



# NEWS LETTER

JANUARY 2021

Number 156

RICHMOND  
ART SOCIETY

Members who know friends or associates who might be interested in joining the Society as an exhibiting or non-exhibiting member should ask them to contact John Brigden by email: [john.brigden0@gmail.com](mailto:john.brigden0@gmail.com) or by telephone 020 8941 0960.

## WINTER 2021

As I write we are in our third Covid lockdown and I expect you will all be feeling the frustration and disappointment of not being able to enjoy the arts as we usually do. I find it even harder this time because it's been going on for so long and I'm weary of it in so many ways. However, there's light at the end of the tunnel - vaccines are coming to the rescue and the Society expects to be able to have a real live Summer Exhibition. So, keep the faith, keep on creating and enjoying art, whether it's online, on zoom or in your studio. And imagine how much worse it would have been without the internet!! *Peter Swann Chairman*

## EXHIBITION NEWS



Jo Ellis *Forget me not* mixed media.  
One of two pieces Jo sold at the online exhibition.

Our second virtual Winter Exhibition went well with 38 members taking part and several pieces being sold. Thanks to Sue Ribbans, Rue Turner, Laura Parker and Catherine Sweet for their work putting this together. The Summer Exhibition for the

RAS at the Landmark is pencilled in for Friday 18th - Sunday 20th June. Caroline Sayer, who organises exhibitions had an email from the Landmark saying the Government expects restrictions to be gradually eased from April and substantially back to normal from July. So we may be able to hold an exhibition there in June!

The Surrey Sculpture Society were scheduled to have an exhibition at the Landmark at the end of February but this has obviously been cancelled. An ambitious 'walk round' virtual exhibition is being designed. [www.surreysculpture.org.uk](http://www.surreysculpture.org.uk)

## LECTURE NOTES



Drawing by Dürer'

Jude Wild has 2 lectures confirmed that will be via Zoom -

**3rd February** Dürer's Journeys: Travels of a Renaissance Artist. Lecturer Clare Ford-Wille

**17th February** The Bloomsbury Group. Lecturer Frank Woodgate

There will be more lectures to come before April, but Jude needs to speak with the lecturer's about doing them via Zoom.

The online lectures have proved to be very popular and are often getting 60 or more people logging in. Jude says she is happy to say that so far she has had good feedback about the speakers and their subjects.

## COMMITTEE VACANCIES

Many thanks to Laura Parker and Cat Sweet who have been doing a sterling job with social media they are stepping down so if you have interest and talents in PR we would be very pleased to hear from you.

## MEMBERS NEWS

An email was sent out to all members enquiring how they were reacting to these unprecedented times.

**Natalie Bird** replied 'Life is busy - I wish I had more time to paint.. I work part-time as office manger at Barts Hospital and Covid is obviously taking up everyone's time. But when I come home, I either cook, clean, walk the dogs or... PAINT! Which keeps me sane and happy. Walking at this time of year is cold but beautiful - lovely colours in the winter skies.

**Wendy Rugman** wrote. 'Like many others I have been shielding for many weeks, fortunately in the company of my husband who is in better health. My daughter visits regularly. She is in my support bubble. As for art - I have not touched a pencil or brush for weeks. Shameful I know, but cannot feel like it. My hope is that classes will start eventually and I will get going. I have now been vaccinated so there will be no excuse.'

**Louise Johnson** says 'I have found that the extra time at home and the difficult and stressful times we find ourselves in has led to an enormous amount of creative energy. Having had to be in lockdown in hospitals and at home for months on end, painting has been my saviour. I have found a new artistic direction and have had so much more time to think about what I'm doing and what it means to me. I honestly don't know how I would have coped without my creativity in the last twelve months.'

## MEMBERS NEWS CONTINUED

**Laura Parker** says 'I am more creative than ever, locked down or not! I did three online courses with my 2 wonderful mentors in America, from May to December last year, and now I'm back to 'my own' art, pushing myself further into abstraction even though it is all fundamentally based in nature - be it on land or deep underwater.



Hugh Dalzell Lionel Guyet Oil From our recent online exhibition

My exciting news for the New Year is that I have gallery representation in the Bath area. The Woolverton Gallery (set to open in the spring) already has an online presence at [www.bathartsales.com](http://www.bathartsales.com)

I have 2 upcoming exhibitions, but as yet there are no firm dates as all is still up in the air due to Covid-19.

**Di Phelps** 'This last 10 months have been a strange one for making art I think! When we were first locked down and exhibitions began to fall one by one, I decided to take the bull by the horns and re-evaluate my work. I'd been getting a little bored by it for a while and so now was a great chance to play and experiment without any time pressure. I must say I've enjoyed the opportunity and my work has changed quite a bit- but I'm excited by the changes. Who knows if anyone else will be?

I feel so lucky to have the passion for painting that has saved my sanity during this time!

**Heather Geddes** 'I have become a bit more creative - sewing using old fabrics to make bedspreads! Otherwise its an awful time and a bit helped by watching some very interesting culture stuff on TV'

**Hugh Dalzell** 'I continue to beaver away. No painting block but such a short spell of daylight once the lockdown walk is allowed for. The silver lining to the cessation of life drawing is that I can join the RAS Wednesday lectures.'

## David Chamberlain

'..... one special moment in the week is my Friday morning on line Life Drawing session organised by Robin Rutherford, who prior to the Covid lock down had been organising live sessions at Cass Art in Kingston.

Robin has a number of models who have sent him short films of them posing, each session starts at 10.30 am with three or four short five minute poses and followed by a further four or five poses of twenty minutes for which Robin charges £12.00. It is a small group of half a dozen regulars who sign in on Zoom and usually post their work on Robins's web site' [www.robinrutherford.co.uk](http://www.robinrutherford.co.uk)>workshops

The Arts Richmond Diana Armfield Observational Drawing Competition will be held again this year but no dates have yet been finalised. Details will be sent to RAS members when known.

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