



Isle of Purbeck Arts Club Spring Newsletter 2020

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter from the Isle Of Purbeck Arts Club. This quarter, our news comes from Mary Clutterbuck, Secretary of the Arts Club.

What a start to the year! I hope you are all well and keeping at a safe distance, socially. Perhaps the present situation will allow more time for a leisurely perusal of the newsletter.

As you will know, due to the corona virus situation, non-essential businesses, social venues and clubs closed by March 20th and as a result there have been no IOPAC meetings since that date.

However, here is the roundup of all the latest news from our club, as well as details of various online activities that you may like to become involved in. Contact details will be at the end of this newsletter.

Studio Workshop

The Studio Workshop painting group met for a few weeks from the start of term until March 2020. During this time we had portrait sessions with members taking it in turn to pose. Members also brought and arranged some remarkable and varied



displays that were challenging. We also had an acrylic workshop with Nicky Stockley painting landscapes, which was very successful.

Due to the situation with the Covid 19 virus members agreed to postpone all indoor painting activity in the group until October. The outdoor programme is also postponed but it may be possible again before the summer ends. The situation regarding the summer exhibition is unknown, but members have a theme for a painting of "Old Harry rocks", and a challenge to do a "self portrait", whether straight or in cartoon form.



- Brenda Woodford
Secretary of The Studio Workshop

Thursday Evening Art Group

When we met after Christmas, we had a positive discussion about our work and set each other challenges for this term. For those who like to paint realism, the challenge was to paint abstract, or those who prefer painting from still life or photographs, to paint from the imagination. Our evening group sits together around a large table upstairs in the Purbeck New Wave Gallery and there is always lively encouraging conversation as the work flows.



An 'imaginative' painting-for a romantic lady by Mary Clutterbuck



'Old Harry' by Katie Heslop



Agglestone Rock, by
Mary Clutterbuck

Poetry

Dear fellow poets

These are hard times.

I hope you are keeping as well as possible, having enough food and finding creative ways to get through lockdown. The best way is to put your thoughts and feelings down on paper!

I've been writing mostly about the virus recently, but I'm not sure that you need to hear any more about that.

Last month I discovered that BOTH my cats have advanced cancer, which is horrible. Yet they still enjoy life, even if they're not eating as much as they did. It's a blessing that neither of them realise what is to come. I have to try to set aside my knowledge of their future — and simply enjoy their wonderful presence right now.

So this comes with happy purrs from Molly and Tabitha.

Dying ... and yet

My cats are dying —

Molly purrs by my pillow at night.

My cats are dying —

Tabitha is carolling 'Good Morning'.

My cats are dying —

Molly is ravenous for brekker!

My cats are dying —

As Spring birds sing by my window.

© Sarah Early, March 2020

Another member from the visual arts section has written about the virus.

Deadly Virus

Illness steals stealthily like a thief
Taking your breath, leaving grief.
Some people will die, some will survive
Though everyone wants to stay alive.

Wash your hands with soap and water,
So you're not part of any slaughter.
Shops are closed, the streets are empty,
So much for pleasure and lives of plenty.

Government becomes the loving parent
Tough house rules to make us resilient.
In the future we'll picnic and we will sing
But not until this virus loses its sting.

© Marilyn Lathe

Visual Arts Outings, Spring, 2020

The first outing was to the De Morgan Exhibition at the Russell Cotes museum entranced members. William de Morgan studied mathematics and the



mathematical symmetry showed in his designs in the many examples of his work on display. His dramatic designs plus the amazing glazes using techniques that he invented, in particular the red and gold lustre glazes produced a unique



set of ceramics in dishes, plates, bowls and tiles. Members kept going back to the works that had most inspired them. Lunch followed in the café with the marvellous view of the sea.

The next outing was to George Gershwin's Porgy and Bess at the lighthouse, a twentieth Century American opera, encompassing jazz, catchy lyrics and drama. This was followed by a concert by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra playing Mozart's Piano concerto No. 1 with Denk playing the piano. His incredible

performance gave rise to such a rapturous reception that he came back on stage for an encore. A truly memorable evening especially for our own talented member Elke, who has entertained us on grand pianos when we have visited stately homes and Ted Heath's former home in Salisbury.



The last outing before lockdown was to the Russell Cotes museum to see the "Beyond brotherhood", The Pre-Raphaelite Legacy. Major works were borrowed from The Royal Academy, Tate Britain, minor works from the V and A, and one from Leighton House. The paintings included works by John Everett Millais, Dante Gabriel Rossetti and Evelyn De Morgan.

-Douglas Addison

Bursary Evening

The annual Bursary evening was held on the 4th. March at St. Marks Primary School. The Swanage Big Band welcomed parents and children with a rousing performance.,



and light refreshments were served, for which we thank the committee of the Douglas Strickland Fund. Jay Buckle, who chairs the fund, presented cheques to teachers for a wide variety of items, The Purbeck School (digital keyboards), Ranger School of Dance (tutus and chiffon skirts) and Swanage, St. George's, St. Mary's, Corfe Castle and St. Mark's Primary schools who had applied for materials for an outdoor mosaic, silk printing frames, digital cameras,

percussion instruments and printing equipment. The schools gave presentations about why they wanted the equipment and how they were going to use it, and entertained us with musical performances, which we all enjoyed.

Douglas Addison, President of the Arts Club and Chairman of the Neate fund read out the following names of students who had received awards to help them with their studies. Ben Cockwell, Lois Fletcher, Verity Marlow, Bethany MacDonald, Amelia Seaman and Evie Walker. Studies included ballet, theatre, piano and violin. Awards from the Art Club Pat Tunnel Fund for singing were made to Lois Fletcher, Verity Marlow and Amelia Seaman.



Only Amelia could attend the evening; she played Aaron Copland's Hoe Down on the violin and had the audience enraptured by her professional performance.

Gina Marshall, chairman of the Arts Club, announced a new painting competition for children in years 5 and 6 in Purbeck, in order to encourage young artists. The results will be shown at the Art Club's annual



Summer Exhibition. (See dates for your diary at the end of this news letter).



Picture drawn by Bursary student, Ben - 'Easter Bunny'



Jay thanked parents for coming and supporting their children and their schools. The evening concluded with light refreshments.

- Jay Buckle

Music and Art from the Isle of Purbeck Arts Club - for lockdown

Although we are in lockdown our club is still active albeit online.

We have suggested two activities to keep your arty brain cells working!

First, for music lovers:

Each of us has a unique collection of music in our heads that has provided the soundtrack to our life experiences.

From the nursery rhymes we sang at school to the songs we fell in love to, the music that makes us feel Christmassy and the advert music we love to hate.

Music sticks to us, and we have an extraordinary capacity to remember it.

We are collecting and using your unique soundtracks to write new 'musical postcards'; exploring and documenting what makes us individual, and what connects us, through the music we remember and love.

HOW CAN YOU TAKE PART?

Anyone can submit their musical memories - just follow these instructions:

STEP ONE: Think about your musical memories by answering these 5 questions – if there's one you're stuck on or simply can't remember, it's not a problem! Just move on.

- 1) The first music you remember paying your own money for? LP, CD etc.
- 2) A piece of music that reminds you of a family member?
- 3) A tune you reach for in the car when driving on a long journey?
- 4) A piece of music that makes you think of a holiday you've been on?
- 5) Your 'Isolation' tune – something that lifts your spirit in this strange time we are in?

STEP TWO: Submit your answers, in either aural or written form

- 1) Leave us a phone message on 07516 728873
- 2) Record a Facebook voice clip by messaging the page @theforgottenensemble
- 3) Send an audio recording (.wav or .aiff) to theforgottenensemble@gmail.com
- 4) Email your answers in written form to theforgottenensemble@gmail.com
- 5) Write your answers in a letter and send it to The Forgotten Ensemble, 20 Wellington Terrace, Falmouth, TR11 3BN

However you submit, please leave details of your phone number, email or postal address so we can contact you

Kathryn is the daughter of an arts club member and has sent us this musical memories activity. Please see attached screenshot image.

Second, for online art tutorials:

Our regular tutor Nicky Stockley is doing some virtual lessons for free! All art club members welcome.

<https://www.nicolastockley.co.uk/lockdown-lessons>

And lastly don't forget to send us your poems or artwork to share either by email or social media.

- Gina Marshall

Dates for your Diary

All dates are subject to alteration due to the coronavirus situation.

The summer exhibition is due to take place on Aug 22-31st 2020, at the Catholic Church Hall, Rempstone Road, Swanage. If it still goes ahead, all participating artists can take part, painting for the theme of 'Old Harry Rocks'.

As has been mentioned above there will also be a self portrait competition. This can be realistic or cartoon/caricature. There will be a prize of a bottle of wine.

The prizes for the Children's Art Competition, featured below, will be £30, £10 and £10.

CHILDREN'S ART COMPETITION

(Up to A3 size in any medium)

For children in Years 5 and 6 at primary schools in Purbeck.

3 Awards to be made

**Hand in at Purbeck New Wave Gallery,
Swanage BH19 1DF**

**Deadline Monday June 29th 2020
Presentation in August**

Isle of Purbeck Arts Club

**A Charity supporting the Arts within
Purbeck**

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