

Dear Member,

Our Society has had a flying start to 2018 with many new members already. We look forward to meeting you at the lectures and joining the varied visits that are planned for this year. The high quality of our lectures has been diverse, entertaining and enlightening thanks to Juliette, who, sadly is leaving the committee after many years. We are sure there are members interested in this important field. Juliette has confirmed that she is willing to give every assistance in the early days

The Society is indebted to Gary Harding who has designed and is responsible for running our website. It has certainly attracted a great deal of interest. He is also the organizer of our visits. His careful planning ensured that our 2017 outings were both interesting and popular. The eight visits and Yorkshire holiday arrangements devised for 2018 all look unmissable thanks to Gary.

The summer exhibition maintained the usual high standard - which has come to be expected - and we acknowledge with gratitude all the hard work artists and others carried out in setting up this major event, no mean feat!

Our Christmas supper as usual, was most enjoyable. An added attraction was an art quiz produced by Juliette, which, had it been an exam, MOST of us would have failed, miserably! Thank you Juliette!

We are sorry to report that our Chairman, Garry Hersh, resigned from his post in November. I am currently Acting Chairman, a new Chairman will be elected at our AGM on Wednesday, 7th March – 7.30 for 8pm. Your presence is urgently required. The committee would be very happy to receive offers of help – even on an 'ad hoc' basis - for our activities.

We hope to expand our activities this year, introducing one day workshops. Would be very glad to hear from anyone interested in helping to organize this.

NB If you haven't already renewed please remember that the lectures for non-members will be $\pounds 10$ and the membership this year is $\pounds 26$!

I wish you all a good year

FUTURE LECTURES at the Radlett Centre

REMINDER full details published in previous newsletter No: 227

Lt Col. Dick Bolton will lecture on :

The Arts and Crafts of William Morris & His Circle

Thursday 22nd February 7.30 for 8pm Members Free – Non Members £10

Thursday 15th March7.30 for 8pmMembers Free Non Members £10The Not - So Still Lives Of Ben Nicholson

Lecturer: Jo Walton BA Dip Hist Art(Oxon) Ben Nicholson OM. (1894-1982) was born into a family of leading artists, attended the <u>Slade School of Fine Art</u> briefly but was largely self-taught. The first English painter to create geometrical abstract paintings, he directly contributed to the international abstract movement. His works have come to be recognised as the quintessence of British modernism.



Tuesday 17th April Lunchtime Lecture - 12 noon for 1pm - Free to all *Bernard Leach His Influence on 20th Century Ceramics* Lecturer: Diane Lloyd, Freelance Lecturer on Ceramics.



Bernard Leach CH. CBE. (1887-1979) was acknowledged as a master craftsman, with his work accepted as the standard by which others were judged.

The <u>Leach Pottery</u> founded in 1920, is considered by many to be the birthplace of <u>British Studio Pottery</u> and is amongst the most respected and influential in the world.

Refreshments are available from 12 noon at the Teatro Restaurant.

Thursday 10th May 7.30 for 8pm - Members Free – Non Members £10 *The Art of Joan Miró: The Ladder of Escape*

Lecturer: Sarah Stopford (Harvard & Cambridge)

Joan Miró (1893-1983) was one of the most celebrated Spanish artists taking a distinct approach to creation and focusing on a number of mediums and forms interpreted as Surrealism. He expressed contempt for conventional painting methods as a way of supporting bourgeois society evolving out of *"repression"* much like all Spanish magic realist and surrealist work.



Next Art Society Trips

18th March 2018 We will visit **Blenheim Palace** in Woodstock Oxfordshire. This is the home of the 12th Duke of Marlborough and was the birth place of Sir Winston Churchill. It is a masterpiece of Baroque architecture, with gilded State Rooms. The



Palace is home to one of the most important, extensive and priceless collections in Europe, which includes portraits, furniture, sculpture and the famous Marlborough Tapestries providing an awe-inspiring experience for visitors.

Depart	: Radlett Post Office	10:00 am	Arrive: Blenheim	Palace 11.30 am
Depart	: Blenheim Palace	4.30 pm	Arrive: Radlett	6.00pm
Cost:	Members £32	Guests	£34	Gratuity included

22nd April 2018 We will visit **Stonor** which is one of the oldest family homes still lived in today having been home to the family for over 850 years. As well as being architecturally fascinating each room contains a lifetime of experience and anecdote. Discover art and treasures



collected from across the globe and view historic maps and documents that reveal generations of service to the country. The Chapel is steeped in family history and was built in the late 13th Century on the site of a prehistoric Stone Circle. Once inside, sunlight floods through the superb stained glass, lighting the chapel and allowing visitors to see Graham Greene's great gift, a series of artworks called 'Stations of the Cross' by Jozef Janas, a Polish prisoner of war in World War II.

Depart: Radlett Post Office11:00 amDepart: Stonor5.00 pmMembers £30Guests £32

Arrive: Stonor 12.15pm Arrive: Radlett 6.15 pm Cost: Gratuity included 20th May 2018 we will visit Belvoir Castle. It is the ancestral home of the Dukes of Rutland and the family have lived at Belvoir in an unbroken line for almost a thousand years. Crowning a hill in Leicestershire, its turrets and towers rise over the Vale of Belvoir like an illustration in a romantic fairytale. The castle you see today finally emerged in the early 1800s and was built for the 5th Duke and Duchess of Rutland between



1801 and 1832 by architect James Wyatt. The castle was given the French name Belvoir – meaning beautiful view – now pronounced 'beaver' remains as one of the most magnificent and beautiful Regency houses in England.

It is adorned both indoors and out with the products of creative artists who have been admired – or hired – by each generation of the family, who have arranged these paintings, sculptures and furnishings to reflect their innermost aesthetic preferences.

John, 3rd Duke of Rutland (1721-79), was the first member of the family to avidly collect Old Masters, including works by Gaspar Poussin, Durer and Rubens. With a Gallery dedicated to the display of the collection see Henry VIII after Holbein, Teniers' Proverbs, and three works by Gainsborough. Other works include Poussin's Seven Sacraments, portraits by Sir Joshua Reynolds and the family dogs by George Stubbs.

Our visit will include a guided tour of the house and there will be time to visit their splendid range of gardens. Bookings for this trip must be made no later than the 16th April.

Depart: Radlett Post Office9.30amArrive: Belvoir Castle11.30amDepart: Belvoir Castle4.00 pmArrive: Radlett6.00 pmCost:Members £42Guests £44Gratuity included

PAINTERS' WORKSHOP

The Spring and Summer Workshop begins again on Thursday, 15^{th} February, 2.00 - 4.00 pm. Please come early enough to set up your table. I look forward to seeing you. **Carmen**

Art Society Holiday – Yorkshire 23rd to 26th September 2018

Yorkshire has a wealth of places to visit for all tastes. Our 4-day tour, based in the beautiful spa town of Harrogate, discovers a selection of the many highlights the region has to offer, including visits to Chatsworth House, Castle Howard and Beningbrough Hall, an outpost of the National Portrait Gallery with more than 120 paintings on display. There will be time to explore Harrogate and the county town of York with its many attractions. We will also go to Salts Mill with its David Hockney collections and other exhibitions and shops, including one for artists materials.



We will be staying in the 4* Crowne Plaza which is easy walking distance to the town centre. The recently refurbished bedrooms offer comfort combined with modern facilities - WiFi, tea / coffee making facilities, television, en-suite bathroom with bath and shower over. The hotel has a lift, two restaurants and a bar. Included are 3 nights half board accommodation and a glass of wine with dinner each evening.

Cost £399 per person (based on two people sharing a twin or double room – single supplement £70). Deposit of £50 per person required by **30th April 2018.** Further details and booking form available on our website or from Gary Harding, 43 Orchard Close, Radlett WD7 8DN, email: gary.harding@gmail.com

