

## ARTS SOCIETY

Trinity Term 2019 Programme

Nick Baker

### **Sir Henry Rider Haggard: Storyteller, Politician and Country Gentleman**

Sir Henry Rider Haggard (1856-1925) was only one of many extraordinary Victorians who straddled many different lives. Inspired by his first-hand experiences of Africa, he went on to become one of the most prolific writers of all time, specialising in 'Lost World' literature. Works such as *King Solomon's Mines* and *She* communicated stories of lost civilisations in far off lands, and brought much needed escapism to a reading public. He did not limit himself to tales set in Africa, but also wrote about the Vikings in Iceland. Many of these stories have since been transformed into successful films. Who can forget Ursula Andress as 'She who must be obeyed' in the Hammer film of the same name? Haggard did more than simply feed the popular imagination. He was deeply concerned with the countryside, especially the farming communities in Norfolk, and argued for a more serious approach to Britain's agriculture as the clouds of the First World War appeared on the horizon.

This illustrated talk will examine Haggard's early life in Africa, and loves lost, to show how they shaped his literary output. We will also consider his close friendships with other notable individuals, such as Rudyard Kipling. A display of first editions and signed material will also be on display.

**7.30pm on Tuesday 21 May 2019**

**Sixth Form Lecture Theatre**

*followed by wine and light refreshments in The Atrium*

Tickets may also be purchased at the door; but advance notice helps catering, please. Princethorpe, Crackley Hall and The Crescent School pupils free of charge. We are happy to receive provisional bookings by e-mail, please, to alexdarkes@princethorpe.co.uk

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Please supply the following tickets:

**Sir Henry Rider Haggard – 7.30pm, Tuesday 21 May 2019**

\_\_\_\_\_ Adult (£5) \_\_\_\_\_ Child (free)

I enclose £ \_\_\_\_\_ Cheques payable to **Princethorpe College**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ 'Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

I have ticked this box to confirm that I am happy for the above details to be added to the Arts Society mailing list, which will not be shared with any other organisations and will only be used to let me know about Arts Society and other events, unless I choose subsequently to opt out.

Please return to Alex Darkes, Princethorpe College, Rugby, CV23 9PX  
Telephone 01926 634200 or e-mail alexdarkes@princethorpe.co.uk