



LISKEARD ARTS

South East Cornwall

Chair's February Newsletter 2025

Dear Members

We can only hope that this month turns out to be a more pleasant experience than the heavy rain and winds that January has thrown at us!

Last month's speaker, Tyler Butterworth, did succeed in lifting my spirits for a short while. What a super and interesting talk he gave with such personal insights into his parents' lives.

This month looks to be equally stimulating with Doug Gillen's talk, entitled "Empowering People. The Real Voice of Street Art".

Mary Utton
Chair

TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

We not only need to recruit more Members but we also need Members to step forward for the Committee

It's already February. This only leaves 3 months before our AGM. At the AGM I step down as Chair.

If you enjoy Liskeard Arts, if we're to survive and if we're to fill all our Committee positions in order to be strong enough to run your Society, we need people to come forward and volunteer their time.

I'm still waiting to hear from you!

Likewise we need all of you to bring along new members. Only by recruiting more people will we be financially viable.

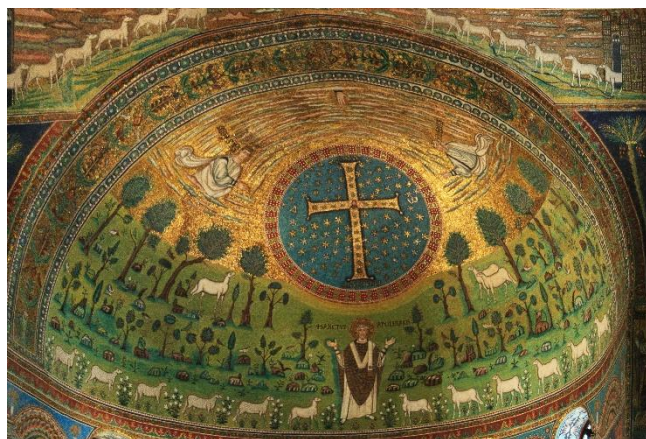
DON'T FORGET TO BOOK!

Looking forward to you joining us for our

**DISCOVERY MORNING
1ST APRIL 2025**

**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**

Our speaker is LAS friend, **Geri Parlby**



The cost is £26.50 pp.

Full details can found on the booking form, a copy of which is attached at the end of this email.

Hard copies available from the registration desk.

It can also be accessed through our website www.liskeardartsociety.org.uk

About the Speaker

DOUG GILLEN



A prominent name in the street art discussion is Scottish born, Doug Gillen. He is the founder of Fifth Wall TV, a video production house and platform, providing content for the art world. Doug Gillen, Fifth Wall TV has become one of the leading names in street art commentary and video production. He is a regular voice at The Art Society.

Doug has been filming and talking about the world of art and graffiti ever since he set up his production channel. From train-writing in New York to interactive technology that brings murals to life, the concept of un-commissioned public art is a very different beast to that which it once was.

Here Doug shares with us the core values of the street art movement that remain important to him and his work, and how they sit within the evolving modern world.

EMPOWERING PEOPLE THE REAL VOICE OF STREET ART

Doug Gillen

Tuesday 11th February 2025
at 19:30

Join us in Liskeard Public Hall from
19:00

Refreshments available

Guests (£10) are always welcome

Art lies at the heart of social unrest, a voice for those who cannot be heard. Graffiti is more than mindless vandalism - it's the early stages of revolution.

"The people want to topple the regime" - the words that lay at the heart of the Syrian uprising in 2011 echoed throughout the Arab Spring. When a group of teenagers hit the streets with cans of spray paint one night they never knew it would change their entire country. Across Egypt today anti-government murals and tags flood the public wall space of the city, the voice of the silenced. A little girl holds a balloon as she floats towards the sky, as simple stencil sprayed on the separation wall that divide Israel and Palestine was viewed from every corner of the world. The streets of Belfast today are filled with para-military figures clutching semi-automatic guns.

Art lies at the heart of social unrest, a voice for those who cannot be heard. Graffiti is more than mindless vandalism, it's the early stages of revolution.

Looking ahead: Talk on 11th March

Jane Gardiner speaks about "Vases and Volcanoes"

This talk will focus on two overriding interests of the late 18th century – the study and collecting of Greek vases and a fascination with volcanic activity, encouraged by the excavations at Herculaneum and Pompeii; in particular, at the life and collections of Sir William Hamilton, British envoy to the Court of Naples from 1764 to 1800.

WE REMEMBER:

SIR RICHARD CAREW POLE DL, OBE, VMH 1938 – 2024

The creation of Liskeard Arts (formerly the Liskeard Decorative and Fine Arts Society, a member society of the National Decorative and Fine Arts Society) was the brainchild of the indefatigable late Dr John Sewart. John wished to join a local society but the waiting lists were so long that he decided to start one himself. His decision to ask Sir Richard Carew Pole to become our society's first chairman was inspirational.

Sir Richard was well connected throughout Cornwall, having been leader of the county council, High Sheriff, president of the Royal Cornwall show and closely involved with the creation of the Eden Project and Tate St. Ives. He knew everybody. He was also a trustee of the Tate Gallery, and the Royal Academy. He brought to our society a deep love of the arts, being an enthusiastic collector of contemporary art which he loved to share and discuss with friends and visitors. Richard's experience with the chairmanship of many committees was invaluable. He was a joy to work with, courteous, knowledgeable, generous, hospitable and very efficient. He had total confidence in the committee that gathered round his impressive leadership and in just one year they created the society we all know and love. Richard hosted all our committee meetings in the library at Antony House. Those meetings lasted just one hour, followed by a welcome glass of wine and perhaps an opportunity to look at a work of art or valuable book of which he was particularly fond.

I was fortunate to become the first secretary of the committee and all mailing Richard received was immediately passed on to me - not for him the day to day details. His meetings were very organised and no one would ever come to one without having all their information at their fingertips. Within just a year the committee had recruited nearly 300 members and the first lecture was in the autumn of 2000, which means that it will be our 25th anniversary this year.

There are just 2 current members of that original committee still remaining in the society, myself and Sylvia Morcom who like me remembers her time with great affection and pleasure. I was recruited by the late Lois Brookes Pierce whose daughter Joanna Handley is a current member.

Jane Mutch

UPDATE from THE ARTS SOCIETY

The wish of Head Office is that all Members become better informed about the strategy and activities of The Arts Society; so here is the latest news from Trustees

A New Strategy: Building on our Strengths

The Trustees are pleased to announce today a revised strategy for The Arts Society. This follows an extensive review of the Society's activities by the new Board that was formed after the AGM in August 2024, and has been informed by the feedback we have had from members, particularly through the area meetings in the autumn. The focus will be firmly on promoting the Arts Society brand, and on increasing the membership of The Arts Society, to enable us to continue to deliver our charitable objects through the local society network.

We intend:

- for the first time, to engage in marketing activities from the centre to drive new members to societies both in the UK and internationally,
- as part of the above, to use the Arts Society Studio to produce digital content, including videos, under The Arts Society brand, that will be available to all members,
- to improve the tools, and the access to them, that we provide to societies, particularly for marketing and IT,
- to increase the support provided through the Area and National teams for both existing and new societies.

We will continue to listen to and value all our stakeholders – members, volunteers, lecturers and staff.

In support of the strategy, and as part of our policy of member involvement, we are forming two working groups, looking at membership and IT needs respectively, in addition to the governance working group announced last month.

Cultur.Art

We have made the strategic decision to discontinue the separate Cultur.Art brand which was intended to bring the arts to young adults. This decision was not made lightly but, after careful examination of the project and its future funding prospects, we regretfully concluded that it is no longer viable.

Instead we will use our creative resources more cost-effectively to continue to produce digital content that supports The Arts Society brand. Much of the content already produced will be repurposed and available on The Arts Society website.

New Vice Chair

The Trustees are pleased to announce that Jo Ward has been elected as Vice Chair of the Board. Jo has been a trustee since May 2023 and as a former Area Chair brings valuable experience to the role. Jo chairs the boards of our trading subsidiaries, and also our Grants Committee.

Formation of Two New Working Groups

The Trustees want a focus of activity over the coming years to be on initiatives that directly support growth in membership. To assist the Executive in this endeavour, two new working groups are being formed to include Trustees, Staff and a cross section of the wider membership. We are inviting applications from both support team members and society members who have experience as Chairs and /or a proven track record in increasing membership in their Societies, together with any relevant technical expertise including IT.

1. Membership Working Group

Terms of reference:

- To explore the potential for successful local initiatives to become more widely available, such as hybrid lectures, split sessions, and innovative uses of IT.
- To explore the potential for smaller societies to form clusters to share resources such as publicity & marketing initiatives and joint events.
- To identify additional support that can be provided centrally to assist societies in membership and committee recruitment, such as additional templates for marketing materials.
- To consider the structure and roles of the volunteer National and Area Support teams to ensure they are properly resourced and fulfil the needs identified by societies.
- To consider the expansion of the Associate Membership Scheme, renewal of the Virtual Society and Art Vent and similar digital provisions for members.

Outcomes:

The Working group will make recommendations for consideration by the Board of Trustees and Executive.

Please send Expressions of Interest to Lesley Jones at lesleyj@theartssociety.org indicating your particular area of expertise eg. Publicity/marketing etc.

2. Websites Working Group

As part of the refocusing of activity to directly support growth in membership it is the Board's aim to enhance The Arts Society's central website to make it fit-for-purpose in the current digital environment, and also to review societies' own website needs. The working group will have the following remit:

Terms of Reference:

1. To review the main Arts Society website and consider what steps should be taken to ensure that it fulfils three principal roles, that is:
 - a tool for recruitment of new members
 - providing digital access to information on the Arts to the membership at large
 - offering tools for local society committees to assist them with their vital work, including management of membership & finance
2. To review societies' own IT needs and consider whether The Arts Society should improve the functionality of the pages it provides to societies on the central website, or can recommend solutions for them to develop their own.

Outcomes:

1. Production of a development plan for the Arts Society website that can be converted into a manageable IT project.
2. Preparation of a proposal for the best way to help societies with their own website needs.

Please send Expressions of Interest to Tony Callender at tonyc@theartssociety.org indicating your particular area of expertise.

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 (£10). 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.	

YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN:

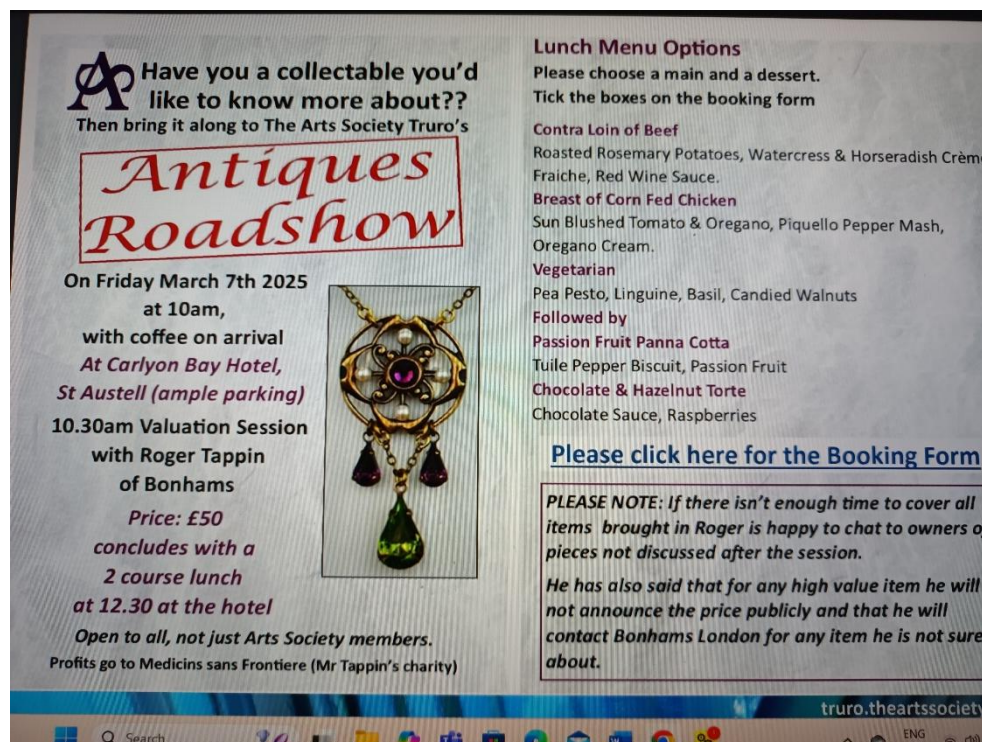
THE ARTS SOCIETY TRURO'S

"ANTIQUES ROADSHOW" with ROGER TAPPIN of Bonhams

Date: 7th March 2025 from 10.00 am

at Carlyon Bay Hotel, St Austell

Price: £50 – concludes with a 2 course lunch at 12.30 pm at the hotel



The flyer is for an Antiques Roadshow event. It features a central image of a necklace with a large, ornate pendant. The text is arranged around this image. At the top, it asks 'Have you a collectable you'd like to know more about??' and encourages bringing items to the event. The event is on Friday, March 7th, 2025, at 10am, with coffee on arrival. The location is the Carlyon Bay Hotel in St Austell, with ample parking. A valuation session starts at 10.30am with Roger Tappin of Bonhams. The price is £50, which includes a 2-course lunch at 12.30pm at the hotel. The event is open to all, not just Arts Society members, and profits go to the charity 'Medicins sans Frontiere (Mr Tappin's charity)'. On the right, there are 'Lunch Menu Options' with a list of dishes: Contra Loin of Beef, Roasted Rosemary Potatoes, Watercress & Horseradish Crème Fraiche, Red Wine Sauce; Breast of Corn Fed Chicken, Sun Blushed Tomato & Oregano, Piquello Pepper Mash, Oregano Cream; Vegetarian, Pea Pesto, Linguine, Basil, Candied Walnuts; followed by Passion Fruit Panna Cotta, Tuile Pepper Biscuit, Passion Fruit, Chocolate & Hazelnut Torte, Chocolate Sauce, Raspberries. A link to the booking form is provided. A 'PLEASE NOTE' section states that Roger is happy to chat to owners of pieces not discussed after the session, but he will not announce the price publicly and will contact Bonhams London for any item he is not sure about.

Have you a collectable you'd like to know more about??
Then bring it along to The Arts Society Truro's

Antiques Roadshow

On Friday March 7th 2025
at 10am,
with coffee on arrival
At Carlyon Bay Hotel,
St Austell (ample parking)

10.30am Valuation Session
with Roger Tappin
of Bonhams

Price: £50
concludes with a
2 course lunch
at 12.30 at the hotel

Open to all, not just Arts Society members.
Profits go to Medicins sans Frontiere (Mr Tappin's charity)

Lunch Menu Options
Please choose a main and a dessert.
Tick the boxes on the booking form

Contra Loin of Beef
Roasted Rosemary Potatoes, Watercress & Horseradish Crème Fraiche, Red Wine Sauce.

Breast of Corn Fed Chicken
Sun Blushed Tomato & Oregano, Piquello Pepper Mash, Oregano Cream.

Vegetarian
Pea Pesto, Linguine, Basil, Candied Walnuts

Followed by
Passion Fruit Panna Cotta
Tuile Pepper Biscuit, Passion Fruit

Chocolate & Hazelnut Torte
Chocolate Sauce, Raspberries

[Please click here for the Booking Form](#)

PLEASE NOTE: If there isn't enough time to cover all items brought in Roger is happy to chat to owners of pieces not discussed after the session.

He has also said that for any high value item he will not announce the price publicly and that he will contact Bonhams London for any item he is not sure about.

truro.theartsociety.org

Details can be found at www.truro.theartsociety.org Scroll down to Newsletters and click on December 2024 within which are further details about this event and where you can click to complete the booking form and register your Lunch Menu choices. Also here is the link to the online application form

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc4hn5pIBJSCImB-8UoWnmZgcRfxw7N0YmpbynRu19f8xBpFA/viewform>

THE ARTS SOCIETY MID CORNWALL

THE SECOND SEX

A Day on 'Women in the Italian Renaissance: Art and Society'

With SARAH DUNANT

Date: Wednesday 26 March 2025

Time: 9.30am for 10.00am

Session 1: The Second Sex: The rich history of courtesans and nuns

Session 2: A Portrait of One Great Woman – Isabella d'Este, patron, collector, fashion icon, and political manipulator.

Lunch: Bring your own packed lunch or pre-order.

Session 3: Participants to read one of Sarah's novels pre event and join in a discussion with Sarah on historical fiction.

Price: £45.00; with lunch £50.00

The venue is **St. Mary's Parish Centre, Bodmin, PL31 1NF;** some parking.

Complimentary refreshments will be offered on arrival and a glass of wine or soft drink at lunch.

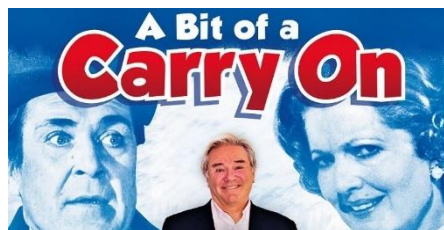
To find out more and access the booking form go to www.theartsocietymidcornwall.org.uk and click on the What's On tab and then Discovery Days.



THE ARTS SOCIETY LISKEARD

SOUTH EAST CORNWALL

2025 Programme



January 7th

Tyler Butterworth – A Bit of a Carry On

The remarkable story of Carry On actor Peter Butterworth and his wife, Britain's first female tv impressionist, Janet Brown, best known for her impression of Mrs Thatcher. Using classic film and tv clips, with rare photographs and letters from his family's unseen collection, we see behind Tyler's parents' public lives and hear their fascinating stories.



February 11th

Doug Gillen – Empowering People. The Real Voice of Street Art

'Art lies at the heart of social unrest, a voice for those who cannot be heard. Graffiti is more than mindless vandalism, it's the early stages of revolution'. Doug Gillen created production company, Fifth Wall TV, six years ago and he's been filming and talking about street art ever since.

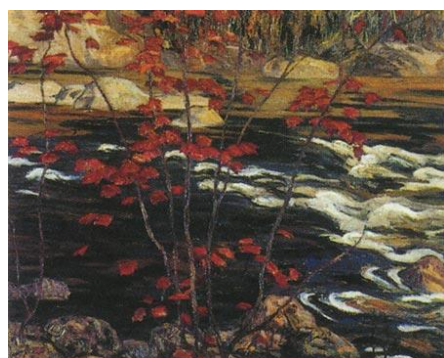


March 11th

Jane Gardiner – Vases and Volcanoes

This talk will focus on two overriding interests of the late 18th century – the study and collecting of Greek vases and a fascination with volcanic activity, encouraged by the excavations at Herculaneum and Pompeii; in particular, at the life and collections of Sir William Hamilton, British envoy to the Court of Naples from 1764 to 1800.

Picture is of Sir William Hamilton by David Allen, 1775



April 8th

Ross King – Wild Men of the North

In 1924 an English critic acclaimed an exhibition of Canadian landscapes as 'the most vital group of paintings produced since the war – indeed the century'. These vibrant, Post-Impressionist landscapes of Canada's northern lakes and rugged backwoods were created by the 'Group of Seven', Toronto-based painters. Ross King explores how they broke through conservative barriers to gain international recognition as a distinctive avant-garde movement.

This painting by A. Y. Jackson is in the public domain in the United States because it was first published before 1923



May 13th

Ashley Gray – A Yorkshire / Cornish Textile Renaissance: Tom Heron, Cryséde and Cresta at the Birth of Modernism

An epic tale of two extraordinary figures from the same valley in Yorkshire who were destined to change the world of fashion and design for all time. A story that takes us from the mills of Yorkshire in the 1920s to the coast of Cornwall; from Welwyn Garden City to the corridors of power at Westminster.

Ashley Gray: leading specialist and curator in modern textiles and their design and history.



June 10th

Sarah Cove – Fakes and Fortunes; or have I discovered a Constable in my attic?

A behind the scenes talk where renowned Constable expert, Sarah Cove talks about her discoveries on the BBC show Fake or Fortune. Beyond the show, she has many more stories of highs and lows in the art world.



September 9th

Ralph Hoyle – Mid-Eighteenth English Rococo Silver

Ralph brings with him the silver he is going to talk about and covers the social context of the piece and its Huguenot inspired design. He then shows us how he discovered who the original owner was and the misfortunes that befell them.



October 7th

Chantal Brotherton-Ratcliffe – Jan Brueghel

Jan Brueghel, the younger son of Pieter Bruegel, recorded much of the world around him. He delights us with fantasies and scenes of heaven. Short-sighted, he painted pictures of exquisite detail and entrancing miniature scale. His landscapes are microcosms of the known flora and fauna of his day. His beautiful paintings are analysed but, above all, they are presented for the sheer enjoyment of the audience.

This work is in the public domain in the United States because it was published before January 1, 1929.



'Field of the Cloth of Gold, anon.

November 11th

Siobhan Clarke – King and Collector; the art of Henry VIII

Henry VIII was an enthusiastic patron of the arts whose palaces, tapestries and paintings enriched the Tudor court and began the Royal Collection. The forces that influenced his life can be seen in the works he commissioned, all telling one central story: the glorification of Henry and his England.

Painting is in the public domain in the United States because it was first published in 1545



Mere Downs, © Charlie Waite

December 9th

Charlie Waite – The Making of Landscape Photographs

Landscape photography is a way of life and is an essential method of expression for Charlie Waite. This fully illustrated talk with in excess of 60 images explores the relationship between the making of an image and the way in which it is perceived by the viewer. Further discussion centres around the eye and the brain being an extraordinary double act made up of visual references and intellectual interpretation.



DISCOVERY MORNING on APRIL 1ST - Morning only

Geri Parlby - What exactly is Byzantine Art? Early art and architecture from Constantine to Justinian

Session One: 4th & 5th Centuries – The birth of Constantinople and the mosaics of Ravenna.

Session Two: 6th & 7th Centuries – The era of Justinian and Theodora. Ivories and icons and the building of Hagia Sophia.

THE ARTS SOCIETY LISKEARD

DISCOVERY MORNING

Non-members are welcome to
attend all events.

www.liskeardartsociety.org.uk



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

Tuesday 1st April 2025

Speaker: Geri Parlby

9.10 am for 9.30 am – 12.00 noon approx.

Liskeard Public Hall, PL14 6BW

"You say By-zantine and I say Bizz-anteen" as the song almost goes! In fact there is no right way to pronounce it but it is certainly a subject worth studying. The Byzantine Empire flourished for over a millennium as the successor to the Roman Empire in the eastern Mediterranean. We will marvel at the beauty and spirituality of Byzantine Mosaics, Frescoes, Churches and Icons. We will also glimpse at how this magnificent art form was able to influence the developing artistic traditions of its powerful neighbours in the west and east.

Session 1 (9.30 am – 10.30 am):

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

The Byzantine Empire began in 330 AD when Emperor Constantine moved the capital of the Roman Empire from Rome to Byzantium, later renamed Constantinople. Christianity flourished and gradually supplanted the Greco-Roman gods that had once defined Roman religion and culture. This religious shift dramatically affected the art that was created across the empire. We consider the sublime mosaics of Ravenna, known for their vibrant colours and exceptional depictions of biblical scenes and demonstrate how mosaic art was used to exploit religion to achieve political ends. *(continued overleaf)*



✕

The cost will be **£26.50** per person and include coffee and cake at break time.

- You may book and pay by cash/cheque at a Liskeard Arts meeting,
- Or by BACS (for instructions and LAS Bank details see overleaf).
- Or post this completed slip with your cheque to The Arts Society Liskeard to:
Mary Utton, Tregantle, Barn Street, Liskeard PL14 4BL
01579 345140, 07731 380715, mary.utton2@gmail.com

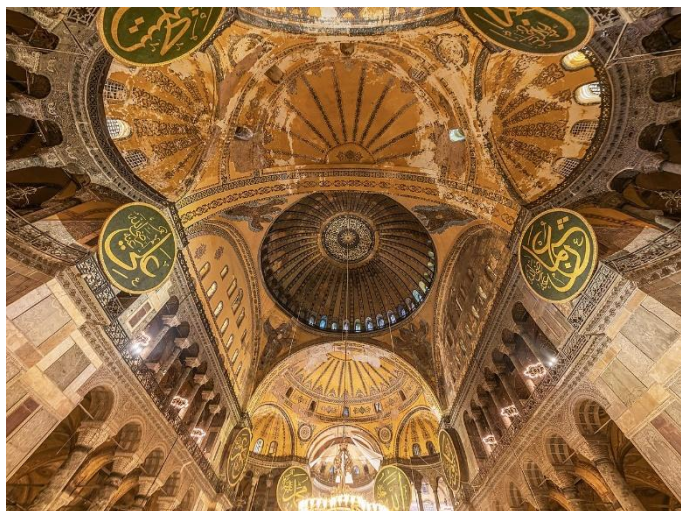
If you give your email address (or send a sae), your cheque will be acknowledged in writing.

Please reserve me place(s) @ £26.50 per person I am / am not a Liskeard Arts member

NAME(S)

POSTCODE TEL NUMBER

EMAIL



A.Savin, Wikipedia

Session 2 (10.50 am – 11.50 am): 6th and 7th centuries. The Emperor and the Prostitute – the era of Justinian and Theodora; ivories and icons and the building of Hagia Sophia.

Justinian and Theodora bowed to no man when they ruled the world's most powerful empire during the 6th century. A former prostitute and exotic dancer, Theodora was a woman with an unsavoury past, while her husband's roots lay in Balkan peasant stock and yet together they inspired some of most beautiful art in the Byzantine Empire. From the sublime mosaics of Ravenna and St Catherine's monastery to the miraculous architecture of Hagia Sophia - who could forget the most outrageous imperial couple in Byzantine history?

Dr Geri Parlby



Geri's first career was as a journalist working on a variety of Fleet Street newspapers before moving into entertainment PR. She has also run her own PR agency, especially in film and video PR, until retiring in the early 1990s to start a family.

Geri then decided to go back to school and gained a first-class honours degree in History and Theology from Surrey University, a Masters in History of Art with distinction from the Courtauld Institute and a Theology PhD from the University of Roehampton. The subject of her PhD thesis was the early iconography of the Virgin Mary.

Geri has taught at the universities of Exeter, Plymouth and Roehampton where she is an honorary research fellow. She also runs regular courses for the Arts Society South West Area and the Devon Archaeological Society, as well as travelling all over the UK and internationally as an accredited Arts Society lecturer.

Booking and payment by BACS

1. Please pay **£26.50 per person** to:

The Arts Society Liskeard, sort code **20 68 10**, account number **70729515**, ref **DMorn**.

2. Then **email** mary.utton2@gmail.com

Subject: Discovery Morning

Message: how many places, how much you've paid, and your telephone number.

You should get a reply to your email within 24 hours, acknowledging your payment and booking.

GDPR: Your details will be retained only until the event has taken place, solely for Liskeard Arts to inform you of any updates about it.

For further information about **Liskeard Arts** visit www.liskeardartssociety.org.uk