

OVERSEAS

Quarterly journal of the ROSL

Issue 4, December 2013-February 2014



City of the future

From pop-up venues to a Cardboard Cathedral, Christchurch's inspirational recovery

A family of nations

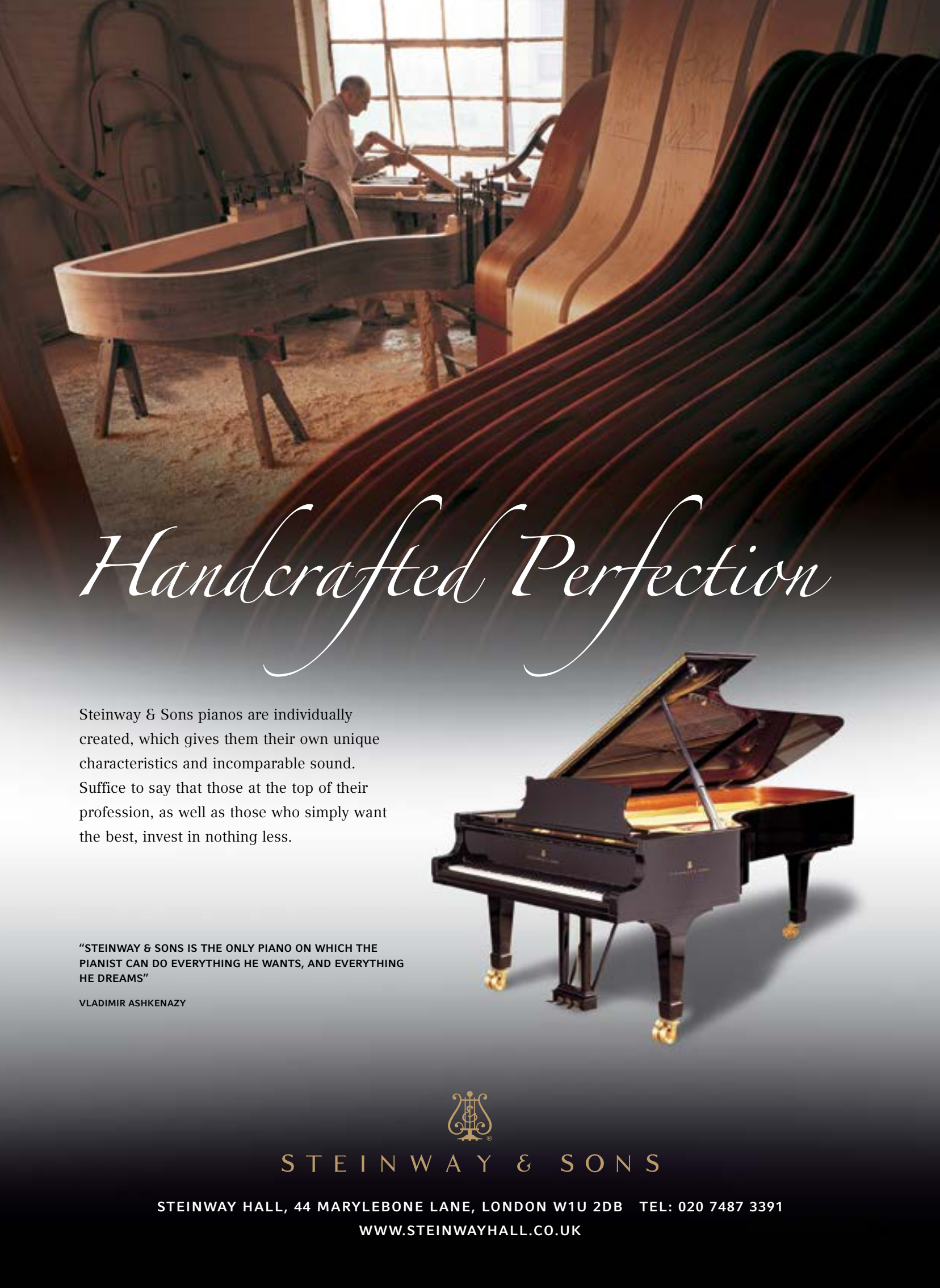
Why strengthening connections within the Commonwealth is vital. A five-page Focus

Portraits of a club

View the full collection of ROSL portraits, with paintings of Lord Luce and The Queen

Art on the Southbank

ROSL artists discuss their work, with stunning pictures from the scholars' exhibition



Handcrafted Perfection

Steinway & Sons pianos are individually created, which gives them their own unique characteristics and incomparable sound. Suffice to say that those at the top of their profession, as well as those who simply want the best, invest in nothing less.



"STEINWAY & SONS IS THE ONLY PIANO ON WHICH THE PIANIST CAN DO EVERYTHING HE WANTS, AND EVERYTHING HE DREAMS"

VLADIMIR ASHKENAZY



STEINWAY & SONS

STEINWAY HALL, 44 MARYLEBONE LANE, LONDON W1U 2DB TEL: 020 7487 3391

WWW.STEINWAYHALL.CO.UK



OVERSEAS

ISSUE 4 December 2013-February 2014

The Royal Over-Seas League is a self-funded Commonwealth organisation that offers clubhouse facilities to members, organises Commonwealth art and music competitions and develops joint welfare projects with specific countries.

Overseas editorial team

Editor Ms Miranda Moore

Deputy Editor Ms Christine Wilde:
+44 (0)20 7408 0214 x205; cwilde@rosl.org.uk

Design Ms Hannah Talmage

Display advertisements Mr David Jeffries:
+44 (0)20 8674 9444; djeffries@onlymedia.co.uk

Royal Over-Seas League

Incorporated by Royal Charter

Patron Her Majesty The Queen

Vice-Patron Her Royal Highness

Princess Alexandra KG GCVO

President The Rt Hon the Lord Luce KG GCVO DL

Chairman Sir Anthony Figgis KCVO CMG*

Vice-Chairman Sir Roger Carrick KCMG LVO*

Hon Treasurer Mr Simon Ward FCA*

Over-Seas House, Park Place, St James's Street,
London SW1A 1LR; +44 (0)20 7408 0214;
Fax +44 (0)20 7499 6738; info@rosl.org.uk;
www.rosl.org.uk

Over-Seas House, 100 Princes Street, Edinburgh EH2
3AB; +44 (0)131 225 1501; Fax +44 (0)131 226 3936;
reception@rosl-edinburgh.org;
www.rosl-edinburgh.org

Central Council

Miss Farah Amin, Mr Graham Archer CMG*,
Mrs Mae Barr MBE, Prof Monojit Chatterji, Mr Sohail
Choudry, Nik Raof Daud, Mr John Edwards CMG,
Mr David Fall CMG*, Mrs Patricia Farrant*, Mr Simon
Gimson LVO, Mr Peter Hamlyn*, Mr John Harbor FCA*,
Miss Maureen Howley MBE*, Mr David Jamieson,
Mrs Frances King, Miss Sheila MacTaggart LVO,
Dr Edmund Marshall, Mr David Nicholson,
Miss Caroline Roddis, Ms Lindsay Ross, Mrs Judith
Steiner, Mr Geoffrey Thompson OBE, Mr Frank Wibaut
*Executive Committee

Director-General Maj Gen Roddy Porter MBE:

+44 (0)20 7408 0214 x201

Director of Admin and Finance Mr Shakil Tayub:

+44 (0)20 7408 0214 x209

Director of Marketing Ms Gemma Matthews:

+44 (0)20 7408 0214 x204; gmatthews@rosl.org.uk

Director of Humanitarian and Education Projects

Ms Margaret Adrian-Vallance MBE:

+44 (0)20 7408 0214 x307; mvallance@rosl.org.uk

Director of Arts Mr Roderick Lakin MBE:

+44 (0)20 7408 0214 x325; culture@rosl.org.uk

Asst. to D-G Ms Arabella Beresford-Mitchell:

+44 (0)20 7408 0214 x201;

aberesford-mitchell@rosl.org.uk

Membership Secretary Mrs Angela Farago:

+44 (0)20 7408 0214 x214; afarago@rosl.org.uk

Catering Operations Director

Ms Louise Leighton-Rees: +44 (0)7809 322 591;

louise.leighton-rees@graysonsrestaurants.com

Edinburgh House Manager Mr Daniel Campbell:

reception@rosl-edinburgh.org

Print Hastings Printing Company:

+44 (0)1424 720 477

The journal is published by the Royal Over-Seas League, Over-Seas
House, Park Place, St James's Street, London SW1A 1LR. Any views
expressed in editorial and any advertisements included are not
necessarily endorsed by the Central Council. ISSN 00307424



5

**From the Director-General;
Editor's letter 4**

World

Our place in a global family . . 5

Roddy Porter examines ROSL's role within the
international Commonwealth community

Looking to the future 6

Kamalesh Sharma, the Commonwealth Secretary-
General, explains the new strategic plan

A youth community? 7

Is the Commonwealth relevant to young people
today? One Younger Member shares his views

Let them learn 7

How ROSL bursary alumni in Namibia are taking
a leading role in our humanitarian work overseas

**Commonwealth: what
does it mean to you? 8**

Personal perspectives from members worldwide

After the earth moved 10

Charting the inspirational rebuilding of
Christchurch three years after the earthquake

Don McKinnon's Auckland . . 11

Recommendations for a trip to the NZ city from
the former Commonwealth Secretary-General

ROSL news

News and views 12

Recent pictures from the clubhouses

Bright young things 14

Younger Member review of the recent play shoot

Members' benefits 15

How to make the most of ROSL's reciprocal clubs



18

Princes Street, fare thee well . 17

As he retires as Scottish Development Officer,
James Wilkie looks back at 21 years of service

Scholars on show 18

ROSL visual arts scholars explain the inspiration
behind their work, with photos from the exhibition

**The ROSL portrait
collection 20**

Stunning images of ROSL-commissioned
paintings by prizewinning contemporary artists

Branches: what's on? 22

Revamped section with details of all the winter
events organised by branches around the world

In the UK

Secret arts in the city 25

Two little-known galleries in London and
Edinburgh make our art critic's top picks

**Top 10 London
and Edinburgh 25**

Our choice of the best sights and sounds for
visitors to the clubhouses this festive season

At the arcade 27

Step inside the luxury shopping passage that is
a stone's throw from Over-Seas House London

Events

ROSL calendar 29-34

All of ROSL's exciting events, one handy
calendar. Find out what's coming up for
members, ROSL ARTS, Scottish members,
YMs and more...

**Full booking information
and contact details 34**

Still unsure how to book? Find out here

FRONT COVER: Cardboard Cathedral, Christchurch, designed by Shigeru Ban Architects

From the Director-General

Our unexpectedly glorious summer gave way to an equally pleasant autumn and, while we inevitably begin to turn our thoughts towards Christmas, we have much to reflect upon as the year's shadows lengthen. I find it hard to believe that I have been in post for two years now. One is caught up so completely in ROSL's extraordinary vitality and sense of purpose around the globe that the passage of time becomes an increasingly redundant metric of progress. It has been a pleasure to meet so many of our members in the clubhouses, and the past few months have proved to be very busy and successful.

Many congratulations to Roderick Lakin, his team and all our musicians for a programme of concerts at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe that surpassed anything that has been achieved before (see page 17). The music was outstanding, audience numbers very good and the programme was recognised by a Top Ten Acts award from *Three Weeks*, the journal that covers the Fringe. Congratulations also to ROSL Gold Medal winning saxophonist Amy Dickson, who won a Classical Brit Award in October.

We have just enjoyed a marvellous concert at the Wigmore Hall, featuring pianist Jayson Gillham and percussionist Le Yu on sparkling form. As we go to press, Roderick is in Colombo for an exciting programme of music at the cultural festival surrounding CHOGM 2013. He will then visit New Zealand for the 8th Annual Pettman/ROSL ARTS International Scholarship awards and Australia for a series of concerts to round off the year.

DINNER AT THE TOWER: Roddy and Marianne Porter at the Fusilier Museum



as well as to successive branch committees in Edinburgh and Glasgow (see his farewell article on page 17). I wish him well in his retirement and record the thanks of all staff and members for his significant contribution to ROSL in Scotland.

Finally, on behalf of our President Lord Luce, Chairman Sir Anthony Figgis, Central Council members, staff colleagues and all at Over-Seas House London and Edinburgh, may I send you very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Roddy Porter

Editor's letter

Growing up in inner-city London, I was able to experience a rich diversity of cultures right on my doorstep, from the henna tattoos painted on our hands at Diwali to the steel pans and colourful costumes of the Notting Hill Carnival. In some ways, we were experienced travellers before we had even left the capital.

My children are now experiencing this same exciting cultural mix. And, for me, it is one of the most immediate and thrilling parts of belonging to the Commonwealth. For our Focus on 'Commonwealth connections' (pages 5-9), we asked ROSL members what being part of the family of nations means to them, and I hope this series of articles might encourage you to reflect on your own Commonwealth identity.

The support member states can offer one another is another vital element. In the aftermath of the 2011 earthquake, specialist teams were sent to Christchurch from several Commonwealth nations, including the UK and Singapore. The resilience of inhabitants and the innovative approach to rebuilding the city is an inspiration (page 10).

This year, ROSL prizewinners the Cavaleri Quartet performed in Christchurch's impressive cardboard cathedral as part of a ROSL ARTS tour. To find out more about forthcoming ROSL NZ charity concerts, as well as events planned by branches around the world, see our new branches section (page 22). We hope the calendar format will make it easier for you to find out what activities are coming up in your local area.

In this issue, ROSL ARTS focus on their visual arts programme, with photos of the full collection of portraits commissioned by ROSL since 1991 (page 20), and pictures from the scholars' exhibition 2013 (page 18).

My children are now well into their three-month countdown to Christmas, and I am always looking for different ways to celebrate. I hope you find our new 'Top 10' of things to do in Edinburgh and London as inspiring as I have (page 25). With an array of ROSL events to choose from (pages 29-34), the only question is how to fit everything in. Happy Christmas from the *Overseas* team.

Miranda Moore



www.rosl.org.uk



MARCHING ONWARDS: Commonwealth flags in The Mall at the launch of the Queen's Baton Relay for the Commonwealth Games 2014

FOCUS

Our place in a global family

Director-General Roddy Porter explores ROSL's role within the Commonwealth of Nations

ROSL has a unique place in much of the Commonwealth's cultural and social programme. The Commonwealth of Nations, currently 53 strong, seeks to sustain, develop and strengthen the links that bind it together. These links might be defined as the English language; a clear and unequivocal commitment to human rights and democratic government under the rule of law, however imperfectly that might be exercised; respect for individual rights to democratic freedom, including national and ethnic expression; and, importantly, the building of strong human resources in member states to underpin nation building. The Commonwealth promotes and provides many fora in which to foster friendship and understanding among its peoples across its diverse cultural, ethnic and religious groupings.

In many of these respects, ROSL's ideals reflect the Commonwealth's in microcosm. Our founder, Sir Evelyn Wrench, a man of humanity and broad vision, insisted, from the first days of the (then) Over-Seas Club in 1910, that membership was for men and women on an equal status, eight years before universal suffrage. Membership was open to all people, regardless of race or creed, and his desire to encourage friendship and understanding between people of different cultures and nationalities remains one of ROSL's principal objectives. Our aspiration to strengthen social and cultural links worldwide is symbolised, inter alia, by the hyphen between 'Over' and 'Seas' in our name, suggesting a multilateral dialogue between members around the globe, wherever they might be found.

We enjoy many strong links with the Commonwealth family. Every Commonwealth High Commissioner is an Honorary Member and a Vice-President of ROSL during

his or her incumbency; many of them make use of this privilege to entertain delegations and hold meetings at the clubhouse. The Secretary-General, currently HE Kamalesh Sharma, is also a ROSL Vice-President. Alongside our three sister Loyal Societies (the Royal Commonwealth Society, the English-Speaking Union and the Victoria League) we play an active role at Director-General level on the Executive Committee of the Council of Commonwealth Societies (chaired by Lord Howell), which plans Commonwealth Observance in March every year, particularly the service in Westminster Abbey.

ROSL contributes to the work of several other Commonwealth committees, including the Council for Education in the Commonwealth, and we have a strong relationship with the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Foundation. Organisations such as the Secretary-General's office, The Round Table and the recently-formed Commonwealth Exchange conduct business and entertain clients regularly in the clubhouse. ROSL's members participate in Commonwealth activities across a broad range of disciplines, from running the Secretary-General's

SPORTING CHANCE:

Over-Seas House London hosted a welcome event for Team Kenya at the Olympic Games in 2012 (above)

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS:

Marilyn Archbold, West Sussex Branch Chairman, is presented to The Queen at the ROSL centenary celebration (below)



December 2013-February 2014

office to journalism and law. ROSL was, with the Commonwealth Foundation, a co-sponsor of the Commonwealth Writers' Prize and our part in sponsoring the annual Caine Prize for African Writing has obvious direct and lasting Commonwealth connotations.

Our arts programme is founded firmly in the Commonwealth. The ROSL Annual Music Competition is open to young musicians from around the Commonwealth and, over 61 years of competition, prizewinners have come from around 20 countries.

ROSL ARTS works closely with Commonwealth Resounds!, directed by Alison Cox. The organisation seeks to identify and promote outstanding musical initiatives in Commonwealth countries, develop partnerships between artists from different cultural origins, and support training programmes for young musicians. The annual Pettman/ROSL ARTS International Scholarship awards, generously sponsored by Professor Barry Pettman, continues to identify and promote string ensembles from New Zealand of the highest quality, and we have a close relationship with a number of prestigious national musical competitions, such as the Australian Singing Competition and Cello Awards.

Each year, ROSL Visual Arts Scholarships provide opportunities for prizewinning artists early in their careers, bringing their work to the attention of the professional arts community, the media and the general public. The visual arts scholarships reach an even wider Commonwealth talent base than the music can, with fine contributions coming from Belize, the Bahamas, Ghana, India, Kenya, Uganda and Trinidad and Tobago, to name but a few.

Finally, ROSL's humanitarian and educational programme seeks to provide the means to educate and realise the potential of children in Namibia, Botswana and Kenya.

It could be said that ROSL has the Commonwealth in its DNA. With branches in Australia, Canada, the UK and New Zealand (as well as the non-Commonwealth countries Hong Kong, Thailand and Switzerland), and individual members in most – if not all – of the 53 participating nations, ROSL enjoys the benefit of long-standing friendships around the globe with people assenting to a common purpose. We look forward to playing a role, however it might be defined, in helping the Commonwealth of Nations realise its vast potential as a force for good in the 21st-century world.

ROSL President Lord Luce recently led a debate on the Commonwealth in Parliament. See <http://bit.ly/HwPsTD>.

FOSTERING TALENT:

Pianist Ashley Fripp (left), with Kamalesh and Babli Sharma, at the Annual Music Competition



FOCUS

Looking to the future

Why a new Strategic Plan aims to strengthen links within the Commonwealth family.

By Secretary-General **Kamalesh Sharma**

The many different layers at which our citizens connect – and at which our shared values are embedded – sets the Commonwealth apart among international organisations and multilateral groupings. Links at ministerial and official level are vital to agreeing and coordinating practical action, and for ensuring that our voice and influence are brought to bear globally. However, we are far more than an intergovernmental body.

Commonwealth identity springs, to a great extent, from the exceptional range of connections between organisations. ROSL has its own special role in this family.

To be effective in serving the governments and people of our member states collectively, the Commonwealth Secretariat continually evolves in response to changing circumstances and needs. We have been developing a more focused Strategic Plan for the period 2013-2017. Following extensive consultation with member governments and the wider Commonwealth family, this has now been finalised and the necessary reforms are being implemented. The plan reflects the shared priorities of our membership. These include six strategic outcomes to be pursued during the next four years, and three longer-term goals for the next eight to ten years:

- 1 Strong democracy, rule of law, promotion and protection of human rights and respect for diversity.
- 2 Inclusive growth and sustainable development.
- 3 A well-connected and networked Commonwealth.

The Strategic Plan concentrates on those areas where the Secretariat has an organisational advantage, and where the impact of our work is distinct, practical and measurable, and a framework is in place to assess intermediate outcomes and indicators.

Of great importance are the innovative ways in which our work will be carried forward. This gives an enhanced role to Commonwealth organisations, working in partnership to uphold Commonwealth values, and advance development priorities and respect for diversity.

Online platforms, particularly our own 'Commonwealth Connects', are becoming ever more vital for interaction and developing partnerships. Whether on advocacy and consensus-building, research and analysis, capacity-building or practical assistance, the coming months and years will see us moving as a global family towards new and more dynamic methods of fulfilling the Commonwealth's potential to be a great global good, for the benefit of citizens in all our member states.



AT THE PALACE: HM The Queen and Kamalesh Sharma meet guests at the Commonwealth Day Reception in March 2013 (above)

PRACTICAL ACTION: Simon Gimson, Director of the Secretary-General's Office and ROSL Central Council member, with Kamalesh Sharma at CHOGM in Perth 2011 (below)



www.rosl.org.uk



A youth community?

Younger Member **Jackie Lam** asks, is the Commonwealth relevant to a new generation?

What is the Commonwealth? Growing up in colonial Hong Kong, all I knew was that it was a remnant of the former British Empire. It was the handover of 1997 that allowed me to see the organisation in a different light. Soon after, I emigrated to Toronto and later to the UK, and my journey among member states has made me realise that I take great pride in being a Commonwealth citizen.

Due to the high volume of Commonwealth migrants moving to Canada, I was exposed to many different cultures and ethnicities there. Not only did I meet Canadians, but I also made good friends who are Australian, British, Indian, Kenyan... the list goes on. I had the same experience when I came to the UK.

Making friends from different parts of the Commonwealth showed me that we have a lot in common. We share the English language, many foods, sports and commodities, approaches to government, law and commerce, and a whole lot more. It is these common linkages that intertwine member states and enable us to transcend national boundaries to a transnational level.

Yet it is difference that binds the Commonwealth together. Some argue that difference creates division but I believe it fosters unity. While the Commonwealth shares links with each other, it is the different cultures that allow it to thrive and evolve. By

helping member states to interact socially it facilitates exchanges of culture, knowledge and ideas. It is through international understanding that boundaries of social, cultural and national norms can be overcome. It is this universal relativism that allows multiculturalism and diversity to thrive.

Studying an MA in Human Rights at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies has given me a greater understanding of the importance of the two core values that the Commonwealth has stood for since the London Declaration of 1949: freedom and equality. It is these values that allow the Commonwealth to develop moral principles for democracy, human rights, the rule of law and international peace. The Charter of the Commonwealth, which was ratified in March 2013, shows the continuing commitment of member states to upholding these principles.

We need to stop thinking of the Commonwealth as a relic. It is time to think of its future. It is time to rediscover what it means to be a Commonwealth citizen. My wish is for it to have further social, political and economic integration in future. I am proud to uphold the principles of diversity, multiculturalism, freedom and equality.

LIVING THE DREAM: Performance at the Commonwealth Day Observance Service in Westminster Abbey (top)

Let them learn

Commonwealth organisations provide vital support for education, and now ROSL alumni are playing a wider role, says **Margaret Adrian-Vallance**

The generosity of members enabled sufficient funds to be raised during 2013 to meet ROSL's educational bursary commitments in Namibia, Botswana and Kenya. In August, a generous non-member donated additional funds to enhance projects in the Kalahari and, in October, ROSL bursary alumnus Cwisa Cwi was appointed ROSL's Honorary Adviser for San Affairs in the Nyae Nyae Conservancy, Namibia.

Cwisa is from the Jul'hoan community near Tsumkwe and has been the ROSL-Namibia Project's informal adviser on San life and culture since 2001. He is one of several ROSL bursary alumni who have returned to their communities as teachers after qualifying at Windhoek College of Education, and he is now Principal of four bush schools.

Ten ROSL bursary recipients studying Education at the University of Namibia this year also plan to return to their home areas when they qualify. Most are from remote Himba communities in the north-west of the country. In due course, ROSL will look at the appointment of an Honorary Coordinator for this area and also for the Omaheke area in the east, where the ROSL-Namibia project began.

A small restricted fund to be used exclusively for the Bushmen of the Kalahari, at the request of the donor, will not only support education in Namibia but will also help young San from the Shakawe area near the Okavango Delta in Botswana. Beneficiaries will be trained in enterprise projects and cultural tourism in liaison with Botswana's national training authority and the Trust for Okavango Cultural and Development Initiatives (TOCADII).

The area is well known to explorer Mike Main from Botswana, who visited the London clubhouse in September to give a talk to the London Group on rock art and his recent travels in South Sudan. "Enterprise training and projects are much needed around the Shakawe area," he says. "ROSL will be supporting some imaginative work there."

In Kenya, ROSL bursary recipients Antony Waweru and Beatrice Kinuthia from Nyandarua High School at Ol'Kalou near Gilgil keep in touch regularly. Antony obtained six grade As in recent exams. Beatrice is in the school football team and choir, and hopes to improve on her grades, which also included an A. Well done to both. *Please visit www.rosl.org.uk/donation to donate.*

TOP STUDENTS: Langalanga scholars at Nyandarua High School, Kenya, including Antony Waweru (far right) and Beatrice Kinuthia (second left)



December 2013-February 2014

FOCUS

Commonwealth: what does it mean to you?

We asked ROSL members and supporters around the world and the answers were interesting, varied and, at times, surprising



Ishrani Jaikaran
Ontario Chapter President

The Commonwealth demonstrates to the world how working together can add to the 'common wealth' of all. It goes beyond simple commercial interests; it has an historical heritage and is very involved with humanitarian concerns.

I remember, at school, learning about the world. The maps had lots of countries coloured pink. I remember thinking that although these British territories were far away and their peoples probably spoke a different language, that we all had something in common, an historical heritage and values. Working for human rights is one of the great values of the Commonwealth nations and their work together to help end apartheid in South Africa is a good example.

Commonwealth membership allows me to identify countries that share elements of our heritage. The common link of an association with the UK brings countries together to show what can be achieved when nations decide to build a relationship between themselves.

Ishrani Jaikaran is Events Chair of The Honourable Company of the Freemen of the City of London of North America.

Mark Walton
ROSL Music Competition Gold Medal winner and Pettman/ROSL ARTS Awards Judge

The Commonwealth is home to a third of the world's population so it really means being part of a larger family. One likes to think it is based on the idea of decency to other human beings and taking care of each other.

What I want to do with my work is make people's lives better. I'm trying to help with spirit and support, and I think that is what the Commonwealth is about. Anything that unifies people and makes them feel as though they are part of something bigger is a wonderful thing. It makes one look outwards rather than inwards.

Every country has something different to offer. In NZ, there is an incredible tradition of singing, while Australia has a system of training musicians that is superior to anything I've come across. The sound of Pacific Islanders singing in harmony is one of the most extraordinary things in life.

I was running a music camp in Coonabarabran, New South Wales, where they've had devastating bushfires. The organiser spoke about what it was like to lose her mother, father and her house as a result of a fire. Then she played music and you could see her feeling better. I've never seen a more tangible example of music being a cure and giving people hope than immediately after the Christchurch earthquake.

ROSL shows a generosity of spirit across many countries and helps so many people. If that is what the Commonwealth stands for then we should all support it.



Gordon Irving
Bournemouth Branch Secretary

ROSL is a link with my roots, as the son of a colonial officer in a former protectorate that is now part of the Commonwealth. On returning to Zanzibar recently

after an absence of 50 years, I was struck by the warm welcome from the local people.

In this turbulent world of increasing sectarian conflict, the Commonwealth provides a meeting place for different cultures and countries. Britain can play an important role in providing a forum for nations to meet and discuss issues, building on the considerable level of goodwill that has been built up over the years by the Head of the Commonwealth, HM The Queen.

Cwisa Cwi
ROSL bursary alumnus and Principal of four bush schools in Namibia's northern Kalahari

Being a member of the Commonwealth family is important as it allows countries of all sizes and political power to interact as equals. Some well-off nations are providing others with scholarships. In my case, I was the first San (Jul'hoan) recipient of the bursary from ROSL. My greatest experience of the Commonwealth was when I met The Queen at the ROSL Centenary Reception at St James's Palace in 2010.



Marilyn Archbold
West Sussex Branch Chairman

I have never travelled to a Commonwealth country but I have got to know people from all parts of the Commonwealth through ROSL (I have been a member for 52 years). To me, 'Commonwealth' is a sense of belonging and identity. It has always been a part of my life, which I have embraced through working, in the past, for the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind, and through ROSL.

There is a hymn that includes the line 'for Commonwealth and nation'. I always sing that part the loudest. It is a very important organisation that joins so many different people, countries and nationalities together.



Krishnan Srinivasan
Former Deputy Secretary General of the Commonwealth and former ROSL Central Council member

The Commonwealth is a decades old

institution that pre-dates most of the international organisations that survive today. The word 'commonwealth' suggests a diverse but large group of countries and peoples that share a common history and ideals, and a vision of what the global family of nations and people should be.

The Commonwealth strives, against great odds, to make the world a better place. There are innumerable human, real-life stories where Commonwealth efforts, even on a small scale, have changed the lives of others. One such example would be the ROSL-Namibia programme. But what lingers in my mind is the Commonwealth centre in Edinburgh, at the summit of 1997. There were dozens of enthusiastic volunteers manning interesting booths and stalls depicting the work of non-governmental organisations in many parts of the Commonwealth. It was uplifting.

Like any other values-based organisation, the Commonwealth will always have an uphill fight. Not all members will conform. Critics will deride it for not living up to its standards, without suggesting viable alternatives except penalties, which is not the Commonwealth way. At the inter-governmental level, the Commonwealth will remain a club of good behaviour. At 'peoples' level, it is an assembly of like-minded equal

communities seeking to make the world a better place for everyone, with genuinely motivated civil society enterprise and action.



Peter Katjavivi
MP
Member of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and ROSL-Namibia project supporter

Namibia's struggle for independence was joined by the

international community, as represented by bodies such as the Organisation of African Unity and the Commonwealth. These institutions played a vital role and we have come to value our association with them as a way of promoting the continuity of networking, based on common values, towards the prosperity of our societies and the preservation of global peace, security and stability.

The Commonwealth, in particular, played a critical role in providing technical support. I played a personal role in promoting this initiative, which saw young Namibians being trained in various Commonwealth countries.

ROSL continues to foster and promote capacity building for learners from disadvantaged sections of Namibian society.

The Commonwealth continues to be relevant as a forum for exchange of views among its members. It is an important voice with a rational approach to burning issues. Many countries, especially in the developing world, have continued to be bedeviled by life challenges, including poor health, poor nutrition, food insecurity, high levels of illiteracy, water insecurity and poor governance. The Commonwealth family is playing an instrumental vanguard role in trying to address these challenges, for example through the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust.

Lyn Milne
Director ROSL NZ

I joined ROSL in 1979 after reading an advertisement which mentioned the words 'Commonwealth Club'. From my early school days, the Commonwealth connection opened my eyes to different cultures. I enjoy the diversity and the fact that a small country such as New Zealand has an equal footing.

Escorting Nelson Mandela up the steps of the Aotea Centre at CHOGM in Auckland and organising NZ young musicians to perform at official functions have been highlights. Being a member of the Commonwealth family enables us to stay connected with other cultures in order to have a better understanding of them. As in all families, you have an enduring sense of responsibility and caring for one another.



Jim Napier
Former Chairman, Thailand Branch

I believe that 'Commonwealth' should mean nations with a common bond, working together to promote peace and equality, both within the organisation and

on a global basis. In 2006, ROSL Thailand organised a Commonwealth Day celebration at the British Embassy, Bangkok. Invited guests included Commonwealth Country Ambassadors, prominent Thai nationals, and British and Commonwealth citizens. The event was popular and successful in that the concept of the Commonwealth and the linkage with ROSL was established in Thailand. Any organisation that can promote peace, understanding and equality on a global basis remains both important and relevant.



Asif Khan
Journalist for the Commonwealth Secretariat

During 19 years as a feature writer with the Commonwealth Secretariat, I have visited more than 50 member countries, associated states

and territories to report on Commonwealth affairs. I decided to join ROSL nearly 20 years ago, not only because I firmly believed in what it stood for and because of its strong links with the Commonwealth, but also because the idea of having reciprocal clubs around the world appealed to me. The best thing about going to reciprocal clubs is the sense of belonging one feels because of the common links, a shared history, values and a common language – English – forged largely through membership of the Commonwealth. All of which makes one instantly feel at home away from home.

HOPE IN CHRISTCHURCH:
Lyn Milne (centre) with ROSL prizewinning musicians Piers Lane and Catherine Gibson





© Brian Anderson

After the earth moved

From pop-up arts venues to a cardboard cathedral, **Sally Blundell** finds hope and innovation in Christchurch, three years after the devastating earthquake

BEACON OF HOPE: The Transitional Cathedral made from shipping containers and cardboard tubes (above)

LAZARUS QUARTET: (L-r) Emma Yoon, Julianne Song, Lindsay McLay and Alice Gott performed in September (below)

The last time violinist Julianne Song was in Christchurch the city was dusting itself down from a 7.2 magnitude earthquake that ripped through the landscape in September 2010. Roads buckled, buildings fell; remarkably no one was killed. In September, Song returned to her hometown as part of the Lazarus Quartet, alongside Emma Yoon (violin), Lindsay McLay (viola) and Alice Gott (cello), to perform at the biennial Christchurch Arts Festival. For the first time she witnessed the impact of the smaller but more violent earthquake that, over a sunny lunch hour on 22 February 2011, claimed 185 lives and caused massive damage across the city.

"I was quite nervous about coming back. Christchurch is where I grew up and finding those buildings, where we used to play, not there is a bit weird. It's like a ghost town, but what they are doing here is very contemporary," she says. The quartet, winners of the 2010 Pettman/ROSL Arts scholarship, performed in a wooden 'tent' on the grounds of the historic Arts Centre, with a converted shipping container as a dressing room. The original home of the University of Canterbury, the centre is now undergoing a seven-year restoration programme to repair and strengthen the 22 earthquake-damaged buildings.



Throughout the city there are signs of new life. A swathe of temporary art projects, pop-up bars and a retail centre made from shipping containers are luring visitors back to the city streets. As part of the \$NZ40 billion (£20 billion) rebuild, the blueprint for the inner city includes a new performing arts centre and a Maori cultural centre. These will help compensate for the many venues that have been closed or demolished following the earthquakes. In the meantime, the arts community is proving adaptable. As well as the wooden tent erected for the Arts Festival, a sports arena, school performance centres, and even an air force museum, are being used as improvised auditoria.

In November, ROSL prizewinners the Cavaleri Quartet performed in Christchurch as part of a nationwide tour organised by ROSL. Their venue was a large cardboard cathedral designed by Japanese architect Shigeru Ban, widely acclaimed for his transitional architectural structures in post-disaster situations. Opened in August, this temporary replacement for the badly damaged Christchurch Cathedral is a simple tent-like structure made from eight steel shipping containers, 98 large cardboard tubes and a huge triangular window of printed glass, all under a roof of semi-transparent polycarbonate. "We were in limbo after the earthquake," says Acting Dean, Reverend Lynda Patterson. "As a cathedral community we were refugees. But we think of this as a sign of confidence, a symbol for what Christchurch could become. We don't know what it will be like, but we hope it will be innovative and creative and just."



DON MCKINNON'S Auckland

Your career has taken you all over the world. What do you like best about coming back to Auckland?

I came to Auckland as a young married man in the early 1960s and it's been my home ever since. Unlike flying into cities in Asia or Europe, when flying into Auckland you can see long distances. That was always pleasing because it told me that I was back home. I'm not saying that Auckland is totally pollution free but we get a lot of wind, so there's plenty of fresh air.

What is unique about the city?

There are approximately 50 volcanic cones throughout the city. It is an incredibly lovely setting. The Waitemata Harbour is very attractive. About three years ago Auckland went from being eight different local authorities to one city. Cities grow organically all the time but it's very rare that they change their political boundaries. Now Auckland city goes 40 miles north and 40 miles south, and so far it runs very successfully with little nostalgia for the past.

Auckland is surrounded by spectacular regional parks and beaches. Is there one you particularly return to?

I went to Long Bay, which is on the north shore, in 1964. Then, if you saw one man and a dog on the beach at the weekend, that was a crowd. Now you'll find hundreds of thousands of people going to those beaches in summer.

What do you enjoy doing in the city?

There has been a huge surge of cultural activities. The Auckland War Memorial Museum has the biggest collection of Polynesian artefacts in the world, so this is a very important place for international visitors to come.

There are three major stadiums, so we've got a good coverage of cricket, rugby, soccer and athletics. We have a range of theatres and event centres, and therefore many international events and a heightened level of excitement in that broad cultural, sporting and visitor services area. More than 110 cruise ships are due to arrive in Auckland this summer.

Where do you go to relax?

My wife and I bought 10 acres of land south of Auckland in a quaint little area called Waiau Pa and we've got cattle there. It's very peaceful. We overlook the Manukau Harbour. I enjoy just doing bits and pieces on the farm, talking to my cattle – they don't talk back at me.

I've heard that Aucklanders take their food seriously. What local dishes would you recommend?

We've been very lucky: because of the nature of our migration, the opportunities for culinary delights are very impressive, so whether you want Chinese, Japanese, Malaysian, Brazilian, Chilean, Argentinean or Indian, we've got the lot. My wife would say that, for me, food is fuel, but I do appreciate the fantastic range we have.

Where is the best view of the city?

One Tree Hill and the events centre at the top of the Auckland War Memorial Museum, where you can get a 360 degree view of Auckland. We also have the very high Sky Tower in the middle of the Central Business District, which has a restaurant at the top with a spectacular view.

Sir Donald McKinnon was the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth 2000-2008 and was appointed as Special Envoy to Maldives in 2012. His book, In the Ring: A Commonwealth memoir (Elliott & Thompson, 2013), is available from Amazon.

Interview by Christine Wilde.



© Auckland Museum



© SWCTV Entertainment Group

SKY BY NIGHT:

Sky Tower with views over the Central Business District (above)

CULTURAL SURGE:

Auckland War Memorial Museum facade (below) and a Maori storehouse, or *pataka*, taken from Maketu in the Bay of Plenty and exhibited at the museum (below left)



News and views

The latest from the clubhouses in London and Edinburgh



◀ Champagne Garden Parties

The sun shone on the Friends of ROSL ARTS as they enjoyed champagne and canapés at their annual garden parties in July and September. The July reception was followed by an exclusive performance from the Rothko Quartet, winners of the Pettman/ROSL ARTS Scholarship 2012. The event was attended by the scholarship's benefactors Maureen and Barrie Pettman (centre), who are pictured with (l-r) Cameron Stuart, Olivia Francis, Alex MacDonald and Emily Bouwhuis of the Rothko Quartet and Australian soprano Lee Abrahmsen. Attendees of the September party were treated to a special concert performed by ROSL prizewinners Michael Foyle, Kausikan Rajeshkumar, Morgan Pearse, Chad Vindin and Ashley Fripp.



▲▼ Two Towers

ROSL returned to the Tower of London for two special black-tie dinners in August. Members enjoyed a drinks reception and a three-course feast at the Royal Fusiliers' Officers' Mess, followed by the traditional Ceremony of the Keys. Those who attended the second event were also given a private tour of the Jewel House.



▼ All the World's a Stage

On a warm July evening, ROSL hosted its first theatrical performance in the garden, as acting troupe Shakespeare Aloud entertained members with their version of *As You Like It*.



◀ Edinburgh restoration

ROSL Edinburgh marked the restoration of Over-Seas House at 100 Princes Street with a wonderful celebration lunch in July. Members were joined by the restoration team, headed by Ian Henderson, who gave an insightful talk into the challenges. He is pictured (2nd left) with (l-r) Willie Cameron, Roddy Porter, Mae Barr, Daniel Campbell and Fraser Campbell.



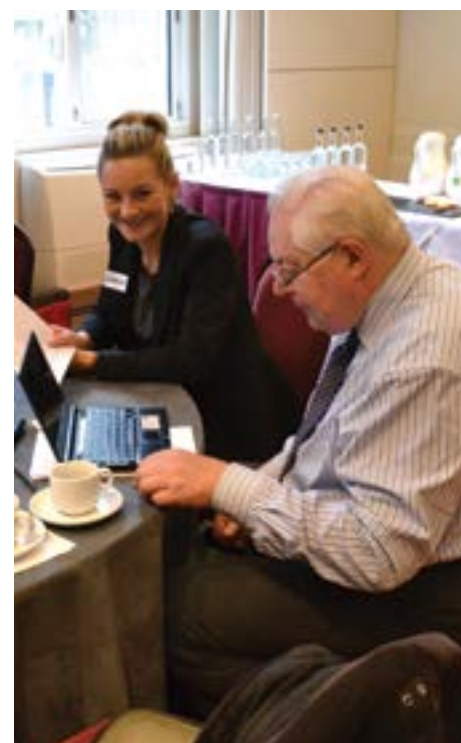
▲ Downing Street tour

In August, the London Group visited perhaps the most famous address in Britain, 10 Downing Street. Touring the State Rooms, Cabinet Rooms and the Rose Garden, they discovered the history of the residence that has been home to British Prime Ministers since 1735. They had the opportunity to view the portraits of those leaders, which adorn the walls of the Grand Staircase, as well as having their picture taken outside the iconic black front door.



▲ Snap happy

ROSL members got to grips with their digital cameras in the first of a series of successful Technical Tuesdays workshops. Led by professional photographer Roy Matthews, participants learnt the basics of digital photography before heading to Green Park to practise their newfound skills. Visit www.flickr.com/photos/rosl1910/sets to view their achievements.



▲ The IT crowd

Princess Alexandra Hall became the centre of the digital revolution as members attended the extremely popular Technical Tuesdays series of events on how to use the internet and send emails. Hosted in conjunction with national ITea and Biscuits week in September, ROSL collaborated with volunteers from Age UK Kensington & Chelsea and computer experts from Wanstor, to provide members with support and guidance for a multitude of queries.



◀ Historic Bermondsey and The Shard

In August, members headed to south-east London for a fascinating tour of Bermondsey. After exploring Leathermarket Street and the area's architecture and social history, they ascended London's most recent landmark, The Shard, for breathtaking views of the city.



Central Council ▶

In September, Central Council welcomed HE Eldred Bethel as their Guest of Honour. The High Commissioner for the Bahamas, who is pictured with Sir Anthony Figgis (left) and Roddy Porter (right), spoke eloquently and amusingly about his country's rich history and of the strong ties between the Bahamas and the UK within the Commonwealth family.

▼ Members' Table

After closing for minor refurbishments in August, the freshly painted Restaurant re-opened in September. As well as enjoying a fine seasonal menu, ROSL members dining alone or looking to make new acquaintances are invited to sit at the Members' Table, positioned in the top right corner of the Restaurant. Members are always welcome to drop in for lunch or dinner without making a reservation.





AIMING HIGH:
YMs at Bisley
shooting ground
(above) and in
the Old
Sergeants' Mess
for lunch (left)

Bright young things

Young Member **Samantha Pickett** gets fired up at the clay shoot

After an early start one Saturday morning we made our way from Waterloo to Bisley Shooting Ground, journeying through the beautiful Surrey countryside. In the Old Sergeants' Mess, a breakfast of sizzling bacon rolls awaited our group, as well as the opportunity to meet our instructors for the day. The building was full of history, with a selection of guns and military paraphernalia.

Once inside the shooting ground, the ROSL Younger Members split into two groups of five: the experienced shots and the novices. Each made their way to their first stand, armed with a suitable shotgun. Bisley, being the national shooting ground, operates 23 automated stands with up to five traps on each but, needless to say, we did not have time (nor, perhaps, the expertise) to conquer them all. Each group tackled five stands of varying degrees of difficulty.

Following a fulfilling morning (particularly for Dave, who missed only six clays), it was time to return to the Old Sergeants' Mess for a well-earned lunch. Thank you so much to Caroline and Sara for organising such a fantastic event. When are we going again?

It is now time to get excited about the ROSL YM Christmas Party on 5 December. Expect mulled wine, mince pies and an after party (rumoured to be at Kensington Roof Gardens or another exclusive London club). It's an event not to be missed.

ANNIVERSARY DRINKS: First Thursdays celebrates one year



Beautiful Photography



Zuza Jungowska
professional photographer
tel: 0771 774 2960
www.beautifulphotography.biz
info@beautifulphotography.biz

Self-publish

Your Memoirs, Family History, Novel
or Non-fiction book with

Authors
online

Authors OnLine have been helping authors to self-publish since 1997 and are one of only four companies recommended by 'The Artists and Writers Yearbook', the 'bible' of the publishing industry.

If you have a manuscript you want to bring to the market place, or just print a few copies privately for family and friends, talk to our friendly staff today:

Free phone 0800 107 2423 (from UK only)
+44 1767 652005 (from overseas)
submissions@authorsonline.co.uk
www.authorsonline.co.uk

Quote 'OS2013' and receive 10% discount off any of our publishing packages.

Members' benefits

Gemma Matthews, Director of Marketing, explains how to request a reciprocal club introduction by email

Our Commonwealth heritage and global membership mean that our links with more than 80 reciprocal clubs around the world is a valued benefit. Members enjoy staying at these historic and exclusive clubs, taking pleasure from the comfort and congeniality that only a club can provide in a foreign city.

Members are always keen to report back on the service and facilities on offer and many have provided insightful reviews for *Overseas*. Over the last year we have established links with clubs in Istanbul and Nicosia, and we hope to continue to add further clubs in cities across the USA and Europe.

However, we are aware that the process for requesting reciprocal cards has, in the past, been complicated and slow, which can be frustrating when travel plans are made at short notice. We have been working to bring the system into the 21st century. All of our reciprocal clubs have now agreed to accept an 'e-card of introduction'. By sending an email directly to the club we will be able to save time and resources and, most importantly, provide you with an improved service.

How will it work?

By following these simple steps we hope the process for requesting a card of introduction will be an easier task:

- 1 Log on to www.rosl.org.uk to request your card of introduction.
- 2 Select your preferred club and confirm the length of stay (remember, we can only issue cards for a maximum of 12-30 days per city, per year, depending on the rules of the reciprocal club).
- 3 We will prepare and send out an e-card of introduction directly to the club and you will receive a copy of this communication.
- 4 Remember this is not a reservation. Any reservations must be made directly with the club in question.

We ask that you provide at least five working days to allow us to process requests during busy periods, but we hope to facilitate requests more quickly.

If you are unable to log on to the ROSL website, please email guestrelations@rosl.org.uk or call +44 (0)20 7408 0214 ext 215. All the terms and conditions for issuing cards are available online, but do remember that when travelling you must abide by the rules of the club you are visiting. This will help us to maintain a long and successful relationship with our fellow clubs.

Membership renewals

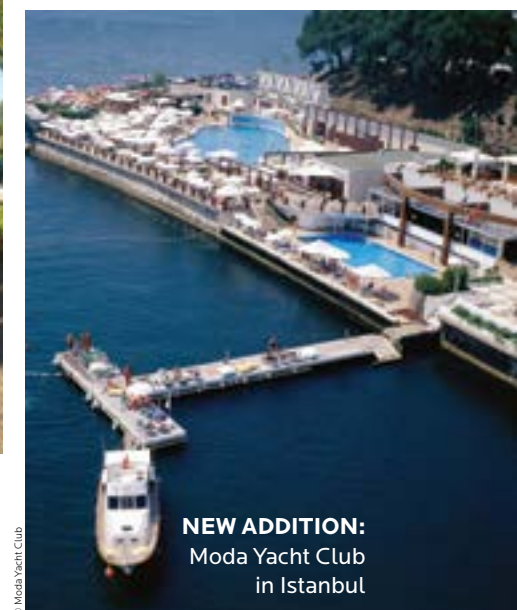
As you may be aware, your ROSL membership is due for renewal shortly. This year we will be sending each member a personalised renewal notice, which not only sets out the annual subscription fee for 2014 but also previews the developments and activities you can look forward to in the coming year. If you have not received your pack by 20 November, please contact the membership team on +44 (0)20 7408 0214 ext 214/216.

ROSL NEWS



© Kelvin Grove Club

HOME FROM HOME:
Kelvin Grove in Cape Town
(above); and the restaurant
of Singapore's prestigious
Tanglin Club (below)



© Moda Yacht Club

NEW ADDITION:
Moda Yacht Club
in Istanbul



© Tanglin Club

Top table

The Members' Table offers a companionable place for those dining alone to meet with new or old acquaintances. Members are always welcome to drop in and take a seat at the table, which is located in the top right corner of the Restaurant, for either lunch or dinner. No reservations are required. The Restaurant is open Monday-Friday and Saturday evenings. Seasonal lunch menus start from £18.95 for two courses and dinner from £22.50 for two courses.





LAST REMAINING PLACES FOR ROSL TRIP TO SRI LANKA

Sri Lanka is one of the most diverse and beautiful islands on the planet. For such a small island to have such a variety of wildlife, cultural treasures, dramatic scenery and amazing beaches, is extraordinary.



INTERESTED? LET ROSL KNOW

If you would like to experience the magical island of Sri Lanka in comfort and style, whilst learning about its rich and fascinating heritage, register your interest at the main reception for the attention of Gemma Matthews.

We would be delighted to answer your questions and tell you more about the trip, our ethos and experience.

You can email Gemma at:
gmatthews@rosl.org.uk.

Please include your name and telephone number.

Please note, if March 2014 doesn't suit, we would be happy to look at private holiday options or even an extra departure date for a another ROSL group!

Experience Travel Group are delighted to offer ROSL members an exclusive 16 day Sri Lankan tour in March 2014. Designed with ROSL members in mind, this tour for up to 16 people will provide the chance to experience the rich heritage and traditions that make Sri Lanka such an alluring destination.

A private guide and driver will accompany members as they travel around Sri Lanka to locations such as the ancient cities of Polonnaruwa and Anuradhapura, the beautiful Peradeniya Royal Botanical Gardens, and Galle Fort - a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



Visit us at: www.experiencetravelgroup.com



SRI LANKA | MALDIVES | THAILAND | VIETNAM | CAMBODIA | LAOS | BURMA | INDONESIA | BORNEO



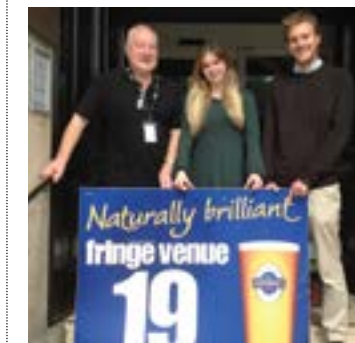
ROSL NEWS

Fringe success

Plaudits for ROSL ARTS' concert series

2013 marked our 14th series of concerts on the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, showcasing outstanding ROSL prizewinning musicians. It proved to be one of our most successful series yet, both in terms of artistic quality and audience support, with 80 percent average audiences including several sell-out shows. Our concerts, featured on Radio 3, garnered many 4- and 5-star reviews, and we got a 4-star review for our exhibition with Edinburgh Printmakers.

Over tea and shortbread after a recital, one concert-goer neatly summed up the experience: 'This is the 13th show I've seen here and there hasn't been a dud one yet.' At the end of our last week, we received an Editor's Award for the whole series from the Festival guide *Three Weeks* – one of 10 shows selected from around 3,000. This was a very welcome accolade at the end of a successful run. We are already starting to plan next year's Fringe concerts for 11-22 August 2014.



WELCOME ACCOLADE:
The ROSL ARTS team outside the Edinburgh clubhouse (above); and (below, l-r) pianist Kausikan Rajeshkumar, soprano Lee Abrahmsen, pianist Timothy End and violinist Michael Foyle pose for the Three Weeks Award



Princes Street, fare thee well

Following his retirement in October, **James Wilkie** looks back at 21 years as ROSL Scotland Development Officer

Over-Seas House Edinburgh occupies a magnificent site on Princes Street, but when I became Scotland Development Officer in 1992, the building was in a state of terrible repair. To the credit of the Central Council, some investment was put in place. The building was stone-washed, a number of cosmetic improvements made and, within two years, we were beginning to see progress.

For me, ROSL is primarily about people: members, staff, and the speakers, musicians and visual artists we have brought to the club. Through my background in music, journalism and the BBC, I have many contacts in Scotland, and we soon established a monthly Arts Lunch programme, which has run for almost 22 years. The list of speakers includes some interesting names, among them the writers Philip Pullman and Liz Lochhead; musician John Wallace; politicians Sir Malcolm Rifkind and Sir David Steel; actors John Cairney and Russell Hunter; and broadcasters Jimmie MacGregor and Lesley Riddoch.

Having established a regular and supportive audience of members, the programme had an important offshoot. Roderick Lakin, ROSL Director of Arts, brought music to Edinburgh, and our discovery of the residential arthouse Hospitalfield was an additional bonus. One of the real successes was our decision to abandon the promotion of drama during the Edinburgh Festival and to install a programme of ROSL chamber music and visual art.

We continuously promoted artists of the highest calibre. The cellists Liwei Qin and Yelian He made a particular impact, as did pianists Martin Cousin and Ben Schoeman, and violinist Nicola Benedetti when she visited with the

HIGHLIGHTS: James Wilkie introduces John Cairney at the Edinburgh Arts Lunch in November 2012 (above)

Menuhin scholars. I still play the first CD that ROSL ARTS produced: Rachmaninov's *Sonata for Cello and Piano*.

ROSL's links with the Commonwealth had played a part in my decision to apply for the position and, in time, I began to gain a better understanding of the fascinating world of UK Foreign and Commonwealth affairs through contact with some of those who sat on Central Council. Sir Kenneth Scott in particular has been a great friend to ROSL Scotland and, with his help, we ran Commonwealth Services in St Giles' Cathedral, with Royal patronage, and events in the new Scottish Parliament.

A number of Edinburgh and Glasgow Branch members, chairs and committee members have made extremely important contributions and, collectively, we undoubtedly enhanced the role of ROSL in Scottish public life. By 2008, we had 1,100 members in Scotland and 150 new members in that year alone. But the year is also memorable for other reasons: the onset of the ill-fated (and ongoing) Edinburgh trams project and the global financial crisis both conspired to undermine business in the Edinburgh clubhouse.

However, we have now entered a new era with a dynamic new team and are benefiting from large-scale investment from both ROSL and Cobbs, the new management company. I sincerely hope that the result will be a healthy building, a healthy business and – most important – a healthy membership organisation. My sincere thanks and best wishes go to all ROSL members and staff.

December 2013-February 2014

Scholars on show

At the Annual Scholars’ Exhibition 2013, **George Harwood-Smith** talks to artists about the work inspired by their ROSL residency

In October, ROSL ARTS presented its last ever Annual Scholars’ Exhibition at gallery@oxo on London’s Southbank. The successful opening night was packed with artists, illustrators, students and gallerists, showcasing the work of five very different artists from five Commonwealth countries. The exhibition featured sculpture by Ugandan artist Leilah Babirye, painting from Canada, Malaysia and New Zealand by Jordy Hamilton, Meor Saifulah Lulaed and Rob Tucker, as well as footwear crafted in Australia by April Phillips. ROSL ARTS awarded each artist a one-month residency in 2010 and 2012 to develop their ideas at Hospitalfield Arts in Arbroath, Scotland.

Leilah Babirye

Leilah arrived in London to start her one-month Visual Arts Scholarship in February. It was the first time she had left Uganda. In the first week, Leilah and I explored the sights of London, going to exhibitions, galleries and museums. She then travelled north to the solitude of Hospitalfield Arts and found the experience stimulating.

“To be immersed in a new culture and to work with new people really inspired me. I had the opportunity to work directly with other Scottish art students. They helped me explore and develop new themes in my sculpture. We collaborated on work that is now featured in the exhibition.

I was particularly overwhelmed by the ways in which people in the UK collect money for charity, the charity shops and what you can buy in them. I was also drawn to the British people’s close relationship with animals and pets, which I found funny at times.”

Leilah carved sculptures made from fallen trees on the Hospitalfield estate, each one representing something new about her time in the UK. She later took up a residency in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and is now back in Kampala.

Jordy Hamilton

Jordy arrived in Hospitalfield in September 2012, along with Meor Saifulah Lulaed and Rob Tucker. For this year’s exhibition, 59 of his small paintings, studies and mixed media span the longest wall of gallery@oxo. Exploring themes of painting, craft, time, work, desire

and escape, the piece tells the story of Jordy’s approach to art making.

“Some of the works in the exhibition were made during the residency. I am not an artist who is immediately drawn to recording my surroundings, but the experience – the retreat of sorts – conjured many ideas and provided ample time to work on some paintings, read some books and reflect on the role of an artist. Ideas and materials often emerge when least expected. In that sense, these studies are a journal of sorts, a record of ideas and solutions.”

Meor Saifulah Lulaed

Having been a finalist in the Malaysian Emerging Artist Award 2011, Meor is recognised throughout South-East Asia. However, the ROSL Annual Scholars’ Exhibition 2013 is his UK debut. In his paintings, he likes to play with animal imagery, humour and found objects.

“As an artist and lecturer, I like to produce work that is fresh. I am concerned with local and global political social relations and their effect on what is happening around me. Processes and thoughts learnt from being in an environment with artists from different cultures during the ROSL scholarship programme were highly informative and I will not forget the experience.”

April Phillips

Of the five artists’ work, April’s installations of hand-crafted boots are the most visually referential of the Hospitalfield experience – a playful adaptation of the house’s history. A professional artist and shoemaker, she hand-carved, painted and illustrated the boots, each pair exploring a story that influenced her during her stay in Arbroath. Stored within the estate is a carriage, a relic which inspired April.

“The series of five boots is made as an outcome of preliminary sketches made at Hospitalfield House in 2010. They explore the alternative realities of being removed from everyday life and how, when placed in unfamiliar surrounding, our creative imaginations can evoke new imagined situations. The style of boot referenced by the series is a carriage boot. These were worn by women while riding as a passenger in a carriage during the 19th century.”



STREET VIEW: Gallery@oxo pictured from the outside during the exhibition (above)

ARTISTS WITH THEIR WORK: (Below l-r) Rob Tucker; Meor Saifulah Lulaed; Leilah Babirye’s ‘Heart of Scotland’ mask; Jordy Hamilton; and April Phillips

“My stay at Hospitalfield Arts was a breath of fresh air – challenging but beautiful, just like the landscape”

Rob Tucker

Following his time in the UK, Rob Tucker moved from Auckland to London, and now paints in a studio near London Bridge. Represented by one of London’s most successful gallerists, he creates new compositions of domestic objects and exhibits widely throughout New Zealand, Australia, Asia and the UK.

“My stay at Hospitalfield Arts was a breath of fresh air – challenging but somewhat beautiful, just like the landscape. I found myself reflecting on my art and my position. Spending time with other international artists and the staff, we had many interesting discussions, which helped me reflect upon my practice.

What interests me is the interaction the picture has with the other objects in a space. I like to compose choreography and create atmosphere within an

interior when my work is placed and arranged in a setting.”

The 2013 Annual Scholars’ Exhibition will be ROSL’s last group exhibition at gallery@oxo. Throughout the years, the exhibition has showcased intriguing, informative and varied works by artists from all over the Commonwealth.

In 2014, ROSL will continue to award Visual Arts Scholarships and champion cross-cultural exchange. By collaborating on new projects with organisations such as Iniva in London, the CCA Glasgow and Generator Projects in Dundee, we are developing the audience and opportunities from which scholars can benefit. We are hopeful that through this increased visibility, the ROSL Visual Arts Scholarships will continue to evolve.

INFLUENTIAL: (L-r) Meor Saifulah Lulaed, Jordy Hamilton, April Phillips and Rob Tucker in front of the Oxo Tower



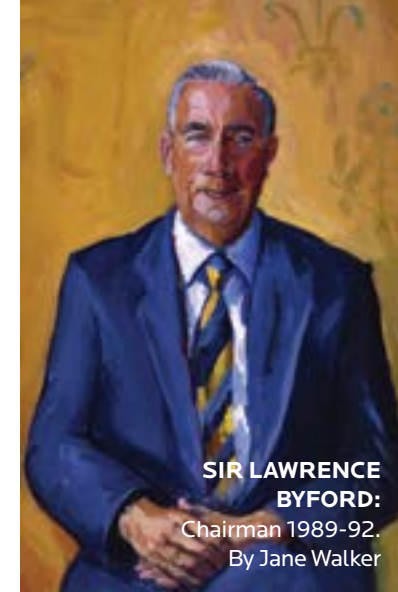
The ROSL portrait collection

Director of Arts **Roderick Lakin** reflects on an ongoing tradition of ROSL portraiture

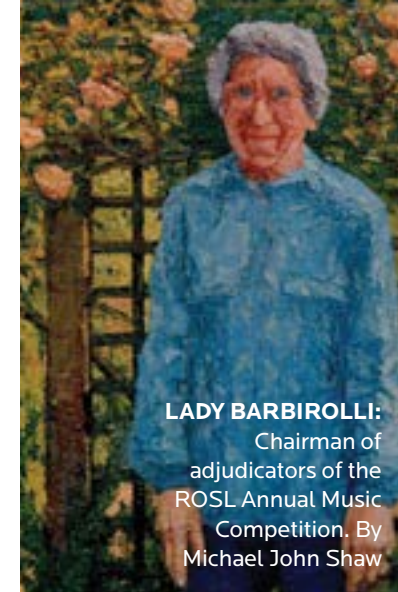
When Robert Newell became Director-General in 1991, we discussed a number of ways in which ROSL ARTS could enrich the experience of members and visitors to Over-Seas House, in addition to our extensive programme of arts events. One of the visual arts projects we agreed upon was to start a collection of portraits commemorating all living (and future) ROSL Chairmen. My rewarding task over the past 23 years has been to select suitable artists for ROSL commissions, chosen from outstanding prizewinners or scholars of the ROSL Annual Exhibition. The outcome of this initiative, as you can see from the spread of images on these pages, is a unique, diverse but harmonious collection.

The first commission was a portrait of Lord Grey of Naunton (Chairman 1976-81, President 1981-93 and Grand President 1993-99) by Tai-Shan Schierenberg, first prizewinner of the ROSL Annual Exhibition in 1990. Schierenberg had won first prize in the 1989 BP Portrait Award at the National Portrait Gallery (NPG) in London and, shortly after the ROSL commission, he was also commissioned to paint a portrait of the barrister and playwright John Mortimer for the gallery. Subsequent NPG commissions include portraits of Lord Carrington, Lord Sainsbury and a double portrait of HM The Queen and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh.

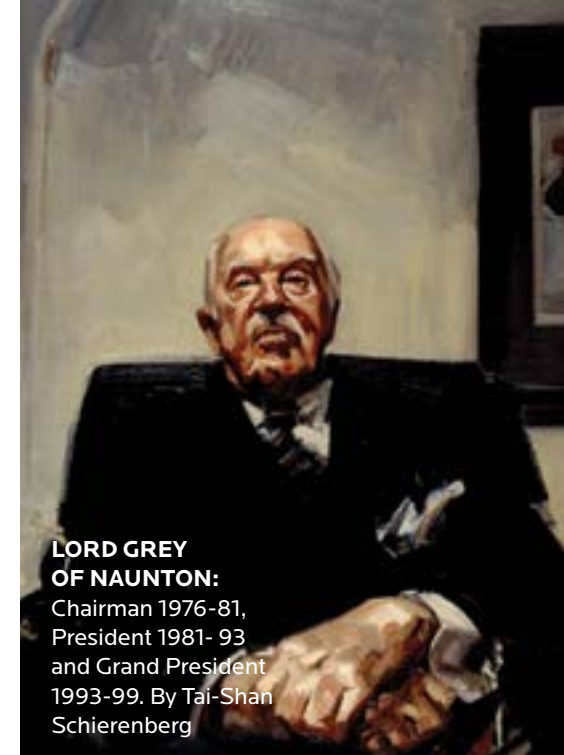
HARMONIOUS COLLECTION: HM The Queen in 1995 (right) and Maneck Dalal, Chairman 1986-89 (below), both painted by Christian Furr. Sir Colin Imray, Chairman 2000-05, by Andrew Tift (below left)



SIR LAWRENCE BYFORD:
Chairman 1989-92.
By Jane Walker



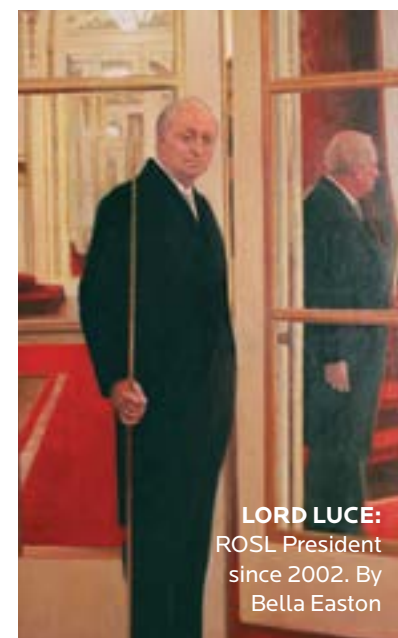
LADY BARBIROLLI:
Chairman of adjudicators of the ROSL Annual Music Competition. By Michael John Shaw



LORD GREY OF NAUNTON:
Chairman 1976-81, President 1981- 93 and Grand President 1993-99. By Tai-Shan Schierenberg



PETER McENTEE
Chairman 1992-95. By Melissa Scott-Miller



LORD LUCE:
ROSL President since 2002. By Bella Easton



STANLEY MARTIN:
Chairman 2005-10. By Nick Archer

Andrew Tift, who painted Sir Colin Imray for ROSL in 2001, has also fulfilled prestigious portrait commissions, including The Rt Hon Tony Benn (House of Commons), Neil and Glenys Kinnock (NPG), and Lord Woolf (Inner Temple).

In addition to portraits of ROSL Chairmen and Presidents, ROSL was granted the privilege of commissioning a portrait of The Queen in 1995 to mark the 40th anniversary of her accession. Her Majesty was given a choice of artists already represented in the ROSL collection and chose Christian Furr. At the time he was 28 years old and the youngest person ever to have painted an official portrait of The Queen. Furr's diverse subsequent portrait commissions include Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor (Westminster Cathedral), Tim Henman (Robinsons) and, currently, burlesque star Dita Von Teese.

Also in 1995, ROSL commissioned a portrait of Lady Barbirolli OBE, Chairman of the ROSL Annual Music Competition (1981-2002), from the artist Michael John Shaw, with whom she established a warm friendship until her death in 2008.

The distinctive ROSL collection was recently brought up to date with a portrait of the present Chairman, Sir Anthony Figgis, by Michael Gaskell. It was unveiled in March, shortly after Gaskell's NPG commission of the chemist and ecologist James Lovelock. The ROSL collection now enhances the corridors and landings of the main public areas of Over-Seas House and the recently refurbished Wrench Room.



SIR GEOFFREY ELLERTON:
Chairman 1995-2000. By Robert White



SIR ANTHONY FIGGIS:
Chairman since 2010. By Michael Gaskell



Branches: what's on?

Details of forthcoming events

ROSL branches provide an opportunity for members in all parts of the world and across the UK to enjoy a range of social events close to home. The new layout of this page enables you to see what you can look forward to in your area. To find out more about getting involved, simply contact your local representative.



Australia

Tuesday 3 December South Australia Branch Christmas lunch

The Public Schools Club, Adelaide; 12 for 12.30pm
Talk by Reverend MacDonald with two-course meal, including tea and coffee, wine and soft drinks. Guests welcome. *207 East Terrace. \$30 on the door.*

Tuesday 4 February 2014 South Australia Branch monthly lunch

Hackney Hotel, Hackney Road, Adelaide; 12.30pm
Regular meeting on the first Tuesday of the month.



Canada

Sunday 15 December Alberta Branch Christmas lunch

Royal Glenora Club, Edmonton; 12.30pm
Festive buffet with guest speaker. Bookings by 10 December. \$27.50.

Sunday 30 March 2014 Alberta Branch AGM and lunch

Royal Glenora Club, Edmonton; 12.30pm
Formal AGM for Edmonton members only. *Email ccordery@shaw.ca for details and cost.*

Spring 2014
Receptions for new members
Victoria and Vancouver
Opportunity for members to meet each other, organised by the British Colombia Branch. *Email evmurray@telus.net for details.*



New Zealand

Sunday 1 December

Charity concert
Auckland War Memorial Museum; 6.15pm
The Cavaleri String Quartet performs 'Testimonies', a musical response to oppression and totalitarianism, including pieces by Beethoven and Shostakovich, and Steve Reich's *Different Trains*. Proceeds to the Auckland War Memorial Museum. \$30.

Tuesday 3 December Charity concert

Turner Centre, Keri Keri; 7pm
'Tributes' brings together two cornerstones of the Cavaleri String Quartet's repertoire: Mozart's *D Minor Quartet* and Mendelssohn's *A Minor Quartet*. Proceeds to the Turner Centre, Christchurch School of Music, the Cardboard Cathedral and the Cenotaph Project for the Auckland War Memorial Museum. \$30.



UK

Bath
Wednesday 11 December, 8 January and 12 February
Monthly coffee morning
Pratt's Hotel; 10.30am
Meet-up every second Wednesday of the month. Guests welcome.

Bournemouth
Thursday 12 December
Christmas lunch
Highcliff Marriott Hotel
Includes the branch raffle. *Call +44 (0)1258 480887 for details.*



Cheltenham
Wednesday 18 December
Christmas lunch
Matchams Restaurant, Everyman Theatre; 12 for 12.30pm
Delicious two or three-course meal. *Call +44 (0)1242 515540 by 11 December for menu choices and to attend. £16.95 or £19.95.*

Edinburgh
Friday 6 December
Bridge Club Christmas lunch
Over-Seas House Edinburgh; 12 for 1pm
Lunch with sherry for Bridge Club members only. £12.

Saturday 7 December
Coffee morning
Over-Seas House Edinburgh; 10.30am
Iain Copland will speak on 'The Gem of the Renaissance: George Heriot Building'. £2.50.

Saturday 4 January 2014
Coffee morning
Over-Seas House Edinburgh; 10.30am
With talk on 'The Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh'. £2.50.

Saturday 1 February
Coffee morning
Over-Seas House Edinburgh; 10.30am
Talk by Ian Robert on 'The Musical New Year in Vienna'. £2.50.

Saturday 1 March
Coffee morning
Over-Seas House Edinburgh; 10.30am
Talk by Duncan Currie on the 'Foothills of the Himalayas'. £2.50.

Exeter
Friday 31 January
Branch lunch
Great Western Hotel, St David's, Exeter; midday
With talk by Professor Alan Emery on 'Art in Medicine'. Guests welcome. £14.50.

Friday 28 February
Branch lunch
Great Western Hotel, St David's, Exeter; midday
With talk on Elizabeth Thompson, 'Painter of war (1846-1933)'. Guests welcome. £14.50.

Glasgow
Friday 13 December
Christmas lunch
The Western Club, Glasgow; 12.30pm
With Guest of Honour James Wilkie, former Scottish Development Officer. *Leven Room, 32 Royal Exchange Square. Call +44 (0)141 8846342 for details.*

Friday 10 January
Talk on Robert Burns
The Western Club, Glasgow; 2pm
The Rev Bill Ferguson on Robert



AUTUMN HIGHLIGHTS:
Pupils from St Mary's Music School performed at the recent Edinburgh Branch Arts Lunch (above); and (left) Director of Marketing, Gemma Matthews, joined the West Sussex Branch at their October lunch. She is pictured (centre r) with (l-r) Secretary Brenda Heaton, Chairman Marilyn Archbold and member Martin Hamilton

Burns. Guests welcome.
The Conference Room, 32 Royal Exchange Square. £2 donation for tea and coffee.

Friday 7 February
Talk on Armenian churches
The Western Club, Glasgow; 2pm
Talk by Norman MacGilvray on 'The Churches and Monasteries of Armenia'. Guests welcome. *For venue details, see January listings. £2 donation for tea and coffee.*

Friday 7 March
Talk on 'Tonga'
The Western Club, Glasgow; 2pm
Talk by Robin Webster, a former chief Justice of Tonga. Guests welcome. *For venue details, see January listings. £2 donation for tea and coffee.*

Taunton
Wednesday 4 December
Christmas lunch
Somerset College, Wellington Road, Taunton; 11am
Maj-Gen Roddy Porter will give an

illustrated talk on 'Winning the War, Winning the Peace: Soldiering in Bosnia and Iraq' at this members-only lunch, with coffee. £18.50.

Wednesday 11 & 18 December, 8, 15, 22 & 29 January and 12, 19 & 26 February
Weekly coffee morning
Miles @ Riverside; 10.30am
Guests welcome.

Wednesday 5 February
Branch lunch
Somerset College, Wellington Road, Taunton; 11am
With talk by Dr Anthony Kelly on 'British Artists & the Great War'. Guests welcome. £14.50.

Wednesday 5 March
Branch lunch
Somerset College, Wellington Road, Taunton; 11am
Illustrated talk by Stuart Mole, entitled 'Queen and Commonwealth'. Guests welcome. £14.50.

Torbay
Saturday 25 January and 22 February
Monthly coffee morning
Livermead Cliff Hotel, Torquay; 10.30am
Regular meet-up on the last Saturday of the month. *Torbay Road, Torquay.*

West Cornwall
Thursday 12 December
Talk on India
Carbis Bay Hotel; 2.45pm
Illustrated talk by Bob Harrison on 'India: The Ganges and Hooghly', with Cornish cream tea. Guests welcome. *Call +44 (0)1736 33346 by 10 December to attend. £5.50.*

Thursday 30 January
Talk on 'Floods to Famine'
Carbis Bay Hotel; 2.45pm
Illustrated talk on the changing face of humanitarian aid, with Cornish cream tea. Guests welcome. *Call +44 (0)1736 33346 by 28 January to attend. £5.50.*

Thursday 20 February
Talk on Ethiopia
Carbis Bay Hotel; 2.45pm
Film and commentary on 'Ethiopia', with Cornish cream tea. Guests welcome. *Call +44 (0)1736 33346 by 18 February to attend. £5.50*

West Sussex
Wednesday 4 December
Christmas lunch
Windsor Hotel, Windsor Road Worthing; 12.30pm
Branch members will be sent further details. To donate prizes for the Christmas raffle, please call +44 (0)1444 458853.

Wednesday 5 March
AGM and lunch
Windsor Hotel, Windsor Road, Worthing; 12.30pm
With guest speaker Director-General Roddy Porter.

CONTACT DETAILS

Alberta: Cynthia Cordery, ccordery@shaw.ca, +1 780 477 0001
Bath, Exeter, Taunton, Torbay: Sally Roberts, rosl.west@googlemail.com, +44 (0)1823 661148
Bournemouth: Gordon Irving, westoverirving@aol.com, +44 (0)1258 480887
British Columbia: Liz Murray, evmurray@telus.net, +1 604 922 1564
Cheltenham: Barbara Snell, +44 (0)1452 813373
Edinburgh: Mae Barr, maebarr@tiscali.co.uk, +44 (0)131 334 3005
Glasgow: Bill Agnew, +44 (0)141 884 6342
Hong Kong: Kate Yau, www.rosl.org.hk, roslsecretary@rosll.org.hk
New South Wales: Lily Murray, murraylily@hotmail.com
New Zealand: Lyn Milne, www.roslnz.org.nz, royalo-s@xtra.co.nz

Nova Scotia: Liz Stern, lizstern317@gmail.com, +1 902 678 1975
Ontario: Ishrani Jaikaran, www.rosl-ontario-canada.ca, rosl.ont@sympatico.ca, +1 416 760 0309
Queensland: Sharon Morgan, sllmorgan@hotmail.com
South Australia: Michael Kent, rosl.sa@mac.com
Switzerland: Jo Brown, +334 5040 6631
Tasmania: Robert Dick, gradick1@gmail.com
Thailand: Vincent Swift, www.roslthailand.com, info@roslthailand.com
Victoria: Coral Strahan, www.rosl.org.au, rosl@alphalink.com.au, +61 (0)3 9654 8338
West Cornwall: Ian Wood, +44 (0)1736 333460
West Sussex: Marilyn Archbold, +44 (0)1444 458853
Western Australia: Anthony Abbott, losabbotts@hotmail.com, +61 (0)8 9368 0379

Singing for Australia

Mezzo-soprano Fleuranne Brockway and sopranos Bonnie De La Hunty and Isabelle Louise Rivette have won an inspirational singing competition sponsored by the Western Australian Branch. Now in its 17th year, the event is conducted by the Royal Schools Music Society and held at the University of Western Australia's Eileen Joyce Studio in August. Judging was very difficult due to the exceptional quality of the contestants, who sang up to four classical pieces in different languages and styles. The winners were presented with their prizes by Branch Committee members Eunice Cousins and Dr Tom Hamilton (*pictured with the winners*).



Cherwell College Oxford

PRE-UNIVERSITY TUTORIAL COLLEGE

FULL-TIME ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

One-to-one tutorials supported by: seminars; subject clinics; study skills workshops; and all-important feedback, plus regular mock exams.

• We build confidence and increase knowledge.

• We pinpoint problems and help our students through supervised private study and homework sessions.

• We help consolidate academic progress toward entry to Russell Group universities.

A-LEVELS / (I)GCSE / CAMBRIDGE PRE-U / IB-ALL EXAM BOARDS

Telephone: 01865242670

secretary@cherwell-college-oxford.co.uk

www.cherwell-college-oxford.co.uk



Secret arts in the city

Art critic **Heather Waddell's** hidden gems in London and Edinburgh

This year, the Dairy Arts Centre opened in Bloomsbury, London, and was initially hard to find. The art collectors and gallerists Frank Cohen and Nicolai Frahm have turned what was originally Express Dairies offices into a large gallery space. It is not far from the British Museum but in an area near Brunswick Square where students, overseas visitors and city workers rub shoulders. Many Fitzrovia art galleries are not far away either.

The gallery opened in April with contemporary work by John M Armleder, a Swiss artist known internationally. Other shows have covered a variety of work in this light and airy space, which has 12,500 sq ft of galleries. The current show, 'Island', runs until mid-December, and refers to Aldous Huxley's final novel, written in 1962 as a counterpart to *Brave New World*. It celebrates the 1960s and the destruction of conventional Western values, but it is also a warning against the thoughtless exploitation of resources and spirituality.

Works come from Chinese artist Ai Weiwei, who has been imprisoned for his art, American Cindy Sherman, who is internationally renowned for her self portraits, and Peter Doig, whose wonderful, colourful paintings were on show at the national galleries of Scotland last summer. The arts centre is open Wednesday to Friday, 10am-5pm and weekends, 11am-5pm (www.dairyartscentre.org.uk).

In Edinburgh, Dovecot Studios at 10 Infirmity Street celebrated its centenary in 2012. They are famous for skilled weaving, and Scottish artist Kate Whiteford's painting was turned into a huge, hanging banner at Dovecot Studios for the opening of the National Museum of Scotland. Don't miss it at the entrance to the museum in bright reds and greens.

The current sales exhibition runs until Christmas and includes contemporary craft and design in all three gallery spaces. Visitors can also meet designers and craftsmen and women. The café is open until 5pm and the shop and gallery Monday to Saturday, 10.30am-5.30pm (www.dovecotstudios.com).

ROSL member Heather Waddell is the author/photographer of London Art and Artists Guide and a freelance art expert for BBC World News.

December 2013-February 2014

IN THE UK

Top 10 London and Edinburgh

Christmas at Kew



Follow an illuminated trail through the famous gardens after dark. **Until 4 January.** Tickets: £8-£12.50. www.kew.org/christmas

Raymond Briggs' Father Christmas

This popular production of the classic children's book returns to The Lyric Theatre in Hammersmith. **Until 4 January.** Tickets: £8-£10. www.lyric.co.uk

Pop-up ice rinks



Take a twirl on a choice of rinks, including those at the Tower of London and Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh.

Until 5 January. Tickets: £11.50-£13.50 London; £8.95-£9.95 Edinburgh. www.toweroflondonicerink.com; www.edinburghguide.com

Christmas markets



Explore Edinburgh's European-style market at Mound Precinct and Scottish Market at St Andrew Square. In London, Hyde Park's Winter Wonderland is dazzling. **Until 5 January.** Free. www.edinburghschristmas.com/markets; www.hydeparkwinterwonderland.com

Edinburgh's Christmas

City-wide festival of winter attractions and shows. **Until 5 January.** www.edinburghschristmas.com

Renaissance Singers

Annual Christmas concert by the Edinburgh University Renaissance Singers at the Museum of Scotland. **15 December.** Free. eurs.eusa.ed.ac.uk

Hogmanay festival

Edinburgh's four-day festival includes the UK's largest outdoor New Year ceilidh. **28-31 December.** www.edinburghshogmanay.org

New Year's Day Parade



More than 10,000 performers take part in the 28th annual parade from Piccadilly to Parliament Street.

1 January 2014. Free. www.londonparade.co.uk

Burns for Beginners

A light-hearted introduction to Robert Burns at Edinburgh Castle. **24-26 January.** Admission to Edinburgh Castle £16. www.visitscotland.com

Chinese New Year

Festivities in London's China Town include live performances, a parade and a fireworks display. **31 January.** Free. www.chinatownlondon.org



BEST SERVICE BEST QUALITY BEST VALUE

LONDON

CGars

EST. 1987

THE LEADING CIGAR SPECIALIST IN THE UK

Largest Range of Humidors, Ashtrays, Lighters, Cutters & Accessories

FAST MAIL ORDER SERVICE TO YOUR HOME OR OFFICE

www.cgarsltd.co.uk | sales@cgarsltd.co.uk | 07000 088 088

RICHARD OGDEN

Designed & hand made in England

28 Burlington Arcade | Piccadilly | London W1J 0NX | 020 7493 9136

www.richardogden.com



At the Arcade

Christine Wilde explores one of the most prestigious shopping streets in Mayfair

With its elegant arched roof and designer carpeted runway, Burlington Arcade certainly isn't your average London shopping centre. Nestled between Piccadilly and Bond Street, less than five minutes' walk from Over-Seas House London, it has been synonymous with luxury since it first opened in 1819.

The longest covered shopping street in Britain, the arcade was the first of its kind and soon became one of the top shopping destinations in Victorian London, favoured by the British elite. Keen to preserve its exclusivity and prestige, its owners even employed their own private guards, known as the Beadles, who still enforce its code of conduct to this day.

Stepping into the passage, the hustle and bustle of Piccadilly soon fades away, as the line of immaculate shop fronts stretches invitingly before you. From antique collectables to designer swimwear, each display you pass reflects the reputation for sophistication and craftsmanship that Burlington has worked hard to maintain throughout its history. Vintage fountain pens, cashmere children's clothes and art deco diamond rings abound, while branches of renowned English cordwainers Harry's of London, Churches and Crockett & Jones promise to add a soft leather spring to your step.

The windows of Richard Ogden glitter with an eye-catching array of antique jewellery. Resident in Burlington Arcade for more than 60 years, the friendly owners are on hand to offer their expertise on precious stones and guide you through their collection of classic designs. A few doors along, the helpful staff at House of Cashmere are happy to assist as you browse their beautifully tactile range of quality coats, jackets and jumpers.

Enticing curious shoppers inside with alluring aromas, the assistants at Penhaligon's perfumery take you through their extensive

collection of original and distinctive fragrances. With a range of both established and newer scents, which include a leather, vanilla and sandalwood perfume inspired by the English National Ballet and a sweet scent akin to bottled Parma Violets, their classy collections and reasonably priced gift sets make an imaginative alternative to a celebrity endorsed eau de toilette. As you head back towards the noise of Green Park, past bespoke furniture shops and luxury luggage, the delicious and delicate indulgences from French patisserie Ladurée offer those with a sweet tooth, or a love of salted caramel macaroons, an enjoyable change from the standard box of chocolates.

Whether you want to buy, browse or simply soak up nearly 200 years of luxury British commerce, Burlington Arcade should not be missed.

ON GUARD:
One of the Beadles of Burlington Arcade (above)

PRESTIGE:
The arcade was recently refurbished with a new Linley Skyline Carpet (right)



Can't find shoes to fit? Need wide, deep, bespoke or soft, comfortable shoes? Need your own personal Shoemaker?



My name is Alan James Raddon. I believe in healing through the feet. I come to Shoemaking with the intention of actively strengthening and healing my clients feet. If you have problems with your feet, knees, hips, have high arches, hammer toes, sore feet, flat feet, bunions or are diabetic or just want comfortable shoes that last, then I offer you my Shoes and Shandals.

I come to Shoemaking with the intention of combining fine workmanship, superb high quality leather and suede with integrity and a quick, personal, professional, reliable, service that is second to none.

You will not get that kind of intention or service from a shoe shop assistant or indeed another shoemaker.

The Shoes and Shandals I make are the shape of normal, healthy, undamaged feet. They have a straight inside edge, are broad across the toe box and have a low repairable heel.

The Big Toe Thong of Shandals guides the big toe straighter and relieves the pressure on the second and little toes.

The Lace-up design holds the heels of the feet firmly back into the heels of both the Shoes and Shandals, leaving the toes liberated and free to spread into the wide toe box.

Weakened under-used muscles are exercised, so strengthen.

Tendons and muscles stretch, so your feet rejuvenate and your natural balance, stability, vitality, grace, dignity and élan is restored.

My Shoes and Shandals have profound healing properties for those with sore and damaged feet.

Hammer toes have a chance to straighten. Corned, squashed little toes

heal. The circulation improves, so cold feet warm.

Shandals can be worn even in winter outdoors and indoors as an alternative to the very real dangers of falls in sloppy slippers.

Those that walk, skip and dance in my Shoes and Shandals, do so with great strength and agility.

This strength is reflected in strong ankles and legs.

All these qualities bring wonderful relief to tired, sore feet.

The 6-12mm leather soles are soft, so your unique footprints imbed into them. You end up with feet-shaped shoes, instead of shoe-shaped feet.

The Uppers are fully lined in Suede or leather making them superbly sensual, comfortable and luxurious.

The older they get, the more comfortable they become.

Plus you can choose from over 50 colours for the Uppers and in many leathers, from soft Italian leather to Nubuck, Suede, Patent Leather, Glacé Kid, Mock Crock and more.

My Shoes and Shandals come in size 2-14, in half sizes and even quarter sizes. And, unlike most cheap manufactured shoes, my Shoes and Shandals are designed to be repaired, so last years.

They are not cheap, but they are an investment in your future mobility.

Your health is your greatest wealth.

So ring me, Alan James Raddon Shoemaker and retired Relexologist now on 01545 570 904 and ask for my free Information Pack.



ROSL CALENDAR

DECEMBER

Tuesday 3 December

Edinburgh film night



Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 5pm

A special showing of the 1945 classic musical *Diamond Horseshoe*, starring Betty Grable and Dick Haymes. Includes coffee, popcorn and ice-cream. Tickets £7.50.

Wednesday 4 December - Friday 24 January

MASK Art Prize 2013 exhibition



Over-Seas House London, daily 10am-6pm

The MASK Art Prize is an annual competition for young artists in Kenya. MASK (Mobile Art School in Kenya) was established to engage young people in Africa and develop creative education about the arts. The prize introduces young Kenyan artists to new international audiences, with shortlisted artworks exhibited at the Nairobi National Museum and Saatchi Gallery before arriving at ROSL in December.

Email gharwoodsmith@rosl.org.uk to attend the Private View on Tuesday 3 December, 6-8pm. Free.

Wednesday 4 December

Edinburgh Arts Lunch

Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 12 for 12.30pm

Two-course lunch with talk by guest speaker Dr Owen Dudley Edwards on 'Sir Walter Scott: Founder of social history', plus a glass of wine and coffee. Tickets £19; guests £21.

Wednesday 4 December

The portrait in Vienna 1900



Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 6.30pm

James Malpas, Director of Short Courses at Christie's Education, sets the scene for the National Gallery's exhibition 'Facing the Modern: The portrait in Vienna 1900'. Striking works by Gustav Klimt, Egon Schiele and Oskar Kokoschka feature in this major exhibition examining portraiture in Viennese painting. This ROSL ARTS event is presented in association with the Art Fund. Tickets £15. Includes wine.

Thursday 5 December

Mince pies and mulled wine First Thursdays



Cocktail Bar, Over-Seas House London, from 6pm

Start your Christmas season with a bang because it's time

New Year's Eve candlelit dinner

Tuesday 31 December, 8.30pm

Over-Seas House London

We have spaces left for the ROSL New Year's Eve candlelit dinner in the Restaurant. The night will start with canapés and a delicious four-course meal, which will be followed by live music and a glass of champagne while watching the countdown and coverage of the fireworks on a big screen.

To book a place on one of our shared members' tables, or a private table for family and friends, call +44 (0)20 7629 0406. Ticket £62.50.

GOOD CHEER:

Toast the New Year with a glass of champagne in the clubhouse at midnight



for the ROSL Younger Members' Christmas gathering. Enjoy festive mulled wine and mince pies on the first Thursday of December, with a tremendous turkey curry buffet and an after-party at an exclusive London club to boot. Drop

into the bar from 6pm onwards for half-price drinks, and book your seat for a group dinner at 7.30pm, as well as a place on the club guest list. Check www.rosl.org.uk for further details. Guests welcome.

QUICK BOOKING INFORMATION

For full booking and contact details, see page 34

ROSL ARTS

+44 (0)20 7408 0214 ext 219; culture@rosl.org.uk

ROSL Scotland

+44 (0)131 225 1501; www.rosl-edinburgh.org.uk

Members' events

Book online at www.rosl.org.uk; membersevents@rosl.org.uk

London Group

Clive Carpenter; +44 (0)7798 824193; clivedavidcarpenter@compuserve.com. For outside trips: Doreen Regan c/o Over-Seas House London

Younger Members

Book online at www.rosl.org.uk; membersevents@rosl.org.uk

Discussion Group

No advanced booking required.

 Bread and Water for Africa UK
PROVIDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR AFRICA'S CHILDREN



Dear Father Christmas,
I have been very good all year long! For Christmas, I would very much like:

1. A uniform for the new school year starting in January, otherwise Teacher won't allow me in class.
2. New shoes. Mine are already too small for my feet.
3. More breakfast. It is a very long walk to school each day on an empty stomach.
4. A place for my little sister to go while I go to school. She's too little to come with me and mum and dad are with God now.
5. A football of my very own.

Thank you and Happy Christmas!
Love
Jackson

Can you make a Christmas wish come true for an orphan in Africa, like Jackson? It doesn't take much to spread a bit of Christmas cheer.

Visit our website at breadandwaterforafrica.org.uk to learn about our programmes and how you can give today.

 Bread and Water for Africa UK • Charity no. 1103138
50 Broadway, London, SW1H 0BL • Phone: 020 8959 3127

HISTORICAL TRIPS

History, politics & the face of conflict

"It is hard to imagine a more engaging, challenging and important historical tour than *The Face of Evil*. One cannot fail but to have a sense of change, profound and meaningful, which will leave a mark for the rest of one's life." – *The Financial Times*

Historical Trips was founded with the aim of bringing you tours that tell the whole story of some of the crucial episodes that defined our turbulent twentieth century. Our top historians outline the cultural, social and political contexts lying behind these often cataclysmic events, and our tours share the following characteristics:

- Original and unique themes
- Detailed background lectures
- Small and convivial groups
- Inclusive prices

In 2014 we are offering eight tours, ranging from 100th anniversary WWI trips to journeys that examine various aspects of WWII, the Cold War, and the Spanish Civil War.

THE ROAD OF RESISTANCE
Maquis, SOE and SAS in Occupied France
Sat 7th to Sat 14th June, 2014
Guided by Nigel Jones
This 70th anniversary tour takes us to the heart of France, focusing on the exploits of the French Resistance, SAS and SOE in the run up to D-Day.

THE FACE OF EVIL
The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich
Sat 21st to Sun 29th June, 2014
Guided by Roger Moorhouse
Our ground-breaking nine-day tour covers the complete story of Nazi Germany from its birth in Munich to its destruction in the ruins of Berlin.

GREAT ESCAPES
Breaking Out of Colditz & Stalag Luft III
Wed 2nd to Sun 6th July, 2014
Guided by Guy Walters
Our Great Escapes tour visits two of the most iconic POW camps – Colditz Castle, and Stalag Luft III, the location of the legendary Great Escape.

THE GREAT WAR
An Introduction to the Western Front
Wed 16th July to Sun 20th July, 2014
Guided by Nigel Jones
Our 100th Anniversary tour of the Western Front, we visit the trench lines along which Europe's youth were sacrificed over four bloody years.

SECRET REICH
Technology & Terror in Hitler's Germany
Sat 6th to Sat 13th September, 2014
Guided by Roger Moorhouse
Visiting often hidden locations in the North of Germany, this tour shines a light on how Nazi Technology and Terror were intimately linked.

CITY OF SPIES
Cold War Berlin
Fri 26th to Mon 29th September, 2014
Guided by Roger Moorhouse
This Anniversary tour focuses on Berlin during the Cold War, from the Airlift of 1948 to the Berlin Wall's historic demise 25 years ago.

1914: DYING OF THE LIGHT
The First Months of the Great War
Sun 5th to Thu 9th October, 2014
Guided by Nigel Jones
Looking at the opening months of WWI up to the 1914 Christmas truce, this Anniversary tour is a more detailed examination of the tragic conflict.

BROTHERS IN ARMS
The Spanish Civil War
Sat 18th to Sat 25th October, 2014
Guided by Jason Webster
Unlocking the complexities of the Spanish Civil War, this tour takes us from the opening shots in Madrid to a bloody denouement in Barcelona.

+44 (0)20 7993 6540 • www.historicaltrips.com



ROSL Battlefield Tour
July 2014

The countryside between the rivers Marne and Aisne is one of the most attractive areas of France, famous as the heart of the Champagne region. But the area was the scene of two crucial First World War battles. In 1914, French and British forces halted the German offensive, beginning the four-year trench stalemate. Then, in 1918, Allied troops began the attacks that signalled that the end of the war was in sight.

This is therefore an appropriate place for ROSL to begin its First World War Centenary programme. Led by military historian Michael Orr, the four-day trip will take place in early July 2014, and will also include popular activities such as champagne tasting, a walking tour of the historic city of Reims, and visits to local heritage sites.

Contact membersevents@rosl.org.uk for more details or to register your interest. Details will be finalised in February. Places are limited and will be given on a first come, first served basis.

Thursday 5 December

London Group
Christmas lunch



Over-Seas House London,
12.30 for 1pm

Three-course Christmas lunch with a wine and soft drinks reception, musical entertainment, wine and coffee, and a free prize draw. Apply to Celia Goh, London Group, c/o Over-Seas House, enclosing a stamped, addressed envelope. Tickets £50; LG members £45.

Sunday 8 December

Festival of Christmas
carols and readings



Hall of India and Pakistan, Over-Seas House London, 3.30pm
The annual ROSL Christmas service at St James's Church,

Piccadilly, followed by a festive tea with a visit from Father Christmas. Tickets £20. Guests welcome.

Monday 9 December

Foreign policy under
the Iron Lady

Over-Seas House London,
7-8.30pm

A Discussion Group talk by Lord Renwick of Clifton, Ambassador to Washington 1991-1995, whose recent book, *A Journey with Margaret Thatcher: Foreign policy under the Iron Lady*, will be on sale. Free.

Tuesday 10 December

Carol singing



Over-Seas House Edinburgh,
3-4pm

An afternoon of carol singing led by Brigitte Harris, choirmaster of St Andrew's and St George's West church choir, followed by tea, coffee and mince pies. Tickets £8.

Friday 13 December

Inter-Club Christmas Ball

The Hurlingham Club, time tba
Hit the Inter-Club website for your highly coveted tickets to the Younger Members' Christmas Ball. This year, the glamorous Hurlingham Club plays host, and their ambitious planning and beautiful grounds promise to make it a spectacular party. Visit www.inter-club.co.uk for details and booking information.

Wednesday 25 December

ROSL London
Christmas Day lunch



Hall of India and Pakistan, Over-Seas House London, midday

It's not too late to book Christmas Day lunch at ROSL. Book a space on one of our shared members' tables, or a private table just for your family or friends. Indulge in a festive, four-course fine-dining meal with half a bottle of wine, starting with a sparkling drinks reception. Then sit back and watch

the Queen's speech, followed by a visit from Santa.

For reservations call +44 (0)20 7629 0406. Tickets £84. Guests welcome.

Wednesday 25 December

ROSL Scotland
Christmas Day lunch

Over-Seas House Edinburgh,
12 for 12.30pm

Three-course Christmas lunch with a Kir Royale and canapés on arrival, coffee and mince pies, and gifts for all the family. Tickets £57.

Tuesday 31 December

Hogmanay dinner
and dance



Over-Seas House Edinburgh,
6 for 6.30pm

Watch the fireworks from the finest viewpoint in Edinburgh, and enjoy reception cocktails, a three-course meal with wine and champagne, and black bun and shortbread at midnight. Tickets £110; guests £125.

JANUARY 2014

Until Friday 24 January

MASK Art Prize
2013 exhibition

For details, see December listing.

Wednesday 1 January

New Year's Day lunch



Over-Seas House Edinburgh,
12 for 12.30pm

Glass of sparkling wine on arrival, followed by a two or three-course meal with wine and coffee. For reservations, call Restaurant 100 on +44 (0)131 2251501. Tickets two courses £23; three courses £26.

Thursday 2 January

NO First Thursdays

There will be no First Thursdays drinks because everyone will be recovering from NYE! However, the selected half-price drinks offer will be running in the bar as usual. Free.

Tuesday 7 January

Edinburgh film night



Over-Seas House Edinburgh,
5pm

Watch *Mrs Miniver*, the wartime classic starring Greer Garson, with coffee, popcorn and ice-cream. Tickets: £7.50.

Monday 13 January

Command Apprentices:
First World War experiences

Over-Seas House London,
7-8.30pm

Discussion Group talk on the

First World War experiences of British Second World War generals, with speaker Michael Orr, former Senior Lecturer in War Studies and Soviet Studies at RMA Sandhurst. Free.

Thursday 16 January

The City of London and
the Livery companies

Over-Seas House London, 6pm

London Group talk by Sally Muggeridge, Master Marketer at the Worshipful Company of Marketors. This City of London livery company for senior people in the marketing profession promotes excellence in its area of expertise, supporting the Lord Mayor and the City.

Its Royal Charter was approved in April 2010, when it joined more than 30 'modern' livery companies created since 1926. Sally's theme for 2013-14 is 'Great Brands make Britain Great'.

Free. LG members and overnight guests at Over-Seas House only.

Monday 20 January

Tour of the BBC's new
multimedia TV & radio studios



BBC Broadcasting House,
3.15pm

The original Broadcasting House was the first ever purpose-built broadcasting centre in the UK. Top architects, designers and artists have been involved in shaping the new Broadcasting House, which only became fully operational in April 2013.

On the tour, we are likely to see a camera eye's view into studios broadcasting programmes to the nation. Limited number of places available; early booking is recommended.

Tickets £17; LG members £15.

Saturday 25 January

Burn's Supper



Over-Seas House Edinburgh,
7pm

Celebrate the life and poetry of Scotland's favourite son, with a delicious three-course meal, wine and glass of whisky, followed by the Immortal Memory. A pioneer of the Romantic movement, Rabbie Burns is remembered and revered throughout the world as the national poet of Scotland. Tickets £33; guests £38.

Late January

Inter-Club quiz



The Oxford & Cambridge Club,
time tba

ROSL Younger Members, come and do your club proud! We need all the brain power we

can get to go up against the Landsdowne, the RAG, the RAC and all our other Inter-Club competitors. Hosted by the beacon of club academia, the Oxford and Cambridge Club, this event will put your wits to the test, while plying you with fine wine.

Visit www.inter-club.co.uk for details and booking information.

Thursday 30 January

Black-tie Dinner in
the Tower



Tower of London, 7pm

Could there be anything more thrillingly atmospheric than the Tower of London on a winter's night? ROSL's staple members' event, hosted by the Director-General Roddy Porter, is back and as brilliant as ever, with a champagne reception in the Fusilier Museum, a three-course meal in the Officers' Mess, and a viewing of the Ceremony of the Keys.

Dress up in your best attire and let the magic of the Tower transport you at this event that is sure to book up fast. Tickets £75. Guests welcome.

QUICK BOOKING INFORMATION

For full booking and
contact details, see page 34

ROSL ARTS
+44 (0)20 7408 0214 ext 219;
culture@rosl.org.uk

ROSL Scotland
+44 (0)131 225 1501;
www.rosl-edinburgh.org.uk

Members' events
Book online at www.rosl.org.uk;
membersevents@rosl.org.uk

London Group
Clive Carpenter;
+44 (0)7798 824193; clivedavidcarpenter@compuserve.com.
For outside trips: Doreen Regan
c/o Over-Seas House London

Younger Members
Book online at www.rosl.org.uk;
membersevents@rosl.org.uk

Discussion Group
No advanced booking required.

FEBRUARY

Early February

Inter-Club Burns Night

The Caledonian Club, time tba
It's a given that the club hosting Burns Night 2014 is the Caledonian, steeped in Scottish spirit and tradition. Guests will dine on haggis and drink the toast to the Lassies, Inter-Club style. Visit www.inter-club.co.uk for details and booking information.

Tuesday 4 February

ROSL tour of the Victoria & Albert Museum



V&A, London, 11.30am
We have liaised with national treasure, the V&A Museum, to produce a fantastic tour for members. Exploring the museum from its origins in the Great Exhibition of 1851 up to its 21st-century gallery designs, this 90-minute tour will open your eyes to a world of wonder. Tickets £15. Guests welcome.

Tuesday 4 February

Section final: Wind and percussion



Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 7pm
The finalists of the wind and percussion auditions compete in the Section Finals for the £5,000 prize and the chance to win the Gold Medal and First Prize at the ROSL Annual Music Competition Final on 8 May. Tickets £15; Friends of ROSL ARTS £12. Includes wine.

Wednesday 5 February

Edinburgh Arts lunch



Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 12 for 12.30pm
Delicious two-course lunch at the Edinburgh clubhouse, with a talk on 'Sharing cultural history between the UK and Romania' by Dr Mihai Delcea, Head of the Romanian Consular Office in Edinburgh. Includes a glass of wine and coffee. Tickets £19; guests £22.

Thursday 6 February

First Thursdays

Cocktail Bar, Over-Seas House London, from 6pm
Monthly Younger Members' half-price drinks night in the ROSL bar. Free. Guests welcome.

Monday 10 February

Guided tour of Merchant Taylors' Hall



30 Threadneedle Street, London, 10.45am
A London Group outside visit to the craft association of tailors and linen armourers,

Chairman's lunch & AGM

Tuesday 6 May, Hall of India and Pakistan, Over-Seas House London, midday
The biannual Chairman's Lunch, hosted by ROSL Chairman Sir Anthony Figgis, with reception drinks and a three-course lunch at Over-Seas House. The guest of honour and speaker will be General The Lord Dannatt GCB CBE MC DL. The AGM and ensuing reception will take place at 3.30pm. Tickets £58. Guests welcome.

incorporated by Royal Charter in 1327. Originally a religious and social fraternity, the Gild of Merchant Taylors controlled the trade by the end of the 15th century. Now known as the Merchant Taylors' Company, it is a philanthropic association, devoting its energies to educational and charitable activities. Limited number of places available; early booking is recommended. Tickets £17; LG members £15.

Monday 10 February

Women poets of the First World War

Over-Seas House London, 7-8.30pm
Audrey Arden-Jones, co-Founder of the Poetry and Music Ensemble, will discuss women's poetry in the Great War at this Discussion Group talk, accompanied by flautist Lucas Jordan and guitarist Fabricio Mattos, Free.

Tuesday 11 February

Section Final: Singers



Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 7pm
Finalists of the singing auditions compete in the Section Finals for the £5,000 prize and the chance to win the Gold Medal and First Prize at the ROSL Annual Music Competition on 8 May. Tickets £15; Friends of ROSL ARTS £12. Includes wine.

Friday 14 February

Murder, Margaret and Me



Members' Drawing Room, Over-Seas House London, 7pm
Could Miss Marple please report to reception! ROSL is bringing back one of the stand-out acts of the last Edinburgh Fringe Festival to perform in the intimate setting of the Members' Drawing Room. Award-winning actress Janet Price performs all of the play's three roles – Miss Marple, Margaret Rutherford and Agatha Christie – and gives us a glimpse of the story behind the story of this iconic character actress. Followed by a Q&A session with Janet Price. Tickets £22.50. Includes a glass of wine. Guests welcome.

Monday 17 February

Yehudi Menuhin School concert

Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 6.30pm
Students of the school return to perform at the clubhouse. Tickets £12; Friends of ROSL ARTS £10.

Tuesday 18 February

Edinburgh film night



Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 5pm
Watch the 1946 film noir *Gilda*, starring Rita Hayworth and Glenn Ford, with classic dance routines to 'Put the Blame on Mame' and 'Amado Mio'. Coffee, popcorn and ice-cream complete the cinematic experience. Tickets £7.50.



Prize performances

Don't miss the Section Finals of the ROSL Annual Music Competition 2014. The Finals for wind and strings, singers, strings, and keyboard are on 4, 11, 18 and 25 February; the ensembles are on 4 and 11 March; and the Overseas Award on 18 March. See ROSL ARTS listings on pages 32-34 for more information.

Tuesday 18 February

Section Final: Strings



Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 7pm
Finalists of the strings auditions compete in the Section Finals for the £5,000 prize and the chance to win the Gold Medal and First Prize at the ROSL Annual Music Competition on 8 May. Tickets £15; Friends of ROSL ARTS £12. Includes wine.

Thursday 20 February

The History of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company



Over-Seas House London, 6pm
London Group talk by Ian Martin, General Manager of

the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company. The company's origins can be traced back to the 1870s, when it was a professional light opera company, staging Gilbert and Sullivan's Savoy operas in the UK, Europe and North America. The company closed in 1982, was revived in 1988 and closed again in 2003. It returned to the stage earlier this year with *The Pirates of Penzance*. Free. LG members and overnight guests at Over-Seas House only.

Tuesday 25 February

Section Final: Keyboard



Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 7pm
The finalists of the keyboard auditions compete in the Section Finals for the £5,000 prize and the chance to win the Gold Medal and First Prize at the ROSL Annual Music Competition on 8 May. Tickets £15; Friends of ROSL ARTS £12. Includes wine.

Wednesday 5 March

Foreign & Commonwealth Office tour



FCO, London, 4pm
An exclusive insight into one of the grandest buildings in Whitehall, built in 1861. We are pleased to offer members the rare opportunity to take a tour of the FCO premises, which is steeped in political history and has been the site of world-changing decision-making, including the signing of the Locarno Treaties. Tickets £10. One guest per member.

Thursday 6 March

First Thursdays

Cocktail Bar, Over-Seas House London, from 6pm
Monthly Younger Members' half-price drinks night. Free. Guests welcome.

Monday 10 March

Commonwealth Day lunch

Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 12 for 12.30pm
Two-course lunch with guest speaker, sherry, coffee and a glass of wine.

QUICK BOOKING INFORMATION

For full booking and contact details, see page 34

ROSL ARTS
+44 (0)20 7408 0214 ext 219;
culture@rosl.org.uk

ROSL Scotland
+44 (0)131 225 1501;
www.rosl-edinburgh.org.uk

Members' events
Book online at www.rosl.org.uk;
membersevents@rosl.org.uk

London Group
Clive Carpenter;
+44 (0)7798 824193; clivedavidcarpenter@compuserve.com.
For outside trips: Doreen Regan
c/o Over-Seas House London

Younger Members
Book online at www.rosl.org.uk;
membersevents@rosl.org.uk

Discussion Group
No advanced booking required.

EVENTS

Monday 10 March

Commonwealth Day Service



Westminster Abbey, London, time tba

A multi-faith service, held annually to celebrate the Commonwealth of Nations at Westminster Abbey, in the presence of HM The Queen. A £6 administration charge applies. Tickets £6. One guest per member.

Monday 10 March

Talk on 'The Middle East'



Over-Seas House London, 7-8.30pm

A Discussion Group talk with speaker Lord Michael Williams of Baglan, Distinguished Visiting Fellow at Chatham House and the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon. Free.

Tuesday 11 March

Section Final: Ensembles B

Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 7pm
Finalists of the Ensemble A auditions (wind; percussion; vocal; mixed ensembles) compete for the £10,000 prize and the chance to perform at the ROSL Annual Music Competition Final on 8 May. Tickets: £15, Friends of ROSL ARTS £12. Includes wine.

Tuesday 18 March

Overseas Awards

Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 7pm
Listen to a selection of gifted non-UK musicians from the 2014

Section Finals as they compete for outstanding Commonwealth musician awards.

Tickets £15; Friends of ROSL ARTS £12. Includes wine.

Tuesday 18 March

Edinburgh film night



Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 5pm

Watch *Meet Me in St Louis*, the 1944 musical starring Judy Garland, Margaret O'Brien and Mary Astor, with coffee, popcorn and ice-cream. Tickets £7.50.

Wednesday 19 March

Music at 100 Princes Street



Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 6pm

Performance from the Busch Ensemble piano trio.

March

Inter-Club comedy night



The Savage Club, time tba

It promises to be a savage night at the Inter-Club comedy evening – pun intended! Come along to this venerable club. It's going to be a laugh and a half. Visit www.inter-club.co.uk for details and booking information.

FULL BOOKING INFORMATION & CONTACT DETAILS

■ ROSL ARTS

For bookings contact:
+44 (0)20 7408 0214 ext 219;
culture@rosl.org.uk

■ ROSL Scotland

For bookings contact:
Over-Seas House Edinburgh;
+44 (0)131 225 1501;
reception@rosl-edinburgh.org

■ Members' events

Book online at www.rosl.org.uk/ events
Booking confirmations will be sent within 14 days of payment. To reserve a ticket for popular events or if you have trouble booking online, contact Sara Brouwer. To pay by cheque, please send separate cheques (sterling) for each event, payable to 'ROSL', to Members' Events, Marketing Department, Over-Seas House, Park Place, St James's Street, London SW1A 1LR.
Contact: Sara Brouwer, membersevents@rosl.org.uk; +44 (0)20 7016 6906.

■ Younger Members

For members aged 35 and under. Book online at www.rosl.org.uk/ events
Inter-Club events must be booked independently; visit www.inter-club.co.uk for details. For information about the ROSL YM programme join the YM Facebook page at facebook.com/groups/roslym or contact: Sara Brouwer, membersevents@rosl.org.uk; or Ross Lima, ross.lima@gmail.com

■ London Group

Talks and outside visits are open to London Group members, their guests and ROSL members staying at Over-Seas House London. To become a member, request an application form from Clive Carpenter (details below). Talks are drop-in and held once a month at Over-Seas

House London on Thursday evenings at 6pm.

Outside visits can be booked by sending a cheque payable to 'London Group, Royal Over-Seas League' and a stamped, addressed envelope to Doreen Regan (details below). Cancellations and refund requests must be made at least two weeks before the event.

Please note that the London Group is a voluntary organisation and cannot take outside visit inquiries and bookings by email or telephone, only by post. Tickets are sent approximately 10 days in advance.

Contact: Clive Carpenter, +44 (0)7798 824193; clivedavidcarpenter@compuserve.com.
Outside visits contact: Doreen Regan, London Group, c/o Porters' Desk, Over-Seas House, Park Place, St James's Street, London SW1A 1LR.

■ Discussion Group

Meetings are held at Over-Seas House London on Monday evenings. There is no charge, no need to book and all ROSL members and guests are welcome.
Contact: John Edwards, +44 (0)1732 883556; johncoatesedward@aol.com

Visit www.rosl.org.uk/events for more information on the full programme of events.



VENICE

Palazzo Sant'Angelo
**** Deluxe

Winter is a wonderful time to explore the atmospheric streets and canals of Venice without the tourist crowds. The Sant'Angelo, with its excellent location on the Grand Canal between the Rialto and Accademia Bridges, is housed in a grand Venetian palazzo. The building has been lovingly transformed into a charming boutique hotel with just 28 bedrooms decorated in a rich, traditional Venetian style.

3 nights for the price of 2 from
1 November to 20 March
- price from £548, saving £100

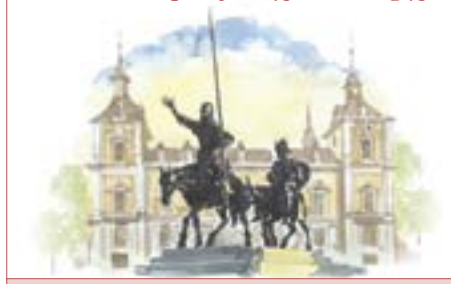
Includes Doge's Palace, Accademia or Guggenheim tickets and water taxi transfers.

MADRID

Tryp Ambassador ****

An intimate, first class hotel situated in the heart of Madrid some ten minutes' walk from the Royal Palace, the Opera House and the Plaza Mayor. The public rooms, all decorated in a most attractive Madrid town house style, include a large lounge with glass roof, a bar and restaurant (buffet breakfast included). The 163 bedrooms are very comfortable and furnished with considerable taste.

4 nights for the price of 3 from 1 November to 17 March - price from £595, saving £73



Includes tickets to the Prado Museum, Thyssen or Reina Sofia

SHORT BREAK HOLIDAYS

FOR DISCERNING TRAVELLERS

Kirker Holidays provides carefully crafted tailor-made holidays to over 140 destinations in 40 countries - including 70 classic cities and over 250 relaxing rural locations throughout Europe, North Africa, Southern Africa and India.

The Kirker Concierge will arrange opera and ballet tickets, pre-book museums, galleries and private guided tours, and reserve a table for a delicious dinner at a recommended restaurant.

Prices are per person and include flights (Eurostar for Paris), return transfers or car hire, accommodation with breakfast, Kirker Guide Notes to restaurants, museums and sightseeing and the services of the Kirker Concierge.

PARIS

Pont Royal **** Superior

Located right in the heart of Saint Germain-des-Près, just five minutes' walk from the river, this traditional boutique hotel is renowned for its literary connections. The 75 bedrooms and suites have original modern paintings and marble bathrooms. The hotel is home to Joel Robuchon's two michelin-star restaurant, L'Atelier (the Kirker Concierge can make an advance table reservation).



3 nights for the price of 2 from
1 November to 31 March
- price from £594, saving £157

Includes 48 hr Paris museum pass, Seine river cruise & metro tickets

ST PETERSBURG

Hotel Astoria ***** Deluxe

The lovingly restored Hotel Astoria has played a key part in the city's history since it opened in 1912. With wonderful views of St. Isaac's Cathedral and the Mariinsky Palace, the hotel is within easy walking distance of Nevsky Prospect and the Hermitage Museum. The 'Davidov' restaurant serves traditional Russian and international cuisine, and there are 188 stylish bedrooms.



3 nights for the price of 2 until 31 March
- price from £1,098, saving £145

Includes complimentary room upgrade, Russian visa service and Hermitage walking tour.

BERLIN

Brandenburger Hof
***** Superior

Occupying a palatial and secluded city centre location, the Brandenburger Hof is a very attractive, privately owned hotel. Opened in 1991 this turn of the century Wilhelminian residence has an excellent restaurant and 82 luxurious rooms that have been decorated in the Bauhaus style.

3 nights for the price of 2 from
1 November to 30 April - price from £693, saving £141

OPERA TICKETS

The Kirker Concierge is able to book tickets for your chosen performance, or provide information on performances in any Kirker destination.

1914 - 2014 | THE WWI CENTENARY

We are marking this significant anniversary with three different tours: Istanbul & Gallipoli, The Western Front - Ypres, Arras and Amiens and a study weekend at Wolfson College, Oxford.

ISTANBUL & GALLIPOLI

A NINE NIGHT ESCORTED HOLIDAY | 3 JUNE 2014

From Homer's Troy to Rupert Brooke's Gallipoli the military history and legacy of the Trojans, Greeks, Byzantines and the Ottomans will be explored on this holiday to one of the world's great melting pots.

After four nights in Istanbul during which we visit Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace, the Archaeological Museum, the Naval Museum and the Florence Nightingale Museum the tour will move to Çanakkale. Visits will be made to Troy and to the Gallipoli battlefield sites at Cape Helles and the Anzac site.



Price £1,990 per person including flights, six dinners, four lunches and the services of our Tour Lecturer Dr Neil Faulkner.

Speak to an expert or request a brochure:

020 7593 2283 quote code GRO

www.kirkerholidays.com



Kirker
FOR DISCERNING TRAVELLERS



BULGARIAN MONASTERIES, SEPTEMBER 20 – OCTOBER 4, 2014

Bulgaria's stunning natural landscape is only surpassed by the wealth of its cultural inheritance.

Worldwide Cultural Tours

Established in 1958, ACE Cultural Tours is the UK's most experienced cultural travel tour operator, offering small group tours that open new doors and bring to life the places you visit.

Cultural experiences, not just tours

Our tours cover every aspect of the arts, from fine art, architecture, archaeology and history to music, theatre and the natural world, many providing exclusive access to people and places.

Hosted by experts

Our Tour Directors are true specialists and engaging hosts, keen to share their knowledge and passion.

Like-minded travellers

Our travellers share a curiosity for cultural subjects, and our small groups are particularly welcoming for the single traveller.

Five decades of Philanthropy

Owned by the charity, the ACE Foundation, all our profits support the communities that host our tours or worldwide educational projects.



ROUTE OF CARAVAGGIO



NORTHERN LIGHTS



HAYDN IN EISENSTADT



SECRET HISTORY OF THE MONGOLS

To request our new 2014 brochure call 01223 841055 or email ace@aceculturaltours.co.uk



ACE CULTURAL TOURS



The Granary, Bury Farm, Stapleford, Cambridge, CB22 5BP, England Tel: 01223 841 055 ace@aceculturaltours.co.uk www.aceculturaltours.co.uk