



More than 100 people attended the private view of the exhibition of the West Oxfordshire Arts Association on Friday at the association's Arts Centre in Bampton Town. Guests were present from many of the smaller villages such as Holwell, Westwell, Swinbrook, Standlake and Hardwick — indicating that one of the main aims of the association, that of reaching and stimulating interest

West Oxon art goes on view

among people in the more outlying villages is already being realised. The exhibition contained work by 14 invited artists from the local area and London. Many of the paint-

ings were sold on the opening night. The exhibition is open, free, until June 16, daily from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., except Wednesdays when it opens from 5-8 p.m. It is closed on Sundays. Seen discussing the paintings are Mr Ernest Rosengard, Mrs Gunnel Rosengard, Mr Graham Fawcett (deputy director of the Southern Arts Association based at Winchester) and Mr Christopher Yapp.

BAMPTON ART SHOW

Following an Art Exhibition staged by Alvescot College in Bampton Town Hall in December 1972, a number of local people felt that this could be the beginning of a lively enterprise.

With the approval of Bampton Parish council they formed the West Oxfordshire Arts Centre with the idea of presenting exhibitions of painting, sculpture, pottery and children's work; run films, lectures, drama groups, photographic sessions and displays of organised village crafts involving both amateur and professional talent from a wide area.

On Friday evening over 100 people attended the private view of the first exhibition of the Association in their Arts Centre at the Town Hall, Bampton.

Invitations had been sent to all members and to representatives of organisations connected with the Arts, including the Southern Arts Association, whose Deputy Director, Mr. Graham Fawcett, attended from Winchester.

Mr. John Birkhead, the chairman was particularly pleased to discover how well dispersed membership had already become, as there were members present from many of the smaller neighbouring villages such as Holwell, Westwell, Swinbrook, Standlake and Hardwick.

This indicated that one of the main aims of the association, that of reaching and stimulating interest among young people in more outlying villages was already being realised.

The exhibition contained works by 14 invited artists from the local area and from London. A considerable number of paintings were sold on the open night, and the exhibition appeared to have been received with enthusiasm from people of all ages as a variety of styles was represented.

Arts society hall lease renewed

The renewing of the lease for the upper chamber of the Town Hall to the West Oxfordshire Arts Association was discussed at Bampton parish council meeting on Wednesday.

No objections were heard for the continuation of the lease which expires in December 1976, but it was agreed that during the next three-year period of the new lease the rent should be reviewed annually to take into account possible rate increases.

Members heard that following a report that part of the north stone wall in the cemet-

ery was damaged the chairman and vice-chairman councillors Mr L. Hughes-Owens and S. J. Pickard had investigated the complaint and had found that there were in fact several small holes.

The meeting agreed that estimates for repair to the damage should be obtained.

There was some discussion about the untidy appearance in the centre of the town due largely to the condition of the old central garage.

It was agreed to write to the conservation committee and ask if something could be done to improve the situation.

BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

No objections were heard at the monthly meeting of the Bampton parish council to the renewing of the lease for the upper chamber in the Town Hall to the West Oxfordshire Arts Association and it was agreed that for the next three years beginning 1977, the rent should be reviewed annually to take into account the possible rate increases

Artistic panels

MUSIC, DRAMA and dance, film and photography, literature and art are all represented by separate panels in the recently formed West Oxfordshire Arts Association which has

its centre in the Bampton Town Hall.

The panels will meet in various villages and organise exhibitions, lectures, films and live performances involving both amateur and professional talent.

The first exhibition at the Bampton Arts Centre will open on Saturday and will be replaced by another on June 18.

The centre will be open daily from 10 a.m.—4 p.m. except on Wednesday when there will be an evening opening from 5—8 p.m. Detailed information and membership forms will be available at the centre from Saturday.

Bampton Arts Centre. —

The first Art Exhibition of the newly formed West Oxfordshire Arts Association was opened on Spring Holiday Saturday in the Bampton Town Hall. The work of 14 talented West Oxfordshire artists hang in the Upper Hall of the Town Hall and provides some interesting viewing. The first exhibition has been planned to run until June 18 and on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday the Town Hall will be opened for viewing between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. whilst on Wednesdays it will be closed all day and opened in the evening between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. There is no charge for admission.

Poetry evening 20 July

THE WEST Oxfordshire Arts Association continues to thrive, and its third exhibition of paintings at the Bampton Art Centre opens on Saturday, July 21, and will run until August 24.

It will be of works by invited members of the Association, and admission is free.

The literary panel — with assistance from the music panel — had a successful launching last week with poetry reading by Dan McNabb, of Combe, with guitar accompaniment by Ray Buley.

Dan McNabb read a selection from the works of Robert Frost, D. H. Lawrence, Dylan Thomas and Sir John Betjeman, but it was his own poems which particularly delighted the audience of about 50 people. Two lively dialogue poems in pure Oxfordshire dialect described village football and cricket matches.

The evening was introduced by Andrew Osmond, the novelist, who gave advance notice of a prose and poetry competition, open to all, which is being organised by the literary panel, details of which are to be announced shortly.