

## The Arts Society Rutland –Visit to Gainsborough's House and Kentwell Hall Suffolk on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024

We are planning a fascinating trip to Suffolk, with a guided tour of Gainsborough's House in Sudbury together with a chance to see the Philip De Laszlo exhibition that will be on during our visit. In the afternoon, we will go to Kentwell Hall in Long Melford, an early Tudor moated house which is also a private home. We will make our own way round the gardens and then have a private tour of the house with the owner Patrick Philips.

### GAINSBOROUGH'S HOUSE



Thomas Gainsborough (1727- 1788) was born in Sudbury and we will visit the National Centre for Gainsborough which was set up in 1958. Nowhere else in the world can such a wide collection of Gainsborough's art be seen in a single setting, together with personal collections of Suffolk artists John Constable and Cedric Morris. We will enjoy a guided tour of the site, including the beautiful silk lined gallery where many of Gainsborough's works hang together with a tour of Gainsborough's Grade 1 listed Georgian town house.

We will have an opportunity to see an exhibition of Philip De Laszlo's art, featuring rarely seen paintings from private collections together with works from the Royal Collection. De László was one of the most famous portrait painters in Europe prior to settling when in England in 1907. London attracted him as a city and the work

he produced bursts with vitality.

After lunch either at Gainsborough's House, we will move on to Kentwell Hall where there will be an opportunity to tour the gardens prior to our private tour of the Hall.

### KENTWELL HALL



One of England's finest early Tudor moated houses. with an individuality created by its current owners. It offers a journey through time, from the great Tudor kitchen to the Gothic inspired main rooms by Thomas Hopper, to the State bedroom created for the then Duke of York and its modern exotic Roman style bathroom, an extensive collection of Tudor portraits and rare leather screens illustrating the Coronation of Edward VI. Majestic pillars of yew dominate the

beautiful gardens and include a reinstated Icehouse and Mount, the Magic Hornbeam Circle, a Sunken Garden, Herbery and Millennium Nut Walk.

The cost of this trip will depend on numbers, but will be in the region of £76-£82 per person, depending on the total number participating. *Note: Historic Houses members have free entry to both properties, saving £13/head at Gainsborough's House, (but will need to pay £5 for the De Laszlo exhibition) and £17.85 at Kentwell Hall. The cost is inclusive of travel in an executive coach and a sandwich lunch at Gainsborough's House.*

In order for the visit to proceed, we need a minimum of 25 participants. TASR members will be given priority and non-members are welcome if there is space. If you are interested in this trip please contact our Visits Organiser, Della Stones – [djstones@aol.com](mailto:djstones@aol.com), for further details and a booking form. Bookings will close on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024.