

# TOTNES ART SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER - Spring 2012

Hooray! Following the dire warnings in the last Newsletter we can now declare that contrary to all our fears, your Society will continue into the foreseeable future. At the AGM and subsequently, several people came forward to put their shoulders to the wheel. We have Ann King and Sue Ambury to head an Exhibitions team and two new committee members in Martin Philpott and Martin Harris. Now, therefore I shall remind all those who might have been holding back from renewing their membership that they can now do so in the knowledge that a vibrant year of activities lies ahead.

We did not, however, find anyone prepared to replace our Chairman so that problem remains, staved off for the moment by June Posey's agreement to stay on for one more year.

### **Summer Exhibition.**

The time to enter your work is fast approaching and there are a few changes to this year's application process and also the prizes to be awarded. Here is a brief outline; full details are on the application form included with this Newsletter.

1 Application forms will be emailed to all members who normally receive this Newsletter electronically. Please print it out and fill it in. Others without email will receive their forms by post. When completed send the form to Breda Holden (details on the form) **with a stamped addressed envelope.**

2 Members will have to provide their own labels for their work. Details of these are on the form.

3 Invitations to the private view and flyers advertising the show will be sent to members in the SAE they provide. Electronic copies will be emailed so that members can sent invites electronically.

4 This year we are introducing a new category the 'Topic Prize.' The topic this year is 'Totnes' and the Shirley Seymour cup will be awarded to the artist judged to best capture Totnes. Entries are invited for any work that represents or captures the spirit of the town, its people, landscape, buildings or activities.

A very exciting summer for the Society's active painters! We have a new exhibition this year "**THE BIG SHOW**", at the Totnes Boating Association Club house on Steamer Quay, for 5 days September 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>. Please look at the attached sheet for detailed particulars but, in outline, in this show you will select, label and hang your own pictures, old or new, on a 6' x 4' peg board and be active in promoting the show.

I have listed the names of all the present paid-up participants and more than half the boards have been taken. If you are not listed but would like to participate, please let me have your cheque for £15 payable to Totnes Art Society as soon as possible if you want to be sure of a place! Deadline for applications June 30<sup>th</sup> after when extra boards will be offered to participants in the order they applied.

If you are **not** on email (whether you are on the participant list or still intend to apply, enclosing £15) **please send me an SAE** so that I can let you know last minute details and changes easily. Monday 20<sup>th</sup> August, 5 – 6 pm will be the time for you to collect (or arrange to have collected) from my house posters, invites, flyers to help promote the exhibition and labels for your pictures.

June Posey, 20 Borough Park Road, Totnes TQ9 5XW. 01803 868121

### **The Questionnaire**

Many thanks to those who have filled and returned their questionnaires! We have received useful information. For instance, it was pointed out that we don't welcome newcomers warmly enough yet! And this we shall be working on. We've also gratefully received members' offers of help and look forward to seeing much more of these members.

Please complete and return your form if you have not done so yet. We need much more contact with our members if the Society is truly to reflect its members' wishes, and the Society needs everyone's help if it is to continue.

June Posey, Chair

### **Membership**

Numbers at the moment stand at 68 but there are many friends who have not yet renewed their membership. We wondered if all our nagging had put people off. We hope this is not so. Our subscription is kept purposely low so that as many artists as possible can continue to enjoy what is arranged and reap artistic and social benefits from the Society. Please remember that you will not be able to exhibit at either of our two major exhibitions if you are not a member.

## Autumn Programme of Demos & Workshops 2012

**MIKE HINDLE • Demo Monday 8 October & workshop on Saturday 27 October.** Mike is a popular, prolific painter who exhibits throughout the SW, but mostly, in Cornwall. His style is usually atmospheric open scenes and painted on a very large scale. At the demonstration he will illustrate his love of the Impressionists and how they used complementary colours and various brush techniques. The demo is followed a few days later by Mike's workshop where he will encourage us to create paintings that can 'lift the spirit ' by using those same techniques. Mike is an experienced tutor who will inspire those lucky enough to gain a space on this workshop. A painting experience not to be missed!

**ROB DUDLEY • Demo Monday 12 November.** Rob works almost exclusively in watercolour, and is a popular local artist, he has demonstrated at Totnes before, a few years ago on the subject of Light on Dartmoor. This time he will return to paint an estuary using watercolour techniques to portray reflected light on water. He records the fleeting changes of light with both sketches and photographs, which he takes back to the studio to develop into more finished works.

**CLARK NICOL • Workshop Saturday 24 November.** Clark's work began to develop its characteristic language of heavily textured paint evoking atmospheric landforms since 1980's.

Frequent visits to his wife's family in Devon led to his discovery of Dartmoor and has since been his great source of inspiration. He now lives in Devon and has focussed almost exclusively on the local landscape, producing some of his finest work.

Clark is back by popular demand. He will demonstrate and guide us through his use of heavy textures in oil or acrylic painting. You will have the opportunity to experiment with different textures before you work on your final textured painting of the day.



NB. There are important attachments sent with this Newsletter by email. Please be sure to print them all out as they will allow you to enter the Exhibition to be held in June. All entries must be in by the date on the form; all other requirements are described there too.

## THE BIG SHOW

Is the name of our second big exhibition this summer! It will be on at the same time as Devon Open Studios and we shall be able to advertise in the Devon Open Studios brochure which reaches thousands of visitors. It will take place in September 2012 10th – 14<sup>th</sup>, 10 – 5, at the Totnes Boating Association Club House on Steamers Quay, ideally placed to reach up to 1,600 passengers a day arriving by steamer at Steamer Quay! It is intended that this exhibition will not be so centrally organized for members as our Annual Exhibition, but be a more co-operative, group exhibition with the onus on participants to help promote, put up posters, give invitations to friends and attract in the punters!

On Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September, from 4 – 6 pm, boards will be erected by Colin and helpers, giving up to 37 sides, and space for a table and chairs for stewards and for exhibiting Society materials. At 6 pm artists will sign the stewarding rota, collect hooks and hang and label pictures on their own board, size 6' x 4' (18" off the ground). Prints could be hung in pockets from below an artist's board, but no tables or chairs will be possible by your board. The boards will be placed in avenues roughly 6' apart to enable freedom of movement and visibility of all pictures. There will be a display stand for cards and for prints and a donkey for unframed pictures.

If there are surplus boards, they will be offered (in order of application) so some artists may be able to have two boards. Unlike our Annual Exhibition, previously exhibited pictures may be hung and the artist is responsible for hanging pictures on his/her board. If a picture is sold, that artist will replace it. Artists are welcome to bring a bottle and glasses to invite personal guests for an impromptu Private View, say from

7 pm on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>. The Club House must be vacated by 4 pm on Friday September 14<sup>th</sup>, pictures down by 3 pm say.

Three artists will act as stewards at all times from 10 – 5.0pm. Only one session of 4.5 hours stewarding will be required from each participant. One steward will be able to work outside to attract visitors, hand out flyers to steamer passengers etc. Directional arrows (from Devon Open Studios) will be put in the streets around the Boat House. The same methods for recording sales and receipt of cash will be used as in our Annual Exhibition. We can no longer take cheques, only cash.

Each artist contributes £15 to participate. The usual percentage, 25%, will be charged on sales. Cards will be sold @ £2.

### List of paid-up participants at May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2012

Susan Ambury  
Mike Bonney  
Rosemary Bonney  
Dian Booth  
Lindy Burton  
Lindy Cudlip  
Colin Drew  
Ann Hinkins  
Ann King  
Isobel Langton  
Edward Lovesey  
Cherry Lyons  
Debbie Newsom  
Denise Orchard  
Pam Parrotte  
Jenni Pentecost  
June Posey  
Huguette Standish