



### *Your Chairman writes ...*

With Easter eggs on supermarket shelves for the past couple of weeks, it seems inappropriate to be wishing you a Happy New Year. In spite of being almost at the end of January, on behalf of your committee and myself please, accept our good wishes for health and happiness in 2017.

With so many countries and peoples in the world suffering intense hardship, we must be truly thankful for freedom, food and friendship. Friendliness is one thing we can all offer each other. At our monthly talks, we may choose to sit with people we know. Why not as a belated New Year's resolution make a point of saying "Hello" and chat to someone new. There may be many interests you share, as well as both being members of Cranleigh DFAS!

My thanks and appreciation go to Liz and Gwen who have prepared another splendid programme of lectures and visits for next season; some of which are outlined in this Newsletter. Details of the complete programme will be contained in your renewal envelopes.

To ensure your delectation and delight of our lectures, visits and Special Interest sessions, please remember to complete and return your membership renewal paperwork promptly and enclose a stamped addressed envelope large enough for your membership card.

My grateful thanks to my fellow committee members, our Young Arts and Special Events teams and all the members who contribute in so many ways to the smooth running of our society. Impossible to name you all, but *you* know who you are.

Finally yet importantly, I must mention our Church recording team. From a small initial group, we are now fourteen strong and I am proud of their enthusiasm and achievements. Providing tea and biscuits at our twice-monthly meetings does help us to keep warm whilst we work!

We were saddened to hear Ron Ringshall had passed away. His book on St Nicolas Cranleigh has been of immense help in our research. When our official NADFAS record is complete and ready to go to print, we will ensure there is a dedication to him.

Best wishes

*Pat Butler*

### **Young Arts**

A Christmas workshop was held at Park Mead Primary School in December for two classes, with the children making decorations with enthusiasm and greater or lesser degrees of skill! Park Mead School encourages participation in the creative arts and we receive a great deal of support and thanks from the staff and Head.

For 2017 we hope to repeat, more or less, the events we organized last year – funding permitting. We feel that it was a successful programme and it will make the induction of our new team much easier. We have discussed possible dates for another schools' art show with the Arts Centre, and hope to arrange another Watts Gallery project. We would like to offer Cranleigh Primary School children a Christmas workshop, especially as a new teacher has taken over responsibility for art there.

The Arts Centre has asked for our help in contacting schools with a view to their producing designs for banners to hang from the lamp posts in the High Street during Cranleigh Heritage celebrations this summer.

The Young Arts team will be changing after the AGM, as Jan will be standing down. She will be greatly missed as one of our Young Arts coordinator, however, she will remain involved for specific events.

Together with Jan and Sue Pescodd, we welcome to the team as occasional helpers, Heather Head and Carole Lewis.

Jan and I are delighted that Felicity Kemp has agreed to be a Young Arts coordinator, and she is already proving to be a real asset.

*Pat Morgan and Jan Fricker - Young Arts Coordinators*

### **Forthcoming lectures**

#### **22 February 22 2017 - Mary Alexander - Riviera Paradise**

Since the 19<sup>th</sup> Century English high society had wintered on the Cote d'Azur, but usually left by April. However, in the 1920s an intoxicating mix of artists, writers, musicians and international visitors, inspired by the mythological seascape of luminous colours, created a new summer season. During this talk we will meet the crowd who

summered on the Riviera creating a fusion of art, design and pleasure in the 20s and 30s.

### 22 March 22 2017 - Sarah Deere-Jones - Thy trembling strings – Regency Harp and Harp Lute

Using her own restored Regency pedal harp, and the music of some forgotten 19<sup>th</sup> Century harpists, Sarah explains how certain developments in the harp's mechanism led to an explosion in its popularity, which is further illustrated by beautiful paintings of Regency ladies with their harps, revealing how fashionable and elegant the harp was considered to be.

### 26 April 2017 – Mary Rose Rivett-Carnet - Discover the Paintings you Own – The Public Catalogue

Mary Rose is the Copyright Officer at the Public Catalogue Foundation, and will describe the hunt for publicly-owned paintings that without the PCF, might have remained obscured from public view. The Public Catalogue was founded in 2003 to photograph and record the enormous collection of oil paintings held by the state, local authorities and charitable trusts.

### 22 May 22 2017 – Dr Richard Thomas - William Cobbett and James Gillray

William Cobbett (1763-1835) was a well known Farnham journalist who had public spats with James Gillray (1736-1815), an equally famous, savage political cartoonist. This talk will describe their relationship, illustrated by art and cartoons of the day.

*Liz Trickett – Programme Secretary*

## Outings 2017

Our outings for the year are all arranged and we have an exciting mix with a different balance, which we hope you will love!

Arranging coach visits has the advantage of being able to get somewhere with ease – but of course the numbers game is always tricky.

This year all of our outings have a **maximum of 50** per visit because of the group size restrictions at each venue.

The gems in store are the Georgian buildings housing the oldest - and still functioning, **Whitchurch Silk Mill** in the Country. Since this is so near **the Bombay Sapphire gin distillery** – it makes a perfect day trip to combine these visits and lunch has been included to save time!

January 2017

We hope for good weather when we visit **Great Dixter house and gardens**. Great Dixter was the home of gardener and gardening writer Christopher Lloyd (1921-2006) and for an extra treat we will visit **Tudeley Church** where the whole Church is blessed with windows painted by **Marc Chagall**.

Other than here and Chichester, one would have to travel far to see other such great work – Israel, France or New York!!

A backstage tour of the **National Theatre** in July is an amazing experience, and The South Bank an area of such varied pleasures – from Tate Modern to chilling out and dining! The morning is organized – but you choose your afternoon.



The organized group holiday has been very well received, and we look forward to visiting and learning more about **Medieval Italy** in September.

We look forward to welcoming you aboard

*Gwen Wright – Outings Secretary*

## Reports

Our web site publishes reports on our talks and outings, but we need volunteers to undertake these each month. It is not an onerous task, and should reflect the views of the reporter on the content and presentation of each talk. The length required is no more than an A4 sheet. If any members are prepared to volunteer for this, please contact any committee member or me.

*Philip Akroyd*