

ODIHAM ART GROUP NEWSLETTER

March 2016

www.odihamartgroup.org.uk



Chairman's notes



March brings with it sunshine and more inspiration to paint. I know many members are entering some of the local exhibitions mentioned later on in the newsletter so do go along and feast your eyes on the great variety of works on show.

The committee is very pleased to announce the birth of our new website this month. Chris Sharp, Emma Jansome and Pat Harris, who form our website subcommittee, have managed the transition to a new web designer and we hope you like the new site. See Page 2 for more details – hopefully (if we can get the technology to work!) we'll show you the new website during the coffee break at the next demonstration on March 5th. We feel it is worth investing some of our money to create a site that we can update regularly and that does the OAG artists justice. You will find 'prompter' emails in your Inbox in forthcoming months, encouraging you to check out the latest news, paintings and features on the website, and we welcome any comments or new ideas for the site.

The DVD library has proved very popular and is doing roaring trade, but we need borrowers to be prompt when bringing the DVD's back. Please see Page 3 for a reminder of the rental system and also a note on how it will work over the summer period.

Finally, no-one has yet come forward to replace me as Chairman. The committee is prepared to work with this for the forthcoming year but we still need members to come forward to help on the committee, otherwise the group will not continue. We will form a small subcommittee to run the exhibition in October and if you have any interest in helping with that please contact me as soon as possible.

Happy painting
Joan

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The OAG newsletter is issued in March, June, September and December for members of Odiham Art Group only, and is not for re-distribution or general distribution. Copyright of any works reproduced in the newsletter remain the property of the artist.

Please send any news items of interest to the OAG to the Newsletter Editor, Christine Sharp, at oagnews@gmail.com and she will endeavour to put them into the next issue if appropriate.

The new OAG Website is officially open, on-line and ready to work for you! A lot of effort has gone



into designing the site www.odihamartgroup.org.uk and we hope you'll find it easy to use. One of the advantages of the new design is that it can be updated with minimum effort (and cost) so the news stays current and your paintings are shown to best effect. Please take time to browse through the pages and we would welcome your feedback on what you like, what you think can be improved upon (within reason – remember, this is the Odiham Art Group we're talking about not Microsoft!) and anything you think could be added to the mix.

The 'News' and 'Artists' pages will be updated on the first of each month so;

- **News items** should be sent to me (Chris Sharp) at oagnews@gmail.com before the 23rd of each month and I'll make sure it is added to the site the following month. These can be anything you think fellow members will be interested in – London exhibitions you can recommend, information on local exhibitions you are taking part in, reviews of new art products, the list goes on and on. Make use of this free resource to promote your work and circulate your arty gossip!
- **Photos of your new paintings** (the best quality/resolution possible please) should be sent directly to Emma Jansone at odiham.art@gmail.com before the 23rd of each month, so Emma has a chance to format the images before they go live the following month.

The new website will inevitably cover a lot of the subjects currently in the quarterly newsletters but will be more up to date with monthly updates. It may be that the newsletter will gradually stop and instead I'll send out monthly emails giving you headlines/contents of new things on the website – we'll have to see how things pan out. In the meantime the committee hope you like the new look and encourage you to visit www.odihamartgroup.org.uk regularly.

Camera boffin required!



We need someone to come forward and help with the video camera and screen on demonstration days. David Phillips is happy to continue operating the camera for some of the demonstrations but would like someone to help cover for holidays etc. It is not an onerous task, we just need someone who is comfortable with basic technology and happy to have a go, so please let us know if you can help. You would be giving something back to the group and your fellow members would be very grateful. Email oagnews@gmail.com if you would like to discuss it further; two or three people offering would spread the load perfectly and mean we would not be in a similar position as at the last demonstration when David was ill, which meant there was no camera or large screen operating.

Summer sketching days

Our summer sketching programme is still being finalised - at this stage we have two dates for your diary; Sunday 10th July in Hartley Wintney, sketching around the green. This day is being co-ordinated by Jill Bardwell – more information will be in the June newsletter.



Tuesday 26th July 2016. Tony Yates has kindly organised a day at The Elvetham Hotel, just outside Hartley Wintney, RG27 8AR. There is something for everyone here, including glorious buildings, an old church, river with bridges, ornamental pond and 35 acres of interesting gardens and landscapes. The hotel is signposted off the A323 Fleet Road, running between Fleet and Hartley Wintney. Go through the entrance gates (if closed they will open automatically) and proceed to the house and park in

the Visitors Car Park only. There are no restrictions on where you can go within the grounds but please do not venture out onto the hotel's patio in case there is a wedding underway. Online directions can be found at <http://www.elvethamhotel.co.uk/find-us>

We look forward to good turnouts at both these lovely venues – an ideal opportunity to get those sketch books out!

Workshop booking system



All the workshops have been fully subscribed this year, which is excellent news. However, there has been the odd occasion when a member has claimed a space, confirming they will take it and promising to pay later but then cancelling their reservation at the last minute. This is obviously very unfair on those members who would have liked to go but were turned away because the workshop was full, so please note that payment is due for workshops at the time of booking and there will no longer be an option to

'hold' a place without payment. The only way to confirm your spot is to bring your wallet, purse or cheque book with you when booking!

DVD booking system



The DVD library has proved very popular and Diane is doing excellent work managing the booking system but she needs your help - please ensure you return the rented DVD's promptly, as this allows the maximum number of members to share them. DVDs should be returned either to Diane or a committee member when you have finished with them. As we are almost in our long summer break we have decided to allow DVDs to be taken out at the March 5th demonstration but this time with a £15 deposit (in the form of a post-dated cheque or cash, which

will be returned to you when you bring the DVD back) as well as either a £2 hire fee (if you keep the DVD until September) or £1 hire fee (if it's returned at the AGM on 2nd July).

A warm welcome to our new member Sue Robertson, we look forward to seeing you at future demonstrations and workshops.

Peter Forey Obituary

Peter joined the Friday Art Group ten years ago when he retired from his job at the Natural History Museum and he joined Odiham Art Group shortly after. He was an excellent draughtsman and experimented with egg tempera and oils over the years but his real talent was with his lovely watercolours. He greatly enjoyed painting "en plein air" and I can picture him now, sitting on his little stool with a baseball cap and his water pot hanging from a hook on a stick stuck in the ground at his side! He always loved to paint in farmyards and would come home in on old oil drums and tractor tyres. He would paint exquisite little pictures out of doors, which were then developed into lovely full size paintings to exhibit. Peter never parted with his little paintings and his family are most fortunate to have this collection in his memory. A very kind man with a delightful sense of humour, he will be greatly missed.



By Wendy Bennett



Forthcoming diary dates for Odiham Art Group

	<p>Chinese Brush Work; Demonstration by Maggie Cross, a member of the Chines Brush Painters’ Society and the Society of Floral Painters.</p>	<p>2.30pm, Saturday 5th March. North Warnborough Village Hall, RG29 1EA</p>
	<p>Workshop in Mixed Media with Alison C Board, following on from her fascinating and entertaining demonstration last October. FULLY BOOKED</p>	<p>Saturday 2nd April, North Warnborough Village Hall, RG29 1EA</p>

And some diary dates for the outside world.....

	<p>The Artist/Leisure Painter Open Art Competition 2016 Patchings Art Centre, Calverton, Nottinghamshire.</p>	<p>Entries close 24th March (online at www.painters-online.co.uk)</p>
<p>St Leonards Art Exhibition; local artists will be exhibiting at St Leonards Church, Sherfield on Loddon.</p>		<p>Sunday 26th and Monday 27th March (Easter weekend) 10 to 4 both days</p>
	<p>SAA Artist of the Year 2016</p>	<p>Entries close 31st March 2016 (online entry forms. http://www.saa.co.uk/)</p>

	<p>AppArt. Artists from all over the South East of England take part in the annual exhibition. Includes an indoor exhibition of ceramics, glass art, paintings, photography and sculpture and an outdoor sculpture trail in the Gertrude Jekyll inspired gardens.</p>	<p>Priors Field School, Godalming. April 2nd to 16th....daily 10 to 4 appartonline.co.uk</p>
<p>Bramley Annual Art Exhibition, featuring local artists.</p>	<p>9th & 10th April, Bramley Village Hall, The Street, Bramley RG26 5BP</p>	
	<p>Cross Barn Art Exhibition, the Spring show by this local art group, based in the Cross Barn, Odiham.</p>	<p>Saturday 23rd April (10-5) and Sunday 24th April (10-4). The Cross Barn, Odiham RG29 1JX. www.crossbarnart.com</p>
<p>The Friday Art Group Annual Exhibition will be held in the Hugh Barton Room, Bentley Memorial Hall 22nd – 24th April. Visitors will be made most welcome, and they will also be showing some of the late Peter Forey’s previously unseen works.</p>	<p>Bentley Memorial Hall, Alton Road, Bentley, GU10 5NB. Friday 22nd (12 noon – 5pm), Saturday 23rd (10 – 5) and Sunday 24th April (10 – 5).</p>	
	<p>Life & Light is a satellite exhibition of the West Berkshire and North Hampshire Open Studios and has several Odiham Art Group members exhibiting.</p>	<p>Sherfield Park Community Centre, Sunwood Drive, Sherfield on Loddon RG27 0FP. Runs from 30 April to 22 May 2016 https://nhantsart.wordpress.com/</p>
 <p>Ceramics, Collage, Design, Drawing, Edible Art, Film, Glass, Illustration, Jewellery, Mixed Media, Mosaics, Painting, Photography, Printmaking, Sculpture, Silk Painting, Textile and Wood are all on show and available for appreciation or purchase.</p>	<p>Open Studios for West Berkshire and North Hampshire runs from 30th April to 22nd May with talented artists from around the area opening their studios to show what they create and how they work.</p>	<p>Information on opening times/dates and a list of artists taking part throughout the area will be available from 2nd April. Visit http://www.open-studios.org.uk</p>
	<p>Fleet Art Society Annual Exhibition 2nd – 4th June 2016, Church on the Heath, Elvetham.</p>	<p>Entries close 1st May 2016.</p>