



Dear Members

August 2018

Well, what a year this has been for The Arts Society Walton. When I offered to put myself forward for election as Chairman last summer, little did I imagine that even before being elected, my first task, in July, would be to find a new hall for our lectures. I soon realised that frankly there was no choice.

I very much hope that you will choose to renew your membership of TASW; as you can see, the Lectures for 2019 are varied as are the Special Interest Days. The possible Visits are being explored as I write - we are of course dependant on Galleries, Museums and places of interest announcing their exhibitions well in advance. Sponsorship is not as forthcoming as in the past.

I know All Saints Church Hall in Hersham isn't perfect and that parking is tricky but I've been grateful to meet there. May I thank you, the Members, who have adjusted to the move and the change to 2pm - caused by an existing Dance Class.

I've been reflecting back to 2002; a group of waiting list members of Weybridge NADFAS were invited to form a Walton NADFAS - on account of the long waiting list. I soon realised there were no large halls in Walton - thus we met at Hersham and became 'Walton and Hersham' NADFAS (WHDFAS) and following the rebranding we are now, of course, The Arts Society Walton!

I would like to thank your Committee who have worked hard to bring you an interesting programme of Lectures, Visits and Special Interest Days. I'd also like to pay tribute to the Audio Visual Team for coping so well with the move and with slightly different equipment and, special thanks too, to Catherine Carter and Tony Collins who have decided not to stand for re-election this year. Catherine has been on the Committee for nearly ten years in various roles, and Tony has been Membership Secretary and in charge of Teas for the last three years. We would like to welcome new members to the Committee and should you wish to find out more with a view to joining the Committee, please email pamela.scott@theartssocietywalton.org.

The Chief Executive of The Arts Society felt we needed to raise awareness of what the individual Societies offer. All 380 Societies were asked to arrange a September event highlighting the combined contribution made by NADFAS and The Arts Society, to the Arts over 50 years. "Celebrating the Arts in Elmbridge" will be on view from 26 - 30 September in the Robert Phillips Gallery at the Riverhouse Barn Arts Centre. Even if you don't feel able to contribute a work of art or craft, do encourage your artistic friends (Elmbridge residents). Further details about submitting a work of art (closing date 31 August) are on our website. I also hope most of you will visit.

I look forward to welcoming you back in September for our interesting and varied programme.

Pamela Scott