



## Your Chairman writes ...

The volume of news to cover in this issue means that I have only room to wish you all belated greetings for a happy and healthy New Year linked with a warm invitation to renew your membership promptly for the 2013/2014 season. When you scan the programme I think you will agree that there are many tempting treats ahead among both the lectures and outings.

## Best wishes

*John Baker*

## Forthcoming Lectures

**Please note that from March our lectures will start at 2.00 pm in the afternoon and at 7.30 pm in the evening**

### **23 January 2013: Valerie Woodgate - Picasso and his Women**

The lecture will examine how Picasso's life influenced what, and how, he painted. Each new love in his life can be seen in the different styles, in which his women were represented. When he fell out of love, that fact would be revealed in his paintings.

The lecture will focus on the seven most important women in his life; two of whom he married.

### **27 February: Patricia Wright BA ARICS - Iona, Lindisfarne and the glory of the North**

For more than a century Northumbria was at the centre of European civilisation. The monasteries produced illuminated manuscripts, their people crafted intricate stone crosses, garnet and gold metalwork and wrote poetry, which has survived the ages. Across the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> centuries some extraordinary men and women inspired a cultural revolution in an area the world had previously thought little about, a revolution whose roots stretched back to Ireland and forward to the courts of Charlemagne and Wessex.

This lecture will explore the lives of those people illustrated with their achievements in manuscript art, architecture, sculpture, learning and decorative metals.

**Don't forget that our AGM precedes this meeting and begins promptly at 1.30pm**

### **27 March: Brian Stater BA MSc - Photography as a Fine Art**

Could we (should we) accept that the very best photographs can be regarded as Fine Art? This lecture will argue that photography can equal, or even surpass, more traditional disciplines in the key areas of portraiture, landscape and still life. Photography, moreover, has carved its own area of excellence in depicting the human condition.

These arguments will be illustrated and discussed with reference to the works of acknowledged masters of photography, including Henri Cartier Bresson, Fay Godwin, Richard Avedon, Ansel Adams and Wolfgang Tillmans.

*Liz Trickett – Programme Secretary*

## Outings

Following an amazingly successful and over-subscribed year we are now ready to embark on 2013. There are always too many choices but we do try to spread the range of interests as much as possible as well as the dates and days of the week to give all members a fair chance.

Our plans for 2013 follow the success story of visiting a London exhibition with the added value of a **preparatory lecture**. We will follow this pattern when we visit the **Herculaneum and Pompeii** exhibition at the British Museum and the **Lowry** at Tate Britain.

We are lucky enough to have secured a booking for **Highclere Castle (Downton Abbey)** in the Summer! This is quite a coup and involved booking over eighteen months ago.

**Kew Palace** has recently been refurbished by Historic Royal Palaces and a guided tour of this and the Gardens is scheduled, bringing together both culture and history and the natural beauty of the gardens. What a recipe for an enjoyable day out!

We will get to the heart of **Legal London** taking an award-winning look at the hidden legal cloisters of London including the Royal Courts of Justice and special a once-in-a-lifetime lunch at Middle Temple.Hall.

I for one can't wait – what about you? There is a real need to get out your new diaries and plan ahead!

*Gwen Wright – Outings Organiser*

**Christmas Celebration at Wildwood Golf and Country Club 5th December 2012**

Amid the lime green (a la Pompidou Centre) pipes of Wildwood Golf and Country Club we sat amongst sparkling Christmas lights and gold and turquoise table decorations looking forward to a festive evening of good food and entertainment.

We were greeted by a most impressive butler, Meakins, and a glass of very acceptable sparkling wine to put us in the mood. Meakins reminded us of the many ancient customs that make Christmas so special. Yule logs, mince pies, mistletoe, Christmas cakes and puddings; some echoes of pagan rituals; others harking back to ancient religious beliefs.



The three course meal that followed was varied and interesting, well presented and appreciated by all.

Our Chairman John Baker then rose to give a Vote of Thanks preceding it with congratulations to Dinah Couchman who has reached her 100th birthday and was enjoying the evening with us. He went on to thank the organisers Judy Cooper, Marilyn McNie, Claerwen Harries, Brian Wright and their helpers for all the hard work that had made the evening such a success. I am sure that we are all grateful to the gallant band that gave us such a lovely evening.

*Katrina McDonald*

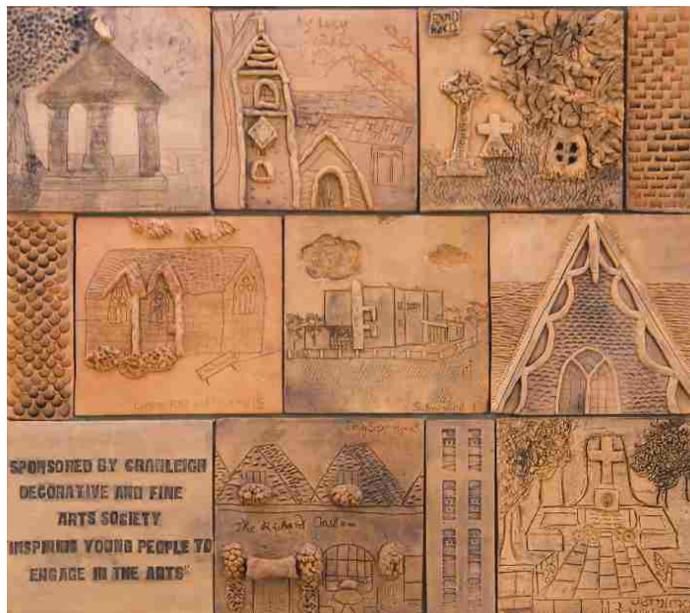


**Young Arts - Exciting projects completed in 2012**



Guildford MP Anne Milton (in red), Janet Stanley (Head of Art, third from left), Pat Morgan (Young Arts Team, far right) and some of the St Joseph's learners celebrate the completion of the Welcome Statue at St Joseph's Specialist School and College in October. The statue was part funded by Cranleigh DFAS and helped the school to achieve the much-coveted Arts Mark

This year's triumph for Young Arts was the unveiling of the three metre high Cranleigh Mural in the new Medical Centre in December. This was made by local teenagers in a series of workshops at the Arts Centre and was fully funded by Cranleigh DFAS.



Part of the impressive ceramic tile panel presented to the new health centre by CDFAS