

Dear Member,

A warm welcome to our new members and to you all. Following a surprisingly mild Spring, we are looking forward to an equally enjoyable summer.

We are busy planning our 49th Annual Art Exhibition, 4th – 11th July, generously sponsored by our Patron, John Apthorp CBE. His substantial donation this year offers five prizes for the best paintings, assessed by our prestigious, independent judge, Norman Ackroyd ARA CBE.



Generous awards will also be made to younger exhibiting artists, members from two local University colleges, to encourage their further studies.

We very much hope to see many of you at the Exhibition, also to join us at our opening lunch on Saturday 4th July, doors open 12 noon, lunch 12.30pm.

Application forms for lunch and future visits, are enclosed in this newsletter. If any member has not received them, please ring Carmen, 01923 854567. We highly value members who can give time to sit—in during the Exhibition. Your support is vital to keep it open. (Please see the form to Diana Rimmer).

This year also, for the whole of July, there will be paintings for sale from our workshop group, displayed independently in the Radlett Centre Foyer (leading into the Big Exhibition in the Hall). I hope you enjoy the Summer, and we look forward to meeting you.

Carmen

Our 49th AGM was held on the 18th March at the Radlett Centre.

24 loyal members attended and your Committee was re-elected as follows:

Chairman- Carmen Beal, **Secretary-** Pamela Knight, **Treasurer-** Margaret Follett **Membership Secretary -** Myrna Sayers, **Lectures Organiser-** Juliette Anthony

Deputy-Membership Secretary – Norma Luetchford, Visits Organiser- Ron Culnane,

Advert ising Distribution - Edna Davies and Diana Rimmer.

Webmaster Gary Harding spoke about our website which he has set up and maintains. Some suggestions regarding lectures and visits were requested. The meeting closed at 8.45pm after a cheery glass of wine, and Paul Marley's thanks on behalf of the meeting to the Chairman and Committee for their hard work. We appreciate all who came giving their support.

We have to report with sadness the death of Pamela Schooling until recently an active member of our committee. She will be greatly missed.

FUTURE LECTURES, all at the Radlett Centre

Thursday 28th May
CHARDIN and the LURE of the ORDINARY

Lecturer: Barry Venning BA, MA

Jean - Baptiste - Siméon Chardin was less widely known than he deserves. He was the finest 18th Century French painter of still life and genre, often compared to Vermeer of Delft. His paintings have a straightforward honesty of vision and truth of representation. The lecturer examines the full range of his Art, his patrons, his social and cultural content and his legacy to other painters, Manet Cézanne, Soutine and others.



Thursday 18th June 7.30pm for 8.00pm "THE TURNER PRIZE EXPLAINED"

Lecturer: Frank Woodgate BA

Established in 1984, and causing controversy almost every year since, the Turner Prize is regarded as a great showcase for British avant-garde art and by others as conceptual rubbish! This lecture looks at great winners from the past, and what some of the artists have gone on to achieve. We hope you join us and see what you think!

Admission: Members Free, Non-Members £7.00 Coffee is

available

PAST LECTURES

Tuesday 3rd February CAMILLE PISSARRO and his WORLD

Mary Acton gave an impressive, academic description of Pissarro's life and work through the reaction to the Academie, the rise of Impressionism, Neo-Impression and Post Impressionism. Using quotations from family letters, she highlighted his warm personality. He had learned from working under Corot and Daubigny, and then befriended, influenced and learned from all the major Impressionists and Post-Impressionists. During the Franco-Prussian war, he was forced to flee his house in Radlett's twin town, Louveciennes and settle in London. Here he produced several paintings and was able to see and appreciate the works of Constable and Turner. Mary treated us to a succession of beautiful slides, which clearly showed Pissarro's adoption of various techniques and the subtle development in his depiction of light and colour.

PAST LECTURES

Thursday 12th March MIRROR of REALITY

Clare Ford-Wille led us through the Golden Age of Flemish Painting from 1390 Robert Campin's work to Pieter Breughel 1525-1569. During this powerful and wealthy time in Flanders, there were important developments in Art.

Rich merchants began to put their money into paintings. In her slides of altar pieces and portraits – which were developing later – she pointed out interesting details, domestic scenes, customs and dress, including artists' clever allusions. In enlargements we saw how truly skilled the artists of the 15th - 16th centuries were at drawing and painting. It was a fascinating lecture with such colourful slides showing the history of the time. **Carmen Beal**

REMINDER – VISIT

SUNDAY 10TH MAY – KENWOOD HOUSE, HAMPSTEAD

The house was remodelled and extended by Robert Adam and bought in 1922 by Edward C Guinness, 1st Earl Iveagh who bequeathed it and its world-class art collection to the nation in 1927.

Time: Depart Radlett Post Office 11.00am Arrive Kenwood: 12.15pm
Depart Kenwood 4.30pm Arrive Radlett 5.15pm
Cost: Members £11.50 Guests £13.50 Gratuity included

FUTURE VISITS SUNDAY 28th JUNE

BATEMAN'S & UPPARK HOUSE & GARDENS

Bateman's. A Jacobean house that was the home of Rudyard Kipling, surrounded by the wooded landscape of the Sussex Weald. With mullion windows and oak-beamed rooms the house remains much as he left it. The visit here will last about one hour after which we shall travel on to:



<u>Uppark House & Gardens.</u> Perched high on the South Downs ridge the house provides views as far as the English Channel. The house's Georgian interiors illustrate the comfort of life "upstairs" in contrast to the "downstairs" world of the servants. Uppark contains one of the best examples of an 18th century doll'shouse.

Depart Radlett Post Office; 9.30 am Arrive Batemans: 11.30am Depart Uppark; 4.30 pm Arrive Radlett: 6.30 pm

Food Light lunches available at Uppark House, a picnic area also available.

<u>Cost for National Trust Members</u>; Members £20 Guests £22 <u>Cost for Art Fund only members</u>; Bateman's £28.10 Guests £30.10

For people neither National Trust nor Art Fund members the cost is:

Members: £36.60 Guests: £38.60

SUNDAY 19TH JULY

ELY CATHEDRAL CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Ethelreda, who died in the year 679, was the foundress and abbess of Ely. She restored an old church at Ely that had reputedly been destroyed by the pagan king of Mercia and built her monastery on the site of what is now Ely Cathedral. It flourished for 200 years until destroyed by the Danes and was re-founded by the Benedictines in 970. Work on the present Cathedral began in the 11th century. The monastery was dissolved and damaged by Henry V111 in 1539. The Cathedral has gone through several restorations the last completed in the year 2000 when it was returned to it's former glory, We shall go on a guided tour to discover the architecture, symbolism and also the stories associated with the Cathedral including the kings and saints who have shaped it's history. Apart from the stained glass within the Cathedral we shall visit the Stained Glass Museum which is the only one of its kind in the UK. It exhibits over 100 items of some of the most beautiful glass dating from the 13th Century.

<u>Timing.</u> Depart Radlett Former PO: 9.30 am Arrive Ely: 11.15 am Depart Ely: 4.30 pm Arrive Radlett 6.15pm

Food A good selection in the Refectory Café or the Almonry Cost Members: £29 Guests: £31 Gratuity included.

PAST VISITS

We made a visit to **Brighton on 22 March 2015** - even in early Spring the queue to get into Brighton took us half an hour! The Royal Pavilion had been built in the early 19th century by King William IV, had been inspired by Indian architecture and the visit was most interesting and a great success, though the restaurant was surprisingly small. The long gallery and the staircase were decorated with cast-iron artificial bamboo railings. The banqueting room, with its central one ton chandelier and served by its large kitchen capable of serving up to 60 dishes, was one of the most magnificent rooms in the whole pavilion and there were special rooms for entertainment before and after dinner to show the life of the aristocracy at that time. On the return journey our driver provided us with a splendid view of the sea!

Raymond Hurt

Our visit to **Ickworth on 12th April** coincided with a realistic re-enactment of the Battle of Waterloo, though without any cavalry. The estate was originally acquired



by the Hervey family in the 15th century and the house was subsequently developed as a remarkable "folly" in the 18th century by the eccentric 4th Earl of Bristol. It was based on an immense oval "Rotunda" with two large wings joined by curving corridors and contained an extensive collection of Georgian Huguenot silver, some ornate furniture (including a large carved door) and porcelain, together with family portraits by Gainsborough, Hogarth, Reynolds, Kaufman and other important artists.

Raymond Hurt.





PAINTERS" WORKSHOP

This talented group meets regularly from February to July this term.

We have two demonstrations by artists, of mixed media, and pen and wash techniques. Some of us concentrate on still-life exercises, teaching us to really look to draw and paint Others develop ideas pursuing their own work.

We strive to produce good art work for our coming Exhibitions.

Plans for the 49th Exhibition

Free entry to view the Exhibition Catalogues - 20p each

Fees: £2.50 each entry – eligible for prizes
4 <u>framed paintings</u> may be entered plus
1 extra "animal or bird composition"

£1.00 each entry – Portfolio works Up to 5 <u>unframed paintings</u>, well-mounted and covered with protective film.

£1.00 each entry – 3D Work Up to 10 entries. A group or set of items can be classed as one item.

Free entry – Cards
Up to 20 <u>original cards</u>.
10% commission on all sales.
More may be entered to replace those sold.

In addition: <u>NOT</u> eligible for prizes £2.50 each entry – we invite artists to enter 2 other past or present paintings, for sale, To be hung on the backs of the stands. This will add much interest to the show and give members a chance to sell more work.