



THE ARTS  
SOCIETY  
TRURO

Missing (detail) © Poul Dempsey

February 2025

# NEWSLETTER

[truro.theartsociety.org](http://truro.theartsociety.org)

**Lecture — Wednesday February 12 at 7pm  
in Mylor Theatre, Truro College**  
**AS Truro AGM followed by**  
**Empowering People: The Real Voice of Street Art**  
**by Doug Gillen**



Art lies at the heart of social unrest, a voice for those who cannot be heard. Graffiti is more than mindless vandalism - it's the early stages of revolution. Art is a voice for those who demand to be heard and what better gallery to exhibit in than the streets in which we live?

## About the Lecturer

Doug Gillen is a Scottish born, London-based, videographer and vlogger, the founder of Fifth Wall TV and freelance filmmaker specialising in street art and graffiti culture. He documents art events around the world.

The subject has taken him from ghettos in Miami to the shores of Lesbos, through the camps of Palestine to the towers of Hong Kong.

With a career rooted in the constantly evolving world of short-form content and video production, he brings a dynamic blend of creativity and technical expertise to every project he undertakes.

His journey in the art industry has equipped him with a diverse skill set that spans across video production and editing and visual arts, all driven by his profound love to tell stories.



## Guests

**Anyone is welcome to attend our lectures, as a guest.  
You do not need to book, just turn up on the night and  
pay your £8 guest fee at the Registration Desk.  
A map of Truro College is on page 4 of this Newsletter.**

[truro.theartsociety.org](http://truro.theartsociety.org)

## Membership Application for 2025

It is essential that you fill in an Application Form.

[Please click here for the Application Form](#)

Just fill in your details on the form, then SUBMIT it to us.

The payment options are detailed at the top of the Application Form, when you click on the link.

Then just make your payment separately by BACS or cheque.

The membership fee remains the same as last year, £60 per person.

Once both your Application Form and payment have been processed, you will receive an email confirmation of your 2025 membership.

If you have any questions regarding your membership application then please contact:

Lois Humphrey, Membership Secretary

[membership.astruro@gmail.com](mailto:membership.astruro@gmail.com)



THE ARTS  
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**DON'T FORGET  
ON  
LECTURE  
EVENINGS TO  
HAVE SOME CASH  
WITH YOU FOR:**



## From the Chair ....

Hello everyone,

Hope you have got through January without catching the horrid bugs that are around. Today is another wet and blustery day as I sit by my fire and write my little letter to you. I am meeting up later with Arts Society friends to work on a tricky jigsaw of Klimt's 'The Kiss' (right). Does that count as a cultural outing? The Art Society does provide a great social group for us all. It can be so much more than a bunch of meetings.

The bookings have been coming in for the Antiques Event - I've heard of

some very interesting objects being brought along. Don't miss out, do book up for a lovely Spring treat. Closing date 20th Feb as the hotel want the information on the menu choices then.

I have to tell you this will be the last Newsletter in this form.

Jonathan Barker has been brilliant at producing wonderful Newsletters but as he is stepping back we need a simpler system that someone without his skills can take over (we are looking for one of you to volunteer to join us to help do this - with training - anyone interested?) The team will still get information to you in a smaller more concentrated Newsletter.

See you at the next Lecture,

**Karen**





Have you a collectable you'd like to know more about??

Then bring it along to The Arts Society Truro's

# Antiques Roadshow

On Friday March 7th 2025

at 10am,

with coffee on arrival

At Carlyon Bay Hotel,  
St Austell (ample parking)

10.30am Valuation Session

with Roger Tappin  
of Bonhams

Price: £50

concludes with a  
2 course lunch

at 12.30 at the hotel

Open to all, not just Arts Society members.

Profits go to Medecins sans Frontiere (Mr Tappin's charity)



*Please note:*

*the closing date for applications is February 20th*

## Lunch Menu Options

Please choose a main and a dessert.

Tick the boxes on the booking form

### Contra Loin of Beef

Roasted Rosemary Potatoes, Watercress & Horseradish Crème Fraiche, Red Wine Sauce.

### Breast of Corn Fed Chicken

Sun Blushed Tomato & Oregano, Piquello Pepper Mash, Oregano Cream.

### Vegetarian

Pea Pesto, Linguine, Basil, Candied Walnuts

### Followed by

### Passion Fruit Panna Cotta

Tuile Pepper Biscuit, Passion Fruit

### Chocolate & Hazelnut Torte

Chocolate Sauce, Raspberries

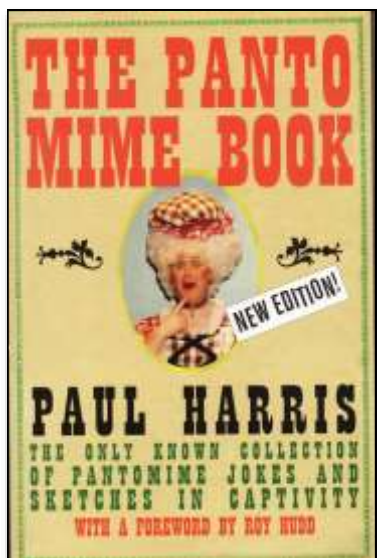
[Please click here for the Booking Form](#)

**PLEASE NOTE:** *If there isn't enough time to cover all items brought in Roger is happy to chat to owners of pieces not discussed after the session.*

*He has also said that for any high value item he will not announce the price publicly and that he will contact Bonhams London for any item he is not sure about.*

# Further reading after last month's lecture by Tyler Butterworth

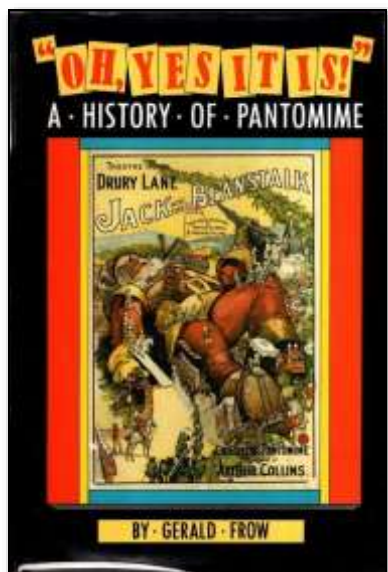
On AST Members Feedback Form, Tyler's lecture from 37 responses was rated:  
28% Outstanding, 43% Excellent, 24% Good, 5% Passable, 0% Poor



The Pantomime Book by Paul Harris



Creating Pantomime by Joyce Branagh and Keith Orton

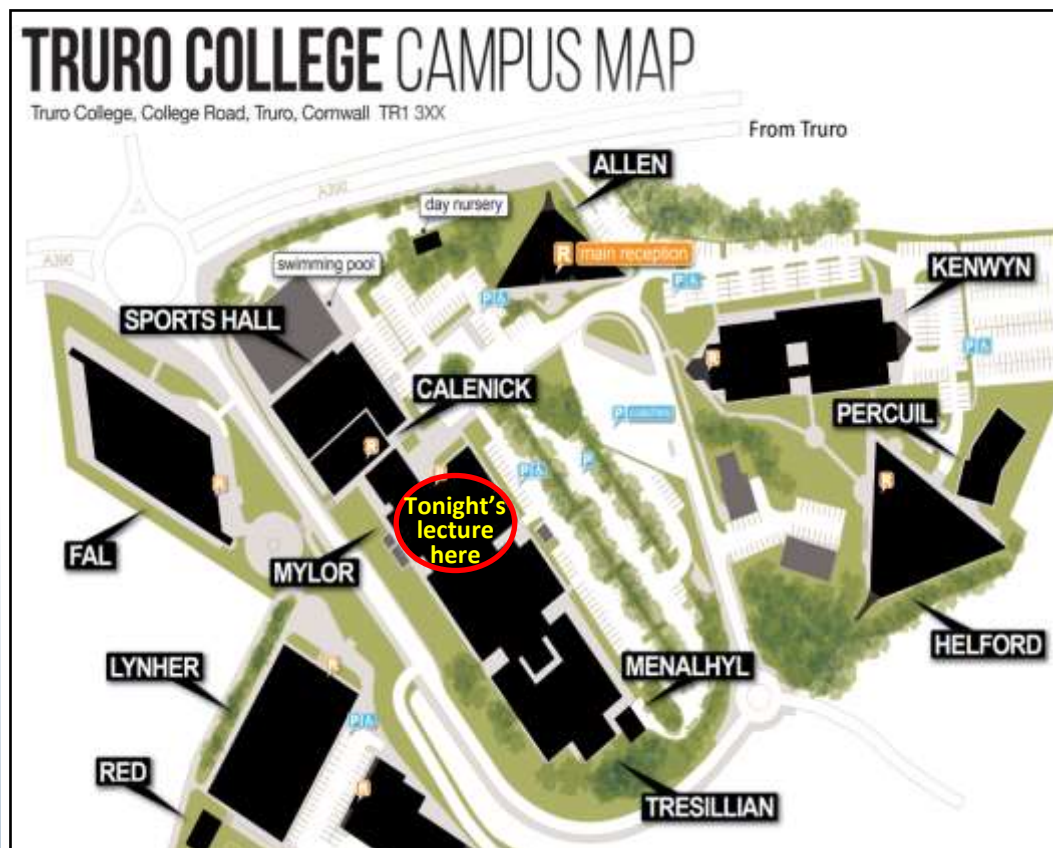
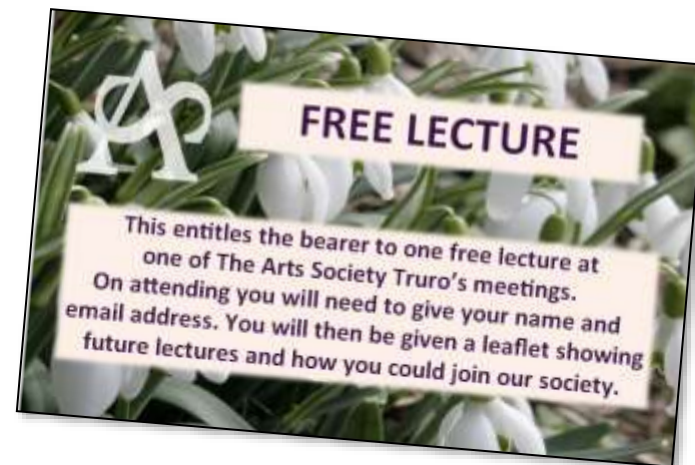


Oh, Yes It Is by Gerald Frow



A History of Pantomime by R J Broadbent

I hope you all like the golden tickets for guests to come to a lecture without paying . Please take one to give to a friend or relative.



## Evening Lectures — 2025

Jan 8 **Pantomime: When the Fairy's over 50**

by Tyler Butterworth



This amusing, seasonal lecture is all about the seemingly polished world of professional, family pantomime - and reveals what it's really like behind the scenes...

Feb 12 **AS Truro AGM followed by Empowering People: The Real Voice of Street Art**

by Doug Gillen



Art lies at the heart of social unrest, a voice for those who cannot be heard. Graffiti is more than mindless vandalism - it's the early stages of revolution.

Mar 12 **18th Century English Porcelain: Chelsea, Worcester, Bow and Derby**

by Jane Gardiner



This lecture will look at the early experiments into porcelain making in England. It will look at what influenced the design and decoration, describe the ways in which porcelain was both displayed and used as well as discussing the fashion for porcelain figures.

Apr 9 **The Accidental Masterpiece: Leonardo da Vinci and the Painting of The Last Supper**

by Ross King



The image of the *Last Supper* is as readily familiar as the boot shape of Italy on a map.

However, the history of how this famous mural came to be painted, how precisely Leonardo painted it, and who he painted it for, are much less well known.

May 14 **Yorkshire Textile Renaissance: Tom Heron, Crysède and Cresta at the Birth of Modernism**

by Ashley Gray



An epic tale of two extraordinary figures from the same valley in Yorkshire who were destined to change the world of fashion and design for all time.

June 11 **Fakes and Fortunes (or, have I discovered a Constable in my attic?)**

by Sarah Cove



Sarah Cove is an accredited paintings conservator and technical art historian. She has been instrumental in the attribution of three significant Constable oils for BBC 1's *Fake or Fortune?* series.

Sept 10 **Mid 18th Century English Rococo Silver: its Social Context and the Adventures of its Owners and its Makers**

by Ralph Hoyle



Ralph will bring some silver for the audience to handle and examine, and after discussing its manufacture and social relevance, he reveals the trials and tribulations that befell the original owners.

Oct 8 **The Entire World on his Panel:**

Jan Breughel by Chantal Brotherton-Ratcliffe



Jan Breughel recorded much of the world around him and delights us with fantasies and scenes of heaven, all in astoundingly miniscule detail.

Nov 12 **King and Collector: The Art of Henry VIII**

by Siobhan Clarke



Henry VIII was an enthusiastic patron of the arts whose tapestries and paintings enriched the Tudor court and began the Royal Collection. Ultimately, each work told one central story: the glorification of Henry and his England.

Dec 10 **Influences in Photography**

by Charlie Waite



Charlie describes artists and photographers who have inspired him and shaped his work, especially Ansel Adams, the great American landscape photographer and the first to use the concept of 'pre-visualisation'.



Please click on a lecture to see further details.

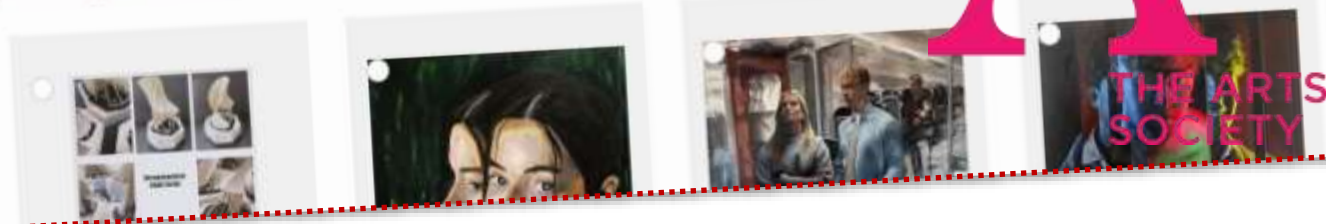
Or visit our website and click **EVENTS**

[truro.theartsociety.org](http://truro.theartsociety.org)

*The Arts Society is the operating name of the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies (NADFAS) Registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales (1089743.)*

## A LEVEL ART COMPETITION 2024/2025 PUBLIC VOTE

Please click in the circle to the left of the image and press submit at the bottom left of the page to vote for your favourite artwork. Please place your vote by 28th February 2025. The artwork that receives the most votes will be the winner.



## IT'S TIME TO VOTE!

The two pieces submitted by The Arts Society Truro (pictured below) are from Truro College students and if successful the student whose artwork receives the most votes in the poll will receive £500 with the runner-up receiving £250, so please do vote!

Please click on the link to see all the artworks displayed. Competition closes 28th February.

[CLICK HERE TO SEE THE VOTING CHOICES](#)



*Untitled Portrait by Rosie Rundell*



*Interior Light, Exterior Dark by Emily Jaffey*

# *A short history of Epiphany House,*

This Grade II listed building in Kenwyn Church Road, Truro was first listed on 29<sup>th</sup> December 1950

In 1876 the Diocese of Truro was established and a year later a property then known as Kenwyn Vicarage became the Bishop's Court, in Cornish termed Lis Escop.

The first Bishop of Truro, Edward White Benson moved into what was named Epiphany House. Apart from the construction of Truro Cathedral Bishop Benson is thought to have created the now world-famous Christmas service of Nine Lessons and Carols whilst living at Epiphany House.

George Howard Wilkinson came from a parish in London to take up his role as the second Bishop of Truro. Bishop Wilkinson brought with him a group of nuns who set up their convent in Alverton Manor. (see previous newsletter). This Anglican Order of Sisters became known as the Community of the Epiphany and had a strong commitment to social service and care in the wider community of Truro.

In 1953 Epiphany House was sold to the Truro Cathedral School Trust and continued as a school for junior boys and residence of the headmaster until it was closed in 1982 being renamed Copeland Court.

In 1983 the decreasing number of nuns at Alverton Manor moved into Copeland Court and renamed the property Epiphany House.

Although no longer run by a religious order Epiphany House still offers a vital service to the community carrying on a tradition of peace, tranquillity and reflection by organising retreats and quiet days as well as offering facilities for education and training.



*The window of the first floor chapel*



## THE FRIENDS OF TRURO CATHEDRAL

**TALK BY GUY ENGLISH ON  
THE HOLY WELLS OF CORNWALL  
WEDNESDAY – 5 FEBRUARY  
2025 - 2.30 PM  
IN THE CATHEDRAL  
CHAPTER HOUSE**

This is a story of searching for Cornwall's Holy Wells, first in chance encounters, then by turns curiously, obsessively, finally doggedly. For five years Guy English and his late wife Catharine scoured the county, following the previous authors but also checking maps, following streams and apparently pointless footpaths and in the process finding more than twenty wells not recorded in earlier books.

Their hope is the resulting book will encourage others to seek these wells. Some are special for beauty, for remoteness, for the spiritual sense that many recognise, or for the stories that have accumulated over time. At the very least, there are some good walks, and the discovery of parts of Cornwall not to be missed.

This is also the story of their partnership, and something of a memorial, being one part of the huge legacy of art and poetry left by Guy's wife of fifty years.

Guy's recently published book on the Holy Wells of Cornwall will be available to purchase on the day.

**Tickets at £12.50 (to include cake and a hot drink) can be purchased:** From the Friends Table after the Sunday Morning Eucharist

By phoning 01872 274986 and listening to the message

By emailing: [events@friendsoftrurocathedral.org.uk](mailto:events@friendsoftrurocathedral.org.uk)

**THE EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL**

**TALK BY DR MICHAEL TEDDER  
"WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN ..."**

**CELEBRATING BISHOP  
WALTER FRERE CR**

**MONDAY – 3 MARCH 2025 –  
2.30 PM**

**IN THE CATHEDRAL  
CHAPTERHOUSE**



The reredos in the Jesus Chapel, the painting by Anne Walke, was a gift of the English Church Union to Dr Walter Frere on his enthronement as seventh Bishop of Truro. Walter Frere CR was undoubtedly the most distinguished – and probably the most controversial – churchman ever to be appointed Bishop of Truro, a role he fulfilled a century ago from 1923 to 1934. His was a time of innovation and experiment and while some of the changes have endured, others didn't. During the centenary of his episcopate, perhaps it is time to re-appraise Frere's contributions to the cathedral and the diocese?

Dr Michael Tedder spent his professional career in further and adult education at the College in St Austell. Michael's research included a doctoral study of the learning lives of Access students and he was a research fellow for 2 major education research projects based at Exeter University. Since retirement Michael has taken a particular research interest in the bishops of Truro.

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## The museum is currently undergoing a major transformation project.

Artistic Director Bryony Robins and Executive Director Jonathan Morton (pictured left) share an insight into where we are now, and more importantly, where we're going to be!

### Can you tell us where you are in that process right now?

**Bryony:** "We have completed the transformation of one key area of the museum already – the Mineral Gallery. That phase was generously funded by the Town Deal and opened in the summer of 2024. This amazing space gives a good indication of the direction of travel for the whole museum, with a more modern, interactive, and immersive feel to the presentation of our globally significant collections.

The next phase involves the Nature Gallery, Main Gallery, and the balcony which will become an Art Gallery. Work has started in all those areas thanks to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund."

**Jonathan:** "The grants Bryony mentioned have allowed us to begin the re-imagining of the museum for a new generation. It's an exciting time and the whole team are energised by the project.

In order to make the budget go as far as possible, and to continue serving our community, we stayed open despite work taking place this autumn. This has necessitated a lot of careful collections management on our part, and a lot of understanding on the part of our visitors, for which we are very grateful. However, we will need to extend our usual winter closure to cover all of January and February 2025 to allow the main part of the work to take place safely and efficiently."

### What does that mean for the museum in the next few months?

**Jonathan:** "We're using the extended winter closure as an opportunity to get out into the local community as much as possible, and engage diverse and geographically remote audiences with what the museum has to offer.

Once we reopen in the spring, we look forward to welcoming these newly engaged audiences back into our physical spaces – as well as visitors to Cornwall and local people who already love the museum and cherish their Annual Passes. We have an exciting exhibition and events programme for March 2025 onwards, which we can't wait to share in due course!"

### When the museum reopens, what will it look like?

**Jonathan:** "The exterior of the museum will be improved, with a landscaping project creating a more interesting and inviting approach.

The central space will be transformed into a new Heart of Cornwall Gallery, with our beautiful Victorian cases renovated and arranged to better make use of the space. These will be movable so that we can hold more events in this impressive central atrium.

The gallery will be arranged thematically and will explore what makes Cornwall unique, from the Cornish language to maritime industries, our mining heritage to Cornish folklore."



*An artist's impression of the new Heart of Cornwall Gallery*

***This is an edited version of Bryony and Jonathan's interview.***

***[Click here for the complete version.](#)***