



LeDFAS June 2017 newsletter

Dear member

Please remember to get to Wednesday's meeting early as we will start our Extraordinary General Meeting at 7.30pm, on a resolution to change our name to "The Arts Society Leatherhead." [Click here](#) for the papers, which were circulated before.

Our talk is by Dr Caroline Shenton about The day Parliament Burned Down. Rising from the ashes we had the new publicly funded London Fire Fighting Brigade and the Palace of Westminster as we know it today.

Have a look at a new trip to Hampton Court to see a new "Stories in Stitch" exhibition: see below.

Best wishes

Huw Jenkins, Secretary

This month's Talk

Wednesday 14 June 2017: The Day Parliament Burned Down: Caroline Shenton

(Doors open at 7.00pm for free tea and coffee. Sit down for EGM at 7.30pm)

Dr Caroline Shenton will tell us about the great conflagration that destroyed Parliament's glorious old buildings and their contents on 16 October 1834. A huge ball of fire exploded through the roof of the Houses of Parliament, creating a blaze so enormous that it could be seen by the King and Queen at Windsor. Based on her acclaimed book which won the 2013 political book of the year award, this talk takes us through the gripping hour-by-hour story of the fire through contemporary depictions of the disaster by Turner, William Heath and others. And amazingly no lives were lost.



Stories in Stitch Exhibition on Thursday 17th August

A new trip which was not on the 2017 programme

Come and see your favourite stories brought to life at The Royal School of Needlework's "Stories in Stitch" exhibition at Hampton Court Palace. There will be a 2 hour tour including a 30 minute seated presentation, probably by Dr Susan Kay-Williams, the Chief Executive of The Royal School of Needlework; Susan is an experienced NADFAS lecturer. We will see items specially brought out from the Collection. There will be the chance to see stitchers at work. The maximum number of members who can go is 24. Bookings are now open and Sarah Sheridan will be taking bookings at the June meeting.



A guided walk around fashionable Hampstead and a visit to Two National Trust houses on Thursday 6 July

This walk, which will be led by Rona Roach, is fully booked.

Knebworth House visit

35 members enjoyed the exclusive visit to Knebworth house, home to the Lytton family since the time of Henry V11. We were fortunate there were no hold ups on the M25 (both ways). On arrival we were greeted by two excellent guides who gave us detailed tours of the unusual house. In addition to the highlight of visiting the British Raj exhibition (covering the period when Queen Victoria became Empress of India at the Delhi Durbar of 1877) many of us enjoyed a breezy walk in the beautiful extensive grounds. And Knebworth served us a superb lunch.

Christmas Carol Concert: 19 December: a reminder

Last year's concert was a success and also raised a large sum of money for the parish church. We have booked the Brandenburg brass and singers for Tuesday 19 December.

LeDFAS Istria tour 19 to 26 September

The guided tour to Istria is fully booked; contact Gilly Coombes if you might be interested in knowing if there are any cancellations nearer the time of the holiday.

2018 visits: any good ideas?

It is only June but we are already starting to look at our 2018 visits programme. Have you been anywhere LeDFAS should consider visiting that was special, or always wanted to go to, or has LeDFAS visited anywhere a few years ago that we could go back to? Please speak or send an email to Sarah Sheridan, or me, if you have any ideas.

Review of May talk: The Art of the Poster by Andrew Davies

Most of you found Andrew Davies to be an excellent speaker, eg "an entertaining, informative and educational presentation expertly delivered with humour."

Does your partner get the newsletter and do they vote on lectures?

Recently a number of couples have registered a second email address which lets them get the newsletter direct, and they can also vote on lectures. Do you want to vote on the lectures? As some of you know if you share an email address you can vote twice.

Surrey Artists Open Studios 10,11,17 and 18 June (11am-5pm)

Two members (Gillian Cann and Jill Goodchild), who are two diverse painters (one who paints in oils, mixed media with gold leaf and the other who is a botanical painter), have open studios in Tyle Cottage, Worple Road, Leatherhead KT22 8HG.

Leatherhead Probus Sporting lunch Tuesday 3 October

The club meets for lunch, followed by a talk, on the first Tuesday of each month at Tyrrell's Wood Golf Club. On 3 October the club is holding its second Probus Sporting Lunch, on a rugby theme, with Rob Andrew and John Taylor. If you are interested contact me (Huw) before Wednesday, or contact Jon McCarthy.

Leatherhead Theatre

Raising funds for the Theatre: The Godalming Operatic Society, The Greatest Songs of Gilbert & Sullivan on Saturday 10 June at 7.30pm

Event screenings Art highlights include:

Glyndebourne: La Traviata on Thursday 8 June at 7.15pm

nt live: Peter Pan on Saturday 17 June at 12.30pm

nt live: Salome on Thursday 22 June at 7pm

Contact the theatre box office on 01372 365132 for tickets

Music in local churches

There is monthly music on Wednesdays (**Christ Church**) and weekly on Thursdays (**Leatherhead Methodist Church**). Visit www.musiconthursdays.org

Leatherhead Open Gardens Sunday 9 July (11am-5pm)

There are 14 gardens to visit, 9 of which are within easy walking distance of the Parish Church. There is a free hop on/hop off bus service to outlying gardens. Refreshments are available at the Parish Church. Programmes are available from Barton's bookshop, Truelove or the Parish Office.

Wednesday 12 July 2017: The Huguenot Silk Weavers of Spitalfields: Sue Jackson Next month's talk

Welcomed with open arms for their luxury skills, the Huguenots' fortunes fluctuated wildly. This talk will be about their early 18th century houses that still stand, how they were decorated and lived in and the fashionable patterned silk dresses—who designed and made them. Mantua dresses allowed the silk designs to be shown to their full advantage and Spitalfield silks became extremely popular. Finally, the trade died out with some weavers literally dying in poverty at their looms.