



Isle of Purbeck Arts Club Winter News Letter 2019

Welcome to the second newsletter from the Isle of Purbeck Arts Club. This quarter our news comes from Douglas Addison, Club President.

First a note on the sections activities.

The **Studio Workshop**

group of artists have met every Tuesday morning in the Catholic Hall and subjects for painting



have included portraits, figures, still life and a model. A daytime workshop on acrylics was highly successful and popular with both painting groups and some guests. Nicky



Stockley, apart from being a talented artist, is a naturally gifted teacher and inspired us all. An evening workshop on painting

tiles provided a new experience for both groups of painters. Both groups decorated wooden slices for the Art Club's sponsored Christmas tree at the Tree Festival in Emmanuel Church from 6th. to 8th. December. It was decorated by Gina and Linda.

The Evening Art group meet on Thursday evenings at 6.30 at the Purbeck New Wave Gallery. Their programme included





photomontage,
still life and trees
in silhouette, eg.
by Helen Ffitch.
The main
purpose of the
group is to make
artwork in the company of others,



share our work/give critique and to discuss art as well as socialising.

The Poetry group meets on the 1st. Monday in the month at the Art Workshop, Commercial Road.

The New Christmas Tree by Jen Howard

We spot the small tree on a table.

It's a true spruce shape,
Stiff with tiny pine cones and needles
On strong short branches
Where adornments may safely drape.

We clothe it with historic decorations
Large and small stars
Hanging coloured baubles both shiny and matt
Luminous lamb, angels elevated by a thread
The tradition continues - seasonally led.

Christmas Don't Come too Soon by Perry Barnes

Christmas don't come too soon
We love to think you're on the way
News of friends brought by cards
Bright lights of trees in dark windows
Shine out as we pass homeward. Stay.

Once Christmas has gone by
It leaves us with memories each year
Of family together in the warmth of the fire
Sparkling lights, shiny tinsel everywhere
Dropped on table floor and chairs.

Visual Arts outings. The section visited the Henry Lamb exhibition at Poole museum entitled "Out of the Shadows".

His work on show included paintings and sketches of Poole. Also visited was the restored Dunshay Manor, former home of the Spencer Watsons , George Spencer Watson, a distinguished portrait painter and his daughter, Mary , a highly respected sculptor. We have previously sketched Mary's sculptures in the gardens.



The section attended three Operas at the Lighthouse broadcast from the Metropolitan Opera, New York. Puccini's Turandot, the opera of the three riddles and the cruel princess is dramatically staged with the advantage of the cameras going back stage to see the scale and complexity of the production. Said to be Puccini's happiest work with delightful arias including of course "Nessum Dorma". Massenet's Manon was an opera that none were familiar with, so we were surprised by the beautifully sung arias , story and great staging of this production, and considered it one of the most enjoyable evenings ever. The radiant young soprano Lisette Oropesa not only sang beautifully but she put so much

life into playing her part.



The photo shows members in the foyer before attending Puccini's Madam Butterfly. This was imaginatively staged in a minimal way with

basically one stage setting but movable screens defining the spaces in a simple way, thus echoing the ambience of Japanese traditional modular building. The sloping stage

and lighting effects were amazingly effective. The famous arias were beautifully sung but with sadness at the dramatic ending. We enjoyed an excellent evening with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra playing Four Dance Episodes by Copland, a Violin concerto by Barber, and Pictures at an Exhibition by Mussorgsky as arranged by Ravel.

Purbeck Instrument Loan Scheme (PILS)

The PILS concert at the Purbeck School on November 21st. was in my opinion, the best yet with pupils from 6 years up to 16 years taking part.





The concert opened with Isabelle Lamble (Year 6) playing Away in a Manger beautifully on the flute and we were treated to more Christmas music from



Suzanne Lejeune who played Jingle Bells on the violin. Jessica Keates and Lily Fawcett (both in Year 2)



confidently played a violin duet followed by a solo each. We enjoyed more performances on the violin from Emma Brown, Lilly Harman, Gabriel Harman, Bryony Wilson and Lavinia Grant. Although the violinists outnumbered the other

instrumentalists, we heard piano solos from Alfie Yew, Abbie Yew and Nick Aiko Dando. Nick also gave us a marvellous rendition of Leonard Bernstein's jazz piece Red, White and Blues on the trumpet. The concert ended with Sally Aiko Dando playing the first part of the first movement of Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto. Beautifully played, it captivated the audience, and must have inspired the younger ones to aim high. Jay Buckle, chairman of

PILS, introduced the performers and accompanied the soloists.

PILS combined with PAW and Rotary, together with Dorset Music Hub to set up the Purbeck youth music initiative “Go Play” for Purbeck schoolchildren to play with members of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. On October 9th. around 140 children came together from 5 primary schools and they all took part in 3 different workshops with BSO musicians: creative music making, singing and taking part in an ‘air orchestra’. Every child played an instrument, many for first time, and in the



concert which featured several short pieces with the 13 BSO musicians, all the children sang the song from Carmen, and played their improvised Ride of the Valkyries in the concluding piece accompanied by the BSO players. Jon James, the conductor, was inspirational in his enthusiastic welcome to the children with instrument introductions, and the BSO musicians themselves were very engaging as they told their own stories. The liveliness did not abate as the day progressed and was still going strong 6 hours later, demonstrating to the pupils what fun can be had in making music together. Their experience of taking part in a performance was obviously exciting for them and the creative ideas elicited by Jon during the day all came together in a memorable finale. Experiencing live music making is such a gateway to aspiration. One teacher described the children's response afterwards as 'buzzing'. All the children completed a booklet during the day and will be receiving their ‘Arts Award’ discover certificates.

The recipients of bursaries from the Emmie and Rex Neate Fund will be reporting on their term’s progress soon. Lois Fletcher has sent in an interim report. At the Dorset School of Acting, she is working on their Christmas Showcase based on extracts from Macbeth, and studying for her LAMDA grade 7. Verity Marlow in the photograph

is doing well with her ballet at the Hammond School, Chester.

Programmes for the Spring are available. Anybody wishing to join a section, please phone Gina on 07434814384 or email:



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