

Summer's here and the living is easy!



Our annual summer party enjoyed the ideal weather to make the most of John Hamilton's lovely garden. Well done John and Jean for providing us with the perfect setting and thanks to everyone who contributed to a lovely and varied buffet.

John's studio was much admired by all the artists, although there were many jokes about sneaking off with a couple of paintings or even picking up a brush and adding a little something to one or two while he wasn't looking (we didn't, John, honestly!).

All in all, a lovely evening! (See page 3 for more pics).

Art UK is a fabulous treasure chest

One million artworks held in the UK have been digitised for this website. Go to the Discover section, where you can search for artworks or artists, or explore art by theme through different topics. You can also search people featured in artworks or learn about art terms. Join the 5 million people who have already visited this site but be warned you may find hours of your life disappearing as you browse deeper and deeper!

If you sign up for an account, you will also receive a weekly art newsletter and have the chance to save your favourites and searches for easy access on future visits.



WINTER PROGRAMME



Wendy Phillips and Kate Rundell have been working hard on plans for our Winter Programme with demos, guided sessions and talks to entertain you. Our first meeting on Thursday September 17th will be a Meet and Create session so keep an eye out for further details in our mailings and on the Programme section of our website at: wealdofkentart.society.co.uk.

Our fortnightly Thursday sessions are all free to members but if you would like to join the additional Life Drawing sessions, please contact Alison Chandler at a.j.chandler@hotmail.co.uk.

The first block of 4 monthly life drawing sessions from September to December can be booked for £40.

ART ON THE COAST

If you can make it before September 13th, there is a chance to combine a trip to the coast with some interesting art.



At Bexhill, the Dela Warr pavilion is hosting a touring exhibition from the Hayward Gallery on the South bank. Curated by Lynette Yiadom-Boakye, one of today's leading figurative painters, it shows a range of work from different artists down the ages who have influenced her.



Hastings Contemporary has 3 exhibitions running concurrently (all included in your gallery admission). Artists Janaina Tschäpe and Miguel Rothschild both focus on the power of the sea, while the third exhibition explores the different ways the family influenced the work of both Lucien Freud and Henry Moore.

David Hockney: a giant of the art world



If you are still mourning the loss of Hockney, one of our great contemporary artists, take yourself off to Turner Contemporary in Margate to be see his work in the huge Sunley Window to be reminded of the great joy his art can express. The sunrise presented here originates from one of over 200 iPad paintings the artist produced in Normandy in 2020. Entrance is free but can be booked in advance, and the window will also be

illuminated every evening until 11pm, allowing visitors to view it from outside. This installation coincides with a major exhibition by David Hockney titled A Year in Normandie and Some Other Thoughts about Painting at Serpentine North, London, which runs until August 23rd 2026. Tickets for this are also free but do book in advance to ensure you don't have a wasted journey.

2026 Exhibition

Our own exhibition already seems a long while ago, but I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Eddie Finch on winning the chairman's prize for his atmospheric watercolour of Tenterden's Calvero Lounge café housed in the old Embassy cinema building.

This year's exhibition not only featured a lovely range of painting styles, but also included more 3D pieces than in previous years, adding a new dimension.



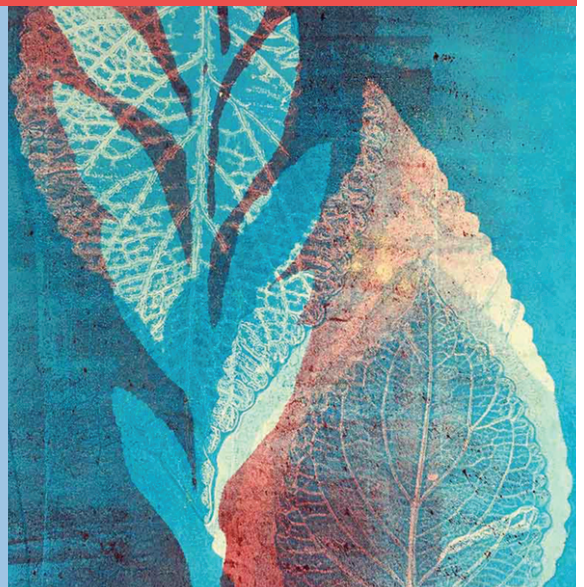
If you didn't manage to see the work on show at the time, it has now been added to our website: www.wealdofkenttart society.co.uk/exhibition2026 where you can also see more photos of our lively preview evening.

Summer Party



Have you tried Gelli plate printing?

Those who enjoyed Kate Rundell's introduction to lino printing last winter and would like to experiment with another type of printing at home, might like to try Gelli Plates. As the name suggests, these are jelly like printing blocks that can be used in many different ways to create interesting images without a printing press. Acrylic or other water-based paint is rolled on to the plate to create an even layer of paint that can be drawn into or have flowers, leaves or other textured materials imprinted into it. The image produced is then transferred to your paper. There are hundreds of videos online showing different ways of using these, but you could start with the videos at <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/I2TTsHD3ASM> and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i_pTvONNSxg.





1



2



3



4



5



6

BEVERLEY, WENDY AND PHIL AT THE SUMMER EXHIBITION

Wendy Phillips, Phil Auden and I went to the Royal Academy's Summer Exhibition in July and we thought you might be interested to hear what we thought of it. These were our main take aways.

1. It was busy and enjoyable but there were very few well-executed paintings. Wendy beneath her favourite painting
2. The colour coded groupings of work really made an impact.
3. There was a tremendous variety in the materials used: "dinosaur fossils on glass", "graphite and ink on burned canvas", "old pillows, clothes and steel"
Tim Shaw RA £68,000
4. Animal prints were really popular.
5. Two shelves running the length of two of the big galleries meant that many more small three dimensional works could be displayed
6. Phil and I managed to agree on a favourite painting

*Beverley Drury
July 2026*

