

Society Sketchbook

February, 2021

Issue 43

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

ALISON BOARD
Demonstration:
Animals in Mixed Media
Friday 29th January,
2.30pm on Zoom

ALISON BOARD
Workshop:
Animals in Mixed Media
Saturday 6th February,
10-4 on Zoom
Booking form on page 3

ROGER DELLAR
Due to Covid, a change to your published programme
Demonstration:
Autumn in Pastels
Friday 26th February
2.30pm on Zoom

ANNE CHADWICK
Workshop:
Saturday 6th March
Postponed due to problems with Covid.

MAX HALE
Demonstration:
Drawing Techniques
Thursday 25th March,
7.30pm at Bishops
Sutton Village Hall
or on Zoom.
To be confirmed.

AGM & SPEAKER
DOUGLAS SKEGGS
on David Hockney
Thursday 29th April
7.30pm at Bishops
Sutton Village Hall
or on Zoom.
To be confirmed.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Programme Secretaries Sue and Richard Cox haven't let the grass grow beneath their feet because of Covid and they already have plans for our 2021/22 programme in the pipeline.

We will at last be able to enjoy our postponed 2020 painting day at St Cross Hospital, founded in the 12th century (right) and home to the famous Brothers.

We will also be able to visit Houghton Lodge, below. The Lodge is a Grade II* listed fishing lodge on the River Test built around 1800 for the Pitt-Rivers family in a picturesque Gothic style known as Ornée.

Also 'recovered' from last Year's programme is the wonderful lecturer Anne Anderson who will introduce us to the Glasgow Boys, plus Tim Craven who will delight us with tales of Hampshire



St Cross Church and Hospital

resident and cartoonist, Norman Thelwell.

Visiting artists for the 2021/22 programme include Stephen Cheeseman who will be showing us Movement in Pastels; John Somerscales who will be demonstrating Townscapes in Watercolour and Heather Joliffe with her Seascapes in Acrylics or Oils.

The amazing Hashim Akib returns with his incredible Portraits in Acrylic and the popular Jake Winkle will delight us with his Wildlife in Watercolours. Stephen Foster also returns to show us his Abstract Landscape in Oil.

Finally, we are planning to hold another of our portrait drawing evenings with live models, which will be led by Jen Boardman.

So much to look forward to and hopefully our Annual Exhibition in July too!



Houghton Lodge on the banks of the River Test

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ON OUR JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH AND APRIL MEETINGS.

Please note that January and February meetings start at 2.30pm.

NOT ON ZOOM YET?

Zoom is going to be the way forward, probably until at least Easter, as far as Society meetings and workshops are concerned. You haven't used it yet - why ever not?

"It's not ideal to use Zoom on a phone because the screen is so small," says Sue Gentry. "A tablet is adequate for socialising but for art you really need to be able to see what the artist is doing," says Sue, "so a laptop or PC are best."

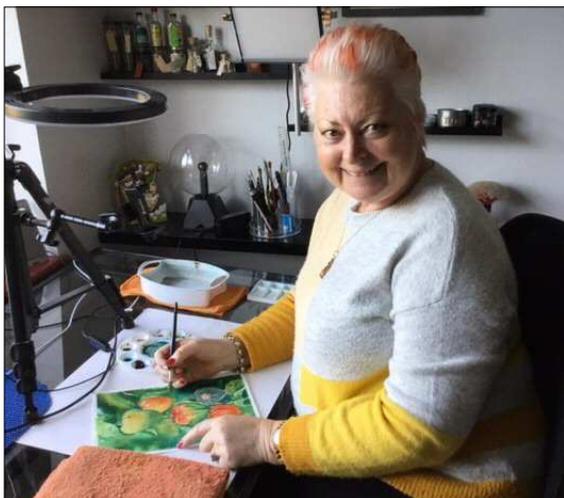
"It's really easy once you have done it the first time, you just click on a link and away you go. The only thing you need to worry about is whether you switch on your mic or camera, but for a demo or talk there's no need for anyone to see or hear you anyway. What could be easier?"

"I'm very happy to do a one-to-one tutorial to get you started on Zoom," said Sue "so email me at sue.gentry@gentrypublicity.co.uk or give me a call on 01962 773185 if you would like to have a go."

CLASSES WITH SHARON

Friday classes with Sharon Hurst continued throughout the November lockdown on Zoom and will start again in February.

In fact even if we hadn't gone into lockdown again the classes have worked so well that the ladies had decided to continue online. Under Tier 3 Covid rules tables in the Christy Hall had to be six feet apart which is difficult for a demonstrator but on Zoom you are so close to the page you can see every brush stroke. So whilst Sharon was at home painting, students could follow along on their laptops with every dab of paint or glaze as it was applied.



Sharon Hurst in her home studio teaching the Friday class, using her smart phone to record her painting live via Zoom.

MIND YOUR BACK!

The Society has a couple of places left on our Manual Handling course. It is part of our insurance requirements that members understand the correct way to move tables, chairs and equipment and all of your committee have already taken part.

It is an easy twenty minute exercise at home on your computer and it really emphasises the correct way to lift things (which you probably already know but often forget) and if you regularly move tables or heavy items, it might be an idea to take part.

If you are interested in a free place contact Vice Chairman Robin Moore at rob.w.moore@hotmail.co.uk.

WE'RE ON THE MOVE

As most of you already know we were due to move into new premises in September. However everything is out of the window due to Covid. As soon as things are back to normal our new home for meetings will be Bishops Sutton Village Hall.



The Society used to meet here back in the day and you will find it much roomier than the John Pearson Hall and it also gives us great storage facilities. One mile out of Alresford (as if heading to Alton) on the main road you will find it on the left hand side. Hope to see you there soon!

NO SUBS FOR 2021

Good news! Your subs payment of 2020 will last two years due to Covid. If you paid by cash, cheque or a one-off BACS payment you need take no action until April 2022.

However, if you pay by standing order you can do one of two things, either go online and cancel the payment for April 1st 2021, or leave it as a donation to the Society.

If you decide to do the latter, please email the Treasurer so that he can mark his records accordingly at: colin.scottmorton@btinternet.com.

FAREWELL TO KAREN

We will so miss Karen Popham as she packs her bags and heads for the West Country.

Karen has been an inspirational teacher for the Art Society over the years, first taking watercolour classes and latterly leading classes in portrait, life and oil. She has brought new people to these disciplines and inspired those already enjoying oil painting to expand their horizons.

Says Karen “ Alresford is a very unique and special place and we have been very happy here. Its Art Society is something to be extremely proud of and it has been my pleasure and privilege to teach for it and I shall miss it a great deal. I have made many good friends and will miss them, but hope not to lose touch with everybody. We are hoping to create an artist retreat between Dartmoor and the sea - with lots of beautiful things to paint, fantastic food and comfy beds - so wish us luck! Thank you for having me!”

Karen is currently exhibiting in a virtual exhibition *World Without End*. “I am absolutely thrilled to have been invited to show my work in an online exhibition curated by the wonderful *No Barking Art*,” says Karen. “This is really a fantastic initiative, created to support artists during the Covid 19 lockdowns and it is a real privilege to be in the company of such varied and exciting international artists!”

Karen’s work including *Corner of my Studio II* (below) is at www.nobarkingartgallery.com.

Penny Claisse, who organises Karen’s classes has been on the lookout for a suitable successor for a while and she thinks she has found just the person.

“He is an experienced artist, exhibitor and tutor who I think will be an excellent replacement. However I won’t say too much at this stage,” says Penny, “as I think we will try a few taster sessions to see how we get on.”



NEW MEMBERS

**A Warm Welcome
to new member
Laraine Humphryes**

BOOK YOUR WORKSHOP NOW

Obviously we write at the start of another lockdown, the duration of which is uncertain.

We are continuing classes and demonstrations on Zoom and Alison Board will be doing her February workshop via Zoom. Contact Sue Gentry if you would like to know how to use Zoom, see details on page two.

Hopefully workshops later in the year will be able to go ahead if we go back into Tier 3 or lower, when Covid restrictions will limit the number of students in the Christy Hall to eight. Of course we will keep you posted as the days progress.

Places are available on a first come first served basis on receipt of payment.

Final details will be issued nearer the time.



I wish to attend:

ALISON BOARD - 6th February

Animals in Mixed Media

NAME

(please print clearly)

ADDRESS

.....

TELEPHONE

EMAIL

If paying by cheque please return with SEPARATE cheques for £35 (dated the day of the workshop) payable to the Alresford Art Society to: Maddie Attenborough, Itchen Mead, New Farm Road, Alresford SO24 9QH.

If paying by BACS our details are: Lloyds Bank, Sort Code 30-64-72, Account No. 31331268.

When paying by BACS PLEASE ENSURE that you give the artist’s name as the reference. Any queries call 01962 733605 or email maddieattenborough@gmail.com.

JANUARY DEMO

Alison Board will join us on Friday 29th January to demonstrate Animals in Mixed Media, tune in at 2.30pm on Zoom. A link will be sent to all members.

Alison's expressive mixed media works capture Dorset's flora and fauna with energy and finesse. She specialises in mixed media with watercolour techniques, a combination that creates textural and ethereal paintings with rich and vibrant colour. She has produced a number of DVDs and television tutorials for the SAA and has published *A Beginners Guide to Mixed Media*.

During lockdown she has been providing tuition online.

Her workshop follows on 6th February on Zoom and you can book your place on page 3.



MARCH MEETING

Max Hale will be working on Drawing Techniques at our meeting on Thursday 25th March at 7.30pm on Zoom or at Bishops Sutton Village Hall.

Max says "My base has always been drawing, the root of all visual art. Whatever an artist's work, it relies so much on the confidence of the 'seeing' process developed when you can draw. It's the one vital element which enables the visualisation process as the painting process takes on its own identity. As a tonal painter, the extraordinary paintings of Dutch master Rembrandt inspire and invigorate me by the emotion and strength of each piece."



FEBRUARY MEETING

Roger Dellar has stepped into the breach as Anne Chadwick is now unable to be with us on Friday 26th February. He will however, continue with the published subject which is Autumn in Pastel, tune in at 2.30pm on Zoom.

Roger is a well known and popular demonstrator for the Art Society and we are happy to see him again. He works from his studio in Surrey and has a keen interest in people and their behaviour, and is fascinated by the way the play of light transforms a subject; either working in the studio or plein air.

He is a member of The Royal Institute of Painters in Watercolour, The Pastel Society, and The Royal Institute of Oil Painters and since 1996 he has been an active member of The Wapping Group.



Rustic charm in pastel by Roger Dellar

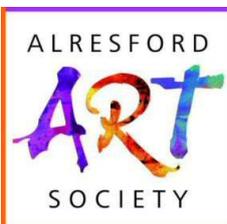
APRIL AGM & TALK

Douglas Skeggs returns with another of his masterclasses, this time lecturing on David Hockney on Thursday 29th April at 7.30pm, either on Zoom or at Bishops Sutton Village Hall.

Douglas read Fine Art at Cambridge and has given over 8000 lectures to universities, colleges and art societies. He was the director of The New Academy of Art Studies for three years and is presently a regular lecturer at The Study Centre. He has written and presented various TV documentaries and his book on Monet has sold over 30,000 copies.



Mr and Mrs Clark and Percy by David Hockney



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This newsletter is edited by Sue Gentry and printed by Oakleaf Stationery
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