



## Chairman's Report

This newsletter is very overdue for which I apologise – but better late . . .

Of course our wonderful webmaster is very efficient at publishing news and events on the website so keep checking there for opportunities and events that crop up regularly.

The AGM in June was a routine meeting as there were no 'big issues' to discuss – just a lot of grateful thanks to the committee for all their hard work. Accounts were distributed before and during the meeting. If you would like to see the reports or minutes of the meeting then please contact our secretary Madeline Hawes.

There have been a few changes on the committee. As Chris Parry has stepped down due to illness, Rod Jones is now Vice Chairman and has taken over the Newsletter too – thanks Rod! And Rebecca Johnson has added Membership Secretary to her duties as treasurer. What a 'treasure' indeed!

All other committee members were re-elected and we are pleased to make John Tayler official as our newest recruit. Welcome John.

Subscriptions remain the same at £15 for associate members and £18 for full exhibiting members and are **due now** (Sept 1<sup>st</sup>) if you haven't already paid. *(Please use the tear off Payment Slip at the end of this Newsletter to help Rebecca to check your Membership Details)*

Guests' entrance fee at demonstrations stays at £4.

In the interests of reducing the current committee's multi-tasking, we would love to hear from anyone that could help with any of the following:

- Newsletter Editor
- Facebook/Twitter set-up and Editor
- Helping Sam Dauncey with the Web Site
- Monthly Saturday WADE Workshops Organiser
- Membership Secretary

John Tayler has kindly agreed to do the lights with a view either to taking over from Rod or providing much needed cover.

## Exhibition News

Of course the exhibition is our 'big event' and what a good one it was! My design for the poster was chosen by attendees at the May demo and looked good, I thought, in glorious pink.

Sales were excellent – possibly boosted by us being able to take payment by card; encouraging a bit of impulse buying perhaps? Thanks for sorting that out Rebecca.

Congratulations to all the exhibitors on a fantastic display which didn't dull at all despite the fabulous works being sold off the wall. The replacements were sometimes even better!

## Chairmans' Report (Contd)

Congratulations, too, to the prize-winners, chosen where relevant, by our guest judge Jenny Halstead who spent ages going round and round and round before deciding – an impossible task!

The Winners were:

Clare Buchta - Best in Show for 'Win Hill'

Elise Lynch - Ray Mills Award for 'Skye Shoreland'

Kathleen Rajan - Sandra Fagan Watercolour Prize for 'Still Life 4'

Sarah Abell - Ceramics Trophy

Sam Dauncey - Service to the Society Cup

Lynne Bellchamber - Visitors' Choice for 'Throwing off the Rain'

404 different exhibits were voted for by at least one person throughout the exhibition and here are the top ten Visitors' Choices:

Artist	Title of Work	Medium	Votes
Sue Smith	Pink Wellies	Watercolour	139
David Phillips	Marloes Bay	Watercolour	133
Lynne Bellchamber	Throwing Off the Rain	Acrylic	72
Elizabeth Baldin	Purple Haze Hare	Ink & Watercolour	63
Alfred Lund	River Pang at Tidmarsh	Oil	55
Lynne Bellchamber	Stepping Stones	Acrylic	53
Sue Smith	Spring at Dedham Lock	Watercolour & Ink	46
Nikki Carr	Just Thinking	Drawing	46
Sue Smith	My Grandson's Marvellous Heroes	Acrylic	45
David Greenwood	Summer Fair, Hartley Wintney	Oil	42

Of course, if paintings were sold early in the exhibition, they stopped getting votes so this is not exactly a 'fair' result. Lynne won the prize as she had the most votes at the Previews and continued to be very popular until her painting sold. Nikki Carr's 'White Beauty' and Debbie Forrest's 'summer at the Town Hall' attracted lots of votes at the Previews but sold that night. Which reminds me - we had lots of queries/requests for paintings of local scenes, and we hardly had any; so get your paintbrushes out for next year!

I hope you saw all the coverage in the local press. Wonderful. Thanks to Annet Pullen for encouraging them to be there.

The exhibition is a wonderful opportunity to meet each other, admire our talents and catch up with news. A delightful fortnight. Thanks to everyone involved.

Please read the newsletter carefully as we have painting days, workshops and coach trips organised for your enjoyment and lots of other news.

A special event is coming up in November, too. The Town Council are encouraging local groups to host events in our fabulous Town Hall and we will be selling tickets for a talk on War Artists by Martin Smith. You may remember the talks he has given to us in the past? He is a gifted and knowledgeable speaker – not to be missed. Until the next time, best wishes to you all

*Sue*

## Workshops.

(Brenda Baldwin 0118 9784481)

Brenda has arranged for Maureen Turner to tutor an in-depth pastels workshop at the WADE centre on November 1st from 10.00am to 4.00 pm

Maureen will be supplying all materials and the cost will be £40 per head for the day. She is only taking 8 people and 2 have already booked so book early to avoid disappointment!



Millie by Maureen Turner

For further examples of Maureens' work visit: [www.anglowebs.com/moa/](http://www.anglowebs.com/moa/)

### SHOP WINDOW (1)

New Member, Paul Smith, has asked us to draw attention to his framing services.

*Calling himself the "Splendid Picture Framing Company", he claims to offer good quality frames at very competitive prices.*

*Contact details for those with "Splendid" pictures to frame are:*

*Paul Smith, 18 Blackstone Close, Farnborough, Hants GU14 9JW*

*01252 546877 M: 07941570488*

### SHOP WINDOW (2)

We are also indebted to Anne Goodyear who writes: "I would like to recommend *Moonshine Framing* for reasonably priced picture mounts

Tel: 01736 330887

Website: [www.frames.uk.com](http://www.frames.uk.com)

A double mount 30 x 30mm cost Anne just £6.36 including delivery.

To spread the cost of delivery, it is better to wait until you need several.

They will cut any size, single or double.

## CHILDREN ON BEACH, WATER-MIXABLE ACRYLICS 19 AUG 2014

Demonstration by Max Hale – Report by Sam Dauncey (shamelessly culled from the website)

After a 3-year gap since his last visit, Max did no more than hint at his art school, commercial illustration and photography background. He now paints, teaches, demonstrates and arranges art holidays - all on his website . [www.maxhaleart.co.uk](http://www.maxhaleart.co.uk) or email [info@maxhaleart.co.uk](mailto:info@maxhaleart.co.uk)

He had prepared a 12" x 16" (?) canvas board with a mid-tone khaki acrylic background. Mid-tone backgrounds make it easier to balance the lights and darks of the whole picture. Any colour is good, although brown is probably best - with more green if skin is important.

He was using (and enthusing over) Royal Talens Cobra water miscible ('mixable' the Dutch makers call it) oils. He lays these out on his palette in rigidly defined positions round its edge, light to dark, leaving the centre free to work in.



## CHILDREN ON BEACH, WATER-MIXABLE ACRYLICS (CONTD)

Max works from masses of sketches, made to trigger his emotional memory of the scene. Someone in the audience saw a contradiction when he said he didn't work from "dead, inert" photos but immediately put one up above his canvas. His defence was that he had already showed us his mass of sketches but I reckon the photo was a clever trick to help the audience understand what he was aiming at, more than it was a source for Max himself.

He starts making "gesture" marks with a small short-haired brush to place things in the picture. Never pencil, just a thin paint that contrasts with the background (ultramarine or, umber).

Max uses two types of brush: synthetic with a hard chisel edge (for hard edges) and softer hog (for softer edges). These are all flats or filberts - he's not keen on round ones.

Oils are put on "fat over lean", so the early layers are very thin (and even then can be moved/smudged more easily than acrylics can).



Colour comes later. First you need to get tonal values down, starting with the darker ones, then lighter and finally colour.

Strokes are short and deliberate. "Don't fiddle. Don't be tentative. Get the paint on". This means many separate marks, gradually establishing all the tonal values.

The whole idea is to get the shapes about right and then to sculpt them with the negative shape of the background. Oil painting seems to be a cyclic process of adjustment and re-adjustment. Max was constantly comparing colours on different parts of the canvas: "Is this red redder than that one?" and correcting accordingly

When he got to the sandy beach he recommended titanium buff rather than white to soften the yellow - put on with a "big furry brush".

The sky wasn't put in until the heads were ready to be sculpted into shape, but later he decided that both sky and beach needed to be lightened a bit.

**CHILDREN ON BEACH, WATER-MIXABLE ACRYLICS (CONTD)**

For skin, Max recommended yellow ochre, lots of white and a touch of red (the amount depending on what shade of skin you are after). Facial features are not important in work like this - concentrate on the general shape and subtle blocks of light and dark.

It wasn't until after the coffee break that he started paying much attention to colour. At the same time highlights started to be flicked in with softer (zinc) white. Shadows are blues, reds and greens, not browns.

The last fifteen minutes were filled with many tiny touches all over the canvas - adjusting tones, colours, shapes and even positions. Each touch, individually, was virtually invisible but everything gradually improved and the work came more to life.

But there was even more to do so Max said that he would send us a photo of the finished painting.

So ended another excellent evening. There was talk of our getting him back to do a workshop for us - bated breath. Thank you, Max.

*Sam Dauncey*

**Norman Cornish**

I wonder how many members have heard of Norman Cornish who died on the 1st August aged 94.

I had never personally heard of him but on hearing his Obituary on Radio 4, I was moved to Google him.

What a discovery! He was an exceptionally gifted and powerful artist whose paintings, mostly set in and around Spennymoor in County Durham, have a power, strength and humour which would appeal to most members of this group.

Lowry gave us rather stylized industrial landscapes. Norman Cornish takes the viewers of his paintings right into the heart of the mining community in which he lived. His observation of his fellow men together with his exceptional draughtsmanship, sense of humour and compositional talents has given us paintings which compare favourably with Sickert and Stanley Spencer.

Look out for a London Exhibition and, meantime, Google him yourselves!

- or just follow this link:

<http://www.normancornish.com/>

*Rod Jones*



### Coach Outing to Waddesdon - Sunday 23 November 2014.

A coach trip has been arranged for a group visit to experience 'Christmas at Waddesdon'. Now a National Trust property, Waddesdon Manor was built by Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild (1870-85) in the French style to display his outstanding collection of French decorative arts as well as many Old Master paintings.

This special Christmas opening does not include the whole house, but the East wing and Bachelors wing are specially decorated for the season to the theme 'Lights and Legends'. In addition, there will be a special display of light installations in the gardens 'Winter Light at Waddesdon' by Bruce Munro which you will be able to see before we leave.

The shops in the stable area will stock seasonal items and there will be a selection of Rothschild wines in the wine shop.

There is a selection of independent eating facilities in the grounds ranging from the snack bar to the Manor Restaurant. Anyone wishing to eat at the Manor Restaurant would need to make their own reservations. There is a sitting at 2-30pm.

The coach will leave Wokingham Broad St. (in front of Prezzo's restaurant) at 10-30am and will leave Waddesdon at 4-30pm.

Timed entry has been booked for 1-0pm. Entry is free for National Trust members and £13 pp for non-members at group rate.

I'm told they do accept NatWest 'Days Out' vouchers. The coach will also be £13 pp inc. tip for driver.

*Liz Manley*

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### Booking Form - Coach Trip to Waddesdon 23rd November 2014

Name:	Tel No:	National Trust Member? Y/N	Payment:
Name:	Tel No:	National Trust Member? Y/N	Payment:
Name:	Tel No:	National Trust Member? Y/N	Payment:
Name:	Tel No:	National Trust Member? Y/N	Payment:

Booking and payment to Liz Manley 47, Langborough Road, Wokingham RG40 2BU

Tel 0118 9772569 NB. Liz will be away from 4-18 Sept inc.

Bookings need to be sent to Liz **BY THE END OF OCTOBER** with the accompanying booking form and should include payment for the coach and the entry fee for non-NT members.

### Is your Subscription Due?

The Subscription for the coming year is £15 for Associate Members and £18 for Full Members

Members who have received a cheque from Rebecca for sales of their work at the Exhibition will know that their subscriptions have been automatically deducted.

However, if you didn't sell anything at the exhibition, your subscription is now due .

Please send your cheque , made out to the Wokingham Art Society ,together with this slip to:

Rebecca Johnson, 18, Pine Drive, Wokingham, RG40 3LE

Name:.....Type of Membership: Full/Associate  
(Please underline whichever applies)

Please confirm your Membership Details :

Address:.....

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Email:..... Phone:.....

### Update on Chris Parry from Maddy Hawes

*"I visited Chris last Wednesday afternoon. Physically, she's lost weight, but she looks very trim in her slimmed down state, not thin at all. She is still on crutches to save putting weight on her left leg, which has had some bone loss, but is now slowly building up strength again.*

*Chris has had 3 of the 6 chemo treatments so far and is responding very well. She was very cheerful and chatty. Her chemo leaves her feeling unwell for a few days afterwards and food tastes 'metallic', which is why she's lost weight, but then her appetite returns. However, she is still rather weak and Dave is having to do almost everything around the house, so he is feeling tired and rather stressed.*

*Chris is so grateful for everyone's cards, notes and letters, which have cheered her up hugely, knowing there are so many out there who are thinking of her."*

### Editor's note:

After a gap of seven years since I was an expert Microsoft Word jockey, putting this newsletter together against the best efforts of Word to prevent me putting things where I wanted them has been a little like nailing a jelly to the wall!

However, now that I am getting reacquainted with Word's little foibles, I am looking forward to putting together the next edition.

If you have any comments or contributions to make, please email me on:  
news@wokinghamartsociety.org.uk

*Rod Jones*