

# NEWSLETTER

## May 2017

Cranleigh Decorative  
& Fine Arts Society



### *Your Chairman writes ...*

At the AGM in Birmingham on May 18<sup>th</sup> NADFAS formally announced the rebranding of the Society.

NADFAS as I am sure you know, is a national association with a vibrant network of local Decorative and Fine Art Societies. Formed in 1968 when eleven arts Societies came together, it has gone from strength to strength in the UK and overseas.

Next year it will celebrate 50 years. You may ask, why change the name after all this time? Quite simply it was felt necessary to address the problem of being thought a rather rarefied and lofty Society. The NADFAS board thought it was time for a change of image, move with the times so to speak.

Please be assured the core values remain the same, it is such an extraordinarily successful combination of education, entertainment and sociability.

The new name chosen is **The Arts Society**, which, together with a new logo and colour palette will be adopted by all societies, as and when individual timing allows, for example when programme cards or publicity flyers need printing.

Each society will have its own name in addition to that of The Arts Society, so we will be known as **The Arts Society Cranleigh**. As I said, this change of name and appearance will happen gradually and many will still say they are 'going to DFAS today'. We quite understand... it is absolutely not a problem!

Your committee wholeheartedly approve of the new image and hope the appeal of this more 'user friendly' name will encourage additional members. Perhaps you have family, friends or neighbours who may like to come to one of our monthly talks? Why not ask them to join you, they will be most welcome.

Looking ahead, please visit our **Young Arts Exhibition at the Arts Centre, 18<sup>th</sup> to 29th July**

This exhibition coincides with Cranleigh Heritage week and will showcase the many talented young artists in our

local schools. Last year the exhibition was a tremendous success with some visitors wishing the paintings were for sale, praise indeed!

Meanwhile we have more of this year's superb programme to enjoy, full details listed in your programme card and on our website: [www.cranleighdfas.org](http://www.cranleighdfas.org) Here you can also read reviews of previous talks and visits.

I know some of you have recently returned from a superb visit to Liverpool and are looking forward to the holiday in Medieval Italy in September. For this I have to say many thanks to Liz and Gwen for their hard work in organizing these holidays in addition to our monthly talks, other brilliant days out and the special interest days.



As always, my grateful thanks go to the whole committee and to the many individuals too numerous to name, who contribute to the smooth running of your society. Last but not least, my thanks to you the members who make Cranleigh DFAS a joy and pleasure to be part of. Though our name may change, our attitude to life, learning and sharing enjoyment with each other, will remain the same.

Best wishes

Pat Butler

## Gift Aid

Since my annual report, I am pleased to say that matters have moved on and we have been reassured by NADFAS, and their auditors, that our Society is eligible to reclaim gift aid on annual donations. A claim is pending. All money received from the reclaim is used to support our Society's high level of involvement in various Young Arts projects. In order to maintain this involvement, it is essential the maximum amount possible is reclaimed; currently this is £11.25 per donation.

A reclaim can only be achieved if you have completed a Gift Aid Declaration form. Therefore, if you are eligible and have not already signed a form, will you please do so. When dating the form, please date it from when you made the donation and not the current date, otherwise I will not be able to claim on this year's donation. Forms will be available at each lecture.

Brian Wright. Treasurer

## Young Arts

The early months of the year are all about planning for Young Arts, so while there are no completed activities to report, much has been happening behind the scenes.

With the Cranleigh Heritage Showcase fixed for July, Young Arts has put our local schools on alert to provide some striking paintings for our Art Exhibition that will coincide with it. We've also been working with the Arts Centre to inspire our local schools to produce designs for banners that will flutter from the High Street's lampposts during the summer. Both initiatives are certainly something to look out for.

With schools under increasing budgetary constraints, your generous support of Young Arts means that we can try to fill in at least some of the gaps. So we'll be fully funding more workshops at the Watts Gallery for Glebelands' Year 10 GCSE Art Class, as well as offering financial assistance for another creative project at St Joseph's School and College – and there'll be more initiatives to follow.

After more than six years as a dedicated Young Arts Representative, Jan Fricker has now handed over to Felicity Kemp, who is already showing equal enthusiasm and commitment. Jan will continue as an occasional helper, along with Sue Pescodd and they'll now be joined by Heather Head and Carole Lewis. With your continuing

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support and on CDFAS' behalf, we'll all be doing our best to encourage local young people to achieve their artistic potential.

Pat Morgan - Young Arts Co-ordinator

## Forthcoming lectures

### **May 24<sup>th</sup> 2017 – William Cobbett (1763–1835) & James Gillray (1756–1815) - Dr Richard Thomas**

Dr Thomas lives in Farnham and so did William Cobbett. Cobbett is well known for his book 'Rural Rides' but he was also the greatest journalist of his age, attacking mainly political corruption & nepotism for which he was imprisoned. He was the founder of *Hansard*. Gillray, a contemporary was a rather savage cartoonist, producing caricatures of leading politicians and royalty. He was paid by the Tory government to attack Cobbett in a series of cartoons.

### **June 8<sup>th</sup> 2017 – A Potted History of Britain – Julian Richards**

The process of making pots started in Britain 6,000 years ago. Julian is an archaeologist, writer and broadcaster. He will examine our 'potted history' from its start linking early Neolithic pottery to the individuality of such well known potters as William de Morgan, and 21<sup>st</sup> Century counterparts. Altogether, this will be an extraordinary story with some beautiful pots and inspiring potters.

### **July 26<sup>th</sup> 2017 – Wonder Workers and the Art of Illusion – Bertie Pearce**

From the beginning of time fascination of magic and the impossible has been widespread. Ancient Egypt was the cradle of magic. Priests used scientific illusions for the edification of worship and holding power over people. This talk will be a whistle stop tour of the history of mystery from 3,000 BC to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century delivered by a Gold Star member of the Inner Magic Circle.

### **September 27<sup>th</sup> 2017 – 1900 to Now – Indestructible Theatre – Giles Ramsay**

Giles is new to NADFAS as a speaker but not to speaking. He has a massive repertoire of topics associated with the theatre and its history and regularly gives talks on the Queen Mary. He is the course leader in Theatre at the V&A and a Fellow of St Chad's College Durham. Our previous speaker for September has changed jobs and has had to defer her talk until 2018. Fortunately, Giles is able to come and talk about the theatre in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century which will fit very well after our planned outing to the National Theatre, in July.

Liz Trickett – Programme Secretary

## Outings 2017

Our 2017 season has begun with a herald of trumpets! We are all set for our long awaited visit to the **Silk Mill and Gin Distillery**, and have just enjoyed the masterful **Special Interest morning** about the American Artist – Jacob Lawrence. This was led by Richard Cupidi who we all recognise as having THE most outstanding style of delivery we have known. Magnificent!

Close on these heels is our visit to **Great Dixter** – those prized gardens in the early summer should be wonderful and to see **Marc Chagall's** work on the same day will be truly awesome!



London's South Bank calls once again – this time to see the inner workings of the National Theatre. At a time when so many of us enjoy work from the **National Theatre** through the live screenings – it is a real opportunity to see what really does go on behind the scenes – and to enjoy the South Bank in the Summer.



Our group in Liverpool

As our season matures, 31 of us will be enjoying a guided group holiday, centred in the **Bologna** area with daily visits to the many famous, inspiring and historical places that predominate in that area.

We are all fortunate to share in such riches and look forward to them with relish. Always check our CDFAS website for any reports or ticket details!

Gwen Wright – Outings Secretary.

### Addition to our programme.

We are pleased to announce a Christmas party once again at Cranleigh Golf and Country club, on the evening of **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December**.

Please join us for this very sociable event, relax with friends old and new as we enter the Christmas season.

Tickets will be on sale at our **September meeting**.

