

This Newsletter is dropping into your E-mail box before Christmas, and therefore, on behalf of all the members of the committee, I wish you all a joyful Christmas with your loved ones, and a very happy and healthy New Year to come.

Congratulations to Bernie Bye, the worthy winner of our prestigious Founders Plate award, and to David Greenwood who took 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and George Hardy, our President, who took 3<sup>rd</sup> place. These were excellent choices on the Judge’s part, and thank you to everyone who took part. The standard of the work submitted this year was exceptional.

The 2019 AGM will be held on 5<sup>th</sup> March. All committee members are due to stand down from post this year, and so there are opportunities to be elected to roles on the committee should anyone be interested. If so, please speak to me, Veronica, or to David, at least two weeks prior to the AGM to record your interest. You may know that our current Treasurer, Geoff Harrop, is hanging up his hat after many years in the role, and Peter Barlass has been nominated for the post. We want to say a huge and grateful thank you to Geoff for all his dedication, hard work and commitment in conscientiously looking after the group funds on our behalf all these years. Thank you and very well done Geoff.

As usual, annual membership is due for renewal at the AGM. As of this year it will increase from £10 to £12 pa as a result of increasing costs. We trust we have your support in this, and as most of you know, this will be the first time that annual membership has had to be increased in well over 15 years.

2019	DAIRY OF PLANNED EVENTS - JAN/APRIL 2019
Jan 8th	Free Painting. These free painting nights offer a chance to work on your own art projects.
Jan 15 <sup>th</sup>	Free Painting & CORRIDOR NIGHT. We will be putting up a new exhibition of your work in the corridor, so please bring a piece of work you want to sell or display. Something from the “Sail Away” theme perhaps – or something you submitted for the Founders Plate.
Jan 22nd	POINTILLISM – Bring in paper, pens, paints, felt tips – to create a work in Pointillism.
Jan 29th	Free Painting.
Feb 5 <sup>th</sup>	SKETCH BOOK MONTH. Collect a free sketch book, and start drawing tonight.
Feb 12 <sup>th</sup>	Free Painting.
Feb 19 <sup>th</sup>	Artist KEVIN TAYLOR will be demonstrating a lakeside scene in ACRYLIC. To take part, please bring with you Acrylic colours Red, Yellow, White, Blue, Black, and Acrylic Paper/canvas and brushes.
Feb 26th	SKETCH BOOK NIGHT - Bring in your sketch book and show/discuss your work so far with the group.
March 5th	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: 7.00PM. Reports from Committee, Treasurer’s Report & Accounts, Appoint Committee Members, renew annual membership. A chance to raise issues/air questions.
March 12th	Artist GERRY HALPIN demonstrates a Landscape in ACRYLIC. Bring in your own materials as before.
March 19th	SILENT AUCTION: This is always a popular, fun and competitive night. Have a spring clean of your art books, magazines, and any and all art materials you no longer need. Bring in anything we can auction. Proceeds to group funds. Be prepared to go home with a bargain!
March 26th	Free Painting Night -
April 2nd	Free Painting Night -
April 9th	STENCILS: An evening cutting paper stencils with Karen.
April 16th	Free Painting Night -
April 23rd	APPRAISAL NIGHT – Bring in acrylic seascape or landscape inspired by the two acrylic demonstrations.
April 30th	THEME NIGHT - It is time to show your work for the current Theme: “Under the Sea”