



THE ARTS SOCIETY SHREWSBURY

www.theartssocietysshrewsbury.org.uk

Enriching lives through the arts

Chairman's Newsletter
September 2018

Dear Members

Welcome back after the summer break. I hope you have all enjoyed a restful summer with warm sunny days – and that your gardens are now beginning to recover.

Past Events

On 20 June our lecture was *Birds, Beast and Box: The Art of Topiary* by Dr Sophie Oosterwijk in which we enjoyed her personal experiences and light-hearted delivery which were perfect for a hot summer afternoon.

On 28 June we enjoyed a stunning day with magnificent fountains, an amazing Baroque Church and a delicious lunch under the trees at Witley Court followed by Hanbury Hall with enthusiastic guides pointing out the treasures of the house and the topiary in the garden that linked so well with our June lecture.

On 31 July members enjoyed a visit to Hatton Grange where they were welcomed warmly by Mr and Mrs Rupert Kenyon-Slaney who gave a fascinating talk and guided tour of their beautiful house and gardens.

Thank you to Deborah Yates and Pippa Walker for booking and looking after our excellent lecturers, and Corinne Russell, for booking all the other enjoyable events with her meticulous attention to detail ensuring we have wonderful days out together.

Future Events

From September 25 - 2 October 2018, our overseas trip will be to St Petersburg. Thank you to the staff at the Lord Hill Hotel who generously put a room at our disposal and enabled us to meet the representative of the Russian Visa Centre here to give our fingerprints and submit our visa applications – and supported us in the process. Thank goodness we were all accepted, and we can look forward to the trip with the visas safely in our passports.

On Thursday 11 October, there will be a visit to Coventry Cathedral, Herbert Gallery and the Guildhall.

On Wednesday 17 October, we shall have our AGM at 1.45pm, our lecture at 2.00pm, and our New Members' Tea in the Bar at the Reception area at 3.15pm to which all new members are warmly invited.

On Wednesday 5 December, our lecture will begin at 11.00am, and, at 12.30pm, we shall have our Christmas Lunch. (see enclosed)

On Thursday 21 February, there will be a trip to Birmingham Royal Ballet to see *Beauty and the Beast*.

On Monday 20 May - Thursday 23 May, there will be a three-night Tour to Newcastle and Durham. (Save the Day! Details in November mailing)

On Thursday 6 June, there will be a trip to Morton Hall Gardens and the private apartments at Coughton Court. (Save the Day! Details will follow later)

Thank you to Corinne Russell and Ceri Lewis for organising these events for us.

Heritage Volunteers

On 7 September, there was an Open Day at Shropshire Archives at which our team of Marion Adams, Margaret Ridland and Lucy Shrank helped to demonstrate the work they do which

they hope will encourage more people to volunteer. If you are interested in helping with this interesting and worthwhile work, please contact Caroline Auger.

The Arts Society West Midlands

On 19 July, The Arts Society West Midlands held a fascinating Special Interest Day, titled *Two Wrekin Gems*, at Tong Church with Toby Capwell talking on the armour on the effigies, and at Weston Park with a lecture and guided tour.

On 22 September 2018, there is to be the West Midlands Area's celebration of the Golden Jubilee of The Arts Society at the Wedgwood Museum. This will be organised by Roly Trevor-Jones and Margaret Locke, so it is good that there will be plenty of support from Shrewsbury.

Website

To access our website, please use the new domain: <http://theartsocietyshrewsbury.org.uk> . The old domain <http://shrewsburydfas.org.uk> will cease in November 2018.

Feedback

For a trial period, we have added a facility on our website for you to give us your views on the lectures, to be included in the Lecture Review which I send each month to The Arts Society. The password is **Shrew1**. Please make a note of it so you can use it again. To help you with your decisions, I have included the Lecture Review Categories stipulated by The Arts Society. In making your decisions, it may help you to note that we only book speakers in the top two grades in the reports we read from other societies. I shall look forward to reading your feedback.

The Arts Society Lecture Review Categories				
Category	Education Content	Technical	Recommend?	Action
Outstanding	Inspiring	Faultless	Highly Recommend	N/A
Excellent		(Almost) Faultless	Highly Recommend	N/A
Very Good	Educational	Minor Faults (acceptable)	Recommend	N/A
Good		Minor Faults (acceptable)	Recommend	N/A
Passable	Not Stimulating/Uninspiring	Notable Faults to Remedy	Recommend with Reservations	Education Advisory
Poor	Below Acceptable Standard	Significant & Unacceptable Faults	Not Recommend	Education Action

As you can see, we are a very active and vibrant society. This is due to our very hard-working committee and to the support and enthusiasm of all our members, both of which I thank very much. I hope you will find your lives enriched through the arts in the months ahead.

Best wishes
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