

## **Minutes of the 72nd AGM of Isle Of Purbeck Arts Club**

Monday 30th September 2019 at Purbeck New Wave Gallery, beginning at 7.15pm.  
-alcoholic beverages were provided

Apologies for absence:

Helen Kerr, Gill Williams, Sue King, Sarah Early, Rachel Marlow, Penny Barker, Karen Havery, Katie Heslop, Gillian Gould, Trish Lane, Mari Larthe, Pauline Windle, Judy Addison

Present:

Brenda Woodford, Lizzie Guichard, Beate Willey, Jay Buckle, Cathy Leach, Pippa Birrell, Douglas Addison (President), Gina Marshall (Chairman), Neil Birrell (Treasurer), Mary Clutterbuck (Secretary)

1. Minutes of the 71st AGM:

The minutes were read by members present at the meeting. Jay raised an issue re prize giving from Neate Fund, (see Emmie and Rex Neate Fund). Minutes otherwise approved and signed.

The accounts and treasurers report of previous year signed off.

2. The Hon. Chairman's report (Gina Marshall):

We have had a busy year working hard to bring the various sections together to enjoy the arts which the club supports. The summer exhibition showed work by both the studio workshop, evening art group and work by the poetry groups and the poetry and art groups have worked together to produce greetings cards a contribution of which raises money for the club. Individually the studio workshop has developed an active programme including still life and portrait sessions as well as acrylic and watercolour workshops and life drawing. The evening group has had a full programme of activities to act as a stimulus for creativity each week. The Neate Fund has supported young students studying the arts. Local schools have also received awards from the Douglas Strickland Bursary to purchase equipment to help with the teaching of the Arts. Extra funds were awarded to celebrate the 30th Anniversary. PILS have loaned out musical instruments to children and held inspiring concerts. Visual Arts have organised many visits to operas, musical performances, exhibitions and places of artistic interest. Socially, members have met regularly for coffee on Thursday mornings at Deja Brew cafe in Swanage. Natalie Clein's children's workshop and concert (Chamber Music Festival) were supported by the Neate Fund. There is a concern that membership is dropping and that expenses such as hall hire are not being covered. Levels of subscriptions need to be reviewed as does funding of workshops.

I'd like to thank everyone for the contributions they have made to the club. To the committee, Douglas, Neil and Mary; to the section representatives, to the bursary and PILS committees and those who organised the summer exhibition. I'd also like to thank all our members for supporting and being active in the club. Without all of you the club couldn't exist

3. The Hon Treasurers report (Neil Birrell):

See attached treasurers report.

Jay asked for clarification of the subscriptions situation for both The Studio Workshop and Thursday Evening group, and how we cover costs for both groups. It was suggested we could use the Neate Fund to cover extra costs, such as tutored sessions, but Gina felt

uncomfortable using money from the Neate Fund when not specifically supporting students.

#### 4. The Hon. Secretary's report (Mary Clutterbuck):

I have been happy to serve as secretary of the club for the past year. I have attended the meetings, written minutes and contributed to some interesting topics for art group sessions, and ideas for increasing funds, including retrieving old pictures painted by previous members, from our dilapidated shed and selling them at the Summer Exhibition via sealed bids, which brought in valuable revenue for IOPAC funds. This year, instead of ARTIFAX, we have decided to issue a quarterly newsletter via email to members (hard copies can be available). Gina has already sent out the Autumn edition. Douglas will issue the Winter, I will do Spring, and Neil the Summer.

I would like to thank all the Committee for their help and guidance in carrying out the role of secretary. I shall be happy to serve for a further year.

#### 5. Douglas Strickland Bursary for Purbeck Primary Schools:

As it was the DSB Fund's 30th year, we choose to give all 8 schools that applied an award - these covered a variety of art, music, drama, dance and literature items. The awards evening on 5th March at Swanage School went well and we are very grateful to Budgens for again for supplying some refreshments, for the Big Band for playing at the opening and all the schools for their varied performances and displays, and to the Swanage School for hosting us.

We used some of our capital in addition to the fund-raising that we carried out (Cheese and Wine party, Schools Concert and Jay's final Purbeck Arts Choir Concert). We will not be able to be as generous next year and so we are lowering the maximum amount applied for to £300.

However, we are still going to add two schools to the list of potential applicants (Stoborough and Lady St Mary's Wareham) as they seem to have stopped being included but are definitely part of our catchment area.

Jay Buckle, Chair

Sep 2019

Douglas will add these details to the next newsletter.

#### **The Emmie and Reginald Aslin Neate foundation Trust ( Referred to as the "Emmie and Rex Neate Fund"):**

Four students, Verity Marlow and Ben Cockwell for ballet, Amelia Seaman for violin, and Lois Fletcher for acting and theatre studies, received awards during the year to the total value of £2,900 towards the cost of their studies. All four were successful in their studies and are making excellent progress. The two studying ballet, one is at the Hammond school Chester, and the other is at the Royal Ballet School. Lois is studying acting at the Dorset Drama Academy and Amelia is studying the violin and played for the Wessex youth Orchestra. In addition, we have provisionally awarded two further bursaries for ballet and acting. There were no applications from budding artists, which would have saddened Rex Neate, being a talented artist himself. The Purbeck Flower Club, of which Emmie was a member, was awarded £735. We also supported the PICMF as a sponsor for the children's concert, which was a great success.

Douglas Addison

As previously mentioned, a question was raised as to whether we could cover the costs of workshop sessions in the two art clubs through this fund. Gina suggested that the workshops could be open to young artists. DBS may be required and junior membership needs checking.

Re constitution - does the insurance cover juniors?

Jay had agreed enthusiastically to the offer from Douglas of prizes for students, but Douglas had received no response from his letter sent to Swanage School. There was a query over whether the letter was ever received by the relevant people. Jay requested copies of the letter from Douglas to the school.

Pat Tunnell Singing Bursary awards:

There were three bursaries. Last October bursary awards were made to Lois Fletcher and Verity Marlow. This year I can announce that Lois and Verity have again received awards, and also Amelia Seaman, all for singing lessons. £2200 is left in the Fund.

Douglas Addison

6. Studio Workshop Art Group:

In the autumn and Spring we met weekly on Tuesdays at the Catholic Hall. The programme included life drawing, portrait painting and still life, and workshops in water colours and acrylics.

In the summer we met at various locations mainly around Purbeck. The summer exhibition in August was a celebration of the whole club, which included the Thursday evening artists and works by the Poetry section. Amelia Seaman played the violin delightfully for us at our opening coffee morning. We put on a good display for the benefit of the public who were very complimentary.

Thursday Evening Art Group:

Report due from Sue Beckley. Re poetry illustration, members generated sessions, copying famous artist styles, Still life, abstract, social Eve.

Visual arts outings:

We averaged two visits a month last autumn and spring. Exhibitions included photographs from 19th C China, Michelangelo drawings and Thelwell's paintings and cartoons. Operas included Adriana Lecouvreur, Carmen and Walkur. The concert highlight was the Gala Concert of The Wessex Youth Orchestra, with Amelia Seaman and Sally Dando leading the violins. Another highlight was being shown around the Tudor manor of Lytes Cary by the current baronet. We have a full programme for this autumn.

Douglas Addison

Poetry group:

The group is thriving and has doubled its membership. There have been stimulating discussions and members have enjoyed participating with the art groups in creating greetings cards with their poetry.

Purbeck Instrument Loan Scheme for local schools (PILS):

This year we are very grateful to the staff at Swanage Library as they have invited us to hold two 'Have a Go' sessions, in January and June, where we displayed a selection of our instruments and teachers and volunteers came for the afternoon to help children try them out.

The Big Band led by Gary Austin continues to rehearse each month. Guest tutors have included Kevin Morgan, Tony and David Waller and Rob Mills. Players have definitely become more confident with improvising, and great progress is being made all round.

The band played at the Douglas Strickland Bursary Awards Evening in March and they had a workshop with saxophonist Derek Nash and informal concert in July during the Jazz Festival. Future concerts are already being planned for this season, the first being part of the Bandstand concert on December 18th.

We held our usual termly concerts in which we were delighted to see new players coming on to the stage, as well as accomplished performances from some advanced players. In July, some of those advanced players, Jonny Aiko Dando (horn) Sally Aiko Dando (violin), Reuben Bennett (trumpet) Joe Berry (viola) and Felix Williams (saxophone) gave up a day to go around the Swanage Primary schools to play in Assemblies, which went down very well with all the young children. They especially liked Reuben's wah-wah mute, Jonny's Star Wars theme, Felix's jazz saxophone and Sally and Joe's virtuosic violin & viola rendition of Czardas. Our next PILS concert is on Thursday Nov 21st at The Swanage School, 6pm – 7pm.

PILS has joined forces with Rotary, PAW & PCIMF to create a new **Purbeck Youth Music Initiative**, also supported by the Arts Club, Dorset Music Hub and private donors. Our first event will be on October 9th when 13 musicians from the BSO will be working with children from the 5 primary schools in Swanage, Langton and Corfe.

For the last three years we have seen a steady decline in the take up of instrumental learning and that is partly why this initiative is important. We are so lucky here to have this resource of instruments to hire at low cost, but we need them used and to do that we have to introduce children to the sound of those instruments played professionally and inspire them to try. Too many children never get taken to an orchestral concert, despite the BSO offering a free one to schools every year.

So, we hope more events will follow and we are actively trying to raise funds, so please keep a lookout for our forthcoming crowdfunding page and support us if possible.

Jay Buckle, Chair  
Sep 2019

Douglas will add these details with photos to the next newsletter.

7.The Financial Report and accounts was accepted and approved unanimously.

8.The Committee:

The President, Chairman, Treasurer And Secretary have served one year of their two year term before re-election. The publicity officers resigned this year so this position is vacant.

Section representatives:

Studio Workshop: Brenda Woodford

Thursday Evening Group: Sue Beckley

Poetry: Sarah Early

PILS: Jay Buckle

Douglas Strickland Bursary: Jay Buckle  
Visual Arts: Douglas Addison  
Emmie and Rex Neate Fund: Douglas Addison  
Pat Tunnell Fund: Douglas Addison

#### 9. Subscriptions:

It was agreed that if members pay by standing order, subscriptions will remain at £10 pa. If paying by cash or cheque, subscriptions will be £12 pa. It was proposed that if a member enrolls after January the subscription would be decreased to £6, at the treasurer's discretion. Gift aid was discussed; some small donations qualify for gift aid. Neil asked Cathy Leach to email him about gift aiding. Cathy proposed that everyone should be asked to sign a form for gift aid.

#### 10. Matters arising:

Increasing membership - it was suggested we should increase our area. A new activity should be located away from Swanage. Purbeck should mean PURBECK. There is a new radio station which Gina is to do a feature on the arts club. Penny Barker organises the outdoor sketching programme, which extends further afield. We also need a publicity officer. This needs to be readdressed.

Insurance: Jay has her own insurance for PILS but no public liability (this is covered under general IOPAC insurance).

GDPR: Only Gina and Pauline should have everyone's contact details. This needs to be checked.

Annual Exhibition: Pending; needs to be discussed

Shed: The exhibition panels are now in Sue's garage. Sue needs to check her membership. Shed discussion is ongoing with a steering party - contact Martin Ayre, the councillor and Swanage Drama Club, who are still using the premises. Jay proposed we hang on to the shed and continue to pay for the lease until the proposed development at the FC takes place. It was decided to keep renting the land for one more year and will discuss at the management meeting. Will report back at next years AGM.

New sections: Possibly photography in Wareham. Neil suggested Swanage Drama Club join with us in IOPAC.

11. Artifax magazine no longer produced. We are sending out a quarterly newsletter instead.

#### 12. Any Other Business:

Christmas party - activity and venue to be decided.

The meeting finished at 9.25pm

Mary Clutterbuck, Secretary, 7/10/19