

SEPTEMBER 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 • 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.



I've got my eye on you lot! and not in a good way!

We will fight them in the Café, we will fight them in the Gallery... we will never surrender.

It is rather apt that on the 70th anniversary of Britain's darkest hour, the WVAS is facing its own darkest hour. News is filtering through of sweeping changes at Stamford Arts Centre. Please note the name: Stamford ARTS Centre. Our dearly beloved council apparently has plans to turn it into the Stamford Bar/Café/Council Office.

This would mean the loss of the Wilfrid Wood Gallery which I understand is to be taken over in part by the Café. The remainder being used to house the Council Information Centre currently in Maiden Lane next to the NatWest Bank. The Art classes which feature on the back page of this very newsletter are also under threat.

Since the setting up of the Arts Centre was driven by the founding members of the WVAS, it would appear to be our duty to prevent its demise.

I would encourage you all to contact the Arts Centre and protest at the current plans. This building should not be allowed to become a profit centre for the wretched council. Its purpose is to encourage participation in the arts. It has long been a highlight of Stamford culture and to lose it because our local political mandarins cannot manage to balance their books would be an outrage.

“ For evil to flourish
only requires that good men
do nothing. ”

Act Now

Exhibition at Victoria Hall Oakham

Our fifth 'VIEW 4' exhibition of paintings in the Victoria Hall Oakham, announced in the last Newsletter, proved to be another successful occasion. This year, Stuart Ball and I had invited Chrissie Best from Ridlington and Anne Goold from Exton, to partner us in a show of some sixty paintings.

We had a full Private View with some eighty plus people attending supplying plenty of "buzz" on the night, and by the end of the fortnight, some 23 paintings had been sold, plus Browser pictures and some greetings cards and decorated place mats, etc.

In a period of some economic uncertainty, our work on advertising and a careful system or organization seemed to us to contribute to a very good result, plus, most importantly, the quality of the work on display.... well I would say that wouldn't I !

Ken Forrest

Autumn Exhibition Flyers

Exhibiting members should receive a couple of flyers with this newsletter. If you are able to circulate a few of these to interested parties or display a poster in your local area please collect some when you hand your work in or at the private view. Please help to advertise YOUR exhibition.

Chris Illsley

Autumn Exhibition

So, it can be done, Messrs Forrest and Ball ably assisted by Ms Best and Ms Gould managed to flog nearly 40% of their work (see report on front page). Whereas the WVAS show manages less than 10%.

Some of you aren't pulling your weight. Now get out there and encourage everyone you know to come and buy these priceless expressions of passion and creativity.

And talking of passion and creativity, can we have some! Enough of the wishy washy I'm bored, what shall I do on a wet Tuesday afternoon, 'I know I'll knock out another view across the bay' (or for you abstract aficionados 'stuff I found in my belly button'). We want passion, passion I tell you!!

Follow the fine tradition and practice of those garlic-munching Frenchies like Picasso and Modigliani (sic). Fuelled by alcohol, sex and drugs, and I'm not talking sherry, Brian Rix and Mogadon. Now go and get yourselves down to the local brothel, get sozzled on Absinthe and paint! (Just to clarify - don't drink the paint, just the Absinthe).

Exhibition dates:

October 2nd (Sat) Handing-in and hanging

October 3rd (Sun) Private viewing for members and invited guests

October 4th (Mon) - October 16th (Sat) Exhibition open to the public.

Activities: Autumn

Judging by Roy's plight, there's not much point in organising activities, so we haven't.



Uncle Tom Warrener well known artist and raconteur taking my sound advise and meeting the local talent.

Outdoor Painting Group Dates

A message to all the lazy Landscape lot !

From your multifaceted leader Roy Holley.

*I am fed up with going alone
To places where I sit and groan*

*Awaiting all you outdoor bods
Who stay at home-you lazy s----s*

*The night before our Wednesday Tryst
You must phone me, I insist!*

*If you will go-then so will I
Or else, in my comfy bed I'll lie!*

*The Wednesday Group's a great idea
So if you phone, I'll join you there!*

Further meeting places-

Normally meeting at 10am at the following venues. I have arranged two sessions at each venue.

| Date | Location | Lunch |
|------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| August 25th & Sept 1st | Bulwick, church area | Pub |
| Sept 8th & 15th | Morcott, meet at Hay Cottage | Pub |
| Sept 22nd & 29th | Blatherwyke | Pub (Bulwick) |

Roy Holley 01572 747639

www.wvas.co.uk

For details of how to promote your art on our web site contact Jonty Meyer - jonty@wvas.co.uk - 07799 048841 .

Summer travails

This Summer found me briefly wandering the streets of Polperro (a picturesque Cornish village apparently featured a lot in 'Poldark') where to relieve the tedium of shops selling overpriced soap and assorted useless trinkets I dived into a couple of galleries claiming to show the work of local talent.

Well dear viewer I have to report that with the exception of a handful of works I was shocked; I felt transported back in time (or was it Eastern Europe) possibly to the 80's, or some equally dull and insipid decade. Walls full of tacky beige monstrosities, mass-produced visual drivel. Either the product of, or intended to induce, torpor. It took several glasses of Scrumpy and hours sitting around in the sun to recover.

Huw 'Brian Sewell' Wigmore

Northampton Open Studios

4th - 19th September

Here is your opportunity to visit other artists studios with no prior appointment and to view an amazing selection of creative work in a wide variety of styles and mediums. Several WVAS members are taking part.

For further information visit:

www.openstudios.org.uk

or E-mail info@openstudios.org.uk

or contact

Open Studios, PO Box 7139, Kettering NN16 6BR

Chris Illsley

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.

Tel. 01780 766719.

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.

NOTE The December workshop with Jonty is on the same day as a Christmas Craft Market, so the town may be a little busy.



The latest thing in interactive newsletters - draw or paint your own masterpiece in the box above.