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The Friends of Dame Laura Knight Society, Malvern & Colwall Branch

Dame Laura Knight Society Holiday at St. Ives 14 -18th May 2019

35 Friends enjoyed an action packed 4 days in Cornwall with the tremendous support of our friends in the Lamorna Society.

Chy Morvah:

We were again fortunate to stay at the most friendly, comfortable and eco Holiday Fellowship (HF) hotel. Five stars for good food and hospitality!! One of the evening entertainments included Gwyn's period quiz!



Lamorna Valley walk of Artists' houses:

Our first morning was a memorable walk up the Lamorna Valley guided by Rob Fishburn from the Lamorna Society. Along with beautiful trail, never to be forgotten insights into artists homes, clapper bridges and Fogues!!



Penlee Gallery tour:

Penlee Gallery was the focus of our first afternoon. Curators Zoe gave an impressive introduction to the 'Artists by Themselves' exhibition whilst Katie revealed the treasures of the storeroom.



Morrab Gardens was a beautiful bonus to the day.



Tea at Sennen:

After a full day, time for some wave watching in Sennen. Plus a well deserved sit down.



Wheal Betsy:

We were privileged to begin Day two with a viewing of the home of Pam Lomax and Ron Hogg, 'Wheal Betsy' formerly the family home of Gotch the painter.

Pam introduced us to Laura in Newlyn with an archived letter from Arithea Garstin, her young friend.



Walk around Newlyn Artists' houses:



Ron Hogg and 2 colleagues from the Newlyn Archivists gave us a fascinating walk through the village pinpointing artists houses highlighted with stories from the days of the Colony.

These really brought it to light in its heyday. The tour ended at the Archives Centre where volunteers welcomed us with an LK video they had specially created

Visit to Michael Porter's Studio:

After a hasty lunch we walked to Michael's studio on The Slip. Here he spoke about his work and inspirations from nature, inviting us to look closer at his current, very dramatic work.









Tea and walk at Tremenheere Sculpture Park and walk:

A visit to the sculpture park allowed us to wander in the most scenic gardens set with challenging modern structures. Then there was time for cream teas with Jenny Williamson from the Lamorna Society and the purchase of exotic plants





Guided tour of Falmouth Gallery:

Friday saw us discovering the small but innovative Gallery at Falmouth. Curator Henrietta Boex gave a dynamic introduction to the building and the current exhibitions. There was further excitement when small groups visited the storeroom to view treasures such as those of Tuke and Gotch and locally created Automaton.



St. Ives:

Our last free afternoon allowed us to wander and rediscover the attractions of St.Ives: The Tate, Hepworth, Leach ottery or just to sit and marvel at the azure sea, the white sand and the crystal clear painter's light.





Guided tour of the Lost Gardens of Heligan:

On our return trip we diverted to St Austell. Here at Heligan we saw the splendours of a rediscovered Victorian garden and impressive planting - lessons for our own small patches!?



Farewell – thank you Richard and Commandery:

Hovering before the final leg home. Our driver Richard had been wonderful and our brand new coach superb. Huge thank you to Commandery. Too soon we left Cornwall after 4 stimulating days of art, seascapes and gardens we arrived back in Malvern but we promised ourselves it won't be long before we will be back.



*- Heather Whatley, Vice Chair
The Friends of Dame Laura Knight Society.*