



NEWSLETTER

NR 107 - NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2008

www.ringwoodartsociety.org

Opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Society or its Committee

My last newsletter! And guess what—my computer decided to give up a few days too early so not many pictures in this edition as I have been struggling on the laptop!
Lesley Huggins is taking over the mantle for which I am very grateful and I know she will do a great job. See you around. Pam Mason-Smith

WINDSOR CASTLE TALK AT THE AGM

The committee very much regrets some of the comments made by our guest speaker from the Ringwood Camera Club during his talk following on from the AGM.

While every effort is made to invite speakers who will be enjoyed by our members, clearly we are unable to vet them all and have to rely on recommendations. This speaker came highly recommended by the Chairman of the Ringwood Camera Club.

We are sorry for any offence given.

SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE!

It was agreed at the AGM to raise the subscriptions to £12 for 2009. Please send your cheque, made payable to the Ringwood Art Society, to Lionel Foreman, 19 Woodlinken Way, Verwood, Dorset, BH31 6BT. Tel 01202 820914

Please be aware that if you haven't renewed by **31st December** your membership will automatically be cancelled.

If you have moved recently or changed your telephone number don't forget to inform the membership secretary—Mary Palmer 01202 887053

EXHIBITION NEWS

You will have all received a submission form for the Salisbury Hospital Exhibition.

PLEASE NOTE:

CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS WEDNESDAY 10th DECEMBER

"What constitutes a box canvas"?

The subject of Box canvases was brought up at the last committee meeting as several members had raised the question. Although there are various interpretations of what constitutes a box canvas, for the purpose of clarification and specific to the Ringwood Art Society only, the committee decided :- to continue with the guidelines set out for our annual exhibition. i.e.- Box canvases of any thickness are acceptable, but there must be no visible sign of nails or studs on the edge of the canvas and fixings should be out of sight attached to the inside of the wooden frame.

LIFE MODEL PAINTING AFTERNOON with TUTOR

2-4.30pm Ann Rose Hall at Greyfriars

Cost £6 (£9 for non members)

Tea & Coffee Provided

Please phone Margaret Plant to book your place on 02380 558698

Tuesday 20th January

Tuesday 17th February

Tuesday 17th March



WORKSHOPS IN THE NEW YEAR—Cost £20 each

Held on Saturdays from 10am-4pm in the Ann Rose Hall at Greyfriars

Tea and Coffee provided but bring along your own packed lunch

All workshops must be booked with Margaret Plant on 02380 558698

Margaret will provide you with details of materials to bring along and any other instructions for each workshop.

Saturday 28th February

'FREE & LOOSE' IN WATERCOLOURS with Dennis Hill

This workshop follows a watercolour still life demonstration that Dennis will give at our club meeting in January.

A must for all those who wish to loosen up in watercolour.

Saturday 28th March

ASPECTS OF OBSERVATION & COMPOSITION with Clive Daniels

This workshop will be good preparation for us to produce some masterpieces for our summer exhibition. Clive is well known to many of us as he was exhibition secretary for many years.

Saturday 25th April

NEW DIRECTIONS IN ACRYLIC with Daphne Ellman

By popular request Daphne Ellman will be back to give us a demo in acrylics at our meeting in March entitled 'Coastal Images' - clearly inspired by her new home on the Isle of Wight! This workshop will be very popular.

(See details on these artists elsewhere in the newsletter)

Club Meeting on Monday 16th March

Barry Herbert, Art Historian, will be coming to give us an illustrated talk entitled 'Towards Expressionism'.

This will feature 20th century work ranging from Van Gogh to Kandinsky—in short a riot of colour.

AGM—Chairman's Report

The landmark event this year has been our re-location in the Greyfriars hall and our consequent change of day from Thursday to Monday for our club night. Inevitably this has led to some inconvenience for a few members, but greater convenience for others. However, the move was necessary to accommodate the numbers often attending club nights; we were quite cramped in the Ebenezer hall.

Our Christmas party was as popular as ever with an even greater response than expected to our invitation to produce a caricature or portrait of a well known personality. The walls of the hall were covered with all your contributions on the night and we all had lots of fun circulating and identifying the personalities. We are confident that this year's challenge to produce an illustration depicting a well known play, film or novel will prove equally popular.

Club nights have produced the usual range of media and subjects, but in addition we have been treated to some unusual topics eg. silk painting, encaustics, and even some fantasy art! Unfortunately not all of our demonstrators hit the popularity jackpot, and there has even been one disaster!

Workshops have continued to be popular, although I was disappointed that Colin Courtice's excellent one on perspective was not taken up by sufficient members. Maybe some were daunted by what they perceive as a difficult and complicated subject whilst others felt smugly that they knew it all already! Having attended this workshop with Colin elsewhere I can vouch for the fact that there is always something valuable to learn and he puts the subject across in an interesting and fun way. Sheila Southwell's workshop on flower painting also had to be cancelled for lack of support. This surprised me as the subject is beloved of many of our lady members. Although Sheila had not been here to give a demonstration her work is well known to members of the SAA. Rob Wareing gave an excellent workshop on portraits in pastels which was well supported even though he had not previously given us a dem. The Soraya French workshop later this month is already fully subscribed.

The life classes have been even more popular since a tutor was introduced. Whereas previously participants attended without prior notice, booking is now essential.

The summer exhibition was a success in spite of the economic downturn which did not appear to dent the sales figures. We exhibited again at Salisbury Hospital and received very positive feedback from the staff involved and, for the first time, at Highcliffe Castle, although the latter did not generate a significant number of sales. Our sincere thanks are due to Ann Squire who puts in an enormous amount of effort in organizing these events, and to all those who help with the hanging, stewarding etc.

The Location Days were very popular this year and many of us enjoyed a day sketching and painting around the home of our member Jean Bayliss. The absence of inquisitive members of the public was probably an encouragement to some. Colin led a day sketching in and around Ringwood in preparation for submissions to the exhibition marking the 50th anniversary of Greyfriars and a number of works were subsequently donated to Greyfriars in support of their fund raising efforts for the refurbishment of the Ebenezer hall.

We enjoyed an excellent outing in the summer to the Royal Academy to view the exhibition of Russian and French impressionist paintings on loan from Russia. It is always a privilege to see these kinds of works which are not readily accessible in the normal course of events.

Finally, I wish you all success in the forthcoming year and hope that you achieve what you are striving for in your artistic endeavours, whether it be prizes, picture sales, or simply the satisfaction of producing work which is pleasing to yourselves.

John Gerwat (Chairman RAS)

COMMITTEE CHANGES FOR 2009

Alan Gibson stepped down this year after a sterling 8 years service. He was programme secretary for many years and then membership secretary. A huge thank you for all you have done for the smooth running of the club Alan. We will miss you on the committee but look forward to still seeing you at events.

Mary Palmer has kindly agreed to take over as membership secretary.

Lesley Huggins has very bravely offered to take on the job of newsletter as Pam is taking a break due to family and work commitments.

John Nicholson has agreed to take on the job of Secretary.

Thank you to all of you and to the committee members who are staying on for another year.

STILL 2 VACANCIES ON THE COMMITTEE—WHAT ABOUT YOU!

DENNIS HILL **Mon 19th Jan—Still Life demo in Watercolour 'Less is More'**
Sat 28th February—Watercolour workshop 'Free and Loose'

Dennis was a full-time lecturer in Engineering Design at Bournemouth College of Technology until his retirement. He first exhibited at the Royal Institute of Painters in Watercolour (RI) in 1978 and continued to exhibit each year until last year. The RI has one of his paintings in their permanent collection.

Dennis has exhibited with the Royal Society of Marine Artists (RSMA) and, more recently, at the Royal West of England Academy (RWA). Dennis also exhibits at the Peter Hedley Gallery in Wareham and The Gallery in Dorchester. He has also had an article published in The Leisure Painter on portrait painting in watercolour.

He now belongs to a select group called The Seven Artists, who have already exhibited in Dorchester this year and are due to exhibit in Salisbury in September.

He has undertaken a commission from BP to paint four paintings of Furzey Island. The Maritime Museum in Poole and the Russell Cotes Museum in Bournemouth have also bought his work.

He is an honorary member of both Poole and East Dorset Art Society and Broadstone Art Society, as well as being President of Southbourne Art Society.

Dennis has a strong commitment to help amateur artists and demonstrates widely to Art Societies and, as can be seen, Dennis is deservedly one of Dorset's most respected artists.

DAPHNE ELLMAN **Mon 16 March—Coastal Images in Acrylic demo**
Sat 25 April - 'New Directions in Acrylic' workshop

Daphne has a great empathy with the countryside, be it landscape, flora or fauna, and this has recently been extended to interiors. These interests are reflected in the varied subject matter that she paints. Several years ago she was invited to become a member of the Society of Women Artists, and is an active committee member of the Romsey Art Group. Her chosen medium is predominantly acrylics, although she is equally at ease with water colour and pen and wash. At present Daphne is working freelance and has works published by various producers such as Royal Doulton, Staffordshire Potteries, J. Arthur Dixon, Hallmark, Waddingtons etc. Despite the demand for finished artworks, Daphne has time to tutor students under the Adult Education umbrella and privately. She also gives demonstrations and runs workshops for art groups and weekend courses on location. Writings, include articles in Leisure Painter magazine and booklets produced for her students. Daphne's genealogy is reported to extend back to a relationship to the great Sir Joshua Reynolds: indeed most generations of her ancestry included poets or painters. She started painting seriously herself when she gave up working in a bank to start a family, and once smitten by the success of her endeavours has become a prolific and dedicated artist spanning twenty years plus.

CLIVE DANIELS **28 March. Aspects of Observation & Composition Workshop**

Clive trained & worked as a commercial artist. He studied fine art as a part time student at Bath Academy of Art and entered teaching as a mature student B.Ed(Bristol University) in 3 dimensional art & philosophy. Taught for 20 years at Cramborne Middle school, Dorset.

'I have always been involved in some aspect of the visual arts, as a graphic artist, part time painter, sculptor student & art teacher. Since my retirement I have pursued my two main pastimes, walking & painting. The main core of my artwork over these retirement years has been the relationship between landscapes & figures. The idea for this work originates from walking the countryside, coastline & mountains & working from on the spot sketches, memory & imagination. I attempt to create scenes where the figures introduced reflect the moods & tensions of the landscape. The figures also introduce a suggestion of narrative to the composition where colour, shape & surface quality are important elements. I try to avoid using any sort of photographic reference'

AGM—Treasurer's Report

The following are a copy of the audited accounts that were accepted by the AGM.

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Subscriptions	£1591.00	Hall Rental	£712.99
Visitors	£129.00	Photo/Print/Station	£483.48
Raffles	£422.80	Lecture Fee (General)	£1265.00
Workshop/Studio	£673.00	Lecture Fee	£915.00
Refreshments	£111.74	Refreshments	£6.05
Christmas Party	£850.00	Christmas Party	£1129.45
Exhibitions	£5499.40	Exhibitions	£4917.13
Video Hire	£10.00	Model	£146.89
Life Class	£216.00	Miscellaneous	£1011.98
Trips	£740.00	Website	£158.49
Equipment Hire	£90.00		
Interest Received	£149.75		
Total	£10482.69	Total	£10746.46

Balance at start of year	£4207.27
Uncashed cheques 2006-2007	£ <u>258.00</u>
	£4465.27
Deficit for year	£ <u>263.77</u>
Balance end of year	<u>£4201.50</u>

Deposit account	£3579.13
Current account after uncashed cheques	£ <u>622.37</u>
	<u>£4201.50</u>

As you can see we ran a deficit of £263.77 which is the third year running.

It was agreed that the club accounts are now in balance with a good level of reserve funding to cover any catastrophes and enough cash to allow the day to day functioning of the club to proceed.

Given that there are increased costs required for hire of halls and demonstrators, the meeting agreed that it would be prudent to increase the subscription to £12 per annum.



The Committee wish you all a **MERRY CHRISTMAS**
and a **VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR**

NEWSLETTER

As you know the club has set up a web site. It costs us £160 pa. The club newsletter is published on this site, and in colour too! The committee wishes to encourage the use of the web site and to this end we would like members to accept the newsletter from the site. This would save 42 pence per issue for postage and printing, and you would have a coloured copy as well as having a permanent file of around 100 back issues when we reach that point.

For those members that cannot or do not wish to access the newsletter in this manner we will still either post a copy or have a copy available for collection on club night, as we do now.

To enable us to organise this we are giving/sending each member a form when they renew their subscription. You will need to return this if you require a printed copy of the newsletter.

If you can take the newsletter off the website you have to do nothing, if you still require a postal copy then return the form to Lionel Foreman.

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have further questions.

Lionel Foreman Tel: 01202 820914

Ringwood Art Society Website
www.ringwoodartsociety.org

Log on and have a look!

You could even put one of your paintings on the members gallery.

Not For Sale Pictures You may remember that in the comments book from the Summer Exhibition a member of the public was critical that we allowed 'Not For Sale' pictures, especially David Hopkins work. I think this was actually a back handed compliment to David as they wanted to buy a picture! David has responded as follows:

'My reasons for NFS pictures (although I did have 2 for sale in the exhibition) is that, being an amateur, I always wonder if my last picture is my best. Many members might also feel this and not want to sell their work.

In my opinion 80% of people who go to view art exhibitions like to see a good standard but not to buy.

Last but not least my 2 daughters put their names on the back of some pictures (That's mine Dad!)

David Hopkins

The next newsletter will be given out on the March club night and mailed the next day if you are not able to collect it.

If you have not returned your form requesting a newsletter by collection or mail you will need to download it from the website on
Monday 16th March