

News from the Barn



WESSEX SCULPTORS

DECEMBER 2015

This is the first Newsletter for Wessex Sculptors. There are three issues planned per year and you are invited to submit articles and information for the benefit of all members. We look forward to hearing from you!

Hurray!

Great news we now have 34 members.

A warm welcome to Jean Bassington, Joanne May and Toby Backhouse as new members. Holly Hickmore also has rejoined.

Farewell and best of luck

We are sad to say farewell to David Lovegrove and Jo Breedon who will be leaving at the end of the year. Henry Lowden left earlier in the year. Good wishes to them and hope that they keep in touch, especially at exhibition times

A Taster?

We are pleased to offer Taster sessions for £10 as on November 5th when we welcomed Julia and Corin. If you are aware of other people who like the sound of Wessex Sculptors please let me know who they are with contact details.

Contacting Members?

Contact details are now up to date on Wessex Sculptors web site.

Members telephone numbers are listed at the Barn.
Marie

What's on and where ...

Alison Crowther

Hearts of Oak

Bedales Gallery, Steep

11 November – 05 December 2015

"The exhibition comprises fifty 'conversations' with English Oak. These small sculptures are hand carved from the 'heart' or centre of the tree and express a continuing dialogue between the artist and material.

The scale, much more modest than the usual commission sizes, affords the possibility of playfulness, risk and deeper exploration." Well worth a visit



Ai Weiwei

Royal Academy – To 13 December 2015

One of China's most recognisable and contentious artists.

Goya

**National Gallery
To 10 January 2016**

It tends to be extremely crowded which makes it very difficult seeing any of the pictures!



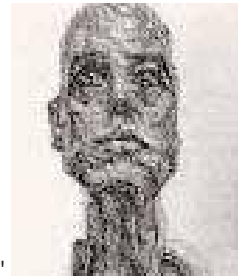
Giacometti

Pure Presence

**National Portrait gallery
Now until January 10th**

There are many Paintings and Drawings and of course his portraiture sculptures. The subtitle for the exhibition is "Pure Presence"

which helps to explain the collection. There is also a short film showing him working in his studio.



The Discovery Centre's City Space, Winchester

has got a very enjoyable exhibition of wood engravings, lino cuts and monotypes by four different artists.

Alexander Calder

Performing Sculpture

The Tate Modern

11 November 2015 – 3 April 2016

Frank Auerbach

Tate Britain: Exhibition

9 October 2015 – 13 March 2016

Painting the Modern Garden Monet to Matisse

Royal academy 30 Jan - 20 April 2016



Thermalite Creations!

Jenny and Hilary gave a two day workshop to six pupils from Brockwood School. The pupils were very enthusiastic in creating interesting work from a Thermalite block. As you can see from the photo they produced some amazing work in a very short time.

Many thanks to David for his advice on how to run the workshop and to John Suter and other members who encouraged the group in their work. Brockwood School gave a generous donation to Wessex Sculptors.



New Book by Rosie Sturgis

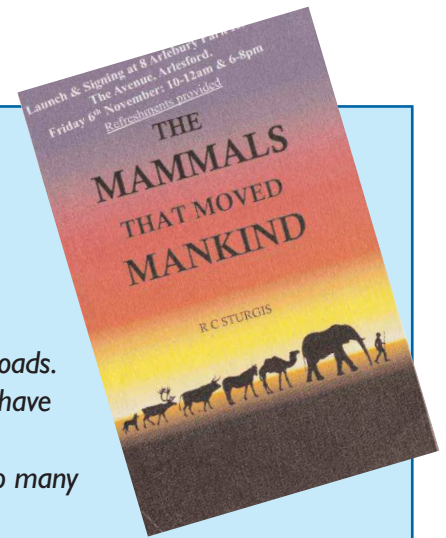
"We drive off in our cars, catch trains and fly to the other side of the world. But how did we and why did we first become mobile?"

This is the history of the extraordinary range of animals that helped drag Mankind out of pre-history and into his now extremely mobile present.

We depend on just six mammals to help us hunt, to carry us and drag our loads. Without dogs, horses, oxen, camels, elephants and reindeer, civilisation would have taken a very much longer time arriving.

But they provided much more than just transport and affected our lives in so many ways... from milk to magic, from meat to trading and from games to war."

email: rosiesturgis@gmail.com



All washed up!

Lucinda has just had a message from a guy called Alan Hindle who came to our exhibition in the summer. He sculpts driftwood pieces that appear on the beach at Lee on Solent after storms and he wanted to let her know that now we have had a few storms interesting pieces of wood are just appearing on the beach. (I think we are talking big here .. a cherry tree has

appeared this week). They usually appear for a week or so after large storms, so if anyone wants to go and see what's there, the next few weeks is the time to do so. Lucinda was hoping that she would be able to go and take a look, but is unable to drive for a while, so if anyone does decide to go down and take a look, could they get in touch with her to give her a lift please.

Wanted - Portrait Artist

I am looking to commission a painted portrait. Can anyone recommend a local portrait artist?
Please contact Wynn



Dates for your diary

John Souter will lead a review of members' work in progress on Monday 30th November at 11.30 am

An informal look at pitfalls and successes, methods and finishes, inspiration, etc....and we want to do this at least every half term, maybe more if members find it useful.



Wessex Sculptors Annual 12th Night Lunch

At The Barn on Thursday 7th January 2016

12.00 noon for 12.30pm

All welcome! An informal opportunity for us to get together.

You choose and bring a lunch contribution to share eg dish of main course or pudding or salads/side dish, or cheese and bring it along on the day. We have glasses, cutlery, plates etc.

To make the event a success we volunteer to help out in several ways eg: cleaning the main Barn on Monday 4th January for a couple of hours or setting up and decorating, bringing hot plates to keep the hot food warm on the day – you choose.

Now is the time to Please SIGN UP on the lists at the Barn.

We need to know how many are coming. If you can't get to the Barn before the end of Term please email Penny Claisse (penny.claisse@btinternet.com) copy to Anne Young (anne@broadgate.gb.com) and let them know whether you will be coming to the Lunch and what you'll be bringing and doing. Penny Claisse 07974 204094

A head of time

The proposed workshop on 'a head' will now be a *single day*, and will take place on Tuesday 12th or 19th April 2016. Confirmation of dates to follow.

Two Great Studio Visits

Tuesday 15 March 2016

Alison Crowther Trotton near Petersfield and **Phillip Jackson** Cocking near Midhurst
Jenny Willmott is organising this group day out.

Portland visit

There is a proposed weekend course to Portland 12-13 March 2016. To be confirmed by Ann Wadman.

Gallery space!

The Links Gallery have exhibition space for March and May - contact Ann Wadman.



Paying for chargeable materials

You will probably have noticed that we have abandoned the use of the payment slip when paying for chargeable materials, following discussion at the SGM in October, but that we have retained the use of the logging sheets, by material.

There is an immediate appeal about using a personal logging sheet, as suggested by Elizabeth at the SGM. However, adopting this approach would not make remove the need for all of us to log our usage somehow.

It would also mean that monies, maybe in a mixture of cash, cheques and online payments, would need to be received (and possibly chased!) and rationalised termly from say about 10 members, making for up to 30 individual transactions to be

entered into the books per year. This compares with one monthly collection from the cash box and only 12 transactions in the bank account under the present system.

In addition, should it ever be necessary to look into the detailed usage of a particular material, it would be necessary to draw the information tediously from all of the personal logging sheets that the present system already provides.

And, finally, monthly rather than termly payment collection improves our cash flow.

So the decision to carry on the way we are in administering the currently chosen policy of charging for some materials has been made on the basis of a balance of effort between members and the treasurer function – and, whilst further comments will of course be welcomed, the committee trusts that all will see this as a reasonable objective!

Term dates 2016

Advice or practical help

John Souter will be available to give advice/practical help from Monday 11th January, Thursday 14th January to Thursday 11th February

Half term

Week beginning - Monday 15th February

Restarting - Monday 22nd February until Thursday 24th March

Easter holidays

Two weeks beginning – Monday 28th March

Restarting – Monday 11th April until Monday 16th May

There will be no tutor on Monday 2nd May