



# Newsletter

November 2019

Founded 1958

## Welcome from your Chairman

A warm greeting to one and all. Another successful Annual Exhibition has been and gone; and our thanks must go to organisers Fi Haughton and Rachael Brown; Mike Ryde, Caroline McGrath and all the others among the team of helpers for their hard work in setting up and taking down the show. Also, thanks to those who volunteered to help out with other duties during the show. It is so important that we have volunteers for the tea room, stewarding, supervision of the crafts and all the other essentials for a successful show. Helper numbers were down this year, so please put your names forward in 2020, especially if you are exhibiting. A couple of hours in exchange for displaying your work is not too much to ask. An area where we will desperately need help is the *heavy gang*: those who do the lifting, shifting and erecting of the boards. Setting up wasn't too bad, but we were short of people when taking down.

Other people are needed to replace Jane Moody as Programme Organiser and Chris Madden as Classes and Workshops Organiser. They will both be standing down at the AGM in March, after five years in these roles. They are not necessarily Committee jobs: a verbal or written report as and when required will do.

*The Group is run on the goodwill of the people who are doers*, but there are times when these people have want to step down, with a need for others of the same ilk to take over. Don't be shy, please volunteer to help in the many ways available. The Group depends on such people. Without them, it will cease to exist. Anyway, enough of that...

It was with great reluctance that the Committee voted for an increase in the annual subscription next year to £20. It is a big step up, but the cost of rooms, demonstrating artists and speakers at our evening meetings are all increasing and we are struggling to keep pace. Though we have monies in the bank, it is always prudent to have a reserve for unknown contingencies.

Storage of our equipment, including everything we use at Exhibitions, is still an issue and we need a secure, dry solution. The cost of renting *lock and store* type places is prohibitive. If anyone has anything constructive to offer, please contact either the Chairman or Mike Ryde, our Logistics Manager.

Next year, we will also see a standardisation in pricing of framed work and craft pieces for sale at our Exhibition.

For our Christmas Social evening in December (page 2), music will be digital (CD) or tape. There will be a finger buffet and a raffle, for which we need prizes. Please donate raffle prizes to myself or Fi Haughton. Needless to say, there will be the usual quizzes.

Lastly, a big thank you from the Committee to all our helpers past and present for your support.

*Chris Francis, Chairman*

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# Christmas Social Evening

With partners

Thursday 5th December 2019 - 7.30pm

St Mary's Church Hall

- ❖ Raffle - donations for prizes to Chris Francis or Fi Haughton, please<sup>1</sup>
- ❖ Finger buffet food - please bring a plate of savoury or sweet food to share at the buffet supper, e.g. sandwiches, sausage rolls, nuts, cup cakes, mince pies; but nothing requiring cutlery e.g. trifle, pasta, Christmas pudding etc.
- ❖ Wine and soft drinks will be provided.
- ❖ Bring your unique handmade Christmas card for display.

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## **Team WAG 2020**

If you're reading this on or before our 7<sup>th</sup> November meeting, the Nominations Sheet for next year's Committee is displayed at the back of the hall. After that, it will appear there again at our first evening meeting of 2020 on 6<sup>th</sup> February. By the end of that month, we'd like to see names on it, please. Not everything that needs doing requires membership of the Committee, but there needs to be at least eight people on it, as per the Group's Rules. That includes the three Officers: the Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. Please don't be put off by the thought of having to attend Committee meetings: this year, there have only been four; not everyone has needed to attend all of them; and we can be flexible about their time and venue. If you think you can help in any way, please speak to or email one of the current Committee members.

## **Warsash Festival**

WAG had a stall here on 6<sup>th</sup> July. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the display of pictures on the Group stand, especially given the short notice. Yet again it was a hot, bright day, with very little or no shade in the field. It seems to get busier every year, with record attendance of about 7000, and a record number of stalls. The Festival returns in July 2021. WAG have no further public displays planned for the foreseeable future, unless any member wishes to organise one.

## **Tutored Workshops – Spring Term 2020**

### **Tuesday Mornings and Afternoons**

We continue to offer two back to back workshops which will run for ten consecutive Tuesdays, starting on the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at St. Mary's Church Hall, Church Road, Warsash. Tutor Kay LePoidevin.

Kay will cover a variety of mediums, but you can stick with one if you prefer. Composition and drawing is explored, as well as painting techniques. The workshops always allow the "students" to follow their own path, if that is what they want.

To attend these classes, you need to be a member of Warsash Art Group. If you'd like to join, please email the Group via the Contact tab on this website. If you're already a member, the classes organiser's contact details are in the full version of this newsletter emailed to members on 7<sup>th</sup> November.

The Group continues to seek a new workshops organiser as our current one is retiring at the AGM next March. The duties are taking in cheques and booking forms before each of the three terms and they are not onerous. If you would like to serve your fellow members in this (non-committee) role, please contact us..

### **Wednesday Afternoon Untutored Workshops 2020**

12 weeks at Sarisbury Green Parish Rooms.

Spring term – 15<sup>th</sup> January to 1st April, 1.45 – 3.45 pm

There will be a small fee for the term, payable at the first session.

Any questions, please contact Nicky

### **Obituary – Ken Pothecary**

We were very sad to hear of Ken's passing on 24<sup>th</sup> September. He was a talented artist and a member of a number of art groups, including this one and Secretary of Winchester Art Club. He had two pictures accepted for last year's open exhibition at Southampton City Art Gallery. We will miss his eye catching colourful work at our exhibitions.

### **Websites for three Artists Demonstrating at WAG Evening Meetings**

Pip McGarry - [www.pipmcgarry.com](http://www.pipmcgarry.com) (February 2020)

Vic Bearcroft <https://www.vicbearcroft.co.uk/> (September 2019)

David Boag - <http://naturalfocus.co.uk/> (November 2019)

## **Annual Exhibition 2019**

Exhibition Preview night was well attended, and opened by Councillor Mike Ford, the Deputy Mayor of Fareham. This is what he said in his letter to joint Exhibition Organiser Fi Haughton, dated 15<sup>th</sup> August:

*Anne and I would like to thank you for your kind invitation to attend the preview night for Warsash Art Group's Exhibition.*

*We are privileged to have so much talent in our midst with some quite outstanding pieces in the show. This made our job of selecting a favourite so difficult, but we did choose Alan Akerman's Brollies as just edging it. This one really made us smile and made us feel we were out in the rain that the picture depicted.*

*I well understand the work that goes into staging an event like this one, so my congratulations to all involved. We wish you a really successful exhibition.*

*I would be grateful if you could pass on our thanks to Chairman Chris Francis for his kind hospitality.*

Our judge this year was wildlife artist Pip McGarry, who will be demonstrating his technique at our evening meeting in February. He said that because the standard of work was so high and the content so diverse, he too found it hard to pick a favourite. Before announcing his choice, he read out a longlist of names and exhibits, then his shortlist of five. Many of his top choices ranked highly in the visitors' vote, too.

Mayor's Choice – Alan Akerman - *Brollies*

Judge's Choice – Paintings – Susan Page *Pink Ferry*

Judge's Choice – Craft – all Heather Jay's pendants

Highly Commended - Paintings – Alan Akerman – *Trafalgar Bound*

Highly Commended – Craft – all Michael Conduit's bowls

The top visitors' choices for paintings were:

1<sup>st</sup> – Alan Akerman – *Trafalgar Bound* (14 votes)

2<sup>nd</sup> – Fi Haughton – *Dragonfly* (11 votes)

3<sup>rd</sup> – Claire Rye-Weller – *Winter* (8 votes)

Equal 4<sup>th</sup>, with 7 votes each: Micy Mays – *The Kiss*

Chris Johnston – *Houses on the Hill*

Alan Akerman - *Brollies*

The top visitors' choices for crafts were:

1<sup>st</sup> – Steve Phelps – *Electric Guitar* – 8 votes

2<sup>nd</sup> – Barbara Chambers – *Bowl 1* - 6 votes

Joint 3<sup>rd</sup>, with 5 votes each: Walter Underwood – *Surf's Up*

Barbara Chambers – *Autumn Fruit Platter*

4<sup>th</sup> – Walter Underwood – *Cat's Head* – 4 votes

This year's Exhibition was a great success and wouldn't have been possible without the time and effort put in to making everything happen by joint Exhibition Organisers Rachael Brown and Fi Haughton, along with their team of helpers. This included the hours spent processing members' entries and preparing everything else during the run up to the Exhibition and help at the show itself. What is often forgotten in the organisation of each exhibition is that once one is over, preparations for the next begins immediately. The hall has been booked for 2020 already.

As Chairman Chris Francis says on page 1, there was a shortfall of helpers in some areas. If you're exhibiting then please also try to offer to help in some way. If you offer to help but then find you're unable to do so, please let the organisers know in advance. It can be great fun and it is a way to meet new people.

Mike Ryde, *Heavy Gang* Manager, struggled to find some strong members, male or female, to help put boards up at the beginning and take them down at the end. Thank you to the relatives of three of our members for their help. Don't be afraid to offer the services of a family member or friend etc., just make sure they know first!

Only around a third of the eighty members exhibiting in 2019 offered to help with Stewarding duties etc. We even had stewards who hadn't put any work into the Exhibition: thank you to Jane Moody, Cindy Sherman, Diane Hardiman, Sue Gray, Ian Lawrence. We would love for any Non-Exhibitors to come forward and offer their help next year. If you're exhibiting, don't forget to check the bottom of your forms when you hand in your art to see when you have been asked to steward.

If you think you could offer your services for next year's Exhibition, please speak to, or email Fi Haughton.

### **Dates for your Diary**

*Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Social Evening*  
*Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2019 – Dave White – Animal Portrait, Acrylic*  
*Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019 - Annual General Meeting*

### **Next Newsletter**

Members' contributions to the newsletter are always very welcome. If you have any material you would like me to include, please email it to the Editor by **Monday 20th January**. The next newsletter will be published for our evening meeting on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2020. Content will include the Membership Renewal Form and notices for the AGM.

Like this one, it will go out by email. Thank you to the vast majority of members who have already provided WAG with an email address and your consent for us to use it. If you haven't, please could you do so next year. The Membership form will include boxes for you to tick to give the Committee your consent for us to use your home and email addresses according to General Data Protection Regulations. Though you can choose not to consent, we'll be unable to send you any information, including newsletters or forms for the Exhibition and classes. If you're really stuck, please can you try to team up with an email-enabled member living close by.

*Newsletter edited and produced by Joan Lee*

## **The Art of Rob Trent**

Rob Trent has been a WAG member for about eighteen months and is also a member of the Mouth and Foot Painting Artists (MFPA). His painting *Sunset* (lower right) is featured in their 2020 calendar (October). Recently, he had his picture of poppies published in their German spring collection of cards. He can be seen here working at his electronic easel, which allows him to raise, lower and tilt a canvas to any position he needs.

You can find out more about the MFPA here: <https://www.mfpa.uk>



## **Sketching in Warsash:**

A group of three or four regulars meet Monday mornings 10.30am (winter season) at Warsash Quay to sketch followed by tea / coffee in The Rising Sun. You're welcome to join us. Bring your usual sketching materials and dress accordingly for the weather. I believe there's a piece about the sketchers in the November issue of Warsash Parish News.

Thank you to Tina Shaw for organising a joint sketching day for Warsash and Fareham Art Groups at Hamble-le-Rice on 4<sup>th</sup> September.

### **More Artists' Websites**

Josie Tipler - <http://www.josietipler.co.uk/>

Wendy Jelbert - <http://www.wendyjelbert.co.uk/>