

Friday 2nd October 2020

MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL CRUISE ****POSTPONED****

This day cruise is a fascinating journey along the Manchester Ship Canal with spectacular scenery and a sense of how its construction shaped the city of Manchester. It is a journey through time, with locks and bridges built over 100 years ago. Travel from Seacombe to Salford, with live commentary from a Blue Badge Guide.

Friday 15th - 21st October 2020

ART, ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORY TOUR OF UMBRIA

Fly to Rome for a seven-day tour of Umbria, staying within the medieval walls of Spoleto. Visit Spello, Sansepolcro, Monterchi, Arezzo, Bevegna, Urbino, Perugia and Orvieto. Discover magnificent architecture, frescoes, paintings, sculptures, and fun.

Thursday 29th October 2020 ****POSTPONED UNTIL 2021****

STUDY DAY: ADAM BUSIAKIEWICZ - MUSIC & ART 1450-1800

What does that painting sound like? This study day will illustrate many connections between music and art, focussing on the Old Masters. Explore the Medieval and Renaissance periods with live music on the lute, accompanied by a talented soprano.

Thursday 18th March 2021

STUDY DAY: BRIAN HEALEY - SAIL, SWEAT AND SPARKLE

The Golden Age of the Transatlantic Liner: How vying for the Blue Riband, changing tastes and national pride, turned the liners of yesteryear into floating works of art.

New York! New York! The Ashcan Experiment: In early 20th century New York, a generation of artists chose the skyline and the labourers who built it as their subject.

Tiffany and Co - Diamonds and Decadence: Art, enterprise and luxury.

[to be confirmed] May 2021

VISIT TO PLAS BRONDANW AND PORTMEIRION

The 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 Bertram Clough Williams-Ellis, the renowned Welsh architect 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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THE ARTS
SOCIETY
TARPORLEY

Hon. President
The Viscountess Ashbrook

2020 / 2021

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Thursday 10th September 2020**Bertie Pearce****NOW YOU SEE IT, NOW YOU DON'T: THE ART OF ILLUSION**

There is a universal delight in being deceived. In this lecture, the audience is taken on a whistle-stop tour of art that fools, surprises and amuses. Beginning and ending with the Belgian Surrealist René Magritte, it encompasses Trompe L'oeil, Banksy, Bridget Riley, Arcimboldo and Escher, to name but a few. Hold on to your seats and get ready to be visually fried!

Thursday 8th October 2020**Suzanne Perrin****JAPANESE ARCHITECTURE, GARDENS AND TEA CULTURE**

Gardens were an integral part of Japanese architectural design. They were laid out for a particular purpose: a strolling garden; a tea garden; or an evocative stone and moss garden for contemplation. Each era had its own design style. The 13th, 14th and 15th centuries were the high point for Zen-influenced gardens, whilst the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries saw the development of tea gardens.

Thursday 12th November 2020**Roger Butler****CANAL HISTORY AND HERITAGE**

A well-known architectural historian once described canals as a 'poor man's art gallery'. This lecture provides a fascinating introduction to the secret world of the 2000-mile inland waterway network, covering all aspects of the exceptional artistic and architectural land engineering vernacular. Features range from sweeping aqueducts to tiny bollards; from colourful historic narrow boats to 'Roses and Castles' artwork; from grand World Heritage Sites to quirky listed buildings.

Thursday 10th December 2020**Geri Parlbly****SNAKES, SAINTS AND PAWNBROKERS**

The Christian festival of Christmas has a wealth of traditions, but what are their origins? Why do we bring a tree into our home at Christmas? How did Santa Claus become the patron saint of pawnbrokers, and what has a snake to do with it all? This lecture unveils the surprising truth about some of our Christmas traditions.

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 Freda Markham. Please inform Freda if you are attending the lecture only [01829 751613 / 07702184495] or email: guests@tastarporley.uk

Thursday 14th January 2021**Douglas Skeggs****PICASSO AND CUBISM**

Picasso, one of the most famous and controversial figures of the 20th century, triggers mixed, often violent, reactions from art lovers. This lecture ranges from his early career in Spain, to the back streets of Paris where the poetic and wistful images of the Blue Period were transformed into the daring experiments known as Cubism. It examines Picasso's ideas and hopes; his friends and influences; the technical problems he overcame and the single-minded determination that broke every rule of painting and altered the course of modern art.

Thursday 11th February 2021**James Taylor****BRILLIANT BRITISH HUMOUR IN THE FORGOTTEN ART OF THE PICTURE POSTCARD**

From the Edwardian era to the outbreak of World War II, millions of humorous postcards were produced to entertain, bolster morale, inspire, instruct, motivate and persuade. Discover the popular themes and styles of the period by the masters of the medium such as Mabel Lucie Attwell, Dudley Buxton, Donald McGill and Fred Spurgin, and the reasons why their popularity waned with the British public.

FEBRUARY IS THE DONATION LECTURE WHICH SUPPORTS OUR YOUNG ARTS PROJECTS.

Thursday 11th March 2021**Peter Medhurst****VIVALDI IN VENICE**

Vivaldi is the one Baroque composer whose music is a direct reflection of the city in which it was composed. A Vivaldi concerto transports the listener to the heart of 18th century Venice. The reasons for this are many: his passion for colour, display and spectacle in music; the unusual way in which Venice solved its problems with the poor and homeless; his health problems and eccentricities as man and priest. This lecture explores the amazing world of Vivaldi's music – music that is as intrinsically Venetian as the canvasses of Canaletto.

Thursday 8th April 2021**Malcolm Kenwood****THE MONA LISA MYSTERY**

On August 21st, 1911, the entire cultural world went into shock! The Mona Lisa had been stolen from the Louvre! The discovery of the theft and its investigation revealed absurd blunders, failures and misadventures which were lampooned in songs, postcards, variety shows and the world's press. This lecture explores the events that led to the remarkable repatriation of the painting in Florence two years later, along with the motivation of the thief, his trial and the Italian perception of his crime. As with any good mystery, there is an incredible twist to the plot!

Thursday 13th May 2021**Robert McManners****SHAFTS OF LIGHT – THE PHENOMENON OF MINING ART**

The phenomenon of mining art emanates from the least visually attractive of the heavy industries that prospered in industrial North East England. Almost lost from living memory, this phenomenon had not been systematically researched or recorded despite the fact that it contained works of huge social and industrial significance. Why did miners paint the coalmines? In research over 25 years, Robert McManners and his colleague Gillian Wales, have documented this remarkable phenomenon. This is that story.

Thursday 10th June 2021**Imogen Corrigan****THE MASTER MASONS: THE MEN WHO BUILT THE CATHEDRALS**

How did human beings create dizzyingly high cathedrals on which even the top-most parts were delicately decorated? Why were they built, and for whom? For God, for personal redemption and to make a living, are the answers to the last two questions. The 'how' is harder to fathom. In this lecture meet the men who designed, ran the sites and sourced the materials and workers. They created heaven on earth out of the cacophony of thousands of chisels and hammers. They were charismatic leaders, but also real people with very human failings.

**Followed by ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
TEA WILL BE SERVED TO MEMBERS ATTENDING,
FOLLOWING THE AGM.**

A hearing loop is available in the Community Centre.

**Please book your Guests where possible by email with
Freda Markham at guests@tastarporley
or telephone 01829 751613 / 07702184495
Visitors fee is £6.00 on the day.**