

FRIENDS OF THE WILSON NEWS UPDATE



In this issue...

- **Tuesday 24 February.** Join us at 11.00 for a free curated talk on the Paula Rego exhibition. We only have a few spaces left. Please email events@friendsofthewilson.org.uk to save a place.
 - **Wednesday 1 April.** There are also only a few places remaining. Please book now for a curated wine tasting at The Grape Escape, Cheltenham.
 - **Study tour to Northumberland Sunday 26 to Wednesday 29 April 2026.** Would you like to join us? Booking is still open as we have just a few places available, including a couple of single rooms! Click [here](#) for full details and a booking form.
 - **Talks are now on Wednesday afternoons.** This is to avoid the clash with the excellent Young Musicians concerts that were previously at the Pump Room and now temporarily at the Town Hall.
 - If you pay your subscriptions by Standing Order please ensure payment amounts are correct.
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Wednesday 11 February 2pm: Lucy Abel Smith's talk on the Fresh Air Sculpture Show has been re-scheduled for 17 June. Please join us on 11 February for our replacement talk by Emma Ferry on 'The Other Miss Faulkner': Lucy Orrinsmith and The Drawing Room.

[Book now](#)



Wednesday 18 March 2pm: Talk: Living in a work of art: the domestic architecture of C. R. Mackintosh with Fiona James.

[Book now](#)



Wednesday 1 April 5:30pm for 6pm: An evening of Wine Tasting and Art Appreciation: A timeless fusion.

[Book now](#)



Wednesday 22 April 2pm. Talk: The Gordon Russell Museum with Christopher Hotten

[Book now](#)

News from the Trustees

News from the Trustees

We are very grateful to our President PJ Crook who donated £5,334 to The Friends of The Wilson from her Open Studios sale in December.

We'd like to remind members that membership fees increased last year. While many members updated their standing orders at the time, our records show that some standing orders are still set at the previous rate. We kindly ask all members to check their standing orders and update them to reflect the current membership fee as soon as possible. It should be possible to view your standing orders through your bank's online portal. Alternatively, you may need to ask your bank to do it via phone or in person.

Joint membership is £40

Single membership is £25

Under 25s is £20

Thank you for your support and cooperation.

News from The Wilson

Exhibition : Meeting Points

Until 22 February 2026

We Are Creators artists in residence present to you Meeting Points, a group exhibition

celebrating the end of their year-long studio residency here at The Wilson. Meeting Points refers to the communal space of the studio, as well as the many crossovers and intersections of a wide range of practices and perspectives.

Exhibition : Paula Rego: Visions of English Literature

Until 10 May 2026

This compelling exhibition brings together three of Paula Rego's most ambitious and poignant print series – Nursery Rhymes, Peter Pan and Jane Eyre. A selection of personal items from Rego's studio offers intimate insight into her creative process and the narrative impulses that shaped her imagery. Rego's work invites viewers into a universe where innocence and cruelty, fantasy and reality coexist in vivid tension.

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Exhibition : Cheltenham's BIG Museum Project: Test Space

Until July 2026

In 2020 the museum wing closed for refurbishment. With renovation work almost complete there will be four large modern collection galleries which will become the new museum. These will be shaped by the community. Phase One – Community Consultations - a broad range of consultations both at The Wilson and out in our communities which have been used to inform phase two of the project. Phase Two – Testing Ideas with the Communities to include an exciting interactive exhibition and extensive community outreach programme. Phase Three – Reopening the Museum.

Best wishes

The Trustees

Friends of The Wilson

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