

I am pleased to report that our September lecture on van Gogh in Ramsgate was a great success with a very enjoyable lecture, our hall filled to capacity and five new members signed up. A great start to the new season!

Migrants are often in the news these days and this month's lecture is about an early influx of immigrants, the Huguenots, who were Protestants fleeing from religious persecution in France. The Huguenots came to England in huge numbers in the late 17th century bringing a wide variety of skills - as silk weavers, silversmiths, clock makers, opticians, bankers, gilders, ironworkers, horticulturists etc. Names such as Paul de Lamerie, Samuel Courtauld and Jean Tijou spring to mind. In virtually all areas, they were innovators and more advanced than the English, who were forced to improve their own skills or go out of business. Although the majority settled in London, others found their way to East Anglia, Macclesfield and Canterbury.

Welcomed at first with open arms and bringing luxury skills, the Huguenots' fortunes later fluctuated wildly. Our lecturer, Sue Jackson will talk about their early 18th-century houses; the fashionable patterned silk dresses – who designed and made them; and how finally the trade died out, with some weavers literally dying in poverty at their looms.



Sue Jackson was originally in academic art and design publishing. She is a Fellow of the Huguenot Society, a Freeman of the City of London, a tutor at the City Literary Institute and a Blue Badge guide, conducting a variety of walks and

visits.

There is still time to book your place on our 7 October Special Interest Day. It promises to be a very interesting day on the artistic tastes of the three King Charles'. All three were/are avid and knowledgeable collectors of art, as we will explore in three lectures on Tuesday 7 October. Full details are on our [website](#) or contact Scilla Landale by email (Scilla.Landale@afiweb.net) or phone (07747 693235).

We hope soon to bring news of a visit to Cambridge to view 'Made in Ancient Egypt' at the Fitzwilliam Museum, and of our Christmas lunch.

We recently found out of a great way to boost our finances. If you are thinking of booking a Riviera Travel holiday they have an 'Affinity Scheme' which donates **10%** of the basic cost of a holiday to your chosen charity. Should you choose us all you would need to do is mention 'The Arts Society Glaven Valley' **when booking** and once the holiday is completed our bank account will receive the donation. Societies are already benefiting from this generous scheme. Please note that we are not endorsing Riviera Travel nor will any member of the committee benefit personally.

Lastly, a word about parking. If you are coming by car please consider sharing transport. The village hall car park has limited space and on sunny days. and particularly at holiday times, we share the space with many visitors to this beautiful part of the coast. Better still, bring a friend who might be persuaded to join us! Guests are charged £10 and we knock that off the subscription (£55) if they join on the day.

Maggie Williams Co-Chair