



# The Basel

Newsletter of Rugby & District Art Society

Number 71 • September 2018



## Vice President Birthday Boy

The following letter (to everyone) has been received from John Lines (& Dorothy):

Thank you for all the good wishes and the lovely signed card I received from you all for my 80th birthday. We went to Carmarthenshire to stay with daughters Kathryn and Christine and family. The day started with presents and bunting, breakfast in a local café, back for more presents including art books and a golden blow-up crown followed by a lovely walk along the Towy estuary with the dogs (and, of course, John still wearing the gold crown).

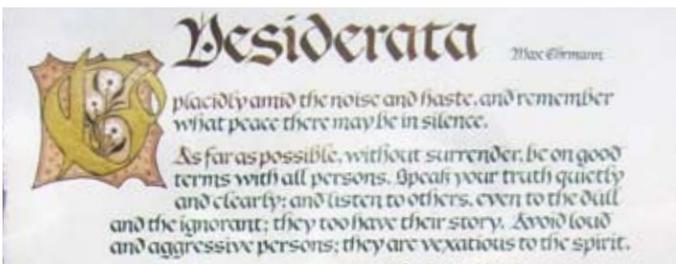
The afternoon was taken up with a ride on the Gwili steam railway (still wearing the crown, a large 'Birthday Boy' badge, and a tee-shirt with 'Made in 1938 - 80 years of being totally awesome' printed on it). Men bowed, ladies curtsied (and John, being John, lapped it up by wishing his citizens well, and to carry on!), and he was even allowed on the footplate (small boys eat your hearts out!).

The day finished with a meal in the local pub, still wearing the crown, with more bunting and silly presents (wind-up false teeth, yo-yo's and flipping frogs - most of them flipping in the beer glasses). The birthday cake was a caterpillar with a candelabra and candles. We had a fantastic day with lovely memories and didn't stop smiling and giggling all day. (The crown was removed at bedtime!)  
John (& family)

## Pigsty Penmanship

In July Peter Lloyd from the Pigsty Studio came armed with pictures and pens to show us how he ended up as a calligrapher. After a discussing a wide range of designs produced during his career, he proceeded to investigate the mysteries of how and why our alphabet developed, and then demonstrated what can be done with a dip pen, a steady hand and an understanding of proportions.

It all looked so simple but apparently takes years of practice to get right! And, yes, a computer is quicker - but somehow less satisfying.



Peter's take on part of the iconic Desiderata

## Criccieth in May

Our biennial coach trip in 2019 will be centred on the seaside town of Criccieth on the Llyn peninsula in North Wales. Leave Rugby Monday 29th April; return Friday 3rd May. Provisional price: £319 per person including B&B and evening meals.

## Subs!

As arranged at the last AGM our subscriptions are modestly increased from this September. Please remember to update any direct debits or other arrangements with your bank, in order to avoid unnecessary correspondence between yourselves and our Membership Secretary! The new rates are: Adult £27; Concession £24; Couple £45; Retired Couple £40.

## Festivalities

The Rugby Festival of Culture seemed larger than ever this year, and we were a bit disappointed that our planned exhibition at Dunchurch was relegated to a Fringe footnote in the programme. On for two days, it unfortunately also coincided with World Cup football and Wimbledon, and prime seaside weather, and visitor numbers were not up to expectations. Nevertheless the show looked splendid, and the new screens and banners gave a professional look to the event, and it provided good practice for future efforts. Considerable thanks are due to all who helped erect, man and dismantle the show.

Three Sketch Crawls around the town centre were also arranged, and proved successful enough to surely be repeated. Luckily the weather was ideal, and again thanks are due to those involved.

Many members also had individual contributions noted in the catalogue, in the form of art trail displays or joint exhibitions.



A nice cup of tea at the Dunchurch exhibition

## ART SHOW

Saturday 29 September  
10am to 4pm

Christchurch  
2 Helvellyn Way  
Brownsver  
CV21 1QG

Free entry • Refreshments  
Proceeds to charity



## On the Cards

Our August **Fun Evening** saw a good-natured crowd of around 40 members issued with playing card-sized blanks which they proceeded to decorate in a surprising variety of ways. The card surface was a bit shiny for some types of art media but, hey!, we're creatives, and soon overcame that small obstacle, and luckily Abbeycraft Artworld were on hand to provide alternative materials where necessary. Everybody joined in with the art and chat and it was all pronounced a very pleasant and successful evening. Many thanks to all those who turned out in support.

## Already Arranged

There will be a **sketching/paint-in day** in Dodford village, centred on the Village Hall, on September 15th.

The new season's **Costume Life** evenings in Bilton Methodist Hall (7pm-10pm) are arranged for Thursdays November 15th, 22nd & 29th, followed by February 14th, 21st & 28th in 2019. A daytime Costume Life session has also been arranged for Saturday October 27th in the Kent Scout Hut, Hillmorton.

## Ad Us!

If you enjoy our meetings and know somewhere to display our details please take a poster and/or leaflets - it all helps to spread the word and encourage people to come along.

## Changing Displays

The next changeover at the **Arnold Restaurant** will be on Thursday 6th September between 10am and 10.30am. All paid-up members are eligible to enter work for display here, just bring it along. Any excess work will be stored as replacements for those sold before the next changeover.

The **Artist(s) of the Month** scheme at Horts Estate Agents in Regent Street is now up and running although a few details still need to be sorted. We already have applicants sufficient for several months, but if you wish to be included just make sure that your name is added to the list. Pop in and view if you wish, but please first explain that you are from the Art Society.

The **Annual Awards Show** in the Floor One Gallery is scheduled for 17th - 29th November (handing in day Friday 16th November). The prizes will be presented by the mayor at our monthly meeting in Dunchurch on Wednesday 5th December.

## Framed?

Submissions for recent exhibitions have not always been framed in the way requested on the entry forms, posing a real problem for those who have to hang them. Some smaller commercial frame fixings will not fit on the hooks of our system, and other pictures have been badly presented and needed re-stringing before hanging.

In the light of these problems we have decided to include a short review of framing methods to precede our critique evening, where members can pick up a few tips and ask relevant questions.

Meanwhile, please read the entry form instructions carefully, and, if necessary, query any that are unclear before handing in. Thank you.

### Rugby & District Art Society programme 2018/19

September 5 : AGM + **Paul Joyner** : Wire Sculptures  
 October 3 : **Roy Holding** : Painting Big & Bold  
 November 7 : **Ed & Margaret Burke** : Colourful Glass  
 December 5 : **Prizegiving & Xmas Party** + Guest  
 January 2 : **Critique Night** + Framing & Presentation  
 February 6 : **Nigel Fletcher** : Watercolour Painting  
 March 6 : **Chris Upton** : Photographer : A Passion for Pictures

April 3 : **Susan Isaac** : My Life: Painting & Sculpture  
 May 8 : **Sandra Orme** : Dramatic Pastel  
 June 5 : **Jamie Norton Poole** : Words Make Pictures in a variety of media  
 July 3 : **Kate Wrigglesworth** : Delightful Dreams in delicate paintings  
 August 7 : **Fun Night**  
 September 4 : **AGM** + Speaker to be confirmed  
**Full information is on membership cards**