

Dear Member,

Good wishes for the New Year, and a warm welcome to our new members.

Last year's events proved popular; we met many of you at the lectures, visits, our Exhibition, and the Christmas Supper. Thank you all who supported us. Our thanks to those who worked hard planning our Christmas event at the Golf Club – a very enjoyable, successful evening, attended by 68 members. The raffle towards our expenses raised £304.

Our grateful thanks to John and Jane Apthorp for their generous contribution of prizes.

Our 49th Annual General Meeting will be on Wednesday 18th March in the Apthorp Gallery at the Radlett centre, 7.30pm for 8.00pm. Please come and support us, and contribute your ideas. Forms enclosed. We are pleased to report that our Society's Website is now up and running, kindly designed and maintained by member Gary Harding.

The highlight of this year's programme will be our **49th Exhibition** from Saturday 4th to Saturday 11th July inclusive. Five painting entries will be eligible to compete for the Apthorp Award, as last year. The extra category included is entitled "Animal or Bird Picture" and will be judged by prestigious artist Norman Ackroyd CBE RA. We hope artists might also wish to exhibit extra Present and Past works that are not included in the Apthorp Award, but can be offered for sale. Entry forms and lunch applications will be enclosed in the May newsletter.

May I remind you of renewal of membership subscriptions due on 1st January. (£24 each member, £6 students under 25).

Form is enclosed to send to Myrna Sayers. Thank you if you have already paid. We regret newsletter, May to September will **NOT** be sent to unpaid members.

I hope 2015 will be a happy, successful year for us all, peaceful and with good health. I look forward to meeting you all. Best wishes **Carmen Beal**

FUTURE LECTURES, all at the Radlett Centre

REMINDER - LECTURE

CAMILLE PISSARRO and his WORLDLecturer: Mary Acton BATuesday3rd February- Lunchtime Lecture - 12 Noon for 1.00pm startAdmission - Free to all.Refreshments available from Georgie's Café.

<u>Thursday 12th March</u> 7.30pm for 8.00pm THE MIRROR of REALITY - FLEMISH PAINTING

Van Eyck to Brueghel Lecturer: Clare Forde-Wille BA
The work of major painters of religious art, portraiture
and landscape will be studied, including Jan van Eyck
Petrus Christus, Hugo van der Goes, Hans Memling,
and Rogier van der Weyden New developments in the
16th Century will also be considered.

Jan van

Jan van Eyck- Arnolfini Wedding

Admission: Members Free, Non-Members £7.00

Thursday 23rd April ANTONI GAUDI



7.30pm for 8.00pm

Lecturer: Anthea Streeter Med Harvard
Gaudi's works reflect an individual and distinctive
style. Most are located in Barcelona, including his
magnum opus, the Sagrada Familia. His work
transcended mainstream Modernism, culminating
in an organic style inspired by natural forms.

Amazing work to behold.

Admission: Members Free. Non-Members £7.00

PAST LECTURES

Thursday 23rd October Ann Clements lectured on "VORX of HART"

Ann Clements gave us a charming lecture with many fine illustrations, demonstrating Lear's indisputable artistic talent. He produced a huge amount of material, water colour sketches, paintings, lithographs, nonsense verse, diaries, natural history, children's and travel books during his life (1812-1888). His early career as a hired illustrator, won praise from Audubon. His patron Edward Stanley, 3rd Earl of Derby, sent him to Italy, where he took up landscape sketching and painting. He was a depressive and epileptic – felt healthier while abroad. He travelled widely, rarely visiting England after 1837, basing himself in Corfu and later San Remo. His nonsense verse is evidence of his humorous personality and he had many lifelong friends, with whom he corresponded voluminously. His delicate art works are distributed among many galleries, the largest collection held by Harvard University.

Muriel Beaver

<u>Tuesday 11th November</u> Irene Luna lectured on DAME ELISABETH FRINK CH, DBE, RA

After a convivial lunch, we enjoyed a fascinating account of the life and work of Elisabeth Frink (1930 - 1993). We learnt of the influences on her ideas as she grew up and her admiration of Rodin, Moore and Giacometti. Although her contemporaries created abstract work, she always concentrated on figurative sculpture and drawings, which frequently communicate movement and emotion. Her speciality areas were men, horses and birds. She loved modelling and would often roughen a plaster cast giving unusual textures to the final bronze. She was commissioned to produce public sculpture for many sites, often placing them at ground level, rather than on plinths, so that they seem part of their natural environment. As Carmen commented, we were truly enlightened by the lecture.

Muriel Beaver

FUTURE VISITS

Sunday 22nd March Royal Pavilion Brighton

This Palace takes its unique character from the man for whom it was built, George IV, and its magnificent interior is a reflection of his personality and Regency reign. It was conceived as a monument to style, finesse, technological excellence and above all pleasure. It has provoked controversy, inspired fervent adulation and throughout its history, become one of the most instantly identifiable architectural images in the world.

<u>Time</u>: Depart Radlett Post Office: 9.30 am Arrive Royal Pavilion: 11.30 am
Depart Royal Pavilion 4.30 pm Arrive Radlett 6.30 pm
Cost: Members £25.70 Guests £27.70 Gratuity included
Food is available in the Royal Pavilion.

Sunday 12th April Ickworth House, Bury St. Edmunds.

This is a Georgian Italianate palace in an idyllic English landscape. Ickworth's impressive Rotunda which was commissioned by the 4th Earl of Bristol to house his priceless treasures collected on tours around Europe in the 18th century, is regarded as an architectural marvel.

<u>Time:</u>: Depart Radlett Post Office 10.00 am Arrive Ickworth House 11.45am
Depart Ickworth House 4.30 pm Arrive Radlett 6.15 pm
Cost: Members £27.70 Guests £29.70 Gratuity included Food is available on site.

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 Office11.00amArrive Kenwood:12.15pmDepart Kenwood4.30pmArrive Radlett5.15pmCost:Members £11.50Guests £13.50Gratuity included

Food: Hot and Cold meals available on site; a picnic area is also available.

FUTURE VISITS

Sunday 28th June Bateman's Burwash, East Sussex

A Jacobean house that was the home of Rudyard Kipling and remains much as he left it with oriental rugs and artefacts.

Uppark House, Petersfield, West Sussex

The Georgian interiors include French furniture and pottery and Italian paintings. The collection has a fine example of a 17th century dolls house.

DETAILS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE MAY NEWSLETTER.

RUBENS AND HIS LEGACY

This major Exhibition at the Royal Academy in February would have been an additional group visit organised for members on Tuesday 24th February. Regrettably, the Academy does not accept groups on Sundays.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel these plans owing to insufficient applicants. Hopefully, those members who wanted to go will be able to obtain tickets and attend under their own steam.

PAST VISITS

We made an interesting visit to the **Cecil Higgins Art Gallery and Museum** on **Sunday 23rd November.** The house and museum had been bequeathed to the city by a wealthy Bedford industrialist in the 19th century. The visit was disappointing for many of us as the Turner, Constable and Moore paintings together with prints by Picasso, Warhol and Hockney were all in storage in the basement! After an hour long introduction to the collection, we were able to see innumerable artefacts found over the centuries in Bedfordshire, an interesting wallpaper collection and an exhibition showing how Bedford had developed over the years to its present position as a major British city **Raymond Hurt**



ARTISTS' THURSDAY MEETINGS

We start our workshop on **Thursday 12**th **February** working through till July. We hope to have two demonstrations by artist teachers, and a life model, during these 23 sessions.

Members work on still-life studies (to help observation techniques), and from then our ideas from photos, drawings, imagination, in a very friendly atmosphere with a little guidance and a lot of encouragement. **Carmen**