

Kent Area NADFAS

From the Baltic into Russia, a Thousand Years of Cultural History

A series of three Study Days at Harrietsham Village Hall, at 10 for 10.30am until 3.15pm

Study Day A: Wednesday 20th October 2010.

Baltic High Noon: Architecture, Nationhood and a Modern Miracle – Prof. Clyde Binfield

The Danes, the Swedes and Baltic Barons are the setting for this Study Day – From the 16th Century the Baltic has been fought over by Danes, Swedes, Russians of course but also Prussians and even Poles. This has been reflected in its culture and it can be seen in its buildings from palaces and churches to apartment blocks. Then we move to

Finland: From the Grand Duchy to National Romanticism - in the 19th century Finland slipped from Swedish to Russian domination. It became a Grand Duchy, part of the Czarist Empire, but quite unlike any other part. Helsinki became a delightful mini-capital and a national consciousness was shaped. This too can be seen in public and private buildings from the classical to the chunky granite National Romantic and with more than a bow to what we might call “Arts & Crafts”. Finally we move to:

Alvar Aalto: Expressing a Nation on a World Stage. Alvar Aalto lived from 1898 to 1976. His work expressed Finland, a new democracy that survived against all the odds. His work embraced many famous buildings. His vases, chairs and stools have been in production since the 1930’s. This man became a “cult figure among architects and fans of modern design”.

Study Day B: Wednesday 26th January 2011

From Kiev to Moscow: – Early Russian Art and Architecture 1000 – 1500AD – Jane Angelini

The three session on this Study Day will focus on the historical background of the evolution of the Russian people from their misty beginnings as Viking traders in the 8th century through to **Prince Vladimir of Kiev’s** adoption of the Orthodox branch of Christianity in the late 10th century, when they inherited a specific style of religious art and architecture from Byzantium. The introduction of Orthodoxy from Byzantium brought with it the centrally planned domed church and the hierarchic arrangement of holy images inside, the practise of venerating icons, and of course the liturgy itself. With their profound and innate artistic genius, the Russian adapted and restructured the Byzantine forms of church architecture to blend with native traditions of wood building and they imbued icon painting with a spirit that is markedly Russian, soft and sublime. After examining the roots of the Russian medieval tradition, we look at the ancient cities of Russia and the kremlins, palaces, monasteries, churches and icons: **Kiev, Vladimir, Suzdal, Novgorod, Pskov, Yaroslavl, Rostov and Moscow.**

Study Day C: Wednesday 23rd March 2011

The Culture of Imperial Russia – Dr Rosamund Bartlett

The first of three lectures: **Before the Empire: Holy Mother of Moscow and its Legacy.** This lecture explores art and architecture, music and tradition of earlier Moscow, which was dominated by the Orthodox Church, leading up to the 17th century and the way it influenced the further development of Russian culture. The second session, **St Petersburg, Russia’s Window on the West.** This tells the story of the architecture of St Petersburg, and also the life behind the facades focusing on the writers, musicians and artists for whom St Petersburg had a personality which they immortalised in their work. The last session **The Russian Renaissance: Art under the last Tzar.** Russian culture took a long time coming to maturity but under Nicolas II the arts flourished as never before. It is the age of **Moscow Arts Theatre** and of **Diaghilev and Ballet Russes**, when the Russian merchants were establishing priceless collections of **French Impressionists** and young Russian artists shocked polite society with their radical work.

Please fill in the booking form below and send to Elaine Graham 01233 756137 Booking fee Non-Refundable.



.....

Kent Area NADFAS Study Days: From The Baltic into Russia

NAME(S):.....Society:

ADDRESS.....

Tel No:..... E mail address.....

Next of kin emergency name & telephone no:.....

I wish to book a place on Study Day : A - 20.10.2010 B - 26.1.2011 C - 23.3.2011

Please tick the boxes for the Study Days you wish to attend. Each Study Day costs £26.50 and includes coffee, biscuits and lunch

I attach a cheque made out to “Kent Area NADFAS” for £.....With a STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE

To: Elaine Graham Tel: 01233 756137 E mail: elainedgraham@btinternet.com
Little Mundy Bois, Greenhill Lane, Egerton, Ashford, Kent. TN27 9EY.

For office use

Signed..... Date.....