

TAS TIMES



Pencil drawing by Sue Miles

Colour is my day-long obsession, joy and torment.

Claude Monet

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Now that Summer has truly arrived I hope you are managing to make the most of the good weather, local events, and holidays to practise your artistic skills. Already TAS members have enjoyed some lovely afternoons sketching; so far we've visited Holcombe Rogus, Dulverton, and Bickleigh Castle, and mostly we have been lucky with the weather. If you've not experienced these sketching outings and you are available on Thursday afternoons then do come along and join us (details are available at monthly meetings or contact one of your committee).

Open Day - Saturday, 5th August, 10am to 4pm

As you know, owing to the rebuilding of Castle Hill Primary School, we are unable to hold our usual Summer Exhibition this year. Instead we will be hosting an **Open Day** at St George's Hall (where we have our monthly meetings) from 10am until 4pm on Saturday, 5th August. The aim is to invite members of the public to come and see our artists at work, ask questions, and generally find out who we are and what we do. It is hoped that this will encourage budding artists (or indeed more experienced people) to join us.

We have a good number of volunteers already but we need more! It's not necessary to be there all day - we've split the time into three 2-hour slots to allow flexibility. We particularly need people to work in acrylics, textiles, and/or clay but any medium is acceptable. Participating members will be able to sell portfolios, cards, paintings, etc, with the usual arrangements regarding commission, but there will be no hanging space - only table tops. If you have your own browser, then you are welcome to bring it. Get in touch if you can assist us in this way.

We will also need people to serve refreshments (supplied) and to assist generally so that no-one is overburdened.

We plan to have a rolling slide show throughout the day featuring works by TAS members, photos of monthly meetings, painting groups, and so forth, so if you would prefer not to have you or your work shown at the Open Day please let me know - otherwise we will assume we have your permission.

We will be advertising the Open Day widely with posters and fliers but do spread the word as well, particularly if you know of people who may be interested in our painting groups and workshops, or anyone who would like to get involved but may be unsure about whether TAS is right for them or not.

Opportunity to exhibit works in Crediton

A dental surgery in Crediton has kindly agreed to display some of our work. The area available is relatively small so paintings need to be medium or small in size. Sue Miles, our Exhibition Secretary, is liaising with the practice so if you are interested in this opportunity, do contact her (01884 243788 or 07500 909267).

TAS bursary

Your committee has approved a bursary to be awarded to one of our Junior Members, Amber Youens, who has been offered an unconditional place at Exeter college on a UAL diploma in art and design. It is a one-year full-time foundation course that starts in September and we wish her every success. We will also look forward to seeing some of her work.

HELP!

We are in *urgent* need of additional volunteers and the situation is rapidly becoming critical. I know many of you have already played your part in the past for which we are grateful. However, if we don't succeed in finding people to take over key roles then the

future of the Society is in jeopardy. It is unfair and unreasonable to expect the same loyal souls to continue carrying on just because there is no-one willing or able to take over from them. We are always looking for people to join the committee but currently the following vital roles need filling:-

- **Portrait Group co-ordinator:** this group meets on Thursday mornings from 10am until noon at the Old Heathcoat School Community Centre. The room has already been booked from September until Christmas. All that is required is to make sure someone from the group has arranged for a model to turn up each time, to greet and take care of that model, to make sure the café knows what refreshments are required, and to arrange for someone to collect the fees (once per term). If no-one comes forward then this group will be forced to close down which would be a great shame.
- **Camera and projector operators at monthly meetings**
Those of you who attended our June meeting will have evidenced how important it is to have able-bodied volunteers to set up, operate, and dismantle the equipment. The more people we have coming forward, the fewer the number of occasions they have to be roped in! Full training will be given.
- **Publicity and PR assistant**
Trying to encourage local newspapers, radio stations, and so forth to publicise our events requires the development of ongoing relationships - tenacity, enthusiasm, and good communication skills would clearly be an advantage! It would help us enormously if we had someone, preferably computer literate, who could dedicate time to this on behalf of the Society.
- **Evening painting group co-ordinator**
Apart from our monthly meetings all our activities take place during the daytime so if we are to encourage new members who have commitments during the day to join the Society we need to provide a painting group on a weekday evening. This would be a lovely little project for someone . . . maybe you?

We now provide a 'Suggestions' box at each monthly meeting so if you are too shy to speak to a member of the committee but you have ideas for activities, improvements, or even critical feedback, do write these down on the slips provided and pop them in the box.

I hope you enjoy reading your quarterly newsletter. The Editor is always looking for interesting contributions from members so if you've been to an exhibition, discovered a new product or technique, been on a useful painting course, or read a helpful art book, do share by writing something for the newsletter.

In the meantime I wish you a pleasant and productive Summer and I look forward to seeing you at our **Open Day on 5th August.**

Happy painting!

Hazel-Ann Willson
Chairman

Spring Awards 2017

Artist	Title	Award
Kathryn Jenner	Bagheera	The Society Spring Award for the best overall work
Jo Dixon	Daydream	The Barbara Campton Cup for best Portrait in any medium
Sue Searle	Waiting for Spring	The Stephanie Greenhalgh Award for Innovative work
Brian Rigg	Character Study	The Jane Scott-Fox Prize for Sculpture
Hilary Tosdevin	Lowlight Botallack	Gazette Award
Gillian Erskine Hill	Cooling Off	Margaret Carter Award
Kathryn Jenner	The Christmas Market, Exeter	The Clery Welch Trophy
Jack Mullenger	Old Boys of Kathmandu	The Patron's Cup
Belinda Reynell	Boat in Storm	The Abstract Cup

Colin Brown demonstration (June 14 meeting)

On June 14th Colin Brown demonstrated his unique style of painting in acrylics.

Using a wide flat brush and applying as many as four different colours to it simultaneously, he painted an image of the Rialto bridge in Venice.

In less than two hours he produced the most vibrant, colourful and stunning picture.

A fascinating technique to watch and a challenge to us all to abandon the pallet and other clobber and just paint.

Wendy Vlasto