



Society Sketchbook

March, 2011

Issue 9

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

ANNE CHADWICK Pastel Portrait Demonstration

Friday 4th March, 7.30pm
at The ARC, Alresford.

ANNE CHADWICK Pastel Workshop Animal Portraits

Saturday 12th March, 10-4
at The Christy Hall,
Old Alresford, .

[Booking form on page 3](#)

APPRAISAL with Claire Goodman

Friday 1st April, 7.30pm
at The ARC, Alresford.

[One painting per member.](#)

AGM The Art Fund

Hampshire Chairman,
Alicia Salter explains the
Fund's valuable work
Friday 6th May, 7.30,
The ARC, Alresford.

FIRST PAINTING DAY: Frensham Pond

Wednesday 8th June.
Meet 10.30am,
Frensham Pond Hotel.

[More details and a booking form for all 2011 painting days will appear in the June newsletter, out mid-May.](#)

NEW PROGRAMME ANNOUNCED

As Lady Bracknell might have said "To lose one Art Society meeting due to snow may be regarded as a misfortune. To lose two looks like carelessness!"

Incredibly we had to cancel two meetings in 2010 due to bad weather. The good news is that we managed to re-schedule both guests and Tom Yendell of the MFPA will now join us for our June meeting to talk about his life and the work of the charity.



Highclere Castle, otherwise known as ITV's Downton Abbey.

Downton Abbey was a huge hit on our TV screens last year and not to be outdone, we have scheduled our August painting day to be held at Highclere Castle, the real Downton Abbey. Lady Bracknell would have approved!

Other venues for painting days are Frensham Pond, West Green (celebrated garden near Hook, with its collection of follies) and, closer to home, Weir House in Old Alresford.

Demonstrators during the year will include the highly regarded Paul Banning, who will discuss 'From Design to Painting'; Roger Dellar, on how to tackle people in pictures and Alan Langford (New Forest artist and member of the Society of Equestrian Artists) will demonstrate a ploughing scene.

Roy Lang will travel from Exeter to demonstrate painting seascapes in oils - without getting wet!



Breakfast Leftovers
by Roger Dellar

Steve Hall will demonstrate loose and dynamic water-colours, Chris Pickford will tackle experimenting with true colour in painting, Tim Richardson will demonstrate his bright pastels, while photographer Joe Low will show us his stunning images captured in and around Winchester. There will also be five workshops to follow these exciting meetings.

What a year – make sure you don't miss out on any of it!

CAN YOU HELP?

Can you give a couple of hours a month to help the Art Society?

We are growing so fast that we need volunteers with all sorts of skills. So tell us what you are good at, or what you would like to do - all contributions gratefully received!

"You don't have to join the Committee either," says Chairman David Hughes. "Please give me a call on 01962 736751 or email artsociety@alresford.org and let us know where your strengths lie, be it admin, computers, meet and greet, or helping with the summer exhibition."

NO PROGRAMME?

If you receive this newsletter by post, your programme should be enclosed with this mailing. However, if you normally receive the newsletter by email, you will also receive the programme via email.

Call Melanie Bliss if you have any problems on 01256 389616.

SURVEY RESULTS

Thank you for taking part in our January survey. 120 members replied and the results were as follows:

EVENING MEETINGS	38
STATUS QUO	59
NO STRONG VIEWS	23



That means that we will continue to have our January and February meetings at 2.30pm and all other member meetings at 7.30pm, excluding July and August of course, when there are no meetings.

DID YOU KNOW?

That the Art Society is a member of the SAA (the Society for All Artists) which means we can buy artist materials at discounted rates on your behalf. See Jean Bassington at member meetings to view the catalogue and you can choose your brushes, paint, paper or whatever, when you need them.

Members of the Alresford Art Society are also entitled to a 15% discount at Artworthy Framing in Broad Street, Alresford, 10% at The Little Green Dragon in Alton and 7.5% at the Picture Framing Shop in Hiltingbury, on production of your membership/programme card. Just another good reason to pay your subs on time!

SUBS DUE APRIL 1ST

Your subs are due on the 1st April and, if you are one of those people who are STILL paying £8 by Standing Order, PLEASE change it to £10 before the end of March.

If you do not currently pay by Standing Order we would urge you to do so as it saves us having to chase you. Please complete a form, which can be sent to you by email or post or, you can download it from the Society's website (www.artsociety.alresford.org).

Click on Join Us. Otherwise please call Jean Bassington on 01962 733954 or email jean_bassington78@hotmail.com and she will send you a form.

Don't forget you will only receive your membership/programme card on receipt of your subs and this card entitles you to discounts at several framing and art suppliers.

CLARE RETURNS FOR APPRAISAL

Popular Winchester artist Clare Goodman will be back in Alresford for our Appraisal evening.

This is not designed to be an intimidating event, but rather an opportunity for you to get advice if you are stuck, or why a painting did or didn't work, or what you can do to bring it to life, or how you can enhance the subject.

Members are invited to bring along one painting so that Clare can give it the once over and give her professional opinion.



Clare in action at The ARC last February

NEWS OF CLASSES

The life and portrait classes have proved so successful that Jean Bassington will continue to organise six Life and Portrait classes a term. If you are not already on Jean's list please email her at jean_bassington78@hotmail.com for details or call her on 01962 733954.

The watercolour improvers classes continue each term and the Spring term sees the Tuesday night group tackle animals and birds with Lisa Steincke and interiors and moonlight with Hilary Marchant. The Friday morning group is tackling fur and feathers with Jenny Kennish, snow scenes with Jill Smith and flowers and leaves with Julie Hepenstal.

There is a waiting list for the Friday class, but two places are available in the summer term for the Tuesday class.

For further information contact Sue Gentry on 01962 733893 or email sue.gentry@gentrypublicity.co.uk.



ArtFund

Following the business of the AGM our speaker will be Alicia Salter, Hampshire Chairman of the Art Fund and Alresford resident.

The Art Fund has saved countless works of art for the nation, the most recent notable acquisitions being the Staffordshire Hoard and, working alongside the National Trust, Pieter Brueghel the Younger's beautifully detailed *Procession to Calvary*, painted in 1602.



Part of the Staffordshire Hoard

Art Fund members are entitled to free entry to over 200 galleries and museums, as well as half price entry to most national exhibitions, including those at the British Museum, National Gallery,

all the Tate galleries, the V&A and many more. **For more information visit www.artfund.org.**

MICHAEL BOOTH

Michael was a well-known Society member and his beautiful pen and ink paintings were a feature of our annual exhibition. Graham Marsden pays tribute to his friend who died just before Christmas.

"I first met Michael in 2001 when I joined the Art Society. He was always very friendly and helpful and he introduced me to Probus. We became good friends. He was that sort of person, instantly likeable.

"As an artist he specialised in pen and wash with an unbelievable accuracy for buildings that came from his enthusiasm for architecture and his experience as an architect. He was a big supporter of the Society and served on the committee from 1998 to 2001.

"Michael could always be relied upon to help at the exhibitions as a steward. He enjoyed his painting and went on the painting days when he was fit and able and joined the Monday Painting group in the Christy Hall where he kept all the ladies in order!



Continued in next column

Exbury House by Michael Booth

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL BOOTH *continued*

"Michael was also a big sports fan, a member of Hampshire Cricket Club - a regular attendee at their home games, and a supporter of Portsmouth FC. His popularity in Alresford was considerable, judging by the attendance at his funeral, and the tributes paid to him on that occasion. Old Alresford Church was packed to the rafters.

"He was a member of many of Alresford's societies and never took a back seat when it came to helping or contributing to any group he joined. He was, as they said at Probus, 'a thoroughly fine chap';" said Graham.

ANIMAL PASTEL WORKSHOP

Anne Chadwick's pastel demonstration at our March meeting will be followed by a pastel workshop concentrating on animal portraits.

As always places are granted on a first-come first-served basis, so please send an email or complete the form below as soon as possible.

If you are not on email please complete this form and return it to Violet Jones at the address below, otherwise email your details to her at violet.jones1@gmail.com.



Lola by Anne Chadwick

PLEASE SEND ME A BOOKING FORM FOR ANNE CHADWICK'S PASTEL WORKSHOP Saturday 12th March, 2011

NAME

ADDRESS.....

.....

TELEPHONE

EMAIL

Please return as soon as possible to: Violet Jones, 3, New Farm Road, Alresford SO24 9QS or email violet.jones1@gmail.com.

PASTEL PORTRAIT



Patrick Moore

ANNE CHADWICK is the demonstrator at our meeting on Friday March 4th. She trained at Bristol and Kingston and has a BA degree in Fine Art.

A finalist in the National Portrait Gallery's portrait awards, Anne has exhibited regularly with the Contemporary Portrait Society and with the Royal Society of Portrait Painters in London.

Among those who have commissioned works are Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia, the Earl of March, Gallaher Limited (who commissioned four successive chairmen), Eton College (a drawing for the Old Boys' Hall of Fame), international businessman Robert Gibbon and Thwaites Limited. Anne also paints landscapes and seascapes, particularly around Sussex where the colours, shapes and textures have inspired some of her most popular work.

SALE OF MATERIALS

Win and Arthur Stowell would like to sell a selection of art materials for the Leukaemia Society and we will have a sales table for this purpose at our March meeting. The charity is very close to Win and Arthur's heart and it may well be that you have surplus art items that you no longer need which you would like to dispose of.

Please bring them along as early as you can on the night of the 4th March and we will add them to the sales table. All proceeds from the sale will go to the charity.

In addition, should you have any good quality books or DVDs that you think would make good additions to our library, then we would be delighted to receive them. Jean Bassington is in charge of the library and you can bring them to any Society meeting, or contact Jean at jean_bassington78@hotmail.com or telephone 01962 733954 to arrange collection.

Our thanks to Pauline Cherrett for her recent kind donation to the library.

GOODBYE TO JIM AND HELLO TO MELANIE



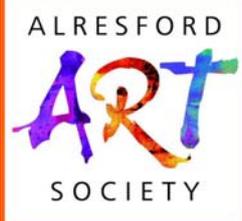
David Hughes (right) thanks retiring Secretary, Jim Mason, for his sterling work.

One of the disappointments of not having a December meeting was that we were unable to say an official farewell to Jim Mason as he stepped down as Secretary of the Art Society.

Jim is moving to Keston in Kent to be nearer to his family. He has been Secretary since 2007 and the committee held a special mince pie and bubbly farewell just before Christmas to say thank you to Jim for his dedicated service.

"Jim was a star as our Secretary," said David, "so efficient yet so modest. How many would recognise him? He was so unassuming. He was equally so about his art work. It was only after some persuasion that he submitted two paintings to our last Exhibition – where they were then voted amongst the favourite People's Choices.

Many thanks to Jim for his efforts, and best wishes to him and his family in their new home. "



We are delighted to report that our new Secretary Melanie Bliss was appointed at the end of 2010 and you will find her full contact details at the bottom of this page.

Mel lives in Bradley and is married with two children and, with her husband Paul, organises the successful Blissfields Festival held every summer. A former archaeologist, Mel was President of her student union and was involved in the building of the first Roman Villa in 1600 years at Butser Ancient Farm, for the Discovery Channel.

"I've always been creative," says Mel and have dabbled in drama, music and art over the years. I'm enjoying meeting lots of members who seem very talented and enthusiastic. I think the Art Society has so much potential and, with such a lot on offer, I am really excited about joining the fold!"

"Mel has already made great strides in making us more efficient," says David "and we now have a centralised system of membership details. So watch out if you don't pay your subs!"



Melanie Bliss

**The Secretary: Well Garden, Bradley, Nr Alresford, SO24 9RY. Tel 01256 389616.
Email: art_society@alresford.org www.artsociety.alresford.org**