



Newsletter

November 2016

www.warsashartgroup.org.uk

Welcome from your Chairman

Hello Members,

Firstly, I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year on behalf of your Committee. Hopefully we will be able to do it personally at the Christmas Party on December 1st in St Mary's Church Hall, where we will be enjoying an American supper themed evening, with some entertainment.

That brings me neatly on to the entertainment. After the success of having the ukulele band last year, I have recruited some of the WAG members, who are musicians, to form a small band to accompany you all in a sing-a-long. Not only are they going to play for you but, they have also made their own beautiful instruments.

There doesn't seem to be an end to the talent and skills that Warsash Art Group members have. Examples of that were evident in the craft section at the Exhibition where some of the musical instruments were on display. I am sure that there are many more of you who are too shy to show off your particular skills, apart from painting and drawing of course. If we were a village I am sure that we could set up shops and be self-sufficient. After all, apart from painters, we have jewellers, potters, ceramic makers and artists, glass ornament makers, wood turners and carvers, instrument makers, print makers, picture framers and people who work with materials and wool. I am sure that I have missed some and got some descriptions wrong, but what a wonderful collection of skills.

So, in realising this, it makes me proud and honoured to be a member of Warsash Art Group. It has also made me aware of the advantage of joining a group such as ourselves, because not only do we gain from the encouragement and tuition that is available to enable us to develop and improve, but we can see other talents on display. I hope that it has given you something to think about and, appreciate who you might be sitting next to at the next meeting, and what hidden talents they have. Cue the dramatic music!

See you at the Party.

Vic Bettridge, Chairman

New Members

A warm welcome to all the new members who have joined Warsash Art Group since the last newsletter in June: Linda Amor, Barbara Bromley Jones, Margaret Courts, Jan Damerell, Jenny Hart, Eileen Holmes, Anne Isherwood, Kate Lomax, Chris Prill, Marianne Stuckey, Sylvia Swainson, Darrell and Janet Tucker, Walter Underwood and Julie Weir.

Members' News - Congratulations to Bron Stubbington for having her work accepted for this year's Stride open exhibition at the Oxmarket Centre of Arts, Chichester, which was on during October.

If you have had similar successes at open exhibitions or any other art related happenings recently, please do let me know so that I can publicise it in our newsletter and on our Facebook page. It is always encouraging to be reminded of the high level of talent within our Group.

Christmas Social Evening

With partners

Thursday 1st December 2016

7.30pm

St Mary's Church Hall

- *American Supper - please bring a food dish for the buffet.
Wine and soft drinks will be provided.*
 - *Musical entertainment.*
 - *Bring your unique handmade Christmas card for display.*
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Interesting Websites – Part One

Pip McGarry - Wildlife Artist - <http://www.pipmcgarry.com/index.htm>

Jamel Akib - <http://www.jamelakib.com/>

Linda Appleby - <http://www.lyndaappleby.co.uk/>

Bankside Gallery, London <http://www.banksidegallery.com/>

Spring Term 2017 - Tutored Art Classes

10 Week Workshops:

Our longstanding and popular Tuesday Art Classes continue as follows:

Morning Class 10:30am – 12:30 pm
with **Kay LePoidevin** – mixed media.

Afternoon Class 13:30 – 15:30pm
with **Vic Bettridge** - watercolour& drawing.

From 17th January 2017 to 21st March 2017 (10 weeks)
At St Mary's Church Hall, Church Road, Warsash. **Cost £48.**
Applications will be taken strictly on a first come, first served basis.
Max 18 per class.

Application slips were mailed to members with the November newsletter. Please send yours, with a cheque, to Chris Madden, the workshop organiser. These are always popular and fill up quickly, particularly the Tuesday morning class.

Editor's note: A big thank you to Chris for organising Tuesday classes, together with the portrait painting workshop tutored by Stewart Beckett on Saturday 29th October. There are no Saturday workshops planned between now and the next newsletter in February, but Chris will keep us posted. As it isn't always possible to publicise these workshops via the newsletter, or do so with ideal timing, please do keep your eyes and ears open for notices at Thursday evening meetings and regular Group-wide email updates relating to our programme.

Wednesday Afternoon Untutored Workshops

12 weeks 11th January to 29th March, 1.45 – 3.45 pm
at Sarisbury Green Parish Rooms.
£10 Term fee, payable at the first meeting.
Any questions, please contact Nicky Ballingall.

Report on the Warsash Art Group 2016 Art Exhibition

First of all a big thank you to all of you who assisted in the running of the show, and also to all of those artists and crafters who contributed some exceptional work.

This year we had fine weather in contrast to last year when we had rain and high winds. The number of people visiting the exhibition was higher than 2015, but the sales were slightly lower. There could be a number of reasons for this. The high standard of the work on display made selection very difficult. Hampshire Open Studios started on the Saturday and perhaps people thought that they would have a look around. Maybe the economy had something to do with it. The Chinese and Russian billionaires holding off? I didn't notice any of them at the show. I am surprised that with all of the house building work going on in the area, many already occupied, we didn't sell more. However it was a superb exhibition that drew many very positive and encouraging comments from visitors. The Visitors Comments book contains some really nice entries. We have also recruited some new members as a result of the show, and welcome them to the group.

For those of who sold work, very well done. The number of items sold ranged across 50 different artists and were:-

16 craft items, 18 framed pictures, 18 Portfolios, 2 miniatures and 5 Reduce price items. Total sales were £2729. This figure includes the catering and catalogue receipts.

Congratulations to the Judge's Selection winner Kay LePoidevin with her painting 'Venetian Doorway'. Highly Commended were 'Making for Home' by Bron Stubbington; Penny Gange with 'Leopard'; Mike Ryde and 'Give Us A Kiss'; and 'The Race is On' by Aniska Ballingall. The Mayor's Choice was Chris Lewis's 'Untitled 1'.

Visitors' Choice - these were the results of the voting slips we received from visitors to the exhibition:

Paintings - 173 people voted and 94 different paintings were nominated. First with 12 votes was 'Exotic Trees and Water' by Linda Payne. Second with 7 votes was 'Big Easy Ramble' by Phillip Rogers.

Craft Items 77 people voted and chose 28 different items. Four items tied with 6 votes each:- 'Knitted Growling Teddy' by Pauline Bolton; 'Rainbow Bowl' by Rachael Brown; 'Poppy Vase' by Barbara Chambers; and 'Stick Mandolin' by Steve Phelps. Work has already begun on organising the 2017 show so those of us that usually have a last minute panic remember there is less than a year to get your work finished!

Very well done to all of you. It was satisfying to see that there was such a spread of votes. It proves that the standard of artwork and craft is extremely high within the group.

Vic Bettridge, Exhibition Organiser

Warsash Art Group Online

www.warsashartgroup.org.uk

The **website** Gallery section displays a varied selection of members' work and now runs to nine pages. If you have any new images, or would like me to replace your existing ones here with pictures of your newer work, please email me, Joan Lee. Images from newer members who have joined the Group during 2015 and 2016, would be particularly welcome. Please include "Warsash Art Group" / "WAG" and / or "Images for website" in the subject line of the email.

The Group's **Facebook** Page has been up and running since the summer. It is maintained and updated by Rachael Brown and myself. So far, forty-five people have "Liked" it. If you are on Facebook and wish to do so, visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/WarsashArtGroup/?ref=bookmarks>

or type "Warsash Art Group" in the search box. It is easy to update, share weblinks and images, and help publicise events such as our Annual Exhibition. The main aim of the page is to complement the website, newsletters and Group emails.

Joan Lee

Get an 'Email Buddy'

As most of you are aware we now send out emails from WAG informing you of various things happening, reminders, updates etc etc.

Unfortunately those members who are not on email do not receive them and we are looking to introduce a 'Buddy System' where a member who cannot receive emails can tie-up with another member who can, and will then let them know about the WAG email. Of course this is best done with members who know each other or are close neighbours.

Therefore if any member who does not receive emails could make contact with another member who does and ask them if they wouldn't mind letting them know what has been received. That way, all members can be updated between newsletters.

Likewise if you know of any member who is not receiving emails please ask them if you could be their 'Email Buddy'.

We hope this 'Buddy System' will work and that information is passed on to all members.

Brian Gray

Interesting Websites Part Two

Sarah Morrish, Natural History and Botanical Art - <http://www.natures-details.com/>

Chris Webb Portsmouth city and seascapes - <http://www.webbarts.uk/>

Linda Bee - abstracts, collage, oil painting - <http://www.lindabee.co.uk/>

Oxmarket Centre of Arts, Chichester - <http://oxmarket.com/>

Summer Sketching

Further to the day at Titchfield Abbey in May, I ran two sketching sessions for the Group: when I put June 30th in the diary, I'd had in mind a fine midsummer's evening. In the event, the weather didn't really cooperate. It was overcast, and chilly for the end of June. All the cooler as the tide came in on the Hamble. The six or so of us who turned up, stuck it out sketching outside for about forty-five minutes, before retreating to The Rising Sun for a well deserved drink. We had much better weather at Bursledon Brickworks Industrial Museum, 21st July. This was a great venue, with a wide choice of subjects indoors and outdoors, including the large collection of chimney pots on the first floor, the kiln, brickmaking machinery and old fashioned slot machines. There were about eight of us, most of us staying on well into the afternoon to enjoy a tea and cakes in the café. The museum is run by volunteers and is open three days a week between April and the end of September. We hope to revisit it for sketching next year, probably in July or early August.

In the meantime, Urban Sketchers Southampton meet to sketch for an hour on Saturday mornings, usually on the first Saturday of the month. Portsmouth and Southsea Sketchers usually meet every third Thursday afternoon. Details on their respective Facebook pages.

Joan Lee

Dates for your Diary-

Thursday 1st December - Christmas Social Evening
Thursday 2nd February 2017 - Katherine Howlett, Archeitctural Sketching
Thursday 2nd March 2017 - Annual General Meeting

Next Newsletter

The next newsletter will be handed out at the first Thursday evening meeting next year, 2nd February 2017. Members' contributions are always very welcome, including a write-up of one of our Thursday evening talks and painting demonstrations; a gallery visit or art workshop you have enjoyed; an art-related book review; recent art achievements such as having work accepted for open exhibitions. It would be good to see some new names under articles here in addition to the usual ones.

If you have any material you would like me to include, please email it to me at by **Monday 23rd January**.

Newsletter edited and produced by Joan Lee