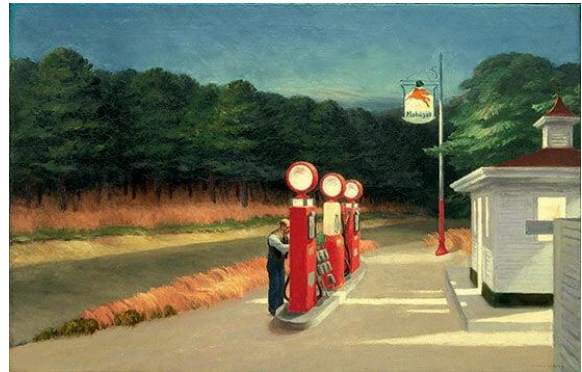


Topsham Art Group Newsletter

April 2026

STOP PRESS

Joe Webster, our speaker on this coming Thursday 23 April, was taken ill last week and we have had to rearrange the programme. We are very fortunate that Maurice Hopper, TAG member, has agreed to present his talk "My Life and Edward Hopper – reflective practice upon light and isolation" which was scheduled for September. Joe is very sorry to have had to postpone his talk and we're hoping that he will be able to come to us in September instead but a vote of thanks to Maurice for standing in at such short notice.



We will also have the swap evening this Thursday so please bring along any excess art materials that you are willing to swap with other TAG members but don't forget, you have to take home anything that hasn't been taken at the end of the evening!

I hope you have received your programme card for 2026, and have put all the dates in your diary. Copies will be available at the next meeting on Thursday 23 April but if you cannot make the meeting and need one, let us know and we will get one in the post to you – madjevon@icloud.com

Thank you for all the feedback on the price for the Vermeer Exhibition on Screen – the opening event for the Topsham Art Festival. This event is now on the Topsham Community Association website



<https://www.topshamcommunityassociation.co.uk/topsham-theatre-live/> so book your tickets soon. The rest of the programme will be available soon.

Thanks to everyone who came to the AGM. I'm pleased to let you know that we had expressions of interest in joining the committee which will allow us to share the work around. Thanks to Denise Rogers for all the committee work she has done over the years, and also her continuing crucial role in staging the Summer Exhibition. And a special thought for Gail McKenzie and her husband Rob. Gail was a member of the Programme Team but passed away in March and is greatly missed.

4/2026



Liz Nuttall

Pamela Campbell Johnston gave a thrilling account of art and architecture during the 60s and judged the entries of the competition 'The Swinging 60s'. I think it took a lot of us back to the days of Mary Quant, minis and mini-skirts! Special commendation badges were awarded to Peter Cusa and Liz Nuttall for their depictions of the era, and much to my surprise and embarrassment, I won the prize for the evening with 'Winds of Change'.



Peter Cusa



Maddy Jevon

The next competition is 'Flower Power' and the submission date is Thursday 18th June when Melissa Wishart will be demonstrating 'Light, layers and semi-abstract'. Although we kept the 60s feel for the competition name, it doesn't need to reflect the 60s vibe – just think of your favourite flowers.

The programme card gave details of workshops for 2026, so booking forms for all are accompanying this newsletter.

Please note the change of day for the May meeting: as a one-off, it is on Monday 18 May, 6.30 for 7.00. Chris Forsey will be demonstrating coastal scenes in mixed media.

Other events:

Sketching days

Thanks to Rosemary Lomax and Cath Whitehead who have put together dates for sketching days around Devon over the spring and summer. A copy is attached and the dates will also be on the website.

Plein Air

Saturday 16 May 2026, meet between 9.45-10 am, The Passage House Inn

- Sidmouth and Exeter Plein Air are painting outdoors in Topsham on Saturday 16 May 16th, and would like to invite anyone who is interested from the Topsham Art Group.

4/2026

- They will be meeting at the Passage House Inn and then dispersing individually to find locations to paint. You will recognise the group by their painting equipment.
- No need to book or email. Just come with your preferred art materials. All are welcome. It is free.
- The event will be automatically cancelled if it is raining heavily and/or yellow etc alert weather warnings forecast.

Sunday life drawing at Alphington

Alphington Community Centre,
Church Road, Alphington.

10:00 till 12:30 - One long pose. All abilities welcome, untutored

Contact Bill Cross bill@crosspatch.org.uk 07810 755620 for directions and parking.

28th March 2026–4th July 2026.

A life in art, Roger Fry

The Museum of Somerset, Taunton Castle, Castle Green, Taunton, TA1 4AA

As part of the Bloomsbury Group, Roger Fry (1866-1934) helped spark new ideas in art, design and culture — inspiring a fresh, modern way of looking at the world. See vibrant portraits, landscapes, and interiors, including rarely seen works from private collections alongside important national pieces. Tickets £5 /£4 in advance online. Free for under 18s.



14 March 2026 to 2 May 2026, Looking for Appearance A contemporary painting perspective

Thelma Hulbert Gallery, Honiton.

This exhibition offers a unique opportunity to view the work of leading figurative artists, both contemporary and historic. The exhibited works reflect the artists' personal ideas and processes to explore visual appearances. For an artist, translating what is seen onto a flat surface is complex.

Therefore, these artists observe and work directly from their

subject to question the elusive and beautiful appearances of the visible world, searching for 'evidence'.

RAMM

Don't miss Grayson Perry: Aspects of Myself until 3 May

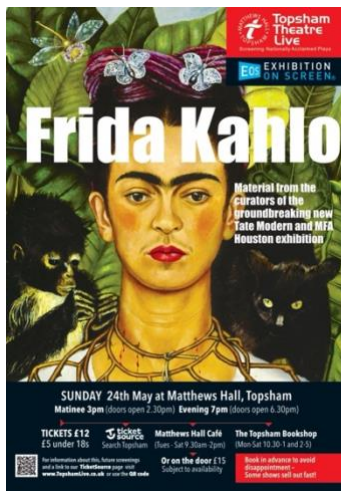
Next exhibition at RAMM: COLOUR: 23 May – 6 September 2026

Colour is more than just something we see – it's something we feel and sometimes even smell. It has



the power to symbolise who we are and what we believe, and it is at the heart of some of our most enduring traditions.

This exhibition brings together over 150 objects spanning art, science, nature and cultural histories. It explores a spectacular world of colour – how we see it, how it's made, how it's used and how meaning can become attached to it. Artworks by Hokusai, Kandinsky, Bridget Riley and Andy Warhol are on display alongside examples of exquisitely crafted decorative ceramics. A diamante-studded Trinidadian carnival costume and Victorian mourning dress illustrate how colour can imbue clothing with cultural significance, while examples of pre-historic gold jewellery show the value of colour across millennia. Online – £6 (£8 at the desk) / NUS Cardholders and MA Members – £4 / Art Fund Members £3 / Under 19s and Carers – Free



Sunday 28 May, 3.00 and 7.00
Exhibition on Screen at Matthews Hall
Frida Kahlo

Tickets are on sale now.

and at TATE MODERN
FRIDA: THE MAKING OF AN ICON
25 JUNE 2026 – 3 JANUARY
2027 £25.00



Delamore Arts, Delamore Estate, Cornwood PL21 9QT

Delamore Arts and Sculpture Exhibition takes place during May (including Bank Holidays) and is open from 10.30 to 16.30 daily. Admission £17 (£14.00 online, in advance i.e. not on the same day), under 16's free. No dogs in the formal gardens.

A reminder to photograph your art work for this year's exhibition before it goes under glass!