

FRIENDS OF THE ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM

FRIENDS' ACTIVITIES AUTUMN 2008

Friday 19 September: Magdalen College, 3-5 pm. The President has kindly invited us to have tea in the Lodgings, with a talk, after which we will be free to explore the College on our own. Friends only. Cost £25. (Organiser: Virginia Pasley)

Wednesday 1 October: Chartwell, Kent. Visit to Sir Winston Churchill's home, garden and painting studio. Cost, including introductory talk and refreshments on arrival and overall entrance: Friends (National Trust) £28.00, Friends non-NT £35.00, Guests NT £31.00, Guests non-NT £38.00. National Trust Members must bring their NT cards to benefit from free entrance to Chartwell or else pay full price on the day. Coach leaves St.Giles (Blackfriars) 8.00 am, Water Eaton P&R 8.10 am, Sandhills London Rd bus stop 8.20 am. Returning Oxford approx. 6pm. (Organiser: Genevieve Adams)

Monday 6 October: Visit to Windsor and Eton: We will visit Windsor Castle to have a guided tour of the State Apartments, the Semi-State Rooms, and St. George's Chapel. There will then be a two hour interval to walk to Eton College and have lunch on the way. There are plenty of places to eat in Windsor on the main High Street. At Eton we will be given a guided tour around the College by the Provost, Eric Anderson, and his wife Poppy, including a talk by Roger Rosewell on the Wall Paintings in the spectacular chapel. We will end the day with tea in Election Hall by kind invitation of Eric and Poppy Anderson. Cost: Friends £35, Guests £39. Coach leaves St. Giles (Blackfriars) 8.00 am, Water Eaton 8.10 am, Sandhills London Rd bus stop 8.20 am. Returning to Oxford approximately 6.00 pm. (Organiser: Sue Peach).

Wednesday 8 October: Friends' Private Evening: We welcome the distinguished Ornitho-Egyptologist, Mr John Wyatt, who has very kindly offered to give the Friends an illustrated lecture "Identifying the birds depicted on Ancient Egyptian tombs and artefacts" based on his research work. The lecture will take place at 5.00pm in the Headley Lecture Theatre and will run until about 6.45pm, including an interval during which wine will be served. Time will be allowed for questions. **Cost: Friends only £15. Limited to 50 Friends.**

(This event will be followed up, when the museum reopens, with two related Friends' Evenings in the Egyptian galleries, led by Mr Wyatt.) (Organiser: Valerie Davies)

Tuesday 14 and Wednesday 15 October: Tour of the Islamic Centre. We will have a tour of the newly-built, but yet unfinished Islamic Centre on Marston Road. There is no heating and are no facilities for refreshments, so wrap up warmly. Take Bus No. 13 from Queens Lane or park outside further up on road. There are a few parking places inside the security gates for people with Disabled Badges. We may have to wear hard-hats. Cost: £15 Friends only. (Organiser: Sue Peach)

Tuesday 4 November: Visit to Compton Verney. An afternoon visit to an art gallery housed in a Grade 1 listed mansion. As well as the permanent collections, which include a wonderful collection of British folk art, there will be exhibitions of paintings by Jack Yeats & Kokoschka. Coach leaves St Giles (Blackfriars) 1.00 pm; Water Eaton P&R 1.10pm. Cost: Friends: £17; Guests: £21 (Organiser: Virginia Pasley)

Tuesday 25 November: Harpsichord Recital. We are delighted that Martin Souter has again agreed to play the Kirckmann harpsichord for us in the Mallett Gallery, 7.30pm. Cost: £20 to include a glass of wine (Organiser: Virginia Pasley)

Thursday 27 November: visit to the British Museum: Babylon . This major exhibition on Iraq's greatest city covers the major archaeological finds, explores the legends and art engendered by Babylon and brings us up to date with its tragic recent history. Coach leaves St Giles (Blackfriars) 9.00am, Water Eaton P&R 9.10am, Sandhills London Rd bus stop 9.25am. Cost: Friends £28, Guests £33. Coach leaves B.M. North Entrance, Montague Place at 3.30pm. (Organiser: Catherine Fox)

Tuesday 9 December: Christmas Party: Last bash before we close: drinks & canapés in the Randolph Gallery. The curators have again kindly agreed to do mini-tours in the galleries. 6.00-8.00pm. Cost £20. (Please apply on separate sheet)

ADVICE TO FRIENDS: Please make your choice for the whole season and send separate cheques for each event (event specified on the back) with a single reasonably-sized self-sealing SAE. We shall send out all the tickets together, returning your cheque for any event for which a place was not available. In the event of cancellations refunds can only be given if we are able to fill the place. You are welcome to pass your ticket on to a friend but please inform the organiser.

Boarding the coach at the Ashmolean. During the building works the coach will pick us up outside Blackfriars (bus stop) instead of the Taylorian.

Please return your form by 29 August to Friends' Office, Ashmolean Museum, OX1 2PH. The Friends' telephone number is 01865-278016. The mobile number for emergencies on the day of a visit is 07982-444838. Membership queries are dealt with on Wednesday mornings. Messages left for the Secretary (Mrs Helen Bessemer-Clark) or the Activities Secretaries will be answered as soon as possible, but we are all volunteers who do not come in on a regular basis.

E mail: FOAM@ashmus.ox.ac.uk. Website: www.ashmol.org

