

Society Sketchbook

Issue 45

October, 2021

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DATES FOR
YOUR DIARY

**STEPHEN CHEESEMAN
DEMONSTRATION:**
Movement in Pastels
Thursday 30th September
7.30pm, Bishop's Sutton
Village Hall

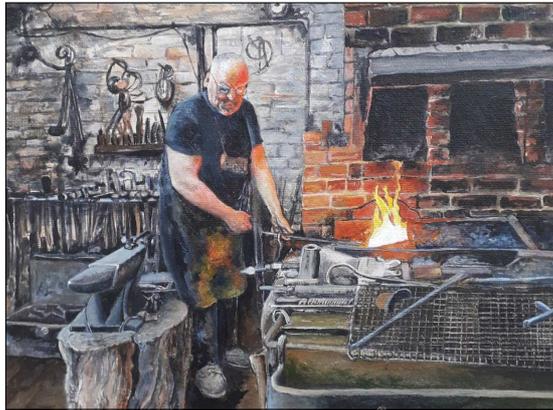
**STEPHEN CHEESEMAN
WORKSHOP**
Movement in Pastels
Saturday 9th October
10 - 4 Christy Hall,
Old Alresford.
[Booking Form page 3](#)

**JOHN SOMERSCALES
DEMONSTRATION:**
*Townscapes in
Watercolour*
Thursday 28th October
7.30pm, Bishop's Sutton
Village Hall

**JOHN SOMERSCALES
WORKSHOP:**
*Townscapes in
Watercolour*
Saturday 6th November,
10am-4pm
Christy Hall, Old Alresford.
[Booking Form page 3](#)

**TIM CRAVEN
TALK: Cartoonist,
Norman Thelwell**
Thursday 25th November,
7.30pm, Bishop's Sutton
Village Hall.
*Followed by mulled wine
and mince pies.*

WE PULLED IT OFF!



The Smithy at Work by Jenny Kennish, this year's People's Choice Prize winner at the Exhibition.

Against the odds, we took the plunge and decided to go ahead with this year's Exhibition not knowing what the world would be like in July.

Obviously there had been no Exhibition for two years due to Covid and it was great to be able to set up our display boards and put on a show!

We couldn't hold our Preview Party as that would have been a bridge too far with all the noisy chatter and chummy togetherness as we sipped a glass of wine or two. That will have to wait until next year.

See back page for a full write up and all the other winners.

COVID

With effect from September 30th, we intend to resume our normal monthly members' meetings in the flesh, unless there are new restrictions announced in the meantime.

Bishop's Sutton Village Hall is a bright, airy space with large windows down one side and double doors opening onto a patio on the other. We will keep the windows and doors open to allow for passage of air, so bring an extra layer in case the evenings get nippy.

You are welcome to wear a mask; sanitiser will be available at the door, where you will sign in. Please bring your own refreshments.

Feel free to sit as far as you like from your neighbour, there's plenty of room to spread out. Please email Sue Gentry at sue.gentry@gentrypublicity.co.uk or call 01962 773185 if you have any concerns.

MOVEMENT IN PASTELS

Don't miss our September 30th meeting in our new home at Bishop's Sutton Village Hall, one mile out of Alresford.

Stephen Cheeseman will be our demonstrator and his subject is *Movement in Pastels*. Even if pastels aren't your 'thing' you can see that he manages to get plenty of movement into his painting of cyclists below.



Stephen started his career in furniture design and didn't start painting until he was nearly 40.

He works quickly on coloured canvas with references from sketchbooks and photographs he has taken. "Although my paintings are realistic in nature they are also slightly abstract", says Stephen.

"My intention is not to create a painting that looks like a

photograph. I interpret the scenes in the colours I think work best to create a vibrant, active painting showing movement and effort."

Stephen's follow-up workshop is on Saturday 9th October, and you will find the workshop booking form on page 3.

CLASSES ROUND UP

Here is the latest situation with regard to classes starting this autumn.

FRIDAY MORNING WATERCOLOUR CLASS with Sharon Hurst, full.

THURSDAY MORNING WATERCOLOUR CLASS with Christopher Cole, full.

MONDAY EVENING WATERCOLOUR CLASS with Sharon Hurst, two places available.

BEGINNERS WATERCOLOUR CLASS on Thursday with Graham Marsden, one place.

MIXED ABILITY OIL CLASS with Graham Marsden on Tuesday, full.

OIL CLASS formerly with Karen Popham, full. No tutor.

LIFE CLASSES formerly with Karen Popham. These are in abeyance until someone comes forward to help run them.

Please contact Sue Gentry on 01962 773185 or email sue.gentry@gentrypublicity.co.uk for more information.

DEAR ZELLA

The death of Zella Smith from a hereditary heart condition has left us all reeling from the shock.



Zella was an outgoing, caring beautiful soul who not only created the most stunning water-colour paintings, but she was always ready to muck in and lend a

hand. Not only will we miss her wonderful artwork but, with her great friend Jeannie, she was a stalwart at the exhibition and was the smiling, welcoming face of the Society for so many people.

We send our condolences to Martin and the boys, thankful that we had the chance to spend time with this gorgeous girl.

NORMAN THELWELL

Tim Craven is Curator of the Southampton City Art Gallery and his illustrated talk at our November 25th meeting will trace the life, passions and artistic development of Norman Thelwell, from his early years to his subsequent rise to become one of the nation's best known and loved cartoonists.

Thelwell produced 1,500 cartoons and 60 front covers for *Punch* magazine alone and some 32 books translated into a dozen different languages. His works were full of beautifully observed detail and mainly of rural subjects.

Thelwell was an early and passionate campaigner for the environment and his international fame was perhaps boosted by his most iconic and instantly recognised subject of small, fat, hairy ponies ridden at full-tilt by alarming young ladies.



TOWNSCAPES

John Somerscales is an observational painter who likes to work on location whenever possible in order to experience and react to his surroundings directly.

Much of his work, in oil or watercolour, is started en plein air and completed in the studio with the aid of photographs and sketches. His drawing skills, honed in his former work in graphic art and design, enable him to tackle often complicated subjects with confidence. His evocative and expressive brushwork is underpinned by sound construction.

John's demo starts at 7.30pm on Thursday 28 October and his workshop is on Saturday 6th November, booking form on page 3.



PAINTING DAYS



Our first painting day of the summer took place at Malthouse Farm in Cheriton.

There was a huge choice of subjects; a

traditional farmhouse with a stream running through the informal garden, a shepherd's hut and old farm buildings with character. We raised £100 for RABI (the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution).



Twenty three members enjoyed painting at Weir House in July raising £115 for the National Garden Scheme in the process. This beautiful arts and crafts house is set in three acres of mature garden with the river flowing through it. Contemporary sculpture and unusual garden features meant an array of places to set up our easels.

In August the setting was on the banks of the River Test, when 30 members decamped to Houghton Lodge, a



glorious cottage ornée. Much improved, the estate now boasts an excellent new tea room, gallery and a beautiful walled garden.

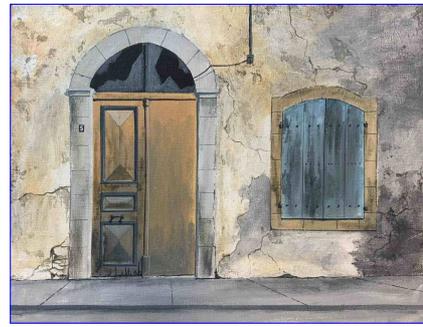


As we go to press, members are packing their picnics for a painting day at The Hospital of St Cross.

BUILDINGS IN ACRYLICS

Jonathan Newey is a details man - he usually takes two to three days to complete a painting - so he was hard pressed to show what he could do in just two hours at our June meeting on Zoom.

He gave us lots of hints and useful tips, especially how



to create dirt! I'm sure we will all be wandering the back streets on our next holiday looking for suitable crumbling buildings.

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.



PLEASE ENROL ME:

- STEPHEN CHEESEMAN**
Movement in Pastels
9th October
- JOHN SOMERSCALES**
Townscapes in Watercolour
6th November

NAME

ADDRESS.....

TELEPHONE

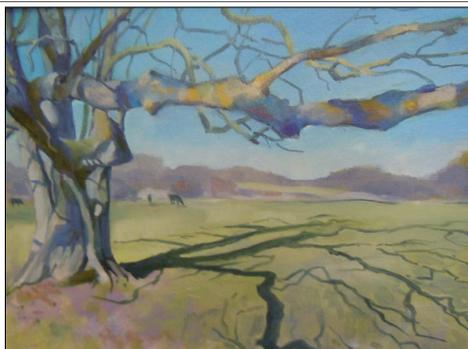
EMAIL

Please return with your cheques for £40 payable to Alresford Art Society to Maddie Attenborough, Itchen Mead, New Farm Road, Alresford SO24 QH. If paying by BACS: Lloyds Bank, Sort Code 30-64-72, Account No. 31331268. Any queries call 01962 733605 or email maddieattenborough@gmail.com.

EXHIBITION REVIEW

Our Exhibition was a resounding success despite Covid, with nearly 600 visitors through the Community Centre in July.

"We had 135 exhibits in



Cantilever Tree, Best Oil by Jacky Snowdon



Painting Up a Storm, Best Watercolour by Jeannie Pakenham

watercolour, oil, acrylic, pastel and mixed media, as well as collages, collagraphs, needle felt and mosaic, making a colourful and diverse show," declared Society Chairman, Sue Gentry.

"At one point we didn't know whether we could hold the exhibition at all and thought long and hard about whether we should go ahead as there was no knowing what restrictions would be in place at the time. The safest option

was to use the strictest protocols and then we were covered.

"We made sure that visitors had to sign in or use the NHS app, slap on the sanitiser, socially distance and move around the building using a one-way system," she said.

We were again extremely lucky to have the support of Hellards estate agents who sponsored the exhibition and special thanks must go to Jeannie Pakenham, Zella Smith and



Roses by a Window, Best Floral Painting by Jane Swan.

Jen Boardman for all their hard work and to all the members who gave their time to be stewards.

ALRESFORD
ART
SOCIETY

A new prize has been presented to the Society in memory of talented artist Anne Hart, by her husband Bob, for the Best Floral or Botanical Painting. The beautiful glass vase will be presented, along with all the other prizes at our members' meeting in September.



The People's Choice winner (voted for by visitors) was The Smithy at

32 Broad Street, by Best New Exhibitor Annika Bustrom



Undergrowth, Best Mixed Media by Zella Smith

Work by Jenny Kennish (see front page), Best Watercolour: Painting up a Storm by Jeannie Pakenham, Best Acrylic: The Old Boots by Jenny Kennish, Best Mixed Media: Undergrowth by Zella Smith, Best Oil: Cantilever Tree by Jacky Snowdon, Best Floral: Roses by a Window by Jane Swan and Best New Exhibitor: 32 Broad Street by Annika Bustrom.

A WARM WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

We are delighted to welcome a bumper crop of new members this autumn, many of whom have joined our classes. Please say hello to:

Roz Searle, Karen Adcock, Gilly Hollis, Kathryn Lockyer, Mike Brentnall, Ellen Ging, Adam Humphryes, Graham Veal, Hugh Peers, Judy Horton, Nikki Flannigan, Marie-Christine Theophilus, Julie Hepenstal, Morgan Carpenter and Diana Noble.

email: artsociety@alresford.org

www.artsociety.alresford.org