

At our **April** meeting Lloyd Glanville, the Chief Executive Officer at Insole Court, gave us a richly illustrated presentation on the ancient building. The Insole family story mirrors the rapid rise of Cardiff as a Victorian boom town and the slow decline of the Edwardian era. The family reached the height of its prosperity in the late 19th Century having acquired large land holdings, central to which was their home Ely Court, which survives in Llandaff.



The talk tracked the origins and development of a most unusual family home as well as its use during the Second World War and the fight to save it from becoming another of Cardiff's lost houses.



At our meeting in **May**, Dan Peterson spoke about working as an artist in various parts of the world and especially as a war artist in Afghanistan. He pointed out how an artist with a sketch book created far less apprehension with the subjects than a camera. He showed us scenes of British troops and the facilities at Camp Bastion, picking up refugees with the Royal Navy and a teachers exchange in Bangladesh. He has also worked on storyboarding for films, portraits of actors, board games and cartoons for children's books.

Of particular local interest were drawings of the Heart Hospital based in the Millennium Stadium at the time of the Covid epidemic.

It was disappointing to hear that his shop, Peterson Art Supplies, situated in the centre of Rhiwbina may have closed by the time you read this.

In **June**, Vanessa Brown, a ranger at Welsh Water, gave us a richly illustrated presentation on the Lisvane and Llanishen reservoirs. She started with a brief history of the construction of the reservoirs and highlighted the campaign to save the reservoirs from housing development.



She described the ecology and wildlife at the site and included a feature on the important waxcap fungi. She concluded with what the site currently offers as a visitor attraction. It seemed that most of the audience had already been to the site – but it is well worth many more visits.