Dear Friends,

As we move into the festive period, I reflect on two very different and entertaining talks. The first was given by our Headmaster, dealing extensively with Winchester College as an educational establishment over the centuries, and the literary-historical context of the school. I thought, as many of you did, that the Headmaster’s analysis of Keats together with Hardy’s *Tess of the d’Urbervilles* was masterly: hardly surprising, as he is a well-established expert on all things Thomas Hardy!

Andy Sparkes, don and retired ambassador, was full of wonderful stories of his time in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. His anecdotes about Nelson Mandela, Margaret Thatcher and many others proved hugely humorous and informative. Incidentally, we had nearly 80 people in New Hall to Listen to Andy, our largest turnout for some time.

We also welcomed the new members of our committee, full of ideas and energy for the future of the Friends. You will see from what follows that we have a feast of entertainment and gratitude to yourselves lined up for you. No doubt Thursday 16 January will be a dark and cold evening, not conducive to going out - which I fully understand - but I promise you that Richard Foster’s thank you to the Friends, with so many of the objects on display purchased/saved/refurbished by your generosity, will be a real treat. There will be plenty of refreshments and nibbles to help the evening flow.

Mark Byford is an expert on François Lemoyne and his paintings. We are lucky to get him. This talk should also be a pleasure to the eye. Our tours of Collections continue with tea, coffee and biscuits in the Warden’s drawing room afterwards. The refreshed committee is interested in hearing from you about anything else that we might be able to lay on for you, dare I say within the possibilities of an extremely busy school.

Once again I thank you all for your continued support of the school in so many ways, and look forward to seeing you at one or more of our events next term.

Michael D Wallis, Director

**LECTURE: Thursday 16 January 2020**
**Dr Richard Foster - Your Contribution to the Collections**

This event celebrates the significant contribution of the Friends to the College’s collections, in particular the recent restoration of the 18th century model of the warship *Formidable*, now on permanent display in New Hall. There will be a chance to see several recent additions to the Fellows’ Library, purchased with the help of the Friends, including first edition of Keats’s poems and books of madrigals by Thomas Weelkes. A short talk from Dr Richard Foster (Keeper of Collections) will discuss some of these new acquisitions as well as a number of conservation and cataloguing projects that have been supported by the Friends.
JANUARY
Thursday 16: *A Celebration of your Contribution*, Dr Richard Foster. New Hall Foyer, 6.30pm
Thursday 30: Chamber Music I. Music School Hall, 7.00pm

FEBRUARY
Sunday 2: Pianofest. New Hall, 7pm
Thursday 6, Friday 7, Saturday 8: Toye’s House Play: *Maurice (Dancing)*. QEII, 7.30pm
Tuesday 11: Chamber Music II. Music School Hall, 7.00pm
Thursday 27: Chamber Music III. Music School Hall, 7.00pm
Friday 28: Kenneth Clark Final. New Hall, 7.00pm

MARCH
Thursday 5: *The Annunciation: A Pilgrim’s Quest*. New Hall, 6.30pm drinks for 7.00pm
Thursday 5, Friday 6, Saturday 7: School Play: *The Tragical History of the Life and Death of Dr Faustus*. QEII, 7.30pm
Thursday 19: Chamber Music VI. Music School Hall, 7.00pm
Tuesday 24: Richard Foster - Tour of Fellows Library. Porters Lodge 2.20pm
Tuesday 24, Wednesday 25, Thursday 26: Hopper’s House Play: *Arsenic and Old Lace*. QEII, 7.30pm

LECTURE: Thursday 5 March 2020
Mr Mark Byford - *The Annunciation: A Pilgrim’s Quest*

A chance viewing of a picture hanging in London’s National Gallery inspired Mark Byford’s book *The Annunciation: A Pilgrim’s Quest*. The early-eighteenth-century painting by French artist, François Lemoyne, on loan from Winchester College, depicts the encounter between angel Gabriel and the Virgin Mary. That meeting may be a pivotal point in Christianity, but has the status and significance of the Annunciation been lost in today’s world?

Award-winning journalist Mark Byford searches for the spiritual meaning of the biblical story through intimate conversations with more than a hundred senior clerics, world-renowned theologians, historians and artists. They speak as never before about the personal and profound impact that the annunciation story has had on their lives. It is a project of monumental scale, ambition and innovation, highly distinctive in its originality of approach and content.

Alongside the searching conversations, he traces the history of the annunciation story in Christianity as he travels around England, across the Continent and to the Holy Land, to stand before some of the greatest ever works of art. Byford’s three-year journey ends by revealing how the encounters have shaped his current beliefs and understanding.

TOUR: Tuesday 24 March 2020
Dr Richard Foster - Tour of the Fellows Library

We are very lucky to be able once again to invite a limited number of the Friends on a Fellows’ Library Tour given by Richard Foster.

LECTURE: Tuesday 25 February 2020
Richard Ormond, CBE - John Singer Sargent
Richard Ormond, CBE, is currently director of the Sargent catalogue raisonné project, and co-author of the nine volumes published by Yale University Press (1998-2016). He is a great-nephew of the artist. Email EACR@wincoll.ac.uk to attend.

THE ANGELUS GALLERY, ART SCHOOL
Come and see the exhibition in Common Time at the Angelus Gallery in Art School.
3 Feb - 13 Feb: Watercolour Exhibition
24 Feb - 8 Feb: Spring Up - The College Community Open
Viewing Times:
Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 2pm-3.30pm
Sat: 2pm-4.30pm and Sun: 2pm-5.30pm

CONTACT INFORMATION
Music: Joanna Ambrose: +44 (0)1962 621122
Email jma@wincoll.ac.uk
Theatre: Mr Sam Baddeley: +44 (0)1962 621378
stb@wincoll.ac.uk

You are welcome to join the following Chapel services during term time, but it is essential to check the Chapel diary on the College website because the pattern can change from week to week:

Choral Evensong in Chapel: Tuesdays at 5.30pm
Eucharist sung by the Quiristers in Chapel: Thursdays at 5.30pm
Sung Eucharist or Matins in Chapel: Sundays designated as ‘Y-Sundays’ (check the online diary) at 9.45am
Compline sung by the Quiristers in Chantry: Saturdays at 7.15pm

Book online for events at: wincollsoc.org
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