

HAF CHAIRMANS LETTER – FEBRUARY 2023

Dear HAF Members,

As you may be aware, the start of this year has been a busy time for your committee. We have two new members. Denise Mangles has taken over from Pam Duncan as Treasurer and Christine Butcher has taken over one of the roles that Ann Stuart covered as Membership Secretary. It has been a steep learning curve but are both already getting on top of it.

We have not been able to fill the role of Publicity Officer and as a result the committee has taken on the role as a group. Hopefully you will have already seen posters in various shops and the Church Hall. We are increasing the publicity in magazines and newspapers and we are asking for your support to bring along as many guests as possible to our demo meetings. You will be seeing more as the weeks go on.

Critical Vacancy on the Committee:

The one job that we need to fill is the role of **Exhibition Co-ordinator**. I know how important the Exhibition is to many of our members and filling the role is critical.

We call this role a 'Co-ordinator' because we do not expect anyone to plan and run the Exhibition on their own. The full committee will help and hopefully we will also have support from members. The more support we get, the better the Exhibition will be. **If you feel that you can take on this role or even take part in the team that will work together please let me know as soon as you can use the 'Contact' page on Highcliffe-art.info/contact.**

Members Consultation Questionnaire:

By now you should all be aware that we have issued a '**Consultation Questionnaire**' to all members. The reason for the Consultation is so that we can take into account your views and provide the best experience for you that we can. **For those who have not yet sent in their completed questionnaires please do so as soon as you can use the 'Contact' page on Highcliffe-art.info/contact or by bringing the completed form to the demo on 1st March.**

I have already had quite a lot of replies which have been extremely helpful. By far the majority are positive and we have had some really good suggestions. One proposal from a number of people was that we hold workshops, indoors during the spring and autumn, or perhaps outside during the summer.

Our First Workshop:

Gillian Key has volunteered to run the first workshop which is free to members. I have included the notes that Gillian gave below which tell you all that you need to know so please do come along and support. **FREE HAF workshop 22nd Feb at 1.30pm until 4.30pm in the Church Hall..**

Come to the church hall for a free Art Workshop led by Gillian Key (Programme Secretary.)

Do come for an exciting afternoon using a new medium called Powertex to decorate either a wooden heart or a special notebook or do both which you will be able to take home afterwards, without any cost to yourselves.

Tea and coffee will be available with biscuits. Come along and enjoy the Fellowship working together to make a lovely gift for someone or to keep for you.

(You may need to bring your own apron of some sort)

Hope to see you there, we will have a fun afternoon,

Gillian

Please book your place with Gillian so that she can plan to have the right amount of equipment: use the 'Contact' page on Highcliffe-art.info/contact

We would welcome hearing from any other members who would be brave enough to run a workshop. If so please let me know.

Membership Cards.

We have also issued 'Membership Cards' this year. One benefit is that the card will increasingly give discounts at art related shops. Already 'In the Frame' and 'For the Love of Art' in Highcliffe are both prepared to offer discounts with more to follow.

February Demo Meetings

In February we had a demonstration from the 'Two Rivers Paper Company'. The number of people who attended was down on our normal levels however those who didn't attend missed an excellent demo. It created more enthusiasm and questions than I have seen for a very long time along with samples of paper for members to buy at discounted prices. It just shows that the title may not tell you everything.

Our March Demo

The demo on the 1st March has changed and will now be **Podi Lawrence who will demonstrate 'Portrait Painting'** and may even do a portrait of one of you.

I hope to see as many of you at the demo as possible.

Kind regards,

Mike Daniels,

Chairman, Highcliffe Art Fellowship.