



Your Chairman writes ...

One of the great joys of being associated with the success that is Cranleigh DFAS, is the fact that people are so willing to volunteer their time, experience and energy to contribute to that success.

Our Young Arts group continues to work with three worthwhile projects; the dogged determination and vision of the Ewhurst Church Recorders has finally resulted in a superb record of St Peter and Paul's being completed. (Who knows, there may well be some of you who would be interested in starting a new Church Recording group!).

It has been great to welcome Pat Butler and Janet Wright to the committee. Under Gwen Wright's leadership the visits programme has got off to a lively start with the Viking exhibition and the outing to Stratfield Saye is sold out. Liz Trickett has already produced a draft programme of lectures for the 2015/2016 season having just been to the NADFAS Annual Directory day where the lecturers advertise their latest offerings. Our website, with its up-to-date information and amazing archive of reports of past lectures and visits, has attracted favourable comments from the NADFAS hierarchy.

In addition, many of you help in other ways, for example, with report writing, signing in, publicity, and keeping the noticeboard up-to-date. Finally, the annual mammoth task of membership renewal has just been completed by Hilary Baker, Lawrence Lock and Brian Wright and I am delighted to say that, although some people have left for various understandable reasons, many new members have joined us so that overall membership remains at about 300.

So... given that "volunteering" is part of what NADFAS stands for, Cranleigh DFAS is doing its bit! More is always possible, so do let me know if you would like to get involved with any of the Society's activities. You're likely to find you are pushing against an open door!

John Baker

Highlights from our Young Arts Programme

Pat Morgan and Jan Fricker visited St Joseph's School recently to meet the new Arts Team, including our liaison Ellie Russell, and were shown a video of pupils at work during one of Alison Catchlove's metalwork sessions. They were busy shaping parts for a deer, which will be sited in the wooded area of the grounds and form the focal point of the embryonic Sculpture Trail. Over time it is hoped that many more sculptures will be created by the students. It is also intended that the trail will be made available for visits by other local schools.



further metalwork sessions in which the boys will create more woodland creatures.

Whilst it is not possible for the Society to cover the costs of entire projects at the schools, we may be able to make a "substantial donation" to both in due course.

Coming soon – The second Self- Portrait Project

Following the great success of the Face Fun competition, last Autumn involving all Year 5 pupils in Cranleigh's three state primary schools, it has been decided to invite St Joseph's to participate. There will be more information in the September newsletter, including dates of the exhibition.

Pat Morgan and Jan Fricker

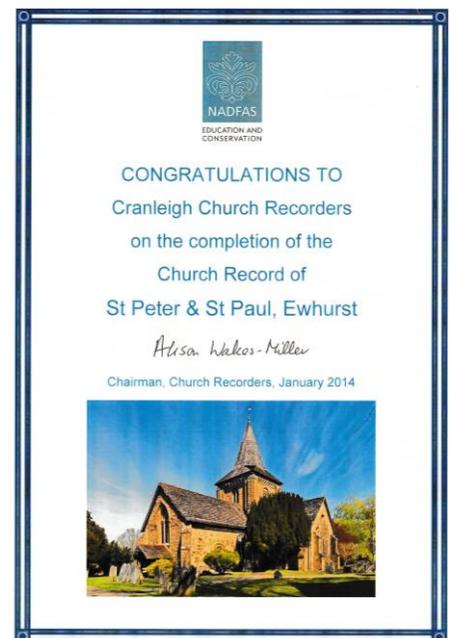
Recording the Heritage of Ewhurst Church

One of the heritage activities of NADFAS is Church Recording. It involves a team recording a church's contents and their origins. The project at St Peter & St Paul, Ewhurst was started by our then Chairman, Sue Handley, with a team of volunteers. Janet and Norman Price from the original team have continued the work and it is now complete, thanks

The team at St Joseph's stressed how appreciative they are of the help Cranleigh DFAS has given in the past and how important the relationship is to them.

To underline this, a ceremony is planned to inaugurate the deer sculpture. Watch this space!

The society continues to support Wey House School, in particular, the art work for the outdoor classroom and



to them and many others.

The result is a splendid, 250 page, illustrated book which will be presented to the church at the end of April. Copies will also go to the Victoria and Albert Museum and the Surrey History Centre. We have received a certificate from NADFAS House which you can see on the noticeboard at our lectures.

The dedicated work by all involved has produced a wonderful record of what is in Ewhurst Church in the early part of the 21st Century, and our thanks go to them for such an achievement.

Jonathan Cross

Forthcoming lectures

25 May 2014 - Tony Tucker: Wren's Churches & City of London Churches

Tony Tucker is a well known City of London Guide with extensive knowledge of its churches. Later in the year he will lead one of our outings as a follow up to his lecture. The lecture will focus on the unique, exceptional originality and architectural merit of the churches, in particular those by Sir Christopher Wren. The interiors of these churches are fine examples of the great woodcarvers, stonemasons and plasterers working with Wren and other architects in great rebuilding programme of the 17th Century.

25 June 2014 - Theodora Clarke: An Introduction to Russian Art

Theodora is the founder and editor of the periodical "Russian Art and Culture." She also leads on the organisation of the Russian Art Week held annually in London. Her lecture will provide us with an introduction to the development of Russian Art from icons to the present day. The changing cultural context and its effect on art will be addressed, with a focus on the different art movements through Russian history. Examples will be taken from major works in the State Russian Museum, the Hermitage in St Petersburg and the Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow.

23 July 2014 - Sarah Lenton: Handel in London

Sarah has spent her working life at the English National Opera (ENO), the Royal Opera House and is now at Glyndebourne. She writes and lectures on the opera including BBC4. Although Handel was born in Germany, much of his working life was spent in London. This lecture with excerpts from Handel's music, will show us how to enjoy 18th Century operatic conventions and reveals that Handel can stand with Shakespeare as an interpreter of the human condition. Sarah will discuss the operas 'Agrippina', 'Alcina' and 'Belshazzar's Feast', amongst others, as well as his great oratorio 'The Messiah'. Handel operas are still being performed. The recent sell-out production of 'Rodelinda' at the ENO is testament to his continuing popularity.

24 September 2014 - Brian W Macdonald FRGS: Wandering amongst the Nomadic Tribes of Iran and Afghanistan

Brian spent time in both countries during the 1970s, which fostered his passion for the wonderful weavings produced by nomads on basic ground looms and the symbolic representation contained in this woven art. The lecture will be illustrated by the weavings of the nomadic tribes. Members will be able to examine examples of vanity bags, salt bags, bedding bags, wheat sacks, bread and dining flat weaves. The lecture will also explore the symbolism contained in these fabulous weavings and some of the stories and adventures Brian has experienced whilst searching for them.

Liz Trickett - Programme Secretary

Outings Spring 2014

Our Outings Season for 2014 has begun with a burst of energy which the Vikings would recognise! The exhibition was splendid and the lecture enlightening.

Our new **ticket** format enables us to have a record of emergency contact details in case of need "on our watch" and this is seen as good practice by NADFAS House. We continue to trust the need for use will never present itself!

Our new **coach** provider, Sussex Coaches, worked brilliantly. We now have a 57-seater coach for each outing. The greater leg room and quality of coach is a notable improvement. We hope that these few extra seats help the waiting list issue for forthcoming visits. We always consider accommodating everyone but do not have the need for two coaches per outing, and cannot sustain the extra costs we would incur. Sometimes our numbers are not only dictated by transport, but also by the size of the venue and their group arrangements.

The details of the "**timeline**" of any visit are always posted on our website so if there is need to check on such detail the answer is there for you day or night!

Please remember that any **changes in ticket ownership** nearer to the time of an outing are handled by Debbie Gauvain whose contact details are on your membership card. We are unable to make refunds for tickets so, if you cannot attend, it is best for you to check with us regarding the **Waiting List** and we can advise. If there isn't one, then you are free to offer these to anyone – just let us know for the coach boarding list!

The varied season ahead should suit all tastes and size of pockets. Please note that some which look more expensive do sometimes include food/beverages! Enjoy!

Gwen Wright - Outings Secretary