

ENQUIRIES:

By Email:
Use the links at www.hvaf.org.uk. Contacts page
By Post: HVAF, P.O. Box 894, St Albans, Herts AL1 9EG
By Telephone:

New Member Enquiries	0208 3869428
Change your membership details:	01582 766624
Create or update a page in the web gallery	07949 312054
Send news for the website or newsletter	01707 650356
Open Studios Coordinator:	07813 100651
Sculptors Group	01992 581688
Painters North Group (Indigo)	01462 624027
Painters South Group	01727 863432
Textiles Group	01442 401795
Ceramics Group	01727 860615
Creative Herts Associate M/ship	01763 231522
Credit Card Facility	01462 450393
General Enquiries: -	0208 4419805

 For all news, contacts, information & opportunities - go to www.hvaf.org.uk
We urgently need volunteers for a MINUTES Secretary and a PROGRAMMES Secretary


COPPER BEECH ART GALLERY

This Exciting New Gallery, housed in a beautiful converted Barn, has already welcomed a few of our HVAF artists who exhibited amongst other contemporary artists. The Gallery shows paintings, illustrations, glass, ceramics and sculptures and welcomes new artists. It's worth a visit.

It opens Tuesday to Saturday 10am - 4pm
Priory Lane, Little Wymondley.
Telephone: 01438 727700

HVAF ARTFORM GROUP - LENS AND DIGITAL

Having run the Lens and Digital Group for three years, Maud Eager is standing down, and we are looking for someone else to take this group on. The brief is wide - covering photography, film, video, digital and computer art. The role would probably best suit someone whose main practice is in these areas, and who wishes to meet and exchange ideas with other artists working with similar media. The artform groups organise a variety of activities - including exhibitions, studio and gallery visits, workshops etc. If you think you might be interested and want a chat with Maud, ring 01442 874994.

HTQO "VJ G'G'WQT

What a Spring, cold and with a few snow flakes... but it's early and hopefully the months ahead will be warmer, sunnier and creative for all the artists and helpers..... We had a few hiccups recently, just like the weather but I have no doubt, it will all be sorted out by the time the newsletter arrives to you. We are all volunteers and where there are gaps from time to time, there are others to step in.... Also remember, your stories and photographs (JPG's) are most welcome, and all to be sent through our co-ordinator Janet.

Renos Lavithis



EXHIBIT IN A RESTAURANT

SHOWCASE OPPORTUNITY

CHAD RAHMAN, Managing Director of newly opened restaurant CHEZ MUMTAJ, London Road, St. Albans, is offering an opportunity for HVAF artists to display their work in his mahogany panelled dining room.

Artists are invited to telephone
01727 800 033 or
email: info@chezmumtaj.com
for further information

HVAF APRIL MEETING

29th April 2008

EMBRACING DIVERSITY

A presentation of the vibrant and colourful HVAF Textiles group, which launched itself at the end of 2004 with 8 members and count at present 19 creative women.

Three artists, **Catherina Petit-van Hoey, June Faulkner and Anna Griffith** will speak about the different aspects and activities of the group followed with an interactive session led by Liz Holliday.

Hear and see why this group is so successful and be prepared to be inspired.

SEE YOU ALL AT 7.30pm
**Room A161, Lindop Building, University of Hertfordshire,
College Lane, Hatfield, Herts AL10 9AB.**
Parking available.

OPEN STUDIOS CO-ORDINATOR NEEDED

Regrettably, John Higgins has decided to step down as Open Studios Coordinator. We need someone with the appropriate administrative skills to take over this important work as soon as possible. The work involves the coordination of a team of volunteers to ensure the smooth running of Open Studios, responding to queries from artists, the general public and external bodies. For this you will need good interpersonal and communication skills, be computer literate, and be able to manage the existing budget.

Advice will be given by past coordinators. Payments will be made on the completion of the agreed key tasks.

To be considered for this position, please send your CV, without delay, to:

HVAF Open Studios,
(OS Coordinator vacancy),
PO Box 894,
St Albans.

Herts. AL1 9EG

Further details about the role are available from Wendy Dumbrell, telephone only, at 01727 844013.

Cut-off date for applications -16th April, 2008.

OUR NEW HVAF CHAIRMAN

Hello everybody,

My name is Mike Willison and I was elected in early March to be HVAF Chairman. I am retired, having spent most of my working life in various industry management roles.

Having no practical artistic skills, I have been a looker and a buyer - collecting oil & watercolour paintings, sculpture and pottery. Over the last seven years, my family and I have spent two weekends each year touring Open Studios.

In the few weeks I have been working with members of the Forum, I have appreciated the efforts of its many volunteers who work to make a success of the activities, and in particular, the Open Studios events. I hope that this year you will maintain the high standards you have set previously.

Mike

LETTER TO ALL OPEN STUDIOS VOLUNTEERS

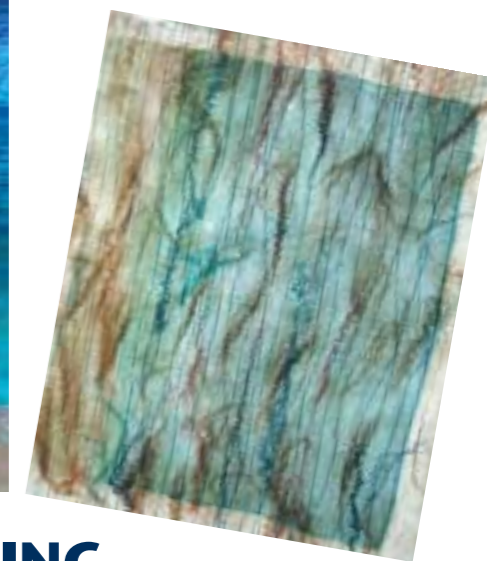
On Day 2 of my short time with HVAF I was presented with John Higgins' resignation as OS Coordinator. I tried, unsuccessfully, to persuade John to change his mind on two occasions in that week, in the interest of running a successful Open Studios 2008.

It is regrettable, but we now have to seek a new OS Coordinator. Anyone who is interested in the task, should see the advert in this Newsletter. This replacement may take some time so we must also make interim arrangements until a new appointment is made.

Wendy Dumbrell, who was last year's successful Coordinator, has kindly volunteered to give advice, by telephone only, to any OS area coordinator or OS core team member, who needs help, (tel: 01727 844013). Wendy is there to help, she is not the OS Coordinator, at her request. The area coordinators will be seeking volunteers for tasks in their areas. Anyone who is not involved in area activities, and is willing to help, may find a role in a single key activity. Details of any such roles, not area related, should be available from Wendy in 2 to 3 weeks time, but volunteer now. Please remember, a team of volunteers is as necessary as ever.

Having seen the success of Open Studios in previous years, I feel confident that the enthusiasm to succeed will see us through to a good Open Studios 2008. My best wishes to all our helpers.

Mike Willison, Chairman



HVAF SPRING MEETING

If you weren't at the February quarterly meeting you missed a treat! We were exposed to a visual delight of imagery and explanation of ideas and techniques from three talented artists, working in different fields, focussing on the importance and use of light in their work.

Our first speaker, **Claudia Brown**, talked us through her stunning University of Hertfordshire degree project, explaining her starting point of the stages one goes through coping with bereavement. This led her on to a site-specific project for St Albans Abbey culminating in the creation of 6 beautiful angels made from laser cut Perspex. She showed us how she had taken hand etched 2D Perspex pieces and the challenges of heating them to create delicately balanced 3D exquisite forms. The lighting of these pieces proved a challenge with the need to find a low energy low heat solution for inclusion in the base of each angel. The angels are now permanently on show in the Abbey's Ramryge Chapel.

Secondly, **Helen Robinson** started by showing us images of traditional glass from Notre Dame and Sainte Chapelle in Paris and talking about different coloured glass and its properties. She showed us a variety of techniques, a combination of both ancient and modern, used in creating her own individual beautiful stained glass pieces. We had an insight into colouring and texturing techniques I am sure a lot of us hadn't seen before. She talked about the need to be aware of what is behind a stained glass

window when it is being designed, as well as its position with regard to the sun, and the reflections of colour it will cast when finished. She is currently working on a large, colourful and challenging piece for a Church in South London.

Lastly, **Barbara Weeks** talked about her commissioned "quilt of light", in which she created a sheer panel in a diagonal across the work, which when backlit produces a stunning and most effective contrast to the rest of the quilt. She explained the combination of techniques of dyeing and stitch she combines and the different fabrics she uses. She was delighted when the idea of making a glass version of her original textile design was suggested and showed us a series of photographs describing the development and techniques of how this eye catching glass panel was made.

Finally John Spielman's presentation of photographs taken by members at the Forum's most enjoyable trip to the Henry Moore exhibition at Kew Gardens on February 23rd enabled those who missed it to get a taster of a great day out!

The display of work and professional way in which the evening was presented is testimony to the talent that abounds among members of the HVAF.

June Faulkner

'INSPIRED VISIONS'

An Exhibition of lively, colourful paintings and prints by members of the Southern Painters Group.

Venue: The Radlett Centre, 1 Aldenham Avenue, Radlett, Herts.

Tel: 01923 857546

Dates: Wednesday 2nd April to Saturday 26th April 2008. Times: 10 am to 4pm Monday to Saturday NB. Exhibition will close at 2pm on final day, 26th April.

This will be a show not to miss!

St Albans Festival and Guerrilla Galleries

The Arts Development Officers of St Albans and District Council have asked me to pass info on to the HVAF about forthcoming opportunities for artists in the area.

Firstly:

The St Albans Festival runs from 21 June - 6 July 2008 and on the HVAF's and Southern Painters behalf I have arranged for us to be mentioned in the brochure. The entry will say that on Sunday 29 June members of the HVAF will (weather permitting), be drawing/painting in the areas around St Michael's village, and The Abbey.

Several of the painters have promised to be there and it would be excellent if members of other groups joined us. Please let your group know about this and give them my tel no. to call if they want more details. 01727863432.

Secondly:

The council have now purchased a set of movable/adaptable screens that they plan to hire out to groups or individuals. Artists will be given the chance of exhibiting in local business premises whilst they are empty between rents, and the screens will be set up for this purpose. I think it will initially be just 2D work because there are no plinths in the set, however if you supply your own it may be possible to be included.

Please tell any members from the area about this.

Thirdly:

STARTS has now signed the contract with St A & D Council giving them 'control of the Town Hall'. The Director is Joanna Scott. The STARTS group are planning to hire out the spaces not only to 'ARTS (drama/music/art etc) but also for functions such as weddings.

Susan Llewelyn Elvidge

A visit to Henry Moore at Kew Gardens



Both John Farnham and Derek Howarth who knew Henry Moore personally led us round Kew making it a most informative day. We were 40 in total. A grey day but no rain. A good time was had by all.

John Spielman

Images by John Spielman, June Faulkner, Janet Tranter, Mylene Goodman and Wendy Hyams



Open Studios in the Community

This is the last year of our current 3-year ACEE Open Studios Funding. Part of the grant was allocated specifically to promote Open Studios to new audiences. A sum was set aside for projects reaching out into a broader community, to be originated and run each year by our members. During 2007 we were able to support 3 events and are now able to offer support for the following Projects for 2008:

- 'Re:Create' Berkhamsted. Artists in Schools project constructing floating sculptures and exploring environmental issues. Project to be documented by young film makers.
- 'Croxley Revels' Jessica Rannachan. Live painting and demonstration during this years community festival.
- Tessa Verrechia. Stain Glass Panel Danesbury Unit for Multiple Sclerosis, working with patients, volunteers, sixth formers. Publicity and invitations to view panel under construction.

There is one further application to be considered. More information will appear on the website over the following weeks.