



Radlett Art Society

Dear Member

The Annual luncheon held last month was generally considered to be a great success and we are all grateful to those who worked so hard to make it happen - not an easy task in these difficult times.

Your Committee is cautiously optimistic about prospects for our programme this year and you will see that lectures will be held at the Reform Synagogue from 28th April. In the autumn and winter months, we revert to online lectures and demonstrations.

This policy can be re-considered at our AGM and changed for future years if members wish to do so.

Currently, the holiday to Northumberland is definitely going ahead. Three of our day trips are also confirmed. The first visit on 27th March to Compton Verney, 1st May to Charleston and Brighton and 10th July to Highclere Castle, home of Downton Abbey. Details of all these later in this newsletter. The precise details and dates of other visits remain to be confirmed.

Our annual exhibition will be held on Saturday and Sunday May 28th and 29th 2022. Details later in this newsletter.

Please look on the website for the latest news about these and other events.

Finally, our Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 22nd March, on-line and I hope as many members as possible will take part.

May I wish all members a very happy and artistically productive New Year
Chairman Adam Lewis



Lecture News for 2022

Welcome to a new exciting RAS program of art history lectures. We have now published the new programme of lectures and art demonstrations in the RAS diary, lilac colour this year. This enables everyone to know who is on and when and to keep the Thursday evening free in advance. The diary also states if it is a Zoom session or live in Radlett Reform Synagogue 118 Watling Street. WD77AA Zoom links and times are on the RAS website, also published and circulated by Anna Cross in the week of the lecture date.

FUTURE LECTURES : Thursday 24th February – 7.45 for 8pm – via Zoom Meeting

ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONISM THE SHOCK OF THE NEW – Lecturer: Simone Bloom

Abstract Expressionism is a visual language which can be both destructive and creative, personal and universal and in the United States it gave expression to the optimism and uncertainty of the post-war world. In Pollock's words, **“Today painters can work from within.... the modern artist is working with space and time and expressing his feelings rather than illustrating”** Painting is self discovery. This lecture will look at the influence of Kandinsky, Picasso and Miro before focusing on the works of Pollock, De Kooning, Frankenthaler, Rothko and Newman.



Thursday 17th March – 7.30 pm – Demonstration via Zoom Meeting

We Welcome Jem Bowden for our Zoom Demonstration

A watercolour Demonstration given by JEM BOWDEN on Zoom



Jem is a professional watercolour artist, who has recently relocated to live and work in Fife in Scotland. Our chances of meeting him for a live demonstration therefore are negligible, so this will be a wonderful opportunity to watch him working in his studio. Jem paints mainly in watercolour and prefers to paint **“en plein air”** - or outdoors from life enjoying

and capturing our beautiful scenery. He runs workshops from his studio and on location and regularly contributes to the Leisure Painter magazine

Thursday 28th April - 7.45 for 8.0 pm = at the RADLETT REFORM SYNAGOGUE, 118 Watling Street, Radlett WD7 7AA. Zoom transmission also available.

ERIC RAVILIOUS AND THE LURE OF THE EVERYDAY _ Lecturer: Jo Walton BA

Ravilious' 'stunning yet deceptively simple water colours, along with images of everyday life by other artists working on the Home Front, provide a fascinating picture of Britain in the 1930s and 40s Eric Ravilious has been described as the greatest English water colourist of the twentieth century and his images of the landscape and of everyday objects attract many devotees. He was an artist who combined a love of the landscape with a fascination for different types of transport – from trains, old cars and gypsy caravans to the aircraft and destroyers he depicted as an Official War Artist in his precise, dry watercolours. Despite his short life, he was a prolific painter, printmaker and designer and his work reflects a deep delight in the world and time in which he lived.



**Thursday 19th May - 7.45 for 8.0 pm = at the RADLETT REFORM SYNAGOGUE,
118 Watling Street, Radlett WD7 7AA.**

Zoom transmission also available.

Sir Anthony Van Dyke, Charles 1st Windsor Castle

THE ROYAL COLLECTION

Lecturer: Linda Collins BA (hons) ,MA,Dip. Francais

This is one of the largest and most important art collections in the world and one of the last great European royal collections to remain intact. There are more than 7000 works of art of the highest quality and range from Early Italian paintings from around 1300 to modern pictures given as gifts to our Monarch today. Linda was employed by the Historic Royal Palaces for more than twenty years before becoming an independent lecturer. She describes working amongst the paintings in the Royal Collection as being “fascinating and compelling”



ARTIST'S CHALLENGE

Thank you to all those of you who enter your paintings in the Artist's Challenge, whether occasionally or regularly. It is so exciting when your paintings pop into my inbox. I hope that the Challenge Pages on the website also excite you.

We have some New Members to our Society and I would very much like extend a warm welcome to you all and I hope you will join our Challenge and the paintings that are exhibited on the website.

Here are your next challenges to think about. Please use them as creatively as you would like to. They are not intended to be taken literally. I hope they help to inspire you to take up your artistic materials - paints, pencils, ink, charcoal, iPad or android tablets, cameras, modelling materials, print, scissors and glue and any other ways of expressing yourself artistically.

Please do send your submissions to me to put up on our Radlett Art Society website. If you are not artistically inclined, do look at the Artist's Challenge section of the website anyway.

There is the opportunity to comment on the pictures if you would like to. There is something for everyone amongst the collection of paintings now available to look at.

Submit by 5.00pm February 13th - **One Fine Day**

Submit by 5.00pm March 13th - **Driving Force**

Submit by 5.00pm April 17th - **Top of the Form**

Submit by 5.00pm May 15th - **Seeing is Believing**

Submit by 5.00pm June 12th - **Something else**

As ever, please send you submissions to me at anna.cross@me.com

Looking forward to opening my emails and seeing your wonderful work

PAST LECTURE

Thursday 27th January Zoom Lecture

Val Woodgate lectured on *The Mystical and Spiritual in British Art*

Whatever one's views on William Blake happen to be, it is considered his influence on 19th and 20th Century artists is incalculable. Blake's mantra = unleash the imagination and embrace the occult and gothic in subjects such as religion, sexuality and the natural environment. Followers John Linnell and Samuel Palmer took a different direction, Palmer producing visionary pastoral painting lamenting changes in farming owing to the industrial revolution.

In 1886 The Symbolist Manifesto was printed in France. Painting and literature were inextricably linked. Here in Britain, art was beginning to be dominated by images of women: women destroying men, women wanting the vote or their own money and so on. PreRaphaelites, Rossetti and Burne Jones depict women as temptresses.

The two World Wars spawned an enormous amount of mystical and spiritual art. Paul Nash's 'We Are Making a New World' is one such work in 1918. Graham Sutherland's enormous tapestry altarpiece (the size of a tennis court) in Chichester cathedral is a compelling memorial to the horrors of WW2 bombing, and has religious connotations.

Doris Zinkeisson, a Red Cross WW2 artist, was the first painter, in April 1945 after the Liberation, to visit Bergen Belsen Camp and to record images, e.g 'The Human Laundry' Her work will have had a huge impact on postwar artists. Edward Burra's 'Skull in Landscape' 1945 mirrors the grotesqueness of those times.

Valerie Woodgate ended the lecture with a slide of Anish Kapoor's representation of 'The Healing of St.Thomas'. This is an artist definitely not influenced by Blake!

Anne Venediger

Workshop Update for website

The Radlett Art Society meets in the Radlett Institute, Watling Street on Thursday afternoon from 1.30 - 3.30pm, during the winter months.

During the summer months we paint "en plein air" in the environs of Radlett.

Cost per session is £5 and you do have to be a member of the Society to attend.

We are a mixed ability friendly group, keen to share our expertise and knowledge, and paint in all mediums There is no formal teaching but we are hoping to resume afternoon demonstrations and full day workshops with a visiting artist when covid allows.

You need to bring along your own paper, pencils and / or paints Some people bring along their own flask of tea and biscuits, since because of the covid epidemic it was decided not to offer refreshments as before

The Spring term commences on Thursday February 3rd to April 14th 2022

If you fancy joining the workshop, please feel free to email me Gill Cooper

mrsgillcooper@icloud.com

FUTURE VISITS

Compton Verney Sunday 27th March 2022



The **Compton Verney Estate** was acquired by Richard Verney in 1435 and the house was rebuilt in the 1730's. Further remodelling took place under **Robert Adams** in the 1760's and of the grounds by '**Capability**' **Brown** in the 1780's. Many of his original pathways have been restored offering delightful walks through the park.

Sold in the 1920's it went through a series of owners and was also used as a film set for several films including Peter Hall's celebrated Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, starring a young Judi Dench, Helen Mirren and Ian Richardson.

Opened to the public in 2004, it has themed collections of **Chinese Art**, paintings from '**Golden Age**' of **Neapolitan art** from 1600 to 1800, **Northern European Art** from 1450 to 1650, **British Folk art**, **British Portraits**, and others.

Works on display include items by **Sir Joshua Reynolds**, **Sir William Beechey**, and **Canaletto**. Subjects include portraits of **Elizabeth 1st**, **Edward VI**, **Henry VIII** and **Horatio Nelson**.

Food and Drink. Their catering partners are committed to fresh, seasonal and locally sourced flavours. From tasty winter plates that warm the soul and light and vibrant dishes, with over 70% of food being sourced within a 20-mile radius

PLEASE RETURN YOUR BOOKING BY WEDNESDAY MARCH 9TH

Cost RAS members - £41.50,

non-RAS members - £49.50

Depart Radlett 9:30, arrive 11:30,

Depart 16:00, Arrive Radlett 18:0

Booking form available on our website <http://www.radlett-art-society.co.uk/> or from

Gary Harding by email at Radlett.Art.Society@gmail.com

Charleston and Brighton Sunday 1st May 2022 -



[Please note date change from printed leaflet

Charleston, in East Sussex, is, as you may remember from the lecture we had last year, property associated with the Bloomsbury group. It was the country home of Vanessa Bell and Duncan Grant and is an example of their decorative style within a domestic context. The artists moved to Charleston in 1916 and over the following half-century it became the country meeting place for the group of artists, writers and intellectuals known as the Bloomsbury group. Clive Bell and Maynard Keynes lived at Charleston for considerable periods; Virginia and Leonard Woolf, E. M. Forster, Lytton Strachey and Roger Fry were frequent visitors. Inspired by Italian fresco painting and the Post-Impressionists, the artists decorated the walls, doors and furniture at Charleston.

As well as the house our visit will include access to the two special exhibitions they will have on at that time:

- ‘Absent Artists’, curated by Langlands & Bell, explores artists’ studios in which the artists themselves are conspicuously absent. The exhibition includes works by Phyllida Barlow, Annie Leibovitz, David Hockney, Michael Craig-Martin, William Hogarth and James Ensor in a range of different mediums including paintings, drawings, photographs, sculpture and print.
- ‘Langlands & Bell: Ideas of Utopia’ presents an exhibition spotlighting over 40 years of work by the BAFTA award-winning and Turner Prize-shortlisted artist duo. It includes artworks which examine attempts – knowing and unknowing – to create utopias whether domestic, religious, social or commercial.

When we finish at Charleston we will stop off in Brighton on our way back home. There will be nothing formally booked there so you can just spend some time exploring the sights or enjoying a coffee and cake in one of the many coffee shops.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR BOOKING BY FRIDAY APRIL 8TH

Cost RAS members - £41.50,

Non-RAS members - £49.50

Depart Radlett 9:30, arrive 11:30,

Depart 16:30, Arrive Radlett 18.30

Booking form available on our website <http://www.radlett-art-society.co.uk/> or from

Gary Harding by email at Radlett.Art.Society@gmail.com

Visit to Highclere Castle Sunday 10th July

Please note date change from printed leaflet

A date for your diary. We will be visiting Highclere Castle, the home of Downton Abbey, on Sunday 10th July. Further details will be in the next quarterly newsletter and on our website when available.

I hope to arrange another two day trips this year. Further details will be in the next quarterly newsletter and on our website when available.

Holiday to Northumberland Sunday 18th to Thursday 22nd September

Please note date and location change from printed leaflet

Our holiday this year of 5 days / 4 nights will be to Northumberland. Staying at the Holiday Inn Newcastle Gosforth Park, www.hinewcastlegosforthpark.co.uk, our trip will include visits to Nostell Priory, Cragside, Wallington, Alnwick Castle and Wentworth Woodhouse House & Garden. We will also have a day in Newcastle which will start with a guided tour, part by coach and part walking, followed by time at leisure to explore the interesting sights, museums and art galleries in the city.



Japanese Garden
Andō Hiroshige (Tokyo 1797 - Tokyo 1858)
Cragside, Northumberland (Accredited Museum)



The Procession to Calvary
Pieter Brueghel the younger (Brussels 1564 -
Antwerp 1638)
Nostell Priory, West Yorkshire (Accredited Museum)



Our stay at the hotel will include breakfast, a three course dinner with a glass of wine each night and full access to their spa and swimming pool. The cost will be £499 per person for two people sharing a double or twin room. There is a single supplement for one person of £88. Further details of the holiday and how to book will be available on our website <http://www.radlett-art-society.co.uk/> or from Gary Harding by email at Radlett.Art.Society@gmail.com soon.

Now Radlett Art Society has a Facebook page.

Here you can share your work, ask for advice.

Tell us about workshops you have attended and would recommend.
Tell us about any interesting exhibition worth visiting. Any thing art related.

Only positive comments on members art work is allowed. If you cannot offer positive feed back then please say nothing at all. This is to encourage everyone.

We will also post notices of up coming society events. So, come on and take a look, upload photos of your work and tell your friends to come and join us.

Happy painting and sharing. 😊

Announcement

Summer Exhibition - Saturday and Sunday May 28th and 29th 2022.

This year, we are fortunate enough to be able to hold our Summer Exhibition will be held at **The Barn, Battlers Green Farm.**

It will be open on the 28th and 29th May with the hand in on Friday 27th.

I shall send all entry forms and instructions nearer the date.

If you do not have an email address but think you may want the entry forms - please let me know (07538518704)

Thank you

Anna Cross