



Your Chairman writes ...

We put our house on the market last March with a view to moving to the Oxford area to be nearer our daughter and family. However, such have been the vagaries of the housing market that we are still here as I write! Our move to Witney is slowly gathering pace at last and so this will be my final contribution to the newsletter.

I know I write for both Hilary and myself when I say that our involvement with Cranleigh DFAS has been a hugely rewarding and fulfilling experience. We have worked with many dedicated and inspiring people on the committee over the years, as well as making many new friends and acquaintances among the membership. Above all it has been fun – really it has!

The Society has been blessed with a superb committee and officers over the years and it is splendid to know that for the 2015/2016 season there are members willing to fill the three vacancies which have arisen. These are: Publicity Officer, the post ably carried out at present by Rhona Gregson to be filled by Philip Akroyd; Afternoon Membership Secretary, the post which has been brilliantly undertaken by my wife, Hilary, to be filled by Wendy Brownlee and the role of Chairman. If you were at the Christmas Party you would know that I announced that Pat Butler has agreed to take over from me as your Chairman. I am sure you will all join with me in wishing her every success in the role and that you will give her unstinting support as she steers the Society through the next stages of its development.

Au revoir – I use this form of valediction on purpose since we intend to keep our contact with the Society and to attend some future events – the next Special Interest Day perhaps.

With all good wishes

John Baker

I am sure all CDFAS members would like to thank John for his enthusiastic, unstinting leadership in recent years. The Society has flourished during his Chairmanship and for so many members he is the welcoming, friendly face of the Society. Good Luck John and Hilary!

Rhona Gregson

Highlights from our Young Arts Programme

... and making it into the Surrey Advertiser

For the second year running, as part of its Young Arts programme, CDFAS funded the highly successful Face Fun Self-Portrait project for 143 Year 5 children at Cranleigh Primary, St Cuthbert Mayne RC Primary, Park Mead Primary and St Joseph's Specialist School and College.



The children were supplied with enough materials to enable them to draw their self-portraits. All the drawings were exhibited in the gallery of Cranleigh Arts Centre from 4 to 15 November 2014 and the children, their teachers and families were invited to a prize giving celebration on the final day. John Baker, Pat Morgan and Jan Fricker congratulated the children on the high calibre of their contributions, and thanked the teachers for their support. Denise Topolski, a trustee of NADFAS, presented prizes and certificates. Each child was presented with a book containing all 143 self-portraits as a memento.

Pat Morgan & Jan Fricker, Young Arts Coordinators

Forthcoming lectures

25 February - Peter Warwick: 'The Art of Waterloo'

Peter will offer an artistic and cultural appreciation of one of the most famous battles of all time. It was a defining moment in European history and shows how artists and caricaturists have interpreted the event and so provided evidence of what actually happened on 18 June 1815. These powerful images drive Peter's lecture.

25 March - Joanna Hardy: 'Royal Jewels from Tsars to Maharajahs'

Precious gems have captivated and inspired many explorers to travel the world to seek them out. Kings,

Queens, Emperors, Tsars and Maharajahs have then displayed them to denote their status, power and wealth. During her Diamond Jubilee, Elizabeth II could be seen wearing her favourite and most significant jewels, many of which have been passed down through the generations. The lecture will conclude by looking at the Royal collection kept firmly locked in the Tower of London. Joanna is well known for her appearances as a jewellery expert on the BBC's Antiques Road Show

23 April - Antony Penrose: 'The Legendary Lee Miller'

Lee Miller was painted and photographed by some of the greatest artists of her day: Picasso, Dora Maar, Man Ray, Edward Steichen and Roland Penrose. In return she photographed them and some of the seminal moments of the 20th century. This is a definitive view by her son and biographer embracing many different levels of the history of art and photography, social commentary and emotional connection with the subject. It gives a lasting portrait of a talented and courageous woman who was a free spirit and trail blazer.

Liz Trickett – Programme Secretary

Outings Spring 2014

We are very excited about the outings for our 2015 season and I hope that you will find yourselves equally delighted with the prospects in store.

Liz Trickett and I continue to work together to try and connect lectures to outings, thus enriching our learning experience. To that end you will see that we have an outing linked to our 2014 Huguenot Special Interest Day, a lecture on Lee Miller connecting with our visit last year to Farley Farmhouse, and a visit to the Magna Carta exhibition at The British Library to mark the 800th Anniversary of the sealing of the Charter. Other gems include Disraeli's home, Hughenden, and one of Britain's architectural treasures - the Chelsea Hospital, home to the famous Pensioners.

Please understand that sometimes outings need to be limited in numbers simply because of space at venues. I do all that I can to maximise numbers for each trip but there are some in this year's calendar where groups will need to split to make numbers manageable at the venue. I will always publicise the maximum number.

Now we can fix dates in our new diaries, plan and look forward to a really memorable 2015.

Gwen Wright - Outings Secretary

Special Interest Day

The Huguenots in Britain – their Cultural Heritage

Sue Jackson MA

Saturday 8 November 2014 proved to be a special day indeed, as all three of Sue's lectures built a fascinating story of the C16th and C17th Huguenot diaspora as it changed the face of the East End of London.

Silk weavers, clockmakers, furniture makers, oculists and goldsmiths made significant contributions to the wealth and industry of our economy and have left a legacy of fine arts and beautiful artefacts, not to mention spectacles!

Amongst the many social changes in the Georgian period in which they flourished, was the growth of coffee, tea and chocolate drinking, and with this came a range of social conventions, some of which have endured, and beautiful high status accessories such as coffee pots and tea sets.

The Special Events committee offered a tasty and extensive ploughman's lunch with super desserts, all of which was greatly appreciated. Thanks to Judy, Claerwen, Janet and all their helpers for their very hard work.

Thanks also go to Liz and Gwen for organising this, the second SID. May it become a fixture in the CDFAS calendar.

Another festive Christmas Party 3 December 2014



Do you know anyone interested in joining the Society?

Please refer them to the website <http://www.cranleighdfas.org> or ask one of the membership secretaries for our new 3-fold leaflet with its tear-off 'voucher' for a taster lecture.

GIFT AID REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS

As a registered charity, the Society benefits from Gift Aid. If your eligibility has changed, please let your membership secretary know.