



Newsletter

February 2012

Calling all members – we desperately need someone to step forward to take over as Newsletter Editor - phone 01256 850495 for more information.

Illustrated Talk on 7 November – Flora Gare and Nigel Moores discussed working in the areas of 2D and 3D.

This interesting evening allowed the audience inside the minds of two different artists. Both Flora and Nigel briefly described their history and experience, and then showed slides of their work.

Flora has always been interested in 3-dimensional art. Her work is centered around the transient; what is passing, temporary, momentary or short lived. She uses a variety of media, the most intriguing of which, to a dressmaker manqué at least, is shirring elastic! With this humble material she has created wonderful sculptural forms and installations for public and private spaces. Some people might remember Flora's beautiful copper wire installation based on road maps which hung in St Andrew's church. You can see these, and more of Flora's beautiful work using wire, photographs, beads and resin blocks on her web site.

Nigel is primarily a 2D artist although he did show us some of his 3D work as well. In his opinion good artworks are the result of a combination of ideas, emotions and materials. Landscape and colour are his constant inspiration although he does not view his paintings as

"Landscapes but rather as Mindscapes; the products of a process in recording memory and emotion." This quote, which he provided, sums up his interesting talk. 'Art is the residual mind map of our history, and a history of our mind: where there is no progress, only constant change and reinvention of what it is to be human. And, as a record, it does it better than any other human activity, partly because it creates that which we treasure, partly because it has no boundaries and can evolve. It records our human constructs and emotions, leaving us with our hopes and fears for the future.'

Gillian Devine

Monteagle Gallery (at Yateley Industries Ltd)
Mill Lane, Yateley, GU46 7TF T: 01252 872337 F: 860320

This gallery has been set up with established artists in mind. It is available for hiring on a monthly basis and can accommodate framed paintings with an easy to use hanging system, browsers, plinths and display area for 3D items and also glass cabinets for more delicate items such as jewellery. The Gallery has been completely refurbished and there is dedicated lighting to show work to its best advantage.

Every help will be offered by the gallery Admin. Staff who will produce your labels, attend to sales and assist in your Private View. The gallery is now taking bookings for June 2012. Terms of hire for one calendar month are: Wall Hung Work £240; 3D (pottery) £60; Glass Cabinet £12 each. There is a commission charge of 12%. For booking arrangements or information contact Pauline Tompkins at peter.nita@btinternet

NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome to: Roger Moorcroft from Farnham, Larisa Robins and Gwen Allingham from Basingstoke, Janet King from Tadley, Nick Walsh from Fleet, Jeremy Harris from Petworth and Hilary Dancer from Hook.

Memories of Rosemarie de Goede
a very long-standing member of FAS, who died peacefully on the morning of 10th November 2011 at Frimley Park Hospital after a short illness.

She was a great friend and a wonderful artist and we shall all miss her.

Liz Seward, Sera Knight & Kim Page

I am so very shocked at the news about Rosemarie. I got to know her over the years, had coffee with her several times at Fleet, lovely sense of humour. I have some of her wonderful pottery animals. Last time I spoke with her was because she was taking my place on a workshop with Jake Winkle at Fleet, she phoned me to say thank you and as always had a chat. On my window ledge is one of her lovely cards with 3 cats. A very clever, talented, and very humorous person, I shall miss her.

Carol Southgate

I am really sorry to hear the news about Rosemary. She so impressed me with her hard work and practical outlook. I will retain those memories. Alan Brain

I am so very sad to receive this news. Rosemarie was a fabulous person and will be very missed I am sure. Thank you so much for letting me know. Jean Haines

CONGRATULATIONS to our members:

(If you have any highlights and accolades in your art-life, please tell us, and don't forget our Facebook page. We want to know all your news.)

Deborah Gourlay, artist in residence at the Watts Gallery on her exhibition Liquid Light in November 2011

Rick Holmes was successful in getting one painting into the Royal Institute of Oil Painters (ROI) exhibition at The Mall Galleries in December. **Roger Dellar** won the DAS Award for a work of distinction. He was presented by ROI Patron Michael Portillo with an engraved 'Bristol Blue Glass Bowl' and a cheque for £500. The painting was entitled 'London Lights' and was an evening view of the urban sprawl of Pall Mall to the Shard, and was painted from the view from the ninth floor of New Zealand House.

Workshop – 5 November

Where to from here? Paul Nelson, Assoc. Dean, UCA

Comfort Zone: The day started with an exchange of 'Hello's' with Paul Nelson in the car park as he strode purposefully off into the hall. I recognised him because I'd enjoyed his critique earlier in the year, which was the reason for my attending his workshop. As I started to unload my gear from the boot someone I knew pulled up so we went inside together. The early arrivals, probably seasoned attendees, unlike myself, had already bagged the tables with the natural light by the windows so we set up camp on the other side of the room, drop cloths at the ready.

As more artists arrived laden with their trolleys of art stuff it was clear that everyone had come well prepared and I was feeling a little apprehensive about fitting in, hoping I would be able to hold my own amongst a group of artists who obviously meant business.

Once everyone was settled Paul opened the session and began to expand on the brief and our objective; Scale - A1 or larger, don't do the things you usually do, get out of your comfort zone, don't think about trying to create a finished painting, oh, and this is a degree level brief and, "you may well hate me at some point

during the day!". I am not sure how anyone else felt at that point but it seemed like a pretty daunting task, but I'd gone with an open mind determined to try and follow wherever Paul wanted to lead us in order to get the most out of the day.

Not long after we'd begun Paul approached my table having circled the room offering words of encouragement and making suggestions to each artist, some resulting in the odd groan, ooh's or aah's, and for some reason the theme tune of Jaws sprang to mind..... daa da....daa da..... I'd managed to put something on my canvas when he appeared over my left shoulder and I stood aghast as he lurched for my paintbrush and proceeded to completely destroy my carefully applied marks, and as he sidled away with a big grin on his face he remarked "fix that!" He was right, I did hate him and at that moment I was completely floored.

From then on, completely remove from my comfort zone, I cowered whenever he came near my table to inspect my progress, right up until the last hour and a half when I'd eventually managed to recover my artwork by working through Paul's "subtle" interventions. Clearly, he knew what he was doing from the start because I was pleasantly surprised to end up with a finished piece that I am actually quite proud of. A piece that is so far removed from what I normally do, that once I'd got over the shock of what he'd done to my painting, I realised it was a really good exercise in challenging ourselves.

I know from the comments voiced by my fellow survivors that they thoroughly enjoyed themselves too, and they also left having had an overwhelmingly positive and pretty liberating experience. I can't wait to attend another of Paul's sessions and would encourage others to do the same. A thoroughly nice bloke..... and I must dig out that theme tune.

Mitch Carnie

ENCLOSURES:

Please find enclosed forms, either entry forms for the Annual Exhibition or Application forms for Election to Exhibiting Status. We are hoping you will make use of them. Also enclosed are flyers for our exhibition which we encourage you to publicise. Many thanks.

The Friday Art Group will be holding their annual exhibition of watercolour paintings at the Bentley Memorial Hall (centre of village) on Friday 27th April (12 noon to 5 p.m.) and Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th April 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. All visitors will be most welcome. Coffee and tea available.