**New Forest Art Society - Hillier’s Exhibition Opportunity for Members**

We will be exhibiting at Sir Harold Hillier Gardens from Saturday 8th March to Sunday 24th March 2024 and all paid up members are entitled to take part in the event.

This is a prestigious venue and we are extremely fortunate to be invited there again. Although it is in the winter months footfall through the exhibition hall is good whatever time of the year and we have noticed that it caters for a different market to our summer exhibition.

We really encourage as many of our members to join us in making this another successful event. A successful event will determine whether we are invited again in the future. If you have any queries or doubts do talk to one of us. The subcommittee for the exhibition are Jan Wheat, Brenda Molyneux, Carol Mileusnic and Denise Edghill.

**The Rules and Instructions and Entry Form** The forms will soon be available along with stewarding preferences and a flyer advertising the event by printing directly via our website. **Please read them carefully as they differ from the Summer Exhibition.**

As with our last Hillier’s exhibition in 2023, we are hoping that all participants will be able to have three paintings hung from the outset of the exhibition. The biggest problem facing us is ensuring members read the exhibition instructions! So please, please read the submission notes carefully before you start filling in the form.

**Remember Hillier Gardens will be taking 29% commission for everything we sell. (**TheNew Forest Art Society will not be receiving any commission for this event.)

**Risk Assessment Document** As part of the terms and conditions of exhibiting at Hillier’s we were required to produce a Risk Assessment document, which must be adhered to.

We apologise in advance that the Risk Assessment is a lengthy document and the majority of it is common sense, highlighting for example the need to be vigilant about trip hazards, using the step ladder when taking down or hanging paintings and ensuring heavy objects are placed/moved carefully. Our own safety and that of our visitors is paramount.

Please access the Risk Assessment document. We are required to ask you to read it and to raise any queries or questions with us for clarification/answering. If we hear nothing from you, we will assume that you have no queries, questions or issues. There will be a copy of the Risk Assessment document on our website and in the Steward Notes file on the reception desk during the exhibition.

**Packaging of paintings** As previously said, we are fairly confident that we will be able to hang nearly all paintings from the start of the exhibition. Therefore, we will be asking you to take the packaging of these paintings away with you at Hand-in. Please remember, as storage is minimal, replacement paintings should only be brought to Hillier’s when requested by a member of the committee.

Many thanks.

Jan Wheat

**Key dates for your diary:**

* **Wednesday 15h February 2024 - Last date for completing your entry and stewarding form (available on our website) and fees to the treasurer.**
* **Friday 8th March 2024 - Hand in from 10-11.30 am (no late entries will be accepted).**
* **Saturday 9th March 2024 - Exhibition opens from 10-4pm daily.**
* **Sunday 24th March 2024 - Exhibition closes at 3 pm.**
* **Sunday 24th March 2024 - Hand-out 3.30 – 4.15pm (strictly not before and no later).**