## Walking Tour of the Stanley Spencer Gallery and relevant areas of Cookham, followed by a pub lunch.

**Date:** Thursday 5 September 2024 **Time:** 11.00 a.m. to 2.30 p.m.

Who can attend: Society members and their guests

Cost: £60

Dress code: informal

Venues: Stanley Spencer Gallery, Cookham and Bel & Dragon pub

Contact: drkieranmchugh@aol.com Bookings close: August 25th 2024

The number of places is limited to 24 and will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis. Please feel free to invite one or more guests.



So who was Stanley Spencer?

Born in Cookham, a truly distinctive student at the Slade, studying alongside such luminaries as Paul Nash, Dora Carrington and Christopher Nevinson. Acclaimed as highly influential on mid twentieth century painters such as Hockney, Freud, Bacon, and latterly, Emin.... David Bowie was a collector of Spencer works, Billy Connolly is an enthusiast.... Stanley continually surprises those who get to know him.... will you?

Sir Stanley Spencer, CBE RA (30 June 1891 – 14 December 1959) was an English painter. Shortly after leaving the Slade School of Art, Spencer became well known for his paintings depicting Biblical scenes occurring as if in Cookham, the small village beside the River Thames where he was born and spent much of his life. Spencer referred to Cookham as "a village in Heaven" and in his biblical scenes, fellow villagers are shown as their Gospel counterparts. Spencer was skilled at organising multi-figure compositions such as in his large paintings for the Sandham Memorial Chapel and the *Shipbuilding on the Clyde* series, the former being a First World War memorial while the latter was a commission for the War Artists' Advisory Committee during the Second World War (in the Imperial War Museum).

The tour will begin at the Stanley Spencer Gallery at 11am. It will consist of half the group having a guided tour of the Gallery for one hour with the other half getting a guided tour of the areas of Cookham relevant to Spencer's paintings. The groups will then cross over and do the other tour. Lunch will be at 1pm, a two-course affair across the street at the Bel & Dragon gastropub. There is a small carpark near the Gallery and other parking around the village. The Cookham branch railway line connects at Maidenhead with the Reading/Paddington line. The Gallery is a level 10-minute walk from the station.

Walking Tour of the Stanley Spencer Gallery, 16 High St, Cookham, Maidenhead SL6 9SJ, and relevant areas of Cookham, followed by a publunch.

To book your place(s) by Sunday August 25th 2024 please:

- Log in to the Members' Area of the Apothecaries website and book through the Society's GoCardless system (as you would for a Society Dinner)
- Any problems booking in this way, please contact Beci who will be happy to assist: events@apothecaries.org
- Complete this form and email or scan to Dr Kieran McHugh, <a href="mailto:drkieranmchugh@aol.com">drkieranmchugh@aol.com</a>

Please reserve me......places at £60 per person, for the visit to the Gallery, Cookham and Bel & Dragon pub.

Guest(s):	
Email:	