

Society Sketchbook

Issue 10

June, 2011

INSIDE:

* Exhibitor info and rules for the Annual Exhibition (page 2).

* Information and booking form for 2011 painting days (page 3).

* AGM round up (page 4).

ENCLOSED:

As a separate sheet, an entry form for this year's Exhibition. If you receive newsletters by email your entry form will be sent in that way too.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JOE LOW

**Photographer
In Pursuit of Aesthetic
Harmony**

followed by *Summer Wine*.
Friday 3rd June, 7.30pm at
The ARC, Alresford.

JUNE PAINTING DAY

Frensham Pond

Wednesday 8th June.
Arrive 10.30am at
Frensham Pond Hotel.

More details and a booking form for all 2010 painting days inside. See page 3.

JULY PAINTING DAY

Weir House, Old Alresford

Thursday 7th July, 10.30am, see page 3 for more information.

ANNUAL EXHIBITION Community Centre

15-17 July, application form and rules for entry with this mailing.

Don't forget to book your stewarding duty.

AUGUST PAINTING DAY Highclere Castle

Arrive 10.30am.
See page 3 for more details.

MAKING AN EXHIBITION OF OURSELVES

The Society's Annual Exhibition takes place from Friday 15th to Sunday 17th July at the Community Centre in Alresford.

As always the private view is held on the evening before, on Thursday 14th at 7.30 pm. All members are invited to come along for a glass of wine and to see what we have been up to during the year.

We need **you** to lend a hand as there is much work to be done, both on the Thursday afternoon with receiving artwork and setting up the exhibition; taking down on the Sunday evening and most importantly stewarding over the three days.

If you can offer a couple of hours stewarding duty then please contact Geoff

Robinson on 01962 735536 or email gerobinson@btinternet.com.

You will find the rules for entering your paintings on page two of this newsletter.

"The exhibition is a great opportunity to show off our skills and to sign up new Members," says David Hughes, Society Chairman.

"Last year's show sold double the number of paintings than the previous year, so let's see if we can do even better in 2011."

Don't forget to send in your application form by Friday 1st July.

If you receive newsletters by post, then your exhibitor's application form should also be enclosed. If you receive newsletters by email, then you will receive it by email. Contact the Secretary if you have a problem - details on back page.



Broad Street by Jane Swan, voted the People's Favourite at the 2010 exhibition.

HAMPSHIRE LIFE DROPS INTO APPRAISAL

Hampshire Life magazine dropped in to visit us at our April meeting. It was in readiness for their May edition, which featured organisations in Alresford and members are pictured below with Clare Goodman (second left front row) who conducted our Appraisal evening.



Photo courtesy Hampshire Life

Clare's five criteria for reviewing paintings were:

Choice of Image - the reason why you are drawn to a certain subject.

Originality - be inspired by others but no slavish copying. Develop your own approach.

Layout of your composition - choice of focal point or points, the Golden Section.

Technique - Style, medium choice, knives/brushes, etc. Experiment - don't be afraid to fail! And finally...

Impact or wow factor - the spark between the picture and the viewer. It can exist in a complete beginner's work - as well as someone more advanced - it is totally subjective.

ALRESFORD ART SOCIETY ANNUAL EXHIBITION 2011

EXHIBITOR INFORMATION

VENUE: The Community Centre, Alresford, 15th - 17th July 2011.

FINAL ENTRY ACCEPTANCE DATE: Friday 1st July, 2011 (see rule 2).

ENTRY DELIVERY: Thursday 14th July, 1-2pm (see rule 7).

PRIVATE VIEW: Thursday 14th July, 7.30 - 9 pm. All members are invited.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Friday 15th, Saturday 16th (10-5) & Sunday 17th July (10-4).

CLOSING AND COLLECTION TIME: Sunday 17th July - **4.30pm to 5.30pm** (See rule 7).

ENTRIES TO: Jean Bassington, Hassock Cottage, Northington Down, Alresford SO24 9UB.

ENTRY FEE: As per entry form. Cheques payable to Alresford Art Society, with Entry Form.

RULES

Any work not complying with these rules will be rejected/removed.

1. Members may submit *TWO* works in any medium (paint, fabric, pottery, sculpture, wood carving), plus *ONE* reserve, only one of which can be Not For Sale, plus *THREE* unframed paintings (folios).
2. Entry form to be delivered to Jean Bassington no later than the evening of **Friday 1st July 2011**. PLEASE PRINT YOUR DETAILS CLEARLY as mistakes on the Exhibition cards can happen.
3. Pictures to be framed or box canvas, with two screwed eyes or D rings with a taut string. Clipped frames will not be accepted for safety reasons. Unframed paintings to have mounts or be ready for framing and in a cellophane film for acceptance as folios. Canvas oils **cannot** be accepted as folios. Pictures for hanging should be not more than 36" x 24".
4. Exhibits to be the **original** work of the member, and must not have been exhibited in any previous AAS annual exhibition. Copies of other artists' work, or prints of your own work, will not be accepted.
5. All exhibits to be labelled on the back with the **Title, Artist, Medium, and Price**. The reserve painting must be clearly marked on the back RESERVE. Please try to keep titles as short as possible. All paintings to have a tie-on label of min size 2"x1" and a 12" long string, with the same information on. Please try to ensure that the information is identical to that on the Entry Form, as the entry form data will be used.
6. Members exhibit at their own risk and should take out insurance if they feel it necessary.
7. All your exhibits should be entered and delivered to the Community Centre on time, unpacked and ready for hanging. All packaging to be taken away. **Late entries may not be accepted.** Please collect by closing time.
8. Reproductions of members' artwork as cards may be sold, maximum number per member – 30. All cards will be sold at £2. Cards of other prices will not be accepted.
9. A commission of 20% will be charged on all sales, except cards, which will carry a commission of 10%.

YOUR ENTRY FORM IS ENCLOSED WITH THIS MAILING OR WILL BE EMAILED TO YOU.

YOUR ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION IS NOW DUE.

PLEASE DON'T MAKE US CHASE YOU!

Membership/programme cards for 2011/12 will be issued to paid up members at the June meeting and the Annual Exhibition. If your subscription has not been received by the publication of the September newsletter, you will be deemed to have lapsed and no further newsletters or Society information will be sent to you.

PAINTING DAYS 2011

**We do need to know in advance if you will be joining us at these very special places.
Let us know too if you would like a lift, or want to bring a guest.**

FRENHAM POND – Wednesday 8th June

A chance to tackle watery reflections and beautiful countryside. We suggest meeting up at 10.30am for a cuppa at the Frensham Pond Hotel. Then it is a case of picking your spot - don't forget to bring a comfortable folding seat or stool. As we will be parking at the hotel, they have asked if we can tell them roughly how many will be having lunch, so if you could indicate on the form below if you are bringing your own lunch, then we can give them a clue as to how many extra guests they can expect. Visit www.frenshampondhotel.co.uk to take a look at their all day menu for sandwiches, salads, etc. If you would like a lift, please indicate below. **Arrival time 10.30am at the Frensham Pond Hotel. (FREE)**

WEIR HOUSE, OLD ALRESFORD – Thursday 7th July

Janette and George Hollingbery have kindly agreed to open their garden just for us. Right on our doorstep, this spectacular riverside garden contains a newly-designed pool garden and a contemporary vegetable and cut-flower garden incorporating many different crops, surprising uses for scaffolding and painters' ladders and sculptures by Mark Merer. Water is available and shelter, should the weather be wet or windy. Don't forget to bring a comfortable seat and your own refreshments and lunch. We have agreed a donation of £5 per member which will go towards Naomi House childrens' hospice.

Arrival time is 10.30 am.

(£5 DONATION)

HIGHCLERE CASTLE – Wednesday 3rd August

Immortalised as ITV's Downton Abbey, Highclere Castle has been home to the Carnarvon family since 1679. The present Castle was designed in 1842 by Sir Charles Barry, the architect responsible for building the Houses of Parliament. The 5th Earl, with Howard Carter, discovered the tomb of Tutankhamun in the Valley of the Kings in 1922 and the Castle now houses an exhibition that commemorates this historic event. We have arranged an entry time of 10.30am, half an hour before the property normally opens. The ticket price also includes entry to the castle, but you will need to pay an additional sum if you wish to visit the Egyptian exhibition. Members of the Historic Houses Association are free. There is a tearoom and gift shop.

Our entry time is 10.30am (half an hour before opening to the general public) so we would ask members to please arrive in good time. (PRICE £9 including castle, gardens & grounds)

WEST GREEN, HARTLEY WINTNEY - Wednesday 7th September

West Green House is a quintessential English manor built of warm red bricks where busts of Gods and Emperors survey from their niches high in the house's facade the enchanting walled garden and the classical lakes and follies beyond. A grand water staircase, provides the focal point to the Nymphaeum fountain designed by Quinlan Terry. By the house is a charming small topiary garden where water lilies flourish in small water tanks sunk in the ground. It runs up to a handsome aviary inhabited by unusual breeds of bantams and chickens. Beyond, are a dramatic new Persian water garden in a woodland glade, a newly restored lake, more follies and fancies, new walks and massive bulb plantings. You cannot fail to be inspired, cheered, amused and delighted by this extraordinary garden. There is also a gift shop and tea room.

Our arrival time is 11am and we need to know if you are coming – even if you are already a National Trust member, as the total number of Trust members will be counted to gain our group rate. (PRICE £8, NT members free)



Please put my name down for the following painting days:

FRENHAM POND	<input type="checkbox"/>	I will bring my own lunch	<input type="checkbox"/>
WEIR HOUSE	<input type="checkbox"/>		
HIGHCLERE CASTLE	<input type="checkbox"/>		
WEST GREEN GARDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	I am/am not a National Trust member (delete as applicable)	

I WISH TO BRING A GUEST TO

I WOULD LIKE A LIFT TO

NAME (please print clearly)

TELEPHONE **EMAIL**

**Please do not send any money, payment will be made on the day.
Please return to: Violet Jones, 3 New Farm Road, Alresford SO24 9QS
or email violet.jones1@gmail.com**

A VERY GOOD YEAR

Society Chairman David Hughes reported on a hugely successful year at the AGM, that saw membership grow from 130 to 170. He thanked retiring committee members Liza Hughes and Rachel Thomsen - though Rachel will stay on as a member of the Exhibition sub-committee - and all the hard work carried out during the year by committee members and helpers.

Sadly our Secretary Jim Mason had moved away during the year to be replaced by Melanie Bliss, who was elected to the committee alongside Vivienne Isemann, who takes on the role of Membership Secretary. Three retiring members have agreed to be re-elected to the committee for another three year term - Jean Bassington, Sue Gentry and Geoff Robinson.

The Annual Exhibition was acclaimed for its quality, its sales up at 23 paintings and 272 cards. The increase in membership gave us anxiety about meeting capacity when Charles Evans visited in February, and raises the question, "what do we do if we get much bigger?" More members means more expenditure, notably postage and the £10 subscription is cheap by any measure. Meeting costs will rise in the coming year but are still cheaper than Bishops Sutton with better facilities and the ARC will happily put out the chairs and even do the washing up for us!

Life and portrait classes were introduced during the year to great acclaim; we managed to organise a behind-the-scenes visit to the Southampton City Art Gallery and members were surveyed to gauge support for continuing with afternoon meetings in January and February. The ballot showed they should continue with 73% of the membership voting in favour - an astonishing 79% turn-out. A sale of art materials initiated by Wyn and Arthur Stowell raised £116 for Leukaemia Research.

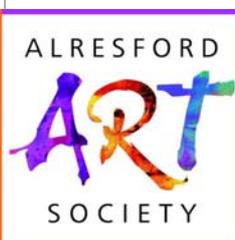
The Chairman made an impassioned plea for more members to come forward and serve on the committee. As the Society becomes more successful there are more jobs to do and Joanne May offered to serve and Wendy Starforth Hill and Jill Jennings offered to take on the running of the surgery exhibition from Rachel Thomsen.

The new Membership card/programme will be on its way to all members who have paid their subscription, with a huge variety of topics and media, including photography for the first time.

After the success of the Society's work with the Perins and Sun Hill schools, we are now working with Cheriton School on activities including 3D work, mosaics, multi-media adventure and photography. We will be in support of the staff, encouraging the children and our joint efforts will lead to displays at the Alresford Show and the Cheriton Village Show.

Our Tuesday and Friday watercolour classes flow seamlessly through three terms of the year, grown from nothing, yet developed into a mainstay of our existence. David thanked all the tutors who help the students to such a high standard, particularly Alan Trussler who has had to retire from teaching due to ill health.

Continued in next column.....



AGM report cont.

Hampshire chairman of the Art Fund, Alicia Salter, followed the business of the meeting with a beautifully illustrated talk on the work of the organisation. The Art Fund has been helping to save works of art for the nation since its creation in 1903, including such famous works as Turner's The Blue Rigi and most recently the Staffordshire Hoard.

Membership of the Art Fund brings free entrance to hundreds of galleries up and down the country and half price entry to most of the big one-off exhibitions. More information on www.artfund.org.

WESSEX SCULPTORS

Open Studios at
Brockwood Barn,
Bramdean

20th, 21st, 27th,
28th & 29th August
11am - 5 pm



PHILLIP FERRIS & LIZ REID

We are sad to report the deaths of Phillip Ferris and Liz Reid. Liz, who has died after a short illness, had not long been a member of the Society, but she had taken to portraiture like a duck to water and was thrilled to sell her first portrait at last year's Exhibition.

Phillip was a retired headteacher and was always full of enthusiasm, whatever he did. He was a member of U3A, the Wine Circle, Twinning and numerous clubs and societies and a keen walker and traveller with his wife Trish.

As an Art Society committee member, Phillip used to organise Painting Days. A willing volunteer at the annual exhibition, he was always ready to lend a hand.



Phillip in action at an oil workshop.

In the days before email he would keep costs down by cycling around the town with Society letters to save on postage.

He enjoyed painting in all media but his line and wash paintings will be particularly remembered. We will miss his ready smile and his artwork.