

**Invitation to all members**  
PRESENTATION OF THE CHURCH RECORD  
St Nicolas Church 3pm  
5<sup>th</sup> December 2010  
Followed by Refreshments

### **CHAIRMAN'S NOTES**

Thank you for your prompt response in renewing and paying your subscriptions. This is a great help to our membership secretary. We have been able to take in more members, which is always encouraging for those on the waiting list.

I would like each one of you to consider whether you could join the committee. We provide an excellent programme of lectures as well as visits – we know by the comments on the questionnaires; could you help lighten the load? We do have a 3 year rotation on the committee. Too often I hear “But, I am retired”. We all like to enjoy an active retirement but it is good to be involved. *Your committee needs you!*

Two projects undertaken by the Heritage volunteers have come to fruition. The costumes for the Edwardian Ladies at Polesden Lacey have been shown and well received. We now wait for the men's outfits. New volunteers are welcome. This is an East Surrey initiative.

The second project is the completion of the Church Record of St Nicolas Church; a lengthy but satisfying task. Well done to all those involved! Do come along to the presentation.

We are a sad to say farewell to John and Linda Tiffney as they move to Cirencester to be near their family. John was the inspiration for the founding of the Bookham DFAS. He has given so much to the Society and he leaves a successful and lively group for which we are grateful. What an act to follow. John will continue to be our President. We wish them well.

The East Surrey Area DFAS, has the usual interesting programme that can be found on our website, on the notice board at our meetings or at [www.nadfaseastsurreyarea.org.uk](http://www.nadfaseastsurreyarea.org.uk).

I should like to wish you all a peaceful Christmas and look forward to a successful New Year

**Angela Stevens**

### **CHURCH RECORDERS**

**"Mission Accomplished"**

We are very pleased to be able to tell you that the Record of St Nicolas Church on which some 20 of us have been working since the autumn of 2004 is now complete and is to be presented to Alan Jenkins, the Rector, on the afternoon of Sunday 5th December.

We don't think that any of the Recorders who became involved with the project at the start anticipated that it would take so long to finish. But we have now arrived at our destination and I think that any of you who have the opportunity to see the completed Record will agree that it is an interesting, thorough and professional piece of work. It is something of which we in our Bookham DFAS can be truly proud. It will be a worthy contribution to the historic record of the Church. The original Record will be held by St Nicolas, but there will also be copies with the Diocese and the Victoria and Albert Museum among others.

Angela Stevens and I, who together led the project, could not have had a more dedicated and committed team. We have found it both a pleasure and a privilege.

**Michael Anderson and Angela Stevens**



Barcelona Tour

Photo Derek Simonds

### **PROGRAMME**

Thank you to those who have suggested topics for lectures in 2012 on the membership form.

To complement the major 2011 exhibition at the V & A on the Aesthetic Movement we have three lectures. Caroline Holmes will cover the noted designers of the Victorian age, together with collectors' gardens and those of the Arts and Crafts movement. Anne Anderson's lecture will lavishly illustrate the House Beautiful in the 1870s and 1880s,

from the cult of Japan to Gilbert and Sullivan's Patience. In November Peter Medhurst will examine the history, construction, reception and the contemporary satire found in Patience – arguably Gilbert and Sullivan's most successful work. There will be a chance to hear a number of the arias sung live from the piano.

To start the year, Leslie Pitcher will talk about ancient Roman mosaics from Pompeii to Ravenna with many excellent slides. Both John Benjamin and Eveline Eaton have lectured to our Society before. John will be giving a new lecture in February on the National Trust property, Smallhythe and its hidden gems, which include the jewels of Ellen Terry. Eveline will talk in May on "new" Berlin to give a background to the tour in September.

I have included two modern lectures; Sian Walters in June, on the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao. She will give the history of the Foundation and will include illustrations of the architecture of Frank Gehry. In July Anthony Penrose will lecture on Lee Miller & Picasso whose friendship started in 1937 and lasted until Picasso's death in 1973. He painted her portrait six times and she took many photographs of him. The lecture will include Lee Miller's photographs and contain a brief biography of her and Roland Penrose. We are arranging a visit in August to Farley Farm House where Lee Miller lived and where Picasso visited which I am sure will be extremely interesting.

Rebecca Hossack is a new NADFAS lecturer and her lecture in September would be something completely new. She shows examples of aboriginal paintings from round the world, explains the meaning and how to read the symbols and signs as well as talking about the aboriginal people and her experiences with them.

I expect some of you have seen Andy McConnell on the Antiques Roadshow. He is an expert on glass and I know we will have a very entertaining lecture in October on the history of the decanter to 1900.

**Pam Wilson Programme Secretary**

### **WEBSITE**

This continues to be managed by Bob Evans. New information is added when it is received about visits, study days or tours from other DFAS groups so it is important to keep logging on.

You can also see this newsletter in colour!

### **MEMBERSHIP**

The attraction of the Society to local residents is still very buoyant and we have invited an additional 14 members on the waiting list to join our Society in 2011. This was mainly due to existing members leaving us for various reasons. Even so there is still a waiting list that continues to grow monthly.

More and more members are giving me their email addresses and again I would like to thank members for their cooperation. *However please remember to notify me when you change your Email address as*

*'non deliverable' Emails delay our communications to you.*

[janet.martin@talktalk.net](mailto:janet.martin@talktalk.net)

**Martin Kent – Membership Secretary**

### **VISITS and TOURS**

We were very pleased to be offered two visits to HRH Prince Charles gardens at Highgrove House in Tetbury in August. He has transformed a very ordinary acreage into a series of splendid gardens which are well worth a visit.

Twenty three intrepid members spent six days in Spain in September. We were very fortunate to be in Tarragona whilst the locals were celebrating one of their Saints Days, so the city was buzzing with music, fireworks and parades each evening. After three days we arrived in Barcelona-thronging with tourists as befits the Spanish Olympic City of Culture. We marvelled at Sagrada Familia which Gaudi began in 1882 and is still being built some 130 years later!



On the ramparts

Photo Derek Simmonds

In October, Bronwen Mills did a super job as our guide to the Kent coast. Walmer Castle was interesting -being the home of the Warden of the Cinque Ports. We then had a walking tour of Deal which was a smugglers den in the 18th/19th Centuries and on to Sandwich for another walk and a conducted tour of the Guildhall.

For 2011, we return to Westminster Abbey and the Purcell Singers in February. In April we travel to Hampshire to Mottisfont Abbey and Wilton House and their magnificent gardens. There are two visits in May, locally to Slyfield House. We travel by coach to Chenies Manor, a Tudor building with later connections with the Arts and Craft movement and Hughendon Manor, the home of Disraeli in Buckinghamshire; continuing the year's Victorian theme.

We travel for extended stays to Lincoln in June and to Berlin in September.

Booking as usual at the monthly meetings.

**John Tiffney Visits/Tours Secretary**

Compiled by John Cook