



## THE ARTS SOCIETY BLACKMORE VALE

### Christmas Newsletter December 2023

Well – Christmas is coming round again (though it does rather feel sometimes as if Christmas began shortly after the August Bank Holiday...)

The 2023-24 Programme is now well under way, with 3 charming and diverse lectures: on Tulipomania; a carpet ride to Khiva; and Eleanor Coade's Stone. So we have already travelled to modern Central Asia, mid 17<sup>th</sup> century Amsterdam and early 19<sup>th</sup> century Lambeth.

On the way, we stopped for a while in mid 20<sup>th</sup> century Cornwall to savour the work of Ben Nicholson, Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth for our October Day of Special Interest.

On the social front, we hosted our New Members' lunch in November as usual and held Christmas Drinks after our December lecture.

For those of you who couldn't make the December lecture and drinks – you missed a real treat. Angela Smith turned on a sixpence and changed her date from January to December to help resolve the difficulties which the scheduled lecturer had encountered. The topic was engrossing, and attendees were very enthusiastic about the whole occasion.

Moving into 2024, we begin with our January lecture *The Nativity in Art from Giotto to Picasso*, to be followed by lectures on Valentines, stained glass, Chinese porcelain, Breughel, Jackson Pollock and tapestry.

Late in the season, our Summer Evening Celebration will feature Andy McConnell (of Antiques Roadshow). Andy is an expert on Glass, and he will explore its history in relation to wine. It's on Wednesday 26 June 2024, and tickets will be on sale from the spring.

Meanwhile, the Committee join me in wishing you all the very best for Christmas 2023, and a happy and prosperous 2024.

With very best wishes,  
Ann Tasker  
Chair  
The Arts Society Blackmore Vale