

by Judith Warbey

Submission Forms for our Summer Exhibition are enclosed with this bulletin.

Please check them through carefully, especially the presentation descriptions, and perhaps make a note in your diary for the return date for the form, and handing in dates, etc.

When pricing your work please remember that a purchaser may take advantage paying with a credit card which attracts an extra 2.75% cost to the artist.

Officer Vacancies: It is very disappointing that nobody has stepped forward to run a couple of excursions for the club. **Therefore, there will be no trips planned this year.**

Russ Calver Workshop: This was held on a beautiful spring day, with nine artists (including two very welcome new members) participating and benefitting from instruction by Russ. He put everyone to work immediately



drawing out their chosen subject. He provided paper and pastels for those who did not have any, along with putty rubbers, torchons, etc. As the drawings developed, Russ went round and guided each person offering advice and suggestions. Those who worked quickly were able to complete two pictures during the day. By the end of the afternoon, everyone had completed at least one satisfactory piece; a critique was held when the excellence of everyone's effort became apparent, and we may see a couple

of the paintings at our summer show. Report by Mike Caruana

Townscape in Acrylic demonstration by Colin Brown: Having worked for 25 years as an illustrator and visualiser in the design/advertising and publishing industry, Colin provided a colourful insight into the structured creative process of a "commercial artist".

Working from a photograph onto a surface prepared with an orange wash, Colin made a detailed drawing of a London street scene. Then, using a broad synthetic brush, he started to paint with the canvas up-side-down, and using a very loose style he concentrated on painting in the planes of the image – undistracted by the subject matter. After turning the canvas round, Colin carried on using techniques to describe the angles of the buildings, buses and cars. Using a narrow brush and a long steel ruler, he then drew in defining lines and also added more detailing to the street "furniture". The use of the ruler enabled him to keep his perspective lines correctly aligned. Colin then finished off by adding highlights – with the result that the painting had energy and vibrancy.



Report by Michael Clare

John Bowen gave very valuable advice on working from a sketchbook at our April meeting. Members took home all sorts of tips, and an intent to use a sketchbook more to record views and work out ideas. The evening was extremely helpful to all those "plein air" painters amongst us.

Future Meetings: There will be a "critique night" on June 19th. Always interesting –

please bring along a couple of pictures (not every picture may be presented if numbers overwhelm us!) and enjoy the celebration of our work. The pictures do not have to be framed, as you may have concerns about a work – good opportunity to clarify direction. Jamel Akib will be with us on July 17th demonstrating “movement” in pastel. Should be a splendid evening.

“Plein Air” painting

Let’s hope the weather gets a bit kinder – if not, take those rugs and flasks!

The next meeting place is Christchurch on the 23rd of May. Most of you said you're ok with the date.

If you're interested, shall we meet at Christchurch car park at 9:30.am.

The next venue is Hengistbury Head 10.00 on 7th June. There is a good car park, café and loos. Expansive views, or walk down to get different perspectives on Christchurch



Harbour, or choose the seascapes – also lots of people and dogs and seagulls. The 5th July meeting will be in Ringwood – would suggest banding together in the churchyard for company, and can get views of the market. However, for the brave amongst us there is the High Street, Furlong, or river views on West Street. Please bring your sketches to the meetings, members would be really interested to see them and it may persuade a few more artists to join the merry band. It is worth googling “The Best of Both Worlds with Louise Bougourd”. She had an

interesting. article in the SAA magazine about plein air painting in March.

Four "Seasons Art Exhibition"

Exbury Gardens. Open Daily 10am to 5.30pm, 20mins from M27, J2, West. Post code SO45 1AZ

4.S.A is a group of professional artists set up by Marianna Kneller, Fellow and Founder member of the Society of Botanical Artists.

RAS Summer Exhibition

At our May meeting the committee agreed to have an additional category for the Ringwood Art Society members' work from **plein air sessions** displayed separately at the Summer Exhibition. You may want to join in and see what can be achieved at a session and submit.

The 2017 exhibition offers Oil, Watercolour, pastel, drawings, printmaking and wood turning. Also cards and prints in profusion, plus Marianna's book of beautifully illustrated poems and writings. "The Magical World of John Clare "

Ann Squire is exhibiting with the group until 11th June. The gardens are absolutely stunning, beautiful Rhododendrons and Azaleas all in full bloom and amazing colours. So its worth a trip to see the gardens and the exhibition at the same time.

The Otter Gallery and Pallant House in Chichester: There will be a lovely summer exhibition at the Otter Gallery (Chichester University) titled “Coastal Connections”. This is small gallery showing well curated small exhibitions, and Coastal Connections should be a stunner. There is always interesting work at Pallant House, easily accessible, if you fancy a good day out.