

Artefacts

THE FRIENDS OF BIRMINGHAM MUSEUMS TRUST MAGAZINE

WINTER 2015



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Birmingham
Museums

BAFM

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*One £5 child ticket (8-16 yrs) with every full paying adult (£43, £37 and £25 ticket prices). This offer can not be applied retrospectively and is subject to availability. Ticket prices are subject to a 5% transaction charge and postage from £1. The £5 child ticket offer can be booked by phone only. ** Calls cost from 5p per minute

Our Chairman

Deborah de Haes



January, named after Janus, the two-faced Roman god, is a time for looking back and a time for looking forward. At a time of change, it particularly helps to look back and celebrate what has gone, and to look forward in hope to what is coming. It is not easy. 2015 will be a time of change; change for Birmingham Museums Trust and for us, Friends of BMT. So let us look forward in hope to 2015, as well as taking time to celebrate 2014.

Looking forward, I am delighted to announce the appointment of our new Treasurer, Katy Oram. Katy is financial controller at De Montfort Fine Art, a Lichfield-based publishing company distributing contemporary original paintings and collectable limited editions across the UK and overseas. She is keen to develop her emerging interest in art and we are delighted to have her on board.

I am also delighted to announce that, following John Pownall's decision to give up the editorship of *Artefacts*, Melissa Page, our Administrator, has agreed to take on the role. Melissa is well qualified for this, with her MA in Art History from Nottingham University, and considerable experience in the sector. One of her ambitions is to extend the artistic content of the magazine when she takes over in the summer.

Looking back, 2014 was a year of transition for Friends' volunteers. All volunteer roles were profiled and logged, new vacancies advertised in *Artefacts* for wider circulation, and regular volunteer meetings held to address issues and challenges. Day to day management of the volunteers (including essential training) was transferred to BMT's Volunteer Development Officer, Alex Nicholson-Evans, and that seems to be settling down well. This all culminated in an enjoyable volunteer party for all BMT volunteers, including Friends' volunteers, in the Edwardian Tea Room just before Christmas. We look forward to building these relationships further in 2015.

Our events programme continued to be popular in 2014 but with fewer people attending than in previous years. Looking forward, we are likely to lose our evening event venue, Edmunds Wine Bar, following a major refurbishment, but Melissa, who coordinates this programme, has been innovative in finding new places

for us to try during 2015. All ideas or comments on this transition process welcome; do contact Melissa.

BMT continues to face severe financial challenges, which will be even greater in 2015. Our contributions are more essential than ever before, especially as grant-giving bodies and wealthy individuals rarely support operational-type expenditure. This may not be the role we see for ourselves in the long term but this support is absolutely vital in the short term.

So we have to have a clear focus on raising funds, and an effective way to do this is by increasing membership. In April, BMT plans to introduce its own Membership Scheme and as yet we are not sure how this will impact on the Friends. However, we are working closely with them on developing their scheme. We hope to know more by the next edition of *Artefacts*. But please do continue to support the Trust in every way you can and encourage others to do the same; your Trust needs you!

As part of this process, your Committee recently identified the main benefits the Friends bring to BMT (apart from money) as: social interaction, trips across the UK and abroad, and being a 'critical friend'. If you have any views on this, please do contact me.

I hope 2015 will be a very good year for you. I look forward to your continued support, both for us and for BMT, and may you continue to enjoy the excitement and challenge of exploring the Birmingham collections across the City.

With very best wishes. ■

Deborah de Haes
Chair

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'An Ode to Christian Joy', 2013 by Emily Sparkes © the artist
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Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

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Work from the collections of the Victoria and Albert Museum

30 January – 26 April 2015



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V&A



Forthcoming Friends' Events

Event Applications

For Friends' Members the event applications will be included as a supplement in the centre of this magazine.

Note: Where applicable, if you are not a member and would like to apply for one of our events, send a letter to the address on page 4 stating the Event Name(s), your name, address, telephone number, how many places, the cost, the pickup point if a coach trip and any other relevant information. Include a cheque for the total amount made out to FB MAG unless otherwise stated. Please also include a S.A.E. for the return of your tickets.

Annual Lunch at the College of Food (UCB)

Thursday 19 March 2015 at 12 noon. We have arranged our annual visit to the 'College of Food' at UCB in Summer Row.

We have selected 3 starters, 3 main courses and 3 desserts. Please ensure your selections are clearly indicated on your applications, also any dietary requirements.

Your choices of Starter:

- A.** Ribbons of Melon, Glazed Pink Grapefruit and Orange Segments, Mixed Berries and Passion Fruit Jelly
- B.** Poached and House Smoked Salmon, New Potatoes and Caper Salad
- C.** Deep fried Somerset Brie, Pickled Walnuts, Spiced Poached Pear and Cumberland Sauce

Main Courses:

- D.** Fillet of Sea Bass, Creamed Fennel and Roasted Plum Tomatoes
- E.** Slow cooked Belly of Pork, Sage Faggot, Apple Sauce, Crackling and Cider Sauce
- F.** Beef Bourguignon

Desserts:

- G.** Brazilian origin Chocolate Tart with Malt Ice Cream
- H.** Steamed Sponge Pudding of the Day with Custard Sauce
- I.** Pear Bourdaloue with Amaretto Ice Cream

Cost: £22; this includes three courses, wine, coffee and service

We will meet in the Ground Floor Reception area at UCB in Summer Row at 12 noon for 12:15pm. Please bring your ticket with you.

Leicester – King Richard III Visitor Centre and The New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Thursday 2 April 2015. We will go directly to the King Richard III Visitor Centre, this new award winning attraction, located on the car park where Richard III's remains were discovered, uses great storytelling, beautiful design and 21st century technology, to tell the fascinating and moving story of the king's life and death, and reveal one of the greatest archaeological detective stories ever told.

In August 1485 King Richard III was killed at the Battle of Bosworth, and buried by the Grey Friars, a Franciscan Holy order, in their friary church. In August 2012, Leicester City Council, the University of Leicester, and the Richard III Society began a search to find King Richard III's remains and the Grey Friars Church. Five months after the dig began the University of Leicester confirmed a skeleton unearthed by archaeologists was in fact Richard III.

After time for lunch (not included), we will coach to *The New Walk Museum & Art Gallery*, Leicester's original museum that has wide ranging collections and displays spanning the natural and cultural world. The galleries include World Arts, Ancient Egypt, Dinosaurs, Wild Space and the Victorian Art Gallery featuring works from their fine art collection.

The first floor galleries include the Arts & Crafts Gallery, The Attenborough Collection of Picasso Ceramics and Leicester's internationally renowned German Expressionist collection.

Cost: £26 – Includes coach, driver's tip, entrance to the Richard III Visitor Centre and a donation to the New Walk Museum & Art Gallery.

Pickup Points: Yateley Road @ 9:15am; or Chest Clinic, Gt Charles St @ 9:30.

This event is open to non-members - see note on page 6.

'The Coffin Works' Tour



Thursday 26 February 2015, 2:00pm. Newman Bros. 'Manufacturers of Coffin Furniture of Every Description' - moved to Fleet Street in 1894 and changed their product line from general brass founding to the production of coffin furniture. You will have the opportunity to step back in time and experience the factory as it was in its heyday, with machinery working and its unusual products – coffin handles, coffin plates, coffin linings and shrouds – all on display in the workshops and store rooms.

Cost: £10. Includes entrance, tours and refreshments.

We will meet at 'The Coffin Works', 13-15 Fleet Street, off Summer Row, Birmingham, B3 1JP at 2:00pm.

(<http://www.coffinworks.org>). Easy to find – with the College of Food (UCB) on your right, walk down Summer Row, cross Lionel Street pass the restaurants, turn right into Fleet Street, 'The Coffin Works' is about 40 metres on the right hand side.



Friends Guided Tours

These tours are exclusive to Friends and cost £9. Please note that Lunch is not included in these events.

Guided Tour (123) 'With a Little Help From Your Friends' by Jane Howell

Thursday 12 March 2015. It is 85 years since the start of the Friends and during that time we have assisted BMAG by providing funding for over 2,500 objects including many wonderful works of art. In this tour we shall look at some of those works: some acquired in the very early days and some more recently. It is very satisfying to discover just how valuable this financial assistance has been, without it, the Museum's collections would be much poorer.

Friends will meet in the Round Room at 11am.

Guided Tour (124) 'New Art West Midlands' by Lisa Beauchamp

Tuesday 10 March 2015. Join Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art Lisa Beauchamp for a discussion on *New Art West Midlands 2015*. This year's exhibition



Girls on a Bridge - Amsterdam, Jennifer Shufflebotham, 2014 © Jennifer Shufflebotham. Photo © Birmingham Museums Trust

includes stunning paintings by Emily Sparkes and Jennifer Shufflebotham as well as thoughtful and provocative sculptures by Jade Simpson and Lisa Marie Williams. *New Art West Midlands* features the best of the region's graduates, giving them their first rung on the ladder to becoming a professional artist.

Friends will meet in the Round Room at 11:00am.

Guided Tour (125) 'Art from Elsewhere' by Katie Hall

Tuesday 17 March 2015. Art From Elsewhere showcases the work of 19 international artists whose work was recently collected as part of the Art Fund International scheme, and includes several works purchased by Birmingham Museums and the New Art Gallery Walsall under the scheme. The exhibition brings together key works from the galleries involved in the scheme and considers themes of global change, postcolonial experiences and failed utopias.

Friends will meet in Waterhall Foyer at 11:00am.

Evening Talks

With Edmunds still out of commission the next series of evening events will take place in the 'The Coffin Works', 13-15 Fleet Street. For more venue details see 'The Coffin Works Tour' on page 7.

Cost: £9 (£12 non-members). Refreshments will be served.

'The Young Turner: His art, alternative families and the women in his life' –

Professor Michael Cullen

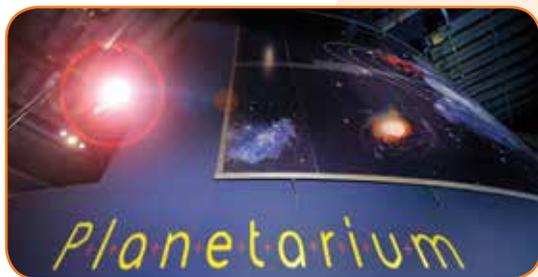
Tuesday 31 March 2015, 6:30pm - 8:30pm. Michael Cullen will concentrate mainly on Turner's watercolours from c.1790-1820, demonstrating how the artist developed watercolour painting so dramatically that its impact could compete with oils. He will examine one work in particular in which he believes Turner may have included the women in his life at that time (1815). He



Drawing, World Map of Social Networks, Aleksandra Mir, 2009. © Aleksandra Mir/ Photo ©Birmingham Museums Trust'

will also discuss how his early life may have resulted in his inability to make secure attachments to women and hence his need for 'alternative' families.

**'Life inside the Dome' - Colin Hutcheson,
Planetarium Officer**



Tuesday 28th April 2015, 6:30pm-8:30pm. The planetarium at Thinktank Science museum was the first purpose built digital planetarium in the UK, opening in Dec 2005. Since then it has wowed around 750,000 visitors by showing off the night sky, exploring atoms and cells, and being entranced

by fulldome artwork. It is now one of the world's busiest small dome planetaria. However, to ensure the planetarium can be run everyday and meet visitor expectations, there is much work required away from the public eye including: technical maintenance, research, coding, and cleaning. Planetarium Officer Colin Hutcheson will give an overview of the planetarium, some of the projects he's currently working on, and share some of his experiences of *Life inside the Dome*.

**'Newman Brothers coffin fittings works:
Birmingham's newest heritage attraction' - Simon
Buteux, Director, Birmingham Conservation Trust**

Tuesday 19th May 2015, 6:30pm-8:30pm. At the end of October last year, Birmingham Conservation Trust opened a new heritage attraction, Newman Brothers Coffin Works, in the Jewellery Quarter. Similar in concept to Birmingham Museum Trust's Museum of the Jewellery Quarter, at Newman Brothers, visitors 'step back in time' to explore the factory as it was in



The Shroud Room at Newman Brothers', Jane Baker

its heyday. The factory was built in 1894 and closed in 1999, when it was left with its machinery, stock, furniture, office equipment etc. all in situ, as if at the end of an ordinary working day.

In this talk, Birmingham Conservation Trust's Director, Simon Buteux, will relate the fascinating history of the factory, pieced together from documents and the reminiscences of former workers. Newman Brothers produced coffin fittings initially in solid brass, then in stamped electro-brass, silver and nickel plate, and latterly in moulded resin. Additionally the factory has a 'Shroud Room' where shrouds and coffin linings were produced. The goods were sent out across the world and some of them adorned the coffins of the great and the good, such as Joseph Chamberlain, Winston Churchill, and the Queen Mother.

Simon will describe the 15-year campaign to save Newman Brothers coffin works, the challenges of the year-long repair and conservation works, and what

the project has achieved and aims to achieve. He will place the project in the wider context of the work of Birmingham Conservation Trust.

Things to look forward to

Thursday 28 May 2015

Professor Michael Cullen - AV Room Talk

The Young Turner: His art, alternative families and the women in his life.

Note - Same content as Evening Event on 31 March.

26 June 2015

Tour of the newly hung Baroque Galleries - Helen Hillyard

25 - 28 September 2015

Weekend Away in Salisbury

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Phone 024 7635 0720 or visit
www.nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk/museum

FREE Admission

Nuneaton Museum & Art Gallery
Image taken from Little Tim and the Brave Sea Captain, copyright © Edward Ardizzone 1936. Reproduced with permission from Frances Lincoln Children's Books.

Saturday 28 March 2015 - 7.30 pm

Magnificat

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Handel: *Dixit Dominus*
Bach: *Cantatas 31 & 50*
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Nika Goric, Charlotte Schoeters,
Julian Gregory & Tristan Hambleton
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In memory of Stanley Sellers

Full details and tickets at:
www.birmingham.bachchoir.com
Or call Heather; 07901 798442.



Staffordshire Hoard

Visitors Explore the Staffordshire Hoard Gallery

When the Staffordshire Hoard was discovered in 2009, its amazing artistry and mysterious origins captured the imagination of the public. Five years on, the glittering new gallery is attracting visitors from across the UK and worldwide to marvel at exciting displays and interactive exhibits. Visitor numbers to the gallery have soared to over 40,000 since its opening in October 2014 and a programme of activities has fuelled the imagination of visitors of all ages.

Over the school half term and two Saturdays, 2,427 visitors participated in activities including Saturday Arts Clubs and Artist Workshops exploring Saxon metalwork, as well as making their very own helmets in Drop in Crafts. During Living History sessions our younger visitors met Anglo-Saxons and learnt about the life in the Mercian Kingdom. Storytelling was also given a Saxon makeover with interactive performances that were attended by 669 children and adults. Additionally, new Hoard backpacks for families to use together are now available from the front desk, and include storybooks, jigsaws and magnifying glasses.

History-lovers have also shared in the excitement of the new display. The Staffordshire Hoard Conservation Team have given talks to numerous groups including the Olney Archaeological Society, St Philips Chambers, Investec Wealth Management and of course, the Friends of Birmingham Museums Trust. We would like to thank everyone that has made the new gallery such a success.

However, there is still work to be done on the Staffordshire Hoard Gallery. This year the Jewellery Industry Innovation Centre will begin the production of high-quality replicas, which visitors will explore in object handling sessions and view in the gallery when the

originals are being studied or shown elsewhere.

Please Give to Support this Innovative Work

We need your support to make this project happen. Your gift will help tell the amazing story of the Hoard to visitors of all ages. By becoming a *Staffordshire Hoard Guardian* you will also enjoy a special relationship with Birmingham Museums and the Hoard through patrons' events and an exclusive Staffordshire Hoard event.

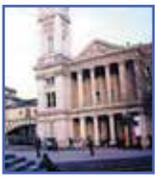
'The Hoard provides a tangible bond between our past and the present: incredible skills then and now producing remarkable and beautiful results.'

Staffordshire Hoard Guardian, Dr Anthony Verduyn of St Philips Chambers.

Send a cheque made out to Birmingham Museums Trust with 'Hoard Replicas' written on the reverse, to Development Office, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, B3 3DH. To donate by card, please ring 0121 348 8293. A donation of £250 will give Staffordshire Hoard Guardianship (1 year); for a £50 donation you will receive a signed book on the Hoard.

Thank you for your support. ■





News From the Office

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- Free entry to special exhibitions in Gas Hall
- Free entry to all our Heritage Sites
- Artefacts magazine four times a year
- Opportunity to join the many Friends' social events and outings
- Opus Restaurant (Cornwall Street, near the Museum) is offering a 10% discount to Friends on production of a valid membership card. This is available for lunch or dinner, 7 days a week.

Plus discounts at the following venues (T&Cs apply):

- BM&AG and Heritage Site shops
- 50% entrance discount to Thinktank at Millennium Point www.thinktank.ac
- Shakespeare Birthplace Trust shops (excluding admission prices) www.shakespeare.org.uk
- Ironbridge Gorge Trust shops providing a minimum of £5 is spent in one transaction. Offer excludes books, certain sales items, admission prices and café/restaurant purchases) www.ironbridge.org.uk
- Potteries Museums & Art Gallery shops/café's www.museums.stoke.gov.uk

GIFT MEMBERSHIP

Available all year round and includes 3 extra months free. A Gift Membership form can be requested from Lynda Perrin (Membership), see contact details on page 4.

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to our new members: Mrs LS Bridge, Mr A Woodward, Mrs J Evans-Gordon, Miss L Wood, Dr A Verduyn, Mr A Charman, Mr AC & Mrs LC Shapcott, Mr L Davies, Mr J Short, Ms R McAvoy, Dr B & Mrs D Leadbeater, Mr J & Mrs M Lloyd, Mr JC & Mrs H Bragg, Mr J & Mrs P Findlay, Mr J & Mrs B Gough, Mr R Grew, Mrs CM Clarke, Mr D Wright.

Please note that BMT phone numbers have changed, details can be found on the contents page.

APPLICATION FORM: PLEASE WRITE IN CAPITAL LETTERS

Title Name(s)

Address

Postcode Tel. No.

Email address

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY AND ANNUAL RATES (Please tick)

SINGLE £32 [] **DOUBLE** (full rate Includes 2 children under 16) £48 []

CONCESSIONARY RATES

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[] I enclose a cheque for £_____ or [] I have transferred £_____ to SORT CODE 30-00-06 A/C NO 00248432

Please tell us where you picked up a copy of Artefacts _____

Yes I am a UK taxpayer and would like this and any future donations to be tax effective under the Gift Aid Scheme until I notify you otherwise. (You must pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that you donate to will reclaim on your gifts for that tax year. Other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. FBMAAG will claim 25p of tax on every £1 you give.)

Please send this completed form, together with your cheque made payable to F.B.M.A.G. to the address on page 4 of Artefacts.

DATA PROTECTION ACT -

For membership and accounting needs your details are held on a computerised Database for Friends' Office use only.

News

From the Volunteers



everyone into the Christmas spirit and to Melissa Page (Friends Administrator) and the Friends' Office Volunteers likewise for the second event.

We now have the Spring to look forward to, enjoying the future Volunteering opportunities now available to us, not to mention our working with the Trust on their very exciting modernisation programme as part of the wider Paradise Circus redevelopment. Please keep updated through www.bmag.org.uk/support-us/volunteer or the Friends Volunteers meetings. ■

Yvonne Warner
Friends' Trustee and Volunteer

A very happy 2015 is wished to our Volunteers and the Volunteers of Birmingham Museums Trust.

What a year 2014 was and what a year 2015 is expected to be, now we have been given such a wonderful welcome into BMT's Volunteer fold. Our existing Volunteers registered with the Trust on 19 November 2014, with final registration for those who could not make the initial one on 20 January 2015 (If anyone did not make either one then please contact me to arrange individual registration).

Our Volunteers entered into the Christmas spirit at 2 events in the run-up to Christmas. Firstly at the Museums Volunteer Party on the 10th December in the recently refurbished Edwardian Tea Room and secondly at the Friends Christmas Party on the 16th December. A big thank you must go to Alex Nicholson-Evans (Volunteer Development Officer – BMT) for organising the first one and getting

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Director's Report

Dr Ellen McAdam

I hope that all our Friends enjoyed a Christmas that lived up to their great expectations. Our museums were full of offerings over the holiday period. Santa returned to the Museum & Art Gallery, mysteriously accompanied by his friend the penguin from the opposite pole. The heritage sites offered Yuletide time travel, with Tudor and Victorian Christmases at Blakesley Hall and Georgian celebrations at Soho House.

Towards the end of last year we were delighted to find that our volunteer millers from Sarehole Mill were named Midlands' winners of the 'Volunteers for Museum Learning Award' 2013. The milling team at Sarehole Mill demonstrate the mill in action to visitors, showing how flour is produced and teaching the history of the site. They regularly produce their stone-ground flour for sale and have built a clay bread oven. Visitors can now see the whole process of bread production from grain to loaf.

Birmingham Museums faces challenges in 2015, with a proposed cut to our funding from Birmingham City Council to be finalised in February. We recognise that this is a difficult time for the city, and indeed for local authorities everywhere. However, we believe that it is vital that as a new Trust BMT continues to receive the funding we need to ensure that Birmingham's great collections and museums survive and thrive for the future. Thank you to all the Friends that supported us by writing to the Council and signing our petitions.

In the year ahead we are looking forward to two major new exhibitions in the Gas Hall:

Love is Enough will open in April 2015. Turner Prize-winning artist Jeremy Deller brings together rarely seen works by two towering figures of the 19th and 20th centuries, William Morris and Andy Warhol. Although the pairing may seem unconventional, Deller's show reveals many connections between these two great artists and printmakers, and the way in which they collaborated with other prominent figures to redefine the artist's relationship with craft and industry. The exhibition includes work from public and private collections, including Birmingham's epic and rarely seen Holy Grail tapestries completed by Morris in 1896, and a selection of iconic silkscreens and archival material from the Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh, including a signed photograph of Shirley Temple posted to a thirteen-year old Andy from the actress in 1941.

Enchanted Dreams: the Pre-Raphaelite Art of Edward Robert Hughes will open on 17 October 2015. This will be the first ever major retrospective exhibition of Hughes's life and work. It will bring together paintings, drawings and watercolours from some very distinguished public and private collections,

many of which have not been displayed in public in the century since the artist's death. They will include one of Birmingham's most popular works, *Night with her Train of Stars and her Great Gift of Sleep*. The picture takes its title from W E Henley's poem 'Margaritae Sorori', no 35 in his Echoes. It was given to Birmingham in 1915 by the E R Hughes Memorial Committee and is possibly the artist's masterpiece, although the blue tonality and soft sfumato, achieved by an elaborate process of stippling, are very characteristic of his work.

Finally, we are looking forward to the launch in early 2015 of our HLF-funded *Representing Birmingham* project. The aim of the project is to engage local communities in acquiring objects that will enable us to tell stories about people growing up, living and working in Birmingham. We found during the creation of the Birmingham history galleries that this was an

area of the collection that needed work, particularly for the post-WWII period, if BMT was to be able to tell the history of Birmingham in all its diversity. The project will focus on Aston, Soho, Nechells and Ladywood, working with local community groups including faith groups, local societies, special interest groups, schools, care homes and businesses to identify objects to acquire and display. The project represents a major shift in the way in which BMT engages with local communities, supporting them in taking decisions about how their lives are represented and interpreted in this great collection.

Thanks to all our Friends for their greatly appreciated support in 2014, and best wishes for 2015. Or, as they say in Scotland, lang may your lums reek. ■

Dr Ellen McAdam



Half-term family fun

Come and visit the gardens for a week of family-friendly activities this February, including storytelling, arts and crafts, face painting and discovery trails.

Monday 16th to
Friday 20th February
11:00 am - 3:00 pm



Visit our website for more information
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WWW.APPLESTOREGALLERY.CO.UK



What's On Museum Events

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Chamberlain Square, Birmingham, B3 3DH
Open Sat - Thu 10am-5pm and Fri 10.30am-5pm
0121 348 8000

Explore over 40 galleries in a Grade II* listed building. Highlights include the largest Pre-Raphaelite collection in the world, the spectacular Staffordshire Hoard and the Birmingham History Galleries.

FAITH & ACTION: QUAKERS & THE FIRST WORLD WAR

Open daily in the Community Gallery until 7 June 2015. Free Entry

Using original photographs, film, interviews and artefacts, 'Faith & Action' tells the compelling stories of Quaker men and women during the 1914-18 conflict and its aftermath.

The exhibition examines the impact of the war on Quaker artists, businesses, families and communities in Birmingham and beyond. With rare archival material, 'Faith & Action' explores Quaker humanitarian, medical and relief work in Britain and Europe, and brings to life the dilemmas experienced by young Quaker men deciding whether to fight, face imprisonment or serve in other ways.

In partnership with Central England Area Meeting, Religious Society of Friends and Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre.

NEW ART WEST MIDLANDS

Open daily in Gallery 20, 13 February - 17 May 2015. Free Entry.

This popular exhibition returns for a third year, showcasing the best work by new graduates from the region. Visitors will not fail to spot a six foot sock monkey puppet created by Vicky Roden, plus other humorous and unnerving animal hybrid sculptures by Jade Simpson and human-like sculptures by Lisa Marie Williams.

Visitors should also look out for work by Michael Carr, whose street map of Coventry references the city's 'Ska' music heritage, (Ska is a type of music similar to reggae). There is also video and performance art by Emma Starkey and Sarah Thorley, the latter made in response to time spent working alongside the museum's cleaning team.

In partnership with Turning Point West Midlands.

ART FROM ELSEWHERE: INTERNATIONAL CONTEMPORARY ART FROM UK GALLERIES

Open daily in Waterhall Gallery, 14 February - 31 May 2015. Free Entry

Showcasing 26 artists whose work was recently collected as part of the Art Fund International scheme, this exhibition considers themes of global change and failed utopias. A Hayward Touring exhibition supported by the Art Fund.

LOVE IS ENOUGH: WILLIAM MORRIS & ANDY WARHOL

Open daily in Gas Hall, 25 April - 6 September 2015. Entry charges apply to non-members



'The Failure of Sir Gawaine'

Curated by Turner Prize-winning artist, Jeremy Deller, 'Love is Enough' brings together for the first time iconic and rarely-seen works by two giants of art history.

Deller draws many surprising connections between Morris and Warhol, including their shared interests in mass production, class and politics.

This is a rare opportunity to see all five of Birmingham Museums Trust's Holy Grail tapestries, plus the missing one on loan for this exhibition. Designed by Edward Burne-Jones and manufactured by Morris, the delicate nature of these works means they are seldom exhibited.

In partnership with Modern Art Oxford.

Birmingham Museums Heritage Sites

For more information on Birmingham Museums' Heritage Sites, see birminghammuseums.org.uk

Aston Hall

*Trinity Road, Aston, Birmingham, B6 6JD
Entry charges apply to non-members
See website for opening hours*

Built by Sir Thomas Holte in 1618-35, Aston Hall is one of Birmingham's most treasured buildings, boasting sumptuous interiors from the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. Discover how the Hall and its residents played a key part in our country's history including the English Civil War. Aston Hall is hugely popular with families and has a packed programme of events and activities throughout the season.

WINTER GUIDED TOUR

Take a winter guided tour with an expert guide and learn all about Aston's amazing stories. Most Wednesdays in winter, 11am. £7 per person including hot drink. Please call 0121 348 8100 to book your place.

Blakesley Hall

*Blakesley Road, Yardley, Birmingham, B25 8RN
Entry charges apply to non-members
See website for opening hours*

Set amongst stunning gardens and orchards, Blakesley Hall is an exquisite example of a traditional Tudor home. The timber-framed house was built in 1590 by a member of one of Birmingham's leading merchant families, and more than 400 years later, Blakesley remains a haven of beauty and tranquillity.

Museum of the Jewellery Quarter

*75-80 Vyse Street, Hockley, Birmingham, B18 6HA
0121 348 8140*

Open all year round. Tues -Sat 10.30am-5pm. Closed Sun and Mon except Bank Holidays.

Tour charges apply to non-members

Visitors to the Museum of the Jewellery Quarter are offered a glimpse into the past, and the chance to experience the workings of a real jewellery factory. When the proprietors of the Smith & Pepper firm retired in 1981, they ceased trading and locked the door, unaware they would be leaving a time capsule for future generations. Today the factory is a remarkable museum, which tells the story of the Jewellery Quarter and Birmingham's renowned jewellery and metalworking heritage.

Sarehole Mill

*Cole Bank Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, B13 0BD
0121 348 8160*

Entry charges apply to non-members

See website for opening hours

Sarehole Mill was the rural childhood playground of author J.R.R. Tolkien, who cited the mill and nearby Moseley Bog as inspiration for his classic works

The Hobbit and The Lord of the Rings. Visitors can see a real working watermill in action, and explore fascinating exhibitions telling the 250-year story of the inspirational landmark.

Soho House

Soho Avenue, off Soho Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, B18 5LB.

Entry charges apply to non-members

See website for opening hours

Soho House was the elegant home of industrialist and entrepreneur Matthew Boulton. Carefully restored, this Georgian house features period room interiors with fine collections of silver, furniture and paintings. Visitors are invited to explore this stunning building, once a regular meeting place for some of the greatest minds of the 18th century including James Watt, Erasmus Darwin, Josiah Wedgwood and Joseph Priestley.

WINTER GUIDED TOUR

Take a winter guided tour with an expert guide and find out more about the house and the world changing meetings that took place there. Most Thursdays in winter, 11am. £7 per person including hot drink. Please call 0121 348 8150 to book your place.

Weoley Castle Ruins

The ruins at Weoley Castle are over 700 years old and are the remains of a moated medieval manor. The site has been inhabited from the 12th century and, according to the Domesday Book, was part of the estates of William Fitz Ansculf. Weoley changed hands several times between 1485 and 1531 when it began to fall into disrepair. In the centuries that followed, stone from the castle was removed to build a nearby farm and the Dudley no.2 canal. Today the site is a scheduled Ancient Monument of national importance. The ruins can be viewed from a viewing platform. Direct access to

the ruins is only available on special event days or, for groups and schools, by a pre-booked guided tour. Please call 0121 348 8120 for further information.

Thinktank Birmingham Science Museum

Millennium Point, Curzon Street, Birmingham, B4 7XG

Open daily 10am-5pm

0121 348 8000 • Admission charges apply

Thinktank offers an extraordinary, fun-packed day out for all the family. From steam engines to intestines, this exciting museum is home to thousands of fascinating objects, and over 200 hands-on displays on science and technology. This includes a state-of-the-art digital Planetarium, and an interactive outdoor Science Garden. With an ever-changing programme of demonstrations, workshops and events, there is always something new to discover.

NEW SPITFIRE GALLERY

Opens 28 March 2015

Entry included in admission charge

The new gallery opens in March 2015 to shed light on the Supermarine Spitfire Mark IX that hangs from the ceiling at Thinktank. Discover the science, people and hidden stories behind these iconic Second World War aeroplanes built in Birmingham.

Museum Collections Centre

The Museum Collections Centre is where 80% of Birmingham's collections are stored. There are free open afternoons from 1.30pm - 3.30pm on the last Friday of every month. These must be booked in advance. Guided tours are also available by arrangement on other days. Please call 0121 348 8231 for more information or to book.

For more information on all events, exhibitions and other activities, visit www.birminghammuseums.org.uk

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where your
heart is!

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of Birmingham Museums



If you require assistance then please call 0121 348 8330
or email fbmagmembership@googlemail.com, we will be
pleased to help.

Passion, pleasure and participation in the Arts



In The Area

Exhibitions & Days Out

Barber Institute

University of Birmingham
Edgbaston
Birmingham B15 2TS
United Kingdom
Tel: 0121 414 7333
www.barber.org.uk

INHERITING ROME

Friday 27 February - Sunday 24 January 2016. Look at one of the coins you're carrying today: you'll see the Queen's portrait facing right and Latin script around the royal head.

It seems our coins have looked this way forever - and that's nearly true. But why? This exhibition uses money to explore and question our deep-seated familiarity with the Roman Empire's imagery. Britain is not the only nation, empire or state to channel ancient Rome in this way: the Barber's excellent collection of coins from the Byzantine Empire - as well as examples from Hungary, Georgia and Armenia - illustrate both the problems and possibilities of being genuine heirs of Rome.

Attempting to uncover the political uses of Rome's legacy, this exhibition encourages the visitor to ponder why we are so often told of the empire's importance - and whose interests such imagery serves.

GODS & HEROES

Friday 23 January - Monday 25 May 2015. Epic ambitions underpin this display inspired by Hercules and Caucus, the magnificent chiaroscuro woodcut by Hendrick Goltzius, recently acquired for the gallery.

Gods and Heroes includes prints after Titian, Michelangelo and Rubens, featuring subjects drawn

from both ancient mythology and the Judo-Christian tradition. It seeks to uncover the methods and motives behind the representation of the superhuman and supernatural in art.

REVOLUTIONISING FASHION

Friday 6 February - Sunday 26 April 2015. The frivolous and extravagant fashions of the Ancien Regime were brought to a swift and bloody end at the onset of the French Revolution in 1789.

In the ensuing years, a taste for simpler, classically inspired clothing migrated across from Revolutionary France into Britain. This display explores the depiction of fashionable dress in an array of elegant 18th- and early 19th-century British miniatures by the likes of Richard Cosway, George Engleheart and John Smart. On loan from two outstanding private collections, these delicate little paintings are complemented by prints from the Barber's own collection.

Coventry Transport Museum

Millennium Place
Hales Street
Coventry
CV1 1JD
www.transport-museum.com

SPRING CRAFT FAIR 2015

Saturday 21 & Sunday 22 March 2015. Local craftspeople, beautiful one-off gifts and a lovely day out. This fantastic and ever-popular event showcases and gives you the opportunity to buy the work of some of the region's most creative people. With stalls including one-off jewellery pieces and toys, paintings and photographs, artisan food products and cards, you'll be amazed to discover the range of items being created by local people from across our region.



LOVE ART

Until Saturday 28 February 2015
Old Chapel Gallery

Leamington Spa Art Gallery

The Parade
Royal Leamington Spa
CV32 4AA
Tel: 01926 742700

IN MY CRAFT OR SULLEN ART: PRINTS, PAINTINGS AND DRAWINGS - TESSA BEAVER

Until Sunday 22 February 2015. Tessa Beaver is a printmaker and painter who graduated from the Slade School of Art in 1953. Now in her 83rd year Beaver continues to paint, draw, write and pursue artistic research from her long established studio in Leamington Spa's Old Town. This exhibition, curated by Simon Kirby, includes a range of works from the mid-1960s to the present day and is the fruit of many hours spent with the artist in her studio. It is accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue which also contains the artist's remarkable biographical text, *The Need to Make*, a powerful personal account of a life led, uncompromisingly, as an artist.

Old Chapel Gallery

Pembridge
Herefordshire
HR6 9HB
Tel: 01544 388842
www.oldchapelgallery.co.uk

LOVE ART

Until Saturday 28 February 2015. A heart throbbing show of unusual and romantic paintings, presents and cards. Visit the gallery any time between now and the end of February for unique, BritishContemporary art and craft - perfect for the love in your life... new work by Pascale Bigot, Amanda Clark, Valerie James, Janette MacKinnon, Hilary Mee, Chrissie Nash, Jan Fryer and

more. Open daily 11 - 5 and on Sundays 11 - 4.

SPRING EXHIBITION

Sunday 7th March - Thursday 30 April 2015. Featuring new work in a variety of media to include paintings, ceramics, jewellery, glass and more.

Sonia Sabri

For enquiries please contact Mel Lewis
Tel: 0121 622 3135
Email: mel@ssco.org.co.uk
www.ssco.org.uk
Twitter: [soniasabrico](https://twitter.com/soniasabrico)
Facebook: [Sonia Sabri Company](https://www.facebook.com/SoniaSabriCompany)

Sonia Sabri Company is one of UK's foremost South Asian arts companies, presents an array work of exceptional quality, with meaning and depth, touring nationally and internationally.

As a pioneering organisation we craft work driven by the roots of Kathak dance and Indian music and taking this further with our innovative approach and distinctive style to create art that is relevant to society. We believe art has the power to transform lives and with this imbedded in our heart, we pride ourselves in engaging people in exciting opportunities.

Our community-based activities include working with local urban environments with diverse groups through to rural villages, with libraries, youth groups, schools, students in higher and further education, and informal settings.

LADYPOOL SPEAKS

An Oral History Project supported by Heritage Lottery Fund and The Library of Birmingham. Sonia Sabri Company has arrived at the final stage of its project Ladypool Speaks. Ladypool Speaks is primarily about women who live and work in Ladypool Road both past and present, recording and documenting their experiences.



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diane@pw-media.co.uk



Old Chapel Gallery

Contemporary Fine Arts and Crafts in Herefordshire

An eclectic collection of British contemporary fine art,
ceramics, glass, jewellery, wearables, bronzes, prints
and garden sculpture.

Daily 11 - 5 Sunday 11 - 4

East Street, Pembridge, Herefordshire HR6 9HB

01544 388 842

www.oldchapelgallery.co.uk

English Symphony Orchestra

Music for Everyone

Mozart to Mendelssohn

Sunday 29 March 2015, 3:30pm

English String Orchestra

Kenneth Woods - Principal Conductor

Elgar Concert Hall, Birmingham University, B15 2T

Tamsin Waley-Cohen Unveils 'The Penny' Stradivarius Violin at Christie's

Violinist Tamsin Waley-Cohen

Mozart - Overture to *Così fan tutte*

Mendelssohn - Violin Concerto in E minor

Tamsin Waley - Cohen, violin

Beethoven - Symphony no. 7 in A major

Tamsin Waley-Cohen, one of today's most popular artists, returns to the ESO after her triumphant debut with the orchestra in 2013 for a performance of Mendelssohn's beloved Violin Concerto. The concert concludes with a performance of Beethoven's most exciting and life-affirming symphony, the Seventh.

Tickets: £20 Over 60's £15 Students £5

BOX OFFICE- Town Hall/Symphony Hall

<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/btramall/index.aspx> • 0121 345 0600



Russian Strings

Wednesday 13 May 2015, 7:30pm

English String Orchestra

Kenneth Woods - Principal Conductor

Elgar Concert Hall, Birmingham University, B15 2T

Shostakovich (arr. Barshai) - Chamber Symphony opus 110a
(String Quartet no. 8)

Shostakovich - Concerto for Piano, Trumpet and Strings

Clare Hammond - Piano, Simon Desbruslais - Trumpet

Geoffrey Gordon - Saint Blue for Piano, Trumpet and Strings

Tchaikovsky - Serenade for Strings

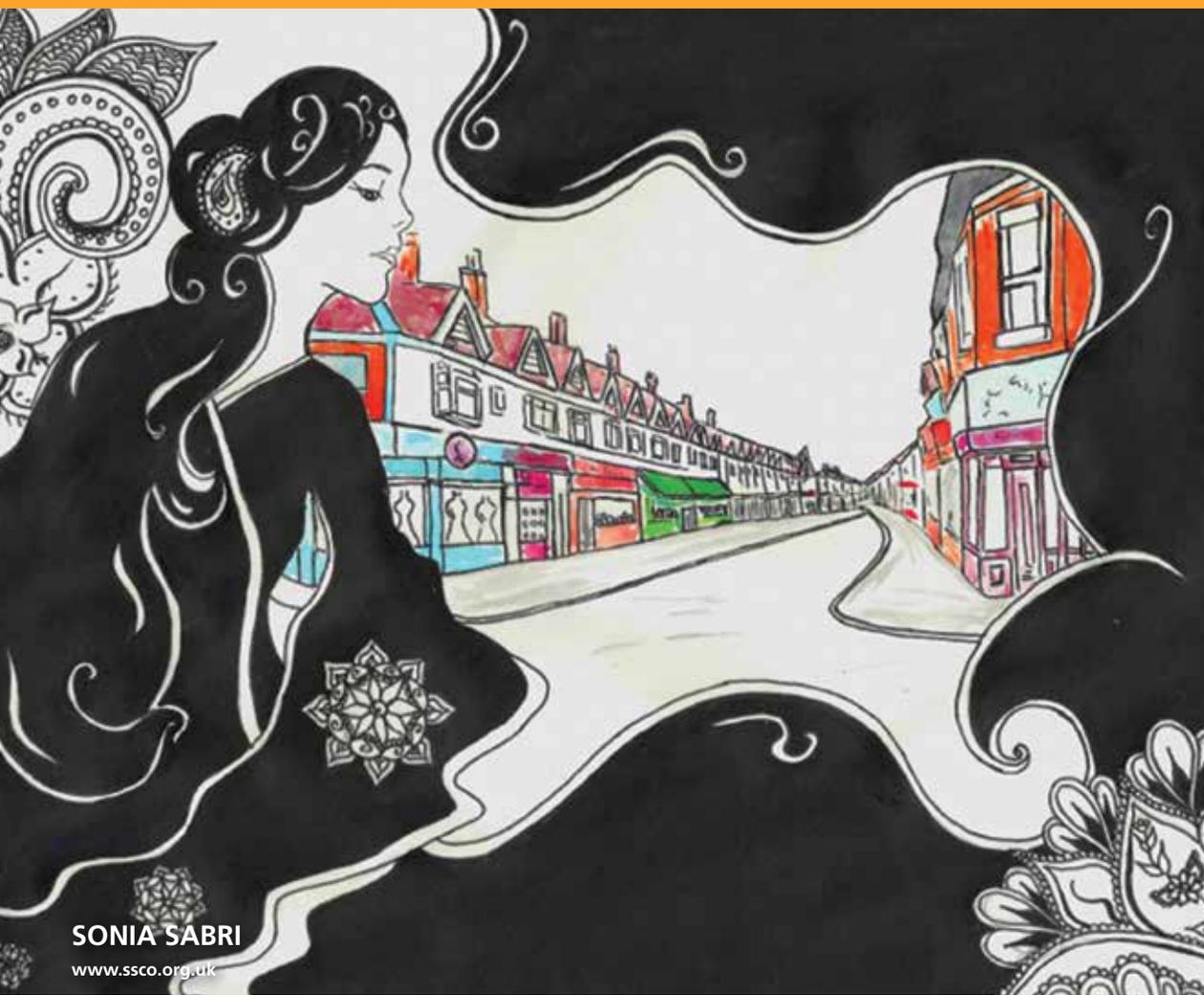
The ESO are proud to welcome two of today's most exciting soloists to Elgar Concert Hall. Trumpet virtuoso Simon Desbruslais and rising piano star, Clare Hammond, are quickly making a name for themselves as the leading piano and trumpet duo of our time. This evening of great Russian string music includes works by Shostakovich and the lyrical and thrilling Serenade for Strings by Tchaikovsky.

Tickets £20 Over 60's £15 Students £5

BOX OFFICE- Town Hall/Symphony Hall ON SALE SOON

www.birmingham.ac.uk/btramall/index.aspx • 0121 345 0600





SONIA SABRI

www.sso.org.uk

A slice of history unfolds the changing shape of Ladypool Road through the eyes of local women over the past 50 years. Sonia Sabri Company conducted over 20 interviews, which opened a door to the stories of real women, illuminating their strength, power and achievements.

In Spring 2015 the interviews will be archived together with old photographs and specially commissioned music inspired by the women's stories at The Library of Birmingham, thus creating a chunk of history that will never be forgotten. This fascinating archive will be made publically available as a resource for the community, inform researchers and inspire future artists, poets, authors or musicians.

We believe art has the power to change lives. With using the tools of imagination, we create a voice for

the people, so everyone involved can stand a head taller in every day life.

Please visit the website for further information on the project and to view some of the interviews:
www.ladypoolspeaks.co.uk

BEAT STREET

March – April 2015, Supported by Birmingham City Council. A foot tapping and beat popping extravaganza in Birmingham City Centre, which will take all shoppers and bystanders by surprise in the Easter Holidays. Be prepared to be stunned by an array of young people dancing and beat boxing through the streets. Led by Sonia Sabri's company of young dancers and musicians, Kathakaars; involving over 50 young people not usually engaged in the arts. If you want to find out more about this project or get involved please contact the company.

HEREFORD
CHORAL
SOCIETY

Monteverdi *Vespers* of 1610

Saturday, 21 March 2015

Hereford Cathedral 7.30 pm

The Soloists of VocesB
QuintEssential
Marches Baroque

Geraint Bowen conductor

www.herefordchoralsociety.org/artefacts
or call 08454 633124 (please quote Artefacts)

Tickets: Reserved £25, £20 and £15 Unreserved £10
Adults may bring up to 2 children under 16 free of charge



THE
BARBER
INSTITUTE OF
FINE ARTS

*Revolutionising
Fashion*
6 February - 26 April

How the French Revolution changed British style - as seen in portrait miniatures and prints
Admission Free
www.barber.org.uk
0121 414 2261

UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

21st March -
6th June 2015
Open Mon-Sat
10.30 - 4.30

Worcester City
Art Gallery & Museum

**Stanhope
Forbes'
England**

FREE ENTRY

For details of talks and tours see
www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk

Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum
Foregate Street, Worcester WR1 1DT
Tel: 01905 25371

Image: Chidding on Mounts Bay, 1902,
© Worcester City Museum Collection

MUSEUMS
WORCESTERSHIRE

**Forthcoming Tour Dates
for Feb - March 2015**

Sonia Sabri
company

LABYRINTH

Thursday 5th February
Carn to Cove
Hay Studio
Trenwith,
Burlorne Tregoose
Washaway
Bodmin PL30 3AJ
www.crbo.co.uk

Friday 6th February
Academy of Music and Theatre Arts
Falmouth University
Penryn Campus TR10 9L
www.amata.org.uk

Friday 6th March
Pegasus Theatre
Magdalen Road
Oxford OX4 1RE
www.pegasustheatre.org.uk

SALAAM

Saturday 14th March
Mac Birmingham
Cannon Hill Park
Birmingham
West Midlands B12 9QH
www.google.co.uk

*"Featuring beautiful,
energetic and visually
stunning dance,
exquisite costumes
and live music..."*



www.ssko.org.uk

Worcester Museum & Art Gallery

Foregate Street

Worcester, WR1 1DT

Tel: 01905 25371

www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk

WORLD WAR ONE: IN THE WORDS OF WORCESTERSHIRE PEOPLE

Until 14 March 2015. Explore the words and mementos of Worcestershire people brought together in public for the first time for a new exhibition featuring letters, diaries, poems and unusual objects. *World War One: in the Words of Worcestershire People* will bring a personal insight into the First World War at Worcester City Art Gallery and Museum.

World War One: in the Words of Worcestershire People is part of the *Worcestershire World War One Hundred* project and funded through Heritage Lottery Fund. *Worcestershire World War One Hundred* is one of the largest programme of events across England commemorating the First World War.

Visitors to Worcester Art Gallery and Museum can read and experience first-hand accounts from the front line in diaries kept by soldiers to cherished letters telling of a soldier's bravery and bringing comfort to the families of the deceased who remained at home waiting for news.

Objects on display include a Cello made from an oil can which was played in the trenches alongside the words from Rupert Brooke's *'A little piece of England in a foreign field'* which has its own local connection, published for the first time in Ledbury. Local artefacts have been loaned to the exhibition including the silver mounted hooves of Jerry, a German horse rescued at the Western Front by the Worcester Regiment,

who lived out his life giving rides to local children of Pitchcroft.

Philippa Tinsley, Senior Curator Worcester Art Gallery and Museum said: *"In researching this exhibition we have come across so many moving, personal stories of soldiers at the front and those who waited for them at home. We are so pleased that we are able to bring them together in this way and we hope the exhibition is a fitting tribute to all those who played their part in the Great War."*

Visitors to the exhibition can also take a view of the whole of World War One with a key events timeline on display, with a particular focus on events relevant to Worcestershire, encouraging a modern audience with no experience of conscription to consider at what point during the War they would have joined up, would it have been a local or national event that prompted them to enlist.

Activities and events will take place at key moments to accompany the exhibition including a Family Remembrance Day on Saturday 8 November which will include drop-in workshops with artist Kate Brookes, performances by the Stringcredibles, music by Merrinoyse and poetry workshops with Fergus the Poet as well as an opportunity to experience the World War One with Discover Histories.

Whilst visitors are enjoying the exhibition they can also visit the Worcestershire Soldier display, which is also based at the Art Gallery and Museum and houses collections and objects from the Worcestershire Regiment, Worcestershire Yeomanry Cavalry and Museums Worcestershire, bringing to life 300 years of Worcestershire's military history.



**WORLD WAR ONE: IN THE WORDS
OF WORCESTERSHIRE PEOPLE**

Until Saturday 14 March 2015
Worcester Museum & Art Gallery



Enchanted Dreams: The Pre-Raphaelite Art of Edward Robert Hughes

Venue: Gas Hall

Dates: 17 Oct 2015 – 14 Feb 2016

Friends' members are being invited to immerse themselves in a world of enchantment, beauty and drama with a major Pre-Raphaelite exhibition which opens at BMAG later in the year. Enchanted Dreams centres on the work of artist Edward Robert Hughes (1851-1914) and is the first exhibition of his work in the hundred years since his death.

In what fine art curator Victoria Osborne describes as a "revelation", the show will be the culmination of seven years of research into E.R. Hughes, his work, his life and his contextualisation within the Pre-Raphaelite movement. It will include paintings, watercolours and drawings by Hughes alongside related works by his contemporaries selected from BMT's own collection.

Victoria explained that the exhibition will include several portraits of the artist, and cited a drawing "*in brush and brown wash*" entitled *Study of a Male Head in Profile* which she said was a study of Hughes aged seventeen by fellow artist Charles Fairfax Murray. The two met when they were students together in London in the 1860s and became lifelong friends. Victoria explains: "*Hughes was very striking as a young man. He was said to be 'an Adonis in looks' and was much in demand to model for artists including Rossetti, Solomon and his uncle Arthur Hughes.*"

Hughes's friend Fairfax Murray played his own important role within the Pre-Raphaelite movement and has special links to Birmingham. His significance to the city arises chiefly because of the important collection of Pre-Raphaelite drawings he put together, which was acquired by BMAG in two batches, the

first in 1903 and the second in 1906, with funding from local subscribers. It contains work by some of the most talented and well-known Pre-Raphaelite artists including Rossetti, Sandys, Millais and Madox Brown. Victoria explains: "*Charles Fairfax Murray collected the drawings in the late nineteenth century, with some coming to him direct from the artists themselves and others bought at auction. He acquired more than a thousand and offered them to the Museum at a much lower price than their market value.*"

Murray's collection includes many preparatory sketches and designs which he purchased from studio sales after the artists had died. "*The acquisition of these works allowed Birmingham to become an amazing centre for Pre-Raphaelite drawings,*" Victoria adds.

Hughes, whose work is well-known yet whose name is not quite so recognisable as Fairfax Murray's, will be honoured with the ticketed exhibition, special events, and a programme of talks. "*The exhibition will feature one of our most popular watercolours, which our visitors always ask about but which we can't have on permanent display due to the delicate nature of works on paper,*" Victoria says. "*Hughes's Night with her Train of Stars was given to us in 1915 by the artist's friends in his memory and was really the inspiration for this exhibition.*"

Other trademark 'blue pictures' by Hughes will also be on display, plus paintings, watercolours and child portraiture. Pieces will be on loan from public and private collections worldwide. ■

By Jane Kubiesa



869.

C.F. Murray

44

44

Focus on Local Cultural Organisations: Birmingham Conservation Trust

The city's heritage is being renovated, restored and rejuvenated for future generations thanks to Birmingham Conservation Trust, its staff and volunteers. This small charity was set up in the 1970s, and as its Director Simon Buteux states: "Its purpose is to preserve historic buildings in Birmingham and to support the preservation and enjoyment of them."

This preservation is ably assisted by the charity's team of approximately eighty volunteers who work on projects as diverse as the Birmingham Conservation Trust website; The Coffin Works project as tour guides, front of house staff, and conservators; and surveying Listed Buildings in the Jewellery Quarter with English Heritage.

Amongst its completed projects, the Trust lists the *Birmingham Back to Backs* which are now operated by The National Trust and which offer visitors the opportunity to experience life from the point of view of ordinary people from the early nineteenth century onwards.

However, it is one of the charity's current projects which marked a turning point for Birmingham Conservation Trust. Simon explains: "In the past we have always restored buildings and passed them on. That doesn't work anymore because the market value of the building is not worth the money we have put into it."

"So with *The Coffin Works*, we run half of it as a heritage attraction and the other half has units let to creative businesses and that is the way we are going in the future as a new business model." *The Coffin Works*, or the Newman Brothers Coffin Fitting Works as it was originally known, is a Grade II Listed factory and a prime example of the kind of everyday buildings the charity seeks to preserve.

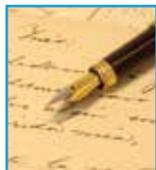
"We are working at creating our own museum and we have had enormous help from the Birmingham Museums Trust as the Museum of the Jewellery Quarter is similar to *The Coffin Works*," Simon says. "They have offered help and advice and we are looking at sharing visitors between our sites."

The ethos of sharing continues with the Trust's relationship with the Friends of Birmingham Museums. Simon explained that *The Coffin Works* would host the next set of Friends' Evening Events (see pages 8-10) and that, in addition to speaking at one of the Evening Events, he will also be leading a daytime tour (see page 7). He adds: "There is also the idea of our supporters group getting together with the Friends of BMAG. We have been working with the Trust for a while and now we have the opportunity to work with the Friends too, as our volunteers have a lot of mutual interests."

As to current and future projects for Birmingham Conservation Trust, Simon is almost spoiled for choice. He lists *The Coffin Works* as the main project for the charity but also gives mention to a survey of listed buildings in the Jewellery Quarter "to systematically assess their state of repair with English Heritage", work with the city council to renovate cemeteries in the Jewellery Quarter "to bring them back to their former grandeur" and an exciting venture into Northfield's 'Cadbury' Barn as a rich site of social history, so the future of Birmingham's heritage is in safe hands. ■

By Jane Kubiesa





Friends' Diary Dates

February

- 3 # Eastnor Castle, Tewkesbury and Hanbury Hall (NT)
- 4 ** Evening Event - Jane McArdle - 'The Church that became a Cathedral'
- 26 * 'The Coffin Works' Tour, Fleet Street, Birmingham

March

- 3 # Evening Event - Victoria Osborne - 'Enchanted Dreams: The Pre-Raphaelite Art of Edward Robert Hughes'
- 10 * Guided Tour (124) – Lisa Beauchamp – 'New Art West Midlands'
- 12 * Guided Tour (123) – Jane Howell – 'With a Little Help From your Friends'
- 17 * Guided Tour (125) – Katie Hall – 'Art from Elsewhere'
- 19 * Annual Lunch at the College of Food (UCB)
- 31 * Evening Event – Professor Michael Cullen - 'The Young Turner: His art, alternative families and the women in his life'

April

- 2 * Leicester – Richard III Visitor Centre and The New Walk Museum & Art Gallery
- 19-24 ** The Delights of Budapest
- 28 * Evening Event – Colin Hutcheson, Planetarium Officer – 'Life Inside the Dome'

May

- 19 * Evening Event – Simon Buteux, Director, Birmingham Conservation Trust – 'Newman Brothers coffin fittings works: Birmingham's newest heritage attraction'
- 28 + AV Room Talk – Professor Michael Cullen - 'The Young Turner: His art, alternative families and the women in his life' Note - This talk will be the same as the Evening Event on 31 March 2015

June

- 26 + Tour of Baroque Galleries - Helen Hillyard

September

- 25 - 28 + Weekend Away - Salisbury

- * Details are enclosed with this mailing, and application forms are included in posted versions of this magazine (See note on page 6)
- ** Fully booked, sorry
- + Dates for your diary, no applications in this mailing
- # Included in a previous mailing, but still some places available
- \$ These events are not arranged by the Friends, applications are not included

The next
Arterfacts: the
Spring 2015
edition will be
published
in April



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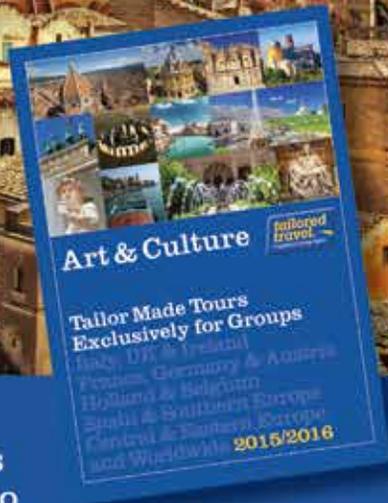
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