



## HIGHLIGHTS

### East Sussex Arts Club

The East Sussex Arts Club's spring exhibition takes place at the Stade Hall, Hastings Old Town, from 25 to 29 May, 10am to 5pm daily; closing at 1pm on final day. Up to four pictures can be entered priced at £2.50 per picture. The closing date for submissions is 1 May.

**For more information email [robin.gray1066@gmail.com](mailto:robin.gray1066@gmail.com)**

### Poole & East Dorset Art Society (PEDAS)

In celebration of its 100th anniversary, members of Poole & East Dorset Art Society will be celebrating with a series of parties and events held throughout the year. The first, aptly entitled 'Celebrate!' features an exhibition of members' work at The Gallery Upstairs, a beautiful exhibition space above the tearoom on the shores of Poole Harbour

▲ **Kerry Webb** *Chun Quoit*, oil on canvas board, 11¾×23½in. (30×60cm) at the Reading Guild of Artists' forthcoming exhibition

at Upton Country Park, Poole BH17 7BJ. The gallery has a lift for wheelchair access. Entry is free and there is a small parking charge. **For more information about the gallery visit [www.thegallerupstairs.org.uk](http://www.thegallerupstairs.org.uk)** Other events include an exhibition, *100 Years of Poole & East Dorset Art Society: 1924 to Today*, at the Lighthouse



◀ **Ray Balkwill** appraising Sidmouth Society of Artists member, **Judy Ritz's** work at a recent Sidmouth Society of Artists' meeting

artworks. Ray is a well-known west country artist whose watercolours, pastels and oils are much sought after, and who has long association with the society, going back almost 30 years both as a member and an appraiser.

'A strong advocate of *plein-air* painting, Ray's main objective is to capture the mood and spirit of a place. To reinforce these ideas, he introduced the appraisals by identifying the key elements to look for in a picture, especially the requirement to 'love' the subject, without which success can be difficult to achieve.

'There was a variety of subject matter and a range of materials used. The discussions Ray held with the individual artists as each piece was considered was lively, analytical and well received. His professional advice was extremely useful to all the members as indicators to help when reflecting on their own work.'

The Sidmouth Society of Artists has its own popular *en-plein-air* group that meets monthly. **For more information visit [www.sidmouthsocietyofartists.com](http://www.sidmouthsocietyofartists.com) or email [sidmouthsocietyofartists@yahoo.com](mailto:sidmouthsocietyofartists@yahoo.com)**

## NEWS

### Ray Balkwill at the Sidmouth Society of Artists

Sidmouth Society of Artists describes a lively appraisal of members' work given by artist, Ray Balkwill.

'On a very wet February afternoon, Sidmouth Society of Artists welcomed Ray Balkwill to appraise members'



in Poole, from 21 June to 27 June. More details to follow in later issues of *Leisure Painter*. For more information about the society and its activities, visit [www.pedas.org.uk](http://www.pedas.org.uk)

### Reading Guild of Artists

The Reading Guild of Artists (RGA), founded in 1930, will be returning to the University of Reading for the first time in a number of years for its 93rd annual exhibition on the theme 'Collaboration'. The guild has a membership of over 250 artists and plays an active role in the development of artists in Reading and the surrounding areas. Chair of the guild, Linda Saul explains: 'We are so pleased to be making this welcome return to the University of Reading. The exhibition space in the art building at the Institute of Education at the London Road campus is large, airy and ideal for staging our annual exhibition in collaboration with the university. We hope that visitors and artists alike will enjoy our return to Reading.' The exhibition is open every day from 10am to 4pm, from 15 to 25 June.

### Shirley Art Society

The Shirley Art Society is holding its spring exhibition at the Shirley Institute Art Society, Church Lane, Shirley B90 2AX, from 25 to 27 April. A wide variety of subjects and media will be on show as well as unframed work and cards for sale. Light refreshments are available and each visitor will receive a free raffle



ticket to win a £30 High Street voucher. For more information see [Shirley Institute Art Society on Facebook](#). New members are always welcome.

### Uckfield Art Group

The Uckfield Art Group's summer exhibition is on 1 June at the Luxford Centre, Library Way, Uckfield, East Sussex TN22 1AR, from 10am to 4pm. A unique selection of paintings and

▲ **Wendy Stanford** *Carnevàle*, watercolour, 15¾×19¾in. (40×50cm) at the Poole and East Dorset Art Society centenary exhibition

drawings are available at affordable prices. In addition, there will be artists in action, greetings cards, a theme corner, homemade refreshments and a 'have-a-go' table. Entry is free and there is plenty of free parking. For more details visit [www.uckfieldartgroup85.co.uk](http://www.uckfieldartgroup85.co.uk)

## Demonstrations

### Bedford Art Society

Artist Oliver Winconek will give a portrait demonstration in oil and acrylic to members of the Bedford Art Society on Friday 7 June. Meetings take place at Putnoe Heights Church, Bedford MK41 8EB, 7.15 for a 7.30pm start. For more information contact Jean Paterson on 12345 307210 or visit [www.bedsartsociety.co.uk](http://www.bedsartsociety.co.uk)

### Brighouse Art Circle

Artist Tracey Tanner (Kuprianka) will give a mixed-media demonstration to the Brighouse Art Circle on 16 May,

at Waring Green Community Centre, Brighouse HD6 2AX, 7pm. Email [brighouseartcircle@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:brighouseartcircle@yahoo.co.uk) or contact Sue on 01422 206697.

### Tewkesbury Art Society

Artist Beverley Cort will demonstrate portraits in coloured pencils to the Tewkesbury Art Society on Tuesday 25 June at the Town Hall, High Street, Tewkesbury, from 10.15am to 12.30pm. Visitors are welcome; £5 entry.

For more information visit [www.tewkesburyartsociety.org](http://www.tewkesburyartsociety.org)

## How you can join in

*Leisure Painter* welcomes art exhibition listings, profiles, events, letters and news. Email information to [jane@tapc.co.uk](mailto:jane@tapc.co.uk) If you would like to participate in our best in show feature and have your club's winning work included in a forthcoming issue of *Leisure Painter*, arrange for voting to take place at your next club exhibition then email Jane a jpeg of the chosen painting. We can only accept sharp, high-resolution (300dpi) images for reproduction purposes. Attach details of the artist, title, medium and dimensions, along with details of the club itself.

**Leisure Painter**  
**ART CLUB**  
**CHALLENGE**

### June painting challenge

If you would like to see your work published here, take part in next month's challenge, which invites you to paint a picture on the theme of *Sunlight and Shadows*. Send your image to [jane@tapc.co.uk](mailto:jane@tapc.co.uk) by 10 May, titled *Leisure Painter June Challenge* for your chance to feature in a forthcoming issue.