



LISKEARD ARTS

SOUTH EAST CORNWALL

Chair's November Newsletter 2024

Dear Members

Last month Julian Richards didn't disappoint with his talk on 'A Potted History of England – the story of British pottery over 6000 years'. Julian delivered an outstanding illustrated talk in which he gave us a whirlwind view of the development and evolution of our country's ceramics.

If you were expecting and looking forward to Kate Strasdin's talk on British tailoring you are going to be disappointed! Instead we need to extend a warm welcome to Jacqui Carey whose talk will be "A Medieval Embroidered Folded Almanac MS 8932". I'm already intrigued just by the title. *Please see below for more on Jacqui's talk.*

By the time you receive this newsletter our tour of the Minster Church of St Andrew along with a visit to Prysten House and Abbey Hall, Plymouth on 6th November will already have taken place. A big thank you to William and Janet Greaves-Stocker who organised and led this for us.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

With our Programme year running from January to December, your subscription falls due by 1st December if paying by standing order (our Treasurer's preferred method) or the December meeting if you still wish to pay by card, cash or cheque. Our subscription for 2025 remains at £55 per person; very good value for money at £5.50 per talk when you consider the quality of our speakers and the range of arts subjects we cover. Thank you to those who have already paid. Membership Secretary, Kathryn Clark, won't start chasing outstanding subscriptions until after the December meeting!

It has been agreed by the committee that from January the price per guest will rise to £10.

SAVE THE DATE and keep an eye out for the booking form December onwards

On **1st April** we have a Discovery Morning led by **Geri Parlbay** to look forward to:

What exactly is Byzantine Art and how do you pronounce it?

**The early art and architecture of one of history's greatest empires –
from Constantine to Justinian**

Session One: 4th and 5th centuries. The Emperor Constantine – the birth of Constantinople and the mosaics of Ravenna

Session Two: 6th and 7th centuries. The Emperor and the Prostitute – the era of Justinian and Theodora; ivories and icons and the building of Hagia Sophia.

Mary Utton, Chair

About the Speaker

JACQUI CAREY



Jacqui Carey is an artist, maker, teacher, author and researcher of textiles. She is well known for her expertise in braiding and historic embroidery.

Whilst attending a foundation course at Winchester School of Art, Jacqui discovered that weaving combined her love of mathematics and art. This led to a degree in Textiles at West Surrey College of Art and Design (1982-85), where Jacqui studied a whole range of related subjects.

Jacqui has always had an interest in analysing old textiles. In 2005, Jacqui became a QEST scholar for her work in analysing historic structures and techniques, and was awarded an MA (distinction) in the History of Textile & Dress from the Textile Conservation Centre. She has been described as an "embroidery detective" as she probes into the authenticity of the evidence, and her investigations have led to ground-breaking discoveries about many 'lost' needlework stitches. Her meticulous object-based study has challenged previous assumptions and practices, which were based on relatively modern techniques.

She is also the author of over ten books, including the one illustrated here on MS 8932.

The Wellcome Collection's MS 8932 **A MEDIEVAL EMBROIDERED FOLDED ALMANAC**

Jacqui Carey

Tuesday 12th November 2024
at 19:30

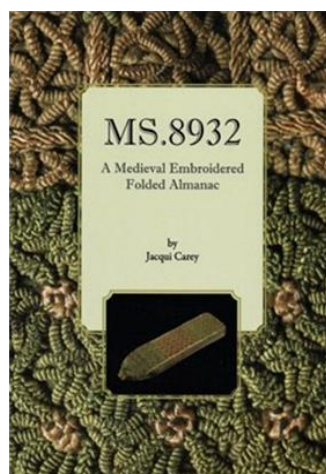
Join us in Liskeard Public Hall from 19:00
Refreshments available
Guests (£8) are always welcome.

The Wellcome Collection's MS.8932 is a rare example of a medieval folded almanac, and a superb copy of John Somer's Kalendarium.

To add to its importance, it is covered in the earliest surviving, intact, English embroidered binding, presenting an unrivalled opportunity to learn more about medieval craftsmanship in bindings, embroidery and production methods dating from the medieval period.

However, the scale and fragility of MS.8932, combined with the complexity of its construction, makes interpretation a challenge.

Jacqui was awarded a Wellcome Trust Research Bursary to analyse the construction of this unique artefact and attempt to recreate lost techniques. The talk takes a detailed look at her findings whilst setting the object within the wider context of period bookbinding and embroidery. (Samples/models will be available for handling).



Looking ahead: Talk on 10th December

Simon Whitehouse will be joining us and his talk is entitled **"Wilde about Oscar – the life and times of Oscar Wilde"**.

Please join us from 7.00pm for complimentary Prosecco and Mince Pies (non-alcoholic beverages available but no coffees and teas) as we get ready to celebrate the Christmas season.

REMINDERS FROM THE COMMITTEE

Refreshments

Refreshments are available from 7.00pm. As well as teas and coffees we also serve wine which is £3.50 per glass. If you wish to partake of a cup of coffee or tea, price £2, bringing your own cup would help us in our attempts to be as environmentally friendly as we can be.

Guests Welcome!

Our doors are open to guests (£8). If you have family nearby or visiting, or have friends interested in seeing what we're about, please do encourage them to come along with you. Even better would be for you to persuade them to become members! Membership contact: **07790 821714**

Hearing Difficulties

If you have difficulty hearing our speaker, please email me or Liz Undy by 9.00am on the day of each talk if you wish to reserve seats at the front

Raffle

Please bring your £1 coin for the raffle. Tickets will be on sale for £1 / per ticket with a chance to win a bottle of wine.

Liskeard Arts Website

Have you ever visited and explored our website – www.liskeardartssociety.org.uk ?

If not, I encourage you to do so. There's all the relevant information there about talks, Discovery Days, visits, tours and other activities we have been, are and will be involved in. You can also give feedback on the speakers and their talk.

Speaker Feedback

Don't forget to provide your feedback on the speaker and their talk.

Please go to our website, www.liskeardartssociety.org.uk You should see on the front page a box saying 'Lecture Feedback'. Click here and it will take you to a page where you enter a password which is **Liskeard** and then can grade the quality of the lecture and the quality of overheads/slides. There is also a box for your comments.

RAISING MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

We need to raise our membership. If **every one** of you could find someone else to be interested in Liskeard Arts, bring them along to a meeting and encourage them to sign up as a member, we would be in a much better financial position.

COME ON FORWARD AND JOIN US ON THE COMMITTEE

A good way to find out what happens behind the scenes is to volunteer for the Committee. You don't need to take on one of the Officer roles. Just having the extra pair of hands of a committee member without portfolio is a great help to the rest of us for those small tasks that arise. Don't be shy! Come and have a word with me or send an email.

YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN:

THE ARTS SOCIETY TAUNTON SPECIAL INTEREST DAY
"THE BRITISH EMPIRE AND IMPERIAL INDIA" with JOHN STEVENS
Date: 21st November

Details can be found at www.theartssocietytaunton.org

If you have any ideas, comments or queries please contact me.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Mary Utton
Chair of Liskeard Arts
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