



Winter Newsletter 2012

Contents: AGM Agenda - April Workshop details (notice board back page).
Four Marks Village School Arts Day. Membership News - Reports on
demonstrations. Dates of Autumn Annual Exhibition.
Details for design of Exhibition Poster.
(AAS Paintina Group & Summer Programme 2012 - Encl – blue sheet)

Chairman's Report

It seems ages ago that we had our last newsletter. Christmas has gone and the New Year has been celebrated, our Society also has had much to celebrate.

If you didn't see any of our last four demonstrations, you missed a treat. As I write this report, just a few hours after Chris Forsey gave us a superb demonstration on line and wash, 93 members and friends attended and sat in silence as Caffa Mill, Fowey appeared before us. A wonderful spectacle!

With earlier demonstrations by Melanie Cambridge, Jake Winkle and Liz Seward we have had a plethora of excellence. That's what demonstrations are all about! I am sure we all learn, even if sub-consciously, by picking up comments and tips as we go along.

We are indebted to Maureen Morrison and Annabel Young for making it all happen. We have watched these demonstrations as work in progress on a large screen and heard everything with our sound system. Wendy Horne and Charles Stuart have operated this audio-visual equipment for us. Wendy will be handing over the job of camera operator at the end of the Winter programme, she has done this job for six years and wishes to devote more time to her family, in particular with the arrival of her new grandson.

We thank you Wendy for all that you have done for our Society and we wish you well. This means we need a replacement camera operator for our next winter programme - I look forward to a rush of volunteers.

Someone else who is retiring from the scene is the indefatigable Marjorie Hart. Marjorie has worked tirelessly, pre-exhibition, on her computer, producing the labels for all artwork entries with names, titles, medium and prices. Following up by compiling the exhibition catalogues. Where would we have been without her? So after many years keeping us all organised and in good order, Marjorie is taking a back seat to enjoy more time in her beautiful garden. Thank you Marjorie for all that you have done in helping to make our Society the success that it is today.

So, I make another plea to members for a volunteer to come forward as a successor to Marjorie for our next exhibition.

Shortly it will be time for our AGM, Whilst I am absolutely delighted to tell you that the entire committee has offered to stand for another year, we nevertheless would welcome new members. It is not a closed shop! I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Do come to our Thursday afternoon painting sessions in The Target Room at The Maltings. Totally informal, do what you like at your own pace. Relax and have fun.

If you have read this far, I thank you. Whether you regard yourself as good, bad or indifferent enjoy your membership with the Alton Art Society.

John Hearn (Chairman)

Volunteer camera operator needed
for AAS Winter Demonstrations from September
at the Assembly Rooms Alton.
3rd Saturday afternoon each winter month.
Contact Wendy Horne – 01252 792542
for more information

Help 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 me, it should be lots of fun.

Sally Cox - Summer Programme Secretary

Tel: 01420 563421

AAS 2012 Annual AGM: 17th March - 2pm
Followed by a demonstration by Heidi Robinson - Stained Glass

AGENDA:

Apologies for absence
Minutes of last AGM
Chairman's remarks
Treasurer's Report
Membership Secretary's Report
Election of Officers
Election of other committee members
Any other business: Issues to be discussed from the floor.

Full minutes of the 2011 AGM will be available at the meeting upon request to the Secretary. A summary of the changes approved at the last AGM were reported in the Spring Newsletter April 2011.

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Please forward the names of any persons willing to serve to: **Robin Lees 01420 86665** or email: j.lees558@btinternet.com no later than: 1st March 2012.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: This is your opportunity to voice opinions and concerns and help guide the Officers and Committee in how you wish the Society to be focused. You may add items to the agenda by contacting Robin Lees, as outlined above, no later than 1st March. We will also take items from the floor, as time allows

OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED

Chairman: John Hearn
Treasurer: Bob Dewar
Secretary: Robin Lees
Exhibition Secretary: *Vacancy*
Membership Secretary: Jennifer Lines

Winter Programme Secretary: Annabel Young.

Summer Programme Secretaries:

Sally Cox, Cheryl Thomas

Elected Committee Members:

Lighting and Tech Support: Steve Cook

Newsletter Editor: Ann Sayer

Children's Exhibition Secretary:

Kate Davis.

Archivist: Denise Olley

Website: Gail Williams

Other Volunteer Assignments:

Demo Video Camera Rota: *Vacancy*

Charles Stuart. (*Grateful thanks to Wendy Horne who is retiring this year*)

Librarian: (*Many thanks to Linda Pescod who is also retiring this year*) Mary Fairley, and Anna Aungiers

Demonstration Tea Rota Organiser:

Margaret Hale

For further information on the above roles contact:
Robin Lees, or John Hearn

AAS 2012 EXHIBITION POSTERS

Members are asked to forward copies of paintings to be considered as the background for the posters for the AAS Exhibition in October.

Please email, or post, photographs to roseanne8SAY@aol.com

Ann Sayer

1, Gauvain Close

Alton GU34 2SB

Tel: 01420 84526

If you send a photograph please put your details on the back.

Closing date 31st March.



Membership News

We have two new members to our Society:

Wendy Broom – Lasham Jean Piper – Alton

We extend a warm welcome to them and hope they enjoy their membership

Jennifer Lines-Membership Secretary

Saturday 19th November 2011

Jake Winkle – Impressionist Watercolour

Jake began his demonstration by using an unorthodox method for watercolour by painting in the dark colours first, leaving the lighter colours to last!

The subject had been prepared as a pencil sketch of a Venice canal (with a few loosely applied masking fluid highlights in the water). Using a large sable/squirrel brush, with a good point, on dry Arches 140lb rough stretched paper, cobalt was painted into the sky with a few directional marks, painting around the buildings and leaving blank areas of white paper (adding a few areas of raw sienna for warmth). In the canal a blue green (cobalt + turquoise + violet) was applied, again onto dry paper, which absorbs the

AAS 81ST ANNUAL EXHIBITION

3RD OCTOBER – 7TH OCTOBER

2012

ASSEMBY ROOMS

ALTON

colours instantly, the paint is less likely to cauliflower using this method.

Shape, silhouette, colour and dark/light are used for effect. An interesting roofline silhouette and abstract patterns are looked for. Jake also works 'wet next to wet', e.g. where 2 adjoining buildings with different colours but the same tone the edges meet and merge.

Jake's suggests that if parts are hard to distinguish, just paint the shapes, try not to see too much – half close your eyes. The abstract marks on the paper will describe the form. When painting a straight line down the side of a building do them in 3 brush strokes this appears less than perfect – more interesting! With window shapes the single brush stroke doesn't complete the whole shape. As Jake paints an area (e.g. a wall) he alters the colour to maintain interest. When painting the decorative features of a balcony paint the dark areas between to create the negative shape.

In a separate painting as a final point Jake created a group of figures. The heads were placed in line horizontally, the torsos abstract wet against wet, Position is created by the size of the torso, creating figures walking forwards, or away, with a few brief strokes. Then the shadows were added; this not only anchored the figures to the ground they created their own interesting shapes.



Kate Davis

Saturday 17th December 2011

Liz Seward Relfe – Mixed media candle lit still life

Liz Seward Relfe is an exhibited artist, a regular contributor to The Artist magazine, and a very popular demonstrator. For this Christmas demonstration she sported a jaunty Santa hat. Liz had previously photographed a candlelit still life with poinsettia, one photo with flash to see all the objects, one without to see the play of the candlelight. Her use of colour is often startling to begin with as she slaps on bright colour with a large flat ended brush in horizontal, vertical and diagonal bold strokes allowing the colour to run without being at all concerned.

The secret of her painting is two fold, first the painting is underpinned with a good drawing (so often the best and loosest paintings are underpinned by a solid drawing ability), then the acceptance of letting the colours surprise you with gifts of unplanned lovely areas and then to leave them alone! Her favourite mediums include the FW acrylic inks. The elements in the still life were gradually brought out by a process of lost and found areas eg: the blue bowl suddenly revealed through the addition of a patch of light to one side. The candle light makes for a much more intimate picture, with the light radiating out to the objects and the shadows being far more interesting than if the light came in from one side. The lightest part had to be the candle flame, with even the candle darkened more than expected, to increase the sense of the flame's luminosity, enhanced by the use of water based neo crayons.

Kate Davis

Saturday 21st January 2012 Chris Forsey – Line and Wash

Chris had drawn out a Cornish harbour scene at Fowey, he had a number of reference photos to work from. He was working in mainly line (water soluble crayons and wax crayon, plus some F W acrylic ink) and watercolour wash, using 2 flat brushes, a large brush with point, bamboo pen and a dip pen.

The masking fluid was applied first on the steps down to the beach, along window ledges, also railings and onto the boats and figures using light, expressive strokes finally flicking a little fluid on to the surface from the brush.

With the water soluble wax crayon he picked out an area of texture on the hard jetty – squiggling it on, giving impressions of orangey brickwork, adding a few flashes of green.

Wetting the paper with a spray Chris drew with the pipette of the brown FW acrylic ink – creating a drawn line with an unpredictable tendency. He repeated spraying the paper, and with a cut piece of card, drew with it, pulling the ink across the paper.

With Paynes grey watercolour Chris splashed and splattered the painting, where the Paynes grey met the yellowy brown ink the colour verged towards green. With a brown water-soluble pencil Chris worked into the wet surface describing the stones on the jetty, with a fingernail used to scratch in areas.

Mopping up with a wet tissue he made marks in the ink, establishing dark textures. With a large flat brush he applied Paynes grey on a few of the buildings for shadows, with burnt umber for warmth on the stones, plus aureolin yellow to bring up green and yellow on roofs. On to the sky he scrubbed in Paynes grey with a yellow run in on one side.

Using a yellow/brown beach colour Jake ran this into the water then partly lifted the colour out, also running Paynes grey into the water swinging the lines around to the water's edge, making sure to keep white the reflection of the white building, leaving a ragged edge to give a more exciting shape to the painting!

With a toothbrush he scrubbed in distant trees. Using light blue violet acrylic Chris used opaque paint over a couple of areas on two boats, then just flicked this around some doors and windows with a mere hint of permanent rose and brown. He then placed a single red door, with a few additional touches around the focal area of the painting. Bringing in the unpredictable ink flow of the bamboo pen he drew in lines. With neo colour crayon Chris drew on the stonework and fence panels. Using the dip pen he then worked on architectural detail, figures and twiggly areas in trees.

Removing the masking fluid Chris knocked back the white on the steps slightly, then just defined detail around the central area. He used white acrylic to clean up the central boat and drew in a handrail over steps with FW pipette, a few dots on the central beach and ropes with the dip pen adding seagulls in the sky.

. When completed the members gathered around to look at the intricate detail of the work, not apparent on the screen.

Kate Davis

NOTICEBOARD.....

CHAWTON ART GROUP MEET THURSDAY AFTERNOONS

Chawton Village Hall
1pm – 4pm
A self-help group of members
of the AAS
We have spaces for two more
artists.
There is a small cost involved, for
the rent of the Hall
Please contact Eileen Watson
01420 562515
for more details

.Art Classes

St Andrew's Church Hall
Medstead
Mon 7pm-9pm
Wed: 11am-1pm or 2pm-4pm
Tutor: Tana Riviere
Relaxed friendly atmosphere.
Spring Term ends 26/28 March 2012
Summer Term begins 30th April/2nd May
Queries to Ann 01420 84526

Fine Framing

4 Weyside Park Newman Lane, Alton GU34 2PJ
Offers 10% Discount to all fully paid up members of
AAS. Membership card for 2011 must be available
Discount applies to picture framing for new frames
only.
Contact Steve Cook: 01420 82324
www.fineframing.co.uk

Editorial Comment

As we head towards our summer programme of
painting days (enclosed), thanks are due to
Sally Cox and Cheryl Thomas for
arranging this year's programme.
Unfortunately, no-one can arrange the weather.
Also note the April Workshop details (above right).
Thanks to Annabel Young for all her hard work in
arranging this for us.
Please note our website details, under
the AAS logo on the front page.
If you have success stories, painting groups,
exhibitions
or anything you would like the members to know
please contact me, details below.
Please include a contact name, telephone number
and an email address (where possible).
The closing date for the next newsletter is 5th April
The Editor's decision is final for all entries.
Ann Sayer – Editor
1 Gauvain Close Alton GU34 2SB
Telephone: 01420 84526
Email: roseanne8SAY@aol.com

AAS WORKSHOP

DETAILS

Saturday 21st April 2012

PORTRAITURE

tutored by Anne Chadwick

Venue - Four Marks Village Hall

10am until 4pm.

Any medium

Suggested Colours:

Cobalt, Cadmium Yellow Light, Permanent Rose,
White, Ivory Black, Burnt Sienna, Yellow Ochre,
Vermillion. Experiment with a limited palette. The
fewer colours used, the better.

3 favourite brushes (incl. 1½" = 3cm wide).
Bring along any other art equipment you think you
would need, Eg; drawing board,
pencils/charcoal/rubber.
Turpentine and containers.

(remember to bring a packed lunch)

Coffee & tea will be available.

Cost: £15 per artist.

Cheques made payable to Alton Art Society

Contact: Annabel Young

for further details.

Tel: 01420 85553

Bentley Friday Art Group

Annual exhibition

of

Watercolour Paintings

from Friday 27th to Sunday 29th April
The Memorial Hall, Bentley (centre of village)
Opening times: Friday 12 noon to 5 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
All visitors will be made most welcome.
Tea and Coffee will be available.

Drawing & Painting Classes

Alton Community Centre

Tues/Weds/Thurs mornings

Summer Term begins 1/2/3 - May

9.45am-12noon

Contact Julie Heppenstal

Tel: 01962 734617

Or enrol at the Community Centre

Pullingers Farnham offer discount on art
materials to AAS members

