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TOPSHAM ART GROUP NEWSLETTER JULY 2025

Midsummer is upon us, and with it the most wonderful weather. I hope it's encouraging the plein air artists among you to get outside and enjoy your surroundings.

As you will appreciate, we are now in the lead up to the Summer Exhibition. There is a lot of information that you will need to read and act upon over the next few weeks, so to make sure you don't miss any info it's being sent out in a separate email from this newsletter.

Next meeting: Tuesday 15 July, 6.30 for 7.00pm

June Janes: Overcoming knowledge and easing into seeing when drawing the human form.



June Janes studied at the University of Exeter and Lancaster College of Art. She has had a successful career as a tutor in art, life drawing and portraiture at Exeter College. A deep understanding borne of years of experience as a practising artist has enabled June to offer real-time individual tuition in live and online settings.

June's own work has become a celebration of chiaroscuro - the use of the contrast of light to achieve a sense of volume in modelling three-dimensional figures through focussing on key elements.

During her presentation there will be an opportunity for audience participation. There will also be a small gallery of images to explore, which will include a selection of June's own artwork.

This will be followed by a workshop on Tuesday 2 September, 10am-4pm upstairs at Matthews Hall. There will be two clothed and seated models, with the opportunity to either do a portrait, figure or partial figure. You can use whatever medium you prefer – charcoal, pastel, oil etc. The poses will most likely be for the duration of the workshop. Booking form attached. The workshop is for everyone – beginners to more experienced, so if you have no or little experience, sign up and get the benefit of an excellent teacher.

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Celebration – Competition postponed from July to September

We hope you won't be too disappointed but we decided that because of all the preparation for the exhibition, the timing for this competition wasn't right so it is postponed until the September meeting. So if you have already prepared your entry, hang on to it until September. If you haven't, you now have time to create during August once all your work has been submitted for the exhibition – a real reason for celebration!



Help needed – join the Programme Team

We have a 3-person team who organise the programme of speakers, workshops and other events for TAG. A vacancy has arisen and we would be interested to hear from you if you are interested in joining Gill Sawyer and Gail McKenzie. Talk to Gill about what the job involves – email her on gillybean616@icloud.com. Bring your ideas and energy to keep the programme interesting and vibrant.

Opener and guest judge for the Exhibition

I am very pleased to let you know that Dr Alan Cotton MBE has agreed to open and judge our exhibition this year. Alan has a long and distinguished career in art and teaching and travelled with the King, when Prince of Wales, as his tour artist to Sri Lanka, Australia, New Zealand and Fiji. In the 2022 New Year's Honours he was awarded an MBE for 'Services to the Arts in the South West of England'. This summer, Alan's paintings owned by His Majesty the King have been selected for inclusion in a Tour Artists' Exhibition to be staged in the Ballroom at Buckingham Palace. More information about this Exhibition, which runs from 10 July to 28 September 2025, is attached.

Members' news



Have you been looking for storage for your paper and artwork? Steph Weaver would like to sell an artist-adapted frame and antique plan chest. It has a removable glass top that can be used for printmaking. The buyer would have to dismantle it or have transport – height 92 cm, depth 94 cm, width 128 cm. Glass 122 x 91 cm. £70.00 or near offer
More details from Steph –

stephanieweaverbird@gmail.com 07854664898

The Pennsylvania Art group, which includes Cath Whitehead and Richard and Anne Clarkson, are having an exhibition in the Engine House at Killerton on Monday, 30 June from 10am to 5pm. All are welcome. **Sandra Andrews** will be exhibiting in The Café in Topsham during July and would love you to pop for a cup of tea and a good look at her work.

