

## NOVEMBER 2010 NEWSLETTER

### Ante-Room Exhibitions 2011

A chance to show your work for a whole calendar month in the room next to the gallery. An opportunity to display your own work and let the Arts Centre deal with any sales for you. The hanging system is easy to use and the walls are now well lit. Work must be framed and a list of prices displayed on the wall. A chance perhaps to show some of those works you liked but the selection panel rejected

Please contact Chris Illsley  
(email: [w.illsley@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:w.illsley@tiscali.co.uk) • tel: 01780 766889)

### Classes

A number of regular art classes are held in the Art Studio in the Art Centre on the following days - or are they?

Monday  
1.15pm - 3.15pm £5 (£4.50) weekly  
Heather Harrison for beginners and improvers

Tuesday  
9.30am - 12.30pm £123 (£110) 10 weeks  
Catherine Headley - Watercolour painting

Tuesday  
7.30pm - 10.00pm  
Mike Alabaster - Getting a likeness

Wednesday  
9.30am - 12 noon £63 (£58.50) 9 weeks  
David Rushton - Painting and drawing

Thursday  
10.00am - 12.30pm  
Joanna Crawford - Life drawing

Life Class every Thursday (not tutored)  
7.30pm - 10.00pm  
Life Class with Mike Alabaster

(for details contact Mike Alabaster 01780 763806  
after 6 pm) or Arts Centre (01780 763203)

### Sculpture Classes

Regular Sculpture classes are held in the Arts Centre Art room every Wednesday and Friday (for details contact Jonty Meyer 07799 048841) or Arts Centre (01780 763203)

(All sessions £8.50 per session)

Wednesday  
7.30pm to 10pm  
The same portrait head is presented each Wednesday session to allow artists to complete their sculptures.

Friday  
10am to 12.30pm  
The same portrait head is presented each Friday session to allow artists to complete their sculptures.



Beauty is in the eye of the beholder!  
The 'temporary' bar

### W.V.A.S. Autumn Show 2010 - could be our last!

First, sympathies to those members who were stewarding during the first week of our show, having to endure awful noise, toxic fumes, workmen coming and going and seeing visitors turn away because of all this.

As Exhibition Secretary I had not been informed that the "temporary bar" was to be installed during our annual Autumn Show. The WVAS show is a regular and very popular exhibition and that the management should allow this to happen during the course of our show is appalling. On visiting the gallery the day before our selection I was told the work would be finished in two days and that we could still hang paintings at that end of the room. Not surprisingly I have received complaints from some members whose work was removed from the walls without consultation and put out on trestle tables.

Despite this we did manage to lure in 2,266 visitors, many of them saying they thought it was our best show to date. 57 members submitted 192 pieces which included 12 sculptures and 36 works on the theme "seasons". Many of the

entries were quite large reducing the number we were able to hang. 146 pieces were chosen by the selection panel and the visiting selector chose, as winner of the Gladys Teesdale Award,

"Young Girl" by Fiona Dale  
and commended  
Joanna Crawford "Apples on a plate"  
Philip Spence "Backsides"  
Prue Pye "Metamorphosis"

The committee had also decided that there should be a small award in the Themes category and this was won by Carol Hamilton for her painting "Winter".

17 pieces were sold plus 20 from the browsers - sales totalling £3,340 (£900 up on Spring - £1300 down on last Autumn)

Over 200 votes were cast for most popular picture with Mary Stenson "Winter sun" and Mo Teeuw "Burnham Overy Staithe" getting 12 votes each.

### What of the Future

If the bar remains will we find ourselves merely decorating a bar lounge area? We would certainly have to reduce the amount of entries and it is doubtful we would be able to show 3D work in the same way. Pictures may have to be secured to the walls - making hanging the show much more difficult and time consuming. Also our exhibition would probably have to be manned most nights of the week.

Chris Illsley (exhibition secretary)

### Rutland Open Studios Christmas.

Artists will once again be opening their studios for Christmas on November 27th & 28th. This is a great opportunity to find that different Christmas gift

Please come along and support local artists.

## Petition Time

Enclosed with this newsletter you will find a petition sheet. Please get out into your local communities and get as many signatures as you can to protest at the loss of the Gallery. It is the only public gallery in the area and its loss, to make way for yet another bar of which Stamford can boast so many, would be criminal. Any and all petitions with as many signatures as you can muster should be returned by **Saturday December 4th** to :

**Will Illsley**  
**The Coach House**  
**38A St Peters St**  
**Stamford**  
**PE9 2PF**

The officers of SKDC have chosen to introduce this bar in what can only be described as an underhand way. They have protested that it is only temporary and yet all legal and commonplace interpretations of the term temporary are being ignored. To all intents and purposes it is a permanent structure. They have chosen to communicate in a cavalier fashion with casual verbal remarks made to various individuals rather than any tangible communication to the organisations that use the Gallery. I can only interpret this as a deliberate policy to allow them to present confused, misleading and in some cases downright false information, whilst claiming they are 'consulting' and communicating with the public.

We intend to present the petition to the Burghley Estate offices and thence to the SKDC. Because of the disingenuous way in which the council officers have acted, we do not have a great deal of time left to influence the outcome. Please return the petitions with as many signatures as possible to Will Illsley who will be co-ordinating the effort.

If you wish to send letters and emails of complaint directly to SKDC the addresses are:

email: p.stokes@southkesteven.gov.uk

Paul Stokes, Head of Assets  
South Kesteven District Council  
St Peters Hill  
Grantham  
Lincolnshire  
NG31 6PZ

Telephone: 01476 406080

## Please do something

I would urge you to be as active as possible in this, our hour of need. I assume you are members of this society because you enjoy and care about art. Of our 292 members we only received 46 questionnaires back from our recent mailing. Some, I am sure have handed questionnaires in directly to the Arts Centre, but, this is a pretty poor showing. Please ACT NOW.

Complain to the SKDC by phone, letter or email. Sign and return the petition. If you don't, you can forget WVAS exhibitions, classes and newsletters.

## Painting in Tuscany

I am organising a one or two week painting course in The Verrochio art centre, Casole d Elsa, Tuscany in August/September 2011

I need at least ten people for this and will have prices in a couple of weeks, but the cost will not be prohibitive.

The price will include accommodation, breakfast & evening meal, but not flights, these will have to be arranged yourselves, but are not costly.

We would meet at Pisa airport and travel to the art centre will be arranged by minibus.

There are big studios to work in with easels, tables, etc. and a limited amount of materials can be purchased there.

It is great fun and a lovely place to stay in.

Anyone interested please contact me,

*Roy Holley on 01572 747 639 or  
email: roy.holley@tiscali.co.uk*

## Events

**Catmose Gallery, Oakham - 'Open 8" Open exhibiion for regional artists.**

Opening times:  
Tues - Friday 10am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 5pm  
Saturday 10 am - 1 pm.  
Exhibition ends Wednesday 15th December

**Willoughby Memorial Trust Gallery, Corby Glen Open Arts Competition**

Opening Times:  
Tuesday - Sunday 12 Noon -5pm  
Exhibition ends November 26th.

## Trip to Gauguin Exhibition

Coach trip on 21st November to Tate Modern, to visit the Gauguin Exhibition. Cost of coach £12.00 per person.

Note: this does not include entry to te exhibition.

A bus will leave Oakham (behind Wilkinsons) at 09.00 and Stamford (Bus Station) at 09.30 We return from Tate Modern at 18.00 .

Cheques (payable to the WVAS), or enquiries, please, to:

Mike Alabaster (Activities Secretary)

37, St Leonard's Street, Stamford PE9 2HL  
(Tel: 01780 763806)

## Workshops

**OCTOBER 17th**

Figure painting with Joanna Crawford. A mythological theme connected with Autumn. 10.00 till 16.00.  
Tel. 01780 720142.

**NOVEMBER 14th**

Portrait painting with Sally Crew. 10.00 till 16.00.  
Tel. 01780 752102.

**DECEMBER 12th**

Clay workshop, working from a figure or portrait model, with Jonty Meyer. 10.00 till 16.00.

**Note:** If you wish to attend this workshop you must book in advance. This will allow Jonty to organise sufficient materials. Places are limited to 15 people so get your booking in early to avoid disappointment.

*Jonty Meyer  
Tel. 01780 766719.  
Mob: 07799 048841*

All the above take place in the Arts Centre and are open to W.V. members and their guests (Guests are asked to make a contribution of £10). Space may be limited, so it would be sensible to contact the tutors beforehand. In the event of difficulty, ring

*Mike Alabaster: 01780 763806.*

