

Tours, Study Days and Outings

Friday 20th - 26th September 2019

ART, ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORY TOUR OF NORTHERN ITALY

Fly to Northern Italy for 6 nights in the charming spa town of Abano Terme near Padova. We plan to visit Ferrara, The Venetian Lagoon and Venice including La Fenice Opera House. We will also visit Verona, Vicenza, Padova, Mantova and several Palladian Villas to discover magnificent architecture, gardens, Ducal Palaces, frescoes, paintings and sculptures. Further details from Freda Markham (Chairman).

Thursday 24th October 2019

VISIT TO TWO BIRMINGHAM MUSEUMS

The visit starts in the Museum of the Jewellery Quarter with a guided tour of the Smith & Pepper factory which closed in 1981. The proprietors retired and locked the doors leaving everything in situ thereby creating a time capsule. Lunch will be taken at Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery followed by a guided tour of the Treasures of the Museum.

Thursday 21st November 2019

STUDY DAY LED BY JOHN ERICSON: WINE-RELATED ANTIQUES

Who can deny that the drinking of wine is amongst the most pleasurable of pursuits? The lecture will cover the functional but intrinsically beautiful wine related items such as drinking glasses, decanters, bottle labels, bin labels and corkscrews. The day will finish with a 'Roadshow' when members can bring along old corkscrews or other wine related items for John to present and discuss.

Thursday 5th March 2020

STUDY DAY LED BY DR. SUSAN WHITFIELD: THE SILK ROAD, ART, HISTORY & EXPLORATION

No highway in the world is as laden with romance and adventure as the Silk Road. Susan will introduce its history and art and tell us about its exploration and discovery by two early 20th century archaeologists. Some Silk Road objects will be on display including silverware, glass, silk and a Buddhist object. Members are invited to bring a Silk Road related item.

Thursday 21st - 22nd May 2020

VISIT TO PLAS BRONDANW AND PORTMEIRION

This two day visit to North Wales includes a visit to Plas Brondanw and the Italianate style fantasy village of Portmeirion. Called Snowdonia's hidden jewel, the landscaped gardens of Plas Brondanw were constructed by Sir Clough Williams-Ellis, the renowned Welsh Architect and creator of Portmeirion village. The overnight stay will be at Portmeirion.

Payment to be made by CHEQUE, (payable to TAST) at the time of booking. Refunds will be given only if the place can be filled from a waiting list.

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Hon. President
The Viscountess Ashbrook

2019 / 2020

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www.tastarporley.uk
www.theartssociety.org

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Thursday 12th September 2019 Tony Rawlins

MAD MEN AND THE ARTISTS

Fine art has provided advertisers and their agencies with a great deal of material to use in their creative campaigns. Discover some of the processes by which advertisements are created and why the works of Leonardo Da Vinci, Raphael and Michelangelo have been a particularly rich source, providing enhancement of brand imagery with humour, satire and irony.

Thursday 10th October 2019 Charles Harris

ROMANCING THE RAILS: BRITISH RAILWAYS POSTERS

The Golden Age of steam from 1923-1947 produced some of the best in British Railway Poster Art. In this romantic period of travel, The Flying Scotsman, Golden Arrows, Belles and Pullmans were promoted by Royal Academicians and world-class graphic designers. No wonder Betjeman stands in awe at St Pancras!

Thursday 14th November 2019 Christopher Chanter

THE REBUILDING OF THE CITY YPRES AFTER ITS DESTRUCTION IN WORLD WAR I

Imagine the thriving city of Ypres pre WWI with 35,000 people and 10,000 buildings. By 1918, this same city was in ruins. Winston Churchill wanted it left desolate to show the terrible message of war, but Field Marshal Sir John French, Commander in Chief wanted it rebuilt exactly as it had been.

Thursday 12 December 2019 Malcolm Jones

A VERY BRITISH ART FORM – THE STORY OF PANTOMIME

Sometimes called 'Britain's greatest art form', pantomime has been a popular form of entertainment for over 300 years. From the early 18th century the word described performances at the Drury Lane Theatre. These were based on the Italian 'commedia dell'arte' and they then developed into an opportunity for political satire. During the 19th century the fairytale plots were established and the Music Hall entertainment created the tradition of the 'pantomime' of today.

N.B Coffee from 11.00. The Lecture begins at 11.30 with Christmas lunch at 1.00 for Members only. Tickets will be available at the October meeting from Mrs. Freda Markham. Please inform Freda if you are attending the lecture only 01829 751613 / 07702 184495 or email: chairman@tastarporley.uk

Thursday 9th January 2020 Sian Walters

RAPHAEL: A MASTER IN THE MAKING

Raphael is often referred to as one of the three giants of the High Renaissance in Italy alongside Michelangelo and Leonardo Da Vinci yet his career was short-lived since he died at just 37. However, he quickly progressed from modest commissions in his home town of Urbino to the position of a leading artist to Pope Julius II who was the most important patron of the arts in Italy.

Thursday 13th February 2020 Shirley Smith

RENAISSANCE MARRIAGE: MORE THAN JUST A LOVE MATCH

Marriage in Italian Renaissance upper class families was not founded on love but involved the wealth and prestige of two families. It entailed elaborate ceremonies, gifts and costumes. By studying paintings we look at the various aspects of this ritual, from the betrothal to the birth of their first child.

FEBRUARY IS THE DONATION LECTURE WHICH SUPPORTS OUR YOUNG ARTS PROJECTS

Thursday 12th March 2020 Paul Roberts

PALMYRA BRIDE OF THE DESERT

Palmyra, an ancient city in Syria arose on a trade route that brought silk, spices and other luxuries across the desert from the east. Her people, wealthy, sophisticated and cosmopolitan, are preserved in their hauntingly beautiful grave portraits. Discover Palmyra's meteoric rise and its dramatic fall, its rediscovery by English lords and its desecration by Isis. There is, however, hope that beautiful Palmyra will rise again.

Thursday 9th April 2020 Matthew Williams

PORTMEIRION - ITALIANATE FANTASY VILLAGE IN WALES

Portmeirion, the creation of Sir Clough Williams-Ellis was his personal defiance against what he saw as the increasing ugliness and despoilment of Britain. By the 1940s it had become the playground of artists, aristocrats and intellectuals. Its architecture and Portmeirion pottery, were synonymous with cutting-edge ceramic style in the 1960s and 1970s.

A hearing loop is available in the Community Centre

Thursday 14th May 2020 Caroline Shenton

PACKING UP THE NATION

In 1939 as Hitler threatened Britain, a band of heroic curators from London's national museums, galleries and archives forged extraordinary plans to evacuate their collections. Utilising country houses, tube tunnels, mines and quarries a dedicated team of unlikely heroes packed up their greatest treasures and transported them throughout the country, and out of danger.

Thursday 11th June 2020 Jo Mabbutt

FIELD OF CLOTH OF GOLD

In June 1520 Henry VIII and Francis I met to ratify an Anglo-French alliance and the betrothal of Henry's daughter Mary to the Dauphin. Each brought an entourage of 6,000 to a field south of Calais for 18 days of lavish events and entertainments. The English logistics and supply chain were equally staggering and fascinating. How was it all achieved?

Followed by **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

TEA WILL BE SERVED TO MEMBERS ATTENDING, FOLLOWING THE AGM

Please book your Guests where possible by email with Wendy Wren at guests@tastarporley.uk or 01829 270037

Visitors fee is £6 on the day.