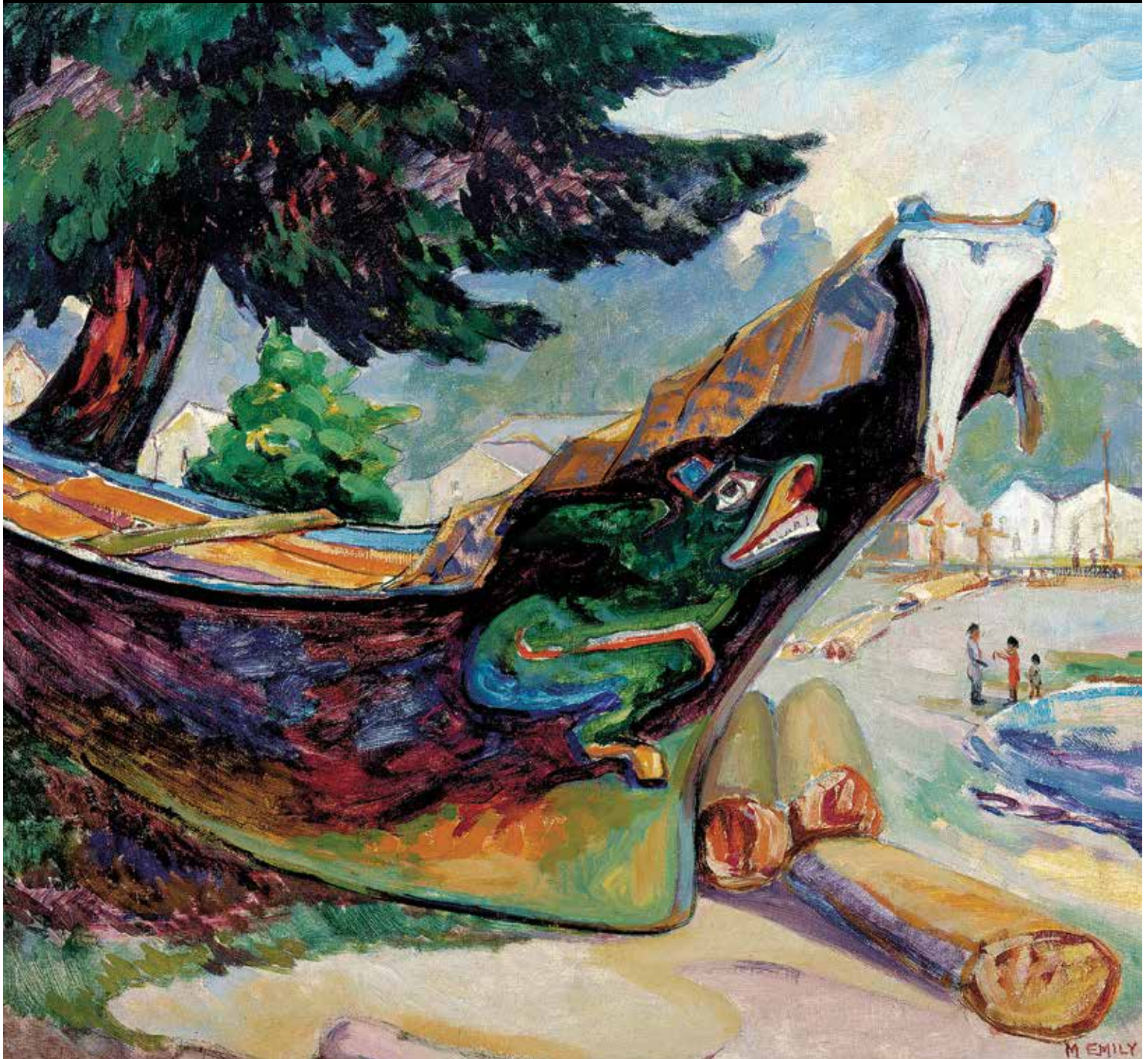


# OVERSEAS

Quarterly journal of the ROSL

Issue 4, December 2014-February 2015



## **Brave men of Canada**

Remembering the soldiers who became the 'shock troops' for the Allies during WWI

## **Chef of the moment**

New Head Chef Kevin Casizzi takes us inside the ROSL kitchen to reveal his inspirations

## **First Nations reach up**

How indigenous Canadians are creating new opportunities for their communities

## **Trips of a lifetime**

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## OVERSEAS

ISSUE 4 December 2014-February 2015

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**FRONT COVER:** 'Indian War Canoe (Alert Bay)' by Canadian artist Emily Carr (1912, oil on  
cardboard, 65 x 95.5cm). Given to the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts by A Sidney Dawes



## From the Director-General

This year we have taken a different approach to Christmas in London, offering you a package of events, with bedrooms included in the price. We are keen to welcome single members, couples and family groups to enjoy a relaxed and convivial Christmas in the clubhouse, including a range of activities, from the glorious Christmas Day feast, through clubhouse carols, to an invigorating guided walking tour on Boxing Day. We published news about these packages in the last issue and offer them again on page 29. We hope a good number of you will celebrate with us.

I have had the privilege of an extended visit to Canada this October, and I would like to say a big public 'thank you' to Liz Murray (British Columbia), Cynthia Cordery (Alberta), Ishrani Jaikaran (Ontario) and Liz Stern (Nova Scotia), not only for their dedicated work as chapter presidents, but also for organising such a comprehensive programme. A series of lunches enabled me to meet a great many members, and with calls on Lieutenant Governors, business with reciprocal clubs and the opportunity to explore the countryside, Marianne and I have been well looked after. We were, as ever, greatly encouraged by the affection with which ROSL is held in Canada; it was there that Sir Evelyn Wrench's ideas for the Over-Seas Club began to crystallise.

I am also grateful to Madeline King for organising lunch at the Glencoe Club, Maureen Milne for the reception in Toronto, and Ishrani Jaikaran and Roderick Lakin for

the wonderful concert at the Royal Canadian Military Institute. To all our Canadian members, our grateful thanks and appreciation for everything you do for ROSL. We look forward to welcoming you back to Edinburgh and London very soon.

This is the time to update your membership subscription, so if you haven't received a renewal notice, please let us know. You can now renew your subscription online, and I also encourage you to set up a Direct Debit, which makes the process much easier all round. If you have family, colleagues or friends who are interested in becoming members, they can now join at any time of the year, with automatic renewal through Direct Debit.

We have some exciting events for 2015, including a refreshed approach to the Festival Fringe in Edinburgh, more clubhouse-based performances, a wine tour to Burgundy, a battlefield tour, Waterloo-themed ball, concerts, book events and art weekends (see pages 26-34). And please don't forget our black-tie winter ceilidh at Over-Seas House London on 30 January (page 30).

Finally, I would like to pay a heartfelt thanks to all the staff in London and Edinburgh, to Graysons and to Cobbs, for their wonderful work throughout the year. Without their dedication, we would not be able to serve you, our members, or provide you with the rich programme of activities that makes ROSL unique. To members and staff alike, a very happy Christmas!

**Roddy Porter**

**AT THE TOWER:** Roddy Porter reads *Overseas* with a Yeoman Warder, resurrecting an old tradition of members posing with a copy of the journal in interesting or unusual locations



## Editor's letter

In 2015, we mark the centenary of *Overseas*, and I feel privileged to be Editor of this wonderful publication as it celebrates its 100th year. The journal archives are a treasure trove of information, not only about the history of the ROSL, but about the changing concerns and challenges for people across the Commonwealth, the successes of our musicians and artists, and the contribution of ROSL humanitarian projects, starting with its tremendous war effort.

We will be commemorating the anniversary throughout the year and particularly in the December issue, so do send any memories you have of the journal to [editor@rosl.org.uk](mailto:editor@rosl.org.uk). We have uncovered a lovely *Overseas* tradition of members sending in pictures of themselves reading the journal in exotic settings, which we have resurrected on this page (my own picture was taken on a recent trip to Berlin). Do send in your photos for us to publish on these pages or online.

In this issue, we take Canada as our Focus, following the Director-General's successful tour of the country. I was interested to discover that the Women's World Cup 2015 is being used as a springboard to increase confidence and participation in sport for women and girls (page 5); while an equally inspiring project is helping to increase employment opportunities for young indigenous people and their communities (page 6).

ROSL supports talented musicians and artists from across the Commonwealth, including a number of Canadian artists who have gone on to have illustrious international careers. I was fortunate enough to hear soprano Gillian Keith perform recently in a concert of the Walthamstow Collective of Baroque Musicians; we follow Gillian and other successful ROSL musicians from Canada on page 8; and ROSL visual arts scholars from Canada and beyond on pages 9 and 13.

Finally, I do hope you will be joining me at some of the fantastic events ROSL has organised for the festive season (see pages 28-34), as well as other events close to the clubhouses. If you're finding it hard to choose, have a look at our Top 10 on page 25. Happy Christmas!

**Miranda Moore**



© Martin Bazyl Photography

# A goal of equality

**Christine Wilde** discovers how the Women's World Cup 2015 in Canada is helping women and girls to achieve their goals

If I asked you to name the top football players of all time, who would you choose? Pele, Maradona, Messi? How about Fifa Player of the Century, Sun Wen or US striker Amy Wambach, who has scored more international goals than any other player? That most of us haven't heard of them is testament to the vast inequality that exists within the sport: media coverage of women's football remains little more than a footnote in most parts of the world. But Canada is beginning to buck the trend.

"Our Women's Under-20 quarter-final outdrew other soccer games that were on TV that weekend," observed Victor Montagliani, President of the Canadian Soccer Association (CSA), following the U-20 Women's World Cup in Canada this summer. "I've seen little boys wearing [Canada star] Christine Sinclair jerseys. I'm not sure that happens anywhere else. I think the game here transcends gender... it's really about the game in its entirety."

Hosting both the Women's U-20 in 2014 and Women's World Cup in 2015, Canada is leading the charge in football equality. The country may be known for its ice hockey, but soccer is the largest participatory sport, and

*"The game here transcends gender... It's about football in its entirety"*

43% of registered players are female. With the third largest number of women players in the world (behind the traditional giants Germany and the USA), the CSA is hoping to take the momentum from the U-20 World Cup into the 2015 competition.

Fifa launched the Live Your Goals (LYG) global campaign in 2011 to inspire the next generation of players. The initiative encourages young women to participate in the sport, aiming to increase their confidence while raising awareness of the social and health benefits of the 'beautiful game'.

Featuring top players, such as Christine Sinclair, Brazil's Marta Vieira da Silva and Germany's Kim Kulig, the campaign highlights the barriers women continue to face when establishing themselves in the world of

**GAINING CONFIDENCE:** Girls at a training session in Toronto during the Women's U-20 World Cup 2014 (above)



football and in wider culture, both socially and politically. “Living your goals doesn’t just mean football,” said LYG role model Abby Wambach. “It’s about being a powerful, strong woman. It means being in the executive boardroom.”

Unsurprisingly, Canada has embraced the LYG initiative, hosting four events in the build-up to the U-20 contest. More than 750 young players aged 8-12 participated in football festivals across Canada. In Toronto, the August sun shone on 200 eager participants as they took part in matches and skills challenges before meeting Canadian soccer stars Josée Belanger and Melanie Booth, and having their picture taken with the U-20 World Cup trophy.

“Live Your Goals is, for me, one of the best programmes we can have, as it centres all the attention on girls and women,” said Mayrillian Cruz Blanco, Fifa Senior Women’s Football Development Manager. “We think it will be a great opportunity for them and hopefully they’ll want to continue playing.”

This enthusiasm has been replicated around the world. In September alone, LYG events took place in countries from Armenia to Panama. Supported by representatives from their national teams, the festivals have given thousands of young women the chance to play football in a safe and positive environment. “I cannot believe where women’s soccer has come,” said Sinclair. “Hopefully one day it will become as big as men’s soccer.”



Images © Martin Beck Photography



**BUILDING MOMENTUM:**  
A Fifa Live Your Goals event at Esther Shiner Stadium in Toronto (above and top)



## FOCUS

# First Nations

The project helping indigenous Canadian

**O**n a Friday morning in September, six young people stand on a spread of thick wool fabric, laid out on a basement floor in Ottawa. They are participating in the blanket exercise – a workshop illustrating the effects of European settlement on indigenous territory. It’s an emotional experience, and just one of the cultural exercises in a new pilot programme for young people of First Nations, Métis and Inuit backgrounds.

ReachUp! North aims to empower indigenous youth to become leaders of change in the communities where they live. Uniquely, the programme is being run by young indigenous people. That’s long overdue, says programme coordinator Gabrielle Fayant. The youth-led indigenous organisation Assembly of Seven Generations (A7G), of which she is a Founder, recently partnered with Digital Opportunity Trust (DOT), an Ottawa-based international non-profit, to deliver ReachUp! North.

Six college and university graduates from various indigenous backgrounds, and diverse areas of Canada, will deliver the pilot. Over the next nine months, they will coach 200 of their peers through entrepreneurship, workforce readiness, and empowerment learning experiences, so they have the skills to create new opportunities for themselves and end the cycle of obstacles affecting indigenous youth.

“Indigenous young people face an intersecting conundrum of problems,” explains Fayant. “There are the problems faced by many youth, like lack of employment opportunities and a shortage of resources, but there is the added difficulty of trying to fit into the modern world while still keeping our culture strong.”

Balancing job opportunities with culture is the reason ReachUp! North integrates several traditional teachings into the programme. In addition to covering entrepreneurship basics, the project includes discussions

**ONE VOICE:**  
Reach Up! North Coordinator Gabrielle Fayant (above left)

**GROWING OPPORTUNITY:**  
Intern Leland MacLeod (above) is determined to increase employment in small communities

# reach for tomorrow

youth create a better future for their communities. By Hilary Duff

of the clan system, medicine wheel practices, the blanket exercise and other cultural experiences.

## Bringing opportunities home

It was the pairing of entrepreneurship and culture that appealed to Leland MacLeod, one of six ReachUp! North facilitators. MacLeod is Métis – a mix of First Nations and European descent. His grandmother was from Newfoundland on the East Coast of Canada, but left because of a lack of employment opportunities. That’s why he wants to bring the lessons of ReachUp! North back to Newfoundland.

“There’s a lot of opportunity for tourism there,” he says. “ReachUp! North will help give people the tools they need to start their own businesses and to create opportunities for themselves, so hopefully they will be able to actually stay in those small communities and raise their families there.”

Although the scheme launched in Ottawa, the aim is to expand to other parts of Canada over the coming years. “Wherever the programme grows, indigenous youth and elders from those communities will be involved in adapting it for that area,” Fayant says. “It’s not one size fits all, it’s about meeting people where they’re at.”

## International links

Created by DOT, ReachUp! is an international youth leadership and empowerment programme operating in Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. The initiative in Ottawa is the first time DOT has worked on home soil since it was founded in 2002. “This is a very special programme for us, and we’ve certainly wanted to help youth right here in Canada for a long time,” said Grant Thomas, DOT Vice President of Strategic Development.

The organisation aims to help young people to use technology to become self-reliant; not just to support

*“Indigenous youth and elders will be involved... It’s not one size fits all”*

them in gaining employment, but to empower them to create new networks and employment opportunities for themselves and their peers.

“I think indigenous youth in Canada and young people in other parts of the world face similar obstacles,” explains Thomas. “DOT’s involvement means the ReachUp! North youth become part of a global network, and can talk to other young people – from Kenya and from Lebanon – about their challenges and work through them together.”

DOT can also learn from ReachUp! North’s cultural programme, says Thomas. “It’s a model that can be applied in other countries where DOT works, where that sense of identity and history has led to young people feeling disassociated from society.” For Fayant, this sense of isolation and detachment can be mitigated, in part, by providing young people with role models. That’s the final goal she has for ReachUp! North. “I hope we can give indigenous youth examples of leaders who aren’t just seeing them as subjects but are actually walking beside them,” she says. “We need to show Canada and other indigenous communities that our youth are really stepping up and getting things done in a good way.”

See [www.dotrust.org/programs/reachup](http://www.dotrust.org/programs/reachup) for further details of DOT’s Reach Up! programmes or to donate.

*Hilary Duff is Communications Officer at Digital Opportunity Trust in Ottawa.*



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## FOCUS

# A time for Canadian musicians to shine

**Katy Wright** talks to some of ROSL's most talented artists to find out what their Canadian roots have brought to their music

**NATIONAL PRIDE:**  
Soprano Gillian Keith has had a glowing career since winning the Annual Music Competition

Canadian musicians are currently enjoying a surge of success. With the careers of pianist Jan Lisiecki, conductor Yannick Nézet-Séguin and 1997 ROSL Canadian Music Scholar Karina Gauvin going from strength to strength, the country seems to be producing a stream of world-class performers. But just what is it that has helped them to thrive?

Catherine Gray, winner of the 2014 ROSL Canadian Music Scholarship, believes that the accomplishments of her compatriots can be attributed to the opportunities offered from a young age. "The Royal Conservatory of Music reaches out to communities across Canada and teaches music lessons. There are hundreds of thousands of students who enrol on these programmes," she explains. "I was accepted into the Canadian National Youth Orchestra a few years ago, and I had some life-changing experiences as a result. It's a very special programme."

Soprano Gillian Keith, 1998 ROSL Annual Music Competition (AMC) Gold Medallist, agrees. "There's a great music education system in Canada, which has produced some great artists." Support from ROSL also provides a tremendous boost to young musicians at the start of their careers.

Having triumphed in the AMC, Gillian has maintained close contact with ROSL for more than 15 years.

*"Whether we're in Canada or out in the wider world, we've made a big mark"*

"They are there solely to promote you; there's no self-interest. I'm one of thousands, and yet they care about every single person," she says.

Now a seasoned professional with numerous international engagements, Gillian jumped at the chance to support a new generation of musicians when she was asked to adjudicate for the AMC in 2011. Among the finalists in the prestigious contest are Canadians Nathan Berg *baritone* (1992), cellist Eric Han (1987) and violinist Sadie Fields (2010), who are all making a name for themselves internationally. The promising young chamber group, the Afiara Quartet, performed at the recent ROSL gala concert at the Royal Canadian Military Institute, as part of Director-General Roddy Porter's tour of the country in October.

## An international platform

Although Gillian expresses pride in her nationality and is keen to maintain her performance links with Canada in the future, she stresses that young musicians have to establish their careers at an international level. "Music is an international language, and musicians have to be able to go and meet other musicians across the world. It's great when you have a chance to do that, like I did. The relationships which the League helped me to form with musicians, publishers and composers have been invaluable." However, she admits: "It's quite ironic that you often have to go to foreign lands to make your name. I've chosen to make my career outside Canada."

This ethos of international collaboration is also important to pianist Carson Becke, a winner in this year's AMC and Director of the Festival Pontiac Enchanté, a small festival near the Ottawa River. "I'm trying to pair musicians from Ottawa with musicians from Europe as part of the festival, so they can collaborate with people that they might not usually meet. The variety of music-making that's possible in the UK is not yet possible in Canada, and I can hopefully make some contribution to that. A small-scale concert series doesn't happen in Canada very often."

Carson attributes his international career to his proactive approach. "I go out of my way to put together my own concerts and projects; I don't just wait for things to arrive in my lap." In 2014, he secured funding to record three CDs and put on concerts in three countries, all centred around music by Strauss. "I'm a self-motivated, self-directed musician, and that has helped me a lot," says Carson, who is working towards an MPhil at the University of Oxford.

## Making a mark

Education has also been important for Catherine, who got involved with ROSL this year when she successfully auditioned for the Commonwealth Strings project with the Scottish Ensemble, while in her final year at Toronto's Royal College of Music. Before long, she was embarking on a tour around the UK, which gave her the opportunity to establish links with performers from across the world.

As she works towards a Masters at Yale University, new professional opportunities continue to appear, including numerous recitals and a position as a reserve for the Canadian Opera Company. As Gillian puts it: "Canada produces great musicians, and whether we're in Canada or out in the wider world, we've made a big mark."

# Quality of the north

**Christine Wilde** talks to two ROSL artists about their inspirations and the characteristics of Canadian art



**Julie Favreau**  
ROSL 2014 Visual Arts Scholar

"I work with dancers and choreographers, put them in relationship with sculpture, and observe the connection between the two to create a performance, photograph, art installation or video. I have always been interested in the relationship between choreography and visual

arts; when I started in 2005, that wasn't common but lately, in Montreal, there's a true interest in dance, movement and performance.

At Hospitalfield House Arts, you can imagine that someone stood in the very same spot as you and gazed at the landscape long ago. But in Canada there is so much space that you can look at a mountain or landscape and imagine that you are the first person at this place. When I went to New York, people said there is a quality of the 'north' in my work – a kind of contemplation you find in

countries where there is more nature and time; a slowness. If I'd been from a country that's busier, I think the pace in my work would be totally different.

There is a strong community of artists in Montreal, because it's possible to have the space to research and commit to the work. Canadian artists are also international artists: we are defined by our work in our respective cities but also by our participation in the international conversation in visual arts. We are aware of what is within and without."

**DANCE MOVES:**  
Julie Favreau (top); and a detail of her work 'an entire day an entire month' (above)



## Jordy Hamilton ROSL 2012 Visual Arts Scholar

A lot of art that's made in Canada relates directly to the landscape, such as the paintings of the 'Group of Seven' landscape artists – the lakes in Ontario or the mountains in British Columbia. I'd describe myself as a reluctant conceptual artist who prefers to paint; my work doesn't deal with the landscape in an explicit way, but it does deal with the idea of escape and freedom. Canada is so big and there is so much open space; I think contemporary Canadian art deals with the landscape more in terms of the subconscious, and how space and time affect daily human lives.

Coming from Vancouver, I think the most interesting work is coming from young artists from First Nations backgrounds. I have a friend who is of Haida descent, and the art that he and his contemporaries are making about how the native identity in Canada is changing seems really important.

**ESCAPE ARTIST:**  
Jordy at the last Visual Arts Scholars exhibition at the Oxo Tower in 2013







FOCUS

# A nation forged in fire

**Hugh Brewster** reveals the contribution made by Canadian troops in WWI and how the Great War shaped the identity and future of a nation

They think of nothing but drinking and getting into all the trouble they can," Private Roy Macfie wrote home in November 1914. A farm boy from Parry Sound, Ontario, Macfie thought that the Canadians were earning a bad reputation at their training camp in England. Only weeks before, they had been greeted as conquering heroes by the citizens of Plymouth, who had turned out to cheer their arrival as the first contingent from the overseas dominions to come to the aid of the Mother Country.

But not much had gone right since then. The biggest problem was the unceasing rain that was turning their camp on Salisbury Plain into a sea of mud. The boys from Canada quickly escaped to the nearest pubs, where the strong English beer caused drunken brawls. "Ill-disciplined, untrained, colonial rabble," was one British officer's assessment – an opinion soon echoed by others. Nonetheless, by February 1915, the War Office had decided that the First Canadian Division was ready to be sent to France. Their training on Salisbury Plain had been spotty, but troops were needed at the Front.

As they crouched in trenches outside Ypres on 22 April 1915, the Canadians saw gasping, retching French colonial soldiers fleeing towards them. Chlorine gas – 160 tonnes of it – had been released by the Germans on the Allied lines, the first use of poison gas in the war. As the deadly clouds swirled towards them, the Canadians were told to urinate on their handkerchiefs and cover their faces. While other units fled, they held the line and the enemy advance was stopped.

The colonial rabble had proved themselves in battle but at terrible cost – 6,700 were left dead or wounded. One

of those lost was a 22-year-old lieutenant from Ottawa named Alexis Helmer, who was buried beneath a wooden cross in an Ypres cemetery. The spring poppies blooming between the rows of graves inspired Helmer's close friend, an army doctor named John McCrae, to write a poem he called 'In Flanders Fields.'

## Shock troops

When the Somme offensive began on 1 July 1916, the Canadians were spared the bloodbath on the first day, though soldiers from Newfoundland, then a separate British dominion, were not. Of the 801 Newfoundlanders who advanced near the village of Beaumont-Hamel that day, only 68 reported for roll-call the next morning.

The Somme would eventually claim 24,000 Canadian casualties, many of them sustained during an assault near the village of Courcellette.

"The Canadians,"

Lloyd George would write, "played a part of such distinction that thenceforward they were marked out as shock troops; for the remainder of the war they were brought in to head the assault in one great battle after another."

**BATTLEGROUND:**  
Cambrai ablaze on 9 October 1918 (top)

**POSTCARD HOME:**  
Canadians cheer their victory after the Battle of Courcellette (below)

**TRAINING:**  
Record rainfall in the winter of 1914-15 made training on Salisbury Plain difficult for Canadian recruits (top right)



*The colonial rabble had proved themselves in battle but at terrible cost*



The seizing of Vimy Ridge, on 9-12 April 1917, further burnished the reputation of the Canadians. King George V came to Vimy and knighted Arthur Currie, the Canadian general who had played a key role in planning the attack. Currie was soon made corps commander and, for the first time, the Canadians reported to one of their own. A skilled tactician, Currie led the Canadians to hard-won victories at Hill 70 and Passchendaele, and in the 'Hundred Days' offensive from August to November 1918. Allied generalissimo Marshal Foch called the Canadians "the battering ram" for their victories at Amiens, the Drocourt-Quéant Line, Cambrai and Valenciennes.

## Canada is born

At 6.30am on 11 November 1918, the first Canadians entered the Belgian town of Mons, and it was then that Currie received word that all hostilities would cease at 11am. As the cheering townspeople embraced their liberators, the Canadians felt relief but little joy, hardly believing that the war was over and they had survived.

The men – and women – who had served on the Western Front came home to a war-weary country. From a population of eight million, Canada had lost 61,000 of its youngest and finest citizens, and 172,000 had been wounded in body and mind. To help staunch the grief, memorialising – and myth-making – began almost immediately. A new, more independent Canada had been forged in fire on the Western Front, it was said. Vimy Ridge was hailed as 'the hill where Canada was born' and plans were launched for a shining monument to be built atop it.

Today, the Vimy monument remains a major pilgrimage site for Canadians and will be the scene of Canada's largest Great War commemoration on 9 April 2017. Some decry 'the Vimy myth' as a glorification of war. Yet it is rare to meet a Canadian who has visited Vimy Ridge, and the graves of the young Canadians surrounding it, who has not been profoundly moved by the experience.

*ROSL member Hugh Brewster is the author of 15 historical books, including From Vimy to Victory: Canada's Fight to the Finish in World War I, published by Scholastic.*

# A heroes' memorial

**Roddy Porter**

pays tribute to the brave men who lost their lives in the Somme at the Newfoundland Memorial Park

© Roddy Porter



Spending time at the Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Memorial is a moving and inspiring experience. One of only two Canadian national memorials outside of Canada (the other is the Canadian National Vimy Memorial), the site in northern France commemorates the men of the Dominion of Newfoundland who were killed during the First World War. The largest regimental memorial in the Somme, the 74-acre battlefield park includes the ground over which the regiment launched an ill-fated assault at 'zero hour' on 1 July 1916, the first day of the Battle of the Somme.

They had fought hard in the Gallipoli Campaign, but this was their first major engagement on the Western Front. The assault lasted just 30 minutes, during which time the regiment was all but wiped out; of the 801 men who climbed out of the St John's Road trenches at 9.15am, only about 110 survived unscathed, and only 68 of those were present at roll-call the following day. Walking through the memorial park today, it is not hard to see why. The ground is not favourable, and the enemy had access to fields of unimpeded observation and fire.

The memorial is a fitting tribute to these brave men from Newfoundland, which became Canada's tenth province in 1949. The preserved trench lines and the pock-marked, shell-churned terrain of no man's land provide a sobering lesson on trench warfare, even 100 years on. The park speaks of the difficulties of frontal assaults on well-defended positions with accurately sited machine guns.

It is now a very peaceful place, studded with small military cemeteries and memorials to individual units. The petrified 'Danger Tree' – the only tree that survived in no man's land – is a stark indicator of how short a distance they were able to advance: it was a landmark around which the shattered regiment gathered, only to take further mass casualties to artillery shrapnel.

The park is professionally and sympathetically curated by young volunteers from Canada. I have walked many of the Western Front battlefields over the years, but the Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Memorial is, for me, the most articulate silent witness to the desperate heroism and muddy, bloody horror of those events a century ago, which we commemorate today.

**A MOVING EXPERIENCE:**  
The bronze caribou statue in the Memorial Park. The caribou was the emblem of the Newfoundland Regiment



JOHN PERLIN'S



# St John's, Newfoundland



John Perlin / Photo via Flickr (CC BY-SA 2.0) / Karen Nield / Panorama via Flickr (CC BY 2.0)

## St John's is considered to be North America's oldest city. What can you tell us about its history?

Newfoundland was discovered by John Cabot in 1497. In 1583, Sir Humphrey Gilbert arrived to take possession of Newfoundland as the first colony in what became the British Empire. Even at that time, St John's harbour was crowded with fishing boats from European countries seeking their share of the cod that abounded there. Newfoundland was recognised as a dominion in 1919, and the people voted to become Canada's tenth province in 1949. St John's has always been the capital city, and it is now also the oil capital of Eastern Canada.

## What do you like most about living in St John's?

The size of St John's makes it easy to get around. It is also possible to enjoy all of the performing arts, including many major artists from across the continent. It is a place where people enjoy entertaining in their own homes, and the warm welcome extended to visitors is an added reason for visiting this friendly city.

## If you are in St John's for just a couple of days, what should you see or do?

During the summer, a trolley bus takes visitors around, giving an overview of the city. The performing and visual arts make for a lively cultural scene, with performances in the Arts and Culture Centre, Holy Heart Theatre, the LSPU Hall, and many of the city's churches, several of which are home to magnificent Casavant organs.

The spectacular Rooms complex houses the provincial museum, art gallery, archives, and a café with panoramic views of the harbour. There are also numerous private art galleries, which display works by many of the province's best-known artists. Cabot Tower and Signal Hill should be one of the first stops, as well as Cape Spear – the most easterly point in North America.

## What is the best time of year to visit?

From late May to October, with July and August offering the best weather and opportunities to see whales and seabird colonies. Winter sports are best enjoyed in February and March. My advice to first-time visitors is to plan to stay longer than you had originally intended!

## The architecture is very distinctive. What is your favourite feature?

St John's architecture is interesting as most residences downtown are of wooden construction. These homes are painted in vibrant colours and have become a signature of St John's, which has been destroyed by fire on several occasions, the last in 1892. As a result, the downtown buildings principally date from that period.

The Anglican Cathedral was designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott and is considered to be the finest example of ecclesiastical gothic architecture in North America. There is also a fine Roman Catholic Basilica, dating from 1855. Indeed, St John's is known as the city of churches.

## Where is the best place to enjoy the scenery and wildlife?

The Avalon Peninsula is home to all kinds of natural beauty and there are many hiking trails, such as the East Coast Trail, that offer spectacular scenery. Newfoundland will take your breath away wherever you go.

*A ROSL member for 19 years, John Perlin CM CVO ONL LLO is a philanthropist and former Canadian Secretary to The Queen. He was Newfoundland's first Provincial Director of Cultural Affairs and is a patron of the arts. Interview by Christine Wilde.*



Kerry Lohr via Flickr (CC BY 2.0)

**DRAMATIC LANDSCAPE:** Newfoundland's East Coast Trail (above); and (inset) St John's harbour and lighthouse in the Fort Amherst neighbourhood

**CITY OF COLOUR:** Colourful wooden houses in St John's, nicknamed Jelly Bean Row (below)

# Spirit of the Caribbean

Director of CCA **Francis McKee** on the gallery's relationship with artist Adele Todd

In July, the Centre for Contemporary Art (CCA) in Glasgow opened an exhibition of work by Remy Jungerman, originally from Surinam, Tony Cruz from Puerto Rico, and Adele Todd from Trinidad. We had selected Adele for a ROSL Visual Arts Scholarship, through which she had completed a residency at Hospitalfield House, Arbroath in 2013.

This was a valuable opportunity for us to learn more about art in the Caribbean. Adele's work seemed very interesting, but curating and establishing long-term international networks depends on conversation, face-to-face contact and human chemistry. During her month in Hospitalfield, CCA staff got to know the artist and to understand the wider context in which she was working, as she developed new directions in her practice.

From that human contact, there was a real basis to conduct more research and to begin to construct an exhibition for July 2014. We had wanted to exhibit Adele's



© Alan Dimmick / CCA

embroidery series, *Police an' Tief*, and now we could follow the development of her new textile-based works, focusing on words and language as traps and constraints. From there it became much easier to see how Remy and Tony could complement her work, and to create an exhibition full of resonances and echoes. The exhibition, which closed in September, was a great success.

**RESONANCE:** Adele Todd's work in the 'Spirit Levels' exhibition at CCA Glasgow (above); and embroideries from her *Police an' Tief* series (left)

# A new approach

George Harwood-Smith reveals some exciting changes to the Visual Arts Scholarship programme

Since 2000, ROSL ARTS has offered annual Visual Arts Scholarships to enable talented young artists from across the Commonwealth to undertake a residency at Hospitalfield Arts in Arbroath, Scotland. In 2013, the programme evolved. ROSL ARTS and Hospitalfield Arts have established fresh relationships with some of Britain's most exciting galleries, including Iniva in London and Generator Projects in Dundee, collaborating with them to choose the scholars.

In early 2014, we invited Jenni Lomax, Director of the Camden Arts Centre, and Sorchá Carey, Director of the Edinburgh Art Festival, to each select a Commonwealth artist to take part in the residency and return to exhibit in London and Edinburgh in 2015.



© Song-Ming Ang

## Meet the 2014 scholars

**Song-Ming Ang** makes work about how we relate to music and what it means to us. "I didn't study fine art, so my work tends to be made from the perspective of an amateur and fan of music," he told the online media platform art4d. "I look at specific instances in which music is produced or consumed, and highlight interesting aspects of this. For example, what does it mean when someone smashes an electric guitar, or when it's played with your teeth?"

Song-Ming is from Singapore and studied art at Goldsmiths, University of London. He has exhibited internationally in Singapore, Hong Kong, New York, Sydney and Berlin, and was selected for the ROSL scholarship by Jenni Lomax of the Camden Arts Centre. He will return to the UK to complete a project with the gallery in 2015.

**YOUNG TALENT:** Julie Favreau, Director of Hospitalfield Arts Lucy Byatt and Song-Ming Ang (l-r)

Québécois artist **Julie Favreau's** practice lies in the domain between visual art and choreography. She creates pieces that heighten the viewers' sensory awareness through installation, video, performance, sculpture and photography.

Julie was one of the artists in residence at the Darling Foundry and featured in the 2011 MACM Quebec Triennial. She was selected for the 2014 ROSL Visual Arts Scholarship by Sorchá Carey of the Edinburgh Art Festival and completed the residency at Hospitalfield Arts in September.

She currently lives in Montreal and will return to the UK in August 2015 to exhibit her recent works as part of the prestigious and dynamic festival. She is represented by Battat Contemporary.

*For a short interview with Julie about the influence of her Canadian identity on her practice, see page 9.*



# Members' benefits

ROSL's successful Open House London weekend was a perfect reminder of the many reasons to renew your membership, says **Gemma Matthews**

**W**e were proud to open our doors and welcome visitors to the clubhouse during London's Open House weekend in

September. More than 140 visitors came to find out about the history of the buildings that comprise Over-Seas House, and all were curious to find out more about ROSL. We could see that the visitors were impressed with the diversity of our club, as we spoke about our ethos and all the wonderful things that make ROSL stand apart from other private members' clubs in St James's and Edinburgh – from the fact that we have accepted women members since the start (and that our membership still has an equal split across the sexes), to our proud Commonwealth connections, humanitarian programmes and not-for-profit status.

While the rooms and facilities drew admiring comments, it was the opportunity to hear pianist Somi Kim rehearse in Princess

**BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER:** From concerts by top ROSL musicians (right) to glamorous Younger Members events (below)



Alexandra Hall that provided an insight into the club's real USP: bringing people together for enjoyable social, cultural and learning activities. Each year we endeavour to make sure that our events programme offers a wide range of activities and opportunities for you to meet with fellow members in the clubhouse and beyond. Over the coming year, we aim to deliver a calendar of affordable events, concerts, trips and tours catering for all members, regardless of location. It is your passionate support of the club

and our cultural programme that makes ROSL such a vibrant organisation. We hope that you continue to be part of that in 2015. Membership renewal packs have been sent to all members, detailing the new subscription rates. If you haven't already done so, you may like to set up a Direct Debit; you can even opt to pay in monthly instalments – spreading the cost of your annual membership. For more information on renewing your membership, contact [membership@rosl.org.uk](mailto:membership@rosl.org.uk) or +44 (0)20 7408 0214 x214/216.

## Friends with benefits

The National Galleries of Scotland (NGS) have three magnificent sites in Edinburgh, each home to major works from Scotland's world-renowned national collection of fine art. As in many organisations, the Friends of the NGS are vital to its continuing success, providing support for an extensive programme of exhibitions, free displays, and education and conservation work. In return for this support, Friends have unlimited access to exhibitions and a host of benefits, giving incomparable insight into the galleries' collections. Forthcoming exhibitions include 'The Two Roberts: Robert Colquhoun and Robert MacBryde' at Modern Two, the BP Portrait Award at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, and the landmark 'Bailey's Stardust' at the Scottish National Gallery.

As a partner of ROSL, the NGS offers our members 15 months membership for the price of 12\*, starting at £15 for a student and rising to £55 for two adults. So if you live in Edinburgh or visit regularly, find out more about joining by calling +44 (0)131 624 6459 or visiting [www.nationalgalleries.org/friends](http://www.nationalgalleries.org/friends).

\*Offer valid for new NGS members only; please quote ROSL14.



**WORLD-RENOWNED:** 'Three Tahitians' by Paul Gauguin, on display at the Scottish National Gallery

## A military connection

The Royal Canadian Military Institute (RCMI) was founded in 1890 by the officers of the Toronto Garrison, with the Governor General of Canada as their Patron. Following a four-year redevelopment, the building at 426 University Avenue has now been restored. The Edwardian façade, with its iconic nine-pounder guns flanking the entrance, is a city landmark. Inside, the newly developed quarters offer sumptuous accommodation and dining rooms for members and guests. The club has a 15,000-volume research library, with books detailing Canada's military history, and a museum displaying exhibits from the RCMI's extensive collections.

The institute invites ROSL members to enjoy its comfortable facilities and accommodation. In fact, it was the venue for our ROSL gala concert in October, at which Toronto Branch members met with the Director-General for a performance by the Afiara Quartet.

See [www.rcmi.org](http://www.rcmi.org) for more details, or email [guestrelations@rosl.org.uk](mailto:guestrelations@rosl.org.uk) to request a letter of introduction.

**SUMPTUOUS:** Fine dining at the RCMI (below); and the stunning façade (bottom)



# A trio of talent

**Tina Kim** reflects on her musical and personal development, following a UK tour with the Trinity Trio as Pettman/ROSL scholars

**A**s a trio, the Pettman/ROSL scholarship tour was the biggest project of our musical lives. Personally, I had been struggling with motivation issues and with finding a purpose in my work, and the tour gave me a different perspective and a deeper understanding of how to find joy in my music. The preparation was long and tough, but with such enthusiastic friends – sisters Stella and Sally Kim – as trio members, it was a satisfying journey. We prepared nine works to performance standard, hiring a venue at our own expense, so that we could perform all of them twice before leaving for the UK.

Roderick Lakin, ROSL Director of Arts, was our father in the UK: he arranged transport, timetables, food, schedules, accommodation, venues and so much more. We went to concerts every day; and visited schools, such as the Royal Academy of Music, which will help me when I audition to further my studies in London. It was great to meet and get advice from experienced musicians at the Lake District International Music Festival and Edinburgh Festival Fringe. We now have a better idea of the festivals and competitions we want to be involved in, and a much clearer understanding of how to plan and manage the next few years as a trio and as individual musicians.

The countless performances we gave helped us to feel more comfortable on stage and trained us to become better at looking confident, even in the scary moments. We always knew that, no matter what happens in a performance, we had to



**LEARNING TO GROW:** Sally, Tina and Stella Kim with Barrie and Maureen Pettman at the Friends of ROSL ARTS Garden party

remain calm, but this experience helped us put that into practice more effectively.

A major impetus for our growth was that we were treated as professional musicians throughout. I was inspired by the passion for music and teaching of the many teachers who coached us. They gave us new ideas, new ways for thinking, and new ways to practise. Many told us that, to reach another level, we need to find more colours in our playing. One said that we play as if we never take risks, so it sounds like there is a limit to our music. This was a huge challenge for us: something that could not be taught – that we had to discover and develop for ourselves. We realised that we have to rehearse in a different way – we need a different level of energy and more concentration to express what we want to say with the music.

## Trinity on tour

The Pettman/ROSL Scholarship is awarded annually to a chamber group from New Zealand. The 2013 winners, the Trinity Trio from Auckland University, came to the UK this summer for an intensive five-week study/performance tour. In addition to performances in London and Edinburgh for ROSL, and at regional festivals, they participated in the Summer Academy of the Lake District Music Festival and received coaching from leading teachers.

ROSL arranged for the trio – Tina Kim piano and sisters Sally cello and Stella Kim violin – to attend events at festivals

and major venues, including the BBC Proms, Royal Opera House and London Coliseum. They had prepared piano trios by Mozart, Dvorak, Beethoven, Brahms, Mendelssohn and New Zealand composer Gareth Farr, which they performed over five days as part of ROSL's annual Edinburgh Festival Fringe series.

Every teacher who coached the trio gave positive feedback on the quality of their playing, musicality and professionalism. By the end of the tour, the benefits of the extensive programme were evident in performances of greater ambition and maturity.





# ROSL successes in Edinburgh

Director of Arts **Roderick Lakin** reflects on a vintage year

**R**OSL prizewinning musicians from Australia, Canada, Malaysia, New Zealand, South Africa and the UK converged on Edinburgh for ROSL's 15th annual series of concerts on the Festival Fringe, and for a unique partnership with the Scottish Ensemble and Edinburgh International Festival, under the banner 'Commonwealth Strings'. The Fringe series, 'Music @ 100 Princes Street', attracted audiences to 30 concerts over 12 days. The daily Bach and Beethoven for Breakfast, Chopin After Lunch and Mozart at Teatime, played to capacity audiences, while late-night concerts at 10.30pm attracted an equally large following and glowing reviews.

In celebration of Scotland hosting the Commonwealth Games, Commonwealth Strings brought 14 outstanding young musicians from across the Commonwealth together with the 14-strong Scottish Ensemble. The prestigious concert, on 26 August at the Queen's Hall, was part of the Edinburgh International Festival and broadcast live on BBC Radio 3. It was followed by a tour to Inverness, Dundee and Snape Maltings, Aldeburgh.

The Commonwealth Strings performance at the Queen's Hall ranks among the highest artistic achievements with which ROSL has been involved. The 5-star review by Michael Tumeity, veteran music critic of *The Glasgow Herald*, captured the occasion perfectly:

'RIGHT: pens down, hats off and hands together. In 30 years of this business... I have heard the Scottish Ensemble in great form, routine form and, very occasionally, slightly off form. But I never expect to hear them again as I did yesterday morning at the Edinburgh Festival, where they were sensational in the best performance I have ever heard them deliver at home or away... This was a double sized Scottish Ensemble of 28 players, 14 of whom were young virtuosi from Commonwealth countries, joined in near miraculous indivisibility of sound and style with Jonathan Morton's elite group, producing collectively, performances so gutsy, so meaty, so refined and so robust that it was impossible not to be gripped.'



**REFINED:** ROSL prizewinning musicians rehearse with the Scottish Ensemble for their sensational performances as Commonwealth Strings (above)

**A PERFECT COMBINATION:** Robin Green of the Francoise-Green Piano Duo, violinist Michael Foyle and pianists Somi Kim and Sophia Dee in Edinburgh for ROSL ARTS' Fringe series (below)



## Bedroom bounty

How a good night's sleep at ROSL is helping to fund wells in the Okavango and classrooms in marginalised areas

**T**he voluntary £1 add-on to bedroom bills for ROSL humanitarian projects is now in its second year and, due to the generosity of members, around £8,000 will be raised by the end of the year. John K Adams, the well-known American pianist, is a ROSL member and generous donor to ROSL projects in Namibia. "I like the idea of belonging to a club which also helps those who are most in need, whether it's food, water, shelter or getting an education," he says.

Also supporting education in Namibia is ROSL's building contractor Jack Varnava and his wife Maria, who have recently raised funds to build a splendid new classroom at Uirab Primary School.

In Botswana, we are lucky to have ROSL member Sarah Ward, who keeps in touch with a school for the disabled and a day care centre that ROSL supports near Gaborone. In the Okavango, where isolated villages face food and water insecurity, Galefele Maokeng updates us on the progress of elephant-proof wells and other projects.

In Kenya, ROSL's bursary recipients Antony Waweru and Beatrice Kinuthia are excellent correspondents, sending reports of the all-important maize harvest in the Gilgil area, as well as their latest school news and exam results.

ROSL humanitarian projects are almost entirely funded by donations and the £1 bedroom add-ons, so if you would like to make your donation go further, please request a Gift Aid form from [mvallance@rosl.org.uk](mailto:mvallance@rosl.org.uk).

**PROGRESS:** Building a new elephant-proof well in the Okavango (above)

# The man behind the cuisine

Head Chef **Kevin Casizzi** tells Christine Wilde about his inspirations, what he loves about ROSL and how a childhood diet of fried food inspired him to cook

**Tell us a bit about yourself...**

I always wanted to be a chef so I left school at 16 to work in a kitchen. I'm not sure where I got my passion for cooking; I think it's because I'm one of seven and my mum had two jobs to support us, so her dinners were awful: fried food with chips and beans. I started working in Covent Garden, then travelled on the cruise ships before working at The Connaught with Gordon Ramsay and Angela Hartnett, and at the Lansdowne Club.

**What attracted you to ROSL?**

It's a prestigious international club with lots of cultures, people and events to cater for, so we're always doing different types of food – for example, at the reception for the Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony.

**Tell us about your typical working day...**

I get in at 7.30am, read the customer comment cards from the day before, greet the chefs, and make sure the food for the day's functions is ready. The Restaurant kitchen opens at 12pm and the Brabourne at

11.30am, so I make sure they're all set for service before we start cooking. I stand on the pass, making sure the food goes out correctly. Then, before the 7-9.30pm evening service, I order for the next day. Everything is cooked and prepared to order so it's as fresh as possible. It's a busy club; I get through a lot of coffee!

**Wine expert recommends**

Try the walnut and cranberry tart with a Chateau d'Orignac Pineau des Charentes, with intense notes of apricot, peach, honey, almonds and Cognac.\*

**Which ingredient do you love working with?**

Vanilla: it goes in every one of my desserts – even my walnut and cranberry tart with cranberry sorbet. It's like salt for me: even if it's not the most obvious flavour, it seasons the dish.

**How do you plan the menus? What inspires you?**

I look through previous menus, past history and comment cards to see what works and find out what members want. With a lot of chefs, it's all about them, but I think more about what I would want to eat, not what I want to serve – a good



calf's liver and bacon or a tasty salad. Sitting in the ROSL Garden on a nice day, you can imagine having a garden salad and a glass of sauvignon blanc. It's all about the basics: a perfect soup or the best apple crumble. It's good, simple cooking done really well, no hiding.

The Brabourne Room is traditional, so it needs that British feel, but I would like the fine dining Restaurant and banqueting to be more international in the future.

**Could you recommend a ROSL dish for this quarter?**

Fillet of beef with roasted parsnips, chestnut and bacon puree.

\* Wines from the ROSL cellar, recommended by Davy's wine expert Francis Flavin.

**Wine expert recommends**

The rich Cotes du Rhone Chateau des Roques 2011, with nuances of dark fruits, herbs and leather, perfectly complements the rich fillet of beef and salty bacon.\*



## Kevin's white chocolate and cranberry cookies

If you can't make it to the clubhouse this season, why not try this ROSL recipe at home?

### INGREDIENTS

- 150g butter
- 150g plain flour
- 1/2tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 50g ground almond
- 50g porridge oats
- 50g dried cranberries, raisins or sultanas
- 50g brown sugar
- 50g caster sugar
- 100g white chocolate chunks
- 1 large egg yolk

### METHOD

- 1 Preheat oven to 180°C/gas mark 4.
- 2 Melt the butter and allow to cool.
- 3 Sift flour and bicarbonate of soda into a bowl.
- 4 Add ground almonds, oats, dried fruit, soft brown sugar, caster sugar and chocolate chunks. Mix well.
- 5 Mix butter and egg yolk, and stir into dry ingredients.
- 6 With your hands, form mixture into walnut-sized balls and arrange slightly apart on two baking trays.
- 7 Flatten the biscuits slightly and place in preheated oven for 8-10 minutes or until golden.
- 8 Cool a little on trays before moving to a wire rack.



# News and views

The latest from the clubhouses in London and Edinburgh

## ▼ Commonwealth Games celebrations

With two inspiring and heartfelt speeches by Lord Luce, ROSL President, and Lord Howell, President of the Royal Commonwealth Society, and a lively performance by ACD Arts Adungu, the London clubhouse celebrated the opening of the Commonwealth Games. Members enjoyed whisky cocktails and Commonwealth-themed foods in the verdant ROSL Garden on one of the hottest days of the year, before heading inside to watch the ceremony. Members in Scotland watched the Opening and Closing ceremonies at two Commonwealth-inspired dinners.



## Summer wine tasting ▶

The ROSL cellar ventured into the ROSL Garden to give members an atmospheric tasting of the best of the club's summer wines. Master of Wine, Martin Everett, and sommelier-in-the-making, Sarka Krumlova, served white, red and rosé vintages, with illuminating explanations. The balmy garden provided the perfect setting, enriched by the backdrop of classical guitarist Laura Snowden's exquisite playing.



## ◀ Special exhibition

Following her successful show at Over-Seas House Edinburgh, Scottish painter and textile designer Hatti Pattison brought her collection of vivid landscapes and bright fabrics to Over-Seas House London from July to September. Her 'Caledonia' series proved popular with members at the packed private view and continued to garner praise throughout the exhibition.



## ▲ London milestone

In September, the London Group held its 700th Executive Committee meeting. Established more than 75 years ago, the group has become a key part of ROSL's events programme, thanks to the dedication of volunteers who organise regular talks and trips for members. See pages 28-34 for details of their latest events, including a visit to the Westminster Archives Centre and a talk on the Royal Maundy.



## ◀ Rioja tour

In September, oenophile members set out on a four-day tour of some of the finest vineyards and restaurants in Rioja; the bodegas de la Marquesa, Miguel Merino and Ochoa were much enjoyed. Fine wine, food, and a tour of Pamplona were rounded off with a visit to Bilbao and a private guided tour of the Guggenheim Museum.

## ▼ Battlefield tour

Our WWI centenary commemorations began with an insightful tour of the Aisne and Marne battlefields, led by military historian Michael Orr. Among the multitude of thought-provoking visits, the Caverne du Dragon, in the notorious Chemin des Dames fighting ground, stood out. A cold, damp cave network, occupied simultaneously by Allied and German troops, the cavern was an otherworldly place, where battle sometimes raged as fiercely below ground as above. Today, the Marne region is better known for its champagne, and ROSL members enjoyed a lavish evening at the famous champagne house Maison Gardet.



## ▲ Sounds of the summer

ROSL ARTS hosted a plethora of popular performances over the summer. Past Annual Music Competition winners Mark Walton *clarinet*, Ann Beilby *viola* and David Miller *piano* played a selection from their new CD, *Clarinet Hidden Treasures from England*. At Wigmore Hall, 2013 winners Morgan Pearse *baritone*, James Baillieu *piano* and the Francoise-Green Piano Duo impressed the capacity audience. At the Friends of ROSL ARTS Garden Parties (pictured), there were performances by the Trinity Trio, Ferio Saxophone Quartet, Thomas Atkins *tenor*, Huw Wiggin *saxophone*, Michael Foyle *violin*, Ruben Palma *cello* and pianists Peter Foggitt and Somi Kim.

## ▼ Visit to the Armourers' Hall

It was the Armourers' time to shine in ROSL's latest visit to a livery hall in the City. The gleaming polished metal could only be surpassed by the riches of knowledge displayed by the new company clerk, as guests were given a riveting tour of the history and contemporary activity of this ancient establishment. Most spectacular of all was the Lee Armour, worn by Elizabeth I's Champion, Sir Henry Lee, to fight her adversaries. The state-of-the-art suit was made in 1561, weighs about 35kg, and is so flexible that the wearer can do forward rolls in it.



## ROSL West seeks new Secretary

Sally Roberts, Secretary of ROSL West, is hoping to retire soon and we are now looking for someone to take on the baton of coordinating the branches in Taunton, Exeter and Bath.

Responsibilities include organising a series of lunches for each branch and the popular annual visit to the London clubhouse. It is essential that applicants have excellent people skills and are computer literate. Sally will be retiring from the Taunton Branch first and handing over the responsibilities for the other branches at a later date. If you are interested in finding out more about the role and what's involved, please contact Sally on [rosl.west@gmail.com](mailto:rosl.west@gmail.com) or +44 (0)1823 661148.



## ▲ Art weekend

Members threw themselves into a weekend of intensive drawing and painting this August. Guided by Tom Davies, Director of the London School of Drawing and Painting, participants of all levels produced beautiful artworks in the excellent light of Princess Alexandra Hall. Between intensive periods of study, members enjoyed delicious lunches and refreshments in the Brabourne Room, as well as post-workshop drinks in the Bar and luxury accommodation in the clubhouse. The weekend ended with a guided visit to the sold-out Matisse exhibition at Tate Modern.





## ▲ Open House

Over-Seas House was proud to join the ranks of architecturally significant buildings that opened their doors to the public for Open House London, 20-21 September. Over the course of the weekend, the Marketing team gave tours of Vernon and Rutland House to more than 140 visitors, highlighting the beautiful period features that make the buildings unique. If you are interested in learning more about your clubhouse, the *ROSL History* is available from the ROSL Shop.



## ◀ Dinners in the Tower

The Director-General hosted two popular dinners in the Tower of London in September. ROSL members were joined by guests from the MSJA at the second of the month's black-tie events. A champagne reception in the Fusiliers' Museum was followed by a three-course silver service meal in the Officers' Mess, and the opportunity to witness the centuries-old Ceremony of the Keys.

## ▶ Prized writing

ROSL was pleased to welcome the finalists of the Caine Prize for African Writing to the London clubhouse. Members listened intently as Diane Awerbuch, Billy Kahora, Efemia Chela, Tendai Huchu (pictured) and Okwiri Oduor read extracts from their stories. Okwiri was later announced as the winner at a celebratory dinner at the Bodleian Library, Oxford. Visit [www.caineprize.com](http://www.caineprize.com) to read their stories.



**HOLLYWOOD GLAMOUR:**  
YMs enjoy a night of opera  
at the London clubhouse



# Bright young things

It was a sparkingly busy summer for YMs, says **Jackie Lam**

Nothing I have ever experienced captured 1950s Hollywood glamour like our own Inter-Club 'A Night at the Opera' extravaganza. The magical evening included a scrumptious, Glyndebourne-style picnic with Pimms. Guests went to town on their dress – it looked like we were going to the Oscars. The opera itself, *L'elisir d'amore*, was witty, the singing sensational and the ending really touched my heart. A band finished off the evening in style with 1950s jazz.

As a Canadian, the polo game at the Ham Polo Club was my first. It was a lovely summer's day, the match was chivalrous and spectacular, and we all enjoyed the *Pretty Woman* moment, stomping divots during the intervals. Thanks to YM Samantha Pickett for organising the event.

I am proud to be part of ROSL Younger Members. We are such a diverse and dynamic group, bringing innovation and creativity to our organisation. ROSL is about breaking boundaries and trying new things; I continue to look forward to the bright future of our club.

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# 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. To find out more about getting involved, simply contact your local representative.

### **Australia**

**Tuesday 2 December**  
**South Australia Branch**  
**Christmas dinner**  
The Public Schools Club,  
Adelaide; 6pm

Two-course dinner with talk by  
Rev Dr Lynn Arnold on his  
transition from politician to priest.  
Bring donations of children's gifts  
or food for the Magdalene Centre  
hamper. Guests welcome.  
*Email rosl.sa@mac.com to*  
*attend. \$35.*

**Thursday 11 December**  
**South Australia Branch concert**  
Grainger Studio, Adelaide;  
7.30pm

Mark Walton *clarinet*, Ann Beilby  
*viola* and Clemens Leske *piano*  
perform Mozart and Schumann,  
with complimentary wine and  
cheese. Guests welcome. *Email*  
*rosl.sa@mac.com to attend. \$25*

**Tuesday 3 February 2015**  
**South Australia Branch lunch**  
The Public Schools Club,  
Adelaide; 12pm

Talk by branch Hon Secretary,  
Michael Kent, on the Lusaka Hash  
House Harriers' annual wheelchair  
fundraiser in Zambia.  
*Email rosl.sa@mac.com to*  
*attend. \$30.*

### **Canada**

**Christmas in British Columbia**  
British Columbia members will  
receive details of Royal  
Commonwealth Society events in  
Vancouver and Vancouver Island,  
including Christmas festivities.  
*Contact evmurray@telus.net for*  
*details or to join the mailing list.*

### **New Zealand**

Members and friends are  
welcome at all ROSL NZ events;  
for details see below or email  
royalo-s@xtra.co.nz.

**Wednesday 3 December**  
**Southland Branch morning tea**  
Cheeky Lama, Invercargill; 10am

**Wednesday 10 December**  
**Christchurch Branch**  
**Christmas lunch**  
Elms Hotel; 12pm.

**Wednesday 10 December**  
**South Canterbury Branch**  
**Christmas dinner**  
Seven Oaks, Timaru; 6pm

**Tuesday 10 February 2015**  
**Christchurch Branch AGM**  
Holly Lea Retirement Village;  
10am

**Wednesday 4 February 2015**  
**Southland Branch morning tea**  
Southland Club; 10am  
Talk by speaker Dorothy Horrell.

**Wednesday 4 March 2015**  
**Southland Branch**  
**Commonwealth Day lunch**  
Southland Club; 12pm  
Talk by speaker Shirley Kean.

### **UK**

**Bath**  
**Wednesday 10 December,**  
**14 January, 11 February,**  
**11 March**  
**Monthly coffee morning**  
Pratt's Hotel; 10.30am  
Meet-up every second Wednesday  
of the month. Guests welcome.  
Participants buy their own drinks.

**Thursday 23 April 2015**  
**Spring lunch**

Bath and County Club; 11:30am  
Two-course lunch with talk.  
Guests welcome. *To register your*  
*interest call +44 (0)1823 661148.*

**Bournemouth**  
**Thursday 4, 18 December**  
**8, 15, 22, 29 January**  
**5, 19, 26 February**  
**Weekly coffee morning**

Marriott Highcliff Hotel; 10.30am  
Guests and English-Speaking  
Union members welcome. £2.90.

**Thursday 11 December**  
**Christmas lunch and raffle**  
Marriott Highcliff Hotel; 12.30pm  
Two-course Christmas dinner  
with coffee and mince pies, plus  
a fundraising raffle for the  
branch's chosen charity.  
'A Touch of Light'. *For details,*  
*call +44 (0)1258 480887. £23.*

### **CLUBHOUSE VISITS:**

During their annual trips to  
Over-Seas House London,  
ROSL West members are given  
a tour of the clubhouse (right);  
and Edinburgh and Glasgow  
branch members enjoy the  
ROSL Garden (above)

**Wednesday 11 February 2015**  
**New Year's lunch**  
Marriott Highcliff Hotel; 12.30pm  
Two-course dinner with coffee.  
Guests welcome. *For details, call*  
*+44 (0)1258 480887. £23.*

**Cheltenham**  
**Wednesday 17 December**  
**Christmas Lunch**  
The Red Pepper, Regent Street,  
Cheltenham; 12pm  
Delicious two or three-course  
meal. Guests welcome.  
*For details or to book, call*  
*+44 (0)1452 813373.*

## Peter Underwood, 1937-2014

We were deeply saddened to hear of the untimely death of Peter Underwood, Governor of Tasmania and Patron of ROSL Tasmania. Peter was only 76 and a fine Governor, following a brilliant legal career, which saw him appointed a Supreme Court Judge in 1984 and Chief Justice in 2004. Appointed Governor of Tasmania in 2008, he was made a Companion of the Order of Australia in 2009.

Peter's contribution to Tasmanian life included a passionate engagement with the arts, including service on the Board of the Tasmania Symphony Orchestra. He and his wife, Frances, were strong supporters of ROSL ARTS, and spoke of their desire to further assist ROSL's music programme in Tasmania when they very generously hosted Marianne and me on our visit in 2013. Peter is sorely missed as a Governor, a ROSL Patron and as a husband and father. We send our deep condolences to Frances and their children.

**Director-General Roddy Porter**



© Bill Barr



**Wednesday 21 January 2015**  
**'Windmills in Art and Design'**  
Church House, Grafton Road,  
Cheltenham; 2.30pm  
Illustrated talk by Amy Woollacott,  
followed by refreshments. £2.

**Wednesday 18 February**  
**'First Overland'**  
Church House, Grafton Road,  
Cheltenham; 2.30pm  
Illustrated talk on the 1955 Oxford  
and Cambridge Far Eastern  
Expedition, with refreshments. £2.

**Monday 9 March**  
**Commonwealth Day Lunch**  
The Red Pepper, Regent Street,  
Cheltenham; 12pm  
Two or three-course meal. Guests  
welcome. *For details or to book,*  
*call +44 (0)1452 813373.*

**Wednesday 18 March**  
**'Bygone Cheltenham'**  
Church House, Grafton Road,  
Cheltenham; 2.30pm  
Illustrated talk exploring the  
changing views of Cheltenham. £2.

**Edinburgh**  
**Friday 5 December**  
**Bridge Club Christmas lunch**  
Over-Seas House Edinburgh;  
12pm  
Bridge Club members and guests  
only. *Members £17; guests £20.*

**Saturday 3 January 2015**  
**Coffee morning**  
Over-Seas House Edinburgh;  
12pm  
Talk on 'Prime Ministers'. £3.

**Saturday 7 February**  
**Coffee morning**  
Over-Seas House; 12pm  
'The History of Gibraltar' talk. £3.

**Saturday 7 March**  
**Coffee morning**  
Over-Seas House; 12pm  
Talk on 'The Greatness of  
Mahatma Gandhi'. £3.

**Exeter**  
Guests welcome at all events; for  
details, call +44 (0)1823 661148.

**Friday 30 January 2015**  
**'France, the End of an Era'**  
Venue tba; 11:30am  
Talk by Donald Ruffell with lunch.

**Friday 27 February**  
**'My Days of National Service'**  
Venue tba; 11:30am  
Talk by Brian Wood with lunch.

**Friday 27 March**  
**'The Challenges of**  
**Peacekeeping'**  
Venue tba; 11:30am  
Talk by Major-General Roddy  
Porter with lunch.

**Glasgow**  
For meeting details, call  
+44 (0)141 884 6342.

**Taunton**  
**Wednesday 3 December**  
**Christmas lunch**  
Somerset College; 11am  
Talk by Roddy Porter on 'ROSL  
worldwide', followed by two-  
course lunch. *ROSL members*  
*only. £18.50.*

**Wednesday 10, 17 December**  
**7, 14, 21, 28 January**  
**11, 18, 25 February**  
**Weekly coffee morning**  
Miles at the Riverside; 10.30am  
For members, guests and those  
interested in joining. Please buy  
your refreshments downstairs.

## Meet Cynthia Cordery

**The Alberta Chapter President explains her role in providing a fantastic programme of events for branch members**

Two branches were founded in Alberta when Sir Evelyn Wrench visited Canada around 1954. As far as I can determine, Edmonton registered six founder members and Calgary was inaugurated at the same time. When I moved to Edmonton in 1976, ROSL was the first organisation I looked up: I found a lead in Phoenix, Arizona, which led to a local contact and I soon joined the branch. Later, I became branch President and, in 2005, I was asked to take on the presidency of the whole province, which became the Alberta Chapter.

We usually hold five major events a year and promote the arts through annual music and arts scholarships. Most are at the Royal Glenora, a reciprocal club in the River Valley. I enjoy meeting our wonderful members and the many friends I have made in London and around the world. In 2005, I was privileged to meet The Queen when she came to Edmonton for the 100th anniversary of the province. I received the Anniversary Medal on that occasion and the Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2013, both for services to the Edmonton Community.



**Wednesday 4 February 2015**  
**'Lady Hamilton: Saint or Sinner?'**  
Somerset College; 11am  
Two-course lunch with talk by  
Captain Alex Morrice RN. Guests  
welcome. £14.50.

**Wednesday 4 March**  
**'Chateau Generals:**  
**A myth of WWI examined'**  
Somerset College; 11am  
Talk by Michael Orr with two-  
course lunch. Guests welcome.  
£14.50.

**West Cornwall**  
Guests welcome at all events.

**Thursday 18 December**  
**'India: The Ganges**  
**and Hooghly'**  
Carbis Bay Hotel; 2.45pm  
Illustrated talk with Cornish cream  
tea. *Call +44 (0)1736 333460 by*  
*16 December to attend. £5.50.*

**Thursday 29 January 2015**  
**'Japan'**  
Carbis Bay Hotel; 2.45 pm  
Illustrated talk with Cornish cream  
tea. *Call +44 (0)1736 333460 by*  
*27 January to attend. £6*

**Thursday 19 February**  
**'The Kruzenshtern'**  
Carbis Bay Hotel; 2.45pm  
Film and talk with Cornish cream  
tea. *Call +44 (0)1736 333460 by*  
*17 February to attend. £6*

**Thursday 19 March**  
**Annual lunch**  
Carbis Bay Hotel; 12.30pm  
Three-course lunch with guests  
of honour Sir Anthony and Lady  
Figgis. *Call +44 (0)1736 333 460*  
*for details.*

**West Sussex**  
**Wednesday 3 December**  
**Christmas lunch**  
Windsor Hotel, Windsor Road,  
Worthing; 12.30pm  
Three courses with fundraising  
raffle. Guests welcome. *Call*  
*+44 (0)1444 458 853 for details.*

**Wednesday 4 March**  
**AGM and lunch**  
Windsor Hotel, Windsor Road,  
Worthing; 12.30pm  
Guests welcome at two-course  
lunch only. AGM follows. *Call*  
*+44 (0)1444 458 853 for details.*

**For contact details, see page 24.**



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# Going underground

From a Soho tour to a 5-course dinner, Christine Wilde discovers how supper clubs have revolutionised dining

There has been a quiet revolution in the world of fine dining over the last decade, with passionate foodies opening their homes to offer quality, home-cooked food to strangers. Essentially fee-paying dinner parties at temporary locations, supper clubs provide a homely, sociable environment in which guests can sample different types of food and make new friends – if only for the night. Since supper club pioneer Ms Marmite Lover launched her Underground Restaurant in London in 2009, the movement has exploded, and now covers cuisine from all over the world, as well as themed nights, such as literary and arts dinners, and quirky locations, including a disused Tube carriage.

Chef and former restaurateur Michelle Francis has been running Scratch Secret Suppers twice a month since 2012, and has now taken the experience a step further, with her food tours of Soho and Marylebone. I joined four intrepid food explorers as Michelle led us briskly but expertly through a maze of Soho streets, stopping to savour the area's diverse cultural and gastronomic highlights. Over three hours, our taste buds travelled from Italy to Vietnam, via Elizabethan England and present-day Lebanon, as we tucked into a ten-course taster menu based on the five chefs Michelle feels have had the biggest impact on Soho's current culinary climate. The eye-opening and mouth-watering experience takes in a variety of popular restaurants and family-run delis; groups are small, to keep it personal, and all food is included in the £59 price.

A week later, I headed to the White Room Supper Club in Islington. Bringing my own wine, as instructed, I was welcomed by host Claudia Stachelhaus, who served refreshing berry punch and delicate canapés while I introduced myself to the other guests. Looking around the pristine, open-plan reception room, it was easy to see how the club got its name. The minimalist elegance was also reflected in the presentation of the delicious five-course meal. Influenced by Claudia's German roots, the 'Game Season: Venison' menu was well worth the recommended £35 donation, starting with a mouthful of fig in prosciutto – a highlight of the evening. The creamy, celeriac soup had a surprising kick, and was followed by a rich game terrine with homemade chutney. As promised, the main course was a beautifully tender loin of venison with a tangy berry sauce and hazelnut spätzle. Sadly, my culinary adventure ended halfway through the velvety chocolate tart with praline ice-cream, as I was so replete that I had to admit defeat.

ROSL members receive a 5% discount on London From Scratch tours booked by the end of 2014.

## SOCIABLE DINING:

Guests enjoy a lavish dinner at the elegant White Room Supper Club (above); and luxury chocolates on the foodies tour of Soho (below)



## Useful links

- The White Room Supper Club: [www.whiteroomsupperclub.com](http://www.whiteroomsupperclub.com); [whiteroomsupperclub@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:whiteroomsupperclub@hotmail.co.uk)
- London From Scratch: [www.londonfromscratch.co.uk/soho-food-tour](http://www.londonfromscratch.co.uk/soho-food-tour); [londonfromscratch@gmail.com](mailto:londonfromscratch@gmail.com)
- Find a club near you: [www.londonpops.com/p/london-supper-clubs.html](http://www.londonpops.com/p/london-supper-clubs.html)

# The British right a British wrong

Sir Roger Carrick, ROSL Vice-Chairman, on an Anglo-Australian hero

In Over-Seas House in July, Australian accents abounded: it would have been unsurprising (and delightful) had the chef put kangaroo on the menu. Australian ROSL members came for a serious purpose. They well know of the founder of modern Australia, Commander of the 'First Fleet'; a truly great Englishman, Arthur Phillip, Royal Navy. There are multiple commemorations of and memorials to Governor Phillip down under. This extraordinarily courageous and successful sailor; this wise, visionary and humanitarian governor, however, was not honoured in his lifetime by his own country, beyond hard-earned naval promotions.

A Captain RN when he led his convoy 15,063 nautical miles of the healthiest convict voyage ever, to found and nurture a far-distant colony, Phillip eventually became a full Admiral. His contemporary and admiral Lord Nelson, and other veterans of bloody sea battles, were copiously honoured by a grateful British nation. Phillip's equally important and enduring achievements against huge obstacles were not the stuff of popular or political acclaim. They should have been. Phillip saw and proved that convicts in a decent regime could become new men and women in a new world; and that the colony he founded, New South Wales (NSW), would "hereafter be a most valuable acquisition to Great Britain". The close ally Australia is today reflects and reinforces the prescience of that prediction.

Commemorations to Phillip in England are few. The City of London at St Mary-le-Bow and Guildhall, and St Nicholas church, Bathampton, where Phillip lies buried, have tributes. But Australians financed most of those, and funded a 1937 tablet in Bath Abbey. This summer, 200 years after he died, we British finally paid Admiral Phillip proper national honour. In a service at Westminster Abbey, the Dean (a ROSL Vice-President) dedicated an important carved stone in the floor of the Nave. HRH the Duke of Edinburgh, an admirer of Phillip, there laid a wreath, as did the First Fleeters from Australia. The present, 37th, Governor of NSW spoke, most movingly. Three days later, an iconic memorial sculpture was ceremonially unveiled in the grounds of the Assembly Rooms in Bath, just across from Phillip's house. Many Australians attended.

Other ROSL members may wish to visit these two fine national tributes. One leg of the tripod of legacy remains: funding for enduring Arthur Phillip Anglo-Australian apprenticeships and scholarships. Email Dale Eaton at [adm@britain-australia.org](mailto:adm@britain-australia.org) for details.

**HONOUR:** Prince Philip lays a wreath at the service in Westminster Abbey in July. The Dean is also pictured



# Top 10 London and Edinburgh

## Treasures from the Royal Archive

This collection at Windsor Castle provides a fascinating insight into the lives of British monarchs. **Until 21 January 2015.** Tickets £18.50. [www.royalcollection.org.uk](http://www.royalcollection.org.uk)

## Stan Douglas

The Canadian artist exhibits video and image works at Edinburgh's Fruitmarket Gallery, including 'Der Sandmann' and 'Hotel Vancouver'. **Until 15 February 2015.** Free. [fruitmarket.co.uk/exhibitions/forward-programme](http://fruitmarket.co.uk/exhibitions/forward-programme)

## From the Forest to the Sea: Emily Carr in British Columbia



The Dulwich Picture Gallery hosts the first UK exhibition of work by the esteemed Canadian artist. **Until 8 March.** Tickets £11. [www.dulwichpicturegallery.org.uk/whats-on](http://www.dulwichpicturegallery.org.uk/whats-on)

## The Edinburgh Christmas Tree Festival

Explore this festive forest, decorated by local charities and businesses at St Andrew's and St George's West, with live music and yuletide refreshments. **6-24 December.** Free. [www.stagw.org.uk/event/edinburgh-christmas-tree-festival/](http://www.stagw.org.uk/event/edinburgh-christmas-tree-festival/)

## The Nutcracker

The English National Ballet performs Tchaikovsky's festive classic at the London Coliseum. **11 December - 4 January 2015.** Tickets £10-£79. [www.eno.org/whats-on/other/nutcracker-1415](http://www.eno.org/whats-on/other/nutcracker-1415)



## Michael Bublé

The charismatic Canadian jazz singer performs at London's O2. **15-16 December.** Tickets £57-£85. [www.theo2.co.uk/events/detail/michael-buble](http://www.theo2.co.uk/events/detail/michael-buble)

## Treasure Island

Robert Louis Stevenson's classic adventure comes to life at the National Theatre on the Southbank. **11 December - 8 April 2015.** Tickets £15-£50. [www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/shows/treasure-island](http://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/shows/treasure-island)



## Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour

Showcase of the year's best films celebrating mountain culture and the outdoors at the Festival Theatre, Edinburgh. **24 January.** Tickets £13.50. [www.banff-uk.com](http://www.banff-uk.com)

## Scottish Ensemble with Amy Dickson



Works by Glazunov and Kancheli from ROSL Gold Medallist Amy Dickson saxophone at the Queen's Hall, Edinburgh. **21 February 2015.** Tickets £15. [www.scottishensemble.co.uk](http://www.scottishensemble.co.uk)

## To Kill a Mockingbird

Imaginative retelling of Harper Lee's story of the search for justice, at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh.

**9-14 February 2015.** Tickets £14-£29.50. [www.edtheatres.com/mockingbird](http://www.edtheatres.com/mockingbird)





# ROSL tours and trips

Get your 2015 schedule in order and take your pick of our wonderful selection of events – from trips overseas to unique experiences at the clubhouse

## MEMBERS’ EVENTS HITS THE ROAD

With a custom tour of the Highlands and our annual Battlefield tour, discover where the Members’ events programme could take you

### Scottish Highlands tour: In the Footsteps of Bonnie Prince Charlie

Friday 13 - Sunday 15 March 2015

A stunning tour of the Scottish country, retracing the adventures of Bonnie Prince Charlie after his disastrous defeat at Culloden. Our experienced tour guide, Willie Cameron, is Highland born and bred, and was elected Highland Tourism Ambassador for his knowledgeable and passionate advocacy of the region and its history. On Friday the group will leave for the Highlands by luxury coach, with stops at Queen’s View Pitlochry and Ruthven Barracks, and a trip up Cairn Gorm Mountain. There will be a talk by the Drumnadrochit Heritage Society at dinner, preceded by drinks and canapés.

On Saturday, we will drive to Loch Ness, following the escape route of the Prince to the Isle of Skye, with a lunch visit to the Clan Donald Centre, and Scottish entertainment at dinner. The final day includes a visit to the Culloden Battlefield and lunch at Fort William, under the shadow of Ben Nevis. We will travel back through Glencoe and Stirling Castle, arriving in Edinburgh in the evening. Participants are advised to book travel home for the following day. £295pp; single supplement £70. Includes accommodation on Friday and Saturday, breakfast and lunch, and travel around the Highlands by luxury coach. To book, contact +44 (0)131 225 1501 or reception@rosl-edinburgh.org by 15 January 2015. Book your accommodation at the clubhouse on Thursday and Sunday, and/or a clubhouse group dinner on Thursday, separately.



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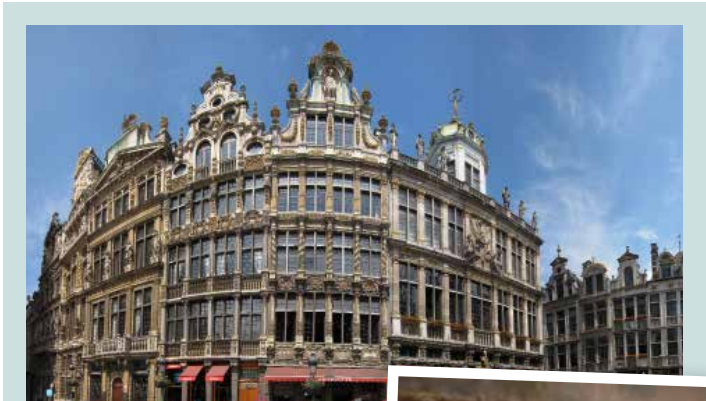
### Battlefield tour of Gallipoli

May 2016

It is said that Australia was born on the shores of Gallipoli. In nine months, hundreds of thousands of casualties were sustained and more than 11,000 ANZAC soldiers lost their lives. ROSL is organising a trip for members to mark the centenary of the Gallipoli campaign, visiting the sites where the action took place, and paying respect to those killed and injured between April 1915 and January 1916.

For further information, or to register your interest, contact Members’ Events at membersevents@rosl.org.uk or on +44 (0)20 7016 6906.

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© Thomas Quine, Brussels panorama via Flickr (CC BY 2.0)

### Battlefield tour of Waterloo and Mons

Friday 10 - Monday 13 July 2015

Over the last two years, the ROSL Battlefield Tours have marked the centenary of WWI, but in 2015 we will go back 200 years, when it seemed that victory or defeat in the ‘Great War’ of the time would be settled in the ‘Cockpit of Europe’, the area of modern Belgium.

On the coach from Over-Seas House, we will pick up the story at the Oudenarde battlefield before arriving at our Brussels hotel. On Saturday, we will tour the famous battlefields of Quatre Bras and Ligny, returning to Brussels for lunch and a free afternoon to explore, with a special group activity in the evening. Sunday will be devoted to the battlefield of Waterloo, in the year of its bi-centenary, starting at the Waterloo Panorama and Visitor Centre, then climbing the Lion Mound and touring critical points on the battlefield.

On the last day we will explore Mons, where the first British battle of the First World War took place, and visit St Symphorien, where the first and last British casualties of the war are buried, returning to London in the early evening.

£695; single supplement £100. Includes three nights 4-star b&b, all meals in Belgium except dinner on day 3, travel by executive coach, specialist Battlefield Guide throughout. To book, contact +44 (0)20 7016 6906 or membersevents@rosl.org.uk by 1 February 2015. Alternatively book via www.rosl.org.uk/events.



## SPEND SOME QUALITY TIME AT YOUR HOME-AWAY-FROM HOME

From art weekends to Easter, and from summer balls to Christmas take advantage of our clubhouse getaways

### Valentine’s Day weekend

Saturday 14 -

Sunday 15 February 2015

Take a guided walking tour of the amorous history of London, then warm the cockles with afternoon tea in the Brabourne Room. In the evening, sample the local gastronomic scene or try the ROSL Restaurant’s delicious Valentine’s menu. What’s not to love?

Tickets £37.50; with Saturday night accommodation £220pp (double), £225pp (twin), or contact Reservations for room-only price. Book through reservations@rosl.org.uk or +44 (0)20 7408 0214 x217. Guests welcome.



© Benmar, Love sculpture in City of London via Flickr (CC BY-SA 3.0)

### Easter holiday

Friday 3 - Monday 6 April 2015

Take advantage of our wonderful clubhouse facilities, and all the activities put on by museums and galleries during the holiday period, with our accommodation and catering offers for adults and family groups, as well as ROSL’s travel writing and photography workshops. Contact Reservations for special rates: reservations@rosl.org.uk or +44 (0)20 7408 0214 x217.



table for a group, or come by yourself, our special offer on accommodation will enable you to retire from the ball in style. Tickets £110; tickets with Saturday night accommodation £187.50pp (double), £220pp (single). Friday and Sunday accommodation also available at special rates. Book online at rosl.org.uk/events, email membersevents@rosl.org.uk or call +44 (0)20 7016 6906.

### Summer Ball

Saturday 27 June 2015

Our Summer Ball is back, and this time themed to the Battle of Waterloo. Enjoy an evening of fine dining, musical performance and quadrille dancing. Whether you are a Younger Member, book a

### Art weekend

Saturday 15 -

Sunday 16 August 2015

Back by popular demand, this creative escape caters to all skill levels. Director of the London School of Painting and Drawing, Tom Davies, once again leads the two-day programme, focusing on painting and drawing lessons with a life model, with a guided visit to a major summer exhibition, quality dining and accommodation. £180pp; package with Saturday night accommodation from £252.50pp (double), £270pp (single). Friday and Sunday accommodation also available at special rates. Includes two full days of tuition, materials, life model, refreshments, two-course lunch each day and exhibition entry. Excludes evening drinks, dinner and travel. Book online at www.rosl.org.uk/events, email membersevents@rosl.org.uk or call +44 (0)20 7016 6906.



© Ella Shorova via Flickr (CC BY 2.0)

### Christmas holiday 2015

Friday 24 - Sunday 26 December 2015

Stay at the London clubhouse for one, two or three nights at Christmas and New Year, and enjoy special rates for catering, accommodation and events. The three-night offer includes a mulled wine and mince pies drinks reception, film screening, sparkling drinks reception, three-course Christmas dinner with wine, refreshments, a visit from Santa and board games on



© Megan Barron, Christmas tree via Flickr (CC BY-ND 2.0)

Christmas Day, and Boxing Day brunch and guided walking tour. Edinburgh clubhouse offer tba. From £380pp (double/twin) to £430pp (single). Package elements can be booked separately; please inquire. Book via reservations@rosl.org.uk or +44 (0)20 7408 0214 x217.

## ROSL RECOMMENDS

You know you’ll be in good hands with these tailor-made trips, set up for members through ROSL’s partnership network with specialist travel agents

### Thailand tour, March 2015

From idyllic beaches to exquisite temples, this exclusive 16-day tour covers a host of must-see attractions, with Experience Travel contributing 5% of bookings to ROSL humanitarian projects. Call Experience Travel, quoting your ROSL membership number: +44 (0)203 468 4524.

From idyllic beaches to exquisite temples, this exclusive 16-day tour covers a host of must-see attractions, with Experience Travel contributing 5% of bookings to ROSL humanitarian projects. Call Experience Travel, quoting your ROSL membership number: +44 (0)203 468 4524.



### Sri Lanka tour, March 2015

An incredible variety of culture, wildlife and scenic highlights have been handpicked for ROSL members on this 16-day

tour, with Experience Travel contributing 5% of bookings to ROSL humanitarian projects. Call Experience Travel, quoting your ROSL membership number: +44 (0)203 468 4524.

### Burgundy wine tour, 23-27 September 2015

ROSL’s third custom-made wine tour led by the Director-General includes a guided tour of Beaune and tastings galore. £899pp; single supplement £198. Includes luxury coach from London, 4 nights b&b, tours and tastings, two lunches, and two dinners with drinks. Contact Grape Escapes: +44 (0)1763 273 373 or jenna@grapeescapes.net.

### Amsterdam’s cultural highlights, 16-21 November 2015

Amsterdam’s great trio of art museums – the Rijksmuseum, Stedelijk and Van Gogh – are open after lengthy renovations, and will be at the centre of this six-day trip. Kirker donates 5% of bookings to ROSL ARTS projects. £1,423; single supplement £245. Call Kelly on +44 (0)20 7593 2283, quoting GRO.

### Palaces and galleries of St Petersburg, 12-18 May 2016

Monumental buildings of state, great churches, ornate theatres and legendary art collections come together to create a very rewarding experience. Kirker donates 5% of bookings to ROSL ARTS projects. £2,492; single supplement £357. Call Kelly on +44 (0)20 7593 2283, quoting GRO.



# ROSL CALENDAR

DECEMBER

Until Sunday 14 December

**Mehreen Murtaza:**  
**To Sail Beyond the Sunset**  
**Generator Projects, Dundee, daily, 12-5pm**  
The 2013 ROSL Visual Arts Scholar exhibits her latest work at Generator Projects ([www.generatorprojects.co.uk](http://www.generatorprojects.co.uk)). Read our interview with Mehreen in the September-November issue (page 9). For details, contact [gharwoodsmith@rosl.org.uk](mailto:gharwoodsmith@rosl.org.uk) or +44 (0)20 7408 0214 x213. *Free.*

Until Sunday 25 January

**The Grand Tour exhibition**  
**Over-Seas House Edinburgh, daily**  
New works by Liesel Thomas, who has exhibited in Berlin, London and Edinburgh, and Tim Le Breuilly, who has been shortlisted for the John Moores Painting Prize. *Free.*

Monday 1 December

**C19th Russian Music and Art: The search for national identity**  


**Over-Seas House London, 3pm**  
In association with the Art Fund. After the Crimean War, Russian artists began to investigate and define 'Russianness'. Art schools such as the Wanderers focused on the countryside, while composers, including Borodin and Balakirev, incorporated folk tunes in their music. In this lecture, Roderick Swanston will explore the interconnections between these developments. Russophiles should also see

page 27 for details of ROSL's forthcoming trip to St Petersburg. *Tickets £14. To book, contact the Art Fund on +44 (0)844 415 4100. Includes tea and coffee, served before the lecture.*

Tuesday 2 December

**London Group Christmas lunch**  
**Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 12.30pm**  
Annual three-course lunch with wine and coffee, live music and a free prize draw. To attend, apply to Celia Goh, London Group, c/o Porters' Desk, Over-Seas House London, enclosing a stamped, addressed envelope, and noting dietary requirements and seating requests. If you have any queries, please call +44 (0)20 8567 1525. *Tickets £53; LG members £48.*

Wednesday 3 December

**Edinburgh film night**  
**Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 5pm**  
Watch a seasonal classic, with coffee, popcorn and ice-cream. *Tickets for entry and refreshments £7.50.*

Thursday 4 December

**YM Christmas mince pies and mulled wine**  
  
**Duke of York Bar and Central Lounge, Over-Seas House London, from 6pm**  
The last First Thursdays of the year brings mince pies, mulled wine and obligatory Christmas jumpers. A special turkey curry buffet will complete the seasonal celebration. *Tickets £12.50; no ticket required for drinks. Pre-book dinner by 15 November. Guests welcome.*


Friday 5 December – Friday 23 January

**Edinburgh Printmakers exhibition**  
  
**Over-Seas House London, daily**  
Exhibition of prints by prestigious and well-known Scottish printmakers. In association with Edinburgh Printmakers. Contact +44 (0)20 7408 0214 x219 or [gharwoodsmith@rosl.org.uk](mailto:gharwoodsmith@rosl.org.uk) to attend the **Private View on Thursday 4 December**, 6-8pm. *Free.*

Sunday 7 December

**Festival of Carols and Readings**  
**St James's Church and Over-Seas House London, 3.30pm**  
The annual ROSL Christmas service, followed by a delicious festive tea in the Hall of India and Pakistan with a visit from Father Christmas himself. *Tickets £22.50. Guests welcome*

Monday 8 December

**Britain, Northern Rhodesia and the Great War**  
  
**Over-Seas House London, 7-8.30pm**  
Dr Edmund Yorke, Senior Lecturer in the Department of War Studies at Sandhurst, explores the East Africa Campaign, which lasted for the duration of the First World War, at this Discussion Group talk. *Free.*

Tuesday 9 December

**Kitty Whately mezzo soprano**  
**Joseph Middleton piano**  
**Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 7pm**  
Kitty Whately, ROSL prizewinner and BBC New Generation Artist 2013-2015, performs works by Schumann, with pianist Joseph Middleton. *Tickets £15; £12 Friends of ROSL ARTS. Includes wine.*

Wednesday 10 December

**Carol singing**  
**Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 3-4pm**  
Tea, coffee, mulled wine, mince pies and carol singing with Brigitte Harris, Choirmaster of St Andrews and St George's West. *Tickets £8.*

Saturday 13 December

**Inter-Club Christmas Ball**  
  
**Royal Automobile Club, time tba**  
The Inter-Club Christmas Ball will come around before you know it, and this year it's taking place in the roaring RAC. Visit [www.inter-club.co.uk](http://www.inter-club.co.uk) for details and booking information.

**Tuesday 16 December**  
**Clubhouse carols**  
**Central Lounge, Over-Seas House London, 6.30pm**  
As the club community gets into the festive spirit, you will be spoilt with mulled wine and a feast of home-baked mince pies. So start dusting off those vocal chords! *Free. Guests welcome, drop-in, no booking required.*



Christmas at the clubhouses

Celebrate Christmas and New Year at your home-away-from-home with our festive packages in London and Edinburgh. For full details of these offers, see page 31 of the September-November 2014 issue ([www.rosl.org.uk/magazine.php](http://www.rosl.org.uk/magazine.php)).

London

Choose to stay for one, two or three nights and enjoy our special rates for catering, accommodation and events, including sparkling receptions, festive meals and a visit from Father Christmas:

	Double/twin	Single
Christmas Eve-Boxing Day (three-night offer)	£518-£593	£383-£413
Christmas Eve-Christmas Day	£348-£398	£258-£278
Christmas Day-Boxing Day	£372.50-£422.50	£282.50-£302.50

*See the listings on this page for details of our Christmas Day lunch and Boxing Day walk. To book, contact [reservations@rosl.org.uk](mailto:reservations@rosl.org.uk) or +44 (0)20 7408 0214 x217.*

Edinburgh

Christmas is one of the best times of year to visit Edinburgh, so why not take the opportunity to join in with the festivities, with our great clubhouse offers:

	Double/twin	Single
Two-night Christmas shopping break (Sun-Thur)	£139pp	£119pp
Two-night Christmas shopping break (Fri-Sat)	£199pp	£139pp
Three-night Christmas package	£249pp	£199pp
Three-night Hogmanay treat	£449pp	£549pp

*The superior suite is also available for the three-night Hogmanay treat at £499pp. See the listings on this page for details of our Christmas Day lunch and Hogmanay dinner and dance. To book, contact [reception@rosl-edinburgh.org](mailto:reception@rosl-edinburgh.org) or +44 (0)131 225 1501.*

Thursday 25 December

**Christmas Day lunch**  
**Hall of India and Pakistan, Over-Seas House London, 12pm**  
A sparkling drinks reception and traditional four-course Christmas meal, including half a bottle of wine, coffee and mince pies. Lunch will be followed by a visit from Father Christmas, with gifts for all, as well as an opportunity to watch The Queen's Speech at 3pm. Also available as part of our one, two and three-night London Christmas packages. See box-out (left) or email [reservations@rosl.org.uk](mailto:reservations@rosl.org.uk) for details. *Tickets £82.50. For lunch bookings only, contact [rosldining@graysonsrestaurants.com](mailto:rosldining@graysonsrestaurants.com) or +44 (0)20 7629 3881.*

Thursday 25 December

**Christmas Day lunch**  
**Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 12pm**  
Celebrate with a fantastic Christmas dinner at the Edinburgh clubhouse, including Kir Royale and canapés on arrival, a three-course meal with coffee and mince pies, and gifts for all the family. This event is also available as part of our three-night Edinburgh Christmas package. See box-out (left), or email [reception@rosl-edinburgh.org](mailto:reception@rosl-edinburgh.org) for details. *Tickets £75.*

Friday 26 December

**Boxing Day walk: Charles Dickens' London**  
  
**Over-Seas House London, 2pm**  
Gently walk off the excesses of the Christmas festivities while learning about Dickens' life and Christmas tradition. Oliver Twist, David Copperfield and Pickwick all make appearances, as well as London's finest Georgian alleyway and the sole surviving piece of the Victorian underworld. Also available as one of our one, two and three-night packages; see box-out (left). *Tickets £15. Guests welcome.*

Wednesday 31 December

**Hogmanay dinner and dance**  
**Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 7pm**  
Watch the fireworks from the finest viewpoint in Edinburgh, with reception cocktails, a three-course meal with wine and champagne, and black bun and shortbread at midnight. Also available as part of a three-night Hogmanay package. See box-out (left) or email [reception@rosl-edinburgh.org](mailto:reception@rosl-edinburgh.org). *Tickets £125; guests £150; children (under 14) £105.*

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](mailto:culture@rosl.org.uk)

**ROSL Scotland**  
+44 (0)131 225 1501;  
[www.rosl-edinburgh.org.uk](http://www.rosl-edinburgh.org.uk)

**Members' events**  
Book online at [www.rosl.org.uk](http://www.rosl.org.uk);  
+44 (0)20 7016 6906;  
[membersevents@rosl.org.uk](mailto:membersevents@rosl.org.uk)

**London Group**  
Clive Carpenter;  
+44 (0)7798 824193; [clivedavidcarpenter@compuserve.com](mailto:clivedavidcarpenter@compuserve.com).  
For outside visits: Maureen Howley;  
[howleymaureen@hotmail.com](mailto:howleymaureen@hotmail.com)

**Younger Members**  
Book online at [www.rosl.org.uk](http://www.rosl.org.uk);  
[membersevents@rosl.org.uk](mailto:membersevents@rosl.org.uk)

**Discussion Group**  
No advanced booking required.



## Edinburgh Burns Night supper

**Saturday 31 January, Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 7pm**

Celebrate the life and work of the great Scottish bard in style at the Edinburgh clubhouse. After a welcome drink, tuck into the traditional three-course meal, including wine and a glass of whisky, with the Immortal Memory proposed by Rt Rev Brian Smith, former Bishop of Edinburgh. The Toast to the Lassies will be given by the Consul General of



Ireland, Pat Bourne, and the reply by Consul General of the USA, Zoja D Bazarnic. *Tickets £35; guests £40.*

## JANUARY

## Thursday 1 January

**NO First Thursdays**

There will be no First Thursdays drinks in January because everyone will still be recovering from NYE! We'll see you in Feb!

## Thursday 8 January

**Edinburgh film night**

**Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 5pm**

Comedy about a group of British pensioners who embark on an Indian adventure. With coffee, popcorn and ice-cream. *Tickets for entry and refreshments £7.50.*

## Thursday 15 January

**Chaplains in the First World War**

**Over-Seas House London, 6pm**

London Group talk with Dr Mike Snape, examining the role of chaplains within the military and the significance of their work during WWI.

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

## Friday 30 January

**Black-tie dinner and ceilidh**

**Over-Seas House London, 7pm**

See box-out (right) for details.

## Saturday 31 January

**Edinburgh Burns Night supper**

**Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 7pm**

See box-out (above) for details.

## FEBRUARY

## Tuesday 3 February

**Tour of the Dulwich Picture Gallery permanent exhibition Dulwich, London, 2pm**

The world's first purpose-designed gallery, the Dulwich Picture Gallery, sits on extensive lawns and, lugubriously, holds a mausoleum at its heart, with the tombs of its founders. The lion's share of the collection was amassed in 1795 for the King of Poland, and contains works by 17th- and 18th-century European Old Masters Rubens, Claude, Van Dyck, Cuyp and, the stars of the collection, Poussin and Rembrandt. The temporary exhibition of work by Canadian artist Emily Carr (whose work features on our cover) can be viewed separately. *Tickets £15. Guests welcome.*

## Tuesday 3 February

**Music competition 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 at the Final on 1 June. *Tickets £15; Friends of ROSL ARTS £12. Includes wine.*

## Thursday 5 February

**First Thursdays drinks with pianist Peter Foggitt**



**Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 7pm**

The ROSL Annual Music Competition has begun, and what with auditions, section final performances and on-the-spot decision-making from our distinguished judging panel, you could call this the *X Factor* of classical music. One of our most engaging past winners, Peter Foggitt, speaks at February's monthly Younger Members drinks night, to give an insight into the competition. *Tickets £6. Includes welcome drink. Guests welcome.*

## Tuesday 10 February

**Annual music competition 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 at the competition Final on 1 June. *Tickets £15; Friends of ROSL ARTS £12. Includes wine.*

## Black-tie dinner and ceilidh

**Friday 30 January, Over-Seas House London, 7pm**

Book your place at this special club event now to avoid disappointment. We will warm the chill January night with our Burns Night celebration, with a lively dinner, traditional dance and music. Members and guests will be welcomed at a drinks reception in one of our beautiful function rooms, before enjoying a sumptuous three-course meal, including haggis and whisky. Afterwards a folk band and caller will lead the crowd in a ceilidh. *Tickets £70. Guests welcome.*

## Wednesday 11 February

**Visit to the City of Westminster Archives Centre St Ann's Street, SW1P, 1.45pm**

The Archives Centre houses extensive collections relating to Westminster, but this London Group visit will focus on the St James's area, including the archives of Liberty & Co, Fortnum & Mason catalogues and parish registers of the Piccadilly area. *Tickets £18; LG members £16. Includes entry and refreshments at the end of the tour.*

## Friday 13 February

**Yehudi Menuhin School Concert**



**Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 6.30pm**

Students from the Yehudi Menuhin School return for their annual ROSL concert. *Tickets £12; Friends of ROSL ARTS £10.*

## Saturday 14 February

**Valentine's Day event**

**Over-Seas House London, 7pm**

See box-out on page 32 for details.

## Experience Travel Group



## EXCLUSIVE TOURS FOR ROSL MEMBERS IN SRI LANKA AND THAILAND- MARCH 2015

## ROSL and London Group Tour

Sri Lanka is one of the most diverse and beautiful islands in the world. From such a small island to have such a variety of wildlife, cultural heritage, dramatic scenery and breathtaking landscapes is extraordinary. This tour is a true gem of the island. The 'must see' highlights of Sri Lanka with ROSL members included.

### SRI LANKA TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit the ancient rock fortress of Sigiriya, the Lion Rock of Sri Lanka.
- Enjoy the world's most beautiful beach, Mirissa, with its white sand and turquoise water.
- Visit the beautiful, historic, and scenic city of Kandy.
- Discover the fascinating history of ancient Sri Lanka, including the ancient city of Polonnaruwa.
- Enjoy the beautiful scenery of the island, including the tea plantations of the hills.

The island is a true gem of the island. The 'must see' highlights of Sri Lanka with ROSL members included.

## ROSL Thailand Group Tour

Thailand is a beautiful island with a rich history and culture. From the beautiful beaches to the ancient temples, there is something for everyone. This tour is a true gem of the island. The 'must see' highlights of Thailand with ROSL members included.

The island is a true gem of the island. The 'must see' highlights of Thailand with ROSL members included.

### THAILAND TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit the beautiful beaches of Phuket, Thailand.
- Enjoy the world's most beautiful beach, Mirissa, with its white sand and turquoise water.
- Visit the beautiful, historic, and scenic city of Kandy.
- Discover the fascinating history of ancient Sri Lanka, including the ancient city of Polonnaruwa.
- Enjoy the beautiful scenery of the island, including the tea plantations of the hills.

Experience Travel Group is a tailor-made holiday specialist that provides a complete service with in-depth knowledge of Sri Lanka, Thailand, India, China, Japan and Australia to create extraordinary travel experiences.

For every holiday made, Experience Travel Group will make a contribution of 1% to ROSL Humanitarian and Development Projects.

To join a group speak to a Personal Travel Expert on 0203 468 4524,

quoting your ROSL membership number.

[www.experiencetravelgroup.com](http://www.experiencetravelgroup.com)

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Monday 16 February

‘Wine and the Vine in Art’  
lecture and wine tasting  
**Over-Seas House London, 7-8.30pm**

Join art historian Hilary Guise for an exploration of wine in art, before sampling some of the most famous varieties at an informal tasting. The language of wine and art share the same poetic resonances, and wine, vines and wine drinking have been illustrated in the arts of all centuries, from Assyrian reliefs to Impressionist picnics. This Discussion Group lecture is full of surprises, and characters including Templars, apostles and French courtesans. *Free.*

Tuesday 17 February

Annual Music Competition  
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 First Prize at the competition Final on 1 June. *Tickets £15; Friends of ROSL ARTS £12. Includes wine.*

Thursday 19 February

‘Into the Heart of Darkness: Joseph Conrad and the East’



**Over-Seas House London, 6pm**  
Bishop Stephen Platten explores the origins and themes of Conrad’s powerful and enduring novel *Heart of Darkness* at this London Group talk. *Free. LG members and overnight guests at Over-Seas House only.*

Thursday 19 February

Edinburgh film night

**Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 5pm**  
Enjoy this 1954 crime thriller from ‘The Master of Suspense’, with coffee, popcorn and ice-cream. *Tickets for entry and refreshments £7.50.*

Tuesday 24 February

Annual Music Competition  
section final: Keyboard  
**Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 7pm**  
The keyboard finalists compete for the £5,000 prize, and the chance to win the Gold Medal at the competition Final on 1 June. *Tickets £15; Friends of ROSL ARTS £12. Includes wine.*

Valentine’s Day weekend

Over-Seas House London, Saturday 14 February

Valentine’s Day falls on a Saturday this year, so ROSL has gone the whole hog with a champagne afternoon tea, romance-themed walking tour of London, and accommodation offer for a very special weekend at your home-away-from-home. Starting with a Blue Badge guided walk through the atmospheric winter streets of London, you will then warm the cockles of your heart in the beautiful Brabourne Room with a sumptuous tea. The Restaurant is providing a Valentine’s meal for those wishing to dine at the clubhouse, and afterwards simply check into our comfortable clubhouse accommodation. *Tickets £37.50; £220-£225pp with bedroom, or contact Reservations for room-only prices. Guests welcome.*



Wednesday 25 February

Black-tie Dinner in the Tower



**Tower of London, 7pm**  
Enjoy a champagne reception in the Fusiliers’ Museum followed by a three-course dinner with wine and port in the Fusiliers’ Mess, amid the historic surroundings of the Tower of London. Then watch the Yeoman Warders perform the Ceremony of the Keys, ensuring the gates of the Tower are secure for the night. *Tickets £79. Guests welcome.*

Friday 27 February

YM Moveable Feast

**Over-Seas House London, 7pm**  
Enjoy a sumptuous sit-down dinner with a twist – it’s our club’s very own Moveable Feast, allowing you to meet fellow YMs to the max. A three-course menu will give you the chance to savour delicious dishes and excellent conversation in equal measure. *Tickets £36.50. Includes three-course meal and wine.*

MARCH

Tuesday 3 March

Annual Music Competition  
section final: Ensembles A



**Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 7pm**  
Finalists of the Ensembles A auditions (strings; strings and piano; piano duo/duet) compete for the £10,000 prize, and the chance to perform at the Final. *Tickets £15; Friends of ROSL ARTS £12. Includes wine.*

Thursday 5 March

Edinburgh film night

**Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 5pm**  
Oscar-winning drama about a monarch’s quest to find his voice. *Tickets for entry and refreshments £7.50.*

Thursday 5 March

First Thursdays drinks

**Duke of York Bar, Over-Seas House London, from 6pm**  
Monthly Younger Members drinks. We want all our YMs to feel at home in our clubhouses and to use them as spaces to relax, bring friends, engage in culture, and form new connections. So come and join us at our monthly social. See you there! *Free. Guests welcome.*

Monday 9 March

Commonwealth Day service



**Westminster Abbey, tba**  
It’s the celebration of a remarkable association of 53 countries, 2.2 billion citizens, and some of the largest, smallest, richest and poorest nations in the world. As we mark Commonwealth Day, ROSL members can once again apply for a limited number of tickets to the exceptional service in Westminster Abbey, customarily attended by the Head of the Commonwealth, HM The Queen. *Tickets £8.50. One per member.*

Monday 9 March

Commonwealth Day reception

**Over-Seas House London, time tba**  
ROSL has plans in the pipeline for an evening celebration of Commonwealth Day. Watch this space for further developments. *Tickets tba. Guests welcome.*

Scottish Highlands tour:  
In the footsteps of Bonnie Prince Charlie

Friday 13 - Sunday 15 March

Retrace the dramatic adventures of Bonnie Prince Charlie through the Highlands after his disastrous defeat at Culloden. Led by Highland Tourism Ambassador and experienced guide, Willie Cameron, the tour will take in Queen’s View Pitlochry, Ruthven Barrack, a trip up Cairn Gorm Mountain, Loch Ness, Culloden Battlefield and lunch at Fort William, under the shadow of Ben Nevis, before travelling back to Edinburgh via Glencoe and Stirling Castle on Sunday. Participants are advised to book travel back from Edinburgh for the following day. For full details of the trip, see p26. *Tickets £295pp; single supplement £70. Includes accommodation on Friday and Saturday, breakfast and lunch, and travel round the Highlands by luxury coach. To book your place, contact reception@rosl-edinburgh.org or +44 (0)131 225 1501 by 15 January 2015. Please book accommodation at the clubhouse on Thursday and Sunday separately, using the same contacts.*



Monday 9 March

Commonwealth Day lunch

**Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 12pm**  
Celebrate Commonwealth Day at ROSL Edinburgh with a delicious two-course lunch, including wine. *Tickets £20; guests £25.*

Tuesday 10 March

Annual Music Competition  
section final: Ensembles B

**Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 7pm**  
The wind, percussion, vocal and mixed ensemble finalists compete for the £10,000 prize. *Tickets £15; Friends of ROSL ARTS £12. Includes 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](http://www.rosl.org.uk);  
+44 (0)20 7016 6906;  
membersevents@rosl.org.uk

**London Group**  
Clive Carpenter;  
+44 (0)7798 824193; clivedavidcarpenter@compuserve.com.  
For outside visits: Maureen Howley;  
howleymaureen@hotmail.com

**Younger Members**  
Book online at [www.rosl.org.uk](http://www.rosl.org.uk);  
membersevents@rosl.org.uk

**Discussion Group**  
No advanced booking required.

32 OVERSEAS

www.rosl.org.uk

December 2014-February 2015

OVERSEAS 33



**Wednesday 11 March**

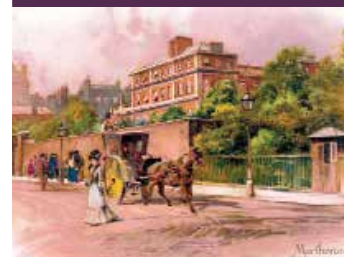
John Julius Norwich: Cities that shaped the ancient world

Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 7pm

In association with the Art Fund. From the world's first true cities in Mesopotamia to the urban centres of the Maya in Central America, the places described in John Julius Norwich's latest book represent almost three millennia of human history, society and culture. The author has written widely on history, architecture and music, and presented 30 BBC historical documentaries. Tickets £16. Includes wine. To book, contact the Art Fund on +44 (0)844 415 4100.

**Friday 13 March**

Tour of Marlborough House



Westminster, 11am

A walking tour of the Grade I listed mansion on The Mall, designed by Sir Christopher Wren and his son. The London residence of the Dukes of Marlborough for more than a century, the building is now the Commonwealth Secretariat HQ, executing the mandates agreed by Commonwealth Heads of Government through technical assistance, advice and policy development. Additionally it is the home of the Commonwealth Foundation, which helps civil society organisations promote democracy, development and cultural understanding. Tickets £15. Guests welcome.

**Tuesday 17 March**

Annual Music Competition: Overseas Award

Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 7pm

Gifted young musicians from the 2015 solo section finals compete for the award for outstanding Commonwealth musician. Tickets £15; Friends of ROSL ARTS £12. Includes wine.

**Thursday 19 March**

The Royal Maundy

Over-Seas House London, 6pm

A London Group talk by Peter Hartley about the history of this Church of England service, during which the British Monarch distributes small silver coins as symbolic alms to elderly recipients. Free. LG members and overnight guests at Over-Seas House only.

**Wednesday 25 March**

British Food Feast in the ROSL Restaurant



Over-Seas House London, 7pm

We are giving the gastronomic prowess our new Head Chef, Kevin Casizzi, free reign in a magnificent four-course tasting evening that will put a spotlight on our talented team. Guided by Kevin, with two junior chefs from the River Cottage showcasing dishes of their own, the menu will feature ROSL suppliers and producers, and be matched by choice vintages from the club cellar, illustrated by a wine expert. If you love fine dining, love your club and want an expert insight into our food production, don't miss this one-off event. See page 17 for our Q&A with Kevin. Tickets £59. Guests welcome. To reserve a seat or table, contact [rosldining@graysonsrestaurants.com](mailto:rosldining@graysonsrestaurants.com) or +44 (0)20 7629 3881.

**Canada House tour**

Over-Seas House London, February/March (tbc)

ROSL is planning an exclusive visit to Canada House, once their extensive refurbishment works are completed. To register your interest, email [membersevents@rosl.org.uk](mailto:membersevents@rosl.org.uk), and we will contact you when the visit has been arranged.

## FULL BOOKING INFORMATION & CONTACT DETAILS

**■ ROSL ARTS**

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

**■ ROSL Scotland**

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

**■ Members' events**

Book online at [www.rosl.org.uk](http://www.rosl.org.uk). 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](mailto: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](http://www.rosl.org.uk/events). Inter-Club events must be booked independently; visit [www.inter-club.co.uk](http://www.inter-club.co.uk) for details. For information about the ROSL YM programme join the YM Facebook page at [facebook.com/groups/roslym](https://facebook.com/groups/roslym) or contact: Sara Brouwer, [membersevents@rosl.org.uk](mailto:membersevents@rosl.org.uk); or Ross Lima, [ross.lima@gmail.com](mailto: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 at [clivedavidcarpenter@compuserve.com](mailto:clivedavidcarpenter@compuserve.com) or +44 (0)7798 824193.

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 Maureen Howley, London Group, c/o Porters' Desk, Over-Seas House, Park Place, St James's Street, London SW1A 1LR. Cancellations and refund requests must be made at least two weeks before the event.

Outside visit inquiries: Maureen Howley, +44 (0)20 8789 8506; [howleymaureen@hotmail.com](mailto:howleymaureen@hotmail.com).

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

**■ Discussion Group**

Meetings are held monthly at Over-Seas House London on Monday evenings. There is no charge, no need to book and all ROSL members and guests are welcome. For talk details: please visit [www.rosl.org.uk](http://www.rosl.org.uk).

Visit [www.rosl.org.uk/events](http://www.rosl.org.uk/events) for more information on the full programme of events.



# KIRKER HOLIDAYS

## ANDALUCIA

Once part of the Moorish territory that extended from North Africa, Andalusia is the spiritual heart of southern Spain and the home of flamenco, colourful festivals and much of the country's finest seafood, olive oil and wine. Sandy beaches, snow-capped mountains and the iconic pueblitos blancos make the Andalusian landscape varied and evocative. It is marked by Roman, Moorish and Christian monuments from Granada's Alhambra and Cordoba's Mezquita, to the Cathedral of Seville and Ronda's historic bullring. This is also a region with a unique artistic heritage and is the birthplace of artists such as Velázquez, Murillo and Picasso.

Andalusia is the perfect destination for a short break, a longer holiday or a comfortable rural hacienda, or even a multi-centre holiday combining the region's fascinating cultural cities. Call 020 7593 2283 to speak to an expert.



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We are delighted to offer this unique week-long holiday combining Seville, Cordoba and Granada. These hotels all offer superb locations, great service and attractive contemporary design. Clients booking this itinerary receive a number of complimentary meals and city tours making the Andalusian Trilogy excellent value for money.

Price from £1,548 per person from 1 November - 28 February 2015

The package will include the following:

- Flight from the UK to Seville.
- Return private car transfers in Seville.
- Three nights at the 4\* Superior Hospes Las Casas del Rey de Baeza
- Rail from Seville to Cordoba.
- Two nights at the 5\* Superior Hospes Palacio del Realin
- Rail from Cordoba to Granada
- Two nights at the 5\* Superior Hospes Palacio de los Pinos
- Private car transfer from hotel to Malaga airport.
- Flight from Malaga to the UK.

Car hire is also available for those who prefer to drive independently between cities.

Exclusive complimentary benefits:

- Light tapas lunch served at the hotel in Seville.
- Complimentary dinner in Cordoba & Granada
- A two hour public guided walking tour of Seville
- Entrance to the Mosque in Cordoba.
- A public guided tour of the Alhambra, Granada.

Please ask for a quote if you wish to upgrade for complimentary public tours to exclusive private guides.

### ANDALUCIAN DISCOVERY

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Price from £2,694 for eleven nights, including flights, accommodation with breakfast, seven dinners, four lunches, a full programme of sightseeing and the services of the Kirker Tour Lecturer



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Andalusia

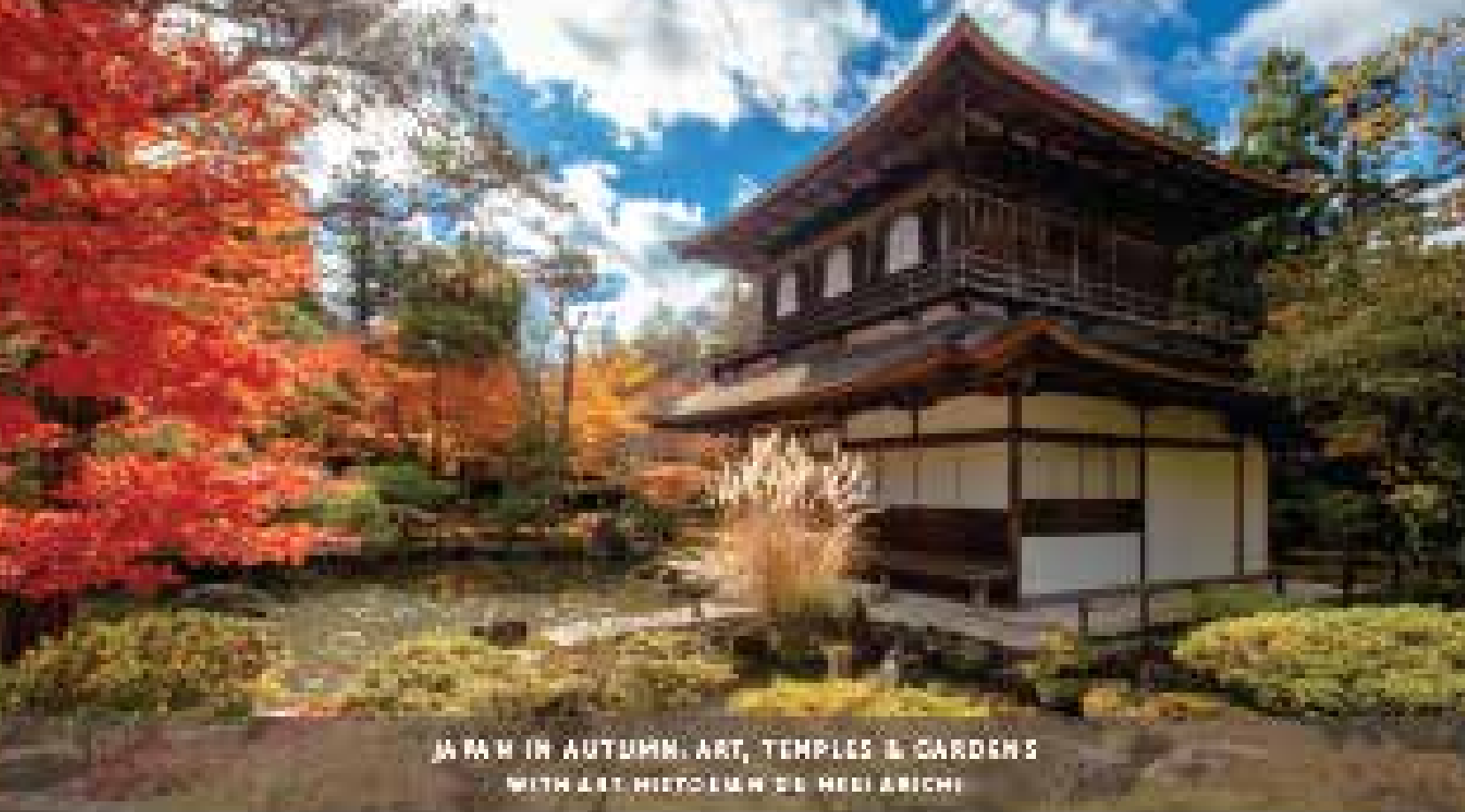
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Our itineraries cover every aspect of the city, from the art, architecture, archaeology and history to music, dance and the natural world, every possible inclusion means no people and places.

## **Handing up space**

Our Tour Managers are not spectators and - despite being, have access to their knowledge and passion.

## **Like-minded travellers**

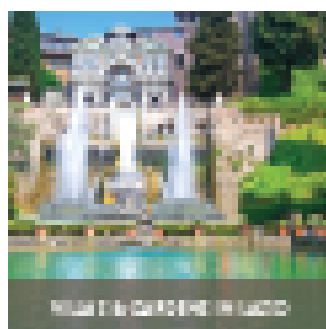
Our worldwide network of cultural enthusiasts, and our small groups are particularly welcoming for sharing stories.

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Creating the story, the ACE Foundation, all our participants are committed to the same cause: a worldwide cultural project.



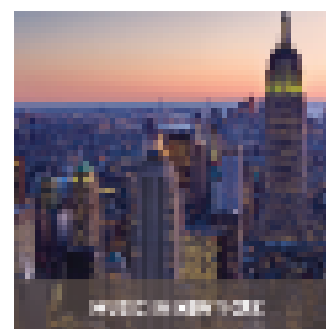
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