



British Society Deventer

<http://britishsocietydeventer.nl>

SEASON 2017-2018

NEWSLETTER NO. 3, December 2017



Dear members,

With the Festive Season well under way the committee of British Society Deventer would like to wish all of you a

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year in the best of health.

Here is a poem that may suit the Season:

Holidays

*The holiest of all holidays are those
Kept by ourselves in silence and apart;
The secret anniversaries of the heart, when the full river of feeling overflows;-
The happy days unclouded to their close;
The sudden joys that out of darkness start
As flames from ashes; swift desires that dart
Like swallows singing down each wind that blows!
White as the gleam of a receding sail, white as a cloud that floats and fades in air,
White as the whitest lily on a stream, these tender memories are; - a fairy tale
Of some enchanted land we know not where, but lovely as a landscape in a dream.*

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1802-1882)

THE NEXT TALK ON 21 JANUARY 2018

Our first talk in the new year will be given by Mrs Christine Robinson on 21 January 2018 at 3 pm.

Venue: De Schalm, Dreef 1,7414 EA Deventer, shopping centre Borgele.

The Housekeeper's Tips, Tales and Tipples

Christine Robinson, who spoke to us twice before, entered service at Chatsworth in 1974. Nestling in the heart of the beautiful Pk District and home of the Cavendish family and the Dukes of Deveshire for nearly 500 years, Chatsworth House is perhaps one of Britain's greatest stately homes. Christine spent three summer vacations working at Chatsworth whilst a student of history at Newcastle upon Tyne University, and on her graduation in 1977 she began working full-time with the Chatsworth team. Intending to stay for only one year, she, like many others before and since, fell under Chatsworth's spell and she retired as Head Housekeeper in 2015 after 38 years' service. She still lives in the Estate village of Edensor in the heart of Chatsworth's vibrant community.

In 2014 Christine published her memoirs, *Chatsworth: The Housekeeper's Tale*, and following the success of this book, she was prompted to write a second book – *Chatsworth: The Housekeeper's Tips, Tales and Tipples*. Her talk by the same title is an illustrated PowerPoint talk taking a light-hearted tour of Chatsworth, exploring the history of everyday objects in all our homes, and revealing more of Chatsworth's hidden stories from her 40 years' experience of working at one of the best-loved houses in England.

Christine is still involved with life at Chatsworth, volunteering for special events and giving talks at Chatsworth from time to time, and she also enjoys delivering talks about Chatsworth and the Chatsworth Estate to a variety of groups of all sizes, from 20 to 900, both locally and further afield, including successful lecture tours of the Netherlands and Switzerland.



FILM & TEA IN FEBRUARY 2018

Our next film will be on Saturday 17 February at 13.30 pm. Venue is Filmhuis de Keizer. The film to be shown is **Darkest Hour**. More information on this film will reach you in our next Newsletter mid-January.

READING GROUP

In January we will be discussing the latest novel by the Pakistani author **Mosin Hamid: Exit West**. Mohsin Hamid left his home country to live in the USA and England at an early age but after his success as a writer (*The Reluctant Fundamentalist* got worldwide acclaim and was made into a film) he returned to his home region and now lives in Lahore.

Exit West has the refugee crisis as its subject. The story begins in an unnamed city in Pakistan where a young man falls in love with a girl. A war is looming without IS being mentioned by name. The young couple decides to flee the country in spite of the pain of leaving behind a recently widowed father. Mohsin Hamid uses a fairy tale-like device of a magical door through which they can escape. Their journey takes them by way of Mykonos and London to the USA. The story about the couple seeking a new future abroad has an almost prophetic note to it. The immigrants build their own village outside London, which is in ruins by war. However, this novel is not about human misery but, as the writer said in an interview, it is about moving on. Not describing the terrible journeys refugees have to make, does not mean, he said, he thinks them unimportant. He wished to formulate his ideals and believes in basic human decency. This is resonant throughout the book.

TIPS OF THE MONTH

On Christmas Eve, 24 December at 20.00 pm. (church open at 19.00 pm)

Wishful Singing, a vocal group of five ladies singing a cappella, will be performing in the Bergkerk, Deventer. The programme will be varied, ranging from Gregorian to John Rutter ("Deck the Halls"), to Spanish and Norwegian Christmas songs.

Entrance fee: a free gift. Gluhwein will be available.

<https://zaterdagmiddagconcertendeventer.nl>

| COMMITTEE, BSD DEVENTER 2017-2018 | ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP |
|---|---|
| Fred Santing, chairman (038-4652759) Paul Lössbroek, secretary (055-3558675) Marijke Lemmerman Events & Lodgings Coordinator (0571-271630) Cor Koppert Treasurer (0570-590707) Mariette Kooy, member-at-large (0575-551719) | Couples €54,00 Singles €30,00 Bank nr NL25 INGB 0003 158375 t.n.v. British Society Deventer Membership year: 1 July – 30 June In practice, our season of talks and events starts on 1 September Newsletter: Els Vorenkamp, website: AnneMarie Meijer |

