



# Newsletter

WELCOME TO JUNE 2026

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As we move into summer, it's time to turn our attention to the Summer Exhibition. I encourage everyone to get painting and framing, as preparations will soon be underway.

The exhibition is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the talent, creativity and diversity of styles within our group to both residents and visitors to Battle. It also helps promote our club to potential new members.

If you have never exhibited before, please do consider taking part. New exhibitors are just as welcome as our more experienced members, and you never know – you may even receive that exciting phone call to say your artwork has been sold!

Stewarding during the exhibition is also a rewarding experience. It provides a chance to meet fellow artists, appreciate everyone's work, and chat with visitors about the exhibition and our club.

A reminder, too, that the Outdoor Painting Group is now up and running. If you would like to join the Winter Indoor Painting Group, which resumes in October, there are still a couple of spaces available. Please get in touch with Jana if you are interested – her details can be found on the BDAG website and on your membership card.

Finally, I encourage you to visit some of the South East Open Studios, which continue until 21 June. Several BDAG members are exhibiting in a variety of beautiful locations. It's a great opportunity to find inspiration, support fellow artists, and perhaps even purchase an original piece of artwork from a local creator.

I look forward to seeing you at the exhibition

Juanita

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*Attachments:* President's Report to follow (by email only)  
 SEOS Flyer (Email only)  
 Theo the Toucan cover (Email only)  
 Workshops

## MONTHLY ART CHALLENGE / SOCIAL MEDIA PUBLICITY

Many members hold individual Instagram accounts where they post their artworks. As a reminder, when you create a new artwork post on your Instagram account, please use **@bdagroup2023** to tag us to your post. This will increase traffic/visitors to both your account and the group's account which we hope will encourage people to click on our website link in the description of the BDAG Instagram page.

**If you're not sure how to tag, go to our website and on the monthly challenge page, there's a link to a simple guide**

Also, if you'd be happy for your artwork to be displayed on the BDAG Facebook page, please contact Kerry Bennett at her email address: [info@kerrybennett.co.uk](mailto:info@kerrybennett.co.uk) or WhatsApp it on 07986 291037

Every little bit of publicity helps us all!

The challenge for June is '**a piece of history**' with .jpgs due by June 29<sup>th</sup> please to [dorothy@battleartsgroup.co.uk](mailto:dorothy@battleartsgroup.co.uk) . Full instructions on our website [Monthly Art Challenge | Battle & District Arts Group](#).

Do have a go and subsequently see your masterpiece displayed on our website.

## BDAG SUMMER EXHIBITION

I am currently drawing up the Ts&Cs for our exhibition this year and they will be with you by email separately to this Newsletter. Your committee have decided to keep the same charges as last year, even though the venue costs have increased. The Steward administration worked quite well last year and will also remain the same, however, if anyone would like to comment on exhibition procedure, it would be welcome, but please act swiftly.

One important feature to mention is that our raffle will return this year and the prize will be an original framed painting. The raffle was absent last year and was commented on by regular patrons, so hopefully there will be satisfaction with its return. Posters and leaflets will be available shortly and during the exhibition 'new style' calendars and some small item merchandise will also be available for sale.

We are looking forward to an exciting exhibition and the entry of lots of your wonderful pictures and 3D-ware and of course, a happy time at our Preview Opening Night on 4th August - to which members and invited guests, are welcome.

Peter Sherwood, Exhibition Organiser

## WORKSHOPS 2026

A reminder that you still have time to book our workshop at Mountfield Village Hall for Saturday the 25th July. Watercolours in the morning with Kerry Bennett and Acrylics in the afternoon with Mark Fisher. All materials are supplied as are the refreshments. Places are filling up so book soon to avoid disappointment. Limited spaces.

Have you heard of the South East Open Studios? Just to let you know there are 3 BDAG members exhibiting at a barn in Dallington. In total 10 artists are exhibiting in the barn. Quite a beautiful spot to spend a couple of hours. Please see the attached pink flyer for the location.

Subscribe to my newsletter for workshops & classes, exhibitions & new artwork <https://kerrybennett.co.uk/>

## BDAG MEMBER'S NEWS

The Great Adventure of Theo the Toucan' continues

In 2025, BDAG members Jonathan Campbell and Kerry Bennett collaborated on a children's story book which was successfully launched at the BDAG Summer Exhibition. Since then, the book has been reprinted, this time using a local firm, Mustard Design & Print based at Bodiam, with revised covers and some minor text changes. The revised book, together with prints of some of the original full size Kerry Bennett illustrations will again be available to buy at this year's Summer Exhibition.

You can also order a copy of the book which costs £7.99 plus postage & packing by going to Kerry Bennett's website:[kerrybennett.co.uk/theo](http://kerrybennett.co.uk/theo)

## MEMBERS' DISCOUNT AT KING'S STATIONERS

Due to current trading conditions, and the continually increasing costs, Kings Stationers have had to review the discounts they offer to local art groups.

With effect from 1st June 2026, they will be reducing the discount offer to BDAG members to 5%. They will also require a minimum spend of £10 in order to claim the HAF discount. Kings remain a supporter of BDAG, and are happy to work with us on other future activities that mutually support us both.

## EXHIBITIONS IN EAST SUSSEX AND BEYOND

Below you will find a round up of Exhibitions which may be of interest to members, which are relatively local.

It is strongly recommended that you check with the gallery before a visit.

## HASTINGS CONTEMPORARY, HASTINGS

<b>Janaina Tschape – Conversations with the Sea</b>	13 June – 13 Sep 2026
<b>Miguel Rothschild – Undercurrents</b>	13 June - 13 Sep 2026
<b>Moore / Freud</b>	13 June – 13 Sep 2026
<b>Turps East Sussex – Works on paper</b>	13 – 28 June 2026 (Free)
<b>Edge – Where the Land Meets the Sea</b>	26 Sep 2026 – 3 Jan 2027

## TOWNER, EASTBOURNE

<b>Comrades in Art: Artists Against Fascism</b>	7 May – 18 Oct 2026
<b>Black British Kitchens:</b>	
<b>The Funniest Room in the House Pop Up</b>	10 – 14 June 2026 (Free, booking advised)

## CHARLESTON at FIRLE

<b>Cracked: Installation</b>	6 June– 6 Sep 2026 (Free)
<b>Guerrilla Girls</b>	1 April – 6 Sep 2026 (£10)
<b>Virginia Woolf and the Hogarth Press</b>	1 April – 6 Sep 2026

## CHARLESTON at LEWES

<b>Reimagine: Priory School and Seahaven Academy</b>	2 May – 11 Oct 2026 (Wed – Sun 10- 5 & BH Monday)
<b>Gladys Hynes: Radical Lives</b>	2 May – 11 Oct 2026 (Wed – Sun 10- 5 & BH Monday)
<b>Walter Sickert: Working Notes</b>	2 May – 11 Oct 2026 (Wed – Sun 10- 5 & BH Monday)

Some at Galleries a bit further afield:

### Towner Contemporary, Margate:

**Hulda Guzman: Please awake – asked Nature kindly** until 13 September 2026

### Pallant Gallery, Chichester:

**British Landscapes : A Sense of Place**

Check gallery websites for full details.

Finally, some local Art Groups:

### BDAG Annual Exhibition

**Battle Memorial Halls** 5<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> August 2026

### Bexhill Artists Workspace

**Annual Art Exhibition The Studio, De La Warr Pavilion** 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> Aug 2026

[All information correct at the time of print.]