

FRIENDS OF THE WILSON NEWS UPDATE



In this issue...

- **As we move towards Autumn a full programme of exciting FoTW events up until the end of November.** On 2 September at 7:15pm at St Luke's Hall, Kirsty Hartsiotis's talk will mark the centenary of the death of two of the Cotswolds' greatest Arts and Crafts architects, the brothers Ernest and Sidney Barnsley. Then on 15 September we will visit Museum & Art Swindon for a private tour led by Kirsty of *Beneath the Surface: A Century of Studio Ceramics in Britain*.
- On 23 September at St Matthew's Church we welcome Lisa Sheppy, whose exhibition '*Ornament Unbound: Tissue transferware reframed*' will take place at The Museum of Royal Worcester this Autumn. We are looking into a visit to the Museum.
- Save the date: 29 October – **private members-only event to celebrate the re-opening of The Wilson**, starting at 6pm. Enjoy food, drinks, and a special curation. More details coming soon; booking will open shortly.
- The latest exhibition at the Wilson - **The Art of Looking: from Dutch Masters to Modern Britain**.



Wednesday 2 September 7:15pm Evening talk

From Birmingham to Byzantium to the Cotswolds: stories of Ernest and Sidney Barnsley with Kirsty Hartsiotis.

Book now



Visit to Museum & Art Swindon

Now confirmed for Tuesday 15 September - a private tour of *Beneath the Surface: A Century of Studio Ceramics in Britain* led by Kirsty Hartsiotis

Book now



Wednesday 23 September 2pm Talk: Ornament unbound: print, transfer and ceramic surface with Lisa Sheppy.

Book now



Wednesday 28 October 2pm Talk: Street Art in Cheltenham: the art of our time? with Adrian Barlow.

Book now



Wednesday 25 November 2pm Talk: Still Life and Beyond with Sara Hayward.

Book now

[News from the Trustees](#)



20 Friends recently enjoyed the stunning surroundings of **Rodmarton Manor**, where Fiona James gave us a private tour of this wonderful property.

Friends of Gloucester Cathedral Autumn Lecture

The Friends of Gloucester Cathedral would like to extend an invitation to book tickets for their Autumn lecture on Saturday 24th October at 2pm. They welcome Sharon Griffiths to give a talk called "The Long Man", which tells the story of John Hunter (the father of modern surgery), Edward Jenner (the father of modern medicine) and a mystery character (the Long Man) and how they all tie together and their contributions to modern science. Full details and how to book tickets can be found [here](#).

Membership renewals

While many members updated their standing orders at the time, our records show that around half 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 fees :

Joint membership is £40, Single membership is £25 and Under 25s is £20.

[News from The Wilson](#)

The Art of Looking: from Dutch Masters to Modern Britain

Until 3 January 2027

This exhibition, in two spaces, celebrates the richness of The Wilson's collection from the forty-three paintings gifted to Cheltenham in 1898 of the de Ferrières collection, through to 20th century artists including Stanley Spencer, Graham Sutherland, Vanessa Bell, Duncan Grant, and Lynn Chadwick.

The Wilson's de Ferrières Collection, is a rare and focused group of European artworks which span the mid-17th to the mid-19th century. In contrast, a second exhibition space highlights modern painters and sculptors. Rather than simply recording what they saw, they experimented with perception, memory, and metaphor. Together, the two periods form a conversation about attention. Whether rendered with meticulous detail or bold stylisation, each artwork asks us to pause, to look again, and to discover how much more becomes visible when we take the time to truly see.

A major refurbishment of the Arts and Crafts Gallery

There is a temporary closure of the Arts and Crafts gallery for much needed repair and refurbishment. Key objects from the collection will be displayed in other areas of the museum. The ambition is to present a major exhibition on the Arts and Craft Movement in June 2027, including items from other collections. The Wilson aims to reopen the permanent Arts and Crafts gallery in 2028.

Volunteering at The Wilson - is it for you ?

Volunteering at The Wilson Art Gallery & Museum offers a rich and rewarding experience that goes far beyond simply giving your time, it is also an excellent way to expand personal knowledge and develop new interests.

Please see further information at [Volunteer - The Wilson Museum](#)

Best wishes

The Trustees

Friends of The Wilson

www.friendsofthewilson.org.uk

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