

RUBY EXHIBITION

We had a successful 40th-anniversary exhibition at the Black Swan Long Gallery with 90 works on display and 10 paintings sold, 6 framed and 4 from the browsers. We were delighted with more 3D entries this year and look forward to trying to include a wider range of media in the future. Many visitors enjoyed the display of outdoor painting sketchbooks and we had 479 visitors over the 2 weeks. As always we had many positive comments about the high standard of the exhibition, all due to our creative members.



First Prize



Second Prize



Third Prize

The Vera Skinner award, judged by local artist, Sue Conrad, went to Wendy Lovegrove for 'Waterside'. 2nd prize to Vanessa Taylor for 'Hospitalisation' and 3rd prize to Sylvia Balch for 'Hellebore White Beauty'. Also, Jane Eaton, Sarah Ball, Hayley Cove and Pauline Bullard were all highly commended.

Start creating now for our next exhibition, 2nd to 16th May 2020.

WHAT DOES OUR INSURANCE POLICY COVER?

Since taking over as FAS Treasurer one of the things Chris Galpin has had to look at is the terms of our insurance policy. He thought it was worth sharing what he has discovered.

Through membership of the Society for All Artists (SAA), we are covered for £10m Third Party Liability Insurance. This protects us if, during an exhibition, or other events, someone was injured or the venue was damaged and this had happened because the Society had been negligent in some way. So this is essential protection for the Society. That, however, is the extent of the protection afforded and it is interesting to note that damage to paintings in an exhibition, or damage caused by individual members at any venue, would not be covered.

If, however, you are an individual member of the SAA, you would have that cover to the level dictated by your membership type e.g. Standard membership covers up to £1000 for damage to paintings and £5m for public liability.

FACEBOOK PAGE

FAS now have a Facebook page, which has been live for 6 months. This page can help to promote us and attract more people to our open events. Just search Frome Art Society on Facebook. It would be great if members who are happy to use Facebook could like the page and share with friends. You can then like or comment on any posts on our page.

Our posts will be around our exhibitions/events that are open to non-members. We will not share member-only content, or post images or names without permission. We also aim to publicise information about other local events and work closely with Black Swan Arts.

If you would like to share any information about your own work including images we would be happy to include them. Please email your text and images to **Liz Spurgeon** at [lizbeth_s3@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lizabeth_s3@yahoo.co.uk) Thank you

A VERY SPECIAL PAINTING



This lovely picture depicts what is now the Long Gallery. It was created during the renovations of the 'Black Swan Inn' building, in preparation for Black Swan Arts and was painted around 1985 by one of our members, Mary Good. Mary is now over 100 years old and is a long-standing member of the Frome Art Society.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

AUGUST

Fri 2 Aug & Fri 9 Aug
OUTDOOR PAINTING

SEPTEMBER

DEMO | Thur 19 Sept | 7.30pm
'Broken Ink, Flying White' | **KAILI FU**

WORKSHOP | Thurs 26 Sept
'Traditional Landscapes' | **PHIL BIGGS**

OCTOBER

DEMO | Thurs 17 Oct | 7.30pm
'Frome Landscape' | **TIM WILMOT**

WORKSHOP | Thurs 31 Oct
'Interaction of People within Urban Environments' | **JOEL WAREING**

NOVEMBER

DEMO | Thurs 21 Nov | 7.30pm
'Natural Abstracts' | **RON SWANWICK**

WORKSHOP | Thurs 28 Nov
'The Development of Abstract Thinking in Landscape' | **CHRIS TKACZ**

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

Hello

I'll begin by mentioning our recent 40th anniversary AGM and celebratory evening. It was well attended, and also marked the retirement of our long-serving FAS Secretary, Hilary McFarland. Our President, Pat Armstrong, gave, as always, an inspiring speech, and presented Hilary with a lovely bouquet of flowers and an art voucher, as a token of our appreciation for her outstanding service.

We all wish Hilary the best of health and happiness for the future.

Dr Chris Davies gave a very interesting talk entitled *The Edge*. He showed how edges, in their various roles, have played an important part in the composition. The talk was admirably illustrated by slides of well-known artists' paintings.

I would also like to congratulate David Beech for winning first prize

with his painting in the recent Open Art Exhibition at the Bath and West Show.

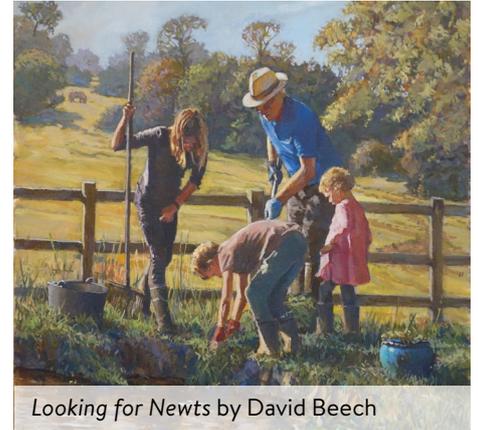
We on the FAS Committee have been giving some thought on how to improve our exhibitions, given that the number of paintings has fallen somewhat in recent years. Suggestions have included a postcard-sized show, with each small painting on a postcard, priced at say, £30, or a similar exhibition with A4 size paintings. Other suggestions were demonstrations by our artists and facilities for the public, particularly children, to draw and paint, aided, if necessary, by our stewards. Please contact the committee if you have any other suggestions or comments.

Finally, I must finish on a sad note. One of our long-serving members, who some of you will remember, Vivien Merritt, passed away recently.

Her son, Stuart, said 'She lived for her art, and was a regular exhibitor at our exhibitions, as well as attending workshops and painting days.' She will be sadly missed by her family and all those who knew her.

Alan Overton

CHAIR FROME ART SOCIETY



Looking for Newts by David Beech

THANK YOU TO HILARY MCFARLAND



When Hilary McFarland joined Frome Art Society in 1987 FAS was in its infancy, a mere eight years old. Now, over thirty years on, the Society is well established, respected and flourishing. Of course, this can be attributed to its many sterling members, their varied talents and energy, but Hilary has been the binding, consistent force, keeping it all on track for three decades.

Her potential was recognized within a few months of her membership. She was co-opted on to the committee and voted in at the next AGM in 1988, whereupon she was presented with a long list of onerous duties! These can still be seen in the FAS archive in Frome Museum. It seemed as if the title 'Honorary Secretary' covered

most areas of the society, with especial responsibilities for the exhibitions. Hilary has always been assiduous in the undertaking of duties, which have included the important tasks of keeping our members informed – and keeping the committee in order (no mean feat!) and has done so with great style, combining a meticulous approach with a seemingly effortless lightness of touch.

Hilary has also been instrumental in establishing and maintaining high standards for members submitting their work at FAS exhibitions. This has given us the wonderful legacy of being accepted for regular exhibitions at the prestigious Black Swan gallery.

She has managed twelve chairs and countless committee members through the inevitable upheavals associated with long-running societies (especially those of artistic temperament!) with enviable diplomacy.

The year 1995 saw the first of her many attempts to resign. No one came forward and she remained in post. Hilary's loyalty to the FAS always overcame her desire for more time for herself, so she continued to serve on the committee until April 2019 when she finally managed to convince us that she really did deserve to retire.

We thank you, Hilary, for all the work, love and care you have given to Frome Art Society. We are deeply grateful for all you have done.

Lorna Thomas and FAS Team

REMINDER

MEETINGS SECRETARY ROLE

Since Hilary's retirement, the post of secretary has been divided into small, manageable sections, with the majority of jobs now covered. We do, however, need a volunteer to join our friendly committee team to send out agendas and take minutes for meetings (three to four times a year). There are templates for both agendas and minutes, and the committee help with editing, in order to make the role as straightforward and well-supported as possible.

Please do email **Alan Overton** at fromeartsociety@gmail.com if you might be willing to give this a try. We would all be most grateful if someone could step forward to give it a go. **Thank you**

TALKS AND DEMONSTRATIONS

Talks and demonstrations continue to be held at Frome Cricket Club. Please be seated by 7.15pm. Members' guests are welcome; there is a charge of £3 for non-members.

DEMO CHINESE PAINTING 'Broken Ink, Flying White'



KAILI FU

Thursday 19 September | 7.30pm

Kaili paints traditional Chinese subjects using Chinese Brush painting techniques. She visits China regularly for inspiration. Kaili will be showing us her 'Broken Ink' and 'Flying Brush' methods of painting using rice paper, silk brushes, ink and colours.

DEMO WATERCOLOUR PAINTING 'Frome Landscape'



TIM WILMOT

Thursday 17 October | 7.30pm

Tim specialises in vibrant Watercolours, exploiting the medium with tone and light, and paints in a loose or impressionistic style. Self-taught, he especially loves to paint landscapes and is also well known for his harbour and boat paintings.

DEMO MIXED MEDIA PAINTING 'Natural Abstracts'



RONALD SWANWICK

Thursday 21 November | 7.30pm

Ronald is a professional artist with 40 years experience, including book illustration. His painting subjects include trees, birds, wildlife and abstracts. He will be giving us a demonstration in natural abstract art, using mixed media.

WORKSHOPS

Workshops are held at Trudoxhill Village Hall, Foghamshire Lane BA11 5DG between 10am-4pm.

Please arrive by 9.45 to set up. Remember to bring newspaper/plastic for tables and floor, and your own lunch.

Biscuits and hot drinks provided. To book your place on a workshop contact **Sue Orgill** on 01373 455670.

Sue has asked that you phone her before sending cheques to her home address: 4 Weston Walk, Frome BA11 3NB.

'TRADITIONAL LANDSCAPES IN WATERCOLOUR'



PHIL BIGGS

Thursday 26 September | £26pp

Phil has been painting solely in watercolour for the last 25 years trying to capture the light and atmosphere of our British landscape. He paints outside as often as possible, preferring to just use pencil, brush, artists' watercolours and quality papers. Phil has a traditional style led by such 20th-century artists as Ted Wesson, James Fletcher-Watson and Edward Seago.

'INTERACTION OF PEOPLE WITHIN URBAN ENVIRONMENTS'



JOEL WAREING

Thursday 31 October | £28pp

Joel's practice is focused on body language and the interaction of people within urban environments. Capturing light is also a key feature of his work. His paintings are made from sketches and photographs taken on location and created out of a desire to translate an atmosphere within the painted image. Paint is used as a way to get closer to an actual experience of a place; a vehicle for transferring emotions that a photograph might not give you.

'THE DEVELOPMENT OF ABSTRACT THINKING IN LANDSCAPE'



CHRIS TKACZ

Thursday 28 November | £43pp

This multi-media workshop will be about the development of abstract thinking in landscape in mixed media, Chris has developed his expertise in the use of diverse media and techniques, combining printmaking and painting techniques. He also has a strong understanding of perspective, and of formal drawing and painting approaches. Creative exploration and technical control will form the basis of the workshops and demonstrations.

WEBSITE

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CHAIR

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MEETINGS SECRETARY

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Sarah Ball 01373 831037
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*With thanks to everyone
who has helped in the
making of this newsletter.*

*The Autumn Newsletter is
due end of October 2019*

WHATS ON

EDOUARD VUILLARD: THE POETRY OF THE EVERYDAY |
THE HOLBURNE MUSEUM | BATH | until 15 Sept | £12.50/£7 Con



A major survey exhibition is currently on at the Holburne Museum, mapping the career of Vuillard from the 1890s, when he was one of the founding members of the Nabis movement.

Vuillard was greatly influenced by Japanese printmaking through to his more realistic period after 1900. His early focus was capturing fabric and wallpaper: Vuillard saw no distinction between decorative arts and painting; he was a theatrical set and stained glass designer as well as a fine artist. His later oeuvre was small intimate interiors, usually populated by females. His work bridges the gap between careful observation of his subject and abstraction.



AUGUSTUS JOHN: DRAWN FROM LIFE |
SALISBURY MUSEUM | until 29 Sept | £8/£4 Con

Drawn from Life is a major retrospective exhibition exploring Augustus John's contribution to British art of the last century. Today John is arguably better known for his bohemian lifestyle than for his qualities as a painter. But he was a fine portrait painter and garnered critical acclaim during the 1920s and 30s for his fine draughtsmanship and psychological insight into his sitters.

RECENTLY ENJOYED

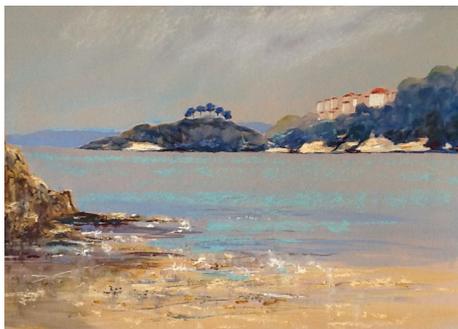
DEMO | **Lynne Castell** | **Feb '19**

Lynne, who is from Weston-Super-Mare, gave us a sterling display of how she adds pastels to watercolours featuring skies and landscape.

WORKSHOP | **Frank Collict** | **Feb '19**

Frank showed us how line and wash can be a simple and speedy way to produce a painting. We were taught how to keep detail to a minimum, emphasising the painterly qualities of watercolour.

DEMO | **Val Rider** | **Mar '19**



We welcomed Val, another West Country artist, this March. Above is the finished painting from her demo using subtle expression capturing light and water in paint and pastels.

WORKSHOP | **Gerry Dudgeon** | **Mar '19**



Gerry is a superb artist. He uses acrylics to juxtapose and superimpose rich colours resulting in exciting artworks, like the above workshop demo painting *Majorelle Gardens in Marrakech*. References about the plants are suggested to anchor the painting, but the stunning use of the dominant ultramarine blues is what attracts the eye. We had an adventurous day!

Thank you to Sue for organising the workshops; to Peter for arranging demos.