



Newsletter

September 2024

FRIENDS
of MUSEUM & ART
SWINDON

Hello Friends

Friends' Monthly Talks

26 September Phillip Dearden will give a talk about his grandfather Harold Dearden, Head of the Swindon Art School for over 30 years, with several paintings in the Swindon Collection.

31 October Harriet Still will give a talk based on the Hardy's Wessex exhibition at Museum and Art Swindon.

28 November Dr Gill Clarke will talk about the 'Purbeck Artists' exhibition, which she will be curating at the Russell Cotes Gallery, Bournemouth.

Thanks so much to Kirsty Hartsiotis for her fascinating August talk on The Arts and Craft Movement in the Cotswolds and our local area. See also Page 2 for a new acquisition to the Swindon Museum Collection, which Kirsty was able to show us.

5th December Friends Annual General Meeting

Linda Kasmaty, Barbara Swann and Rosemary Savage will be standing down at the AGM. David Hughes and Martin Newman are also leaving the committee, so there will only be three remaining members Brigid Harkness (Treasurer) Angela Atkinson (Web-site) and Martin Styles.

At the AGM we will need to elect the **Chair, Deputy Chair** and **Minutes Secretary**. We also need new committee members to look after **Membership Subscriptions** and organise **Talks, Outings** and the **Newsletter**. Five members have come forward as possible future committee members but more are needed.

A committee of ten members is probably the ideal number.

Contact Linda if you would like to discuss taking on any of these roles:

lindakasmaty@hotmail.com

Swindon Heritage Open Days 6th -15th of September

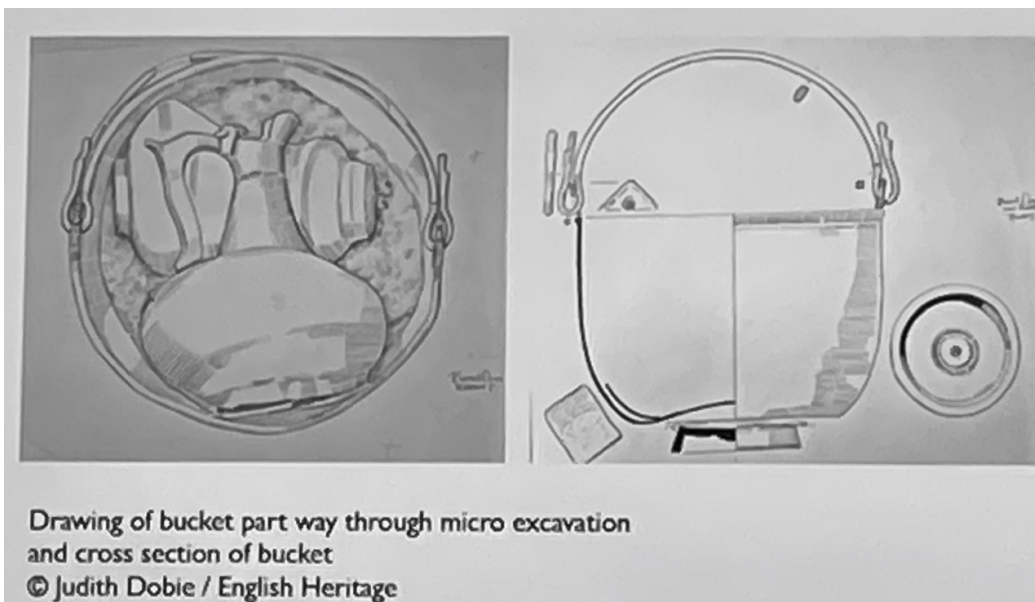
A chance to see inside some of Swindon's significant buildings and public spaces,

For more information search 'Swindon' on

<https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/>

The Bassett Down Bucket Hoard

Kirsty Hartsiotis has recently joined the team at Swindon Museums as a Collections and Exhibitions Officer. Before her talk on the Arts and Crafts Movement she was able to show us the contents of the Bucket Hoard, recently acquired by Museum and Art Swindon. The bucket itself was too fragile to be shown. The contents included a large and a small drinking cup and a beautiful jug, all made from a copper alloy. The Friends paid for the micro-excavation of the bucket and it's contents, which will be put on show next year.



Drawing of bucket part way through micro excavation
and cross section of bucket
© Judith Dobie / English Heritage

Friends' Blog

For lots more news of local interest and Friends' activities over the past 14 years read Linda Kasmaty's Friends' Blog: <http://friendsofmas.blogspot.com>

Friends' Social Media Links

Friends' website: <http://www.friendsofmas.org>

For newsletters, news, information about planned talks and videos of past talks.

You can join the Friends, renew membership or make a donation through the website.

Instagram, with 1,599 followers: <https://www.instagram.com/friendsmuseumartswindon/>

Social Media Links for Museum and Art Swindon

Website: <https://www.museumartswindon.com/>

The online shop selling books, jewellery and toys is now available on the website.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MuseumandArtGallery/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/museumartswindon/>

Out and About

Lydiard House Museum

Current exhibition: Let's Not Forget the Black Contribution to the World Wars in Wiltshire.

A reflective exploration of Black history during the 20th century, telling the individual stories of servicemen from the Caribbean and America during WWI and WWII in Wiltshire.

<https://www.lydiardpark.org.uk/visit/museum/exhibitions/>

Wiltshire Museum, Devizes

Heritage Open Day Museum Tour Saturday 14 September, 10.30 am

A special tour of hidden parts of the Museum by Director David Dawson.

Please note that we will be going up and down stairs during the tour.

Tickets: FREE but BOOKING ESSENTIAL - places are limited.

For more information visit: <https://www.wiltshiremuseum.org.uk>

Pallant House Gallery, Chichester

The Shape of Things: Still Life in Britain until 20th October 2024

Features two works from the Swindon Collection, including 'Bright Intervals' by Edward Wadsworth, 1928, which is also used on the exhibition poster.

8-9 North Pallant, Chichester, PO19 1TJ, Tel: 01243 774557, <https://pallant.org.uk/>

The Arts Society Kennet and Swindon

New subscription year begins in May, next two lectures:

16 Sept. Seaside Modern: Art and Life on the Beach by James Russell

21 October Frozen Breath of the Polar Night: An introduction to Art Nouveau Glass by Justine Hopkins

For more lectures and information:

<https://www.theartsocietykennet.org.uk/> or email: tas.kennetandswindon@gmail.com