

Peter Cormack (who will be principally leading the tours for our forthcoming Surrey conference) writes:

The exciting range of stained glass that we'll be seeing on the 2023 Surrey conference encompasses the 13th to the 21st centuries, and includes exceptional examples of Medieval, Renaissance, Victorian and Arts & Crafts windows as well as contemporary work. Almost all the historic glazing is set in architecturally significant buildings, with fine examples of sculpture, woodwork and other applied arts, and we expect the tours to include time for studying all these works of art as well as the stained glass.

Among highlights are: the 13th-century *Virgin and Child* (the county's oldest glass) in the remarkable 11th-12th-century church at Compton; the superb collection of English and Continental panels and fragments (mainly 15th- and 16th-centuries) at Stoke D'Abernon – a church full of treasures, including medieval wall-paintings, two of the country's most famous monumental brasses and fine Elizabethan and Jacobean monuments; and the impressive *Crucifixion* glass (from Herkenrode Abbey) at Ashted.



*Predella panel showing Amiens Cathedral in First World War memorial window by A. K. Nicholson at Busbridge Church*

At Guildford, we'll see (close-up) Baptista Sutton's 1621 windows in the Chapel of the Holy Trinity at Abbot's Hospital – a magnificent almshouse built on the scale of an Oxbridge college. The Sutton windows (erroneously attributed to the Van Linges in the past) illustrate the artistry and technical accomplishment of English glaziers during the brief flowering of stained glass shortly before the English

Civil War. Windows by major Victorian firms, such as M. & A. O'Connor and Ward & Hughes, can be seen at Walton-on-the-Hill, along with Christopher Whall's most dramatic Great War memorial windows.



*Christopher Whall, East window (1909) of north chapel at Hindhead Church, full of glorious Arts & Crafts stained glass*

Frimley church has an unusually complete series of windows (1880s-90s) by James Powell & Sons, including designs by Henry Holiday, J. W. Brown and Charles Hardgrave, and Busbridge has late Morris & Co. glass and a set of war memorial windows by A. K. Nicholson. Whall's work can also be seen at Cranleigh, Compton's Watts Mortuary Chapel (an early use of 'slab' glass) and Hindhead, the latter church having spectacular windows by Whall's 'star' pupil Karl Parsons, including his very first commissions. Other Arts & Crafts glass – by the Danish-Scottish aristocrat Baron Arild Rosenkrantz – is at Ashted, and Paul Woodroffe created the impressive scheme that we'll see at Leatherhead Catholic church.

Some of the most modern glass in our tour is by three women artists; the late Caroline Benyon's splendid windows at Leatherhead; and recent large-scale commissions by Pippa Martin and Rachel Mulligan at Cranleigh. Do join us for a truly rich experience of outstanding stained glass, ancient and modern.



*Exquisite 15th-century head, one of the many treasures at Stoke d'Abernon Church*