



Newsletter

July 2019

Welcome from your Chairman

Greetings to one and all, hopefully you've all had an enjoyable year so far. Lots of painting with incredible and pleasing results and lots of entries for this year's Exhibition.

It doesn't seem possible that it's upon us already, time is certainly flying by. Along with the Exhibition comes all the rules and requirements which we should all know by now so I won't bore you by repeating them all. The very bottom line is to have a good exhibition and enjoy it. I look forward to seeing you all at preview night.

Some changes are afoot in the admin areas. These include going fully digital with newsletters and other communications. Don't worry if you aren't a computer buff, just let us know and we will pair you up with someone who can copy things for you. This is to do with the cost as much as personnel and we hope it will work well with your help.

Another area of change I would like to implement is to reduce the numbers required to attend Committee meetings, but not the information flow and work they do. Non Committee helpers and volunteers will always be required and welcome.

If any member has any ideas or suggestions for change or improvement, or just wants to bend my ear about something, then please don't hesitate to contact me (my ear is always open).

Meantime happy summer holidays and keep the artwork going.

Chris Francis, Chairman

Annual Exhibition 2019 – The Victory Hall, Warsash

Tuesday August 13th - Handing in. Time slots to be allocated
Wednesday August 14th - Preview Evening, from 7.00pm. Invitation page 9.
Thursday 15th – Sunday 18th August - Exhibition open to the public
Sunday August 18th – Handing out. Time slots to be allocated

Annual Warsash Art Group Exhibition 2019

An invitation to the Preview evening on Wednesday 14th August, for one WAG member plus guest was included with paper copy of this newsletter. There will be artwork in the main hall and the adjoining room off to the right. Once again, there will be a tearoom serving refreshments to visitors. For that, we will need a supply of homemade cakes. If you can bake something, please bring it to the hall between 10.00am and 5.00pm on Wednesday 14th August (before the preview), or early on Thursday morning (15th) and hand it to Fi Haughton or one of her helpers.

This newsletter comes out with just three days to go before the deadline for entries expires. Hopefully by now all, or very nearly all, entries and payments are now with Rachael Brown, Entries Co-ordinator. Late entries, arriving after Sunday 7th July, will not be accepted. When preparing work for handing in and exhibiting, please read the rules and guidelines carefully, paying particular attention to labelling, framing and presentation.

During the Exhibition, there will be a folder of artists' profiles for visitors to browse. If you would like yours to be included and have not enclosed it with your completed entry form, please hand it to Fi before the start of the show.

Exhibition Publicity

Enclosed with this Newsletter is a poster. Please think of somewhere prominent where you can display it for all to see. It features Rachael Brown's fused glass art, as demonstrated at our evening meeting in May.

The more promotion, online and offline, the show has the better, especially with so many other events competing for attention this summer. That means reaching out to everyone beyond your usual art circles. We need to encourage visitors who will appreciate the beauty and effort that goes into producing the artwork displayed, meaning, hopefully more sales.

The poster is now on the homepage of WAG's website: www.warsashartgroup.org.uk . We also have an entry in the Hampshire Open Studios brochure and on their website: www.hampshireopenstudios.org.uk . It will be in the Southampton section. The paper copy of the brochure usually goes to print in early July. When it's out, please circulate it as widely as you can, preferably with our poster enclosed. That would help WAG, along with our members holding open studios of their own.

WAG also has a Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/events/2524581140886949/> Please share our Exhibition-related posts with your Facebook friends and followers as much as possible, and on your artist page if you have one. If you use any of the other widely used social networks, such as Twitter and Instagram for all things arty, please make use of those as well.

Artists' Websites

Wendy Jelbert - www.wendyjelbert.co.uk/

Josie Tipler - www.josietipler.co.uk/

Vic Bearcroft - www.vicbearcroft.co.uk

David Boag - <http://naturalfocus.co.uk/>

Tutored Workshops – Autumn Term 2019

Tuesday Mornings and Afternoons – Tutor Kay Le Poidevin

We continue to offer two back to back workshops which will run for ten consecutive Tuesdays, starting on the 24th September 2019 at St. Mary's Church Hall, Church Road, Warsash.

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.

Applications will be taken on a first come first served basis. Class numbers are capped at 18.

Please note the (small) increase in the fee to £59. Please make cheques payable to Warsash Art Group).

Contact details and booking forms were supplied to members via the paper copy of this newsletter.

Wednesday Afternoon Untutored Workshops

The summer term finishes 24th July.

The autumn term starts Wednesday 18th September.

End of Autumn term Wednesday 4th December.

Any questions, please contact Nicky Ballingall.

Top Team Update

There were a couple of changes to the make up of the Committee last month. Vic Bettridge stood down from the Committee in June, after being Chairman of WAG for the past four years. Before that, he organised the Exhibition; Saturday workshops; and tutored classes on Tuesday afternoons. We also have a new Treasurer. Rachael Brown has been in this in this crucial role for nearly four years, and is also joint Exhibition Organiser. We are all very grateful to both Vic and Rachael for making so much happen especially on top of work, family and artistic commitments.

Next year we will need someone to take over from Chris Madden as organiser of Tuesday classes and Saturday workshops. He has organised these for five years and would now like to retire. For Tuesday classes, see page 3. Saturday workshops are usually held at the Victory Hall, including the last two very successful ones tutored by Maggie Cochran (Expressive Acrylics in April); and Stewart Beckett (marine subjects in watercolour, in June). If you're interested, please speak to Chris or any Committee member.

I, Joan Lee, have been Newsletter Editor for a similar length of time. I've enjoyed it, but think it's time for a change. Provided you are reasonably competent in using a document program or App such as MS Word, producing the newsletter is not difficult or time consuming. A template is available which is readable on most electronic devices and as a paper copy. The Group's move from paper to digital documents (see below) will mean not

only fewer envelopes to stuff and stamp when newsletters go out to members, but it could also provide an opportunity for a redesign, perhaps including colour and more images.

There may be call outs for help in other areas before the 2020 AGM which, will be just over six months away (that's five evening meetings away) by the time the Exhibition finishes. The Group is always looking for helpers and volunteers to ensure all the activities members currently enjoy keep running

Communications

As the Chairman says on page 1, newsletters and other communications to members are going digital. From the next newsletter in November onwards, everyone who has given WAG an email address (the vast majority of Members), will receive documents electronically.

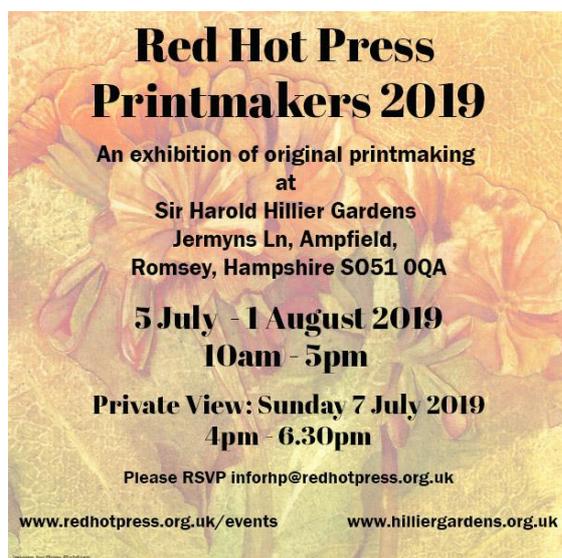
It will be even more essential, then, for members to check their inboxes regularly. We will always give advance notice before anything important goes out.

As well as newsletters, this means all forms: booking forms for the Tuesday classes, beginning with those starting next January; next year's Membership Renewal Forms and Exhibition Entry Forms. The Group needs to reduce rising postage costs and the workload involved printing and distributing documents in hard copy. I hope you'll agree that the money and effort involved would be better spent on continuing to provide the varied, stimulating programme of artist demonstrators and workshops.

We are aware that a few members do not use email, or have chosen not to give the Group their consent to contact us that way, according to GDPR regulations. We will continue to provide printed copies for anyone who is genuinely unable to use email and has difficulty accessing a printer to print out forms which require signatures (eg subscription renewal forms). However, we'd like to keep those numbers to a minimum. It would help then, if a few email and printer enabled members who live nearby could print out extra copies.

Most other organisations, including other art groups in this area, have gone digital, with their members not only adapting to it but widely supporting it.

Members' News and More to See..

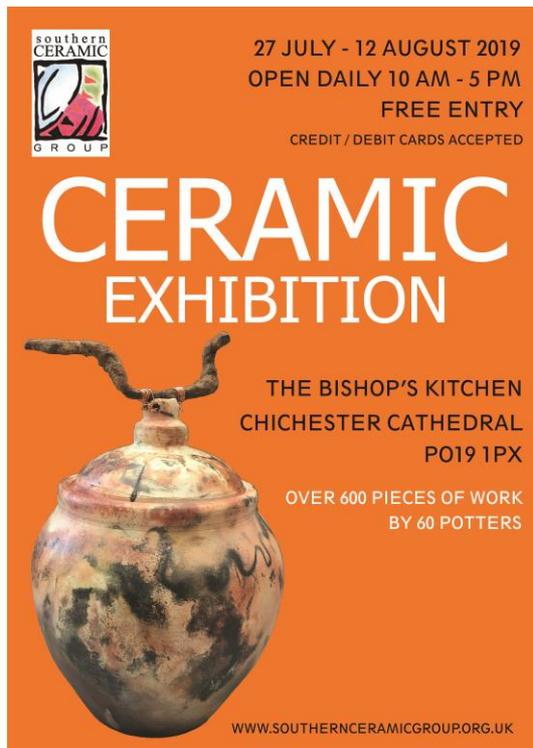


Joan Lee will be among the eighteen printmakers exhibiting with Red Hot Press, Printmakers in the gallery at Sir Harold Hillier Gardens this month (flyer left). Entry to the gallery is free and there is a good café. All work is for sale.

Sheila Macgougan will be among the ten exhibitors from Omega Printmakers showing work in St. Thomas' Cathedral, Portsmouth PO1 2HH, 6th – 18th July. More details:

<http://www.omegaprintmakers.co.uk/>

If you visit **Bursledon Brickworks Industrial Museum**, you may see Steve Whitehead: he is now the Museum's Artist in Residence.



Southern Ceramics – have their annual exhibition at the Bishop's Kitchen, Chichester Cathedral 27th July – 11th August. Open daily 10.00am – 5.00pm. Over 600 pieces of work by 60 potters (flyer left).

Southern Nature Art (flyer right) is now in its fifth year. The 2019 Exhibition is on Friday 23rd – Monday 26th August. Rookesbury Park, Wickham PO17 6HT. Entry is open to all artists. Nature related pictures, including wildlife, floral, landscape and seascape, in a variety of styles and media wanted. More information and entry forms at <https://southernnatureart.com/>



Sketching in Warsash

Meet in and around Warsash Quay car park from 10.00am, Mondays, weather permitting. We sketch for about an hour, followed by tea / coffee in the Rising Sun. There are three or four regulars. You're welcome to join us. Bring your usual sketching materials, including a seat or stool if you have one. Windproof, sunglasses, sun cream recommended.

If you'd like to organise a sketching session at any other time and place, please email Joan Lee or the Group's address with the date and details.

Dates for your Diary

Thursday evening meetings:

5th September – Vic Bearcroft – Animal pastel demonstration on velour

3rd October Wendy Jelbert *Tantalising Textures* – mixed media demonstration

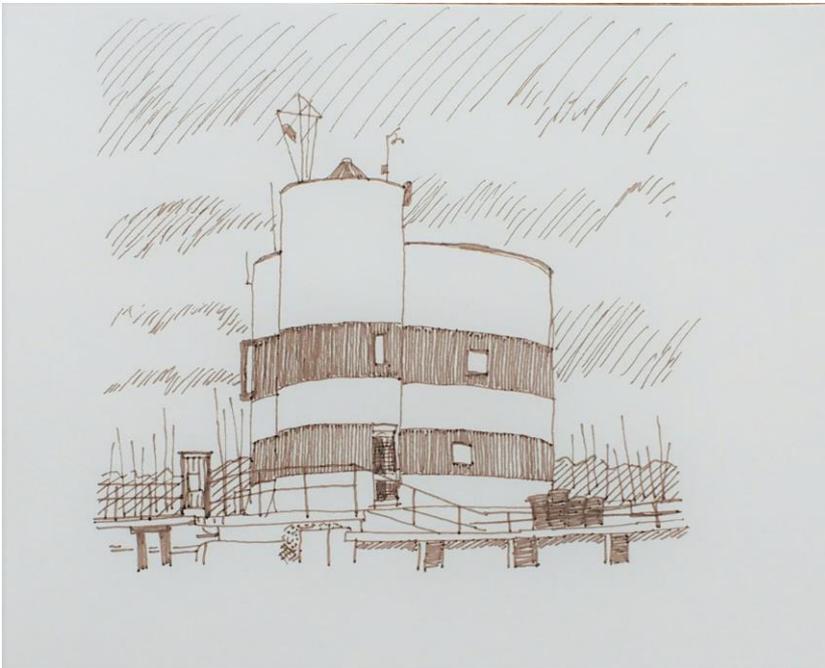
1st November – David Boag – Talk – “Photographing Nature More Creatively”

5th December – pre-Christmas Social evening

Next Newsletter

The autumn 2019 newsletter, will be published on Thursday 7th November. As it says on page 4, it will go out by email. If you'd like to contribute to it, please email it to Joan Lee by **Tuesday 29th October**.

Newsletter edited and produced by Joan Lee



Left: Steve Whitehead's pen sketch of the Harbour Master Tower, Warsash, June 2019

Below: Joan Lee's sketch on the backshore of the Hook With Warsash shingle beach, May 27th 2019. The dog featured here was not the one which ran off with my bag of sketching materials!

