



Your Chairman writes ...

As many of your committee are former teachers, we always think of this as 'The Autumn Term' Personally I think of it in Keats words 'Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness'.

So often an Indian summer, full of simple sensory pleasures, from dappled sunlight highlighting the glorious changing leaves, to the rustle and crackle as they are crushed underfoot. The fragile beauty of the last rose still blooming in the garden. All days and moments to enjoy and remember.

There are also a couple of lectures from this year which I will always remember, albeit for very different reasons.

The Legendary Lee Miller by her son Anthony Penrose. A haunting and harrowing revelation which will stay with me and those of you who came to his lecture, for a long time.

The Role of the Arts in Prison by Angela Findlay. Certainly a controversial inclusion but one that changed attitudes on a very emotive subject. We are both a decorative and fine arts society. Yes the subject was not 'Fine Art', but it certainly embraced 'Decorative Art'. Who could deny that the group mural painted on previously bare compound walls, or the corridor transformed from a soulless grey, was not decorative in its simplest of form? Perhaps it is good once in a while to be shaken from our comfort zone, to explore the value of art in areas of which we may have little previous knowledge or understanding

Best Wishes

Pat Butler

Young Arts



The summer months are often a quiet time for Young Arts activities, but that hasn't been the case this year. You may recall that our main aim for 2015 was to coordinate print-making workshops at the Watts Gallery for a select number of Young Carers; the sort of youngsters for whom home life is particularly challenging and confined.

We are pleased to report that, thanks to our society's funding, two such sessions took place in August for eight deserving Young Carers.

The workshops took place on consecutive Mondays, when the galleries were closed to the public. That meant that the participants had ample opportunity to gain inspiration from the paintings, which they later put to good use in their prints. They also visited the nearby Watts Chapel to study its intricate designs, with the same purpose in mind. There is no doubt that

the children gained much from the experience – as well as having fun - as a Surrey Young Carer co-ordinator explained to us in her letter of thanks.

".....The young carers had a wonderful time and greatly appreciated the break. To be able to come away from their caring situation and have fun with their peers can make a big difference. Adding art into the mix was very therapeutic for them....."

Of course, we still found time to enjoy our special relationship with St Joseph's School and College. In a lengthy visit there in June, we were delighted to meet their new artist-in-residence and see for ourselves how our latest CDFAS donation has been put to work buying art materials for him to use with the learners.



Thanks to your continued support of Young Arts' projects, exciting new schemes are in the pipeline for this autumn and beyond, so watch out for news of those in our next report.

Pat Morgan & Jan Fricker, Young Arts Coordinators

Forthcoming lectures and Special interest Day

I hope you have enjoyed the season so far. Earlier this year I was involved in interviews with three potential lecturers and was staggered at the complex process they are required to go through in order to qualify. In fact on this occasion one person was unsuccessful, so no 'fait accompli' here.

28 October – Toby Faber MA MBA – Faber & Faber – Its Design & History

Since its foundation in 1925, Faber & Faber has built a reputation as one of London's most important literary publishing houses. Part of their success is due to the editorial team that Geoffrey Faber and his successors built around them, with TS Eliot an early recruit. One of the secrets of the firm's longevity is that they have always insisted on good quality design and illustration.

This lecture will trace the history of the firm through its illustrations, covers and designs. Along the way it has employed some very celebrated artists from Rex Whistler and Barnett Freedman to Peter Blake and Damien Hirst. This is the last of the British publishing houses to remain independent and we will be led though its development by the grandson of the founder who has been managing director and remains on the board. He

says "I am passionate about the firm's success and intensely proud of my association with it."

14 November – Special Interest Day

The experienced Art Historian Douglas Skeggs will present "**The Romanovs: Tyrants and Martyrs of Imperial Russia**"

Tickets have been on sale for this very exciting day since July.

This study day follows the course of this hard, determined and brutal dynasty who ruled Russia for over three hundred years, from Peter the Great to the ill-fated Tsar Nicholas and his family, who were murdered in a cellar in Ekaterinburg in the early 20th Century.

We welcome the return of one of the most popular lecturers Douglas Skeggs who has kindly agreed to give up a Saturday for us. This, and the wonderful catering of our Special Events Committee, is one time when afternoon and evening members are able to meet.

25 November – Roger Mitchell MA – The Victorian House Around the World (1840-1910)

Victoria's empire spanned the world and as do Victorian houses, especially as 'Victorian' is used in the USA to define an architectural period.

The lecture will take us from the British Isles to North America and the Caribbean then to Australasia and home via South Africa. The houses could hardly be more different and varied. Styles range from Gothic to Italianate from Queen Anne Revival in the USA to Federation in Australia. Decorative interest is evident in the Gothic and Iron Lace examples.

27 January 2016 – Dr Geri Parlbay - Lights, Camera Action – The Art of the Silver Screen

We welcome Geri again with her newest lecture. She is currently the only lecturer to focus on film as an art form, which can be both decorative and fine. We are very aware of this when we attend exhibitions of contemporary artists as there is often a video playing somewhere.

The moving image has been a powerful inspiration from the first moment a magic lantern flickered into life in the 17th Century. In this lecture we will be looking at how the Motion Pictures industry first developed throughout the late 19th and early 20th century and how it then went on to change the face of entertainment and inspire the imaginations of some of the greatest artists of the early 20th century.

24 February – Charles Harris – Romancing the Rails

Once again, we welcome Charles to Cranleigh DFAS. He has had a lifelong career in advertising as a creative director with some of the most well known global agencies. His experience as a creator of posters gives his presentation about poster art a unique edge. He will examine the best of railway poster art celebrating the Golden Age of British railways and compare them with railway posters from around the world. Has there ever been

a more romantic period of travel history? The Flying Scotsman, Golden Arrows, Belles and Pullmans. No wonder Betjeman still stands in awe at St. Pancras

Liz Trickett – Programme Secretary

Outings - Summer 2015

Our programme of 2015 visits is now almost complete – except for the follow up on our 2014 Special Interest Day about the **Huguenots**. Already plans are afoot for 2016.

However, there is one further gem for 2015. We have bought 57 tickets for The Royal Albert Hall on **December 13** to enjoy The Raymond Gubbay Production of **Christmas Carol Singalong Performance** at 1pm. We will travel by coach from Cranleigh as usual. Tickets on sale in September.

In 2016 we hope to organise some visits where members could drive themselves. These will be relatively local and will help keep costs down for everyone. We hope some will car share.

We also hope to continue linking lectures and visits as best we can.

Gwen Wright, Outings Secretary

Something Special – Tours

Yorkshire

In partnership with **Tailored Travel**, a company that works closely with NADFAS, National Trust and the like, we have arranged a 5 day trip to Yorkshire to enjoy the art, historic houses and heritage of the county.

We will be departing from Cranleigh by air conditioned coach on **6 May 2016**. If you are interested please contact Liz Trickett on either 01483 274527 or ltickett@supanet.com who will provide you with written details. These will also be available at our monthly meetings.

Bilbao to Santiago de Compostela and the Way of St James - 8 days – departing 8 September 2016

We have also arranged an exciting trip to Spain with **Tailored Travel**, visiting Bilbao, Burgos, Leon, Lugo and Santiago de Compostela with our own coach and private guide throughout the tour,

If you are interested – please contact **Gwen Wright 01798 873226** or **Liz Trickett 01483 274527** for further details. Deposits this autumn, full final payment due 8 weeks before departure.

Friends from our non NADFAS world are also invited to join us on this trip.

Gwen Wright and Liz Trickett