

Society Sketchbook

March, 2015

Issue 25

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JONATHAN NEWEY
Demo: Winter Landscape in Watercolour Pencil
Wednesday 25th February,
 2.30pm at The ARC, Alresford.

NOTE afternoon meeting

JONATHAN NEWEY
Winter Landscape in Watercolour Pencil
 Workshop Saturday 7th
 March, 10-4 at The Christy Hall,
 Old Alresford.

Have you booked yet?

GRAHAM OLIVER
Demonstration
Pastel on Sandpaper
 Wednesday 25th March
 7.30pm at The ARC,
 Alresford.

GRAHAM OLIVER
Workshop
Pastel on Sandpaper
 Saturday 28th March,
 10-4 at The Christy Hall,
 Old Alresford.

Booking form page 3

AGM - Elizabeth Cook
Court Artist
 Wednesday 29th April, 7.30
 The ARC, Alresford.

CHANGING PERSPECTIVES

See page 4 for details of this one-off exhibition.

OLD FRIENDS RETURN

There are a few old friends returning in our 2015/16 programme. Our Art Quiz is back by popular demand and Tony Hunt, Vice President of the Watercolour Society, will be back to complete his fascinating History of Watercolour Painting.

The ever-popular **Ali Lindley**, (www.alilindleyartist.co.uk), will be demonstrating action in watercolour and you can see from her painting below that her style really lends itself to movement.

The colourful **Soraya French**, (www.sorayafrench.com), will create one of her typical market scenes in mixed media (see above) and **Clarissa Russell** also returns, this time to tackle a pastel landscape (www.clarissarussell.com).

Ali, Soraya and Clarissa will all be running workshops for us too, which are bound to be sure-fire winners.

New visitors to Alresford are **Lynne Davies** who creates beautiful animal studies,



Ride with the Wind, Ali Lindley

(www.lynnedavies.com), **Alison Board** and **Lindsey J Cole**, (www.alisonboard-fineart.co.uk and www.lindseyjaynecole.co.uk), all watercolourists. Lynne and Lindsey will also be running workshops.

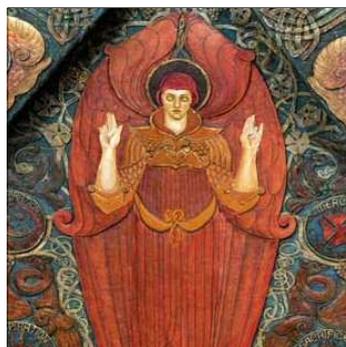
We always try to book good speakers to liven up our AGM and this year is no exception as **Daphne Jefferies** will talk on *The Patronage of the Medici Family in 18thC Florence*.



Sizzling Soraya French

We hope the weather will be kinder to us when we re-visit **Weir House**, Old Alresford, for a painting day. The pool house is a great spot for lunch; the potager and sculptures provide interesting features and the property is of course surrounded by water.

And finally, a painting day at **The Old Rectory** in Swarraton which enjoys a magnificent garden, ponds, courtyard and countryside views.



Interior of Watts Cemetery Chapel

We return to the sublime **Watts Gallery and Chapel** in Surrey, which since we last visited has introduced tours to the home and studio of this great Victorian painter. The Hockney of his day, Watts was a huge star and his remarkable wife Mary taught the local villagers how to create terracotta and with them created the amazing Watts Cemetery Chapel in his memory.

Landscape, gardens and wildlife are the order of the day when we visit Selborne and spend a day in this picturesque village, based around **Gilbert White's House**.

NO PROGRAMME?

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

Call Sue Gardner if you have any problems on 01420 564467 or email her at the address on the back page.

WE NEED YOU!

Do you have a couple of hours a month spare to support your Art Society?

With 170 members on the books we need help with all sorts of jobs. Could you help with the summer exhibition? Can you help us set up the hall for member meetings? Do you have finance, IT or admin skills? Can you help organise Society events, classes or workshops?

"Let us know what you could do, no matter how small, as every little helps," says Chairman, Sue Gentry, "and you don't have to join the Committee!"

**Call Sue to find out more on
01962 773185 or email
sue.gentry@gentrypublicity.co.uk.**

DAVE DOES IT

Dave White returned for another lively acrylic demonstration and workshop in November.

Carol Wade writes: We realised that to do a graded background wash takes a lot of skill and practice....

That clouds must have a varied appearance and how perspective is the underlying rule to their portrayal becoming realistic and without the feeling of a cartoon rough...

The colours that go to make up the sea and how highlights are achieved....

Then the foregrounds... where to put long wave surges and how rocks are coloured differently from their shadows.

A good day and we all came away with coloured fingers!



Dave White at the acrylic workshop

WHITE ON

Kirstin White inspired us in the autumn with her painting of Broad Street. She showed us how to capture passing people and insert them into a picture, then bring the whole scene alive by the careful application of shadows.



Kirstin in action on her picture of Broad Street.

BANK CHANGE

Due to the impending closure of Nat West Bank, the Society will be moving its account to Lloyds Bank in West Street. We have been assured by Lloyds that if you already have a standing order to pay your subs to the Art Society, they will automatically change that payment before it is due on the 1st April.

YOU NEED TO TAKE NO ACTION.

If you use internet banking to pay for classes or workshops you will still be able to do so using the NatWest bank account until 1st March.

As soon as we know what our new account details will be we will inform members by email.

CHARITY ART SALE

Our next charity art sale will take place at the members' meeting on Wednesday 25th March (which starts at 7.30pm) both before the meeting and during the tea break.

If you have any art materials that you no longer need, please do bring them along on the night.

ART ON SHOW

If you came to the January meeting you will have noticed that improvements to the ARC are nearly complete and that members' paintings now adorn the main hall.

Thanks to New Alresford Town Council this is now a permanent venue for the Society and paintings will be changed regularly. Brenda Young has kindly agreed to organise the exhibits for us. We will notify members when paintings are due to be changed and you can contact Brenda on 01962 771381 if you have paintings you wish to display. If paintings are sold, the usual commission of 10% will apply.

Jill Jennings and Wendy Starforth Hill have stood down as organisers of the surgery exhibition and we must thank them for their creativity and hard work over the years.

The new team of Jacky Snowdon and Ken Crowhurst have taken over the reins and you can contact Jacky on 01962 732984 if you wish to exhibit.

The Society has decided to withdraw members' paintings from Makins Court.

For some years pictures have been exhibited along the corridors in the sheltered housing scheme in an attempt to liven up the environment for the elderly residents. Graham Marsden, and then David Hughes, organised the scheme on behalf of the Society but latterly it has become difficult to find someone to take on the task. The committee also wondered whether anyone really noticed the paintings.

“We must thank Graham and David for organising the displays for us over the years,” says Chairman Sue Gentry, “and also the members who let us borrow their paintings. It is with some sadness that we have informed the City Council that we will no longer be providing this service.”



Makins Court, Alresford

CLASSES UPDATE

All classes are at the Christy Hall, Old Alresford and run until Easter:

LIFE CLASSES tutored by Karen Popham from 4.15-6.15pm on Tuesdays. Course fee £80.

THURSDAY WATERCOLOURS with Sarah Morrish from 10am - 12pm. Course fee £60.

OIL CLASSES with Karen Popham run on Mondays from 4-6.30pm. Class fee £80. (Full)

If you wish to register for any of the above, email Jean Bassington at jean_bassington78@hotmail.com or call 01962 733954.

TUESDAY WATERCOLOURS from 7.30 - 9.30pm. Fee £60. (Full but places in summer term.)

FRIDAY WATERCOLOURS from 10-12 noon, class fee £60. (Full but places in summer term.)

For further information on Tuesday and Friday classes call Sue Gentry on 01962 773185 or email sue.gentry@gentrypublicity.co.uk.

BOOK YOUR WORKSHOP NOW

Graham Oliver's pastel workshop takes place on Saturday 28th March from 10-4 at Old Alresford's Christy Hall. More on page 4.

Your place is NOT guaranteed until payment has been received. A receipt with the final details for the workshop will be issued nearer the time.

I wish to attend the following workshop:

**GRAHAM OLIVER 28th March
Pastel workshop**

NAME
(please print clearly)

ADDRESS

.....

TELEPHONE

EMAIL

Please return with your cheque made payable to Alresford Art Society for £25 to Jean Bassington, Hassock Cottage, Northington Down SO24 9UB. Enquiries to 01962 733954 or email jean_bassington@hotmail.com.

PERFECT PASTEL

Graham Oliver is the demonstrator for our March 25th meeting and a follow up workshop.

After gaining his BA and teaching, Graham studied with the noted pastellist Christopher Assheton-Stones PS. Graham opened his gallery in Salisbury in 1988 and leads painting courses and holidays in various locations and on P & O cruises. Graham works in pastel on sandpaper, which he says is an ideal medium for developmental painting because the image can easily be modified until the best solution is found. He has published three books and a DVD on the subject.

“The majority of cave paintings are composed of pressed powder pigment similar to that which is used today,” says Graham “so pastel may be considered the oldest painting medium. The preconceived ideas of what a pastel should look like are being broken down and gradually more progressive and experimental painters are discovering its possibilities.”



Gurston Down by Graham Oliver

CHANGING PERSPECTIVES

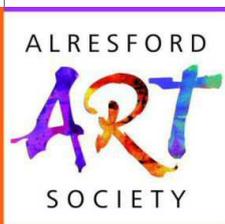
Don't miss Changing Perspectives, a one-off Art Exhibition.

**Saturday March 14th 10-7 &
Sunday March 15th 10-4**

The Link Gallery, University of Winchester,
Romsey Road, Winchester

*60 Wessex artists will be exhibiting
contemporary paintings, sculpture and ceramics.*

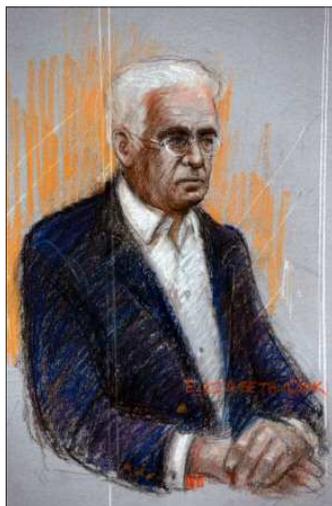
*In aid of Winchester GoLD, formerly
Winchester & District Mencap.*



**The Secretary: 5 Brackenbury Gardens, Medstead, Alton GU34 5EA. Tel. 01420 564467.
Email: art_society@alresford.org www.artsociety.alresford.org**

This newsletter is edited by Sue Gentry and printed by Sarsen Press. Contact 01962 773185 or email sue.gentry@gentrypublicity.co.uk.

SEE YOU IN COURT



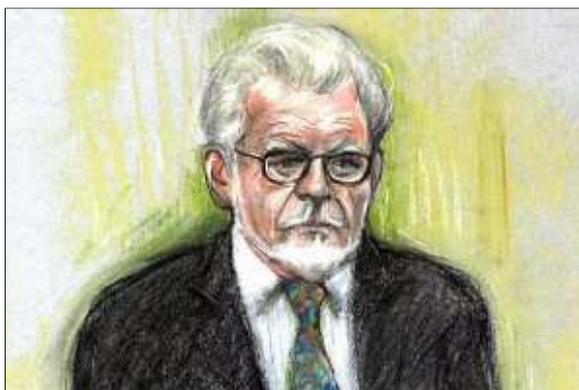
Our speaker following the AGM on 29th April is Court artist Elizabeth Cook, whose work you will have seen many times in your daily newspaper.

Over the last twenty years Elizabeth has drawn countless criminals, politicians and celebrities. She will describe for us how she tackles her job, which she calls 'visual journalism'.

Her work is made harder by the fact that she has to commit everything to memory, as she is not allowed to put pencil to paper inside the courtroom. She will spend five minutes making written notes and will often sit outside, weather permitting, to make her finished drawing, which will take around 15 minutes.

Elizabeth has captured the most evil criminals in her career, including Harold Shipman, Ian Huntley and Rosemary West, the latter returning the artist's gaze with a look of pure hatred.

There are only a handful of court artists left in the UK and with the advent of cameras in the courtroom, they may well become a dying breed.



Rolf Harris and above, Max Clifford, during their trials.

**A Warm Welcome
to new members
Mani Clement, David Westley
and Fiona Scott-Morton**