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Press Release

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Summer's here and Reading Guild of Artists is celebrating!

Reading Guild of Artists (RGA) will be hosting a series of workshops at its fifth annual summer show. The show starts Thursday 14 June and runs until Sunday 24 June, 10am to 4pm daily.

Based at The University of Reading's Institute of Education, the show features an exhibition by Reading Guild of Artists' members, as well as highlights from a selection of work from the Whiteknights Studio Trail. This year work by final BA Ed Art students is being showcased

The summer show is located in Art Building L04, The Institute of Education, University of Reading, London Road Campus., RG1 5AQ. Entry is free. Workshops need to be booked in advance and carry a fee. To find out more on the workshops and to book, visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/reading-guild-of-artists-13503673635>

For the first time this year, artists and makers from the 'Whiteknights Studio Trail' have been invited to show work at the Reading Guild of Artists' 5th Summer Show.

Helen Westrop, an RGA member who is a 'guest artist' on the 2018 Whiteknights Studio Trail says, "I'm an artist whose work does not fit into particular genre. But this year Whiteknights Studio Trail (WST) gives me the chance to share my current catalogue, which incorporates wood engraving, screen printing, lino cut, ceramics and textiles. I love the ordinary and the urban, I celebrate my youth as a sailor and my current mode of transport, the bicycle.

"I am most grateful to be able to show examples of my output this year in the Reading Guild of Artists' Summer Show, both as an RGA member and as a WST participating artist. A privilege and a rare opportunity".

Janina Maher, RGA member, said: "I'm delighted to be running two workshops at the Summer Show – one on bookbinding and the other on gelli printing. They are open for anyone to attend, why not look them up on the RGA website and

come along for a fun filled day learning new skills? Here's my website for more information <http://janinamaher.artweb.com/> ."

Jean Aust has been an active member of Reading Guild of Artists for more than 40 years. When asked how she felt about exhibiting her work in the 5th RGA Summer Show at The University of Reading, in the Institute of Education, Jean said: "I am delighted to be able to still create work to hang in the upcoming RGA Summer Show'. After all my years in the Guild, I care about how it continues to grow and evolve. With committed artists working so well together for the good of all, the Guild remains buoyant, vibrant. And with RGA having exhibitions several times a year, for which they are required to produce new pieces, members are kept on their toes!"

The ever-popular summer show once again features a range of workshops to appeal to all ages. Most workshops are suitable for all levels but previous experience is needed for some. The workshops include:

- Thursday 14 June, **figures and interaction**, with Jenny Halstead, 10am – 4pm, £40
- Friday 15 June, **creative bookbinding – with Coptic stitch**, with Janina Maher, 10am – 4pm, £40
- Saturday 16 June, **beginners' screen printing – card printing** with Emily Gillmor and Sam Knight, 11am – 3pm, £40
- Sunday 17 June, **screen printing on textiles**, with Emily Gillmor and Sam Knight 11am – 3pm, £40
- Monday 18 June, **open studio – using the presses**, with Emily Gillmor (no screen printing this session), 10am – 4pm, £40.
- Tuesday 19 June, **monoprint**, with Robert Fitzmaurice 10am – 4pm, £40
- Wednesday 20 June, **discovering the mysteries of foregrounds, trees and skies in watercolour**, with Richard Cave 1 – 4pm, £25
- Thursday 21 June, **gelli plate printing**, with Janina Maher, 10am – 4pm, £40
- Friday 22 June, **painting from the heart**, with Diana Seidl, 10am – 4pm, £40
- Saturday 23 June, **screen printing workshop**, with Emily Gillmor and Chris Mercier, 10am – 4pm, £60. (Not suitable for beginners).
- Sunday 24 June **screen printing workshop**, with Emily Gillmor and Chris Mercier, 10am – 4pm, £60. (Not suitable for beginners).

To find out more and to book, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/reading-guild-of-artists-13503673635>

Anthony Wilder, chairman, Reading Guild of Artists, said: "This year's show will I am sure build on our previous shows and be even bigger and better.

"The range and diversity of the workshops is great – come and try your hand at something new this summer. It could be the start of a new hobby or rekindling a pastime. Why not Combine your visit to the Summer Show with a trip to the Reading Abbey Ruins? There is so much heritage and culture to enjoy this summer and almost all in one place!"

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Further information on the Reading Guild of Artists, can be found by visiting

<http://www.rga-artists.org.uk/> or

<https://www.facebook.com/ReadingGuildofArtists/>

Photos attached

Attached are photos of Helen Westthrop's art (ceramic pot and bicycle) and Janina Maher doing gelli printing (wearing the white apron). Both are hosting workshops at the Summer Show and are featured artists on the Whiteknights Trail.

Also attached is an image of Jean Aust, RGA member and exhibitor, with her collage for the show.