhibition.

We have planned an artist's demonstration - acrylics, on Nov.28th,- Still Life, (a real basis for studying how to paint and design what you SEE.) Our last w/shop will be on Dec 12th. We recommence towards the end of February 2020, date soon to be announced. I wish you all a very happy, creative Christmas season and holiday.

CARMEN.