



LISKEARD ARTS

Chair's January Newsletter 2025

Dear Members

**Wishing you all a very happy
and prosperous New Year**

I hope your Christmas was a festive occasion and you were able to catch up with family and friends.

I thoroughly enjoyed our December meeting. Simon Whitehouse's talk on Oscar Wilde was very engaging and informative. I hope you also appreciated the Prosecco and mince pies. There was a lovely atmosphere in the hall. I would like to thank Susan Barnes and her team for the sterling job they do to provide our refreshments at every meeting.

Welcome back to our new year and the 2025 Programme of talks. Once again our Programme Secretary, Ian Tunbridge, has come up with a super variety of talks to take us through the year. **NB** that our January talk commences on **7th January** which happens to be the 1st Tuesday of the month.

Once you have renewed your membership (thank you to those who have already done so), you can collect your 2025 Programme and Membership card from our Membership Secretary.

Mary Utton
Chair

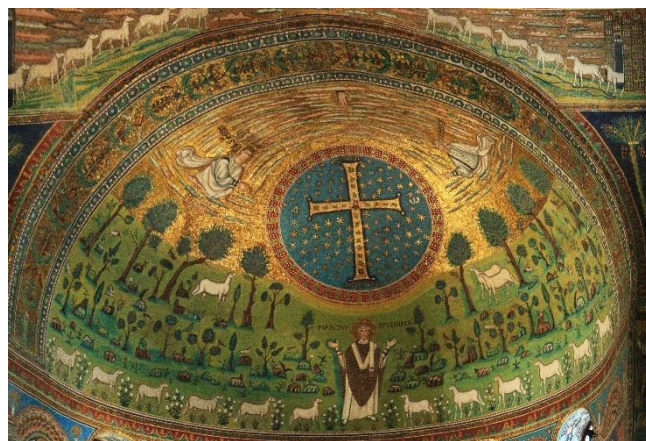
DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

**DISCOVERY MORNING
on 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**

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.

The cost is £26.50 pp.

The booking form is now available from our website and attached to the emails Liz has and will be sending out. You will also find a copy attached at the end of this email. Hard copies will be available from the registration desk.

About the Speaker

TYLER BUTTERWORTH



Tyler Butterworth grew up in a theatrical family and spent twenty five years as an actor working extensively in film, television, theatre and radio.

He then worked as a development producer in television documentaries.

Now, he produces walking audio guides to cities across Europe for private clients. He lives in Sussex where he walks on the South Downs and the South Coast.

A BIT OF A CARRY ON

Tyler Butterworth

Tuesday 7th January 2025
at 19:30

Join us in Liskeard Public Hall from 19:00

Refreshments available

Guests (£10) are always welcome

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.

The remarkable untold 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, personal mementos, and rare photographs and letters from his family's unseen collection, Tyler reveals the private story behind his parents' public lives.

It's a journey that takes in MI9, the building of a theatre in the notorious WW2 Prisoner of War camp Stalag Luft III, nights at Chequers with a Prime Minister, This Is Your Life, and many more moments in their long, shared life in the theatre.

Looking ahead: Talk on 11th February

Doug Gillen's talk is entitled "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.

2025 PROGRAMME OVERVIEW SHEET

I have made a few changes to the 2025 Programme overview sheet which we sent out last month. You will find the updated sheet at the back of this newsletter and I would be grateful if you could ignore / delete the old version and use this new one.

Please do feel free to hand a copy of this sheet to any potential members when you are encouraging them to come along to a LAS meeting to find out what we're like.

In case you have difficulties printing the document out there will be hard copies available on the registration desk.

We need every one of you helping to raise our membership numbers as this will help ensure we're financially secure.

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

Formation of Governance Working Group

Although proposals to amend the Articles of Association of The Arts Society were rejected in June 2024, the trustees consider that, in line with best practice and the recommendations of the Charity Commission, there is still a need to modernise the existing Articles to some degree. This would remove some ambiguities, and ensure that provisions are in place for the members to elect a Board of Trustees with the necessary balance of skills and experience to govern the Society effectively.

The Trustees do not intend to bring forward proposals for a vote unless they are confident that they will command widespread support. Furthermore, they do not intend to incur further legal fees at this stage. They are therefore forming a governance working group drawn from the membership of the local societies.

The first phase of the group's work, intended to be completed by March 2025, will be to review the existing Articles and propose changes to these, and to recommend an appointment process which will identify candidates with appropriate skills whilst respecting members' voting rights.

The trustees want to make clear that they will not be contemplating any change to the status of our societies as being the voting members of The Arts Society.

A second phase of work will look at ways of improving board effectiveness in discharging its governance responsibilities.

Could any member willing to help the Society by taking part in this working group please email the Chair at jeremyt@theartsociety.org with brief details of their qualifications and experience in this area.

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

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 FALMOUTH DISCOVERY DAY

"THE GRIT AND THE GLAMOUR; ART IN THE JAZZ AGE"

with Dr MARIE-ANNE MANCIO

Date: 28th March 2025 from 10.00 am

at The National Maritime Museum Cornwall

Cost: £45 pp – includes mid-morning coffee and cold buffet lunch

Full details and the booking form can be found at www.theartsocietyfalmouth.org

THE ARTS SOCIETY TAUNTON TOUR

THE HISTORIC HOUSES, HERITAGE & CASTLES OF KENT

This is a 6 day tour departing on 14th September 2025. You will see Chartwell, Canterbury Cathedral – guided tour, Leeds Castle, Dover Castle & Secret Wartime Tunnels, Walmer Castle & Gardens, Ightham Mote, Knole House & Deer Park, Rye, Sissinghurst Castle Garden and Hever Castle & Gardens. Cost from £954 staying at the 4* Ashford International Hotel on a half board basis.

To view the tour details go to www.tailored-travel.co.uk and quote tntd251

I'm very much looking forward to 2025 and welcoming you again to our meetings and events.

Mary Utton

Chair of Liskeard Arts

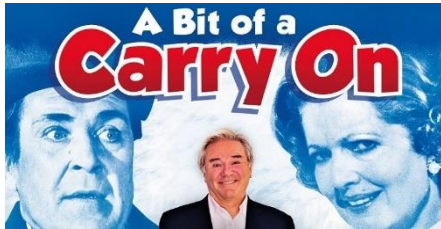
mary.utton2@gmail.com or liskeardarts@gmail.com



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



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.