

Waterside Art Group Early Summer Newsletter 2022

Dear members

Welcome to our newsletter where we have aimed to review the year to date and to look at what's coming up during the remainder of the year. I hope that you and yours are as well as can be expected in the current circumstances and in your own personal situations.

Members

As you know, throughout the pandemic we met up on Tuesday evenings whenever we were permitted to do so. As the situation has eased, we have been meeting regularly and have seen a very healthy attendance in recent months. We are particularly pleased that many new members have joined us, largely through visiting our website. Their arrival has certainly broadened the range of skills within the Group.

Group Secretary

Those of you who attended our 2022 AGM will be aware that our secretary Chris Jones stated her intention to retire as secretary after a period of many years. We are, of course, exceedingly grateful to Chris for all her work and, as stated at the AGM, we need somebody to come forward to replace her. Please give this serious consideration because the Group cannot function without a secretary. It would be quite possible to split the job into a Membership Secretary and a Minutes Secretary and thus share the load. Please let a committee member know if you are considering that you could undertake one or both of these roles.

Appraisal of members' work by John Edwards

Once again, we were very pleased to welcome John to a Tuesday evening to 'critique' our work. He has a broad knowledge of painting and well-known painters, and uses this skilfully in emphasising the better points of our paintings as well as highlighting the opportunities for further improvement. We thank John and all those who brought their work along.

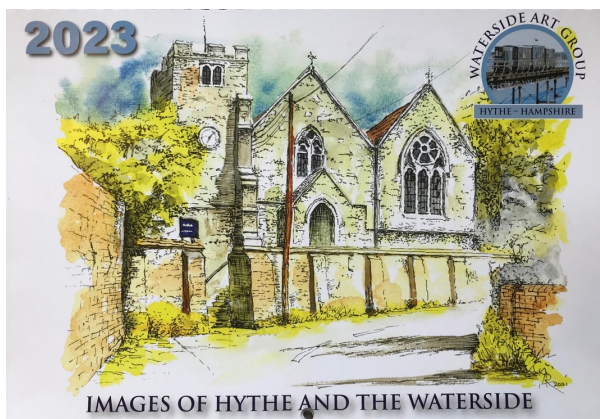
John Edwards Saturday Workshop



All the members who attended our workshop were united in being grateful to John, who had invested a lot of time in preparing for this event. He challenged us to tackle unfamiliar media and approaches, and to “be led by our work”. The morning and afternoon sessions were quite dissimilar and equally challenging in their own ways.

Our 2023 calendar

We are pleased to say that our 2023 calendar is now with the printers. Many thanks to Sue and Colin Thompson for pursuing this project, and thank you to Brendan for adding his professional skills. We have challenged the group (that is YOU!) to sell 300 calendars, so we need you to promote it to friends, relatives and any clubs to which you may belong. We hope to sell a significant number at our Summer Exhibition and to have it available on Hythe Market. Our friends at the Herald Office will also sell it for us.



Demonstration in June

We will be holding a painting demonstration of a portrait in oils by Southampton artist Stewart Beckett on Tuesday 28th June at 7.30pm. This will take the place of our normal painting session. Remember, there's always something to learn from such demonstrations regardless of whether the medium and subject are the ones familiar to us. The entry fee for WAG members is £2.50 and visitors are welcome for £4.00. Please share information on this demonstration with your artist friends and at any other groups to which you belong.



WAG Summer Exhibition

Our exhibition will run from Saturday 20th August (incl.) to Saturday 27th August (incl.) but excluding Sunday 21st August. As in the two years prior to the pandemic, the exhibition will be part of Hampshire Open Studios, thus broadening our catchment area significantly. We will shortly be making the Exhibition Information and Entry Forms available but, in the meantime, we would like to share some important pieces of information with you:

- last year, in order to encourage us all to participate in the group's activities, we permitted rather a "free for all" with a variety of craft items and prints for sale as well as original paintings and cards. This, together with some members failing to label their cards, caused quite a headache for the stewards so entries this year will be strictly limited to paintings and cards.
- in order to run the exhibition, we need volunteer stewards. Anybody who is exhibiting will be expected to fulfil at least one stewarding session.
- the exhibition is considered as an opportunity for regular member attendees to display their work. However, occasionally members have submitted work having not attended any regular Tuesday evenings. At the 2022 AGM it was agreed that members should attend a minimum of 6 painting evenings in the preceding six months in order to be entitled to enter their work.
- the deadline for submission of entry forms will be 12th July. There will be no exemptions to this.

I wish you all happy painting for the remainder of this term.

Kind regards

Peter