

Events Report for 2019 for the 2020 AGM

Study visits and tours

During the year, the Society continued with its programme of study visits and tours with informative tour notes, often including new research, both in the UK and abroad. These events are important not just in themselves as educational (and enjoyable) events, but also because they help in casework either through helping to identify buildings or architects not yet well studied, or deepening knowledge that assists in our cases. They are primarily for members, but some (including the lecture series) are open to non-members too.

2019 was a record year for the C20 events programme which comprised 68 events and over 1750 attendances. Thanks go to all our members who attended events and helped to raise just over £46,500 in 2019. The profit from our events programme is a major factor in supporting our casework.

We commenced and ended the year with celebrations of 100 years of the Bauhaus. Our Spring lecture series took as its theme: "Looking Beyond the Bauhaus" and the year concluded with a successful conference fittingly entitled "Bye Bye Bauhaus". Early in the year we collaborated with Art & Christianity on a day celebrating the work of embroiderer Beryl Dean, reminding us that C20 champions all aspects of design, as well as architecture. In April, architect Adam Richards took us around his award winning Ditchling Museum, completed in 2013, reminding us also that C20 also takes us forward into the 21st century.

It is not possible to mention all of our events, but in the UK we had weekends in North Wales and Plymouth and study days in Essex, led by C20 President Gillian Darley to celebrate her book "*Excellent Essex*", and a church tour, led by Robert Drake, to mark the launch of C20's latest publication "*100 Churches/100 Years*". Overseas tours took us to Prague & Pilsen, led by Robert Dowden; Stuttgart, led by Penny Laughton and Caroline Martin; and, partnering with Cox & Kings, a grand tour of India led by C20 Director Catherine Croft and former C20 Caseworker Jon Wright.

Particularly noteworthy in London were a lecture and related tour of Span housing in Blackheath, a tour of Tottenham by new tour leader, Adam Coleman, and Chris Rogers' meticulously researched tour "Best Laid Plans: Incomplete London" showing us the London that could have been. In addition to these, there were many other local events organised by our Regional Groups.

Our autumn lecture series entitled "40 Years On" celebrated the history and achievements of the Society during its 40th anniversary year, and the memory of Gavin Stamp was at the heart of many of these lectures. Finally the stand-out event of 2019 must be the "Remembering Gavin Stamp" memorial conference, which covered the founding of the Society and his work as a campaigner, writer, researcher and traveller, and was attended by over 180 people. The day was a fitting celebration of Gavin's life and work.

The current year started very well, with many more events than usual in January and February, including a visit to Erno Goldfinger's Brandlehow School and a successful lecture series 'High Spec'. Unfortunately the final lecture in the series was not able to take place as we were then in COVID-19 lockdown. And our last walk for the foreseeable future was a walk round Hackney, ably led by Lachlan Anderson-Frank. The rest of our programme for 2020 has been put on hold and, at the time of writing, we are unable to foresee when we will be able to start up again. We are putting together a series of online events and hope to continue with as many of these as possible.

The Twentieth Century Society

As mentioned earlier in this report, last year the event programme made just over £46,500 for the Society. This year, before lockdown, profit was standing at around £5,000 and, realistically, there is little hope that the events programme will be up and running again any time soon. At this time the Society needs your support more than ever, so if you are able to donate even a small amount it will all help towards our focus on casework.

Cela Selley
C20 Trustee and Hon Events Secretary

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