

Message from the Chair

Our Centenary year was launched with a bang last night! A full evening was enjoyed by all and the Miramar did us proud. We enjoyed lively music from a group of singers, who were very enthusiastic and utterly professional in their rendition.

Our speaker, Roger Zogolovitch, reminded us never to underrate amateur creativity and the joy of being immersed in original and personal creative endeavour, with no judgement. He described amateur work as analogue in the face of the mass digital world.

Having informed members of Dennis Hill's recent passing it was wonderful that his daughter Sue, along with his 2 friends, the Richardsons, who had originally booked, were still willing and able to attend, and his godson took Dennis's place. It was wonderful to be with them all.

We had planned to have 3 cakes (in the shape of 100) to celebrate Dennis's 100th along with that of PEDAS. We decided that this should still go ahead, and with this we were able to celebrate his life, his longevity and pay tribute to our long standing friend and colleague, and his wonderful art.

Our thanks go to Carole Gadsby for all the hard work she put into the backstage organisation, particularly after we had to find an alternative venue at late notice. Her efforts, along with those of the Miramar meant that the evening was one to remember!

So now it is on to the next big events in our calendar this year. Focus now falls on the 2 exhibitions which are fast approaching. The deadline for on-line submissions to The Lighthouse is 10th May. Please read all about what we are trying to achieve with this important and privileged exhibition and please get involved.

The Dorset Art Week exhibition in our Gallery is the first of the 2 exhibitions, opening on 24th May, with submissions on 22nd. Again, in this important year, please be part of this unselected exhibition, and of Dorset Art Week.

Beyond this, there are more exciting activities to look forward to. In June, as well as the Lighthouse exhibition, we have our Cream Tea event on Brownsea Island on 13th. We are still taking member bookings for this.

At the end of June we have a big 'Art in the Park' community event at Upton Country Park. This will be widely advertised and we have Felicity House joining us and judging the event.

Last week you heard about the plans for this year's PEDAS holiday, so look back and read this, bookings will open soon.

There is more helpful information about these events, and photos from Friday's dinner in this bulletin along with a short obituary to Dennis.

Thank you,
Jacqui Gush