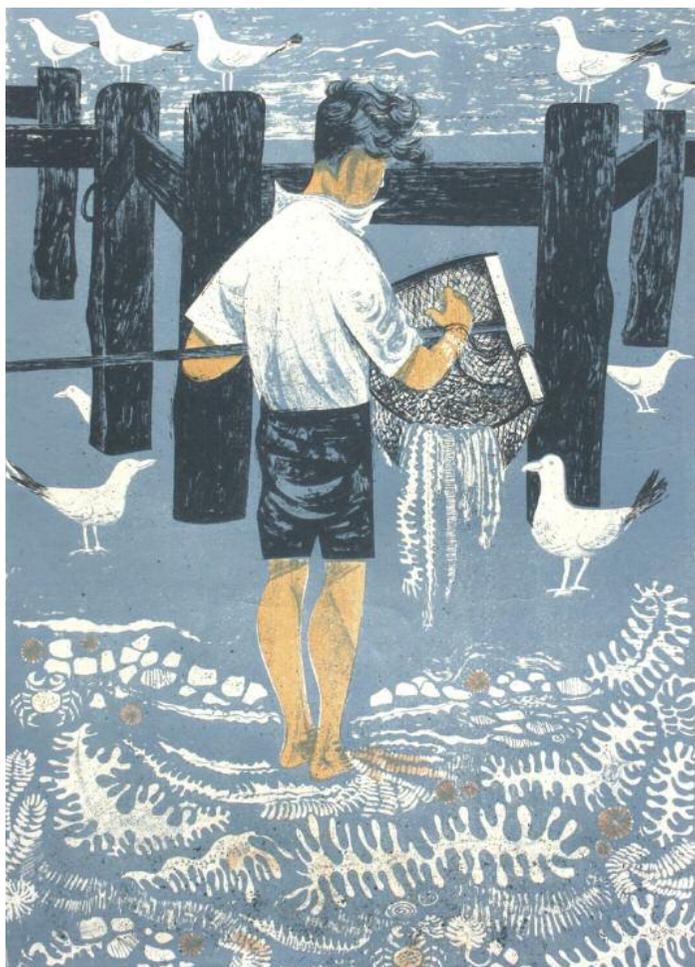


Eastbourne Arts Circle



Formerly the Friends of the Towner

**ARTS CIRCLE NEWSLETTER ~ Issue 2
AUTUMN 2014**



Stop Press - Speaker change

*Our scheduled speaker for this event, Richard Baker is unable to attend due to ill health. However, we are pleased to announce that the well known broadcaster **Mike Read** has agreed to take his place.*

Mike Read presents:

A portrait of John Masefield in Words

**with Baritone Jim Mitchell &
Accompanist Grahame O'Connor**

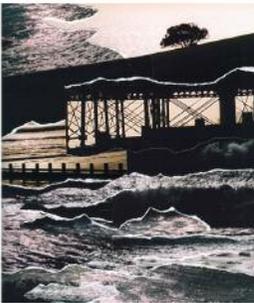
Sunday 27 July, 3.00pm

Birley Centre, Carlisle Road



Few people will not know his name in the world of radio and journalism. He made his name as a Radio 1 disc jockey. He is a writer and journalist, song writer (wrote music for John Betjeman's poems, sung by Cliff Richard and David Essex) wrote a musical about Rupert Brook (he founded the Rupert Brook Society in 1999) and is the author of 35 books (one a biography of Rupert Brook "Forever English") painter, and prolific broadcaster, we are fortunate that Mike Read will be with us to read and talk about the great poet, John Masefield.

Tickets £12 (members £10) available from the Tourist Information Centre. Discounted tickets are only available on the door on the day, or by post from 34 Martello Road, Eastbourne BN22 7SS. Cheques payable to: "Eastbourne Arts Circle", SAE please. Enquiries 08432 895129.



The Eastbourne Group of Arts
Eastbourne Uncovered
Creative impressions

Exhibition at the Birley Centre

Saturday 5 July to Monday 25 August

Weekends only plus bank holiday

and Airbourne days. 10am-5pm Free entry

www.eastbournegroupartists.co.uk

Cover Picture: 'Boy with Net' Lithograph, 1957 by Robert Tavener RE (1920 -2004). With kind permission from the Emma Mason Gallery, 3 Cornfield Terrace, Eastbourne.

A message from the Chairman



Dear Member,

As we head towards the latter part of the year, with the word "Christmas" already in our minds! (mainly because this newsletter has to encompass our seasonal plans, whether we like or not.) we hope that what we offer, which will include our very popular jazz events at the Hydro Hotel, as well as a broad selection of events over the next months, will be attractive to you.

Since our name change, I am very pleased to let you know that we have nearly doubled our membership, and that we have not had a single negative opinion... quite the reverse in fact. The confusion that was created by the two Towner membership schemes has disappeared, and everyone now understands the separation.

Thank you to all of you who support us, and who are enjoying our mixed choice of events. When we choose what to present we take into account the diverse tastes and interests of the membership and try to create a balanced distribution of art and music, as we are an "arts" organisation, which means all the arts are possible.

In September we join forces with SOBS to present a fascinating and interesting event given by Glyndebourne Opera (How to make an Opera) For all those who love opera and want to know about how it works this must not be missed.

Art for art lovers... there will be Magritte/Ernst/Dalí (Gallery September 26th) Whistler and the Ruskin Libel

Trial (Birley October 26th), Turner (Gallery October 31st) Matisse (Gallery November 28th) and December 19th in the Gallery "In the bleak mid-winter... or 500 years of artistic shivering". As you will see in this newsletter we are involved in two exciting projects. Read all about them on page 10.

I and my committee would be delighted if you could join us in the Lansdowne Hotel for a **Coffee Morning on August 23rd at 10.30-11am**. It will be a lovely opportunity to meet new members as well as our long standing ones. Bring a friend, for all will be welcome.

We have a date for our **Christmas Lunch - Saturday 20th December** at the Lansdowne Hotel, be sure to make a note in your diary. We will have a light-hearted quiz run by the ever entertaining Michael Kaye and our very own art historian Helen Rufus-Ward.

In this newsletter we have tributes from two close friends of Geoffrey Williams, who died recently, and who express all that we feel. I and all who knew and worked with this fine man will be truly sad that he has gone. I still cannot believe it. We send our condolences to his family, who have had a double tragedy in losing both parents so recently, and my thanks to Kathy, Geoffrey's daughter, for her tremendous help in tracking down the jazz groups for me.

Elizabeth

Email: pridmore789@tiscali.co.uk

Birley Centre Event

**Eastbourne
Arts Circle**

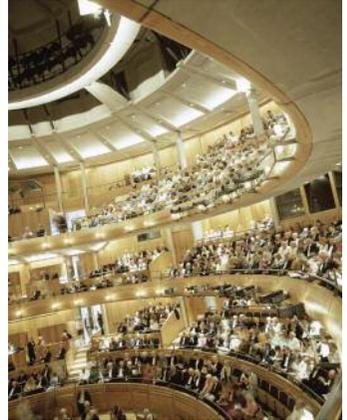


Formerly the Friends of the Towner

Sussex Opera and Ballet Society
Registered Charity 271113

*Eastbourne Arts Circle and the
Sussex Opera and Ballet Society Present*

How Do You Make an Opera? Sunday 28 September 3.00pm Birley Centre, Carlisle Road, Eastbourne



*And how do you re-create a
revival of a production that
has had a life before?*

Francesca Gilpin

(Revival Director at Glyndebourne)
and **Tom Harrison** (Production
Manager) will reveal the fascinating
and complex business of getting a
production up and running.

From choosing the right singers (an art in itself) to putting together the hugely complex business of moulding singers, actors, scenery, costumes, orchestra and conductor together to create one of the world's great art forms, opera.

Tickets £12 (EAC members £10)
Refreshments available

Whistler and Ruskin

with Prasannajit De Silva

Sunday 26 October

3.00pm



Birley Centre, Carlisle Road, Eastbourne

James Abbott McNeill Whistler (1834-1903) was a cosmopolitan figure: born in the USA, he spent part of his childhood in Russia and in England, and enrolled in the US Military Academy at West Point before studying art in Paris in the 1850s. From the 1860s, he became a key figure in the Aesthetic Movement in Victorian Britain. This lecture will consider examples of his work from across his career, and the importance to him of the notion of 'art for art's sake'.

Prasannajit will also discuss the famous trial in which he sued the art critic **John Ruskin** (1819-1900) for libel, and its significance for ideas of modern art.

Dr Prasannajit de Silva has a DPhil in Art History. His interests include British art of the 18th and 19th centuries, especially in colonial contexts. His research concentrates on aspects of the work of British artists in India. He is an Associate Tutor at the University of Sussex, an Associate Lecturer at Birkbeck, University of London, and a Tutor for the WEA.



Tickets £12 (EAC members £10).
Refreshments available.

Poetry and Dream: Around Surrealism with Peter Scott 26 September Towner, College Road, Eastbourne



Salvador Dalí, Lobster Telephone
1936 Tate

In 1924 the Surrealist Manifesto was published. Starting as a literary movement, it quickly spread to painting and sculpture. The essence of Surrealism is rooted in Freud's work on the interpretation of dreams, using signs and symbols to express the idea that dreams can seem more 'real' than everyday reality. The other important element is the idea of the 'automatic', when a work of art is created directly from the subconscious, as though the artist has no control over what his or her pencil or brush will produce.

This lecture will discuss the work of the acknowledged Surrealist artists, including Max Ernst, René Magritte, Joan Miró and Salvador Dalí, as well as looking at some works by Pablo Picasso, who was never a member of the Surrealist group, but whose work they much admired.

Peter Scott is a lecturer and guide at Tate Britain and Tate Modern and a lecturer at the Dulwich Picture Gallery. He is also a tutor for the WEA and lectures for a wide range of organisations including NADFAS, the U3A, Friends of Bristol Art Gallery and the National Trust.



René Magritte, The Reckless Sleeper 1927 Tate

All Friday lectures cost £8 for members, and £10 non members.

Please use our printed order form, or for further details see back cover.

The Genius of J.M.W. Turner with Bernard Allan Friday 31 October Towner, College Road, Eastbourne



From humble beginnings British painter **Joseph Mallord William Turner** (1775-1851) rose to become Britain's best-loved artist. With his technical brilliance and his dramatic use of colour, Turner was equally as talented in oil and watercolour.

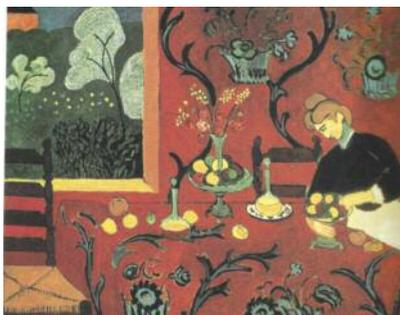
His work transformed perceptions of landscape art and inspired succeeding generations of painters, including the Impressionists.

Bernard's talk will provide a visual feast as he guides the audience through Turner's spectacular career.



Bernard Allan has a BA (Hons) in History and an MA in the History of Art. He also works as a tutor for the WEA and lectures widely for NADFAS.

Henri Matisse with Bryan Davies 28 November Towner, College Road



Bryan Davies will explore a number of works by the influential French artist **Henri Matisse** (1890-1954). Matisse and his followers were known as the Fauves (wild beasts) due to the primitive savagery of their style through the use of colour as a means of expression rather than description.

Artist **Bryan Davies** has a wide knowledge of painting which has helped establish him as a foremost lecturer on art from many eras. He regularly lectures for NADFAS, WEA and this will be his third visit to the Eastbourne Arts Circle.

In the Bleak Midwinter: Artists responses to snow with Ann Clements 19 December Towner, College Road



Ann explores the effect that winter and snow has had on painters – what she calls ‘over 500 years of artistic shivering!’ From 15th century peasants drying their clothes, through 17th century frost fairs on the Thames, to 19th century skaters in the Bois de Boulogne. This talk will trace how artists have responded to the challenges of winter.

Ann Clements is a researcher at the Whitworth Gallery and the Paul Mellon Foundation of British Art, as well as an associate tutor at Surrey University. Ann lectures for the V&A, National Trust and NADFAS and is a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.



Ron Drake Quartet

with special guest trombonist

Roy Williams

Wednesday 19 November, 2.15pm
Hydro Hotel, Eastbourne

Tickets £13 (Members £12)

Our popular series of jazz matinees continues !

Ron Drake began his musical life in the 60s with the Yorkshire Jazz Band before joining Alan Elsdon. He played with the Alex Welsh band and his cultured and impeccable jazz style on clarinet and tenor saxophone make him one of this country's finest reed players.

Roy Williams came to fame as the trombonist with the legendary Alex Welsh Band and subsequently joined Humphrey Lyttelton. He has won many jazz polls and played in America and Europe. He has been described as the natural heir to George Chisholm and is arguably one of the finest jazz trombonists today.

Pianist **Nick Dawson** is taking leave from his duties as Musical Director of Mama Mia for the afternoon. He graduated from the Royal College of Music in 1996 and is a fine singer and clarinetist. Bassist **John Rees Jones**, for many years a stalwart of the Humphrey Lyttelton Band, was classically trained as a cellist and is a visiting teacher of jazz double bass/bass guitar at Eton College.

Completing the line up will be **Richie Bryant** who has been the drummer with Acker Bilk's Band for more than forty years

*Top class jazz is assured and our advice, as always
is to book early !*

Exciting News - A Ravilious Room

The Eastbourne Arts Circle has tremendous pleasure in announcing an important new initiative in our support of the Towner Gallery.

Since Emma Morris took over the running of the gallery she has been made aware of how much the work of Eric Ravilious means to so many art lovers. So the fact that the gallery has a large collection of Ravilious paintings, as well as interesting letters and designs, plus artefacts connected to him, has inspired an idea of creating a permanent room entirely devoted to his work.

After much discussion, the Eastbourne Arts Circle committee has decided to fund this room as part of our on-going support. We feel it is a very worthy and inspiring way to donate our funds, coming at a time when we have changed our name and have begun a new future for our distinguished organisation.

The proposal encompasses the setting up of paintings and drawings, letters and other items, which will be housed in special cabinets made by local craftsmen. Visitors will be able to enjoy a wide variety of Eric Ravilious' artistry, which up to now has not been possible. Eastbourne Arts Circle is pleased to make this wonderful project possible.

...and more

Due to your continuing and generous support we find we are able to create a new Arts Bursary. **The Eastbourne Arts Circle Bursary** will consist of prize money of £1000 which will be distributed to GCSE and A Level art students from Eastbourne schools, both private and state.

Eastbourne College has kindly agreed to exhibit work by competitors and winners in the Birley Centre Gallery space. Our grateful thanks to the Head Master and to Linda Salway, Head of Creative Arts Development at the College, who has facilitated this. Linda has also agreed to join our committee.

We have a panel of three judges:

Elda Abrahams, Eastbourne artist, currently Artist in Residence at St Wilfrid's Hospice;

Susan Conway, artist and author of several books on the arts and crafts of South East Asia and

Penny Johnson CBE, Director of the Government Art Collection.

The judging and final exhibition will take place in March 2015.



The Under Ground Theatre

below the central library
1 Grove Road, Eastbourne. BN21 4TL

The Under Ground Theatre (at the Eastbourne Arts Centre) is open every Friday from 10am to 4pm for the art exhibition in the foyer, coffee bar and occasional free cinema presentation, and every Saturday from 10am to 4pm for free live music, the art exhibition, coffee bar, and occasional free talks.

There's something for everyone of all ages, with the prices for great events arguably being the best in Eastbourne, with even more generous discounts for members. Many events are free!

This season sees the UGT celebrating its 25th - and in September we're improving the foyer and coffee bar, especially the lighting. There are many other new evolutions on the way for this volunteer-run venue so please come and join us for some of the fun.

Full details of all events are on the website at www.undergroundtheatre.co.uk. Ticket hotline : 0845 680 1928.

Free Saturday Morning Music :

6th September - The Stray Dogs
13th September - A Morning at the Music Hall
20th September - Sam Tier
27th September - Mike Hatchard
4th October - Lawrence Gillians & Friends
11th October - Nothing is Real (Beatles' Hits)
18th October - Flatbed Ford
25th October - Greg Harper, then Keith Willson
1st November - Andy & Marilyn
8th November - Crompton's Mule
15th November - Black Strap Molasses
22nd November - Elijah Blue
29th November - R'n'R
6th December - Barber Taylor & Reed
13th December - Naked Voices
20th December - Bob & Adela
27th December - Con Brio

Jazz :

5th September - 'The Other Side of the Rainbow'
3rd October - Derek Nash Quartet
7th November - Gill Cook Quartet
12th December - T J Johnson & his Band

Drama :

12th/13th September - Remembering Me (living with Dementia)
15th/16th/17th October - The Thrill of Love
25th October - Bleak House (family friendly)
1st November - I Believe in Unicorns (family friendly)
8th November - The Taming of the Shrew (family friendly)
13th December - The Sorcerer's Apprentice (family friendly)
21st December - A Christmas Carol (family friendly)

Free Talks :

13th September - The Eastbourne Heritage Centre
20th September - Eastbourne Senior's Forum
18th October - Robert Milnes celebrates Classical Music at the UGT
15th November - HEAR THIS - help for the hearing impaired
22nd November - How to be safe with your computer

Art Exhibitions :

19th September to 1st November -
William Anthony Josephs
7th November to 29th November -
Brushstrokes Art Exhibition (1)
12th December to 3rd January -
Brushstrokes Art Exhibition (2)

Music :

19th September - Promotorhead young bands
31st October - Pop Punk vs Hardcore
22 November - Dave Swarbrick
29th November - Promotorhead young bands
4th December - Martyn Joseph
13th December - The Archway Choir

Films (with tea & cakes) :

21st September - Some Like It Hot
19th October - Breakfast at Tiffany's.
16th November - What's Up Doc?
14th December - White Christmas

Other Attractions :

25th September - Acoustic Open Stage Night
9th October - Open Stage Night
23rd October - Acoustic Open Stage Night
13th November - Open Stage Night
14th November - Meet the Author:
An Audience with Elly Griffiths
27th September - Acoustic Open Stage Night
5th December - UGT & Little Chelsea Music & Market
11th December - Open Stage Night
20th December - Lezwood Saloon musical comedy

Classical Music :

12th October - Douglas Finch & Bobby Chen (piano duo)
26th October - Robert Milnes (piano)
9th November - Irina Lyakhovskaya (piano)
7th December - Mizuki String Quartet
19th December - Gabrielle Stephens (guitar)

Exhibitions at Towner

East Sussex Open 2014

4 July - 14 September (free)

East Sussex Open 2014 is open to artists and makers working in any media who live or work in the East Sussex region.

Designing the Everyday: from Bloomsbury and Ravilious to the present day

Now Until 31 August 2014 (free)

Celebrating the 80th anniversary of the Harrods exhibition called *Modern Art for the Table* which featured some of the greatest names of British art, including contemporary designs for the home, and Ravilious at Wedgwood.

Peggy Angus:

Designer, Teacher Painter

12 July - 21 September (ticketed)

A wide range of work by the influential and inspirational artist and designer, including her early illustrations, portraits, wallpapers, ceramic tiles, and landscape paintings. Her home for many years 'Furlongs', on the South Downs, near Lewes became a creative hub for Ravilious, John Piper and many others. She was an important mentor and teacher for many artists.

See our website for ticket prices and further details:

www.townereastbourne.org.uk

TICKET BOOKING

Friday Art Lectures - Cost per talk: Members: £8 non-members: £10.

Other events: prices as stated.

Tickets are available by post from Philip Anson, 34 Martello Road, Eastbourne, BN22 7SS. cheques payable to "**Eastbourne Arts Circle**", please include an SAE, or from the Tourist Information Centre, or via the link on our web site: www.eastbourneartscircle.org.uk Enquiries 08432 895129.

Tickets at the reduced rate for members are ONLY available in advance from Philip, or on the door, and are NOT available from the Council's Tourist Information Centre or on their web site.

EASTBOURNE ARTS CIRCLE - Formerly Friends of the Towner

Patron The Duke of Devonshire KCVO, CBE, DL

President The Mayor of Eastbourne

Chairman Elizabeth Muir-Lewis

Vice Chairman Dr Helen Rufus-Ward

Honorary Treasurer Philip Anson

Honorary Secretary Christine Gawad

Committee Member Linda Salway

Editor Sheila Yates
sheilaroseyates4@gmail.com

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