

www.altonart.org.uk

Please use our website to obtain information on AAS activities, also to see previous newsletters.
Space is provided on the website for members comments and feedback.

Spring Newsletter–April 2011

Contents: Chairman's Report. Information on greeting card photography sessions.
List of AGM elected committee members for 2011/12. Treasurer's Report.
Membership News Final Winter Demonstration Reports. Summer Programme reminders.
Workshop write up. Report on AAS Art Group. Copyright guidelines – Noticeboard

As we spring forward.....

We look back on the past year, and I can report our members have enjoyed a lively summer of painting days, beginning with Jenny Ospici's bluebell woods in May and finishing with a beautiful September day at the Basingstoke Canal in Odiham.



We have also had the experience of an enjoyable winter diary of demonstrations in various media and styles. All of these activities were well attended by society members.

We have now sadly had to bid farewell to the organizers of these events, Jenny Dunk, Angela Woodruff and Maureen Morrison.

In the autumn we held our annual exhibition with an enormous display of talent by our members. Our thanks go to Naomi White, and her team, for all the organization and hard work that went into making this exhibition such a success.

Grateful thanks are due to all of these ladies for the hard work they put in to ensure we all enjoyed a busy calendar of meetings throughout the year.

As we say goodbye to stalwart members of our committee, so we welcome new members on board to assist our creative progress into 2011/12.

Gail Williams, one of our new committee members, has been busy creating a member's gallery on our website.

Sally Cox and Cheryl Thomas are our new Summer Programme Secretaries, with Annabel Young as our Winter Programme Secretary, welcome to you all. The future of our society is assured.



Sally Cox



Annabel Young

Our art activities continue at The Maltings in Alton from 1pm to 4pm every Thursday, attendance and hours are flexible. Do come and join our light-hearted banter with the occasional biscuit thrown in. And even a flick of paint onto canvas!

As I write this report, the sun is shining, the sky azure blue, the hedgerows abundant in blossom and new shades of delicate green. Birds are trying to out-sing their rivals. North East Hampshire at it's best. So let's get out there and record it, in all colours and styles. Make the effort and enjoy it.

Thank you again to all our members for their valuable support during the past year,

John Hearn – Chairman

GREETING CARD PHOTOGRAPHY SESSIONS

Ke-Jo - Saturday 13th August
11am – 1.30pm

Location: Fine Framing, Weyside Park,
Newman Lane, Alton. GU34 2PJ
Proprietor – Steve Cook

Frozen Images 6th August - Venue TBA
More details in July newsletter.

Report on the 81st Annual AGM:

Saturday 19 March 2011

Officers Elected for the Year 2011/12

President: Jennifer Lines

Chairman: John Hearn

Secretary: Robin Lees

Treasurer: Bob Dewar

Other Members Elected

Winter Programme Secretary: Annabel Young.

Summer Programme: Sally Cox, Cheryl Thomas.

Exhibition Sub-committee: John Hearn, Robin Lees, Steve Cook, Kate Davis, Denise Olley, Ann Sayer, and other volunteer committee members..

Children's Exhibition Organisers:

Denise Olley – Kate Davis

Membership Secretary: Jennifer Lines.

Maltings Group: Kate Davis

Website Manager: Gail Williams

Newsletter Editor: Ann Sayer

Archivist: Denise Olley

Librarians: Linda Pescod, Anna Aungiers and Mary Fairley.

Demonstration Video Camera Rota: Wendy Horne, Charles Stuart

Resources: Margaret Hill

Demonstration Tea Rota: Margaret Hill

The Membership Secretary Jennifer Lines said that 25 new members had joined during the year. There are now 237 members in the Art Society. The Chairman, in his report, thanked Jennifer for all her hard work in keeping the membership records for the Society.

Treasurer's Report - Bob Dewar

For those members who were unable to attend the AGM and receive a copy of the Financial Report, following is a summary of income and expenditure during 2010:

Membership Subscriptions	£2,656
Bank Interest	2
Exhibition profit	100
Newsletter	-473
Summer Programme	-27
Winter Programme	-1,160
Painting days	-323
Liability insurance	-155
Audit & AGM	-265
Equipment purchase	-599
Misc Admin	-78
Net loss for year	-£322
Balances as at 31st December 2010	
as per audited accounts:	
Savings Account:	£5,522
Treasurer's Account:	1,860
Petty Cash	168
Total	£7,550

Any Other Business

Once more the question of increasing membership fees was raised. Bob Dewar (Treasurer) didn't envisage any increase this year, The Society's balance at the bank was healthy and he expected it to remain stable during the current year.

The Winter Programme was discussed. As always it is difficult to choose demonstrators of quality when booking. This previous year's programme was thought to be very worthwhile.

Recommendations of demonstrators, experienced by other members, to be directed to
Annabel Young: 01420 85553

Many thanks are extended to Heather Korby (Alton Community Centre) for providing an excellent buffet lunch for members attending the AGM.

Jo Louca – Wet-into-Wet Watercolours 'Watching Paint Dry' 19th February 2011

Jo entertained us with a very lively, confident and relaxed session painting a watercolour woodland scene. Jo used a very limited palette, lemon yellow, burnt sienna, phthalo blue and also a small amount of cadmium yellow, to add warmth to the foreground

Jo recommended using Bockingford paper, or any 300g/m2 paper, for wet watercolours. Jo had not stretched her paper for the demonstration if a bubble appeared then too much water had been used.

To begin she washed over the background areas onto the wet paper in the lemon yellow, leaving areas to remain white alone, also blotting out lighter areas in the foliage to create atmosphere. Burnt sienna and phthalo blue were mixed to make a very good dark contrasting colour, this was dabbed into the wet yellow paint. The dark colour then merged with the light and created a feeling of the foliage of the trees. 'cauliflowers' added to the forest foliage, and should not be dismissed.

Negative painting is a technique that Jo enjoys. This she demonstrated by painting the dark colour around the base of the tree trunk and leaving blank the branches and shrubs, which appeared very pale in contrast. This avoided the use of masking fluid/tape. Darker branches were added with a thin brush to the finished painting, once dry.

When Jo had reached this stage we could all see the painting beginning to emerge, depth in the forest subject had begun to appear. Which, given such a limited palette, added to the 'learning curve' we experienced. Jo made everything look so achievable, and fun.

With our camera and screen Jo was able to paint on a flat surface, rather than using an easel. The paint can easily run out of control if an easel is used and the painting is upright, although Jo did point out that letting the paint run and merge was exciting, to see where the colours ran and to use that as part of the painting. Happy accidents are part of this style of painting in watercolour.

Jo then turned her attention to the tree trunks, pointing out the necessity of allowing the trunks to disappear behind the foliage and reappear further up. Jo realised her left hand trunk was seriously out of line between the lower part and where the trunk reappeared at the top. Recovering this with some water, a dab with tissue and aligning the trunk, slightly bent, was achieved very quickly.

Jo applied water to the trunks and then dropped in areas of the darker colour. She then shielded the main part of the painting with strips of torn paper and spattered in the dark, very lightly, onto the trunks. Also, thinking the painting had become too dry for areas to merge Jo used a water spray, blocking off surrounding areas with her hand. Jo tested the dryness of the paint using the back of her hand, finding this the best way to judge an important part of any watercolour painting

We all enjoyed this relaxed fun demonstration, as John Hearn said, in conclusion, none of the seats had been deserted after the tea break, always a good sign of an interesting demonstration.

Ann Sayer (for Kate Davis)

AAS 80TH ANNUAL EXHIBITION

5-9 October 2011.

Full details and forms with July newsletter

Come and join us!

There is still plenty of room for AAS members to join us at the Thursday afternoon painting group! Just turn up



with your art materials on **any** Thursday afternoon at the Alton Maltings Centre (behind Sainsburys), in the Target room, from 1pm. Pay £3 for the session, set up and away you go! If you are weighed down with equipment there is a lift available.

The session runs from 1pm till 4pm, a haven away from the housework and the hassles of every day life. Artists have had an enjoyable time painting, drawing or using pastels with a very friendly group of people, so there is always someone to ask for advice.

. Plenty of artwork gets done, if you feel you are flagging there are biscuits on hand to give a boost! Or the cafe is upstairs selling very reasonably priced cakes.

Workshop – 16th April – Four Marks Jean

Haines - <http://watercolourswithlife.blogspot.com/>

Eighteen members enjoyed a very refreshing bright workshop with Jean Haines on 16th April. Jean was excellent in her tuition to the group and providing individual attention for those who needed a little extra help. Do look at the above website – or log into www.jeanhaines.com for a sample of her work. Jean has also written on the 'blog' a short piece, on 17/4, about her visit to our Society.



A special thank you to all helping hands in getting out the tables from the storeroom, also stacking them back again at the end of workshop.



Proposed Workshop with Dee Cowell

Please contact Annabel Young: 01420 85553
Email: annabelyoung1@btinternet.com if you are interested in attending a workshop held by Dee Cowell. Dee did the wonderful figure drawing demonstration on 15th January 2011, where members were given pencils, paper and photos of figures in action, to draw under the tuition of Dee. www.3dddart.co.uk/

Numbers vary from week to week but there is space for more, and we are always happy to see a new face, from the absolute beginner to the seasoned artist. We're a mixed bunch of ages and styles, and not too scary, so don't be shy...give us a try!

It is not necessary to come every week, just pop along whenever you have a free Thursday afternoon, any time between 1 and 4pm (and you don't have to stay for the whole session).

We run every week (except around Christmas & New Year) in The Target Room, Alton Maltings Centre, Maltings Close, GU34 1DT (with a free car park on site).
Kate Davis – 01420 543458

Membership News – Jennifer Lines

We are pleased to welcome the following people who have recently joined the Art Society and hope we will get to know them at our Summer Painting Days:-
Ann Bishton, Sue Robinson and Cheryl Thomas – all from Beech.

Carol Ellis - World Wax 19th March.

There has been encaustic art for more than 2000 years in ancient Greece. The Egyptians and Romans worked with pigment mixed with beeswax. Examples can be found in the British Museum, such as the painted Mummies where the wax was applied on wood over a hot charcoal bed. The practice died out as other art mediums developed. However, in more recent times, Jasper Johns used wax, using a blow lamp to work the wax, see the website: : www.theartstory.org/artist-johns-jasper.htm The following techniques can be used when applying wax

Smoothing melt the wax colours across the face of the hot iron and then smooth across the card with a light touch (don't press as it will be wiped off!). For a sky effect the iron can be dragged across diagonally, landing and taking off like an aeroplane, to texture the sky

Lifting & dabbing: The iron touches on and lifts off creating textured effects such as grasses.

The edge or tip of the iron and no colour: Wipe through the wax to create leaves or stems (or wax can be removed by heating up & wiping off with a tissue)

Dot into the wax flick on with point – create birds or dot wax on for small flowers

Dot colour on to iron puts colour over 'grasses' or gives different colour grassed areas. With the hotplate the wax can be melted on and the card placed over, slide back and forth and then lift off the card. Alternatively the card can be placed on the hotplate, then dab the wax on with the heat coming through the card to melt the wax. Clear wax can be applied to dilute the colour if necessary. Use a wooden support rather than card if a lot of wax is being applied, otherwise the wax will crack or flake off. Finally, when completed, polish the piece with a tissue to bring up the shine! Don't leave your work in boiling hot sunshine, otherwise all your hard work will slowly melt away!

Carol Ellis website - www.artofwax.co.uk/

Kate Davis

NOTICEBOARD.....

Reminder – Summer Painting Days

Thursday 5th May – ‘Bavins’ News Odiham Road, Shalden, Alton. ‘Bluebell Woods’
Monday 6th June – Bramdean House
4 miles South of Alresford
Tuesday 21 June – Alton Market
Wednesday 13th July – Kingsley Pond
Thursday 28th July – Ropley Station
Friday 12th August – Bentworth Hall
Friday 2nd September – Odiham village

Meeting from 10am – 4pm
Blue sheet sent with Winter Newsletter has full programme and details
Contact: Sally Cox 01420 563421
Cheryl Thomas 01420 88632

Art Classes

St Andrew’s Church Hall Medstead
Mon 7pm-9pm
Wed: 11pm-1pm or 2pm-4pm
Tutor: Tana Riviere
Relaxed friendly atmosphere.
Spring term commences
Mon/Wed – 16/18 May 2011
Further details 01420 84526

Eighty Wine Glasses for Loan.

If you need the above for a social event you are holding please contact John Hearn:
Tel: 01420 80965



Editorial Comment

I would like to say a very grateful thank you to Kate Davis for attending the Winter Programme each month and writing the very detailed and interesting reports for the newsletter, thank you Kate.

Please remember without members input this would not be the success it is. If you have anything you would like entered into the next newsletter – eg: success stories, painting groups, exhibitions etc, please contact me. Don’t forget to include a contact name, phone number and an email address (where possible).

The closing date for the next newsletter is 9th July 2011
The Editor’s decision is final for all entries.

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A Few Notes on Copyright Rules adapted from SAA Magazine © March 2011

To protect your own original work from being exploited add © symbol after your signature and any details on the back of your work eg: year painted. This copyright lasts throughout your life until 70 years after your death.

Copyright exists in the UK with no formal process to obtain this. If a work/photograph created by another person is re-created by an artist and sold for profit it is commonly regarded as infringing the original artist’s copyright.

Using other artist’s work for study in ‘How to Paint.....’ lessons is accepted as long as this work is not then exhibited for sale. If a ‘copied’ work is presented for sale the permission of the original artist/photographer must be sought.

Painting portraits of celebrities taken from photographs to produce a likeness is permissible, as the celebrities do not have ‘image rights’.

It is possible to copy the works of artists who have been dead for over 70 years, you should though entitle your painting: eg: ‘The Haywain’ after John Constable – painted by ‘artist’s name’.

If work is published on a website then to ensure it is not reproduced keep the image small and low resolution, or by watermarking the work.

For more information on copyright visit:
www.dacs.org.uk

Ann Sayer - Editor

Fine Framing

4 Weyside Park Newman Lane Alton
GU34 2PJ

Offers 10% Discount to all fully paid up members of AAS Membership Card for the current year must be available.

Discount applies to picture framing on new frames only.

Contact Steve Cook Proprietor
01420 82324

www.fine-framing.co.uk

Pullinger’s Farnham offer discount to Art Society Members – Membership Card must be shown at sale desk.

Little Green Dragon Bookshop
is now

The Alton Craft Centre
Normandy Street, Alton.

Discount is still available on art materials to AAS members