

# NEWSLETTER

## SPRING/SUMMER 2021

### Zooming Success!

Our decision to use Zoom so that we could have lectures once more, has met with great success. At each of the lectures held so far, we have had a high percentage of members viewing which is really great news.

Sadly, we know that some societies are not doing as well, and embracing new technology alongside coping with lockdown has been a double challenge for many of us!

So, on to our update . . .

We opened with the amusing lecture on the various feuds of artists through the ages and then on to English women involving themselves in France during the Revolution.

March gave us Alexandra Epps with Peggy Guggenheim which was also excellent.

You may well agree with me that there seems to be an unexpected bonus of 'attending' the lecture via Zoom in that it's been great to see the slides up close and in better detail than sometimes we can show in the hall.

On 12th April, we will have Stella Lyons talking to us about Hieronymus Bosch - the highly influential 16th century artist whose macabre and nightmarish depictions of hell (and life?!) must be among the most eponymous images of art of that era. I feel sure the ability to come up close will enhance the lecture hugely, but let's hope the detail won't be too gruesome!

### Our AGM

Inevitably the pandemic scuppered our well honed plans for our AGM and our auditors have understandably been very overworked at this difficult time. Happily, we were finally able to send out all the paperwork to you, our members, and it's wonderful to report that there were no dissenting voices to the suggestions made in the President's report. Equally, we were heartened by the many congratulatory and affirming emails we received.

I would like to thank you all for your tremendous support and loyalty to the Society, without which, our viability would have been seriously in doubt. So a big thank you to you all!

### And looking forward . . .

The month of May will see us with two events

Our monthly lecture on the 10th May will discuss the **life and work of Eric Ravilious** - the British artist, designer, illustrator and wood engraver whose depiction of the classic English landscape was handled with such sensitivity and modernity. He served as a war artist, tragically dying at the young age of 39 when the aircraft he was in was lost off Iceland in 1942.

The lecture will be given by David Boyd Haycock, a writer, curator and lecturer whose excellent book 'A Crisis of Brilliance' - a group biography of the artists Paul Nash, Stanley Spencer, Mark Gertler, Dora Carrington and C.R. W. Nevinson was nominated in the "Best Non-Fiction Book" category at the 2010 Writers' Guild of Great Britain awards. Make a date in your diary!

On 5th May we have our **Special Interest Day on Scottish Houses, Castles and Classicism**. This study day was originally planned to complement our Scottish Tour scheduled for May. Inevitably that had to be postponed, but we are delighted to confirm that it has been re-arranged for 11th - 15th October, so this will be a good introduction to those planning to join us on this tour of the Scottish Lowlands.

That said, I know that the study day will be of equal interest to those unable to make the tour. Details of the tour are now on our website ([www.theartssocietyexmoor.org](http://www.theartssocietyexmoor.org) - just go to the visits and tours page for full details). Caroline Knight, the study day's lecturer, is an acknowledged expert on the subject having organised many tours while living in Scotland. We are hoping for a good turnout to this event.

### PLANNED FOR 2022

**A Ten Day Tour of the Holy Land:** Tuesday 3rd May to Friday 13th May 2022. We will be staying in Jerusalem and in the Galilee area. The tour will be based on full board with a resident guide. More to follow!

In the meantime, stay well, stay positive and - "We'll meet again some day soon . . ."! *Penny Pulver - Chairman*