

Dear Member

As many of you know, our Chairman, Rob Reith sadly passed away on 1st June after a short illness. He is greatly missed by us all.

Our Annual Exhibition starts next weekend - 7th -10th September at Battlers Green Barn. Do come and see all the wonderful work of our members.

We are delighted that Adam Lewis has kindly agreed to become Chairman. His appointment will be confirmed at the AGM in March.

Kind regards,

Myrna Sayers - Vice Chairman

REMINDER:

Thursday 12th September - 7.30 for 8pm Members Free - Guests £10

SICKERT & the CAMDEN TOWN GROUP

Lecturer: Val Woodgate BA

Full details published in previous newsletter No: 233

Lecture Tuesday 22nd October 2019 – 12 noon for 1pm – Free to all THE ART OF JOHN EVERETT MILLAIS

Lecturer: Sarah Stopford BA (Harvard), BA (H0ns) (Cantab) Sir John Everett Millais (1829-1896), English painter was one of the founders of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood. A child prodigy at eleven, he was the youngest student to enter the Royal Academy school. Elected as an associate member of the Royal Academy in 1853, he soon became a full member in which he was a prominent and active participant. Created a baronet by Queen Victoria in 1885 Refreshments available in the Teatro Café Mariana 1851

PAST LECTURES

Thursday 23RD May 2019 WILLIAM HOGARTH (1697-1764 Snapping at the Heels of the Establishment Lecturer: John Iddon

Despite health and technical difficulties, John managed to entertain us with a summary of Hogarth's satirical and very radical art. The title of the lecture, referring to "snapping," was illustrated by his first slide of Hogarth's self-portrait with his pug. The two stare out at the viewer, looking at the world around them and, as we saw from the works depicting street life, seeing more than other, contemporary artists. John explained the stories and strong satire in Hogarth's brilliant series, *The Harlot's Progress., The Rake's Progress* and *Marriage a la Mode*. The wonderful portrait of Captain Coram, which hung in the Foundling Hospital (which Hogarth supported strongly), showed the artist's talent in capturing character in a more benign manner than in his satirical works. Another delightful evening! **Muriel Beaver**

Thursday 13th June 2019 THE WORLD OF MAN RAY Lecturer: Barry Venning

Philadelphia-born Man Ray (originally Emmanuel Radninitsky, 1890-1976), was a leader of the avant-garde. He helped found the Dada and Surrealist movements and his associates and friends were the well-known figures of American and European modernism. Early on, he worked closely with Marcel Duchamp, producing "anti- art" works. He considered himself to be primarily a painter, but could work with textiles, sculpture, film and design. He became known as a brilliant photographer and made his living in the fashion and portrait world. He invented the photogram or **rayograph** (with Lee Miller), a method whereby objects are placed directly on to photosensitive paper to produce a direct image. Barry imparted all this information with tremendous enthusiasm and was able to explain many pieces in various media, which would be baffling without an understanding of the artist's allusions. He made it clear that Man Ray had a larger than life personality, who was well liked by some of the greatest names of his lifetime, in Paris where he spent most of his life and, even during and after the Second World War when he lived in Los Angeles and was friendly with Schoenberg, Stravinsky, Ava Gardner and Catherine Deneuve.

Muriel Beaver

Thursday 15th August 2019 ALBRECHT DURER Lecturer: Clare Ford-Wille

Clare gave us a lively lecture, without reference to notes and infected us with her tremendous enthusiasm for Durer (1471-1528). She covered his life, upbringing in Nuremberg, travels around Europe and facility and talent as an artist in various media, including painting, silver point, etching and woodcuts. She made us aware of Durer's importance in founding a crossfertilization of Renaissance art between northern and southern Europe. He was very influenced by contemporary artists, such as Giovanni Bellini, whom he knew and by the works of Leonardo and Michelangelo. He was also intellectually engaged with major thinkers of his time, including Erasmus. Durer wrote a diary and included silverpoint drawings of his last major journey, to The Netherlands in 1520, where he made contacts, met old friends, sold some of his works and witnessed the coronation of the Holy Roman Emperor, Charles V. This is thought to be the first such artist's travelogue and Clare read out some fascinating excerpts.

REMINDER

Sunday 22nd September PENSHURST PLACE, KENT 14th century Manor House & beautiful Grade 1 formal Gardens.

Full details published in previous newsletter No: 233

COST RAS members - £33, Guests - £35

Depart Radlett 9:20, Arrive Penshurst Place 11:00 for 11:15 Tour,

Depart Penshurst Place 16:00,

Arrive Radlett 17:30

Sunday 27th October 2019

Dulwich Picture Gallery including Rembrandt's Light - 2019 is the Year of Rembrandt with celebrations taking place throughout Europe to mark 350 years since his death (1669). Dulwich Picture Gallery will stage London's Rembrandt moment. Along with many firsts, this show will bring the captivating painting Philemon and Baucis (National Gallery of Art, Washington) to the UK for the first time. Bringing 35 carefully selected international loans together that focus on Rembrandt's mastery of light & visual storytelling arranged thematically, the exhibition will trace his innovation: from



evoking a meditative mood, to lighting people, to creating impact and drama. Highlights will include three of his most famous images of women: A Woman Bathing in a Stream, A Woman in Bed and the Gallery's inimitable Girl at a Window which will be displayed side-by-side for the first time. It will also include items never displayed before in the UK.

Cost – RAS members £30, Guests £32

Depart Radlett 10:00, Depart Dulwich 16:30, Arrive Dulwich ~ 11:30, Arrive Radlett ~ 18:00

Sunday 22nd March 2020 -

King Tutankhamun - Treasures of the Golden Pharaoh - Saatchi Gallery



The largest number of King Tutankhamun treasures ever to leave Egypt will be in London for an exhibition which organisers say will never happen again. It will have 150 original artefacts from Tutankhamun's tomb, 60 of which have never left Egypt before. The objects will include a gold inlaid miniature coffin which held

the king's liver after it was removed during the mummification process, a gilded wooden bed with carved lion feet probably made specially for Tutankhamun's funeral and a gilded wooden shrine showing intimate scenes of royal domestic harmony. One of two life-sized guardian statues of the king, which flanked the sealed entrance to his burial chamber, will also be among the artefacts leaving Cairo for the first time.

Cost - RAS members £46, Guests £48

Depart Radlett 9:45, Depart Saatchi Gallery 16:00, Arrive Saatchi Gallery ~ 11:15, Arrive Radlett ~ 17:30

BOOKINGS FOR BOTH VISITS REQUIRED BY 9TH OCTOBER

PAST VISITS

Sunday 19th May CHARTWELL, the CHURCHILLS HOME.

What a wonderful day out to this interesting NT home of Sir Winston Churchill where he wrote, painted and relaxed after politics rejected him. The house set on a hillside of terraces above ponds, with great views down the valley, is full of quirky corners and memorabilia. Notably appealing were Sir Winston's study with its ancient wooden, vaulted roof, Clementine's duck-egg blue bedroom and the elegant restful drawing room complete with a Monet, one of his Charing Cross Bridge series. To rescue Winston from severe bouts of depression, Clementine suggested he took up painting, so helped and influenced by Sir John Lavery, John Singer Sargent, William Nicholson and Walter Sickert, this certainly was successful. As a result in the house and his separate studio, there are many of his 500 pictures. Sir Winston's passion for wildlife and water with Lady Churchill's love of pastel, coloured roses make it a unique garden. A 100 different types of roses would make a trip in June or July truly memorable. Lovely day, easy Journey, good food and well run.

Thank you National Trust..

Veronica Miles

Sunday 23rd June – MARGATE and the TURNER CONTEMPORARY On a nice bright day 36 of use set off to the seaside to go to Margate and the Turner Contemporary Gallery. The journey was good, though a little longer than we usually do on a day trip, but we arrived on time to have lunch before our guided tour of their current exhibition - Seaside Photographed. Some decided not to go on the tour and just enjoyed visiting a resort that they had not been to for many years. The exhibition was an interesting selection of photographs of people at the seaside going back to the 19th century. The gallery was created to explore Turner's association with Margate as well as offer a contemporary art programme. It is built on the site of the guest house where he stayed when he visited the town. A few people were surprised that there were no Turner's on display but this is a contemporary gallery and will hold the Turner Prize exhibition later this year. Our departure was slightly delayed by the launch of the Margate lifeboat (situated next to the gallery) to rescue a fisherman whose boat was sinking! A good day was enjoyed by all.

Gary Harding

Sunday July **21st** WOBURN **ABBEY** & SAFARI **PARK** Just 19 of us were on this trip, which included a guided tour of the house. The range and quality of the paintings in the house was spectacular, including works by most grand masters as well as family portraits and other objects. One of the highlights were the Canaletto's, particularly in the breakfast room which has 24 on display. house will be closing in September for 18 months for refurbishment so this was one of the last chances to see it for a while. After lunch many of the group then returned to the coach for a trip round the Safari park where we saw a number of different animals, including lions, giraffes, bears and apes. Some of the latter tried to hitch a ride out of the park by climbing on the roof of the coach! **Gary Harding**