



Spring Newsletter–April 2012



www.altonart.org.uk

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Chairman's Report

Last week a hosepipe ban! Possibly for eternity. Don't waste water when you are brushing your teeth! The driest year since Noah built his ark.

Now it's pouring with rain. Roads are flooded. No need to wash your car, but ideal for water colourists when we start our Summer Programme on Wednesday 30th May at Wyards Farm in Beech, a beautiful old farmhouse with a pond, garden and various outbuildings to inspire you. Also, you'll be glad to know, bad weather cover and shelter from the rain!

So, all is about to happen within a great programme of outdoor painting days for you. (That blue sheet must be somewhere in a safe place). And, just a reminder, the day starts at 10am and finishes at 4pm, or finish earlier if you so wish. Bring a packed lunch and a drink, or two.

Don't be shy! Give it a go, remember we all had to start somewhere. Beginners and more experienced painters are welcome. The important ingredient is to enjoy what you're doing and have fun.

Then the next location is Beech Village Hall, followed by Kingsley Pond and Chawton House. We're spoilt for choice!

Whilst all this is going on we meet regularly, every Thursday in The Target Room at the Maltings from 1pm to 4pm. The hours and days are flexible, just come when you are able. So, if you haven't done so far, make sure this is the year when you venture out to capture for posterity some of the beauty that is enjoyed in northeast Hampshire.

I look forward to seeing you there.

John Hearn-Chairman



Annabel Young has been voted in by the AAS Committee as Vice Chairman of the Alton Art Society.

Annabel has been a committee member since Spring 2011 and has been arranging the Winter Programme for 2012/13, also the April 2012 Workshop.

Annabel is warmly welcomed into this role and will serve to assist our Chairman, John Hearn.

ALTON



DIAMOND

JUBILEE

FIFTIES FETE FOR THE TOWN MAYOR'S FUND

Volunteers are needed for an AAS stall (covered) in Alton Town on Saturday 2nd June, as part of the celebrations for the Queen's Jubilee.

We will be inviting members of the public to 'have a go' at various art activities, eg: oils, pastels, acrylics and any other artistic areas we can provide.

We would like members to volunteer to assist on the day and also supply materials for use, re-imburement will be made by the AAS for any out of pocket expenses.

Donations by participants will go to the Alton Town Mayor's charities.

Contact Jennifer Lines 01420 563312

Report on the 82st Annual AGM:

Saturday 17th March 2012

Officers Elected for the Year 2012/13

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 Secretary: Kaye Garrett,

Children's Exhibition Organisers:

Denise Olley – Kate Davis.

Membership Secretary: Jennifer Lines.

Maltings Group: Kate Davis.

Lighting & /Tech Support: Steve Cook.

Website Manager: Gail Williams.

Newsletter Editor: Ann Sayer.

Archivist: Denise Olley.

Librarians: Anna Aungiers and

Mary Fairley.

Demonstration Video Camera Rota:

Charles Stuart. (vacancy)

Resources: Margaret Hill.

Demonstration Tea Rota: Margaret Hall.

Chairman's Report: The Chairman, John Hearn, reported another successful year for the Society, in particular the Winter Demonstrations, which had been organised by Maureen Morrison in her final season as the Winter Programme Secretary. Annabel Young has been busy arranging the new season.

Presentations were made to retiring committee members including Wendy Horne who has been the camera operator for the demonstrations for 6 years and is now retiring from this role. Also Maureen Morrison, Linda Pescod and Marjorie Hart.

The members were congratulated on the high standard of the artwork in the 2011 exhibition.

The committee were applauded for all their hard work throughout the year in making the Society the success it is.

The Membership Secretary Jennifer Lines said that 24 new members had joined during the year. There are now 230 members in the Art Society, 34 members had left the Society this year for various reasons. 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 2011:

Membership Subscriptions	£2,446
Bank Interest	4
Exhibition loss)	-251 (£200 grant)
Actual loss	-51
Newsletter	-260
Summer Programme	-29
Winter Programme	-1,478
Painting days	-359
Liability insurance	-157
Audit & AGM 2011	-563 (incl Lunch)
Equipment purchase	0
Misc Admin	-253
Net loss for year	-£399
Balances as at 31st December 2011	
as per audited accounts:	
Savings Account:	£4,526
Treasurer's Account:	2,594
Petty Cash	42
Total	£7,162

The Treasurer said that there would be no increase in subscriptions in the coming year. A bequest of £500 had been received from Joan Hunter. The £200 exhibition grant had arrived too late for the 2011 accounts. The high cost of the newsletter was due to the purchase of postage stamps before the increase in price.

Any Other Business

Concern was voiced from the floor that no one had volunteered to replace Wendy Horne as camera operator for the new Winter Programme, beginning in September 2012. It was agreed by the members that if a non-member came forward to fill the role they would be made very welcome.

Geoff C. was present at the meeting and was keen to hear from members who would like to take part in life drawing activities at Alton Community Centre.

Email: altonlifeart@live.com Tel: 07597 297730.

It was also suggested coach outings for painting days could be arranged to eg: Lymington, if enough members were interested.

AAS 81st ANNUAL EXHIBITION

3 - 7th October 2012.

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 Sainsbury's), in the Target room (downstairs), from 1pm. Pay £3 for the session. If you are weighed down with equipment there is a lift available.

Artists have 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 and coffee.

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, you don't have to stay for the whole session.

We are there 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



Tiffany Budd – 'Fractured' still life in Pastel
Saturday 18th February.

'Fractured' art is a term Tiffany uses to describe the style she has created. Inspired by an exhibition of Russian Constructivists (as well as the work of the Vorticist Movement, Cubism, Braque and Picasso), the work is a semi abstract style as the objects are shaped correctly



Tiffany uses Derwent pastel blocks on colourfix pastel paper (which takes a lot of colour and doesn't need as much pastel as other papers). Tiffany began with a simple line drawing of a wine bottle and glass, then with a set square she drew lines splaying out from an imagined light source in

the top left of the picture. Then the bottle & glass design were echoed outwards in lines and some of the edges were extended out to the edge of the paper (eg the bottom of the bottle and the level of the wine in the glass) this created a picture cut into many sections. Each section is worked individually, with the lightest tone nearest the light source, blending with her finger, or a pastel blender for the difficult areas. Tiffany keeps the tones similar and the pallet restricted so that the objects won't jump out, creating a picture that works like a pattern. The quilted effect in her pictures display her training in textile design.

Tiffany blended each section, graduating each colour, white to yellow to green where it was nearer the light source, viridian green, Prussian blue plus black in the darkest part of the painting, with pea green as a highlight. Trying to avoid colours meeting at a join, Tiffany alters the colour if it is too similar, and uses her finger to straighten and blend the line at the join.

If the pastel colour is saturated and won't accept more colour, spray on fixative, then more pastel can be added (Gerstaeker fixative will not yellow over time & doesn't change the pastel colour.) This fractured technique works particularly well with buildings, fish and water and still lives, though is not so successful for portraits! Apart from her own reference photos Tiffany uses the site paintmyphoto.ning.com for copyright free photos (free membership, with the only stipulation that the photographers want to see the finished painting).

Kate Davis

Heidi Robinson – Stained Glass
Saturday 17th March.

Heidi used a mixture of handmade glass and manufactured flat and textured glass of varied thickness, (between 2mm and 4mm).

Goggles are recommended when dealing with glass. With lead make sure hands are washed afterwards, or wear gloves.

Working on a wooden board, draw a design and place the glass on top. Using stained glass cutters, with light cutting oil inside, place the cutter 0.5 inch from the edge, pull back and off to produce a groove, then put back into the groove and cut away, following the line of the pattern. Hold between 2 thumbs either side of the score line – break. If the glass doesn't break cleanly special pliers can grind the edge off.

The lead is formed with an H shaped cross section which gives channels into which the glass is pushed, the central bar is referred to as the 'heart'. The lead is flexible and is cut on a flat surface with a vertical curved blade, rocking the blade back & forth. Using an oyster knife reopen the H and flatten edges. The 'heart' measures 1 mm, so when cutting this must be considered for accuracy. The glass must be cut on the smoothest side. As each piece is cut number both the glass and the corresponding design sections. Use horseshoe nails to hold the lead in place against the side of the board. Where the pieces of lead meet, lift edge and tuck the other underneath. Tuck the first piece into the lead and using a cut off bit of lead to hold the glass, knock a nail into the board to hold solid, then continue with the next pieces until the design is assembled.

Heidi made a simple four piece window with some purposeful mistakes in to demonstrate how to correct any problems in construction. Before soldering the joints the lead must be wire brushed to remove oxidization and grease, flux is applied and then solder. Leaded light cement is brushed into the joints to stop rattling!

The technique famously developed by Tiffany uses copper foil folded round the edges of the glass – the joints are thinner allowing more light through and the glass must be cut accurately right up to the line of the pattern. Running round the edges with a tool to make sure the foil is fully contacting the glass. Acid flux is applied down all the seams then each piece is just tacked together with a couple of blobs of solder. Then run solder down all the joints and along the outside edge to cover the copper. Copper can also be cut and shaped and even stuck across the glass to make patterns (then run the solder across the pattern).

The copper foil method is weaker, but it can be incorporated within a leaded piece design.

Kate Davis

CAMERA OPERATOR FOR WINTER
DEMONSTRATIONS REQUIRED

3rd Saturday each winter month from 2pm
Contact Wendy Horne for further details:
01252 792542

Wendy is prepared to help at the first sessions
to ensure smooth running.

A non member of the Society would be very welcome to fill this role eg: the partner of an A&A member who has knowledge of operating a video camera.

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED
At Four Marks School Art Day

Four Marks School is having an art day to celebrate the Jubilee on Wednesday 23rd May.

Alton Art Society would like to be involved in coming up with ideas, organising projects and helping on the day.

There are 10 classes involved so they need as much help as possible. If you are interested please contact Sally Cox-01420 563421.



NOTICEBOARD.....

Reminder – Summer Painting Days 2012

Meeting from 10am – 4pm
Wednesday 30th May – Wyards Farm, Beech
Friday 22nd June – Beech Village Hall
Thursday 19th July – Kingsley Pond
Thursday 23rd August – Chawton House Library
Gardens
Monday 3rd September – Alton Public Gardens
*Blue sheet sent with Winter Newsletter has full
programme and details*
Contact: Sally Cox 01420 563421
Cheryl Thomas 01420 88632

Earnley Concourse Closure

If you are looking for a venue for creative courses the
W.I. Denman College, Abingdon
Offer a range of art related courses.
All welcome, including non members and male artists, at an extra charge of £37.
En suite accommodation & catering provided.
Contact: WI Denman College 01865 391991
email: info@denman.org.uk
Recommendation from
AAS Member Mary Clark,
who attended a creative course at this venue.

Surplus to Requirements. Various sized picture frames, some glazed. Assortment of pastels/pastel pencils. Derwent W/Col. Pencils. Reasonable offers accepted. Please contact Mary Clark 01420 544458

Art Classes

St Andrew's Church Hall Medstead
Mon 7pm-9pm Wed: 11pm-1pm or 2pm-4pm
Tutor: Tana Riviere
Spring term commences
Mon/Wed – 30/4 – 2/5. 2012
Further details 01420 84526

Editorial Comment

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

You will see I have repeated the notes on copyright rules (above) for those who missed this last year.

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, recommendations for painting holidays 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 2012

The Editor's decision is final for all entries.

Ann Sayer – Editor

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COPYRIGHT RULES

Excerpt from S.A.A. Magazine

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 ensure it is not reproduced by keeping the image small and low resolution, or by watermarking the work. For more information on copyright visit www.dacs.org.uk

Ann Sayer - Editor

GREETING CARD

PHOTOGRAPHY SESSIONS

Frozen Images Saturday 4th August- 2.30pm

Venue: Jennifer Lines – Medstead

Ke-Jo - Saturday 11th August

11am – 1.30pm

Venue: Fine Framing, Weyside Park,
Newman Lane, Alton. GU34 2PJ.

Proprietor – Steve Cook

More details in July newsletter.

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

Pullingers Farnham offer discount to members
on art materials.

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