

TAS TIMES



"Toad's Dilemma" By Joey Weber

Art is the only way to run away without leaving home. Twyla Tharp



Chairmans Letter

Dear Members,

As I approach the end of my second year as Chairman I'm going to concentrate (at some length I'm afraid) on the current state of the Art Society, and our ability to continue to be what the committee and I believe is one of the best Art Societies in the South West. To this end I'm going to be appealing to the 'silent majority' amongst you to consider becoming a little more involved.

It is a well-known fact that the vast majority of societies are run for their members by a small dedicated minority, whether forming part of the committee or just being heavily committed in other ways. Their reward is the enjoyment and satisfaction of doing a good job, and seeing how it benefits the society overall, as has been the case for many years with the TAS. However I now feel that the balance has slipped too far over and the workload on the committee has risen to an unsustainable level. Two members of the committee have stood down during this year, one more person is leaving after the AGM, and another member is taking a break from her involvement, so we really do need more help from members of the society.

Those of you who attend the monthly meetings will be familiar with my banging on about the Tea Rota – I treat it as a joke but does it seem too much to expect people to come forward voluntarily without my constant nagging? However, what has really brought this matter to a head was observing the Summer exhibition. It was undeniably excellent from an artistic point of view, but we had an unprecedented number of works submitted with shoddy framing that needed to be repaired before we could hang them; we had several people arrive without having taken the trouble to fill in their forms properly; we have developed a smooth system for handing in and collecting work, but there are always a number of members who, for what they believe are the best of reasons, need to rush through the process, or collect before the stated times; this time we also had a record number of uncollected works at the end. But the overall prize for getting my goat is Stewarding – if you submit works, you should be prepared to steward, and in at least one other local society if you do not steward, your work is not hung. There are good reasons why some people, through fitness, holidays or distance, can't steward but to the rest of you, who do you think is going to take on these duties, and sort out the other 101 things required to keep the society running? It falls on the already over-stretched committee to fill the gaps.

It is therefore a good time for me to stop talking generalities and to make some specific requests for assistance. We have been reviewing our "jobs-list" and have identified the following roles where another pair of hands contributing to them would make a big difference. A bit daunting at first glance, but we don't expect anyone to come in and take anything over straight away, just to be willing to help us out initially, then integrate into the committee over time. So here's the list (in no particular order) ...

- Coordinator for the Golf Club exhibitions: to include liaising with artists and the Golf Club, assisting with the hanging at the bi-monthly change-over;
- Administrator for the Monthly Meetings: to include ensuring the hall is booked, confirming speakers are aware of the venue, requesting the necessary cheque from the Treasurer; organising the hire of the projector equipment when it is to be used;

Chairmans Letter (cont)

- ☒ Workshops Coordinator: to include working with the rest of the committee to select suitable tutors, booking the tutor, circulating the sign-up list to members; booking the venue and arranging any special requirements;
- ☒ Newsletter Editor: to include gathering members' contributions including photographs or works of art to be included, liaising with the Membership Secretary and Fax & Files for the printing, posting copies that are not collected at the members' meeting, and generally working with Stuart to assist him in producing each edition;
- ☒ Administrator of the Peter Wickham Bequest: to include maintaining the log of the bequest as works are sold or moved around; working with the rest of the committee to promote the exhibition and sale of the works;
- ☒ Public Relations coordinator: to include ensuring Stuart has the necessary information to keep the website up to date and relevant; liaising with the press and other local organisations to keep the Society in the public eye;
- ☒ Re-design the Membership Brochure: a one-off job as we feel the current brochure / application form has become a little dated and needs a full overhaul.

As I said, this is quite a daunting list, but if some of you could come forward to assist with just a few of them it would make a big difference to our ability to keep the Society running smoothly.

Thank you for your patience in reading this far (assuming you have!) and please consider approaching me or any other member of the committee to discuss how you could help the society by becoming more involved.

Peter Radford-Gourlay Chairman.



Well done to Gregory Wellman, who will be featured on Sky Art's "Portrait Artist Of The Year" programme in November this year.

More details etc can be viewed on the Sky web site:

<http://skyarts.sky.com/portrait>

We all wish Gregory the very best of luck.

Summer Exhibition Winners List

Thank you to our external judges for this years Summer Exhibition: Vivian Walters and Jenny Johnson.

Awards

Award	Winner	Art Work
The Society Summer Award for Imaginative Work	Ray Foxell	The Letter
The Patron's Award	Richard Monahan	Old Coach House, Knightshayes
The Clery Welch Trophy for the best Watercolour	Val Weller	Misty Morning, Blenheim
The Tom Knight Trophy for the best Sculpture	Lola Gill	Lady of the Woods
The Abstract Cup for work in any medium	Ingrid Beveridge	Devon Patchwork

Certificates of Merit any category or type of work

Name	Title	Medium
Maggie Miller	Watching the Fun	Acrylic
Gisela Borkert	Music II	Ink and Gouache
Virginia Holmes	Posts Industrial	3D
Angela Hunt	Wheal Betsy	Linocut
Brian Wedlake	Two Moors Way	Oil
Peter Monahan	Darjeeling	Watercolour
Gill Fitzpatrick	Towards Thorverton	Watercolour and Pen
Mary Stokes	Night Life	Textile
Heather Strong	Tortoiseshell on Brambles	Pastel
Claire Western	Bright Stream Reaches the Beach	Mixed Media
Grace Cresswell	St.Ives	Collage
Ann Hewlett	Pot II	Ceramic
Lola Gill	Apples and Dog Roses	Oil

ALAN COTTON STUDIO EXHIBITION

This will be the first Westcountry exhibition of Alan's paintings of Everest, following his expedition to Tibet and Mount Everest as expedition artist, with explorer David Hempleman-Adams.

After his successful sell-out exhibition of Everest paintings at Messum's Fine Art in London in September 2012, Alan continues the theme with new paintings of the world's highest mountain for this studio exhibition in Cloaton Raleigh.

There will also be paintings from Hartland, Venice and West Coast of Ireland

*Alan Cotton Studio Exhibition
Brockhill Studio
Colaton Raleigh
Devon EX10 0LH*

Official Opening by Judi Spiers
*30th November to 3rd December 2013
10am to 5pm Daily*

SELECTION OF ART FROM SUMMER EXHIBITION

