

# Members' Events

## Events in March that have been advertised in previous issue

### Wednesday 1 March

#### Paper in Fashion

##### V&A Guided Tour

Sonnet Stanfill, curator of textiles and fashion, will give Members a behind-the-scenes look at paper clothes in the V&A's collection, including a 1960s Ossie Clark design and a contemporary creation by Hussein Chalayan. **11.00-12.10 (tea and coffee 11.40-12.10) £7**

### Tuesday 7 March

#### Marble Hill House

##### External Visit

Situated on the River Thames in Twickenham, Marble Hill House was built between 1723 and 1729 for Henrietta Howard, Countess of Suffolk. Designed by Colen Campbell and constructed by Roger Morris, under the supervision of Henry Herbert (the future 9th Earl of Pembroke), it is a perfect example of Palladian architecture. The countess lived her life at the heart of political and social affairs, entertaining a constant flow of visitors that included John Gay, Horace Walpole, Jonathan Swift and Alexander Pope. The villa is not only a reflection of her independent spirit, but also an insight into the Augustan age. Please note the ticket price includes the transport costs from the meeting point to Marble Hill House and entry into the building. **10.30-12.30 (including tea and coffee) £15**

### Friday 10 March

#### Blenheim and the Churchill Family

##### Coach Trip

Blenheim Palace is one of the most important buildings in Europe, and the only palace in England that is still a family home. One of the finest examples of English Baroque architecture and housing works of art from throughout Europe, Blenheim attracts around half a million visitors each year. The family has lived there for the past 300 years. After tea and coffee

in the orangery, Members will be given a talk by Lady Henrietta Spencer-Churchill (daughter of the 11th Duke of Marlborough). She will trace the story of the glamorous dynasty from 1700 to modern times. Following a three-course lunch (including a glass of Blenheim wine), Members will be taken on a tour of the house that will include the Great Hall with its fine ceiling painted by James Thornhill, original tapestries, family portraits by Reynolds, Sergeant, Closterman and others, statues by Michael Rysbrack and the Willis Organ. **09.00-17.45 (coach, tour and lunch) £68**  
**10.30-16.00 (tour and lunch only) £54**

### Wednesday 15 March

#### Seventeenth-century Patronage in Suffolk: Kedington and Boxted

##### Coach Trip

The best fixtures, fittings and monuments are often found in estate churches in the deepest countryside. This day trip, led by Dr Stephen Brindle, will visit two such buildings in south-west Suffolk. SS Peter & Paul, Kedington, described by John Betjeman as "a village Westminster Abbey", remains one of the richest churches in England for fixtures and fittings, the result of the long patronage of the Barnardiston family. Following tea and coffee, Members will be given a guided tour, including the Barnardiston Pew, fashioned from a medieval rood screen to save it from destruction. After a two-course lunch at the White Horse, Kedington, Members will visit the remote estate church of Boxted. This picture-postcard building is everywhere touched by the presence of the Poley family. As Simon Jenkins remarked: "Boxted is for Poley monuments. There are Poles from floor to ceiling. Poles in wood and stone, Poles in brass and alabaster. In Boxted we walk on Poles, talk of Poles and, if their ashes are dust, breathe Poles." **09.00-17.30 (coach, tour and lunch) £50**  
**11.00-15.30 (tour and lunch only) £35**

## Book Now

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### Monday 20 March

#### Alan Titchmarsh: Royal Gardeners

##### V&A Evening Lecture

Long before gardens became something for everyone to enjoy, they were the exclusive preserve of royalty and the very wealthy. Alan Titchmarsh will take Members on a fascinating tour through the history of inspiring royal gardeners and gardens, from medieval times to the present day, that are as diverse as the monarchs who created them. The talk will range from a humble medieval bower built to entertain royal mistresses to the overstated grandeur of palace grounds created as a symbol of power, and include Hampton Court, the grand Georgian gardens surrounding Kew Palace, Balmoral, Sandringham, Buckingham Palace and the Prince of Wales's gardens at Highgrove. **19.00-20.45 (wine reception 20.00-20.45) £15**

### Wednesday 22 March

#### The Changing City – Walking Tour of London's Architecture

##### External Visit (Sold out)

### Thursday 23 March

#### Leighton House and Linley Sambourne, Kensington, London

##### External Visit

In 1864 George Aitchison began the design for Frederick, Lord Leighton's house in Holland Park Road, Kensington. Leighton was an artist who became president of the Royal Academy in 1878, and the house was lavishly designed to accommodate his studio and many contemporary works of art and antiques. He had acquired an astonishing collection of sixteenth and seventeenth-century Islamic tiles, which were used by Aitchison, William De Morgan and Walter Crane to build the magnificent Arab Hall that is the centrepiece of the house. Leighton made the area socially acceptable and soon other artists began to have their houses designed by architects in the nearby Melbury Road. Following a visit

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to the house, there will be a short walk that will take in the architecture of Philip Webb and Richard Norman Shaw and the famous Tower House designed by William Burgess for himself. At this point there will be an opportunity for Members to purchase lunch in Holland Park. In contrast to Leighton's "designer" home, Linley Sambourne, who was a modestly paid cartoonist for *Punch* magazine, lived at Stafford Terrace with his wife and two children from 1875. This was a more conventional middle-class house decorated with William Morris wallpaper, Benson light fittings and modern high street furniture. These houses provide a fascinating study of two remarkable Victorian personalities. The ticket price includes entry to both, but does not include lunch.

**10.30-16.00**  
**£28**

### Thursday 30 March

#### Layer Marney Tower and Ingatestone Hall, Essex

##### Coach Trip

Layer Marney Tower, built during Henry VIII's reign, is a quintessential Tudor gatehouse that was created to advertise the status of Henry, First Lord Marney. He died before it was finished, but the result was England's tallest gatehouse (80ft). Following tea and coffee, Members will be given a private tour, including areas not normally open to the public, such as the tower, the church, the long gallery and the medieval barn. They will learn more about guests who have stayed there, including Queen Elizabeth I, how it survived the great earthquake of 1884



and how the many different families have made their mark on the estate. After a ploughman's lunch, Members will visit Ingatestone Hall, a sixteenth-century manor built by Sir William Petre, Secretary of State to four Tudor monarchs. His descendants still live in the house, which largely retains its Tudor appearance (including two priests' hiding places) and does not open to the public until April. A private tour by the Petre family will encompass furniture, family portraits and other pictures accumulated over the centuries, together with memorabilia of fifteen generations of Petres. Among the many anecdotes about the family, Members will hear the story of the seventh lord, who spent six hours every day dressing his hair and was the inspiration for Alexander Pope's *The Rape Of The Lock*.

**09.15-18.15 (coach, tour and lunch) £45**  
**11.15-17.00 (tour and lunch only) £30**



## Events that have not been previously advertised

### Tuesday 4 April

#### Modernism: Designing a New World Private View 1914-1939

##### Director's Circle and Patrons only

Director's Circle members and Patrons are invited to view the latest major exhibition at the V&A, 'Modernism: Designing a New World 1914-1939'. An invitation will be sent to members of the Director's Circle and Patrons shortly. **18.45-21.15**

## Conditions of Booking

### Completing the Form

Please complete the form in CAPITALS. Where multiple dates are available please indicate your first, second and third choices by marking the boxes according to preference. Members can purchase as many tickets as they require (including for guests who do not need to be Members).

### Payment

Please send credit card details or a cheque. Do not send cash. Cheques should be signed and dated and made payable to "The Friends of the V&A". Do not fill in the amount in words or figures, unless paying for only one event. To limit the amount on the cheque write "not to exceed £...." at the base of the cheque, leaving the lines and amount box empty. The

Membership Office will complete your credit card or cheque transaction with the relevant amount.

### Returning the Form

Please include payment and a stamped self-addressed DL envelope (110x220mm) with the completed booking form. Please send to: Membership Events, Membership Office, V&A, South Kensington, London SW7 2RL. Bookings can also be made by telephone (020 7942 2277/78) or email (membershivevents@vam.ac.uk). Patrons and Contributing Members receive priority bookings on all events.

### Ticket Allocation & Waiting Lists

Tickets will be allocated on a first come first served basis, in the order in which bookings are received. Any

tickets not sent indicate your application has not been successful. If the ticket application is unsuccessful the credit card details and cheques will not be processed. Where an event is full, names will automatically be added to the waiting list and you will be contacted if places become available. Numbers at events are set according to what the V&A or external venue can accommodate. Please do not attempt to attend the event unless a ticket has been allocated prior to the event.

### Cancellation

If you are unable to attend an event please inform the Membership Office as soon as possible so that another V&A Member may be given the opportunity to attend. Name substitutions can be accepted at any time by

phone, fax or email. In the event of cancellation, and provided that notice is given to the Membership Office two weeks prior to the event, a credit note to the value of the ticket(s) will be issued. This can be redeemed against any Membership event. The Membership Office reserves the right to cancel any event. In this eventuality the full fee will be refunded.

### Members with Special Needs

The V&A aims to offer fully accessible events to all its Members. Please help us to accommodate any individual needs – including dietary when appropriate – that you may have by attaching a note to the booking form. The Membership Office will contact you to discuss this as necessary.

### Alterations & Speakers

The Membership Office reserves the right to make alterations to the advertised programme without prior notice. The Membership Office is not, as a body, responsible for the views or opinions expressed by individual authors or speakers. Please note all end times are approximate.

### Liability

Please note that personal insurance for events away from the V&A is the responsibility of the individual.

### Data Protection

Information provided by you will be processed by the Membership Office and used for the purpose of the goods and services ordered by you, and for billing and accounts.

### Key to Members' Events



Many Stairs



Extensive Walking



Disabled Facilities



Food



Overnight Trip



Coach

## Members' Events



### Wednesday 5 April Modernism: Designing a New World 1914-1939

#### V&A Daytime Talk

Modernism was the key point of reference for twentieth-century architecture, design and art. Christopher Wilk (V&A keeper, furniture, textiles and fashion) will give a talk about the exhibition, which is the first to explore the concept of Modernism in depth rather than restricting itself to particular geographical centres or individual decades. He will explain how architecture and design, as well as painting, sculpture, film, photography, prints and collage, reflect the period's emphasis on the unity of the arts. Following the talk Members can visit the exhibition as part of the Members' preview day upon showing their membership card. Above: Le Corbusier's Villa Savoie, 1928 © FLC/DACS, London 2006. **14.30-16.00 (tea and coffee 15.30-16.00) £10**



## Members' Events



### Friday 7 April Art at No. 10 Downing Street External Visit

No. 10 Downing Street (above © Geoffrey Taunton; Cordaiy Photo Library/Corbis) has been the official home of the Prime Minister since 1735, when Sir Robert Walpole first took up residence. As well as being the venue for Cabinet meetings, it hosts receptions for foreign dignitaries, impressing them with its display of British art. As part of the Government Art Collection's annual changing displays of works from regional galleries, ten paintings loaned from the Towner Art Gallery in Eastbourne have been installed at No. 10. They are part of an extensive collection established from an original group of paintings bequeathed by local alderman John Chisholm Towner. Downing Street also houses Turners and Gainsboroughs. Members will learn more about the Government Art Collection and gain an insight into what happens behind the famous front door. **15.00-16.00**  
£5

### Monday 10 April John Brookes: Small Gardens V&A Evening Lecture

Rising to fame in the 1960s with his urban garden designs and a string of Chelsea Flower Show gold medals, John Brookes MBE (right) has been running his own practice at Denmans for more than 40 years, attracting commissions worldwide. He popularised the idea of the garden as a "room outside". Members will learn more about his latest ideas for small spaces. **19.00-20.45**  
(wine reception 20.00-20.45)  
£12



### Monday 24 April Judith Miller: Handbags V&A Evening Lecture

Judith Miller (above), internationally acclaimed collectables expert, has been collecting since the 1960s and has written more than 100 books on the subject. In 1979 she co-founded the *Miller's Antiques Price Guide*, of which she was publisher until 1990. She has recently launched a new series of *Pocket Collectors* guides, including one on handbags, which is the subject of this illustrated talk. **19.00-20.45**  
(wine reception 20.00-20.45)  
£12

### Tuesday 25 April 2 Willow Road External Visit

In 1939 architect Ernö Goldfinger designed and built 2 Willow Road in Hampstead, London, as a functional home for his family. Today, the central house of a terrace of three is one of Britain's most important examples of Modernist architecture and still has its



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original furnishings, including furniture designed by the architect. Many of the Goldfingers' friends were leading figures in the art world, who offered examples of their work to the collection on display in the property, which includes a number of significant British and European twentieth-century works by Bridget Riley, Max Ernst and Henry Moore. Members will be given a private tour of the house outside of public opening hours.

**18.30-19.30**  
£10  
The event will be repeated on Sunday 11 June (14.00-15.00).

### Tuesday 25 April 17th Century Porcelain from Shanghai Museum Private View Director's Circle only

Director's Circle members are invited to view the new V&A display, '17th Century Porcelain from Shanghai Museum'. An invitation will be sent shortly. **18.45-20.45**

### Thursday 27 April Modernism: Designing a New World 1914-1939

Director's Circle and Patrons Breakfast Viewing  
Director's Circle members and Patrons are invited to preview the latest major exhibition at the V&A, 'Modernism: Designing a New World 1914-1939'. An invitation will be sent shortly. **08.30-10.00**

### Wednesday 3 May Restoration of a Russian Orthodox Cathedral, Knightsbridge External Visit

The Cathedral of the Dormition and All Saints was commissioned by an Anglican clergyman in 1849. Bought by the Orthodox parish in 1978, it became a landmark in the Western Christian world under the leadership of Metropolitan Anthony of Sourozh, whose writings and broadcasts were an inspiration to Russians at a time when religion in the Soviet Union was severely restricted. The interior combines the rich iconography of the Orthodox Church with its earlier English features, including an outstanding example of Heywood Sumner's sgraffito, an artistic technique developed in sixteenth-century Italy. Dr Julian Litten will tell Members about the history of the church and architect John Woodcock will talk about its current restoration. **11.00-12.30 (including tea and coffee)**  
£16



### Monday 8 May Erika Knight: Essential Crochet V&A Evening Lecture

Crochet is cool again. Spearheading the revival of the traditional craft is international design consultant Erika Knight, who will present her new collection of 30 homeware and accessory designs to Members. These range from a basic patchwork throw made from individual motifs crocheted in easy-care wool cotton to a contemporary table runner made from pearlised wire to a handy tote bag crocheted in leather. Erika has created knitwear for many top brands, including M&S, Whistles, Nicole Farhi and Gap. **19.00-20.45**  
(wine reception 20.00-20.45)  
£12



To increase your support of the V&A and enjoy further benefits become a Contributing Member or Patron.  
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### Thursday 11 May Benchmark Studios and Highclere Castle, Berkshire Coach Trip

Sir Terence Conran and cabinetmaker Sean Sutcliffe (above right and left © Martyn Goddard/County Life Picture Library) founded Benchmark Woodworking in the mid-1980s, pioneering a model of farm diversification in the former farm buildings of the design guru's country house. The business was mainly concerned with commercial joinery projects, but in 2004 the company launched Benchmark Furniture – a range of domestic pieces aimed directly at the public, with more than half of them designed by Sir Terence. Led by Sean Sutcliffe, a small group of V&A Members will be given a private tour of the Conran Studios, where they will see designers and young craftsmen combining modern technology with traditional methods. This will be followed by a buffet-style, two-course lunch at Highclere Castle (which is not open to the public until June). Commissioned in 1838 by the 3rd Earl of Carnarvon, it is one of the most important Victorian masterpieces in England. Sir Charles Barry transformed the house into an Italianate castle during the same decades in which he built the Houses of Parliament. A private tour will take in the state rooms containing English, Dutch, Italian and French paintings and furniture, collected by the Earls of Carnarvon over the centuries and forming a fascinating insight into our heritage. Tea and coffee will be served prior to leaving for London. Please note that Members will only be able to travel by coach to the venues and not independently. **09.30-18.00**  
(coach, lunch, refreshments and tours)  
£70



## Members' Events

### Monday 15 May The Fleming Collection External Visit

The painter Clotilde Brewster Peplow was born in 1915. During the 1930s she spent months with her mother painting in southern Italy and later in Corfu and on mainland Greece. It was at this time she became romantically involved with Willy Peplow, son of the Scottish Colourist S J Peplow. The Fleming Collection's latest exhibition looks at her work alongside that of her father-in-law, brother-in-law Denis Peplow and other family members. Members will be given a private curator-led tour of the exhibition. **18.00-20.00 (including wine reception)**  
£20

### Thursday 18 May-Monday 22 May Istanbul: Strolling Through Empires Director's Circle and Patrons Overseas Visit

Director's Circle members and Patrons are invited to visit Istanbul. For further information please contact Flora Smith, Patrons and Director's Circle Manager.

### Monday 22 May Inaugural Installation by Jeff Koons Private View

Director's Circle and Patrons only  
Director's Circle members and Patrons are invited to view the inaugural garden installation by Jeff Koons at the V&A. An invitation will be sent shortly. **18.45-20.45**

### Wednesday 24 May Westminster's Pimlico Churches Walking Tour

External Visit  
Three of Pimlico's four churches – St Barnabas, St Gabriel and St Saviour – were designed by Thomas Cundy II between 1847 and 1864. Members will be given a tour of these by Dr Stephen Brindle. St Barnabas (1847-1850) was described as "the most sumptuous church which has been dedicated in the use of the Anglican communion since the revival", and is full of contemporary fittings, embellished in the late nineteenth century by G F Bodley, C E Kempe and Ninian Comper. St Gabriel (1851-1853) was added to by J P St Aubyn in 1887 and again in 1895 by Herbert Baker. St Saviour (1863-1864) is the largest, with an outstanding collection of stained glass. The fourth building, G E Street's St James-the-Less (1859-1861), is one of the finest Gothic Revival churches in Britain. **14.00-15.30**  
£20





**Monday 5 June**  
**St Catherine's Monastery on Mount Sinai Library Preservation Project**  
 V&A Evening Lecture

The library in the monastery of St Catherine on Mount Sinai (above) has a good claim to the title of the oldest continuously surviving library in the Christian world. A project to preserve it, established in 1996 by the St Catherine Foundation and based at the Camberwell College of Arts, has been working in the monastery since 1998. Book conservator Professor Nicholas Pickwood will talk about the plans being drawn up for the renovation of the library room and a new conservation workshop, give an insight into the work being carried out by the project team and also reveal some of the treasures held in the collection.

19.00-20.45  
 (wine reception 20.00-20.45)  
 £12



**Monday 5 June**  
**Che Guevara – Revolutionary and Icon Private View**

Director's Circle only  
 Director's Circle members are invited to view this latest display at the V&A, 'Che Guevara – Revolutionary and Icon'. An invitation will be sent shortly.

18.45-20.45

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 your guests  
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**Tuesday 6 June**  
**Oxford's Architecture**  
 Coach Trip

Treading in the young Wren's footsteps; tracing where Hawksmoor's grand plans were foiled; gathering where Ruskin, Morris and Rossetti first met; re-living religious struggles and viewing the monuments they left behind. In this walk around Oxford, Members will follow the collegiate plan from its origins (at New College) to its demise (at St Catherine's), and encounter museums of every type. The tour will take in Gothic, not only medieval and Victorian, but of the eighteenth and twentieth centuries, and classical gems just a few years old – all rendered in the famous golden stone. It will try to get to the root of what has enabled this unique city to last so long: changing yet remaining the same. The tour will be led by Brian Hanson, who has taught history of architecture and design for 30 years. For the past eighteen he has

advised the Prince of Wales and edited his book *A Vision of Britain* (1989) and the accompanying V&A exhibition, and is currently teaching at Birkbeck College. Please note that lunch is not included in the price of this coach trip and Members will only be able to travel by coach and not independently. Below: the Grove Building, Magdalen College, Oxford, which was designed by Demetri Porphyrios in 1991 ([www.virtual-archive.co.uk](http://www.virtual-archive.co.uk)).  
 09.30-18.00 (coach and tour)  
 £60



**Wednesday 7 June**  
**Glass and Ceramics Acquisitions**

Contributing Members Evening  
 Invitation to Contributing Members to follow.  
 19.00-20.30  
 (including wine and canapés)

**Thursday 8 June**  
**St Mary Abbots, Kensington**

External Visit  
 The seventeenth-century church of St Mary Abbots, Kensington, was completely rebuilt by the influential nineteenth-century architect George Gilbert Scott between 1868 and 1872, though the spire was not completed until 1879 and the covered cloistral approach until 1893. From the outside one gets the impression that everything must be of the nineteenth century, but the interior contains an outstanding collection of funerary monuments from the former church by such sculptors as Joshua Marshall, Grinling Gibbons, Gueffi and Francis Chantry. Although damaged during the Second World War, the stained glass miraculously survived, and remains the finest collection of High Victorian glass in London. This half-day visit – led by Dr Julian Litten – will trace the history of the previous churches on the site, the fixtures and fittings surviving from them and the subsequent insertions by various members of the Scott dynasty of architects.  
 14.00-16.00 (including tea and coffee)  
 £14

**Sunday 11 June**  
**2 Willow Road**

External Visit  
 14.00-15.00  
 £10  
 See Tuesday 25 April for further information.

**Wednesday 14 June**  
**Asian Religions**

V&A Guided Tour  
 V&A guide Vicki Beauchamp explores the Asian religions as illustrated by the T T Tsui Gallery of Chinese Art and Design. She will begin with the earliest evidence of the belief in an afterlife in the Neolithic period and continue to the last dynasty, looking at Confucianism, Daoism and Buddhism. Below: figure of the god Guan Di © V&A Images.  
 18.00-19.30  
 (wine reception 19.00-19.30)  
 £6  
 The event will be repeated on Thursday 6 July (11.00-12.30).



**Thursday 15 June**  
**Summer Garden Party**

Director's Circle and Patrons only  
 The Summer Garden Party for Patrons and their guests will be held at the V&A on the evening of Thursday 15 June. An invitation will be sent to Patrons and members of the Director's Circle shortly.  
 19.00-21.30

**Tuesday 20 June**  
**Beth Chatto Gardens, Essex**

Coach Trip  
 This visit to gardens in Essex will begin at Olivers near Colchester, an eighteenth-century house on the edge of a valley. Following tea and coffee, Members will be given a private tour of the six-acre garden, including woodland walks and wild flower meadows, by the owner of the property. After a two-course lunch, Members will move on to the gardens designed by Beth Chatto (below, photo: Steven Wooster) in the 1960s in a neglected hollow on her husband's fruit farm, which was either boggy or exceedingly dry. Chatto's planting is a lesson on how to use both leaf and flowers to best advantage. Her great knowledge of which plants will grow in difficult situations and her excellently written books have made her a high priestess among gardeners. Members will be given a private tour and learn more about the gardens and their history.  
 09.00-18.00  
 (coach, lunch, refreshments and tour)  
 £60  
 11.00-16.00  
 (tour, lunch, refreshments only)  
 £40



**Thursday 22 June**  
**Westminster's Monuments of Sacrifice Walking Tour**

External Visit  
 After the bicentenary year of Nelson's triumph and demise at Trafalgar, this themed sculpture walk starts at the foot of the famous column, completed more than 60 years after the great admiral's death, before turning south past Le Sueur's equestrian statue of Charles I and along the ceremonial route down Whitehall. Led by Jo Darke (Public Monuments and Sculpture Association), the group will walk towards the Embankment, where it will call on the contemplative sculpture of General Gordon – or the dynamic figure of Lord Trenchard eternally scanning the skies that were his domain. Near Boadicea's monument, and in the heart of Westminster, Members will encounter monuments raised long after conflict – such as Paul Day's extensive work of September 2005 to the Battle of Britain, 1940 (above), or John Mills's imposing bronze, erected in the summer of 2005 to the women of the Second World War. The tour will finish in Whitehall at the nation's monument to the First World War, and to all other wars: Edwin Lutyens's Cenotaph of 1918.  
 14.30-16.00  
 £12



**Tuesday 27 June**  
**Vanished Churches of the City of London Walking Tour**

External Visit  
 Towards the end of the nineteenth century a number of Wren churches in the City were demolished, their sites disposed of and the monies raised from the sales used to build new places of worship in the suburbs. However, some of the towers were saved, purely because of their contribution to the

streetscape. This tour will not only take in these churches, but also the sites of some destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666 and not rebuilt, and the ruins of those bombed during the Second World War and also not rebuilt. Led by Dr Julian Litten, the walk starts at St Mary Aldermanbury in Love Lane and continues to St Alban Wood Street, St Mary Staining, St Olave Silver Street, St Alphege London Wall and St Olave Jewry. After lunch in Gresham Street, the tour resumes with St Dunstan-in-the-East, St George Billingsgate, St Martin Orgar, St Laurence Pountney, St Mary Somerset, St Augustine Old Change and St Peter Cheapside.  
 10.30-17.00  
 £40



**Monday 3 July**  
**Ian Pickford: Silver and Social Custom**

V&A Evening Lecture  
 To appreciate fully any pieces of silver it is essential to look at them in the context of the social customs and ways of life of the periods in which they were made. Only then can the reasons for the creation of such things as silver chamber pots, elaborate dressing-table sets and lids on cups be properly understood. Why, for example, were such extraordinary objects as clock salts produced in the Tudor period, and what was mustard served in before 1760? Ian Pickford (silver specialist and expert on the BBC's *Antiques Roadshow*) will explain all to Members in his illustrated talk, using slides of contemporary paintings and of objects to illustrate the evolution of social custom from 1066 through to the early nineteenth century.  
 19.00-20.45  
 (wine reception 20.00-20.45)  
 £12

**Welcome Tours**  
 Have you attended a free Members' Welcome Tour of the V&A?  
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 020 7942 2271  
 email [membership@vam.ac.uk](mailto:membership@vam.ac.uk)

# Members' Events

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Thursday 6 July

## Asian Religions

V&A Guided Tour

11.00-12.30 (tea and coffee 12.00-12.30)

£6

See Wednesday 14 June for further information.



Tuesday 11 July

## Top to Bottom: V&A Building Tour

V&A Guided Tour

In just over 50 years the V&A grew from being a temporary iron shed to the Burgundian Renaissance palace it is today. Between 1857 and 1909 there were five major building phases, but none was completed. The tour will try to uncover the secrets and the stories that still lurk inside the walls of one of the most fascinating places in London. Why was the main door never used? Where was the army billeted? And whose best friend was buried in the building?

10.15-12.15 (tea and coffee 11.45-12.15)

£12

The event will be repeated on Saturday 15 July (10.15-12.15).



Thursday 13 July

## Churches in North-West Kent

Coach Trip

Last year's popular visits to churches in the guardianship of The Churches Conservation Trust continue with a coach trip to see four churches cared for by the Trust in north-west Kent. Led by Dr Julian Litten, the tour will begin at Cooling St James (above, CCT/Roy Tricker), a pretty fourteenth-century building with a late thirteenth-century chancel made famous by Charles Dickens in *Great Expectations*. Members will then visit Higham St Mary, on the edge of the marshes of the Isle of Grain, whose unusual arrangement of two parallel naves and chancels is explained by its use as both a parish church and a convent chapel for Benedictine nuns. After lunch in Rochester, the tour will continue to Paddlesworth St Benedict, a small, late-Norman church, abandoned in 1678 and now surrounded by farm buildings. The day will end at Burham St

Mary, a twelfth-century church with a sturdy Perpendicular west tower. Standing by the Medway and on the pilgrims' route to Canterbury, it was deserted as the village moved to higher ground and rescued from demolition in 1956. Please note that Members will only be able to travel by coach to the venues and not independently.

09.30-18.00

(coach, lunch, refreshments and tour)

£70



Saturday 15 July

## Top to Bottom: V&A Building Tour

V&A Guided Tour

10.15-12.15 (tea and coffee 11.45-12.15)

£12

See Tuesday 11 July for further information.



Wednesday 19 July

## Creative Clerkenwell Walking Tour

External Visit

The recent regeneration of this hidden quarter of London uncovered its long and varied history. Originally home to a wealthy monastic house and the springs that gave the area its name, Clerkenwell was also home for many skilled craftsmen. This walking tour with Blue Badge guide Rachel Kolsky will trace the arts and crafts associated with the area – from clockmaking to printing to silverwork. After a break for lunch, Members will visit Pennybank Chambers, which is opening exclusively for the group, and selected artists' studios and meet the featured jeweller, An Alleweireldt, who will speak about the influences of her work. Please note that this event does not include lunch. Participants will be given a list of local recommended places to eat on the day.

11.00-16.00 (including tea and coffee)

£18



Thursday 20 July

## Medieval London Walking Tour

External Visit

By the Norman period London had developed into two distinct centres – Westminster for Royalty and Parliament and the City for merchants and trade. The latter was a municipality able to elect its own Lord Mayor, sheriffs and aldermen, while the merchants' guilds set the highest standards of trading. Today, 103 livery companies still exist, as do some of their grand halls, such as the Mercers, Grocers, Fishmongers, Goldsmiths and Cutlers. Businesses flourished in the overcrowded, smelly, muddy, mysterious and, on occasions, murderous streets. Here, Thomas Becket was born and Chaucer lived. The poet

Langland provided observations of his experience of the City and some of its occupants – Glutton the Drunk, Clarice of Cock Lane and Davy the Ditcher, the Sweeper of Cheapside. This walk will capture some of the atmosphere of this fascinating medieval melting pot.

10.30-13.00 (including tea and coffee)

£12



Thursday 27 July

## Jameel Gallery of Islamic Art Tour

V&A Guided Tour

The new Jameel Gallery of Islamic Art, after three years in the making, will open to the public on 20 July. Another crucial part of the V&A's ten-year FuturePlan to transform and modernise the V&A, it was made possible by a donation by the Jameel family through Hartwell plc in memory of Abdul Latif Jameel and his wife Nafisa. It will house 400 outstanding objects from the V&A's unrivalled collection, mostly created for the luxury-loving rich of the main Islamic capitals between the eighth and the nineteenth centuries. V&A guide Mina Renton will give Members a tour of the gallery and talk about the exhibits, which include the magnificent sixteenth-century Persian Ardabil carpet (detail above © V&A Images). One of the largest in the world, it is made of 47 miles of sick warp and 77 miles of sick weft, is decorated with an abundance of naturalistic flowers, birds and beasts and was once described by William Morris as "the finest Eastern carpet which I have ever seen".

11.00-12.30 (tea and coffee 12.00-12.30)

£10