

Society Sketchbook

Issue 42

October, 2020

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**OLIVER PYLE**

Demonstration:
Pure Reflections in Watercolour

Thursday 29th October

Online

Link will be circulated

OLIVER PYLE

Watercolour Workshop:

Pure Reflections

Saturday 7th November,

10am-4pm

Christy Hall, Old Alresford.

[Booking Form page 3](#)

Covid restrictions apply

SCOTT ANDERSON

Talk: Gustav Klimt

LIVE ON ZOOM

Tuesday 26th November,

7.30pm in your own home!

Link will be circulated

ALISON BOARD

Demonstration:

Animals in Mixed Media

Friday 29th January, 2.30pm

Bishops Sutton Village Hall

TO BE CONFIRMED

Depending on Government restrictions at the time

ALISON BOARD

Workshop: Animals in Mixed Media

Saturday 6th February, 10-4

Christy Hall, Old Alresford

[Booking Form page 3](#)

Covid restrictions apply

STRANGE NEW WORLD

A Quiet Night In with the Electric Cat, from our online gallery, in pastel by Ron Ewins.

Every New Year's Eve, there's a chorus of "Well next year's got to be better than the last one!" How wrong could we be...

With 2020 vision you would never have predicted a year like this and there's no certainty that 2021 will be any less weird. It has made us re-think what matters and home and family have become even more precious. We are so lucky to live in this part of the world.

As we hunker down for winter there's not a lot we can do right now but be sensible about where we go and what we do and hope that this too will pass. Let's hope we can meet again soon and enjoy some more great demos and companionship.

OLIVER IS BACK

Oliver Pyle returns, this time to demonstrate Pure Reflections in watercolour.

However we will be sending out a link so you can watch at your leisure on, or after, 29th October which is when we would have been meeting.



His workshop will be going ahead with just eight students so book your place today. Naturally there are Covid restrictions in place, which must be followed.

ONLINE GALLERY

What an array of wonderful work you produced for our online gallery. Over 66 days of lockdown you sent in the paintings that you had been working on this year.

It all started when Jenni Black sent Sue Gentry the oil painting that she had been working on and it just snowballed as members were invited to send in their contributions. One even came from Jennie Porter (below) who was

stranded at Carmel on the west coast of the US. Hard to feel sorry for her with all those lovely sunsets though!



Beach and seascapes were popular with this cracker from Janice Jealous (above). It was entitled *Uncharted Waters* a very appropriate theme for what we were going through at the time.

Many of your paintings drew on inspiration outdoors in the countryside and places which now seemed so far away.

[Continued on page 4](#)

AGM ON ZOOM

Our AGM postponed from May was eventually held on Zoom at the end of September.

Sue Gentry reported that we had to find a new meeting place as the John Pearson Hall was too small and parking and storage was a pain. Following a survey of members we decided on a return to Bishops Sutton Village Hall on a Thursday evening but unfortunately daytime meetings will have to be held on a Friday.

During the year we supported the 150th anniversary of the Avenue and the Alresford Arts Festival, the latter with a donation and a working party.

Classes are always popular and Penny Claisse was thanked for organising oil and life classes. We run six very different classes a week during term time including evening watercolour and one for beginners.

Our Annual Exhibition sales increase every year. In 2019 our sponsor, Hellards, offered tailored sign boards which were dotted in and around the town, in addition to their sponsorship of the preview night where Sharon Hurst was our official opener. A big thank you to Zella Smith and Jeannie Packenham who organised the stewarding and manned the barricades with Jen Boardman who does the admin. This event is our shop window.

Our mini exhibition at the surgery is curated by Jacky Snowdon and Ken Crowhurst and she thanked them both.

Our painting days raised nearly £600 for the National Garden Scheme (Colemore), the Garden Museum (Rotherfield Park), Chawton House and the Mid Hants Railway. A special thank you to Sue Cox who makes these days go smoothly.

Sue and husband Richard are our Programme Secretaries and they make sure that there is always a varied programme. Chris Forsey gave a wonderful mixed media demo; Douglas Skeggs dazzled with his talk on the Artists of Montmartre and Steve Carroll tackled Turner and Expressionism. Susan Kerrigan Harris stepped in when Vic Bearcroft was taken ill and Trevor Waugh's Venetian street scene in watercolour was a classic - nobody wanted to go home.

Soraya French proved to be an excellent teacher during her mixed media workshop and demo and Ronnie Ireland gave an entertaining and interesting demo on painting in acrylics with an open mind. Graham Cox's pastel demo made it look so easy and his workshop was perfect for beginners as he provided all the necessary ingredients. Geoff Hunt was due to demonstrate at our March meeting which was cancelled, along with the last few classes as we went into lockdown.

The Chairman particularly thanked Treasurer Colin Scott Morton and Vice Chairman Robin Moore for their support and Membership Secretary Vivienne Isemann, who having served more than 10 years on the committee is looking to pass on her role shortly.

SHARON SPARKLES

Sharon Hurst provided a portrait demo in watercolour for our first online 'demo' for our June meeting.

Her excellent video took us through the painstaking creation of the most beautiful skin tones and then in the last minutes creating a typical Sharon background. She also provided the original photo and a diagram of face shading. If you haven't seen it yet contact Sue Gentry.

A WARM WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Julia Barber, Jilly Cowling, John Silcock,
Judith Snowball, Michael Softley,
Maureen Tarbuck, Jill Shakespeare and
Sarah McWhirter.

AGM cont.

The Treasurer Colin Scott-Morton reported that our core activities - classes, workshops and exhibition - more than covered their costs and funds at the end of the year stood at £10,654. The surplus, will provide a useful 'buffer' in what is proving to be an unusual and potentially difficult year.

The curtailment of our normal activities (particularly cancellation of this year's exhibition) combined with our decision to 'roll over' subscriptions for the year ahead, means that our income will be considerably reduced. In addition, we will incur some extra costs in connection with the move of members' meetings to Bishop's Sutton as we will need to provide black out blinds and a screen as the hall has neither.



Colin Scott Morton

We made a number of donations during the year including £100 to the Alresford Arts Festival, £30 in memory of Elaine Robinson and £50 to the Alzheimer's Society on behalf of the Rev. Jenni Black, who stores our equipment. Our art sale raised £89 for McDonald House.

Veronica Bliss was formally elected to the committee having been co-opted during the year and Maddie Attenborough and Vivienne Isemann were re-elected to serve on the committee.

PAINTING DAYS AT LAST!



It was great to be able to get out into the sunshine at last after being cooped up for weeks and Cheriton Cottage was full of shady

spots on a very hot day in August.

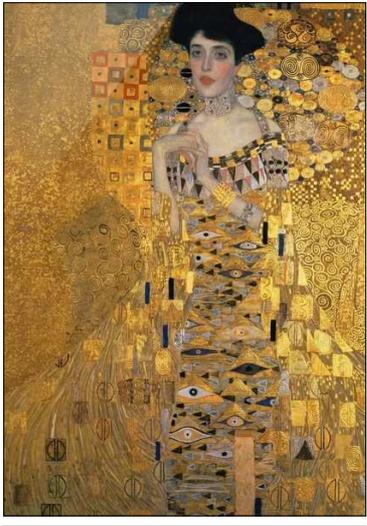
Our second day out was in Longwood where there was a huge choice of quirky buildings and subjects to choose from.



GUSTAV KLIMT ON ZOOM

We will not of course be able to hold our November meeting but our speaker, art historian Scott Anderson, has the perfect solution. He will be talking to us live on Zoom at 7.30pm on Thursday 26th November, his subject Gustav Klimt.

Klimt was leader of the Vienna Secessionist movement, who changed the face of painting in the city. He produced some of the most remarkable works of the Art Nouveau era.



Adele Bloch-Bauer by Gustav Klimt

His paintings explored complex areas of interpretation and new and exciting techniques, creating some of the most beautiful and extravagant images of the 20th century.

This would normally have been our Christmas meeting so we're afraid that you will have to provide your own mulled wine and mince pies this year!

EXCELLENT ONLINE DEMO

Joel Wareing created an excellent online demo for us in September, apparently his Mum did the filming! His use of light and shade was tremendous and he provided lots of insights and tips including using hair spray to fix different layers of acrylic. A bonus was being able to view the film in HD on a television.



BOOK YOUR WORKSHOP TODAY

Please send a separate cheque for each workshop with this booking form and *put the workshop date on the back of each cheque.* If paying by BACS (details below) please use the workshop title as your payment reference. Please send details of BACS payments to Maddie Attenborough.

Bookings are taken on a first-come first-served basis and your place is not guaranteed until a cheque or a BACS payment has been received. Places are limited to eight.

PLEASE ENROL ME:

OLIVER PYLE
Watercolour Pure Reflections
9th November

ALISON BOARD
Animals in Mixed Media
6th February

NAME

ADDRESS.....

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TELEPHONE

EMAIL

Please return with your cheques for £40 payable to Alresford Art Society to Maddie Attenborough, Itchen Mead, New Farm Road, Alresford SO24 9QH. If paying by BACS: Lloyds Bank, Sort Code 30-64-72, Account No. 31331268.

Any queries call 01962 733605 or email maddieattenborough@gmail.com.

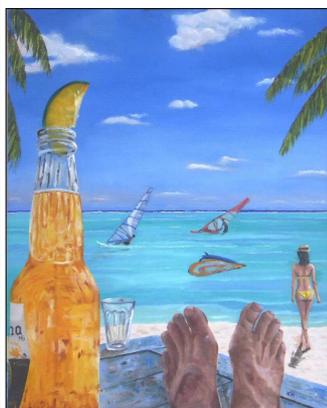
ONLINE GALLERY cont.

This one from Jacky Snowdon recalled a summer holiday spent in Minorca. While Mike Dudfield even managed to work a Corona beer into his beach scene



below at Jibe City, Bonaire, visited just before the pandemic hit. And yes, they are his feet in the foreground.

There were some wonderful portraits of people and animals - Ron Ewin's on the front page manages to include both.



Sue Gentry says "I particularly like this study of an elderly gentleman (below) blowing on a dandelion clock. Tricia Spink says he was reluctant to pose, but it was worth the effort and is absolutely

charming. Entitled *Minutes Fly* it reminds us that we are all mortal in this time of Covid."

It was interesting that many members said they felt unable to paint or concentrate during lockdown and we all had different ways of dealing with this strange new world. It was reassuring that professional artists felt the same way and many felt they had to return to their favourite places to be able to paint again.



The programmes by Philip Mould from his wonderful home in the countryside proved a balm and an educational escape, while Grayson Perry's Art Club whilst bonkers in parts - as you would expect - were warm and reassuring. At times they

were very moving as he invited members of the public to send in their paintings and tell him their background and tales of isolation. He plans an exhibition of the ones he chose.



Man's best friend was a popular choice too and knowing you had to go walkies at some point during the day was a saving grace for many and for some their furry companion was their only housemate. Nicky Bowden's Jessie (right) is a smasher.

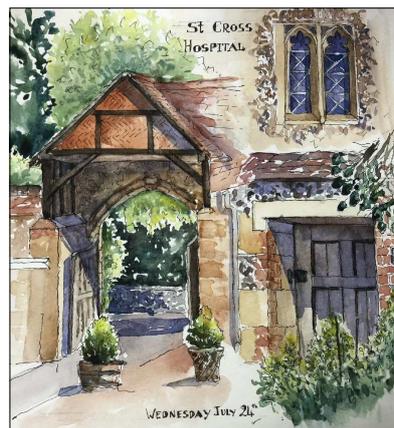


Joanne May cheered us all up with her bright and beautiful sunflowers and



Lisa Steincke's line and wash of St Cross Hospital was full of peace and calm, something we needed a lot of during the early months of this year.

Penny Claisse even managed to turn an oil study (below) of two Granny Smith apples into a work of art.



If you want to see all the paintings that were sent in by members go to the Art Society website, the address is at the bottom of this page.

Go to the Exhibition page and click on the link in the text to the online gallery.

Thank you for taking part, it was great finding out a bit more about you all at the same time. Some of you were



reticent about sharing your efforts but it was much enjoyed by everyone and became something that members looked forward to seeing each day. Very much appreciated.