

THE FRIENDS OF MOUNT ATHOS

Autumn Meeting

There will be a meeting of the society in London on Wednesday 9 November 2016.
The meeting begins at 6.00 pm with a service of

Orthodox Vespers

in the church of St Dunstan in the West, 184 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2HR.

After the service at about 7.00 pm there will be a glass of wine at the St Bride Foundation in Bride Lane, off Fleet Street, London EC4Y 8EQ, followed by an address by:

Stephen Duckworth

who will give a talk entitled

Edward Lear and Mount Athos



The Speaker

Stephen is a researcher on Edward Lear's landscape drawings and has a particular interest in his Greek travels. He has published and created a website on Lear's visit to Crete in 1864, and is a frequent traveller to Greece and particularly Crete himself. He has visited Mount Athos once, as a student in 1959. His professional career was in finance and with the housing association movement in England.

The Topic

Edward Lear (1812-88) was the well known nonsense poet, but more importantly for this talk an outstanding landscape painter of Mount Athos and many other places in the Mediterranean and further afield. He had wished to visit Mount Athos in the 1840s, but only succeeded in reaching it in September 1856. He spent three weeks visiting the twenty principal monasteries, drew them all and wrote to his sister that he had accomplished fifty valuable drawings. Most of these have been traced and will be illustrated in this talk, along with extracts from Lear's letters about his visit.

There is no charge for attending this meeting, though there will be a plate for contributions towards expenses. Guests are warmly invited to attend.