

Dear Member

FBUA Newsletter January 2012 (Corrected)

This comes with the very best wishes of the British Committee for a very happy New Year and with some dates to put in your diary.

The Annual Reunion this year will be in Norwich from Thursday 17th May until Sunday 20th. The provisional programme is as follows:

Thursday 17th

Lunch in the Cathedral Refectory with a greeting by the Dean of Norwich

Afternoon visits to the Cathedral with the Cathedral architect, Henry Freeland and to the new buildings by Hopkins Architects

Dinner in Dragon Hall a Merchant Hall built around 1430

Friday 18th

Morning visit and lunch at East Ruston Garden with a talk about the creation of the garden by the owner Alan Gray

Afternoon visit to Castle Museum in Norwich and a walking tour of the City Centre

Dinner in Norwich at the Loch Fyne Restaurant

Saturday 19th

Visit to Houghton Hall and Gardens and lunch at Houghton

Gala Dinner at the Norwich Assembly Rooms

Sunday 20th

Walk through the University of East Anglia to look at the Lasdun Ziggurats and new buildings by Rick Mather and John Miller followed by lunch in Norman Foster's Sainsbury Centre

The cost will be somewhere under £400. If this sounds interesting to you please put the dates in your diary. Full details and booking forms will be sent out in February.

The Joint Committee meeting will be in London on Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th March. On the Friday there will be a drinks party at Christ Church Spitalfields followed by dinner in a local restaurant to which all members are most welcome. On Saturday it is intended to take the joint committee members by river from the Tower Bridge Pier down to Greenwich for a look at the Painted Hall followed by a tour of the new wing of the National Maritime Museum. Lunch will be in a local restaurant in Greenwich. All members are most welcome to join the committee for this visit and the cost should be very modest. Travel to Greenwich is simple either by river or on the DLR. A booking form will be sent out later this month.

The year that has just passed had a meeting of the Joint Committee in London in March with visits to Lambeth Palace, St Thomas Hospital and The Museum of the Order of St. John in Clerkenwell. A very enjoyable dinner was held on the Friday evening on a pleasure boat whilst travelling from Westminster Pier to the Thames Barrier. The Annual Reunion was in Le Havre – a place that many of us have no doubt driven through when coming off the ferry but where probably few of us have lingered. The city was fascinating – flattened by allied bombing in 1944, the centre was completely rebuilt to the designs of Auguste Perret. Le Havre was designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO

in 2005. The Reunion comprised a series of very intriguing visits that balanced the modern architecture with some splendid historic buildings.

The autumn Joint Committee meeting was held in Paris at the end of October with a visit to the Comédie-Française on the Friday afternoon followed by the very successful auction of members' paintings to augment the bursary fund. The auction raised approximately £4,000 for the Bursary Fund – the final account (once various expenses have been deducted) is still pending. As well as the paintings an intriguing model was sold – this was created by 3D printing techniques by FBUA Bursar Nick Webb as part of his investigation into the work of Auguste Perret. Nick gave a very interesting presentation at the Le Havre Reunion – a most appropriate location. On the Saturday the joint committee meeting was held at the Académie d'Architecture in the Place des Vosges.

On a sadder note we should remember the deaths of three long serving members of the British Section of the Union. Monty Bool, Tony Brandreth and John Roake were all keen members of the FBUA who contributed an enormous amount between them to the success and friendly nature of the Union. They will all be very much missed.

We are conscious that some members will not have received the newsletters prepared after the meetings in Bourges and in Bristol. We are proposing to scan these and send out copies to all members who are online. However, we do have a number of hard copies and if any member would like to receive one of these please let us know and we will be happy to send one to you.

We still await the newsletter from the Le Havre Reunion but as soon as this is available we will distribute it in the same way (i.e. online for all members who have email, by post in hard copy to those members who do not have access to email or to those who specifically request a hard copy).

With best wishes for 2012 and hoping that we will see you either in March or in May.

On behalf of the British Committee

Michael Morrison – Vice President
Tom Ryland - Secretary