



newsletter

August 2011

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER TO MEMBERS

The subject of my May letter was the Autumn Exhibition and the danger that we would not be in good position to mount this event. Although we have had some offers of help, the size of the response has not been enough for the committee to commit to this event and we have decided that there will be no Autumn Exhibition this year. I was hoping for a stronger response, if only to tell me your views. I think that we as an Art Society need to step back and have a hard look at "if and how" we take the Autumn Exhibition forward in future years. Perhaps you see this as another exhibiting opportunity but it doesn't really excite you so I would like everyone to put forward ideas for how the Autumn slot could be developed, perhaps as a space to experiment outside of our traditional categories and move along with contemporary trends, including installation, photography and digital art? These trends and a new generation of artists will pass us by if we do not create suitable opportunities and spaces. This subject will be part of our annual general meeting and I would encourage you all to attend and contribute. I hope to have received enough ideas and views to make some concrete proposals.

Moving on, at our last meeting the committee decided on some changes to the Spring Exhibition. Firstly, the preview will be pushed forward to Wednesday instead of Tuesday. We have made this change because there has been too little time between hanging the Exhibition and the preview to prepare as we would wish. Secondly, and after taking time to consider and consult, we feel that the traditional distinction between ceramics and sculpture is too restrictive. In future there will be a single 3D class in which up to 6 items may be entered (at £6.00 each) but our normal arrangements for the award of prizes and judging will not change.

As many of you will be aware the future of the pottery at Wrecclesham has been under threat from development and for a time it looked like its days as a living working pottery were over. The committee gave positive support to the campaign to ensure the future of the Pottery in Farnham and I am very pleased to tell you that its future and Farnham's position as the home of a centre of excellence in ceramic art is now assured.

Please call me or write if you have anything at all to say about the society or perhaps enquire about how you might contribute to events or serve on the committee.

Christopher Hall

Chairman

01252 613970, chrisandvalhall@ntlworld.com

6 Browning Rd, Church Crookham, Fleet, GU52 0YJ

CONGRATULATIONS to our members:

SWA - members **Rosemarie de Goede**, **Sera Knight** and **Liz Seward** all had three paintings accepted, **Fran Bunting** who is a member of FAS (but not SWA) had one painting accepted. **Rosemary Miller** had four painting accepted and won the Rosemary & Co award and **Jean Haines** had four accepted with one being donated to the Lady Taverners Charity Auction during the Exhibition. Congratulations are in order all round, as this year which was the 150th exhibition, had an absolutely HUGE submission.

Liz Seward also had a painting accepted by the Pastel Society for their annual exhibition. Liz has just finished a year recording Bracknell Choral Society's 50th Anniversary year in drawings, paintings and photographs and an article about this will be in The Artist later in the year.

DSWAOY – **Margie O'Brien** and **Lindsay Goolding-Berry** were both shortlisted and sold from the David Shepherd Wildlife Artist of the Year Exhibition 2011 at the Mall Galleries.

Margie O'Brien is also having a one person exhibition at the Garden Gallery at The Museum of Farnham, from 30th July to 6th August

Joan Lee had two paintings accepted for the open exhibition at the St. Barbe Museum and Art Gallery in Lymington, running until 20th August. Open Monday - Saturday 10am - 4pm.

John Bryce has his wood engraving accepted for the contemporary printmaking exhibition BITE at the Mall Galleries, London - open from 24th August to 3rd September, 10am to 5pm daily.

Rick Holmes and **John Bryce's** work are both among the top 100 selected for the Guardian London Lives exhibition at Bankside Gallery, London, from 9 – 18th September.

Heather Tipton is having an Exhibition of Recent Paintings at the Godalming Museum from the 6th September to 1st October. Godalming Museum, 109a High St, Godalming, GU7 1AQ. Daily 10-5, Closed Sundays and Mondays.

Jean Haines is thrilled to learn her book "How to Paint Colour and Light in Watercolour" has also been translated into Italian and published by Il Castello.

Carol Orwin had many pieces of sculpture accepted for the Hackwood Festival for Contemporary Arts in June.

NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome to:

Simon Poole, Patricia Devonald and Victoria Goodluck from Farnham, Valerie Williams from Tilford, Andrea Abraham from North Warnborough, Sara Jones from Mattingley, Penny Fleet from Odiham and Pat Burt from Basingstoke.

ELECTION TO EXHIBITING STATUS

The next election to exhibiting status is Monday 12th September 2011. For details and an application form please contact Pam Epps on 01252 721057

A PLEA FOR SOME ASSISTANCE

A message to all members from the two committee members who organise the Society's evening and workshop sessions:

"Whilst we are happy to be organising the future programme events we are both busy people and there may be occasions when neither of us are able to open up the hall for the Monday evening meetings.

If you regularly attend these perhaps you could volunteer on a one off basis to open the hall if an emergency arose where neither of us were able to do it?

There is always someone else there to do tea/coffee and help put out the chairs so it is not an onerous task. To keep these worthwhile events going we do need some more help. Please give this some thought."

Carole Cunningham Jones 01252 687451
Margaret Dickson 01252 311730

Thoughts while painting en plein air

Better get that boat in, looks ready for the off, full steam ahead. Some raw sienna? No, not that green – too loud, tone it down. What colours for the sea? Like the flowers growing on the shore – must be fairly sheltered from the waves here. Tide going out or coming in? Grab some pebbles to hold things down. Why are the best views always in the full summer sun or the cold winter wind? At least the paint dries quickly in the warm weather. Where's my Winsor yellow? Grasses on the shore blowing in the wind – some burnt sienna. Sea cabbages – how best mix that green? Sea poppies – don't overdo the yellow... Oi! Bouncy Labrador puppy races towards me, smelling my sandwich a mile away. Fasten rucksack.

Missing a blue. Wish I'd brought something to sit on - more to carry. A lightweight easel, anyone? I mean lightweight for a truly portable painting experience (think backpacking). Presume you assume I came by car with Hugh Jeasel; boot crammed with trolley load of materials, not forgetting the comfy chair.no... walked three miles to get here, the same back, but it keeps me fit.

Some ultramarine for the sky. Sails of sailing boats add interest...

Oi, no! Big sobby dog - snout in water pot. Hope these paints aren't toxic.

How to draw swooping seagulls in flight? More tone in the shingle, perhaps. Spinnakers unfurled in the Solent add colour. A touch of red in the foliage, but only a touch...

Finally label: *The Hamble Mouth 30/06/11, sunny, breezy.*

Joan Lee

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Autumn Programme

The FAS Programme Team would like to remind you, after the summer break, of the exciting events coming up in the Autumn:

Monday 19th September, 7.30 – 9.30pm

Illustrated Talk – “The Landscape of Ivon Hitchens”. This will be given by Jillie Moss from the Pallant House Gallery in Chichester.

Monday September 12th

Second Election Day to Exhibiting Membership - another chance to become an exhibiting member of the Society. To enter please contact Pam Epps 01252 721057

Saturday 24th September , 10.00am – 4.00pm, St Joan's Centre

Workshop – Life Drawing with Flora Gare
This workshop is filling up fast so don't miss your chance of a place.

Monday 10th October, 7.30 - 9.30pm

Demonstration – Recycling Art by Christine Hopkins. Hopefully this will attract both painters and sculptors and encourage us to be aware of possible new directions for our work.

Saturday 22nd October, 10.00am – 4.00pm, St Joan's Centre

Workshop – Glorious Autumn with the popular tutor Wendy Jelbert. Those who have been in her

workshops before will know how exuberant and inspiring she is.

Saturday 5th November 10.00am – 4.00pm, St Joan's Centre

Workshop – Where to From Here? – with Paul Nelson, Associate Dean, UCA.

Following Paul's stimulating critique in May this workshop has just a few places left. Be quick to secure one!

Monday 7th November, 7.30 – 9.30pm

Illustrated Talk - A discussion of the differences and concerns between working in the areas of 2D and 3D by Flora Gare and Nigel Moores.

Wednesday 16th November 7.30 – 9.30pm

Annual General Meeting – A chance to contribute your ideas! Discussions regarding the future of the Autumn Exhibition.

Monday 5th December, 7.30 – 9.30pm , St Joan's Centre

Christmas Party – At the reintroduction of the Christmas Party last year, much fun was had by all who attended. We are hoping to see more faces this year, particularly any new members. Details to follow.

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FAS have received this intriguing email and have replied initially. I am including the message in the hope that someone else can come up with more good memories either of him or for him.

If you can, then please reply to The Hon. Secretary at 14 Elm Road, Sherborne St John, Hampshire, RG24 9JL or by email to farnhamartsociety@hotmail.com

"Good morning,
I came across your webpage this morning and found some very interesting items from your newsletter.

I was a student at Farnham Art School in West Street from 1955 at the age of thirteen, to 1957, having successfully sat the 13+ examination for entry. We were known as the JAA (Junior Art Award) students, and for me personally these were the happiest of my school years. Unfortunately, owing to personal circumstances, I had to leave school and get a job.

The school Principal's name was Mr. Hockey and our Art Teacher was Mr. Acheson, so I wonder if these are the same persons as those named in the Awards section of your newsletter? If this is the case then I would love to have news of them. I still have a pencil line portrait of myself, drawn by Mr. Acheson as a demonstration during a lesson in October 1955. It is full Imperial size on cartridge paper and given to me by Mr. Acheson at the end of the lesson.(right)

There was also a Pottery facility at the school which we attended two or three times a week. If my memory serves me correctly the pottery teacher's name was John Barron.

I still have some pots crafted during these lessons. I have been reading some of your previous newsletters and found that some of your activities are very similar to things we the students did whilst at the art school. For example we spent a lot of time in and around Farnham sketching and painting at various locations including Castle Street, all the Georgian buildings along West Street with particular attention to the doorways and windows, aspects of the Castle, the church, and even the building site of the new bridge on Firgrove Hill spanning the By Pass. We also visited

the V&A Museum in London on a couple of occasions. Invariably it was Mr Acheson who accompanied us. I still have three sketch books from this period.

Hoping to hear from you soon
Kind regards
John Passmore, MANDURAH, Western Australia"



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DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER

Articles and information for the Newsletter due out in November 2011 should reach the Hon Secretary on or before **Monday 17 October 2011**. Send by post to Lindsay Goolding-Berry, 14 Elm Road, SHERBORNE St JOHN, Hants, RG24 9JL or email to farnhamartsociety@hotmail.com

The Weather Report:

I wonder if you've noticed what a cool grey summer we've had? As I write four of our outdoor painting days have come and gone. The first was windy with rain. The second was fine. Our third was ruined by a downpour before the start. The fourth was a total washout.

By the time you read this there will be one more painting day to go, and the heat-wave currently afflicting North America may have crossed the Atlantic – Do come to the garden of Grover's Farm on September 9th for a splendid day painting in the open air. We need your support.

Should the weather forecast be so bad you think cancellation is likely, or for more information, please ring me on 01252 617108, or on the day 07889 823413

Jenny Thorne

3D Mixed Media Workshop with Richard Jack on 14th May 2011

Richard Jack who tutored this Workshop brought several exciting pieces of work he had created for the occasion which were a great inspiration to all participants. Following a brief but invaluable introduction by Richard, members were soon absorbed with creating their own very individual 'sculpted paintings' or 'painted sculptures' using an amazing variety of materials. Comments from some of the artists who participated convey the variety, excitement and experimental nature of the work produced as follows:

"Having a go - using a mixture of materials was great fun and led to exciting and unexpected results. Thank you Richard".

"This workshop has challenged my rather mundane way of approaching things. Richard's use of found objects in his sculpture is inspirational. I arrived with no idea what I was going to produce with the items I brought along. Although I struggled for an idea at first I just let my inhibitions go and was pleasantly absorbed in my creation. These workshops are great for someone looking to build on techniques".

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"Not knowing what to expect I came armed with pebbles, nails & screws, wood blocks, chains, keys, elastic bands, to name just a few, as well as paint, brushes, glue etc. I have had a super day! "

"I did go outside my comfort zone and feel I certainly learnt some new techniques. A really fresh and enjoyable workshop."

"I enjoyed discovering how to manipulate and balance materials into various shapes and structures accentuating the movements with paint".

Artists of all levels of experience were totally absorbed and stimulated by this event and produced very exciting, original pieces of work. Another experimental workshop could be arranged if there is sufficient support. Please let the Programme organisers know if you would be interested.

Sylvia Raymont

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PAINTING CLASSES by Rick Holmes

I have a few places on both my Tuesday afternoon and evening painting classes. The classes take place at The British Legion Barn at Thursley Road in Elstead commencing 20th September. Contact mail@rickholmes.co.uk or 01252 702484 for more details.

LINDA ADAMS & MONTEAGLE GALLERY

Pauline Tompkins is involved in a charity organizing the newly formed Monteagle Gallery, Mill Lane, Yateley, Hampshire GU46 7TF. The gallery is being set up by a charity called Yateley Industries Ltd., which covers the needs of severely disabled young people. It can be hired out on a monthly basis at extremely favourable terms with all day cover provided and only 10% commission on sales. It will be equipped with hanging rails, lighting, browsers etc., plinths for 3D items etc. Ideal for one man shows or groups which will have the backup of a team on site. The Gallery will open in October with a retrospective exhibition for our late member Linda Adams who died in June this year, along with Rosemary Miller, with a special opening on the 7th.

ANOTHER PLEA FOR ASSISTANCE

We are very short of committee members and to help share the responsibility of running this Society we are still looking for someone to take over the task of Newsletter Editor.

We would be very pleased to hear from those of you amongst the Membership who feel they may have ability and organizing skills to share and are not afraid of helping.

FARNHAM POTTERY & WEST STREET POTTERS

Open Day and Raku firing at Farnham Pottery to coincide with Farnham Heritage Weekend of the 10th and 11th September will be the first public event to publicize the successful outcome of the plans for a Ceramic Centre for Farnham Pottery Trust.

REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS

Subscriptions due on 1st September 2011.

If paying by cheque please complete the form below and return it with your cheque.

(Many thanks to those members who have set up a standing order for their subscription)

FARNHAM ART SOCIETY SUBSCRIPTION £16 For the year 1 September 2011 to 31 August 2012

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