

# Wokingham Art Society Newsletter – August 2013

[www.wokinghamartsociety.org.uk](http://www.wokinghamartsociety.org.uk)

Editor Chris Parry



Chairman

Sue Smith

0118 9792030

Treasurer

Rebecca Johnson

0118 9734360

Secretary

Madeline Hawes

0118 9783898

## Chairman's report August 2013

I was very sorry to be unable to be with you for the AGM this year. As many of you know, I was struck down with pancreatitis and rushed into hospital shortly beforehand. Chris Parry, our Vice Chairman stood in my place. Thank you Chris.

Here are the main matters arising. Officers and committee members were all re-elected with the exception of Mary Jenno who decided not to stand again this year due to other commitments. We are very grateful for her help over the last year, especially with the Jubilee Frieze. Thank you Mary.

- Associate membership has increased from £12 to £15 per annum
- Full membership has increased from £15 to £18 per annum
- Guest fees at demonstrations have increased to £4 (members remain at £2)
- We plan to distribute the Newsletter via email from October to cut printing Newsletter by post, please contact Chris Parry or Madeline Hawes.
- Most of our activities run either at a small profit or break even. Only the demos make a loss. The 2012 Summer Exhibition took £3,000 less than the previous year, due to the economic recession and to the Olympic Games in London coinciding with the dates, but only made a £244 loss.

If you would like a copy of the full minutes or the accounts please contact our **secretary Madeline Hawes.**

## Attention all members

From September this year the newsletter will be going out via email. For those of you who do not have a computer, please get in touch with Chris, or Madeline and let them know that you will still require a letter by post.

Please do not forget.

*Otherwise you will miss out on your contact with the Art Society and all its events.*

For all you other members

- Make sure we have your email!

*Chairmans report continued*  
**News from the 2013 Exhibition**

Once again we were delighted to receive so many entries from the society. The Preview evening was opened by John Nike and was a great success. Outstanding entries were carefully scrutinised by our judge Soraya French and she chose the following to receive prizes:

- Best in Show: Liz Seward for her mixed media painting "Jam and Jug"
- Sandra Fagan Prize for Best Watercolour: Brian Woods for "Dozey"
- Ray Mills Prize for the Best Painting in a Medium other than Watercolour: Katie Smith for "The London Ladies (Milly, Molly and Mandy)"
- Vice Presidents Ceramics Cup: Karen Marks for her overall body of work

We were thrilled to present Annet Pullen with the cup for 'Service to the Group' for her amazing efforts to promote the Society through publicity and her general support in all aspects of the life of the group. She works very hard on our behalf which is especially commendable as she is a non-exhibiting member. Bless her for her enthusiasm. Thank you Annet.

Sue Smith was given the most votes by the guests at the Preview for her painting of Jae Jae, the tiger at London Zoo.

Throughout the fortnight, nearly 3000 votes were cast and an amazing 348 paintings received at least one vote.

**The Top Twenty**

(as voted for by the public throughout the Exhibition)

Total Votes	Artist	Title of Painting
125	Sue Smith	Jae Jae
117	Lynne Bellchamber	Girls with Umbrellas
102	Chris Parry	Wokingham, Market Day
92	Katie Smith	Mandy
81	Katie Smith	Molly
80	Katie Smith	Milly
52	Nikki Carr	Heavy Burden
42	Nikki Carr	Carnival
37	John Howey	Before the Storm
36	Lynne Bellchamber	Collecting Shells
33	John Howey	Sailing
30	Brian Liddicoat	Polperro Harbour
29	Brian Woods	Three of a Kind
29	Beryl Young	Country Cottage
28	Lynne Bellchamber	First Dip of the Season
28	Peter Izod	Connemara 1
25	Richard Cox	Beacon Hill
25	Jean Smith	Ice Melt
25	Brian Woods	Dozey
24	Alison Messias	Garden Gate

## Chairman's report continued -

As far as sales went, we were a little concerned half way through the first week as sales were very slow – but we blame the extreme hot weather, as once it cooled down, sales picked up and with a final flourish on the last day we reached sales of almost £11000 and exceeded last year's total. Congratulations to all the successful artists but to those that weren't, please be aware how much your exhibits were appreciated by all who saw them. It was a stunning display

I would like to thank my fantastic committee who rose to the occasion once again with a magnificent effort and to all the other members and their families who gave their time and enthusiasm as artists and stewards or in many other ways to ensure the success of our wonderful annual event. Here's to many more!

And finally, watch this space for an exciting new development with regard to the future of our jubilee frieze.

Enjoy the rest of the  
summer. *Sue*

## We welcome new members to the Society

*Patrick Harte, Chris Lupton, Kathryn Price,  
Brian Hammans, Sakara McShane,  
Anne Bloy Jennifer Bloy, June Wright.*

*We hope that you will all take full advantage of  
what the society has to offer – workshops, outings,  
demonstrations, and friendships to be made.  
Welcome to all of you  
Chris Parry (membership sec)*

## Dates for your Diary

### Sunday October 20<sup>th</sup>

*Coach trip to the Wallace Collection in London Price per  
person £12.50 Contact Liz Manley 0118 9772569*

### November 2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop

*With Ronnie Ireland "Catching the Image" £22*

### Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> 2014

*Graham Cox" Pastel Landscape / Seascape  
Including all materials and producing 2 paintings £30*

### April 6<sup>th</sup> 2014

*Liz Seward "Still life with Fruit and Veg" £22*

*To book a place on any of these workshops contact  
Brenda Baldwin on 0118 9784481  
Booking has now started on these workshops.*

## Graham Cox demonstration Pastels Landscapes, 21 May 2013

Visit him at [www.moodyviews.co.uk](http://www.moodyviews.co.uk).

Graham does not paint on location with pastels - transporting the finished work is too inconvenient.

Instead he takes lots of photos and uses them as inspiration for linear/tonal drawings on cartridge paper.

When he is satisfied with his composition he transfers onto the pastel paper using old-fashioned carbon-paper - pencil is no good because pastel will not stick to it.

He uses only 18 colours of pastel, preferring Unison soft ones (probably only a dozen for one painting). Sets of 18 pastels were on sale during the coffee break.

It is most important that the paper has good tooth. He was using the textured side of 160 gsm Hahnemühle LanaColours 160 gsm paper, this evening. This comes in a wide range of colours but he tends to use only three darkish ones.

Tonight he did a summer scene on dark grey paper preceded by an autumn scene on purple paper (before coffee). Packs of paper were on sale during the coffee break.

Foregrounds were warmed up and texture added - again very lightly with a totally flat piece of pastel. The demo ended with two more useful "tricks":

• For flowers in bushes and fields, for spume blowing off waves or for falling snow, try putting the paper flat on a table and letting fine scrapes of colour fall onto it. You will need to practice to be confident about height and density.

• That trick, even more than Graham's light touch, means that the pastel is not all very firmly bonded to the paper. Spray is anathema to him (it kills the vibrancy of the colours). Solution? Buy a sheet of Glassine, drop it lightly onto the finished work, hold it firmly, so that it does not move, and then rub as hard as you can to force the pigment into the paper. Sheets of Glassine were on sale during coffee. Thank you Graham for a really inspiring evening

*Sam Dauncey*

To see the full account of this demo, accompanied by photographs of Graham's work go to

[www.wokinghamartsociety.org.uk](http://www.wokinghamartsociety.org.uk)  
and look in Archives, Past demonstrations.

## Dee Cowell, Artbars and Inktense blocks, 18 June 2013

You can rely on Dee to give an unconventional demo..How on earth do I put her fun and enthusiasm into print? You just should have been there..Dee was demonstrating with Derwent's new Artbars and Inktense blocks on a new smooth paper designed specially for watercolour pencils, both are water soluble but she told us that only the Artbar could be lifted off like watercolour.

Derwent sells several specialized accessories for its products. Dee used two:

• the so-called "Shave 'n' Save", a pot with a triangular Artbar sharpener in its lid, the idea being that you can make conventional watercolour by adding a few drops of water to the shavings in the pot

• the "Grate 'n' Shake, a similar pot with a Inktense block grater in the lid. A photo of a lemur was the inspiration for the first painting. She started this with watercolour Artbars.

Dee then grated blue and red into the head, sticking it to the surface by lightly spraying with water. She also dabbed with a small flat brush, drying it frequently to avoid mixing the granules too much.

Other colours were introduced, sometimes directly with the bars but as often by scraping and then spreading and transferring with a brush. She enthused about her "comb brush" (long and short hairs - Jackson's sells them) for foliage or, like here, a furry tail.

After the break, Dee used flowers and a bird to demonstrate the Inktense blocks. In both of these cases shavings of purple and later blue were the foundation for both hollyhock and owl, sprayed and then pulled out of the wetted areas with a flat brush.

The evening past in a haze of, grating colour, wet into wet, and lifting out areas of colour to create light and form, with that infectious excitement that Dee brings to any demo/workshop, while all the time imploring us to experiment with these new techniques and to just have fun!

So ended another fascinating evening.

Thanks Dee

*Sam Dauncey*

To see the full account of this demo, accompanied by photographs of Dee's work go to

[www.wokinghamartsociety.org.uk](http://www.wokinghamartsociety.org.uk)  
and look in Archives, Past demonstrations.

## Message Board

*Do you have a message for the board, if so we would love to hear from you.*

*Contact Chris on 0118 9783040 or email [parryhouse@aol.com](mailto:parryhouse@aol.com)*

### Video Library

We have a wonderful library of Art DVD's which can be taken out on a loan basis, by card carrying members of the society.

Hire charge is £1 per item. Please return item promptly at the next meeting to avoid a fine.

For more information, or if you have any suggestions, please contact

**Alison Messias**  
**0118 9783188**

### V & A Traynor Fine Arts

#### Picture Framing

8, Victoria Place,  
Terrace Road North, Binfield, RG42 5JB  
Tel; 01344 425508

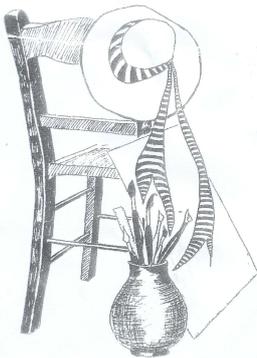
*Our best wishes go to Sue who is recovering from pancreatitis and an operation to remove her gall bladder.*

*Sue is now with her daughter Emma who is expecting her first child, Sue's second grandchild, expected in mid August, and I am sure that is the best medicine she could possibly have.*

*All the best Sue x*

## *Cornerstone*

Informal painting group;  
Just bring your paints and turn up.  
Every Monday 2pm until 4.30pm  
£3 includes refreshments.  
For more details call



Barbara Thompson  
0118 9791443

\*\*\*

Alison Messias  
0118 9783188

**Look out for the Poster at the back of this message board**

### **Reading Between the Lines** **Theatre Company**

Are inviting all artists to produce a painting on the theme of "Romeo and Juliet"

To be exhibited in Reading Minster Church of St Mary the Virgin.

From 12<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> September 2013

**PTO this sheet, poster on the back!**

### **20% Discount at T & G Galleries, Easthampstead Road**

This is 20% off framing for all members of the Society who produce an Art Society membership card