



March Newsletter 2020

Waddesdon At War



On Wednesday March 25 at 7 for 7.30pm (please note change from our usual day) Carol Hardy, senior guide at Waddesdon Manor who has given us two previous excellent talks on different aspects of the Rothschild family at Waddesdon will be talking about Waddesdon at War detailing how the family and house survived the first world



war There were approximately 200 staff working at Waddesdon in 1914 who fought in all theatres of war from France and Flanders to Egypt and Palestine in every branch of the armed forces. Letters from Alice de Rothschild have survived talking about what to grow at Waddesdon and the impact of the war on family and staff. The venue for the talk is Wychwood House, Enstone. Please let Anne Francis know as soon as possible if you wish to attend



The Lyrical Lute

On February 11, Michael Lowe, (left) a master lute maker who made his first



lute while at school, returned to tell us more about the magic of this instrument covering the period from 1620 till the eighteenth century when the lute was the most important instrument in European music being derived from an



Arabic instrument. After the eighteenth century the orchestra dominated in Europe. The lute was expressive and perfect to accompany the human voice. Illustrating with prints and paintings, Michael Lowe showed his audience how the lute enchanted its audience. In the seventeenth century the aim was to try and improve the lute's range particularly the base range. Pieces were added so that the instrument became taller becoming the theorbo (see right) that could be over six foot long.

Subs Still Due

The Chairman has asked me to issue this reminder: 'Many thanks to those of you who paid their subscriptions. However, there are many of you who have not and it would therefore be appreciated if you would do so as soon as possible. As a reminder, the subscription is £15 per person. If you wish to pay by BACS, the bank details are: HSBC - sort code 40 17 19 - account number 30333050. Please use your surname as the reference. Alternatively, you can make out a cheque to Enstone History Society and pass it on to one of the committee members. Thank you'.

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