



Your Chairman writes ...

Dear Members,

Let me begin with two housekeeping points.

In this new tax year, if you are no longer a tax payer, we cannot claim Gift Aid on your subscription. Therefore please inform our Treasurer, Brian Wright:

brianwright3663@talktalk.net Tel 01403 822207.

To increase efficiency and reduce rising costs, it is our aim wherever possible, to use electronic mail. For those of you who do not have an email address, we shall still use the postal system.

This year has seen some new ideas come to fruition. In conjunction with the Arts Centre First Literary Festival and thanks to our Young Arts Team, we were delighted to have had the 3D artwork of children from six Cranleigh schools displayed in the Arts Centre glass gallery. The 'winners' from each school received small prizes but for all the children involved, seeing their work on public display was surely a tremendous thrill.

Congratulations to our St Nicolas Church Recorder group. They are very enthusiastic and progressing well together. Indeed as a spin off, a member of the team has undertaken the development of a Church Trail for children, which will be in time for Heritage Day in September.

The planning for our programme of lectures and visits starts almost 2 years ahead, so how fantastic that in this 400th year celebration of Shakespeare's birth, thanks to a masterstroke of forethought by Gwen Wright and Liz Trickett, we have excellent seats at The Globe in July.

Our programme offers monthly lectures, a Special Interest Day in November, two 'drive yourself' visits, group holidays to Yorkshire and Spain, plus the aforementioned Globe experience. I hope you will agree, quite a varied and different format on offer this season.

Finally as a volunteer myself, I know how much the success of Cranleigh DFAS is due to the involvement of everyone, from your Committee to lecture reporters, our hosts between lectures, those who update the noticeboard, deal with ticket sales and our unseen 'Back of House' experts. I am truly grateful to you all.

There are many ways that an extra pair of hands is always welcome. If you like to be part of our team please contact me or any other member of the Committee.

Kindest regards to you all.

Pat Butler

Young Arts

It's long been our aim to involve as many youngsters in our art-based activities as possible. To achieve that means building a relationship with our local schools. It can be a slow process. Schools are very busy places and curriculum demands place ever greater pressures on both children and teachers. We are fortunate in Cranleigh to have art teachers who now welcome our involvement.



Over the years CDFAS Young Arts has worked with individual schools on specific projects that you'll all have read about. It's only in 2016, however, that we've succeeded in bringing together a display of decorative art from six of our seven Cranleigh schools in one single event.



The exhibition in the Arts Centre's glass gallery was quite a talking point during March. It boasted a splendidly diverse collection of objects, as would be expected given the young artists' ages ranged between seven and sixteen. To celebrate their skill and talent, Chairman Pat Butler presented prizes

for those pieces judged to be the best from each school at an enjoyable awards ceremony on the 5 March. We are delighted to report that all seven Cranleigh schools will now participate in our painting rota scheme in the Arts Centre foyer. So please keep an eye open for the latest painting by one of our budding young artists. What better way can there be of encouraging their creativity?

Pat Morgan and Jan Fricker, Young Arts Co-ordinators

Forthcoming lectures

25 May – Clive Stewart-Lockhart: Betty Joel – Glamour & Innovation in 1930s Design

Clive has been an auctioneer for over 40 years and a member of the Antiques Road Show team for over 20. He has recently written an article for the Decorative Arts Society on the well connected designer of the 30s, Betty Joel. Betty ran one of the leading interior and furniture design companies of the inter-war years. Among her clients were the Queen, Winston Churchill and in Paris, Gertrude Stein. The talk discusses her life and work whilst focusing on a few remarkable survivals in London, Nottingham and Harrogate.

22 June - Alexandra Epps: The Art of Light – Stained Glass in the City of London

Alexandra is an experienced designer who ran a design consultancy for many years. She is also a City of London official guide and lecturer. Her lecture will feature the magical qualities of stained glass windows in the historic churches of the City, some of which we may have seen briefly if we went on the CDFAS guided tour of Wren's churches in 2014. We will discover the symbolism they contain, the spiritual dimensions and above all their radiant beauty.

27 July – Mark Hill: Undressing Antiques

Mark is an antiques and 20thC design specialist, author, publisher, lecturer, dealer and TV presenter. He is the co-author of the biennial international 'Miller's Collectables Price Guide'. Mark is also a Patron of Kings Lynn Arts Centre, a Freeman of the Company of Arts Scholars and a Freeman of the City of London. His lecture will be a persuasive introduction to buying antiques and integrating and using them in today's homes, the current state of the antiques market and the different meanings of the word 'value'. We also take a look at what collectors are currently buying, why and how they are being displayed.

29 September – Dr Annie Gray: To Please the Palate & Charm the Eye – 400 years of ephemeral art

We are fortunate to welcome one of this country's most well known food historians. The lecture will draw on material culture, illustration and satire, recipe books and Annie's experience of cooking and eating historic food to really bring the art of eating to life. It will focus on presentation through the centuries from Tudor pies to Arctic Rolls.

Liz Trickett – Programme Secretary

Outings 2016

We hope you will all enjoy the wide range of outings this season. There is a deliberate balance between the less and the more expensive visits – and some local ones where we can reduce costs by driving ourselves, when we hope you will share cars.

We have tried to relate the outings to lectures – eg **The Wallace Collection**, but also aim to appreciate places of local interest eg **Tangmere** and **Guildford**– both of which we are sure you will find fascinating.

Our "Showstopper visit" will be to **Shakespeare's Globe**, when we will enjoy both the Museum and a matinee performance of A Mid Summer Night's Dream.

Those who joined us for **The Royal Albert Hall Carols at Christmas 2015** will appreciate the enormous success of this visit. We await decisions as to whether to repeat such an idea in the future. Please feel free to talk to us!

For the first time in many years we are delighted that our Society is running two group holidays through Tailored Travel. One to **Yorkshire** and the other to **Northern Spain**, all details are on the website.

Please note that for some visits we are selling tickets 3 months before the event because we need more lead time for settling accounts and confirming numbers. Members are always free to invite non-members on visits once members have had sufficient opportunity to buy tickets.

We are asking you to supply us with a contact number on your membership renewal for any emergency whilst on Cranleigh DFAS events. Thus the tear off slip on tickets is no longer needed. Phew I hear you say!

Our **Special Interest Day** will add another dimension to our understanding of the arts in November. We look forward to sharing this action packed year with you

Gwen Wright – Outings Secretary