

THE NEWSLETTER

Issue NEW YEAR 2010

WE REMEMBER

ANGELA DODDS 1943-2009

Chairman Antwerp DFAS and Vice-Chairman Mainland Europe NADFAS

It is hard to believe that Angela is no longer with us. Few realised, as she continued to work for ADFAS (and others) despite major clinical treatment, that she was fighting a virulent illness – which she bore with considerable quiet courage – until she finally lost the battle and returned, for the last time, to hospital.

There was a lot to Angela that many did not know. She was a “Derbyshire Lass”, and forthright with it, spending her childhood in the Parwich area of The Peak District. The Dodds family were an important part of village life and are still remembered by many locally with affection. The conventional and disciplined side of Angela perhaps reflects her parents, Major Dodds and Lady Crompton-Ingelfield, and her childhood background. The unconventional is clear to see in the photograph on the memorial card at her funeral – in Africa, on Safari, leaning on a car with her pet cheetah.

Hardworking, conscientious, Angela was active in many areas of the British Community. We know that she would have dearly wished ADFAS to survive, and it is with great regret that we find that this is not likely to happen. For all that she did for NADFAS, firstly for our Society here in Antwerp and lately for those in Mainland Europe, we will always be thankful, and she is going to be sorely missed.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to her children, Fiona & Simon, her sisters and her family - Farewell Angela.

Michael Smith

ADFAS
the Antwerp Arts
Society
a member society of



Angela, a young woman in Africa



December lecture 2007 with Marina Vaizey



October 2008 Art Bring & Buy Sale

THE VOLUNTEERS New Project

On October 15th six ADFAS Volunteers received an introduction for their new project at the Felixarchives. Werner Pottier and Joost Depuydt had organised it all. The project concerns an iconographic collection of documents about Antwerp in general. We were first shown where (in which container) these documents are now and how they are grouped and packed by items. We then walked on to another container in which the collections will be stored after we have re-organised them.

We walked on to view our future working table and received all the instructions:

check the old inventory numbers, give new numbers, measure the documents, check their condition and pack the documents in different sized (from A4 to A0) acid free paper.

To check the condition of the documents, we received examples, looked at pictures in a specialized book, which will stay with us at our assigned large working table. Next, Joost showed us the jackets he had prepared with all the instructions, the work documents themselves as well as the equipment we need. Later we were introduced to the people working around us and staff members whom we had met when we were working for the city archives in the Venusstraat a few years ago, came to welcome us again in the new Felixarchives. To end this introductory morning, we had coffee in the beautiful cafeteria with the marvellous view over the Willemdok, the MAS (still under construction) and the Kattendijk dock.

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**Our lecture venue:
The Church Hall (St.Boniface
Anglican Church), Grétrystraat,
2018 Antwerpen
Info: 03/238 29 51.**

The January, February and March lectures

Monday 11 January 2010
THE ART OF THE PANORAMA
Nineteenth Century 'Circlevision'
Lecturer: Prof. Ian Beckett

The 360-degree panorama painting was an immensely popular art form in the 19th century in Britain, Europe, and the USA. Over 300 were produced in the last quarter of the century alone; just 16 remain displayed in rotundas around the world although others survive in store. The talk looks at the origin of the panorama; its popularity in the first half of the 19th century; the production and marketing of panoramas and the reception by the audience; the revival and decline of panoramas in the last quarter of the 19th century; and, to finish, some modern panoramas.

IB/GDB



Section from the panorama at Waterloo of the battle

PROF. IAN BECKETT

Professor Beckett who studied at the Universities of Lancaster and London and became a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society has vast lecturing experience including the Universities of the US Marine Corps, Salford and Luton, RMA Sandhurst, various historical societies and cruise ships. He is currently Professor of History at the University of Northampton. He is known internationally for his work on the Great War, the British army, and modern counter-insurgency. His many publications include *Territorials: A Century of Service*, *The Great War, 1914-1918*, *The Victorians at War*, etc.

Monday 1 February 2010
HOUSES AND GARDENS OF
NORMANDY
Lecturer: Helen McCabe

The medieval past of England and Normandy is inextricably linked; the

Normandy immortalised by painters and writers alike – the rich greens of field and forest, the whites of apple blossom and chalk cliffs, the blues of the sea and of fields of flax – also contains medieval castles, 16th and 17th century chateaux, 19th century villas and an Arts and Crafts house built by Lutyens with a garden designed by Gertrude Jekyll.

HM/GDB



The Château de Miromesnil

HELEN McCABE

Helen McCabe read French at university and studied history of art and architecture at the École du Louvre in Paris. She has always particularly loved those parts of France with close historic links with England, - namely Normandy and the Bordeaux region (Aquitaine).

She grew up in Cornwall and has now returned to live in her childhood home. She was commissioned to write a book on the Houses and Gardens of Cornwall.

Monday, 1 March 2010
THE SPLENDOURS OF NORTH
AFRICA

Roman and Islamic Art of Libya,
Tunisia and Morocco

By Christopher Bradley

Ancient Roman wealth is widely evident in North Africa's magnificent forgotten cities and villas with fabulous mosaics, while the ports handling the attendant Trans-Saharan trade, Leptis Magna, Cyrene, Oea, Sabratha and Carthage, became so powerful that a Libyan, Septimius Severus, even became Emperor in 193 AD. Resting alongside these are the unique structures of Islamic North Africa.

CB/GDB



The stage at the theatre in Sabratha

CHRISTOPHER BRADLEY

Mr. Bradley is an expert in the history and culture of the Middle East and North Africa. As a professional tour guide and lecturer he has led groups throughout Africa, the Middle East and Asia. He has written extensively on Arabia and is the author of *The Discovery Guide to Yemen*, *Insight Guide to the Silk Road* and the *Berlitz Guide to Libya*.

His work in photography is represented in four photographic libraries. He has a broad range of lecturing experience, including to the Royal Geographical Society and the Royal Institute of British Architects.

As a film producer and cameraman he has made documentaries for the BBC, National Geographic TV & Channel 4.

ARTWORK

in public areas

Since 2006, the Middelheim Museum has extended its operations and now also organizes activities beyond the confines of the Museum.

With the advisory council 'Beeld in de Stad' [Sculpture in the City] and the project 'Bij-buurten op het Kiel' [Catch up on the Kiel], the Middelheim Museum has created a new, young network with a variety of artistic and social contacts.



Boy & Eric Stappaerts,
Berchem Community Center

THE VOLUNTEERS (continued)

The next Thursday, 22 October, we started working on the new project. The first documents were architectural plans of the quay walls along the Schelde, the iron covers on the quays, the quays of the Bonaparte and Willem docks, the surrounding buildings, the cranes, the lock and the plans of the first enlargement of the dockland to the north and the connection to the Albert Canal. In December we started with an iconographic collection on old Antwerp cloister buildings. All very interesting.

We are glad to have found in Marianne Hoekstra a new volunteer very knowledgeable in paper types and paper restorations. We are also happy at the return of Myriam Lahou, a very dedicated volunteer.

We thank Liliane Blommaert for her help at the Volkskundemuseum. We will miss her for the new project but hope she will join the volunteers again once she has sorted out her old photographic and film work at home. The other volunteers are Martine, Moïra, Ada and me and we continue to work on Thursday mornings from 9.30 to 12.30, with a coffee break in the cafeteria.

GDB

OUTING TO GHENT On Saturday April 24th 2010

By train (weekend tariff) to Ghent. On foot or with 'De Lijn' by bus to the KMSK Gent.

Guided tour to the retrospective Exhibition of the very original Flemish artist: Gustave Van de Woestijne. (Gent 1881 - Ukkel 1947)

Lunch together (to be determined later)

In the afternoon: guided tour to the Guislain Museum and its exhibition 'From Memory, about knowing and forgetting'

Please put your name down on the subscription list at one of the coming lectures, mail or call Gilberte Du Bois, gilberte.dubois@belgacom.net
tel: 03/230.98.72 or 0477/530.501

More information on this outing in the next Newsletter.

Exhibition at the KMSK Antwerpen

Until 17 January 2010

In the Footsteps of Bartók. Lajos Vajda and Hungarian Surrealism

Lajos Vajda (Zalaegerszeg 1908 – Budapest 1941) is one of the best-known Hungarian artists of the interwar period.

Vajda's oeuvre dates from an era marked by authoritarian regimes and war.

Towards the end of the 1920s, he began to experiment with the geometric idiom of Constructivism.

In 1930, Vajda moved to Paris, where he created photomontages reflecting current events of the time. His technique in these interesting works is reminiscent of Russian avant-garde cinema (e.g. Eisenstein).

After his return to Hungary in 1934, Vajda set out to collect Serbian, Slavic and Hungarian folk art motifs from the countryside, in much the same way as the composers Béla Bartók and Zoltán Kodály had done. He also got to work on a programme for a 'Hungarian art'. Lajos Vajda died in 1941. He deeply influenced the avant-garde of his era, known under the collective name of the *European School*



Floating Houses, 1937, Lajos Vajda

The National Theatre *Direct*

Thursday 30 January 2010 at 14.30
in the Metropolis, Antwerp

Nation

based on a novel by Terry Pratchett
adapted by Mark Ravenhill
Director: Melly Still
145 minutes (inc interval)
No subtitles

This new family production will enthral both adults and children alike. A parallel world, 1860. Two teenagers thrown together by a tsunami that has destroyed Mau's village and left Daphne shipwrecked on his South

Pacific island, thousands of miles from home. One wears next to nothing, the other a long white dress; neither speaks the other's language; somehow they must learn to survive. As starving refugees gather, Daphne delivers a baby, milks a pig, brews beer and does battle with a mutineer. Mau fights cannibal Raiders, discovers the world is round and questions the reality of his tribe's fiercely patriarchal gods. Together they come of age, overseen by a foul-mouthed parrot, as they discard old doctrine to forge a new Nation.

Live music, thrilling dance and spectacular puppets combine to bring to life the spectacular and surprising world of Terry Pratchett's *Nation* on the National Theatre stage.

PARIS-DFAS

Ghislaine Elliott from the Paris Decorative & Fine Arts Society has sent this kind e-mail:

Dear Gilberte,

On behalf of our President Andrew Parkin and all our members, I would like to send our condolences hearing that Angela Dodds has passed away. It is a shame that I never had the chance to meet her; numerous phone calls proved that our visit to Antwerp was of a great concern to her.

We have now started our new "Padfas" year, and as a reply to our wonderful visit of Antwerp, organized on Friday morning on September 25th, we would like to suggest a trip to Paris? Why not choose a Thursday afternoon lecture, but arrive in the morning, so we could find an interesting walk or exhibition to take you to. I believe you have our brochure with our forthcoming lectures?

Yours,
Ghislaine Elliott

With only three serving members, the ADFAS committee is unable to organise a Society visit to Paris. However, if anyone wishes to take up the invitation from PADFAS, lectures are held on Thursday afternoons. More information (lecture subjects, dates and venue) may be found on the website: www.britishinfrance.com/calender

DATES TO REMEMBER

11 January 2010	<i>The Art of the Panorama and the Cyclorama</i> Lecturer: Professor Ian Beckett	Church Hall, Grétrystraat as from 7 pm Lecture at 8 pm
1 February 2010	<i>Houses and Gardens of Normandy</i> Lecturer: Helen McCabe	Church Hall, Grétrystraat as from 7 pm Lecture at 8 pm
1 March 2010	<i>The Splendours of North Africa: Roman and Islamic Art of Libya, Tunisia and Morocco</i> Lecturer: Christopher Bradley	Church Hall, Grétrystraat as from 7 pm Lecture at 8 pm
12 April 2010	<i>History of the Long Case Clock</i> Lecturer: Dr Colin Lattimore	Church Hall, Grétrystraat as from 7 pm Lecture at 8 pm
24 April 2010	Outing to Ghent Visit to KMSK and the Guislain Museum	More information later
10 May 2010	<i>Ocean Liner Art: Ships that Shaped our Lives 1800-1950</i> Lecturer: James Taylor	Church Hall, Grétrystraat as from 7 pm Lecture at 8 pm

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With thanks to this month's contributors:
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