

Tuesday 12th September 2017

Denise Hayward: *Legend and Lustre, Jim Thompson, Thai Silk, a Teak House and a Hollywood House*

Jim Thompson arrived in Bangkok as a US army officer in 1945, fell in love with it and stayed. Captivated by the lustrous beauty of Thai Silk he resuscitated an ancient craft and made it famous. He created costumes with it for films such as *The King and I* and embellished his house which is now a museum. His life ended abruptly with his mysterious disappearance at the height of his success.

Tuesday 10th October 2017

Julie Wetton: *Medical Detection Dogs*



Julie trains dogs to save lives. The dogs support individuals with complex health conditions who have no awareness of an impending life-threatening medical event. Using their powerful scenting instincts they can be trained to spot minute odour changes emitted prior to an emergency and alert their owner. They can also fetch help and vital medical supplies, if needed. Some dogs are used to provide additional detection for cancers that are difficult to diagnose reliably. A fascinating insight into this dedicated and vital work.

Tuesday 7th November 2017

Bertie Pierce: *Now you see it now you don't*



In the same way as a magic trick delights us, there is a primal enjoyment in being deceived by an optical illusion. Since Roman times, illusions have been used in art. This includes *Trompe l'oeil* and the closely related anamorphic art, which from the 16thc to the 19thc was a popular

way of camouflaging dangerous political statements, heretical ideas and even erotic pictures. Salvador Dali was fascinated by optical tricks and hidden imagery. As told by Bertie Pierce, who is a widely travelled Gold Star member of the inner Magic Circle, this promises to be a very entertaining presentation.

Tuesday 9th January 2018

Sarah Quill: Venice in peril: Past and Present



Venice in Peril Fund is a UK charity which raises funds for the conservation of a wide range of risk buildings, monuments, works of art, and artefacts across the city and its islands. It started as the British response to the devastating floods of November 1966 which also engulfed Florence. It was initially set up as the Art and Archives Rescue Fund but became VIPF when UNESCO appealed to its member states to collaborate to save the entire city. Sir Ashley Clarke was its first Chairman moving to Venice after retiring as British Ambassador to Rome.

Sarah is a trustee of the VIPF and will be talking about some of the completed projects and work done by the charity. She has worked as a photographer between London and Venice for over 40 years and has created an extensive archive of Venetian architecture, environment and daily life. She regularly exhibits her work and her most recent book is Ruskin's Venice: Stones revisited

"Tuesday 13th February 2018"

Maria Glot - *Saltire World Heritage Site*



Bradford mill owner Sir Titus Salt, moved his mills to a "greenfield" site and built an entire village for his textile workers. Salt's Mill opened in 1853 but the village took 20 years to complete. Salt provided everything, cottages, almshouses, school, shops, institute, wash houses, hospital, churches, and a park, but no pubs, pawn shops or police station. On a point of local interest, on 21st August 1830 Sir Titus married Caroline, the daughter of George Whitlam of Great Grimsby. They had 5 sons and 3 daughters. Imagine a talk about Saltire World Heritage Site that is funny, while factual; that is educational while exciting; that is crazy, while cleverthis is what we can expect from Maria.

Tuesday 13th March 2018

Nic Lance: *Tennyson: From Lincolnshire to The Isle of Wight*

Alfred, Lord Tennyson 1809-92 was one of the greatest Victorian poets and in 1850 was appointed Poet Laureate. One of his best known works is *Morte D'Arthur* based on the Arthurian Legend. Tennyson grew up in the Lincolnshire Wolds and was inspired by the landscape and seaside holidays in Mablethorpe. Find out hoe Tennyson got caught up in the Spanish Revolution and tried to find peace and quiet in a remote bay on The Isle of Wight. Nic is a poet and freelance speaker who lives in Lincoln. His own poetry is often about nature, or the absurdities of consumerism and modern life.

Tuesday 10th April 2018

Nicholas Crane: *The British Landscape*



How much do we know about the place we call home? The British Landscape has been continuously occupied by humans for 12,000 years, from the end of the ice age until the 21st century. This geographical journey through time will be illustrated with beautiful colour photographs, maps and videos; including two digital drone flights above British landscapes. Nicholas is an English geographer, explorer, writer and broadcaster. He was elected President of the Royal Geographical Society in 2015. In recent years he has become best known for presenting the BBC series *Coast*, *Map Man*, *Great British Journeys* and *Britannia and Tow*.

Tuesday 8th May 2018

Andrew Lidster: Gunby Hall and the Massingberds



Gunby Hall, an intimate country house nestled at the foot of the Lincolnshire Wold has been standing proud in the rural landscape for over 300 years. Built in 1700 by William Massingberd and lived in by generations of the family and others the house sits amidst a farmed estate of

almost 1500 acres. Andrew will guide us through the many layers of Gunby's history, which is now a National Trust property. Andrew has been conservations and collections manager for Gunby Estate, Hall and Gardens since May 2015 and has previously worked at two other NT properties in a career spanning 15 years. NOTE: OUR AGM WILL TAKE PLACE IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO THIS MEETING AT 6.30PM.