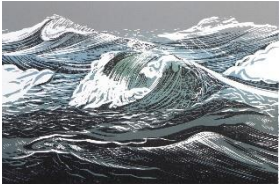


Burton Friends' Newsletter – April 2024



Welcome to all who have joined the Friends of the Burton in recent months.

Open Exhibition, February – April 2024



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ENORMOUS thanks are due to everyone who participated in different ways to make the latest Friends' Open Exhibition such a success:

Artists – thank you for submitting so many entries – over 600 this time.

Volunteers on hand-in days – with such a bumper crop to handle it was busy but never chaotic.

Judges who made selections for the exhibition and kept a really good reserve so that more could be exhibited as items sold.

Burton staff who hung the exhibition so quickly, ensured that the catalogue was ready in just one day and handled all the credit card payments.

Donors who gave us **raffle prizes** – and all who bought raffle tickets

Fiona, Anna and Chris for serving drinks at the private view

Stewards throughout the exhibition who filled 132 hours with barely a gap – and David for keeping the rota so full.

Everyone who made purchases to support the artists and to give the Friends a healthy surplus of just over £6,000.00 to help the Burton in the coming year and beyond.

Raffle prizes were won by Sue Matthews, Nick Bathurst and Chris Cartledge.

The **next Open Exhibition** will revert to its pre-Christmas slot around November – December, so start producing works and saving for Christmas presents!

Our Annual General Meeting, June 8, 10.30am in the Kingsley Room

NB: Change of date to second Saturday in June

Do come! All Friends are welcome. We hope to have a guest speaker. but it is also an opportunity to meet old friends and socialise a little, especially if you choose to book lunch in the Café du Parc afterwards. Do remember that you must make the lunch booking yourself.

Papers for the meeting will be sent out at least two weeks in advance, which is important this year, as we plan to make some changes to our Constitution and need your approval. There will be the usual short reports and accounts for the past year.

We will also elect Committee members for the coming year. If you would like to make nominations, please do – send nominations to burtonfriends1@aol.com or leave your nomination marked for the attention of the Friends at the Burton reception. Please ensure that you have the permission and willingness to serve of anyone nominated to stand. If you would like to be nominated, do get in touch. We really do need some new blood and energy to support us increasingly decrepit oldies. If you think that you have something to offer, we'd love to hear from you. Please let us know before mid-May.

New Treasurer

After repeated, hopeful advertisements, I'm delighted to announce that there was a response to what he described as my "heartfelt pleas", and a new Honorary Treasurer has been appointed. John Keeble will begin work imminently. Many thanks to him - and we all look forward to working with him.

Bequest

We are immensely grateful to the late Audrey Button for her bequest to the Friends. Many of you will remember her great support and enthusiasm for the Burton over many years. We have also received three paintings by local artists from her collection, which the Burton could not house, and which we plan to use as future raffle prizes.

A little suggestion: Have you considered the Burton or the Friends in your will?

What's on at the Burton

Photography time – from **April 15 to June 2**. Two parallel exhibitions by renowned photographers bring Bideford and the local area to life:



DCMP – Devon and Cornwall by Martin Parr

Martin Parr is a renowned British documentary photographer, photojournalist and photobook collector whose major projects have focused on rural communities. He is known for taking an intimate, satirical and anthropological look at aspects of modern life, in particular documenting the social classes of England, and more broadly the wealth of the Western world. His work has been widely published and has featured in exhibitions throughout the world. This exhibition will include images commissioned by the Burton at Bideford to capture the spirit of Bideford Pannier Market.



Robert Darch – Uncertain Landscape

Robert Darch is an artist-photographer based in the South West. His practice is motivated by the experience of place, which is where the physical geography merges with other perceptions of place informed by contemporary culture. Darch has exhibited widely and his works are part of public and private collections. Martin Parr has acquired 39 of Darch's works for inclusion in the Martin Parr Foundation archive. Uncertain Landscape brings together 40 photographs from two Beaford commissions, 'æsc' and 'Omicron' by Devon-based artist-photographer Robert Darch.

Coming next: - 14 June – 11 August

Pop Art and Pottery - co-curated with Nick Duxbury - and Yinka Shonibare – Modern Spiritual.

And see the Burton website for more events and workshops for adults and children:

www.burtonartgallery.co.uk

The Westward Ho! and Bideford Art Society 2024 exhibition will be held at the Burton from **Saturday 24 August to Sunday 13 October inclusive**. Anticipated timetable:

- Closing date for submission of application forms - Friday 2 August
- Hand in of work to the Burton - Friday 16 August. Selection of work - Saturday 17 August
- Hanging - Sunday 18 August onwards
- Private View - Friday 23 August
- Issue of application forms and guidance notes - Friday 21 June
- Close of exhibition and collection of work - Sunday 13 October

Volunteering

It was lovely to meet so many of you stewarding during the Open Exhibition. The Burton often needs stewards, but has many other possibilities for volunteers. Just ask at the Burton reception or e-mail info@theburton.org.

Another Spring Quiz – Thursday 30 May

A fun evening out - and another opportunity to raise funds for the Burton. As before, it will be at Bideford Rugby Club, with refreshments provided and an open bar. We will have another guest quiz supremo to challenge you with a variety of questions to suit young and old. You have to book with team members' names in advance (if at all possible by May 13) as the Rugby Club has to grant temporary membership and we need catering numbers, but you can pay at the door. Full details to follow later this week.

Urgent Extraordinary Appeal

A rare request. Details will come to you imminently. Please do consider helping.

!!!! Don't forget: A great benefit for Friends – 10% discount on purchases over £10 in the Burton shop and craft gallery. !!!!

