

Issue 10 Spring 2008



The Dawney School Arts Project

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

This year is the 40th Anniversary of our national organisation, NADFAS, and you will no doubt see items about events in the press over the next few months. We have decided to celebrate after the 22nd July meeting with wine and a special anniversary cake. This year, too, we will be in the Barn Hall on Village Day 21st June with a display of photographs from our visits and tours prepared by Hazel Parker. The East Surrey Area DFAS have organised a 40th Anniversary Study Day with Buffet Lunch at Epsom Playhouse on Friday 26th September. There will be lectures by David Bostwick and Valerie Woodgate. For full details see our website or at www.nadfaseastsurreyarea.org.uk. It should be an interesting day.

John Cook

THE AGM

The annual meeting marked the retirement of three committee members, Bunty Chapman, Hazel Parker

and Muriel Wheatley and Derek Parker as projectionist. The Chairman expressed the thanks of the members to the enthusiastic commitment they had given to the Society. Presentations to each were made by John Tiffney.

The elections of officers, John Cook, Chairman, John Davies, Treasurer, and Jenny Denison, Secretary, were agreed. Pam Wilson began her three year committee role as Programme Secretary and John Tiffney as Visits/Tours Secretary. John Wilson was welcomed to the projection team. Membership Secretary, John Jones and Joyce Durbin, Social Secretary completed the committee.

The Annual Accounts were presented and approved unanimously and Tim Cook was reappointed Honorary Examiner of the accounts.

John Cook ended the meeting by thanking all members who readily volunteered for the various jobs so necessary for the smooth running of the monthly meetings. He expressed his particular thanks to the committee who gave their valuable time to the Society.

YOUNG ARTS

The weaving and piñata board in the photograph opposite was one of the many projects completed during the Native American arts week at The Dawney School in 2007. Our Society donated of £300 towards the costs of the venture.

“A” level Art Exhibition.

Following the success of the previous two Schools Art Exhibitions in 2004 and 2006 which our Society supported, the local Societies decided to make a change in the age range for 2008. Because the standard of the artwork was so high at “A” level it was felt that an exhibition focusing on those students would be a very worthwhile exercise.

The Exhibition will be held on Sat. 11th and Sunday 12th October at Betchworth Village Hall (off A25) from 10.00am to 4.00pm each day.

Please make a note in your diaries as the support of our members will be appreciated.

John Tiffney

PROGRAMME

I became the new Programme Secretary after the AGM in March, taking over from Muriel Wheatley, who has produced some wonderful lectures during her time as Programme Secretary. It is an enthralling, busy job and I know I will enjoy it.

The lecture for June has been changed from the 24th to the 17th June and Helen McCabe will be giving us her lecture on Houses and Gardens of Normandy as a taster before some of us visit Normandy for a tour of the gardens.

Jonathan Hinden, as usual, I am sure, will be giving us a wonderful lecture with music on Verdi's "La Traviata": A Very Italian Affair in July before we break for the summer.

I have completed the programme for 2009 which I hope you will enjoy, but would welcome your ideas and suggestions for the future.

Please do keep completing the Members' Comments Forms as they do help Committee to feed back Head Office with our comments on the lectures and give us ideas of your lecture preferences.

Pam Wilson Programme Secretary

CHURCH RECORDERS

The work of the Church Recorders approaches fruition we are finalising our work to meet exacting, nationally agreed standards of recording. In February the various specialist groups involved exhibited their contributions in the church to an interested group of members and parishioners.



St Nicolas Church

Derek Simmonds

Michael Anderson and Angela Stephens

MEMBERSHIP

The attraction of the Society to local residents is still very buoyant. Membership is at capacity and there is a waiting list of 26 people and this is growing monthly.

The issue of keeping the Society active with enthusiastic members attending meetings needs to be addressed. Currently there are several members who have paid their annual subscriptions but for personal reasons have not attended a meeting. Should their membership be reviewed? This is an issue that will have to be addressed in fairness to those on the waiting list.

More and more members are giving me their e mail address and the cooperation of members is much appreciated. *Those of you who have not given me their e mail address are asked please let me have it.* More and more information will be issued in this format .Help us achieve the ultimate of a paperless Society.

John D G Jones Membership Secretary

WEBSITE

Continues to be managed by Bob Evans and earlier in the year had its 3000th visitor. We add new information 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!

VISITS and TOURS

By the time you read this we will have been to Kew Palace & Gardens in April and Basildon House in May. Apologies to the eleven people who were unsuccessful in the ballot for the 20 places visiting Slyfield House this year-there will be another visit next May!

We are taking a walking group to London in June and another trip to the Stanley Picker Gallery in Kingston in July. In November we are going to visit Blenheim Palace.

Our tour to Normandy is fully booked and so is the tour to Petra and Jordan. I will be arranging minibuses to transport us to and from Gatwick (as we did for Krakow- which seemed to work very efficiently and economically).

Next year the committee has asked for a tour to Durham and the North East of England in early July and a five-day tour to Vienna in October. Please let me know if you would be interested in these tours so I have an idea as to numbers when I start talking to Tour operators.

It would be very remiss of me not to record our appreciation to Hazel Parker for organising the visits and tours so efficiently and enthusiastically for the past three years-she will be a hard act to follow-thank you Hazel.

John Tiffney Visits/Tours Secretary

Design John Cook