



– INDIGO GROUP – CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our Christmas party was a real success.

We had 23 people all together, some from Indigo group and some old friends from the university and other groups. The food was excellent. Being a "food freak" myself, I asked everybody to bring something home made, with natural ingredients, preferable from organic sources. With the co-operation of everybody our lunch was a success. The deserts also were out of this world and the drinks included natural fresh fruits or home made puddings.

The photo here shows Rikki carving a beautiful piece of lamb that was the "star" of the party and a successful was our Xmas celebration.

Evelina Craven



A productive meeting was held in January to arrange a programme for the next six months. We had very good attendance for a cold January evening and renewed our enthusiasm for the coming year.

New members are always welcome. Several of our members have additional interests to their painting, e.g. printmaking, mosaics, photography etc., so many facets are catered for.

For more information and the programme for 2009 please contact Painters Group Indigo 01462 450393.

FROM THE EDITOR

A very Happy, Healthy and Creative New Year to ALL.....

Despite the gloom and doom all around us, and the painful but necessary increases to our fees, there is some air of optimism for the future. I will not repeat a politician's comments of "green shoots" but I would say that all through the centuries, artists when under pressure, get their heads together and produce miracles. So I hope that I will be right, and seeing a new dynamic and imaginative OS co-ordinator, Linda Warminger, taking control, I feel very optimistic for a successful year with the Open Studios.

Another side of our Forum which needs expansion and involvement are the numerous Groups which as our chairman Mike said recently, are the backbone of HVAF.

Personally I am a very busy person and I fail most of the time attending meetings, but I have made an effort and joined the SOUTHERN PAINTERS and attended their first meeting of 2009 on the 23rd of January. Under the stewardship of Susan Llewelyn-Elvidge the group seems to be well organised and well attended. I was impressed and without doubt I will try to make time and attend at least a few over the year. The programme of activities for the group is out now and please contact Susan 01727 863432.

Finally, please try to make it and attend the 24st of February Meeting, *see other side*.

Renos Lavithis

EDNA ECKETT

Edna, a member of the Southern Painters, (Painters Group South), is holding an exhibition at the OLD TOWN HALL

– Hemel Hempstead –

From February 14th till March 7th, 2009
(at Town Hall opening hours)

**You are welcome to the Preview,
14 February, 2-4pm**



OPEN STUDIOS 2009

Hello, I have recently joined the HVAF team as Open Studios Coordinator.

This year's event will take place from Saturday 12th September – Sunday 4th October. We do hope that you decide to participate this year.

Although the programme takes places in September work does go on by a team of volunteers in the background ALL year round. Our Distribution Team reply on your on-the-ground feedback, so if you are aware of for example any advertising opportunities, any changes in telephone numbers, or a new supplier or gallery opening up do let us know so that we can update our mailing lists accordingly.

We currently have vacancies in the following roles:

Two Area Coordinators one for **Welwyn & Hatfield**, and the other for **Hertsmere**, (this would involve assisting at the artist distribution evening early July, organising area meeting early to mid July, and allocating and coordinating specific jobs undertaken by other artists in the area (eg. publicity, library displays, library bookings, design of trail/map of studios, liaison with schools and siting of banners etc).

Brochure & Media Design Officer, (this would involve assisting me with decisions about art-worker/printer/design for the call for artist posters etc and the OS brochure and other promotional material and

overseeing the artists materials to the selected art-worker).

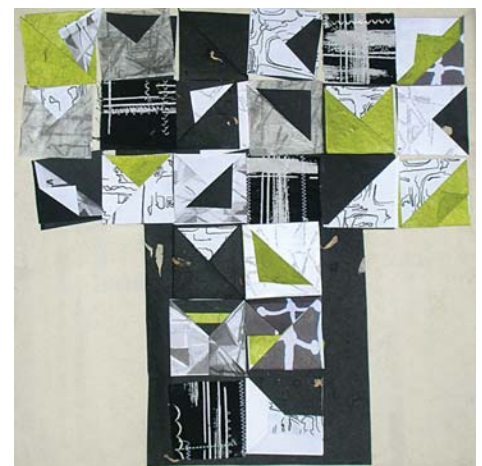
County Grants Officer (this would involve contacting county and district councils to seek contributions to Open Studios).

Friends of Open Studios (this would involve maintaining the database of new and existing friends which we are looking to increase during 2009) and always general **Administrative Support!**

So whether you have an hour or so a week, are prepared to take on an Open Studios Team role or would like to "shadow" someone this year with a view to taking a more active role next year - do contact me. Contact details for the members of the 2009 Open Studios team can be found at www.hvaf.org.uk/openstudios.

I look forward to meeting and working with you all over the coming year.

Linda Warminger
Open Studios Coordinator
openstudios@hvaf.org.uk
07813 100651



TEXTILES GROUP NEWS....

Above photo shows a preliminary design of **Fabrick** by Maggie Tweed.

We are informed that **The Textile Group** will have an exhibition at MoDA - Museum of Domestic Design and Architecture - between 28th April and 31st May this year, called **Designed with the 50's in Mind**.

This was inspired by the Museum's current exhibition **Designer Style: Home Decorating in the 1950s**.

"make a habit of using it!"...

CONTACT/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	020 8441 9805
Change your membership details	01582 766624
Create or update a page in the web gallery	07778 837471
Send news for the website or newsletter	01707 650356
Open Studios Coordinator	07813 100651
Sculptors Group	01992 581688
Painters North Group (Indigo)	01462 450393
Painters South Group	01727 863432
Photo/Dig Based Media Group	07939 662040
Textiles Group	01438 832919
Ceramics Group	01727 860615
Creative Herts Associate M/ship	01727 751445
General Enquiries	0208 441 9805

For all news, contacts, information & opportunities – go to www.hvaf.org.uk

New public artwork created by Ceramics Group members

Two large mosaic panels on the wall of a new development in West Watford are the latest public works of art to be seen in the town and they were designed and made by three members of the HVAF Ceramics Group.

When St Albans artist Mike Hardy was asked to design and make these large mosaic panels he invited members of the Ceramics Group to join him. Marilyn Andreetti and Jeremy Nichols were the only two who felt able to take part and they went on to form a partnership called MJM Mosaics.

The works were instigated by Watford Borough Council and commissioned by Martin Grant Homes Ltd. David Noble, Watford Borough Council's Development Manager, said: "I hope this will provide the stimulus for many more sensitively designed and skilfully executed examples of artwork related to Watford's built environment."

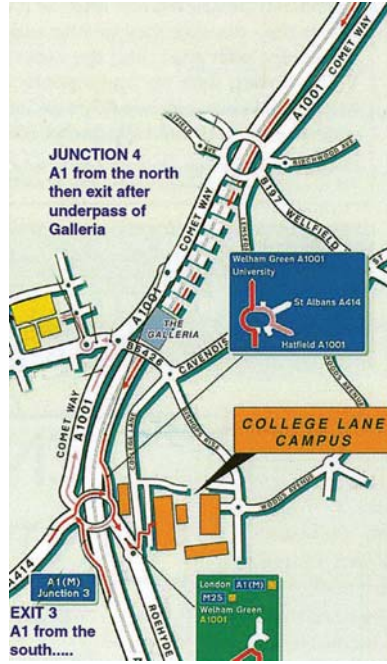
The work consists of two large mosaic panels each measuring about 14 square metres. The artists worked on this project over a period of six months using over 60,000 mosaic tiles made of glass and ceramic. The mosaic was made in sections in their studios before it was installed on the building.

Mike Hardy said "We recognised the importance of the printing industry in Watford's heritage; so used a range of letter and number fonts as integral parts of the design. Spring colours have been used for one of the panels and autumn colours for the other".

This is the largest public commission so far for three artists who are better known for their individual ceramics. These two large mosaics will bring colour and life to the wall of the new development of 16 apartments and a Tesco Express store.



Picture of artist: from left to right, Jeremy Nichols, Marilyn Andreetti and Mike Hardy



Our 2nd quarterly meeting

ALTHEA Wynne

 ALTHEA WYNNE
ARCA FRBS
"Big is Beautiful"

 Thursday 30th April
7.30pm
Lindop Building
Room A161


HVAF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 24th February at 7.30pm

 Room A161, Lindop Building
University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield
AL10 9AB

FREE CAR PARKING

main speaker, maker and author

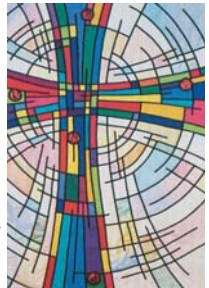
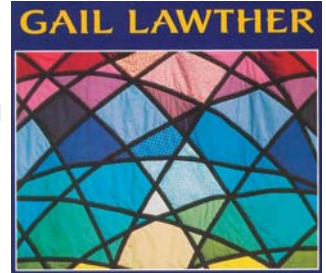
GAIL LAWTHOR

Gail will explain her techniques and methods.

She fell in love with fabric and threads when she was very young, and has always been drawn to patterns and textures from her surroundings and the environment.

Gail also creates books for other crafts-people and needle-workers. She explains:

"For my HVAF presentation I'm going to try and give an insight into my ways of working and developing designs, and the fun I have putting quilts together."

Come and find out about these spectacular quilts and the stories behind their creations.


calling all artists for Artshed's 4th Annual Open Art Competition

25 APRIL - 31 MAY

ALSO

6th HERTFORDSHIRE CONTEMPORARY ART & CRAFT FAIR

working with HVAF in 2009

www.artshedarts.co.uk
01920 466 446

Details and forms about this annual show with special discounts to HVAF members were included with the last Newsletter.


WINSOR & NEWTON
The World's Finest Artists' Materials

OPEN ART COMPETITION

sponsored by Winsor & Newton

1st Prize exhibition opportunity at Artshed Gallery
2nd prize £150 worth of vouchers from Winsor & Newton
3rd prize £50 worth of voucher from Winsor & Newton

VENUE: Artshed Ltd, Westmill Farm, Westmill Rd, Ware, Herts, SG12 0ES

ENTRIES:

- Each artist may submit up to 3 works.
- We can accept painting, sculpture, drawing, prints, photography, mixed media and applied arts, in any style or theme.
- We cannot accept performance and installations.
- Selected works must remain in the gallery until the close of the exhibition.
- The maximum size for any work(s) is limited to 30" (76cm) in any direction.
- **ENTRY FEE:** A non refundable fee of £10.00 per entry is charged for each work submitted and must be paid at the time of submission. (Cheques to be made payable to Artshed Ltd)

SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES:

- Exhibition dates: 25TH APRIL - 31ST MAY 2009

Submission days: Saturday 18th April and Sunday 19th April 2009 between the hours of 11.00–5.00pm
Collection days: Tues 2 Wed 3 Thursday 4 June between the hours of 11.00- 5.00pm

No works will be accepted after or outside of the submission times. Works collected after 14th June 2009 will be charged storage at the rate of £2.00 per day.

Private View: FRIDAY 1st May @ 7.00pm www.artshedarts.co.uk
enquiries@artshedarts.co.uk

Lynn Andrews, Director Artshed Ltd, Westmill Farm, Westmill Road, Ware, Herts. SG12 0ES