

Exmouth Art Group

(founded 1946 : patrons Nigel & Heleen Lindsay-Fynn)

Spring 2011 Newsletter



President
Colin Marshall



Vice-President
May Neilson



**Secretary &
Newsletter Editor**
Catherine Ager



Treasurer
Liz Hardwick



Membership Secretary
Angela Hall

Hello from the President

May I wish you all a very good New Year!

It is great to start 2011 on a high. The Group is doing well, our membership is up and we have ended 2010 covering all our costs and with a small return on our assets. We are in good shape and looking forward to the coming year of improving weather and all absorbing artworks.

The hugely successful and inspiring local artist, Alan Cotton, has agreed to open our Summer Exhibition and will somehow fit into his busy schedule an evening demonstration/talk and discussion of his knife painting techniques – not to be missed.

The two most recent events must not pass without comment. First the visit to see the annual show at the RWA in Bristol and warm thanks to Paul and Liz for organizing the coach trip. Secondly, our Christmas Party in December at the Elizabeth Hall, so splendidly arranged through the efforts of Committee members, and many thanks to all. Both were immensely enjoyable and are covered later.

We are fast approaching our AGM on Thursday 3rd March. Do try to come. It is one of the most important dates in our Calendar and your chance to have your say and make changes.

This is my last opportunity to have my say as your President; the last three years have gone so quickly but they covered so many shaky moments which became fun and bearable with your Committee taking on the work.

Thank you for having me.

Colin Marshall

RWA Exhibition | 4th December 2010 Glad to report that there was almost a full coach for our visit to the RWA Exhibition in Bristol with feedback that the show of work was possibly one of the best some had seen. In the afternoon there was an opportunity for a guided tour of the exhibition giving an overview of the six hundred works on display from over four hundred artists, both professional and amateur. There was the usual interesting mix of sculpture, photography, architecture, painting and printmaking. The Royal West of England Academy is of course one of only five Royal Academies of Art in the UK and part of the building is Grade II listed. So an enjoyable day with a chance also for some early Christmas shopping in the city stores close by.

Christmas Cracker We returned to the Elizabeth Hall for the 2010 Christmas Party and judging by the jovial atmosphere a good time was had by all. Excellent to see the high turnout laden with mouth-watering food for the buffet. So thanks to everyone and for help with the setting up and clearing.

Following a welcome by the President, the evening began with a wonderfully chaotic ice-breaker devised by Ernest Ager. Possibly on paper it seemed like a simple task he had set us but in practice everyone trying to line up, in the order of the lyrics they had been given, and then sing was a sight to see.

Although it must be said that a rendition of a kind was finally achieved!

The quizzes certainly caused some head scratching. Paul James tested us, with picture clues, on our knowledge of artists and Angela Hall taxed the brain with tricky Ding-Bats. The now traditional Pictionary demanded fast footwork in the race to complete the list, provided by May Neilson and Cath Ager. Many congratulations to the prize winning table.

From a range of impressive competition entries, to the theme of 'A Devon Christmas', Lorna Porter was selected winner, and awarded the Roger Matthew's Cup, with John Cowlshaw and Sheila Tweed chosen as runners up. Well done all!

Can You Help? Does anyone know if any records exist on the Exmouth Amateur Art Society and if so where they might be held?

Howard Jones is doing some research and has found evidence that this Society held an annual exhibition in 1914. He suspects that it was not the first time that an event of this kind had taken place but has been unable to find any details prior to the founding of the Exmouth Art Group in 1946. If you can help Howard would welcome hearing from you.

Some 2011 Events to Note in your Diary

3rd March | Annual General Meeting

The 2011 AGM scheduled for 3rd March will be held in the Exmouth Baptist Church on Victoria Road (rear door entrance) starting at 7:00pm. You will find the agenda and nomination forms enclosed.

This is of course an important forum for you to have your say, raise any issues or concerns and put forward proposals for the Group's development and strategy. If you would like to present an item let Cath Ager know by 25th February please.

The meeting is also the time when we receive nominations for the Summer Exhibition Selection Panel and elect the new Committee. There will be several vacancies so perhaps you can be encouraged to stand? Do think about it because although participation can involve some hard work, we work well as a group and it is always rewarding and good fun!

Ernest Ager, due step down from his role as Exhibition Secretary, has agreed to lead an informal crit on any pieces you choose to bring along. We hope too that the Thursday morning group will stage a show of work.

16th–21st May | Sketching Days at Lee Ford

We are delighted to say that, following the success of last year's event at Lee Ford, patrons Nigel and Heleen Lindsay-Fynn have offered the period 16th to 21st May for members to visit the grounds for sketching and painting towards producing a final artwork. So no prescribed theme but a chance to be inspired by the picturesque and peaceful surroundings. Go alone, with a friend or as a group but please email secretary@exmouthartgroup.org.uk to let Cath Ager know the day or days you plan to go so we can pass on numbers. Look out in the next Newsletter for the date of the Reception and arrangements for the submission of finished pieces for the annual competition.

26th May - 3rd June | Exmouth Festival Exhibition

We have accepted a repeat invitation to participate in the Exmouth Festival and will hold what is becoming our traditional open exhibition in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall. Although sales tend to be minimal they have increased each year and the show is always very well received. You will find full information and a breakdown of dates on the entry form enclosed. Please note that the fee this year will be £2 for each submission and a commission of 20% on sales will apply to bring into line with our Annual Summer Exhibition.

17th – 30th June | A La Ronde Exhibition Our exhibition at A la Ronde has become an enjoyable established summer event and, despite being a relatively small venue, this National Trust property is in a stunning setting. We will be asking you to bring a maximum of two entries to the meeting on 16th June for selection by members' votes. Experience has shown that at this Exhibition it is usually the lower priced pieces which sell. An entry form will be included in the next Newsletter.

4th – 25th September | 65th Annual Summer Exhibition | Elizabeth Hall

There seems to be common agreement that the Elizabeth Hall has to be *the* venue for our annual summer exhibition. We are pleased to report, therefore, that we will return there for our 65th annual summer show. It is excellent to hear that the President's invitation to Alan Cotton to be our opener has been accepted.

Responding to feedback from members there will be some changes. These include reducing entries from five to four to make better use of the space and entrants self-selecting at

least one piece for hanging. Further, fuller details of these modifications will be given in the summer edition of the Newsletter but in the meantime significant dates are:

- 4th September Committee set up Hall
- 5th September submission, selection and hanging
- 6th - 7th September catalogue to be produced
- 7th September for the private view
- 9th - 24th September exhibition open to the public
- 25th September the show to be dismantled

Competition Evenings, which are an integral part of our activities, continue to flourish. If you have not done so before we hope you will think about taking part. The reference to 'competition' is perhaps a misnomer as there is no contest but a chance for members to come together, select a favourite piece and participate in an informal review and discussion of work. All in an amicable atmosphere. The number of joint and triple places is testimony to the ethos of the evenings and high standards!

February	ARCHITECTURAL	1 st Ernest Ager; 2 nd Len Fry/Paul Palin; 3 rd Cherrill Bailey
March	DEVON LANDSCAPE	1 st Michael Tierney; 2 nd Sheila Johns; 3 rd Pat Murdoch
May	WATERCOLOUR	1 st Len Fry; 2 nd Sheila Tweed; 3 rd Pat Murdoch
	OILS OR ACRYLICS	1 st Angela Hall; 2 nd Glyn Cowles/Cherrill Bailey; 3 rd Ernest Ager/Gillie Newcombe/ Rosemary Cook
July	ABSTRACTS	1 st Sheila Minchin; 2 nd Gill Ash; 3 rd Patricia Hough
	PASTELS	1 st Beryl Leader; 2 nd Ernest Ager; 3 rd Sheila Johns
October	DRAWING	1 st Malcolm Pressey; 2 nd Jackie Thomas; 3 rd Susan Young/John Onley/Chloe Skinner
	SOMETHING ELSE	1 st Wendy Nickels (embroidery on silk); 2 nd Audrey Hardman (mosaic); 3 rd Jackie Thomas (ceramic)
November	STILL LIFE	1 st Ernest Ager; 2 nd Sheila Johns; 3 rd Paul Palin
	FIGURE OR PORTRAIT	1 st Ernest Ager; 2 nd Angela Hall/Jackie Thomas; 3 rd Beryl Leader/Sheila Tweed
December	ROGER MATTHEWS CUP	1 st Lorna Porter; 2 nd John Cowlshaw; 3 rd Sheila Tweed

Details of Talks, Visits, Competitions & News from Members

2nd June Talk | An Exploration of Prehistoric Art

We are so pleased that Jo Hall, daughter of our Membership Secretary Angela, has agreed to share her knowledge and research she is accumulating through study for a PhD. She will give a talk on 2nd June entitled 'An Exploration of Prehistoric Art'.

Jo tells us that *"In this session, we will begin by exploring questions about what makes art 'art' and where human creativity began. To consider these issues we will take a whistle stop tour through cultural reference points as diverse as handprints and paintings of bison, carvings on Stonehenge, Bronze Age Burial Slabs, Roman public art and the fall of Saddam, Renaissance masters, bodily scarification, Aboriginal art, Duchamp's urinal and the work of Damien Hirst.*

We will look at some examples of the earliest known art in the world. Through images I will take you on a journey from the deepest darkest cave systems of France to outcrops of rock inhabited by baboons in the blazing hot African bush. I will place a particular focus on Paleolithic (Old Stone Age) rock art, but will also draw upon portable art such as "venus" figurines and the role of aesthetics in everyday archaeological items.

I will explain some of the techniques that were used to create ingenious carvings and paintings that date back thousands of years. I will also detail some of the different ideas that archaeologists have had about why these pieces of art might have been created and what role they could have played in prehistoric societies. In doing so I will highlight the ways in which archaeologists glean knowledge about archaeological art and the limits of that information.

I will endeavour to open up the discipline of archaeology to answer the often asked question, "how do we know?" I will hope to encourage reflection upon art, its origins, its role and its inspirational enchanting qualities. Qualities that render paintings as powerful and evocative today as they were when they were created thousands of years ago- perhaps even more so for the wonder of their creation and survival."

Jo is an archaeologist with specialisms in archaeological art, the Paleolithic (Old Stone Age) period and museums and has over fifteen years experience and has conducted archaeological fieldwork in Africa and Europe. She has worked as a field archaeologist, consultant archaeologist, museum archaeologist and Exhibitions Officer. She has a Master of Arts in The Archaeology of Art and Representation and is currently writing her PhD thesis entitled "Sharing Human Origins: Presenting the Paleolithic" in partnership with the British Museum. So we can certainly look forward to a fascinating presentation!

Thanks go to Maggie Lee who has passed on useful information about the Tate Apps for Iphone and Ipod. Looking on the Tate website we see that a series of Apps are being produced for launch this year. And as Maggie reflects, having had experience of one, this saves buying the exhibition recorded talk, gives an illustrated picture guide and, in her opinion, is terrific! So she hopes this will be of interest to those of you, who like her, owns one of these gadgets.

7th July Talk | Georgia O'Keefe

Paul Palin has prepared a talk on Georgia O'Keefe, which he will present on 7th July, subtitled 'a painter and two photographers'.

Paul says he will be *"Looking at the life and work of Georgia O'Keefe and also reflecting on the influences of others on her work, including husband, Alfred Stieglitz the photographer (instrumental over his fifty year career in making photography an accepted art form).*

I will also be discussing an exhibition of her work in which the photographs of Ansel Adams were shown alongside."

1st April - 28th May | Gloss Gallery Exhibition

We hear from Peter Vaillant that he will be exhibiting at the Gloss Gallery in Exeter from the 1st April to 28th May and extends an invitation to all members. He says that this will be one of only two UK exhibitions this year as he will be busy also exhibiting in New York, France and Italy!

9th April | Sugarcraft Exhibition | Taunton

Liz Swift received several enquiries from members, following her sister's admired sugarcraft workshop on 20th January, asking when the next Sugarcraft Exhibition would be. Liz is now pleased to be able to pass on some details.

The exhibition takes place on Saturday 9th April from 10am to 4pm at the Wellsprings Leisure Centre, Cheddon Road, Taunton, TA2 7QP. There will be a free car park, demonstrations, displays trade stands and refreshments. Tickets bought at the door Adult £5 and under 16s £1.

6th October | Exmouth Photo Demonstration

Many thanks to Paul Palin who has arranged for the Exmouth Photo Group, of which he is a member, to come to our meeting on 6th October to give a demonstration illustrating how photography can be used as a creative medium. Demonstrating the work of individual members of the Group, including fine art photography; composition and techniques and the artist's use of photographic material, Paul will lead the presentation with a look at how artists have used photography and vice-versa!

Lympstone Art Group is running a 'Workshop in Gouache and Wildlife Painting' on Friday 25th February from 10am to 4.00pm at Lympstone Methodist Church. The tutor is Linda Wilkes and cost £25 which includes some materials and tea and coffee.

Proposed Visits for 2011

Thursday 21st July to Saturday 23rd July | Society for All Artists | It's all about Art 2011

Paul Palin would be happy to co-ordinate a visit to the 'It's all about Art 2011' event run by the Society for All Artists and held at the Business Design Centre in Islington. However, he would like to gauge interest first. This three day fair features painting workshops, demonstrations and a shop and will have professional artists Geoff Kersey, Matthew Palmer, Mitch Waite, Vic Bearcroft on hand to share techniques. Paul thinks it would be best for members to get together to make a group booking for the train possibly for Saturday 23rd. If you are at all interested please let him know before the end of February latest.

November / December tbc | RWA Exhibition

Paul also says that if you went to the 2010 exhibition you will know what an inspiring selection of work was displayed and be keen to repeat the experience in 2011. You will be able to! All members of the Art Group are encouraged to visit this premier exhibition. More details will be featured in the next Newsletter.

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

Thursday Morning | 9:30am-12:30pm | Exmouth Baptist Church

January		13	20	27	
February	3	10	17	24	
March	3	10	17	24	31
April	7	14	21		
May	5	12	19	26	
June	2	9		23	
July	7		21		
September			22	29	
October	6	13	20	27	
November	3	10	17	24	

NB: All Art Group members are welcome to join this friendly, untutored and informal Thursday morning group meeting in the Church Hall on the unshaded dates to paint, share ideas, suggest themes. Contact Cherrill Bailey on 01295 265436 if you would like further details. 14th April will be an all day session. Shaded dates are proposed sketching days. These will be similar in format to last year, although sessions will be on a fortnightly basis, and are an ideal opportunity to work alongside others with related interests and collect resources for future work. Locations yet to be decided, but which will be in the local area, will be published in the next edition of the Newsletter.

Thursday Evening | 7:00pm-9:00pm | Exmouth Baptist Church

20th January SKILLS WORKSHOP	3rd February Competition Evening ARCHITECTURAL LANDSCAPE	17th February Presenter KEITH NICHOLS A talk on Robert Lenkiewicz
3rd March ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	17th March Competition Evening DEVON LANDSCAPES	7th April Presenter ELIZABETH COOK A talk on 'The Court Artist'
5th May Presenter ALAN COTTON A demonstration on Knife Painting Techniques	19th May Double Competition Evening WATERCOLOUR OIL AND ACRYLICS	2nd June Presenter JO HALL A talk entitle 'An Exploration of Prehistoric Art'
16th June A LA RONDE EXHIBITION Selection from members votes	7th July Presenter PAUL PALIN A talk on 'Georgia O'Keefe - a Painter and 2 Photographers'	21st July Double Competition Evening ABSTRACT PASTELS
4th & 18th August Summer Break	4th - 25th September 65 th Annual Summer Exhibition Elizabeth Hall	6th October A demonstration by the EXMOUTH PHOTO GROUP to be led by PAUL PALIN
20th October Double Competition Evening DRAWING SOMETHING ELSE	3rd November PRESENTER to be confirmed	17th November Double Competition Evening STILL LIFE FIGURE OR PORTRAIT

NB: A reminder that in February the competition evening is scheduled for the first Thursday and the speaker for the third rather than the usual converse. Please contact May Neilson if you have any queries about the evening programme. Competition Evenings are events where everyone is invited to bring along their work to the defined theme. There is an informal critique of entries led by a member of the Group and a winner chosen from votes of those present

Exmouth Art Group

65th Annual General Meeting

Thursday 3rd March 2011 | 7:00pm | Exmouth Baptist Church

AGENDA

1	Apologies for Absence To receive any apologies for absence
2	Minutes of the 2010 Meeting * To approve the Minutes of 4 th March 2010
3	Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes To discuss matters arising from the minutes not included on the Agenda
4	Welcome and Address from the President
5	Report from the Hon Secretary
6	Report from the Hon Treasurer
7	Report from the Membership Secretary
8	Election of 2011 Committee To receive nominations for Officers and Committee Members To elect Officers (President; Vice-President; Hon Secretary; Hon Treasurer) To elect Committee Members
9	2011 Annual Exhibition Selection Panel To receive nominations for Selection Panel To draw and confirm Selection Panel
10	Committee Membership To confirm and welcome new members of the 2011 Committee and record thanks to retirees
11	Members Items To receive and discuss items raised by Members
12	Any Other Business To receive items to be considered by the Committee at the meeting on 11 th March 2011

*document previously circulated

Executive Committee 2010

Four Officers

President Colin Marshall | **Vice-President** May Neilson | **Treasurer** Liz Hardwick | **Secretary** Catherine Ager

Nine Committee Members (one vacancy)

Ernest Ager | Dianne Broady | Glyn Cowles | Angela Hall | Bill Neilson | Paul Palin | Elizabeth Swift | David Matthews

Exmouth Art Group

2011 Annual General Meeting

will you make 2011 the year you become a member of the Committee?

A key item of business for the AGM will be the election of the 2011 Committee. The Committee functions with four elected Officers - President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary – and nine elected Committee Members.

Officers must be elected each year although existing role holders can stand for re-election. At the last meeting of the Committee it was noted that the term of office of the President will come to an end in March 2011.

Committee Members are elected for a three year term of office and of those eligible to continue it was recorded that six wished to do so.

So certainly we will be looking to recruit four extra members.

It is often said, and cannot be denied, that the Art Group simply cannot operate without a core team prepared to give time and commitment. Roles and responsibilities are varied and interesting and although we sometimes do have to work to deadlines it never feels like an imposition because the group is so friendly, helpful and supportive.

If you are encouraged to enlist please complete the Nomination Form below and seek the support of two proposers. Do not be deterred if you have no experience of serving on a Committee or are relatively new to the Art Group. It is always refreshing to welcome new faces to give an added and often different dimension to business!

As always we have a busy, stimulating year ahead and being part of the Committee is very rewarding and will not take up too much of your time. We meet five times a year, in a room in the Holly Tree, and the workload is shared so no one ever feels overburdened. Current Committee members will be more than happy to answer any questions and we know you will join us in extending our appreciation and thanks to them for their invaluable contribution.



Exmouth Art Group

2011 Annual General Meeting

Nomination for the 2011 Committee

We wish to propose the following nominee to the 2011 Committee

Nominee (BLOCK CAPITALS please)

Position (please tick relevant box)

PRESIDENT	VICE-PRESIDENT	TREASURER	SECRETARY	COMMITTEE

Proposer

Signed

Secunder

Signed

I accept the Nomination

Signed

Exmouth Art Group

2011 Annual General Meeting

65th Annual Summer Exhibition Selection Panel

Another significant agenda item for the AGM will be the nomination of SEVEN members to the Selection Panel for the 65th Annual Summer Exhibition.

Clearly this is an important role which we think you will find enjoyable and not too onerous. We have a good system in place although we continue to make improvement usually in response to feedback from members.

This year, for example, we will be introducing a modification to the policy to enable each entrant to self-select one, and possibly two, exhibits guaranteed for hanging which will reduce the number for selection by the Panel. Undoubtedly, however, we will still receive more exhibits than available hanging space so must have some selection albeit on a reduced scale. We are convinced that open election by peers helps retains equity and protocol.

So however inexperienced you might feel please do think about putting in a nomination and if you have any queries about the procedure do not hesitate to seek out a Committee member.



Exmouth Art Group

65th Annual Summer Exhibition

Nomination to the 2011 Selection Panel

I wish to put my name forward for the 2011 Selection Panel

Name (BLOCK CAPITALS)

Contact Telephone or Email

I will be able to stay on after the selection to help with the hanging of exhibits

✓

Signed

Exmouth Art Group | EXMOUTH FESTIVAL EXHIBITION | **Entry Form**

NAME printed here using BLOCK CAPITALS please

first name surname.....

FEE set at £2 for each entry with cheques made payable to **Exmouth Art Group** to be entered here **£**

COMMISSION of 20% on sales will apply

ENTRIES limited to a maximum of three should be listed here and details kept as concise as possible please because this information will be entered on a caption to go alongside your exhibits.

no	title of picture	medium	price £
1			
2			
3			

Please ensure exhibits have a label on the reverse giving name, title, medium, price and all are:

- well-framed or on boxed canvas painted round the edges
- ready for hanging with rings or eyes screwed to the back and a tight, strong string or wire
- sealed at the back with gummed or masking tape covering the pins or clips
- firmly fixed in the frames which must be of good appearance

SELECTION may not be necessary but we cannot make a decision until all entries have been submitted. A maximum of three paintings should be brought with your entry form to the Town Hall Council Chambers on Thursday 26th May at 10:00am. There are no restrictions on submitting artwork which has previously been exhibited but we have limited space so modest sizes only please. If we do need to select we would hope to be able to hang at least one piece from each entrant.

EXHIBITION **V**ENUE is the Town Hall Council Chambers St Andrews Road, Exmouth EX8 1AW

EXHIBITION will be open to the public 27th May-2nd June 10:00am-4:00pm Friday-Monday and 10:00am- 2:00pm Tuesday-Thursday. The show will be dismantled on 3rd June and remaining exhibits should be collected from 10:00am please.

STEWARDING **T**IME **S**LOT which you have agreed to be entered here:

Time: Date:

CONTACTS : Dianne Broady and Cath Ager