

**To the members of the Arts Society City of Chichester
13th March 2013**



Dear all

Coronavirus and impact on the Lectures and Visits programme

I write this letter on behalf of the Committee of the Arts Society City of Chichester to all our Members and to everyone on the Waiting List.

We had a Committee meeting on Thursday 12th March and, as you'd expect, the main item on the Agenda was the Coronavirus and the impact it might have on our programme of lectures and visits and tours. We looked at everything we have planned for our members up to the end of July 2020. Under the present circumstances, our primary concern is to avoid jeopardising the health of our members – we have a duty of care to you, and we are also mindful of the escalating advice being given by Public Health England (see <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england> and <https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>). Our conclusions are as follows:

LECTURE MEETINGS AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 26th March 2020 AGM followed by Lecture on the History of Stained Glass
THE AGM AND THE LECTURE ARE POSTPONED UNTIL A LATER DATE.

- 30th April 2020 Lecture on Catherine de Medici
- 28th May 2020 Lecture on 18th to 20th Century Scottish Artists
- 25th June 2020 Lecture on Downton to Gatsby

These three lectures are all under consideration for postponement, depending on the circumstances of the Coronavirus. We will let you know at the end of every month whether or not the next lecture will go ahead.

VISITS

- 23rd April 2020 Visit to Christ's Hospital school
- 20th May 2020 Visit to Wilton House and Arundells
- 15th July 2020 Visit to Sherborne Castle and Athelhampton House

These three Visits are under consideration for postponement, depending on the circumstances around the Coronavirus. We will let you know at the end of every month whether or not the next Visit will go ahead. If you have already booked and paid for a Visit your money will be refunded in total by our Treasurer if the Visit is postponed.

DAY OF SPECIAL INTEREST

- 30th June 2020 Dance and Art

This Day of Special Interest is under consideration for postponement, depending on the circumstances around the Coronavirus. We will let you know by the end of May latest if this Day will go ahead or not. If you have already booked and paid for the Day your money will be refunded in total by our Treasurer if the Day is postponed.

TOURS

- 7th May to 12th May 2020 Puglia Tour

Celia has kept everyone who booked for this Tour updated with the latest information from our Travel Agents, Success Tours. She will continue to send out information as soon as it is received.

- 27th September to 1st October 2020 North Yorkshire Tour - Tickets for this Tour are available from Celia.

We will make further announcements regarding the autumn programme of lectures nearer the time in line with the advice then being given by the government and Public Health England.

So, there we are. As I've shown above, we will keep you updated at least monthly. And our updates will be by email, so do please make sure that you check your email on a regular basis especially towards the end of a month.

In addition, every update will be posted on our website www.theartsocietycityofchichester.org.uk For those of you without email, we will post the information in hard copy.

Please don't hesitate to contact me for any general questions or, for specific queries on Visits, contact Linda Baker or, for Tours and the Day of Special Interest, contact Celia O'Shea.

As a Committee, we are all so sorry that we have had to take, or consider taking, all the measures I've listed. (And we will endeavour to provide you with some, if not all, of the postponements next year.) However, although our Society is based on the (very successful!) social interaction of people interested in the arts, our duty of care for the well-being of our members has to be paramount.

Every good wish to all

Betty Smith
Chairman