



Newsletter

November 2017

www.warsashartgroup.org.uk

Welcome from your Chairman

Well, we have to face it, Christmas is upon us, and on behalf of the Committee I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

It hasn't been a bad year of the group overall. We have increased our membership and broken the two hundred barrier so we must be doing something right. One of the big things that I notice when a new member attends their first monthly meeting is the way in which we all try and make them feel welcome. Nobody is left to stand around isolated and bewildered because within minutes of their arrival someone talks to them.

This is a particularly cheerful and sociable group with plenty of smiles and laughter, not bad artists either!

The exhibition was as great a success as last year. All thanks to the gang that organised and ran it. The standard of art and craft work never ceases to amaze me and it seems to get better each year.

I hope to see you at the party on the 7th December, at St Mary's Church Hall, 7.30 pm Again the theme is an American supper where you are asked to bring a plate of 'finger bite' size food to share. The reason for asking for 'finger bite' is because there is no cutlery at the hall and we'll be eating from plates. Wine and juice will be provided, but should you wish to bring your own alternative drink please do so.

By popular demand, the Wagoners will again be supplying the musical interlude!! 'Hooray', I hear you shout. Another chance to hear that maestro of the gazoo, Mr Brian Gray, as he belts out the instrumental breaks! If there are any other musicians or vocalists out there who would like to join in, please let me know. Don't be shy.

There will also be the usual quizzes and a chance to socialise. See you there.

Vic Bettridge, Chairman

Obituaries

John Soper, a member of our Group for many years, died in August. I am sure you remember him, as he was always willing to help, often with his wife, Eileen, who is also a member.

Gwen Sheppard died in September after a long fight against cancer. Gwen helped Beverley Maybury and Ian Lawrence deal with the DVDs etc. whenever she could.

Our thoughts and prayers are with their families.

Tutored Workshops 2018

Tuesday Mornings and Afternoons

We continue to offer two back to back workshops for members of Warsash Art Group which will run for ten consecutive Tuesdays, starting on the 16th of January. The tutor is Kay LePoidevin and she will give you the opportunity of trying a variety of mediums as well as covering composition and drawing. The structure of the workshops is not rigid and those who prefer to stick to one medium can do so.

The morning workshop is always oversubscribed and I would urge members who are not tied to the morning by other commitments or transport arrangements, to move to the afternoon. The afternoon workshop offers a much lower tutor to student ratio and you can be assured of greater personal attention.

Remember, places are limited to one per member (eighteen places in each workshop) so book early. Bookings are accepted on a first come first served basis. Members who miss out on their first choice will be offered a place in the other workshop – providing a place is available.

Applications

Spring Term workshops will run from Tuesday 16th January to Tuesday 20th March 2018 (10 Weeks) at St Mary's Church Hall, Church Road, Warsash.

Cost £48.

Max 18 per class.

Application Slips are on Page 11 of the paper copy of this newsletter. . Please contact Chris Madden.

Wednesday Afternoon Untutored Workshops

12 weeks 10th January to 28th 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.

Christmas Social Evening

With partners

Thursday 7th December 2017 - 7.30pm
St Mary's Church Hall

- ❖ Please bring a dish of finger buffet food to share at the buffet supper, e.g. sandwiches, sausage rolls, nuts, cup cakes, mince pies; but no trifle, pasta, Christmas pudding etc.
(no cutlery at the hall).
- ❖ Wine and soft drinks will be provided.
- ❖ Musical entertainment (see page 1)
- ❖ Bring your unique handmade Christmas card for display.

New Members

A warm welcome to all the new and returning members who have joined Warsash Art Group since the last newsletter in July: Nick Barker, Andrea Cousins, Julia Giles, Joy Goulden, Irene Kosted, William Man, Marion Priddy and Cynthia Venn.

Members' News - Bron Stubbington had three pictures accepted for this year's Stride Open Exhibition, held at the Oxmarket Gallery, Chichester in October.

If you have had similar successes at open exhibitions or other art related happenings recently, please 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.

What's On at Southampton City Art Gallery

A Journey Through Print - Exhibition of work members of the Red Hot Press printmaking workshop continues in the Foyer Gallery until 18th November.

From Mile End to Mayfair – The East London Group and their contemporaries, until 6th January

The Itchen Source to Sea – until 25th November

Christopher Bucklow – *Said Now, For All Time* – until 13th January

Warsash Art Group 2017 Art Exhibition

Introduction

First of all the Exhibition Committee would like to thank all those who assisted during planning and running of the show. We'd also like to thank all those who submitted Art and Craft work to be exhibited, the exhibition would not be possible without you.

We had extremes of weather this year, from brilliant sunshine to hail stones. However, whatever the weather people came from all over the country to visit. We even had some visitors from Inverness who were on holiday in Warsash for the week.

Full details of our sales are on pages 5 and 6; but we did well and our sales have increased from last year.

We have welcomed some new members to the group as a result of the show and we look forward to meeting them again.

Handing out may not have gone as smoothly as Handing in, but we thank you for your patience and we will solve the queue issues for next year's show. However all paintings, cards, portfolio and crafts were accounted for and returned safely to their owners

Work has already begun on organising the 2018 Exhibition and we can confirm the exhibition will be the same week as this year - Tuesday 14th - Sunday 19th August. Entry form deadline will be 8th July. That is only 9 months from now.

Prize Winners

Judge's Choice

This year's judge was Julie Longdon. Julie spent hours looking over your work and commented on how much she enjoyed the show. Eventually, after much deliberation, she finally made her choices of winners and highly commended.

Artist Name	Title	Category	
GLENNIS TAYLOR	Snowdrops	Paintings	Winner
JOAN LEE	Water Snake	3D Art & Craft	Winner
MARK DAVIES	The Gate	Paintings	Highly Commended
JULIE PARR	Dancing Daisies	Paintings	Highly Commended

Mayor's Choice

Councillor Fazackarley chose 'Running the Storm' by Gwen Geary as his winner. He was fascinated by this painting and left a very nice message for the artist.

Visitors' Choice

The visitors' votes were very close. Only 2 votes separated the top 5 paintings. The winners of the visitors' votes are shown below. See page 12 for the top six works in each category.

Annual Exhibition Visitors' Choice

Further to the Annual Exhibition report on pages 4-6, here are the top 6 Visitor Choices by number of votes (far left column of the tables below), provided by Rachael Brown.

ART

8	Reflections of Old Street 2	Acrylic	Mike Payne
7	Beware the Media Storm	Mixed Media	Sam Phelps
6	I've got my eye on you	Mixed Media	Julie Parr
6	Snow has Fallen	Watercolour	Chris Lewis
6	Catastrophic Quirky Cats	Acrylic	Carole Jarman
5	Northumberland "Tommy Noddy"	Acrylic Ink	Robert Howard

3D Art & Craft

13	Electric Fiddle	Wood	Steve Phelps
7	Heron	Wood	Steve Phelps
7	Lighthouse Vase	Ceramic	Barbara Chambers
6	Copper Leaves Vase	Ceramic	Barbara Chambers
5	Artist Clock	Wood	Walter Underwood
5	White Raku Bowl #4	Ceramic	Tony Thompson

Artwork Sales

During the exhibition we sold 301 items across 44 different artists. Our total sales were £3011.60.

The tables below shows the breakdown of sales over the 5 days of the exhibition.

Sales by Number

	16/08/2017	17/08/2017	18/08/2017	19/08/2017	20/08/2017	Grand Total
CARDS	39	25	55	57	60	236
CRAFT	5	1	4	6	3	19
MAIN GALLERY	6	3	4	3	5	21
MINIATURES		1		1	1	3
PORTFOLIO / PRINTS		1	6	9	6	22
Grand Total	50	31	69	76	75	301

Sales by value

	16/08/2017	17/08/2017	18/08/2017	19/08/2017	20/08/2017	Grand Total
CARDS	£53.20	£37.70	£69.70	£71.50	£83.50	£315.60
CRAFT	£87.00	£12.00	£107.00	£129.00	£110.00	£445.00
MAIN GALLERY	£550.00	£160.00	£215.00	£160.00	£400.00	£1,485.00
MINIATURES		£20.00		£32.00	£32.00	£84.00
PORTFOLIO / PRINTS		£25.00	£185.00	£212.00	£260.00	£682.00
Grand Total	£690.20	£254.70	£576.70	£604.50	£885.50	£3,011.60

Art Group Commission

Warsash Art Group take 15% commission from all sales, with the exception of card sales. We take 0% from card sales. Warsash Art Group Commission - £404.40

Grand Total

After income and expenses have been added up, the Exhibition made a profit of £69.20.

Exhibition Finances

Income		Expenses	
Entry Fees	£613.00	Hall Hire	£680.00
WAG Commission	£404.40	Postage	£33.00
Tea Room Sales	£239.00	Display Card Materials	£60.00
	£1,256.40	Printing	£31.00
		Stationary	£28.00
		Packing for Purchased Paintings	£19.00
		Winners Prizes	£75.00
		Flowers	£40.00
		Preview Evening Drinks	£176.00
		Miscellaneous	£45.20
			£1,187.20
Grand Total	£69.20		

Rachael Brown, Fiona Haughton - Exhibition Organisers

Sketching Days

Let's Sketch and Lunch – Thursday 14th December

Coffee #1 Gosport – from 12 noon.

Bring a sketchbook and sketching materials suitable for drawing and painting over a cuppa / light lunch / cake in a café. Coffee #1 is situated just across the road from the Gosport Ferry. For those hardy enough to contemplate plein air sketching, there are the views across to Portsmouth from Falkland Gardens and near the Ferry. Half-hourly X5 bus and parking nearby.

During the summer, some WAG members joined me for sessions at Porchester Castle (31st May); Warsash Quay and Bursledon Brickworks in July. Some of us also sketched with members of Urban Sketchers Southampton on both sides of the Hamble River in August. Urban Sketchers Southampton will be meeting again at Southampton Guildhall Civic Centre on Saturday 11th November, 10.00am – 12.00pm. This is one of various events in different cities around the UK marking the tenth anniversary of the Urban Sketching movement. They usually meet once a month, on a Saturday morning.

Joan Lee

Warsash Festival – 8th July

We have been attending this Festival for the last six years (but it is only held in alternate years); and every time I say it can't get any hotter or busier, it does! It was just as well that we didn't know the exact temperature in the tent or we might have left. I think we produced an attractive and interesting show, in spite of the various difficulties. We spoke to many people and handed out over seventy fliers for our Annual Exhibition.

Actual sales were 3 paintings; 4 portfolios; and 14 cards. This certainly made the stand worthwhile for the Group. As usual here, we took no commission as this is basically a public relations exercise.

I would like to dwell for a minute on those figures because the cards were contributed by four members and the portfolios by six. I had a total of twelve paintings submitted. It was only a last minute contribution of ten paintings by Walt Underwood that enabled us to put on a reasonable show. I suspect everyone thought I would be overwhelmed! The day was successful mainly due to the efforts of Steve and Sam Phelps and their wonderful gazebo. This was erected in record time with the help also of Ken Potheary, Nigel Javan and Vic Bird. Vic stayed to help through most of the day as did Bron Stubbington. My sincere thanks to all these people and other members who visited from time to time.

The organisers told us that there was a record attendance and the two local cash dispensers had run out of money. A good day.

Ian Lawrence

What's On in London

Bankside Gallery

The Masters – Monoprint – 8th – 19th November

**Mini Picture Show - (Royal Watercolour Society and Royal Society of Painter Printer Makers)
1st December – 21st January**

Society of Wood Engravers 80th Annual Exhibition – 30th January – 18th February

The Mall Galleries

Pastel Society – 20th February – 3rd March

Wapping Group of Artists – 26th February – 3rd March

The National Gallery

Reflections – Van Eyck & the Pre-Raphaelites – 2nd October – 2nd April

Monochrome – Painting in Black and White – 30th October – 18th February

Tate Modern

Red Star Over Russia – Revolution in Visual Culture 1905-55

8th November – 18th February

October Sales Table

A big thankyou to everyone who donated and bought art materials and books at the sales table at our evening meeting on 5th October. We raised just over £96 (£96.05) for Support King's College Hospital <http://www.supportkings.org.uk/> (registered charity 1165593). With some of my own money added, the proceeds from the sale of a portfolio picture at the Warsash Festival in July, I was able to donate £110 to the charity on 6th October. I had a liver transplant at this hospital 28 years ago. If you would like to help me add to the above fundraising, I have the following larger items for sale at home:

- Large pochade box with carrying strap (for outdoor painting), fits a 12" high x 10" wide (30.5cm x 28.5cm) board.
- Small pochade box with strap, fits 8" high x 6" wide (20.4cm x 15cm) board.
- Two plain light wood frames complete with backing board and a full set of pins at the back, plus cord and D'hooks. Both frames' outer dimensions are 24" x 19 ¼" (61cm x 49cm). One of them comes with a double, off-white mount with inner dimensions 16 ¼" x 11 ¼" (42cm x 29cm), landscape format.

My suggested donations for all the above are £10 each. I'll take the highest offer. Buyer to collect from my home in Park Gate, please.

Additional thanks to Brian and Sue Gray for transport and extra pairs of hands on the night of the meeting; and to Ian Lawrence for manning the table. Ian also took home many of the unsold items and is currently storing them.

Joan Lee

Help - We Need Some Bodies - Help

Borrowing some Beatles' lyrics, this is a callout to volunteers to help with the various tasks which enable Warsash Art Group to *Keep on Running* (another '60s hit, the Spencer Davis Group).

At least one long serving Committee member (Ian Lawrence) will be standing down at our next AGM at the beginning of March.

Rachael Brown would like someone to check through the Group's accounts ahead of the AGM; and also someone to shadow her as Treasurer. This doesn't necessarily need to be an accountant: just someone with good attention to detail.

Brian Gray would like someone to shadow him as Secretary, with a view to taking on all or some of the tasks involved here.

Nomination forms for the 2018/19 Committee will displayed at our evening meetings in November and February, for anyone willing and able to put their name down. However, you don't need to be on the Committee to help make things happen. For about the past three years, Chris Madden has been organising the tutored Tuesday classes and one day workshops. As Newsletter Editor, I'd like to hear from anyone who might be able to help with proofreading the draft copy; collecting the box of printed newsletters from Copy Print in the centre of Warsash; stuffing envelopes; and bringing the boxes filled envelopes to evening meetings for members to collect; and posting the uncollected ones.

If you think you can help with the above or contribute in any other way, please contact any member of the Committee (contact details on programme booklet; my email address is on page 10.

Joan Lee

Sketchcrawling in All Seasons

Further to my piece on page 7, Here's more about sketching: my materials, technique and some things I've learned while out and about. Some you will know that I regularly go out sketching along the south coast; usually solo, but also with groups such as Urban Sketchers Southampton; Portsmouth and Southsea Sketchers; and Sussex Sketchcrawlers.

Materials and technique – usually, there's a walk involved to wherever I want to sketch, so I need to keep my kit lightweight and portable; preferably fitting into a small rucksack with space leftover for non-art essentials such as a water (wind) proof ; an extra layer or clothing; suncream and sunhat for bright days; packed lunch and drinking water. Keeping stuff to a minimum also helps when sketching in cafés and interiors where space may be limited.

I usually take a small lightweight sketchbook – Hobbycraft and quite a few art shops sell softback A4 and A5 books of 140gsm cartridge paper, which will take a light wash of watercolour. My usual materials include a small box of watercolour pans; various pencils and graphite sticks; a travelling brush with a cover (bought from Ken Bromley Art Supplies) which fits into a pocket or pencil case; and the cheaper brushes with plastic reservoirs in the handle to hold water. What I take and my technique depend on where I'm going; the weather if working outdoors; and the time available. As time is usually limited (at least by the state of the tide, changing weather and light outdoors) I prefer to draw and fill in big blocks of colour quickly. I get frustrated by pens which either don't last or have no flow. This brings me on to:

Tips and Challenges

- Weather – Cold and rain are a pain; but I find the strong sunshine in spring and summer a challenge, too; particularly along our shadeless south facing coast. If you have any ideas for accessible, shady outdoor venues for painting and sketching next summer, I'd like to hear them.
- Bringing the Wrong Stuff – usually because the weather hasn't been cooperative; or having a particular subject in mind; only to go for a different one and wishing, that I'd brought some different colours, or watercolour instead of just pencil with me.
- To Sit or Stand ? Without an easel (more weight and bulk), it's much easier to sit than to stand. Handy, then if there are benches or walls nearby. I have a lightweight, portable tripod stool, but it isn't comfortable for very long. The view changes when sat down; or it disappears completely behind a wall or a hedge.
- Dogs – usually they are friendly, but young ones can be bouncy / boisterous and sniff out packed lunches in rucksacks.
- Finally, Other People – particularly when out sketching solo, the possibility of people looking over your shoulder and perhaps making comments can be off-putting. Where available, it may help to stand immediately in front of a wall or a tree. In my experience though, anyone who has stopped, looked and chatted has been at the very least polite; and usually genuinely interested. I've even had cups of tea made for me, twice last summer alone.

Joan Lee

Open Exhibitions 2018 – Calls for Entries

Southampton City Art Gallery

After successful, high quality shows here in 2012 and 2016, their open exhibition will be back early next year. The theme for 2018 is *The Seasons*. There can't be many themes with such wide ranging possibilities for interpretation. Entry is open to all artists living and working in Hampshire, Dorset, Wiltshire and the IOW. Artists can submit up to four pictures or 3D art pieces in any medium, entry is £10 for the first two pieces, £5 for the other two. The show will run from 3rd February – 21st April. The submission dates are 18th, 19th and 20th January (bring your work to the gallery). More information and entry form download on the Gallery's website:

<https://www.southamptoncityartgallery.com/whats-on/open-exhibition-2018-four-seasons/>

AppArt Easter Exhibition and Sculpture Trail

I have had work accepted for this vibrant show in Surrey during the past few years and they are always open to new entries. It is held at Priors Field School near Godalming (about an hour from Warsash, close to the A3 Compton turn-off). The 2018 show will run from 30th March – 14th April. There's an outdoor sculpture trail in the surrounding grounds, landscaped by Gertrude Jekyll; and a large hall for the indoor exhibition. Entry forms can be downloaded from the AppArt website:

<http://www.appartonline.co.uk/exhibitions/priors-field-school-exhibition-2018/>

The deadline for entries is 27th January. Artists can submit up to six works and the entry fee is £10 for each work accepted by the judges.

Joan Lee

Dates for your Diary-

Thursday 7th December - Christmas Social Evening
Thursday 1st February 2018 – Graham Oliver – “Moving on in Pastel”
Thursday 1st March 2018 - Annual General Meeting

Next Newsletter

The next newsletter will be handed out at the first Thursday evening meeting of next year, 1st February 2018. Members' contributions are always very welcome, including reports about our Thursday evening talks and painting demonstrations; any gallery visits or art workshops you have enjoyed; and also your recent art related achievements such as having work accepted for open exhibitions. If you have any material you would like me to include, please email it to me the editor by **Monday 22nd January** (contact details in programme booklet)

Newsletter edited and produced by Joan Lee