

## Sketching Days

Date	Where	Time
Wednesday 14 March	Knightshayes Court	2pm, meet in restaurant
Tuesday 17 April	Hestercombe	2pm, meet in restaurant
Thursday 3 May	Topsham	11am, meet at 'Lighter Inn'
Thursday 7 June	Exmouth	11am, meet at restaurant by Ferry Departure
Wednesday 13 June	Budleigh Salterton	11am, meet Sea front car park
Thursday 28 June	Beer	11am, meet in pub near beach
Thursday 5 July	Bickleigh Mill	2pm, meet in restaurant
Wednesday 11 July	Cold Harbour Mill, Uffculme	11am, meet in restaurant
Wednesday 18 July	Cleeve Abbey, Washford	11am, meet in restaurant

The sketching days are open to members, family and friends. The emphasis is on sketches, collecting ideas and photos. All venues have toilet facilities and refreshments available. If it rains there are usually indoor venues to explore. More details can be found on the web site.

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March 2012

# TAS TIMES



Steamer Step, Budleigh  
by Gill Fitzpatrick

### Spring Exhibition Dates

Please note the dates for this years Spring Exhibition.

Handing in Day - Tuesday 3rd April

Preview Evening - Friday 6th April

Opening Day - Saturday 7th April

Closing Day - Saturday 14th April

Dear TAS Members,

Welcome to the March edition of the newsletter which I hope will give you some ideas for how you can be involved with the Art Society activities. We are now only a few weeks away from the Spring Exhibition so it's time to bring out some of the works you have been busy with through the winter, and put them forward as entries in the exhibition.

All the forms and information you need are included with the newsletter. I'm sure most of you know the way it works, but nowadays you only need to fill in one copy of the entry form, then put the details of each work on a separate card and attach it to the picture or 3D work by a long string. We usually have one or two pictures that turn up in "unsuitable" frames, which is a polite way of saying they're falling apart, so please could you check them carefully before you arrive at Handing-In. This takes place on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April from 9:30 to 11:00 in the morning, so I look forward to seeing the wide variety of entries on that day.

However, don't forget that if you've not renewed your membership by then, you will not be able to submit any work, as it is not possible to renew on handing-in day.

Over the next three months we have two more Workshops, both given by artists who are speakers at our monthly meetings:

**Saturday April 21<sup>st</sup> Jenny Graham (March meeting - hope you didn't miss it!)**  
**Saturday June 9<sup>th</sup> Greg Wellman. (May meeting)**

For details on either of these, or to book your place for them, please contact me via the information in the 'Contacts' section of this newsletter. The cost will be £15 for the whole day, 10am - 4pm. Also on the list of forthcoming events, is the usual sales table at the May meeting, so a good opportunity to recycle some of your unwanted art-facts. We are still awaiting confirmation of the speaker for the June meeting, so I'll make sure this is publicised as soon as possible.

Sketching days have already started, so I'd like to thank Sheila for all the hard work that goes into researching those (I'm told she tests all the tea shops personally!). The programme for these is included in this newsletter, and don't be put off if the weather is not very good - they are planned with the English climate in mind. Also in this newsletter is a note from Hilary who has again organised a 'pay as you go' Painting Group to run through the summer, following the great success of our first experiment with this last year.

I'm starting to settle into my Chairman's role and finding it very enjoyable. I have so far resisted taking up a brush in earnest, but I have enjoyed sitting for the portrait group a couple of times - it's a great opportunity for quiet contemplation, and to meet some more members of the Society. I have been talking to Tiverton High School about ways we may be able to form a loose association between the school and us, and I am planning to meet the head of art at Blundell's' in the near future with the same aim in mind - I'm hoping we can introduce some students to the art society, with a view to them joining the society later on. I should be able to report back on this project in the next newsletter.

I'd like to hear from any members who have comments to make on any of the society's activities, or wish to make suggestions for speakers or workshops so please do get in touch. In the meantime, to mis-quote Bruce Forsythe ... Keeeeeep Painting!!  
 Peter.

This exhibition is a landmark in British art. In stark contrast to the Brit Art installations it puts landscape painting squarely back in focus. In returning to his native Yorkshire Hockney has been revitalised and his output over the last few years has been huge both in scale and quantity of work.

I was excited to be seeing this exhibition as a few years ago his large Grand Canyon paintings based on photocollages greatly impressed me. I was just amazed by these new works. He is a supreme colourist and his delight in the changing seasons is obvious. The huge landscape paintings are breathtaking. I was fascinated by his mark-making - one sky could have been painted by Van Gogh and his series of the same scenes under different light owe much to Monet. He has also done some large charcoal studies of trees that show he is a master draughtsman. But Hockney is a modern painter and has embraced modern tools and technology. His use of the I-Pad as a sketching tool and the use of multiple camera images enrich this body of work. Try and see this exhibition if you can.

The fact that Hockney has returned to Britain, Yorkshire, and produced these wonderful paintings will be an inspiration to British artists. I, for one, will never look at trees and sawn timber the same way again. I was able to follow up on this exhibition by going to Salts Mill in Bradford which has a permanent exhibition of Hockney's earlier work and at present some of the current Yorkshire work - well worth a visit. It was here I found this quote which sums up Hockney's attitude to art: "You look at the world and you're called to make gestures in response".

Review by Lindsay Wall.



### **Summer Painting Group**

As the experiment to continue a painting group over the summer months last year was very successful it has been decided to continue this year. The group, starting Wednesday April 18<sup>th</sup>, will be a 3 hour session from 9.30am to 12.30 pm held in the main hall at the Heathcoat Centre.

It differs from the winter and spring groups in that it is not a fee for the whole term but "pay as you go" so that if other things like holidays or gardening mean you are not able to attend you are not out of pocket. The cost is £ 2.50 a week. It is also open to all members, beginners or experienced, to work on any subject (a still life will be set up some weeks for those interested) and in any medium. It is an informal, social morning (but we do get some work in!) and there is guidance and advice from group members if it is wanted.

Organiser:- Hilary 01363 866245 or hil.tosdevin@btinternet.com

