



Lockdown creativity: making art in our gardens in the glorious spring sunshine



Ringwood Art Society

Bulletin Number 155

September 2020

We really need you to think about this

As you are aware both David as Chair and Ann as Exhibition Secretary are standing down this year so we need you to consider if you could take on some or all activities of either role.

Chair Job Description.

Oversight and co-ordination of club activities • Chairing of meetings • Point of contact for the club and public relations • Production of Chair's report for AGM • Management of AGM

Listed below are jobs that David does but do not have to be undertaken by the chairman please consider taking on any of those roles:

1. Set up audio and video equipment for meetings
2. Produce publicity materials for exhibition and collect from printers in Ringwood
3. Produce exhibition catalogue / album
4. Photograph and edit all exhibits

Exhibitions Secretary Job Description

Co-ordinate exhibition planning of both Summer and Salisbury exhibition.

Listed below are jobs that Ann does but do not have to be undertaken by the Exhibition Secretary. Please consider taking on any one of these roles:

1. Produce visual materials for display
2. Name plates for exhibitors
3. Nameplates for browsers and printed catalogue numbers for portfolios
4. Print locations for plein air board display
5. Produce Certificates

If these jobs could be done by members of the club the Exhibition Secretary / Coordinator would be just that, a Coordinator.

All the major jobs e.g. cataloguing the exhibition entries, labels, stewarding rota, preview invitations and customer database, buying stationery, have been delegated to members of club. There is also a list of members who help with putting up screens and lighting, handing in day, preview evening and taking down the exhibition. Big thank you to those members.

Please, please consider whether you can join the Committee. Without these roles being filled we will be a rudderless ship and will most definitely have no exhibitions. If you are interested please contact David or Ann to find out more and to see which bits of what roles you could do.

David Lowe, Chairman 01425 482602

Ann Squire, Exhibition Secretary 01425 473496

Nothing gets in the way of plein air

A good artist will strive to make art out of any situation.

Lock down directed our attention to our immediate environment: the view from our window, the flower beds, sheds, greenhouses, washing lines – all seen with new eyes.

Of course, painting at home has its advantages: no long walk, hauling a big bag of (completely necessary!) equipment, no encounters with grumpy fishermen – instead, constant advice from your nearest and dearest, the cat snatching your brushes and killing them, and best of all, instant access to tea and hobnobs and all the other comforts.

Start at 10.00

Photograph your set up and upload it to our Facebook Page (or email to Ann).

Paint, paint, paint

Lunch (chat via Zoom if you like.)

Paint, paint, paint

Finish at 2.00

Photograph your work and upload it to our Facebook page or email to Ann.

Chat via Zoom if you like.

Back garden plein air – it's the latest thing!



Jen – a relaxing morning on the patio



Barry – all set for tea on the lawn



Beryl – what a gorgeous tree!



Mike – a shady shed...



David – a garden still life

RAS at large in the countryside again



And we're back!

A glorious summer's day at Hampshire Hatches.

A few clouds scudding across the Provence-blue sky (just enough to provide interest), the sun casting pools of refreshing shade, a delicate sparkle on the chuckling stream and a homely background of children giggling, squealing and splashing while fishing for tiddlers (or, you know, just getting wet!).

And now, a new venture: a plein air workshop

On one of the hottest days in August ten valiant painters set up in the grounds of Downton Moot for an outdoor workshop tutored by Mike Bragg.

There was a wide selection of views to choose from - wall flowers to water lilies, interesting architecture to riverside trees. Some worked in acrylics, others in watercolours, inks or oils.

Mike offered tips in composition and planning - positioning yourself so that you are not straight on to a subject because an angle will usually be more interesting. He also reminded us about the importance of contrasts - light against dark. *Sally Rowland*



It was 33°....



... and we all stayed in the shade!

Those of you able to take the risk of venturing out might be interested in these events. Some of them can be toured on line. Coronavirus safety arrangements can vary and local circumstances can change very quickly; so do satisfy yourselves regarding the exhibition details and precautions before you go. **Stay safe.**

Southampton Art Gallery In Search of a New World: marking the 400th anniversary of the voyage of the Mayflower. Features work by many local artists. Digital exhibition only. <https://www.southamptoncityartgallery.com/whats-on/in-search-of-a-new-world/>

Messums (Tisbury) Wiltshire Elizabeth Frink's Studio: a recreation of the artist's studio. In order to visit, you need to take up membership of the gallery and then there is a booking system for visits. <https://messumswiltshire.com/elisabeth-frink-studio/>

Red House Museum Christchurch Detangling the Knots: mixed media work on dementia (until 5th September) followed by Take 5: work by local artists. Book your visit on the website: hampshireculture.org.uk

St Barbe Gallery and Museum Lymington Seasons (until January): various artists including Sutherland, Hitchens, Nash. There is a short film about their safety precautions here: <https://www.stbarbe-museum.org.uk/visit/opening-times.php>

Russell Cotes Museum and Art Gallery Beyond the Brotherhood, the Pre-Raphaelite Legacy until 27th September. Pre-booking required. <https://russellcotes.com/reopening-after-coronavirus/>

Bournemouth Arts by the Sea various events planned in various venues September/October, some open air. Programme developing, so watch the news page. <https://artsbythesea.co.uk/news/>

Are you looking for ways to showcase your work?



CADArts is a co-ordinating body that exists to promote participation in the Christchurch and district arts scene. RAS is a member, but what does this mean for you?

One benefit is that you can hire The Hayloft Gallery in Wick Lane, Christchurch for a week or longer. The hire fees start at £135 for a week in February with a discount for successive weeks. An advantage is that there is no commission payable for sales and public liability insurance is already covered.

You could hire it for a solo exhibition or get together with a few other RAS members to spread the cost and stewarding rota.

Hanging apparatus, tables, glass cabinets etc. are in situ - so it can be used for a variety of art and crafts. There are toilet facilities, too.

Details can be found on the website www.cadarts.co.uk Sally Rowland

Battling the virus - armed with a sewing machine



When the corona virus struck the UK, I felt compelled to help in some way. As a Registered General Nurse for over 30 years instinct said nursing, but poor health and age were not conducive to going back into nursing, having retired many years ago.

I saw someone on Facebook had been making laundry bags for the nurses and health care workers to enable them to wash their uniforms without taking them out of a bag to do so.

I knew straight away that was something I could do, having also qualified in dressmaking many moons ago. I contacted Ringwood Corona Virus Assistance Group and found lots of people were donating duvet covers and sheets, which helped enormously. As I wasn't going out at all, a lovely girl called Zoe would pick up duvet covers, deliver them to me, pick up my completed bags and deliver those to whichever hospital / care home required them. I must add at this point they went through a strict quarantine and washing

procedure before being sewn. As Peter reminded me, the plague entered the Derbyshire village of Eyam in a bale of cloth, sent from London in 1665 killing almost half of the residents in a few short months.

I don't know how many bags were made in total, lots of people were making them, but I do know that all local hospitals and care homes received as many as they required. I think my contribution was about 200. I was then contacted and asked to make aprons. I was happy to do so but getting hold of tape for the ties was the next challenge. Tape sourced, sheets donated and aprons started, to date I have made about 80.

After making the various items I was left with lots of pieces of material in about 1/2m strips, so what to do with those? Masks. I found a pattern online, adapted it to take a filter if required and set to work. At first I was just giving them to family and friends when someone offered me money for one. I then thought perhaps I could raise some money for the N.H.S. Big thank you to all those friends and family who bought masks from me. My target was £200, which I thought was a nice amount. But together we have raised in excess of £500, which I intend to donate to a N.H.S charity helping the mental health of nurses through this crisis.

For the time being I have tidied my kitchen table put away my sewing machines and I am having a break, pottering in my newly transformed garden. I expect I'll get back to painting animals sometime soon, but in the mean time thanks again to all those who helped me reach my target and beyond.

Ann Squire

