

# Society Sketchbook

Issue 54

September, 2024

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### DAVE WHITE DEMONSTRATION:

**Dogs in Acrylic**  
**Thursday 26th September**  
7.30pm, Bishop's Sutton  
Village Hall

### DAVE WHITE WORKSHOP:

**Dogs in Acrylic**  
**Saturday 12th October**  
10am - 4pm Christy Hall,  
Old Alresford.  
[Booking info page 3](#)

### RICK HOLMES DEMONSTRATION:

**Street Scene**  
**in soft pastel**  
**Thursday 24th October**  
7.30pm, Bishop's Sutton  
Village Hall

### RICK HOLMES WORKSHOP:

**Street Scene**  
**in soft Pastel**  
**Saturday 9th November**  
10am - 4pm  
Christy Hall, Old Alresford.  
[Booking info page 3](#)

### HARRIET RIDDELL

**TALK: Travels with a**  
**Sewing Machine,**  
**including a stitched**  
**portrait of a member,**  
**Thursday 28th November**  
7.30pm, Bishop's Sutton  
Village Hall.  
**Followed by mulled wine**  
**and mince pies.**

## BUMPER EXHIBITION



**Another exhibition notched up, despite the chaos caused by a general election, with sales of over £3,250.**

There were exhibits in all media, including for the first time, a painting on a goose egg. In fact, we saw the most number of exhibits in recent years.

Richard Cox did the double this year, scooping not only the People's Choice prize for his beautiful painting of *The Bridge at Ovington* (left) but also Best Acrylic painting for *The Itchen at Itchen Stoke*.

**See page four for more winners.**

## PAINTING MAN'S BEST FRIEND

**We haven't seen Dave White for ages, so it's great to have him back for a demo on how to paint Dogs in Acrylic on Thursday 26th September .**

Having switched from a job in finance 20 years ago, Dave now undertakes numerous commissions, and was a

regular trade exhibitor at Crafts for many years before lockdown.

Living in New Milton, his other passion is painting the sea and the countryside around him. He runs regular workshops and painting holidays and his books have sold in their thousands.

Dave's workshop follows on Saturday 12th October - the booking form is on page 3.

**See more of Dave's work at [www.theartistdavewhite.wordpress.com](http://www.theartistdavewhite.wordpress.com).**

*Ava and Islay, acrylic painting by Dave White*

## ART SALE

**Make sure you get to our September 26th meeting bright and early as we will have lots of goodies on sale for charity, including some prints and paintings by Zella Smith.**

**Don't forget to bring along lots of cash and any art materials or books that you no longer need.**



## CLASSES UPDATE

***The classes for the Autumn term are in full swing with students enjoying stretching their painting muscles.***

All the classes are pretty full, but we could take one more student on our Thursday afternoon beginners' watercolour class in Old Alresford, and also in our new Tuesday afternoon oil classes at The Colour Factory in Winchester, where acrylic painters are also welcome.

We will soon be looking for sitters for our 2025 portrait classes on a Monday afternoon too. It's a wonderful opportunity to sit for a while in the lovely surroundings of our tutor's private studio in Alresford. Let us know if you would like to help our students, and to have your portrait painted!

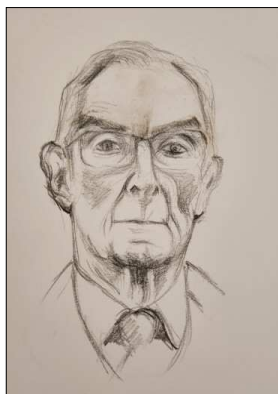
***For further information or to express an interest in future terms, please contact Nikki Flannigan at [nikkicartwright@btinternet.com](mailto:nikkicartwright@btinternet.com).***



## HEADS UP!

***Our last members' meeting of the summer was a portrait night, when members could have a go at painting four great models.***

Just twenty minutes for each sitter sharpened the mind and some brilliant portraits were produced by both novice and experienced artists. Juliet Bonham-Carter was our gentle guide, giving us helpful tips and advice as the evening flew by. A big thank you to the two Johns, Claire and Hilary for being such patient sitters.



## A STITCH IN TIME

***Harriet Riddell travels with her sewing machine, pitching up in challenging locations from the slums of Nairobi to the tea fields of the Himalayas. Through free motion embroidery she captures her surrounding environment and the people she meets, and we are thrilled that she will be joining us on the 28th November to demonstrate her remarkable skills.***

Adventure, interaction and communication are key elements to each piece of Harriet's work. Behind every 'stitch' lies a narrative of people, place and culture.

To power her sewing machine in remote places, Harriet encourages her street audience to pedal a bicycle which generates electricity and powers the art, increasing the interaction between herself and her subject.



## BACK TO SCHOOL

***Having donated £250 to Sun Hill Infant School to support their clay work, we were privileged to be asked to join the school for its Open Day this summer.***

It was a delight and a revelation to see what the 5-7 year olds had been doing with their art work. The youngsters were eager and excellent guides and took us to places that probably weren't on the official tour, but such was their enthusiasm, nothing was off limits. It was wonderful to see that the children had been creating paintings in the style of famous artists and, seeing their clay poppies and footprints adorning the walls around the building, demonstrated just what a hotbed of creativity the school is, and it was all rounded off with tea, cake, and a song.



*The London Skyline by Florence Green, aged 7.*



## PAINTING DAYS

***We kicked off the summer season of painting days at Orchard Cottage on the Longwood estate.***

This is such a peaceful spot and Anne Macpherson



made us most welcome. There is a lovely cottage garden with a walled garden, rose garden and orchard. Hens, sheep, ducks, goats, horses and doves kept us company. To cap it all we raised £98 for Home-Start Winchester, a local charity that

supports young families in crisis with children under the age of five.

The unseasonal weather put the mockers on our July trip to Upper Woodside House at Farringdon and we hope to visit there in our 2025 programme.

As we go to press, members are packing up their picnics for a day at Armsworth House near Alresford. Toes crossed for a dry day!



Thank you to our wonderful hosts who kindly open their gardens to us and to Sue Cox for getting us to places others just can't reach...



## OUT AND ABOUT

***Rick Holmes will joins us to demonstrate a Street Scene in Soft Pastels on Thursday 24th October.***



A keen plein air painter, he is often out and about with the Surrey Hills Plein Air group, which he

organises. His paintings have been exhibited at The Mall Galleries and he won the prestigious Boden prize for The Painting of Exceptional Quality at the 73rd Chelsea Art Society Exhibition. He will follow up with a workshop on 9th November and you can book below.

## BOOK YOUR WORKSHOP TODAY

### STEP ONE

**Contact Anne Lain to check availability on the workshop by email at [anne.lain627@gmail.com](mailto:anne.lain627@gmail.com) or telephone/text 07785 715 985.**

### STEP TWO

**If there are still places available pay £40 by BACS to Lloyds Bank, Sort Code, 30-64-72, Account No. 31331268 with the artist's name as reference. Please send the details of any BACS payments to Anne Lain as above.**

**If paying by cheque please send a separate cheque for £40 for each workshop *and put the workshop name on the back of each cheque* to Anne Lain, 1 Bramble Hill, Alresford SO24 9JY.**

*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.*

## WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

### DAVE WHITE

*Dogs in acrylic*  
12th October (Saturday)  
10-4, Old Alresford, Christy Hall

### RICK HOLMES

*Street Scene in soft pastels*  
9th November (Saturday)  
10-4, Old Alresford, Christy Hall

**Any queries email [anne.lain627@gmail.com](mailto:anne.lain627@gmail.com) or telephone/text 07785 715 985.**

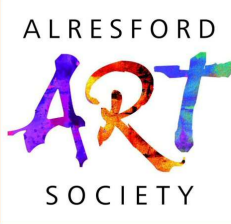


## EXHIBITION continued

*The exhibition was opened by past Mayor, Cllr Angela Clear who had gamely stepped into the breach, when the change of day meant that the Mayor (and Alresford resident) Cllr Russell Gordon-Smith was unable to attend.*



Other exhibition winners were: Best Watercolour - *A Mother's Love* by Cat Mills (top right), Best Floral - *Snowdrops* by Clifford D'Souza (above), Best Oil - *Caracoli Coffee* by Jacky Snowdon (right), Best Mixed Media - *Mackerel* by Emma Barker (below), Best 3D - *Robin* by Jen Boardman, with Best New Exhibitor - *Shrimping* by Virginia Ridley. A special thank you to Mel Bliss, Barbara Fitzgerald and her daughter Julia Noble, for doing the judging this year. (Check out Melanie and Julia's websites.)



And a big thank you to our amazing hanging team, led by Charly Savory. We think you will agree they did a sterling job, especially having to

turn up at the crack of dawn and work fast to get us ready for opening day. This was their first attempt at hanging our show and, working together for the first time, they rose to the challenge magnificently.

The standard of exhibits was really high this year, with a bumper number of entries and, we think at long last, we have addressed the lighting problem at the back of the room, to show them all in the best possible light.



We saw over 750 visitors through the doors, 625 of



whom took the time to vote in our People's Choice ballot.

Thank you to the teams of stewards, and everyone who helped in any way to make the show the success it most certainly was.

## A WARM WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

***We are delighted to have welcomed seventeen new members so far this year, many of whom have joined our classes and also exhibited for the first time. Please welcome:***

Sarah Groves, Adam Smith, Christopher Bewick, Annabel Peters, Tina Terrell, Julia Morgan, Andy Schulkins, Virginia Ridley, Georgiana Hibberd, Janet Symons, Laura Bream, Anna Morson, Judy Mark, Lauren Smits, Anne Leech, Janie Day and Jenny Hardy.

*We do hope you enjoy being members of our thriving art society.*

email: [artsociety@alresford.org](mailto:artsociety@alresford.org)

[www.artsociety.alresford.org](http://www.artsociety.alresford.org)

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