



... EXHIBITIONS – EVENTS – OPPORTUNITIES ...

□ Sculpture in Harlow

On August 16, 25 of our members gathered together at Liz Boast's studio for a get together coffee and then departed for a sculpture tour of Harlow. The town offers



Liz Boast



"Torso"



"Family Group"

many Open Spaces where sculpture is well presented. Amongst others, they enjoyed the Gerda Rubinstein retrospective of 44 figured sculptures at the Civic Centre and admired Henry Moore's "Family Group".

The afternoon was spent exploring Gibberd Garden where a large array of the sculptures and ceramic pots of Sir Frederick Gibberd's collection is on permanent display, incl. John Farnham's "Torso".

It was a memorable visit for all....

□ St Ippollitts Art Show

The first Art Exhibition at St. Ippollitts village was on a July weekend. A few of HVAF members entered the show and many works were sold.

The success story was of Louise Shotter who sent this info. She sold one large painting on the day and following that she sold a further two works, she also won the £25 token donated by Tims Art Supplies, as the winner of the favourite painting.

□ SARAH SHARP NOW A GUILD FRAMER

Sarah, a successful picture framer of A&K Wilson Gallery in Harpenden has just passed her exam to become a **Fine Art Trade Guild Commended Framers**.



Sarah Sharp

This is an internationally recognised as the qualification for the framing industry and it took Sarah a good 20 years of her skills to finally get official recognition.

She had to carefully prepare her example pieces and traipsed off to Birmingham where she successfully sat the exams.

□ ST ALBANS FESTIVAL 2006 – Open Studios in the Community

When we were given a grant to help us to support the open Studios event, we agreed to use some of the money to stimulate a greater interest in art in the wider community.

A wonderful opportunity presented itself in July when we were asked to mount an Art Exhibition as part of the St. Albans festival. We decided to use as a "taster" for the Open studios in September. Invitations to exhibit were offered to all HVAF members.

Twenty artists eventually took part and some provided demonstrations on some days.

I went on the second day and the first thing that struck me was that this was the perfect location – slap bang in the City centre – and well signposted. Surely, no more accessible place could be found to tempt those out shopping and strolling. I was told that already 150 people had visited.

The Old Magistrates Courtroom in the Town Hall had been transformed from a cold and austere, room into a magic cavern full of light and colour which must have been a real challenge to the hanging committee.

There was a wonderful range of art work including paintings in a wide variety of styles, composition and subject matter from the totally abstract to a view of the city centre itself. There were colourful silks, elegant jewellery, interesting ceramics and beautiful sculpture. All who visited must have been impressed and stimulated.

This was an important first step in widening our appeal and I hope we can have many more opportunities next year.

Bill Braddick – Chairman



The exhibition was held at St Albans Town Hall in July and it was the first in the programme supported by our new funding for Community Venues. It attracted very good publicity with write ups in: *Herts Advertiser; *Limited Editions Magazine; *Herts Life Magazine.

The central venue in St Albans proved a success and attracted over 1,500 visitors and sales by some of the exhibitors totalled to over £1,250 during the 2 week exhibition. Over 500 Open Studio brochures were also handed out. All the participants and the Forum thank both Wendy Dumbrell and Sally McNeill for all the hard and professional work they put into the event.



Three images from this successful event at the preserved old Court Room of St. Albans Town Hall



Open Studios in the Community - Artists that Exhibited

TESSA BARNES - Silk painting
HANNAH BIGGS - Mixed Media 2D/Painting
HEATHER BURWELL - Painting
CHRISTINE CALOW - Printing/Collage
JUNE FAULKNER - Mixed Media 2D/Textiles
KATHY FOSTER - Painting
JILL IZZARD - Textiles
PRATIMA KRAMER - Mixed Media 2D/Painting
PETER LARDI - Sculpture

RENOS LAVITHIS - Painting
CATRIONA MACCANN - Sculpture/Drawings
RACHEL McCULLOCK - Mixed Media 2D/Painting
CLAIRE McINNERNY - Painting/Prints
LISBET ROOPE - Ceramics
JUDITH SIMMONS - Painting
MIKE STOCK - Mixed Media 2D/Painting
JANET TRANTER - Ceramics/Painting
ANNE WALLER - Jewellery/Textiles
DAWN WELLS - Painting

□ AYOT ST LAWRENCE FESTIVAL – ART EXHIBITION 2006

Many members of the HVAF participated in this 32nd annual Exhibition over the weekend of June 17th. The Private view on the 16th was very successful and packed with visitors who enjoyed a warm sunny summer evening in peaceful surroundings around the church of Ayot St Lawrence.

Many works were sold with the grand total of £17,000 of which £5,000 went to the Festival Funds in aid of the restoring the old church. Well done Ayot St Lawrence Art Committee.



Views from the Exhibition

... **FOR YOUR DIARY ...**

- NOV 23 - **AGM** we advise all members to attend. *The Venue is:* The Quality Hotel, Roehyde Way, Hatfield AL10 9AF. It starts at 7.30pm with a talk by ANDRE BOTTIN about *Professional Web Presence*.
- *Nominations for any positions are welcomed by all members*
- **HVAF - WHAT DO WE OFFER YOU?** On Nov 4th we shall have a general discussion meeting about what you all want from HVAF: your thoughts on what we offer already and any other ideas.

To book a place email or call Terry at, terry.sadler@btinternet.com, 01442 864400.

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ENJOY PUBLIC ART IN HERTFORDSHIRE

This is the most recent addition to a range of full colour booklets on different aspects of the county, aiming to highlight attractions and delights.

This booklet shows 34 pieces of art from around 300 in the county with a range of work from early 20th to early 21st century.

The text is based on research done by our Terry Sadler and Barbara and Graham Thompson (*Public Monuments and Sculpture Association*). Photographs by Val Reynolds Brown (*Pintail Media*). HVAF members are well represented in both production and content of the booklet.

You will find it from late October at tourist and public information points and libraries or by calling the HCC Call Centre on **01 438 73 73 33**

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

I hope that you all had a wonderful and creative summer break.

Many of you took part in local or other arts shows with exhibitions and events, most important to our members being participation in the St Albans Festival and the OPEN STUDIOS...

Thank you for sending material to me via our excellent organiser Janet and keep sending your news and photographs... My job is to try and find space which at times is very limited. As this newsletter is from *members to members* other items outside this sphere are very carefully considered but are always subject to space availability.

Enjoy the autumn and get all your brushes etc out to celebrate the golden colours of the trees...
RENOS LAVITHIS

TREASURER'S NOTES

As many of you know Denise Allen has been running the Forum's card sales service whilst at the same time running Artshed at Ware plus, of course, looking after her family. Well at last she is having to give up the card system and in the hope that a candidate will be found to become Treasurer for next year, I have agreed to take over the card scheme. We owe a great deal to Denise for all her hard work.

However there is good news. Barclays have improved the scheme inasmuch that vouchers are no longer banked. At a card sale opportunity as soon as the member telephones Barclaycard the sale is made and the next step, after impressing the customer's card, is to tell me the full details for payment. Also the scheme has been extended to cover Maestro cards. So it is a good deal and worth having for a rental of just £10! Phone me on 01462-450393 to get your machine and increase your sales potential.

Tony Harcourt Hon. Treasurer

COMMUNITY VENUES - Do you want to Apply for Funding?

As previously reported, we have secured Lottery Funding through Arts Council England to support the development of Community Venues for exhibitions and demonstrations by HVAF members.

Through this funding we want to try and reach a new audience (people who might not normally go to an art exhibition), increase awareness of the annual Open Studios event, and use innovative community spaces (both indoor and outdoor) which have the potential to attract a number of visitors. We want to use venues not normally used for art exhibitions.

Application forms to apply for this funding are available by sending an SAE to Wendy Dumbrell, Funding for Open Studios Community Venues, 18 Beechwood Avenue, St Albans, Herts AL1 4YA.

Or you can download a form from the hvaf website (under Open Studios section).
The closing date for receiving completed applications is **10th January 2007**.

OPEN STUDIOS 2006 – AN UPDATE

At the time of writing, Open Studios is well under way and promises to be as successful as ever. A fuller report on Open Studios will be included in the next newsletter.

Many people have put in much hard work to make this year's event run smoothly.

Special thanks to members of the Open Studios Team who are stepping down (Tessa Barnes, Susan Sanders, Eeva Gibbs and Lisbet Roope). This means there will be some vacancies:

Distribution Officer - Oversees maintenance of contact database and distribution of artist and commercial packs.

Press and Publicity Officer - Issues press releases and enters information in listings in national and county-wide publications.

Friends of Open Studios - Maintains list of supporters and issues correspondence to them two or three times a year.

Any of these posts can be shared by 2 people willing to work together. If you are interested in one of these roles or helping out in another way, please contact **Wendy Dumbrell:**
01 727 84 40 13 openstudios@hvaf.org.uk

... STOP PRESS ...

Herts Open Studios has been included as a "Success Story" in the new cultural strategy for the East of England. The full strategy entitled "A Better Life" can be viewed on their website www.livingeast.co.uk

BANNER ACROSS THE HIGH STREET for HARPENDEN GROUP

The Open Studios Participants for Harpenden area and Tessa Barnes from the St. Albans area had a very successful - **one day outdoor summer exhibition** on August 27 which was opened by Harpenden's Mayoress **Alison Steer**.

Additionally, a giant banner was erected across the High Street in Harpenden, funded by **Lane Fox Estate Agents** who contributed not only with its hanging and insurance but also for the cost of making the banner to the council's requirements.

OPEN STUDIOS 2006

As this newsletter is under preparation, many of our members are in the final stages of their shows.

It is hoped that this year we have seen better results with both visitors and sales. This Newsletter, will in its Pre-Christmas issue, devote much of its space to the Open Studios. For that, you are urged to send in your stories (short please) and your photos, preferably on CD or by email as jpg and captioned. **They must arrive by October 31st the latest**, preferably via Janet or where necessary direct to the editor Renos. Stories are preferred as **typed documents**.

CREATIVE HERTS.

We asked you all if you thought HVAF should take up the offer of corporate membership of the Creative Herts organisation based at the University of Hertfordshire. We had quite a good response & those people who sent in their names will be hearing about their events & be able to take part at the member's discount for as long as they are HVAF members & we continue our corporate membership arrangement. You can still add your name if you wish. If you are a current HVAF member & wish to take advantage of this opportunity, contact Susan Hartga - email sue.hartga@ntlworld.com, tel: 01763 231522

Additionally, Creative Herts hold monthly networking meetings on the second Thursday of the month, also regular Skills Training Events for members.. For additional information visit www.creativeherts.com

Upcoming Networking Evenings:

- **Thursday 12th October 2006**
Preserving Your Selling Tool
- **Thursday 9th November 2006**
Amethyst Video Presentation

...Don't Miss....

MOMENTS in TIME

An Exhibition of Digital Work by MAUD EAGER
The Old Town Hall Gallery,
High Street, Hemel Hempstead HP1 3AE
Oct 8th - 29th, 2006
Open: Monday - Friday: 10.30 - 6pm
Saturday: 12 - 6pm