



## Fleet and District Art Society Newsletter - Summer 2017

### Chairman's Jottings

**Sue Williams**

As we end another year of activities of Fleet Art Society I would like to thank all those of you who have volunteered to help. The support of members and the hardworking committee form the backbone of our successful group from making the tea, helping at the exhibition, and much more. The list is endless. Sometimes people forget that such volunteers give up their time willingly and that they do so to help the smooth running of the society. A big thank you from us all.

### Treasurer's Report

**David Sprot**

Having taken over from Frances Reed in January, I am pleased to acknowledge once again her help with the handover and to thank all the Committee for their assistance in my settling into the role.

Our Demonstrations and Workshops have been well attended, and as you will know, Demonstrations are free for members, and tea and biscuits are no longer charged. Workshop numbers are limited to around 15 and the fees are set at a level designed to cover the costs.

Our Summer Exhibition took place on 15 – 17 June at the Church on the Heath, to very favourable public comment on both the quality of the work and the appearance of the exhibition, as per Jenny's comments. 13 paintings were sold, (15 last year), for a total of £1,697 including cards, (£1,519 last year) and we were able to make a donation of £169.70 to Fleet Hospital, retaining £169.70 for society funds, with the balance payable to artists.

The favourable comments on the appearance of the exhibition were due substantially to the hiring of new display panels for the first time, given the dilapidated appearance and almost unusable state of our old (owned) panels. Our choice, long debated and aired with members, had been to either –

- Hire panels (at a cost of £1,418 including delivery, erection and dismantling), or
- Buy new panels (at a cost of around £7,000) with annual costs of around £500 for storage and transportation, and significant effort by members to erect and dismantle), or to
- Cease to have an exhibition at all

The consensus of members and of the committee was that the exhibition was an important part of our activities and should go ahead, and that hiring was preferable to buying, even though exhibition income would not cover the added cost. Significant savings were however made to other costs to partially offset the added panel hire cost.

For a meaningful comparison with last year – before panel-related costs, this year's exhibition made a profit of £145 versus a loss of £92 last year.

Including panel hire cost however, the exhibition incurred a loss of £1,275, which was in line with expectations, and this is covered by society funds.

For future exhibitions, based on this experience, the committee believe that hiring panels is the only viable option, and that a number of ways exist by which the loss can be brought down with a view to operating at closer to break even. These include a possible increase in hanging fees, (£4 per exhibit is really very cheap), sponsorship, and other revenue-raising activities.

These and other options will be presented at the next AGM as part of a general discussion on exhibitions, and it will be recalled that we took the decision at the last AGM to increase our membership fees from £15 to £20, so in general our finances should be quite sound going forward. Particularly so given that our membership continues to rise.

## Annual Summer Exhibition

Jenny Johnson

We received many compliments from visitors to this year's exhibition. They were very impressed with the general look of the exhibition but were especially impressed by the high standard of the work being shown.

Once again a group of volunteers lead by Ken Baker arrived early and cleared the area of chairs, bibles and bible holders in readiness for the display panels to arrive. This is the first year that we have hired the display panels and I must admit I had a few concerns as the date got nearer. Would they arrive on time? Would they look good? I shouldn't have worried though as they arrived early and they looked very good. It was then quite a treat to be able to stand back and watch the display being assembled by the supplier. I hope you agree that it looked impressive.

There were over 200 entries to be booked in and hung but everything was ready with time to spare. We were very pleased that Rick Holmes accepted our invitation to select 3 paintings for a Highly Commended award. From a shortlist of about 6 paintings, Rick chose:

"A breeze in the Trees" by Angela Vizard

"Flower 1" by Wendy Horne

"All in One" by Marie-Blanche Hilton

In addition we asked Tony Yates to choose a landscape painting for the Peter Forey Award. His choice was "Love London" by Hilary Dancer.

The public "Favourite Painting" vote went to Bill Searle for his painting "St Ives Bay".

During the two and a half days, we had approximately 400 visitors and Saturday was especially busy, probably due to the Elvetham Fete being held on the green next to the church. Many Art Societies are reporting a drop in sales at annual exhibitions, but we are happy to say that we sold roughly the same amount as last year (details in Treasurer's report)

The exhibition couldn't happen without the help of some very willing volunteers. Thank you so much to everyone who gave up their time to help make the exhibition a success.

You can see photos of the exhibition and award winners on the "News" tab of Fleet Art Society Website [www.fleetartsociety.org.uk](http://www.fleetartsociety.org.uk) or click the following link <https://fleetart.wordpress.com/2017/06/22/summer-exhibition-2017/>

## Membership Renewal

Rebecca Ratnasamy

Membership is due for renewal on the 1st of September 2017. At the last AGM in December 2016, members voted for an increase of our Annual Subscription Fee to £20.

Please find attached a copy of the Renewal form, which can be returned to me together with your cheque and stamped self-addressed envelope. I would like to encourage the return of forms and payment to me before the 31st of August, so I can process the payments and send out the membership cards in good time for the start of the new year. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me on [fleetartmembership@gmail.com](mailto:fleetartmembership@gmail.com) Please do continue to keep me informed of any changes of address, phone numbers and email, so I can ensure our records are kept up-to-date.

## Facebook

Jill Keeley

For those of you on Facebook, we have set up a new page to help promote the society. We'll be using this to share details of our events such as the exhibition and demonstrations. We would also like to use the page to share what our members are doing outside of the events organised by the society. If you have a blog or social media page or you're exhibiting locally and want to share the details, please get in touch. You can find the page by searching for Fleet Art Society or by following this link.

<https://www.facebook.com/FleetArtSociety>

## 2016/2017 Monthly Painting Competition Winner

| Date       | Subject                              | 1 <sup>st</sup> Winner | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Winner |
|------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Sept 2016  | Trio - A limited Palette             | Ruth Mackaill          | N/A                    |
| Oct 2016   | Colours of Autumn                    | Wendy Horne            | Noel Kendall           |
| Nov 2016   | Favourite Animals                    | Shirley Cosway         | Susan Pullen           |
| Dec 2016   | My Favourite Painting                | Hilary Dancer          | N/A                    |
| Jan 2017   | Figures near and far                 | Noel Kendall           | Tony Karavis           |
| Feb 2017   | Local Views                          | Bill Searle            | Gill Smedley           |
| Mar 2017   | Seascapes, harbours and beach scenes | Kath Mitchell          | Helen Broad            |
| April 2017 | Movement                             | Maria Haythornthwaite  | Kirsten Lynch          |

## 2017/2018 Programme

The demonstrations are held on the 2nd Saturday of the month from September 2017 to April 2018 from 2:30pm to 4:30pm. Please note the 9<sup>th</sup> September meeting will be held at All Saints Junior School. All remaining demonstrations will be at St Philip & St James Church, King's Road, Fleet, unless advised otherwise

Non-members welcome £5 per session

## Monthly Demonstrations

| Date                        | Demonstrator  | Medium and Subject                 | Competition Topics          |
|-----------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 9 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2017   | Jake Winkle   | Watercolour Animals                | Animals                     |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2017   | Wendy Jelbert | Watercolour Movement & Action      | Movement and action         |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2017   | Sera Knight   | Mixed Media Dancer                 | Dancers                     |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2017    |               | AGM                                | A Favourite Framed Painting |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2018   | Roger Dellar  | Interiors in Oils                  | Interiors                   |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2018   | Soraya French | Mixed Media Textures in Landscapes | Landscapes                  |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2018 | Peter Keegan  | Expressive portraits in Oils       | Portraits                   |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2018 | Ben Manchipp  | Ways & Means with Architecture     | Architecture                |

## Workshops

| Date                       | Artist       | Subject                         |
|----------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2018  | Jake Winkle  | Watercolour Animals             |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2018  | Ben Manchipp | Ways & Means with Architecture  |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2018 | Alison Board | Watercolour & Mixed Media Ideas |

## Remaining Summer Outdoor Painting Days

**Maria Haythornthwaite**

The following is the remaining planned programme for outdoor painting days. Please check the News tab for any changes or cancellations nearer the time. Detailed document can be downloaded from

<https://fleetart.files.wordpress.com/2017/01/2017-outdoor-paintings.pdf>

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| August 8th Tuesday      | Selborne Village and Common, Free parking in High Street behind Selborne Arms GU34 3JR |
| August 16th Wednesday   | Portchester Castle, Free parking at Castle Street PO16 9QW                             |
| August 24th Thursday    | Tylney Hall Hotel, Rotherwick, Hook RG27 9AZ   |
| August 29th Tuesday     | Cronwall Church, Farnham GU10 5QF  |
| September 6th Wednesday | Basingstoke Canal, Mytchett Place Road, Mytchett GU16 6DD                              |
| September 14th Thursday | Elvetham Hotel, Hartley Wintney RG27 8AR   |

Programme of outdoor painting for 2018 will be published in the next newsletter in the new year.

## Fleet Art Society Committee

|  |                       | Telephone    | E mail Address                  |
|--|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Chair                                  | Sue Williams          | 01252 725635 | susieclairewilliams@yahoo.co.uk |
| Secretary                              | Wendy Horne           | 01252 792542 | wendydiana2@hotmail.co.uk       |
| Treasurer                              | David Sprot           | 01252 626634 | fleetart4ds@gmail.com           |
| Membership Secretary                   | Rebecca Ratnasamy     | 01256 762980 | fleetartmembership@gmail.com    |
| Exhibition Secretary                   | Jenny Johnson         | 01276 501496 | jenny.johnson77@ntlworld.com    |
| Publicity & Advertising                | Maggie Richmond       | 01252 684816 | magrich1@hotmail.co.uk          |
| Publicity & Advertising                | Jill Keeley           | 07729 125019 | Jill.keeley@gmail.com           |
| Programme Secretary                    | Hilary Dancer         | 01252 844655 | hilarydancer04@hotmail.com      |
| Programme Secretary                    | Jill Smith            | 07787 506272 | Jill.smith44444@gmail.com       |
| Newsletter Editor and Outdoor Painting | Maria Haythornthwaite | 01252 404061 | fleetartsociety@gmail.com       |

## DVD/ Video Library

**Diana Ashcroft**

We have now discontinued selling the watercolour paper at the meetings as not much was being sold.

Pullingers in Farnham, West Street stock a wide range of all types of paper and art material and they can supply a loyalty card saving points for money off further purchases. You can order from them on line at [farnham@pullingers.com](mailto:farnham@pullingers.com) 01252 715390 free delivery on orders over £45.

Another company the SAA joining for only £32 for the year you get an interesting art magazine regularly and a catalogue to order your art materials at a good price, and free delivery on any amount plus insurance for your paintings at exhibitions. I used to get the paper from them for the Fleet meetings. Otherwise it is Ken Bromley, Jackson's or Cass Art but you have to spend a certain amount for free delivery.

We are continuing with the DVD rentals and have stocked up with a few more, only a £1 a month but will need to ask for the extra money if they are not promptly returned.

Did you know that it only costs £1 per month to hire a DVD to give you some constructive help? If you are unable to attend the next meeting, please ask another member to return the DVD for you. Donations of any good quality unwanted art DVDs would help to expand our library and would be very welcome.

Our table is located at the front of the church during demonstrations. Please contact Diana for more information on 01252 653503 or [diana.ashcroft@ntlworld.com](mailto:diana.ashcroft@ntlworld.com).

## Tea Rota

**Mary Simpson, Tel 01252 621183**

**[maryosimpson@virginmedia.com](mailto:maryosimpson@virginmedia.com)**

Please contact Mary if you wish to volunteer to help, or need to speak to her regarding changes in your availability.