



Verve

The Newsletter for the Rowlands Castle Painting Society

No 81 March 2022

rowlandscastlepaintingsociety.co.uk

From the Principal

I would like to begin by thanking Gill Dollery, my predecessor, for her service to the Society over many years and to wish her well in the future.

My name is Joan Burnett and I have been a member of the Society for a couple of years. I have worked in primary education for over 30 years and until my retirement, 7 years ago, was Head Teacher at Compton & Up Marden CE School. Many of our pupils came from Rowlands Castle. On retirement I took up painting having dipped in and out of a variety of courses over the years at West Dean College. I enjoy using mixed media and take part in the Chichester Art Trail and for the first time this year the RCPS Exhibition. There are many very talented artists in the group but if you are just embarking on painting do attend the afternoon sessions where you will learn a great deal from fellow painters, always glad to give advice and encouragement. It is wonderful to be able to attend meetings again where we can be inspired and enjoy meeting others who share our interest. I look forward to seeing you at meetings and special events so do come and say hello.

Joan Burnett

From the Chairman

At last we can see a light at the end of the Covid tunnel now that restrictions are being relaxed and hopefully a return to normality! I first want to sincerely thank all members who have supported us throughout these very difficult months. The Pandemic has understandably affected our membership numbers but now we are back to a usual programme we are encouraged by the number of members returning plus the Society is also attracting new members. Please be aware that because of Data Protection Rules members who do not rejoin will automatically have their names deleted from our Data Base and therefore will no longer receive information from the Society by email.

At the AGM in March Committee and Non-Committee Posts will be elected. There are 3 Committee Vacancies to be filled:

Vice Chairman - To support the Chair with the view to taking over as Chairman in due course and deputising as and when necessary.

Media Correspondent To keep local publications informed of the activities of the Society and report on special events. This post can easily be administered from home with help of a computer. Contacts information available.

Exhibition Co-ordinator As the title implies we require a member with organising skills to oversee the various aspects of the Annual and Silver Cup Exhibitions. There is an established format in place and assistance in all stages.

If anyone is interested in applying for one of the above posts or would like further information please speak to a member of the Committee who can be recognised by their orange badge.

It is imperative that these Vacancies are filled!

After lockdowns caused the cancellations of the 2020/21 Silver Cup Awards the next Awards evening is scheduled for 5th April 2022. There are 15 categories to choose from (NB Watercolour Cup omitted from the list on the Membership Card) and I'm sure everyone can find at least one they are able to enter - after 3 years

since the last Awards let's have a bumper entry! Submissions must be pictures that have not previously been shown in any RCPS exhibition but remember they can afterwards be submitted into the Annual Exhibition in November. Will the winners of the 2019 Awards return their trophies (nice and shiny please!) before the end of March. Thank you.

We now look forward to finally celebrating our 50th (plus 2!) Anniversary. Preparations had already been in place before the lockdown and we envisage a social evening with a wine reception followed by a sit down buffet style meal concluding with entertainment. There will be a maximum number of places available so reservations will be necessary for members and guests by purchasing tickets beforehand. Further details in due course - save the date - Saturday 14th May 2022

With my Best Wishes

Barbara



ROWLANDS CASTLE PAINTING SOCIETY

Yearly Accounts: 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021

Notice is hereby given that the next ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**will be held on Tuesday
in Rowlands Castle**

**at 2.00 pm
(permitting)**

| Description | 2020 to 2021 | | | 2019 to 2020 | Number of members |
|---|--------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|--|
| | Income | Expenditure | Total | Total | |
| Revenue | | | | | This year Last year |
| Members | 1,530.00 | | 1,530.00 | 2,985.00 | 58 104 |
| Subs carried forward from 1st year | 45.00 | | -45.00 | -60.00 | |
| Hampshire Trust Bank - Interest | 103.40 | | 103.40 | 91.16 | |
| Society Benefits (includes hall hire and income from guests) | | | | | |
| Demonstrators | - | - | 0.00 | -1,648.00 | |
| Workshops | - | - | 0.00 | -363.50 | |
| Life Group | - | - | 0.00 | -642.00 | |
| Events | | | | | |
| Exhibition | 98.00 | 17.50 | 80.50 | 0.00 | |
| Silver Cup | - | - | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| Christmas Party | - | - | 0.00 | -47.68 | |
| 50th Anniversary | - | - | 0.00 | -5.00 | |
| Administration & Other | | | | | |
| Catering | 27.40 | 24.30 | 3.10 | 26.80 | |
| Art Mart | - | - | 0.00 | 101.00 | |
| Insurance | - | 177.00 | -177.00 | -166.00 | |
| Administration | - | 90.00 | -90.00 | -118.00 | |
| AGM | - | - | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| WebSite | - | 20.00 | -20.00 | -51.50 | |
| Verve | - | - | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| Principal - Joan Burnett | | | | | Pauline Davis |
| Vice Principal - Cathy Hales | 1,713.80 | 328.80 | 1,385.00 | 172.08 | Margaret Jennings |
| Chairman - Barbara Wood | | | | | Catering Officers - Carol Milford & Jan Croker |
| 1st September 2020 | | | | | |
| NatWest Bank B/F | | | £2,881.22 | | |
| Hampshire Trust Bank B/F | | | £5,155.80 | | |
| Subs brought forward | | | £60.00 | | |
| Cash B/F | | | £24.30 | | |
| Secretary - Terry Devaney | | | £8,001.32 | | Summer Painting Outings - Jennifer Quaintance |
| 31st August 2021 | | | | | |
| Treasurer - Peter Dixon | | | £4,172.12 | | Christmas Party - Sally Williams |
| NatWest Bank C/F | | | £5,259.20 | | |
| Hampshire Trust Bank C/F | | | -£45.00 | | |
| Programme Organiser - Lorraine Boyes | | | £386.92 | | Archivist - Cathy Hales |
| Media Correspondent - Vacancy | | | | | |
| Operating Profit/Loss | | | | | Projector Team - John Seymour, John Davis & David Collier |

Membership Secretary – John Davis

Art Mart Team - John Richards & Joyce Quinn

Exhibition Co-ordinator **Vacancy**

Webmaster - Martin Gebbett

September 2021 Rowlands Castle Parish Hall.

The Meeting opened at 2pm, 38 members enjoyed refreshments with home-made cakes, after which the AGM began.

Present: Committee Members: Barbara Wood (Chair), John Davis, Terry Devaney; Martin Gebbett; Lorraine Boyes; Cathy Hales; Joan Burnett 31 members were also present.

Apologies: Bob Payne, Janice Roblin, Peter Dixon.

Approval of online 2020 AGM

Because of the Lockdown last year, the AGM could not take place in March 2020. Alternatively the 2020 AGM was submitted by online reports in the 2020 August edition of Verve which all members would have been able to see. Barbara asked for a show of hands to approve them as a true record of the 2020 AGM. Carried.

Treasurer's Report – (Read by Barbara in Peter's absence)

Peter made it clear this report was reviewing the accounts for 2019/2020. The accounts for September 2020 to August 2021 will be presented at the March AGM 2022.

The accounts for 2019/2020 showed a profit of £172, circumstances due to Covid prevented the Society making a loss. However, there have been price rises incurred for professional demonstrators, hall hire etc since then – coupled with a reduced membership, it was decided to increase the yearly subscription from £30 to £35. Those members who paid £25 last year (a concession due to the pandemic) can roll over that amount to this year's subscription requiring just £10 to renew their membership.

The 2019/20 accounts were approved by the members present.

50th Anniversary Celebration

Preparations were well underway before the Lockdown forced cancellation. We plan to proceed in the same format and hold the event next May. Members will be required to book in advance, further details of this special event in due course.

Website & Exhibition Report – Martin

As we were unable to have the annual 2020 Exhibition in the Parish Hall due to the Pandemic, it was decided to hold an online Exhibition on the Society's website. The virtual Exhibition had 18 contributors with 51 images of their paintings shown. Special pages on the website were set aside for the Virtual Exhibition. It received positive feedback from the public and members alike.

However, no sales materialised from this virtual Exhibition. On the plus side, the Society benefited from the extra awareness of the high standard of work shown. Martin mentioned the website was set up by a friend, David Linington who runs about 20 websites in Emsworth. Martin encouraged members to continue sending in contributions of work.

The next Exhibition will take place in the Parish Hall on the 6th and 7th November with set up taking place on the 5th November 2021. Martin is looking for volunteers to help with erecting Exhibition boards, Hanging paintings, Marshalling, putting out road signs etc. Edward Girrard has offered his help, Terry Devaney has offered to help with hanging exhibits. The W.I. (Women's Institute) will undertake the catering side of the Exhibition as a stand-alone facility.

Media Correspondent's Report

As Jan was unable to attend Terry Devaney read Jan's report in her absence.

Jan's report recounts her contacts with the Media, she has managed to submit something about the Society every month throughout Lockdown. Jan lists the publications who reliably print articles either online or in print these include The Village Magazine, The Border Times, Postcodes and The Meon Valley News. The Village and Valley and The Rowlands Castle magazine which goes to print 3 times a year. The What's On pages of printed publications do not seem to have started up again just yet.

Jan has enjoyed her time serving on the Committee and sends Best Wishes to her successor.

Barbara thanked Jan for her sterling work keeping the Society in the public eye.

POSTS FOR ELECTION

Committee Posts

Secretary – After the AGM Agenda had been sent out the resignation of Ann Jepson from the post of secretary was received.. Terry Devaney has agreed to transfer from the post of Vice Chairman to Secretary

Principal - Joan Burnett had previously accepted the nomination for the post of Principal. Proposed by Barbara Wood, Seconded by Bob Payne. Carried. Joan introduced herself to the members, she is an accomplished artist and was previously headteacher of Compton and Up Marden school where she first met Barbara at a school fete.

The Following posts are vacant.

Vice Chairman – Barbara is looking for a candidate to fill the post with a view to taking the chair at some stage. There would be a period of time to become accustomed to the position before taking over.

Media Correspondent - A post easily done from home. To keep the activities advertised in the local publications and report on special events. **(As there were no nominations received at the AGM we shall be endeavouring to fill these posts by co-option as soon as possible)**

The following committee posts were proposed and seconded en bloc

Vice Principal- Cathy Hales; Chairman – Barbara Wood; Secretary – Terry Devany; Treasurer – Peter Dixon; Programme Organiser – Lorraine Boyes; Membership Secretary – John Davis; Exhibition CoOrdinator – Martin Gebbett

Proposed David Collier, Seconded Gillian Merrett. Carried

Non Committee Posts Barbara emphasised that these posts are very important to the smooth running of the Society and we are extremely appreciative of those who volunteer their services.

There was only one post to fill – that of the **Catering Officer(s)** Carol Milford agreed to accept this post and a request for a helper resulted in Jan Croker volunteering to be Carol's assistant.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 3.40 pm

(Next AGM – Tuesday 29th March 2022)



ROWLANDS CASTLE PAINTING SOCIETY

2021 Exhibition 6th and 7th November

This year's exhibition went particularly well due to the help in organising and running the event by volunteer members and the number of high quality painting entered by members. It was also a new departure in having Rowlands Castle WI collaborate and run their Autumn Fair at the same time using the small hall.

We allowed members to enter more paintings per member than previously (8 paintings and 6 folios) and consequently we had over 150 paintings and folios entered. 8 members displayed cards for sale. Paintings were displayed on stands around the room as well as on the hanging boards. Folios were displayed in browser displays. There were lots of comments from visitors about the high standard of work and they were right, we did have a lot of very good quality work on display. One member of the public came in as the doors opened on Saturday and ten minutes later had bought a painting for £85. It continued to be very busy throughout Saturday morning and hardly relaxed for the rest of the exhibition.

31 paintings and folios were sold (compared to 7 in 2019) at a total of £1836 and £349 of cards were sold.

Stewarding went very well with plenty of help from members. The rota was well organised. Having half day stints seem to work well and was popular. At times we were able to have a steward available to welcome visitors, explain the set-up and chat, giving a personal, friendly reception. It is useful to have extra stewarding effort available due to not having to man the refreshments.

The collaboration with Rowlands Castle WI was a great success. The WI ran their Autumn Fair in the small hall as a separate entity, paying for the hall and taking all the refreshment sales money. They sold cakes and home-made wares and ran all the refreshments. The feeling on both sides was that the co-operation worked very well and probably contributed to the extra visitors. We will probably do this again.

Footfall from the public was about 250 on the Saturday, mostly in morning, and 150 on the Sunday which is one and a half time recent previous exhibitions.

The 'Best in Show' vote was popular with visitors and was narrowly won by Gary Miller only just ahead of Edward Girard. The standard of work was reflected by over half the exhibits receiving a Best on Show vote.

Tombola was popular as usual. There were a lot of contributions from members including some high value items (whisky, gin etc). Prizes had mostly gone on the Saturday so more were brought in for Sunday. About £150 profit was made.

This year we came up to date with technology and used a credit card reader. This helped sales by making it easy for visitors to pay and was found to be straight forward to use by stewards. No cheques were received this year, probably a thing of the past now.

Financially the event did well with an overall profit of £473.

Martin

Christmas Party

Despite ongoing Covid concerns and a severe storm warning nearly forty members arrived for the Christmas Party on 7th December. Sally Williams had again organised the quizzes to the usual high standard keeping everyone's grey matter fully occupied trying to determine the use of curious objects and identifying the artists who painted the pictures - prints of which were displayed around the hall. Members were asked to vote on three Competitions while Leonard & Barbara Wood were kept busy selling tickets for the Christmas Raffle.

Catering ladies Carol & Jan had attractively laid out the American supper with sweet & savoury finger food brought by members accompanied by a complimentary glass of wine which was indulged by all. The awards for the Competitions were then presented by our Patron Paddy Holmes - Gary Miller winning both the Christmas Card and Holiday Painting Competitions and the Photographic Competition with the theme of "flowers" won by John Davis.

The evening concluded with the draw for over 20 prizes in the Christmas Raffle which raised £80. Many thanks to all who contributed to making this a really happy and festive occasion which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who participated.

Barbara

