

## MONEY MATTERS

Although last year I reported that there had been a sizeable increase in donations compared with the previous year, it is now clear that this was largely the result of our receiving Gift Aid relating to earlier years. If this back-payment is stripped out, the total of subscriptions, donations and Gift Aid has stayed roughly constant for the last two years at a little under £60,000. Unfortunately, my previous appeal to Friends to sign Gift Aid forms has not had significant impact. To repeat myself, if you are a tax payer and were to sign a Gift Aid form, we would collect from the Government an extra £6.25 on a single subscription or £10 on a double. Penny Cleobury will be able to help you if you would like to explore this further.

The funds held for acquisitions have again risen despite the purchases by the Museum being slightly higher in 2010/11 than the year before. The Director is still waiting for the opportunity of an important big acquisition, for which he has been letting the balance build up.

I have previously reminded Friends that all subscriptions are passed to the Museum for acquisitions without our creaming off anything to cover administration costs. Therefore we have to look elsewhere for money to meet these costs. About one-third are met out of income from events and visits. A number of Friends have commented that some trips are too expensive, even though we only just break even on them. If we are to avoid the risk of making a loss, we cannot afford to reduce charges.

We have been extremely lucky in the last year that three Friends have made donations of £1,000 or more towards administration. I am sure that you will all want to join me in expressing our gratitude for such generosity, which has helped us put off the day when we will need to ask the Museum to take over some administration costs in order for us to keep going.

John Pegler *Hon Treasurer*

Friends enjoying the special private view of Cheffins Country House and Fine Art sale.



If you missed the special Cheffins event this year, look inside for details of next year's Preview evening.



Friends visiting Burghley House and Gardens with lunch in the Orangery

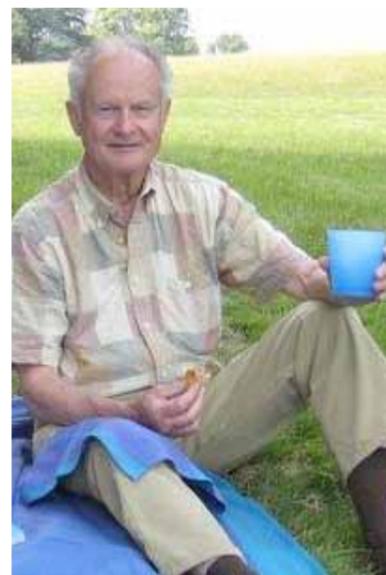
# Friends of the Fitzwilliam Museum

Newsletter  
December  
2011

Visit the website: [www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/support/friends/index.html](http://www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/support/friends/index.html)

## HAPPY CHRISTMAS

The Director and staff of the Museum and the Friends' Committee wish you all a very happy Christmas.



### THANKS TO MARR GRIEVE BUT NOT FAREWELL!

Marr Grieve, who has for many years now organised and run the rota of volunteers helping out at exhibitions, is stepping down from that role. However he has kindly agreed to stay on the Friends' Committee to take the lead on arranging museum based events. He will be organising the private evening views and a series of what we are calling "Behind the Scenes", that is to say exclusive museum based events with the curators. So it is by no means goodbye to Marr but I want to take this opportunity to thank him publicly for all he has done for the volunteers.

One of the many advantages of being a Friend is the opportunity to work as a volunteer. The Museum and the Friends' Committee are now looking at how best to take forward the necessary arrangements for help at exhibitions and whether there are other ways in which volunteers can help. I will keep you informed as I know that many of you are interested in supporting the Museum by giving your time.

*Margaret Mair*

Margaret Mair  
Chairman of the Friends' Committee



Friends enjoying the Summer Party at King's College



### RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION ONLINE GIVE A FRIENDS' MEMBERSHIP ONLINE

We now have the facility to join the Friends online, to make a gift membership and to renew our subscriptions online. Please help us keep our costs down by renewing online if you possibly can when you receive your renewal request from Penny Cleobury.

Do send your e-mail address to [pc290@cam.ac.uk](mailto:pc290@cam.ac.uk) if you have not already done so

## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS FOR SPRING 2012



### History of Art Lunchtime talks given by Post-graduate students 1-2pm

These talks will recommence on the following Wednesdays:

January 11	Daria Foner: 'Veronese's Hermes, Herse and Agaulauros'
February 1	Helen Glanville: 'Poussin's "Rebekah at the Well"'
March 7	Anna Ferrari: 'French Sculpture'

The talks are free and for Friends only. Tickets on application with an SAE to the Friends' Office Meet in Courtyard Entrance.

Places: 12

Organiser: Sue Rasmussen

### Tea-on-Tuesday and A Room at a Time

These meetings will resume in February in the Friends Room with Nicholas Chrimes continuing his tour of some of the rooms in the Museum with Tea afterwards.

February 7	The Baroque Gallery
March 6	The Impressionist Gallery
April 3	The Flower Gallery

Friends should meet in the Friends' Room at 2.30pm. If you do not wish to look at paintings just come for tea and a chat!

### Real Tennis

Thursday 26 January 2012 • Thursday 23 February 2012 • both at 2.00pm

This game was the dominant sport at the university - and the first by centuries to breach its monastic culture - from the time of the early Tudors to the early C19th. The game's mysteries will be unravelled during a half-hour talk by Nicholas Chrimes in the clubroom of the University's Real Tennis Club. This will be followed by tea and an exhibition doubles match played by members of the current Blues team. The University's Tennis Court Keeper, an ancient post, will referee and comment on the match. Friends will probably leave understanding why, for example, lawn tennis players have two serves, but few will feel they have absorbed many of the rules of the more ancient game. We will meet at the club, situated at the junction of Burrell's Walk and Grange Road, opposite the dining hall entrance to Robinson College. Regrettably there is no parking available. The tour will last approx. 1 1/2 hours.

Places: 15 • Friends only • Tickets: £16.50 By ballot by 7 January 2012

Organiser: Nicholas Chrimes

### Visit to Magdalene College and the Pepys Library

Thursday 9th February 2012 • 2.00pm  
Thursday 1st March 2012 • 2.00pm

The College was founded in the 15th century as a hostel for Benedictine monk scholars. Its position on one of the main Roman thoroughfares, means that many of the landmarks still present today were familiar to Samuel Pepys when he was a scholar in the 1650s. Friends will be able to visit his Library with the 3,000 volumes which he considered sufficient to contain the sum of worthwhile knowledge. We will visit the Chapel and end the tour with tea at the Master's Lodge by kind invitation of the Master and Mrs Robinson.

Places: 16 on each tour. Friends only  
Tickets: £16.50 by ballot on 13th January 2012  
Organiser: Gillian Harrison

### Museum Tours for Friends

Tuesday 14 February 2012 at 11.00am:

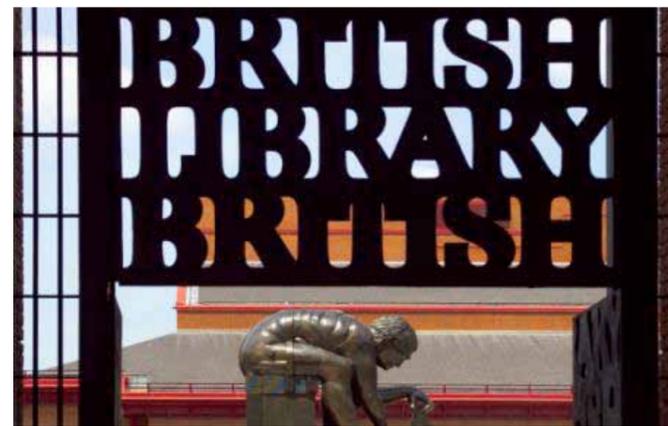
Upper Floor Galleries

Thursday 16 February 2012 at 11.00am:

Ground Floor Galleries

We are offering two introductory tours to the Galleries, one upstairs (for Paintings & Sculpture), and one downstairs (for Antiquities, Ceramics, Oriental, Medieval, Renaissance & other items); it is not easy to do justice to the whole Museum in one visit. Friends are welcome to book for either or both tours, which will each take about 1 1/2 hours; groups will be small (10-12) and be guided by Friends who are familiar with the contents. We shall meet at the Founder's Entrance 10 mins before the start of each tour.

Tours are free and for Friends only.  
Organiser: Marr Grieve



### British Library, London

Thursday 1 March 2012

The British Library's exhibition, *Royal Manuscripts: The Genius of Illumination*, brings together the Library's collection of manuscripts collected by English Sovereigns between the 9th and 16th centuries. Opened by the Queen on 11th November, it has been most favourably received. We have organised a visit to the Library, which includes timed entry to the Exhibition plus a guided tour, in small groups. There will also be time to visit the library building and other exhibitions, to have refreshments/ lunch in one of the Library's cafes, and to visit the shop. Depart Trumpington Park & Ride at 9.15am, return to Cambridge approx 5pm.

Places: 46

Tickets: £28 (to include entry ticket to exhibition and guided tours but NOT refreshments and lunch)

Organiser: Jane Dix

### Behind the Scenes at the Museum Series:

#### Illuminating Secrets: Pigments in Medieval Manuscripts

Tuesday, 6 March 2012 at 10.30am

Dr Panayotova, the Keeper of MSS & Printed Books, is embarking on new research into Medieval Manuscript pigments, and has kindly agreed to give us an insight into what is proposed. We shall be introduced to the subject in the Founder's Library, which, for those who have not seen it, is of interest in itself. We shall assemble at its entrance a few minutes before the start

Places: 25

Friends only

Tickets: £15

Organiser: Marr Grieve

### Private View • Cheffins Fine Art Auction

Tuesday 20 March 2012, 6.00pm until 8.00pm

This is a very special and exclusive opportunity to attend a Private Sale Preview of the March Country House and Fine Art Sale.

Cheffins' experts will be available to discuss some of the pieces, and there will be a short talk about a few of the more interesting lots. Catalogues for the sale are included in the ticket price, as are wine and canapes. The saleroom is situated on Clifton Road, just off Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge.

Tickets: £15.00 Guests welcome  
Ticket applications please, by the end of February.  
Organiser: Cazzy Walshe

**The Friends would like to thank Cheffins for their generosity in offering this Preview evening.**

### Deene Park, Northamptonshire

Thursday 26 April 2012

First mention is made of Deene in 1215 in documents held at Westminster Abbey. Nearly 300 years later, in 1514, Sir Robert Brudenell acquired the property, and it has stayed in the family ever since. It has been home to many significant figures of English history, including the 7th Earl of Cardigan, who led the Charge of the Light Brigade in 1854. The architecture of the house is a remarkable collection of styles, including Tudor, Georgian and Regency, and the interiors contain fascinating pieces of furniture, furnishings, paintings (including some fine portraits) and memorabilia of the many notable periods of Deene Park's history. The gardens were first established in 1604, and have some interesting features, the most recent addition being the establishment of a parterre in 1990 designed by David Hicks.

We shall enjoy a Tour of the House, a Tour with the Head Gardener (1 1/2 hours each) and a visit to the Church. Refreshments on arrival, lunch and afternoon tea are included in the ticket price.

Depart Trumpington P&R 9.30am.

Return to Cambridge approx 5pm.

Places: 46

Tickets: £46 (refreshments on arrival, lunch and afternoon tea are included)

Organiser: Jane Dix

**'..becoming a Friend of the Fitzwilliam is one of the best things I have done, to have access to these wonderful places and see such interesting things is such a privilege.'**  
New member