

ART APPRECIATION

The Art Appreciation group has been busy so far this year with an indoor meeting in January in Lower Holker Village Hall. One of our members kindly set up his large screen Mac and we were able to watch a dvd on Hockney which showcased his 2012 and 2016 exhibitions at the RA. In these exhibitions, Hockney displayed a change of technique by using the ipad with amazing results. With a discussion afterwards, we were left feeling more appreciative of Hockney's ability and creativity. This has inspired us to go to Saltaire which we hope to visit in March where over 400 of his works are on show and his now well-known "Arrival of Spring" which was painted during lockdown in Normandy, again making superb use of the ipad.

Some of us braved the cold snap and went to the Romney Society meeting in Kendal to listen to a leading expert on early Gainsborough. Hugh Belsey was the curator of Gainsborough House in Sudbury where he formed one of the largest collections of Gainsborough's work. He has also appeared as an expert on Fake or Fortune and Britain's Lost Masterpieces.

With further announcements of snow, an intrepid group took the train to Manchester and went to the Whitworth Art Gallery where they saw three excellent (free) exhibitions. What a lovely way to spend a rather sleety grey day in February. The exhibitions covered Albrecht Durer's "Material World" which set Durer's watercolours, woodcuts, etchings, and engravings in the context of the time. He was very entrepreneurial and created his own brand and, in an attempt, to copy his work, copyrighting became a new phenomenon. We broke off our gallery visit and had lunch in a new glass extension to the gallery. The rest of our time was divided with more Durer; "Material Power" which was an exhibition of Palestinian textiles, which is for them a means to hold on to their identity and memories of their culture. The last exhibition was entitled "Images of Displacement" and it displayed numerous paintings either involving those who had been displaced or the places they had been displaced from. All quite powerful and thought provoking. We were lucky with trains, they ran and were on time and we saw snow on Pendle Hill, safely at a distance.

March sees us visit Saltaire and closer to home a film and discussion at the Heron - both are very spring-like exhibitions which will get us in the mood for gardening and more outdoor activities.

On 24 April, an outing has been arranged to Derbyshire to both Kedleston Hall and Derby Art Gallery & Museum. The trip includes a talk on the artist Joseph Wright of Derby and the Museum has interesting collections of porcelain and ceramics.

The price of £45 includes coach, talk and entry to Derby Art Gallery. Entry to Kedleston Hall is free to NT members. For non-National Trust members entry to the Hall is £18 and £8 to Park. The coach will depart from Berners Close at 8.00 am and return at 8.00 pm.

Contact Rose at roseclark83@gmail.com for further information & payment details.

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